

GUIDELINES FOR ADULT PARTICIPANTS IN AN EVENT HELD WITH CHILD PARTICIPATION

**PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY
BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR
REGISTERING!**



HINTALOVON

Child Rights Foundation

Children under 18 years of age also participate in the event. It is the duty of all participants and visitors of the event to protect children's rights.

Organizers are committed to ensuring children's rights. According to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, all children under 18 years of age are entitled to child rights. The laws in force provide children with the right to protection and free expression, to participate in issues affecting them, as well as with the right to prohibit discrimination; and ensures that their best interests are respected.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

Recognition of children's rights

Those present at the event must respect the protection of children's rights and support their enforcement.

Zero tolerance

Organizers condemn and consider all forms of abuse of law to be unacceptable.

Meaningful participation of children

Using children as tools or decoration violates children's rights and is unacceptable. The ethical principles of child participation shall be respected at all times.

Risk-taking

Efforts should be made to identify the risks beforehand, to deal with them and to monitor them immediately.

Obligation of reporting

All suspected infringements must be reported to the persons accompanying the children.

To this end, all participants are required to abide by the following points as a condition of their participation in the event.

Do not be partial

- Treat all children without discrimination on grounds of age, gender, language, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or any other factor.
- Provide equal participation opportunities for all children and take specific steps in order to overcome any relevant disadvantages.

Consider relevancy

- Involve children in issues that are relevant to them, where they can rely on their personal experiences, abilities and knowledge.
- Help all children to participate in the event according to their age and maturity level.

Provide them information

- Provide children with all the information in a way that they understand. and that makes it possible for them to join the conversation and to feel involved.

Help them expressing their opinions

- Give special attention to creating a safe space where children can freely express their opinion or even deny to do so.
- Encourage the children to share their opinion.
- Pay attention on the children and give due weight to their opinion.
- Welcome and provide further opportunities for children's initiatives.

Behave child-friendly

- Ensure that whenever the adult is being with children or collaborating with them, he / she adapts to their abilities.
- Provide an adequate amount of breaks and rest periods for them.
- Consider that children may require special assistance to follow the discussion and are able or willing to participate in different ways.

Respect children

- Respect the child's opinions and requests.
- Do not bring the child to a position where he /she may feel that he / she has no choice, also do not force anything on them.
- Consider each and every child's own social and cultural environment.

Protect against violence

- Do not provoke, harass the child in any way. Do not humble him / her, do not undermine his / her confidence.
- Never use violence against a child.
- Indicate any offense related to the child to the adult who accompanies him / her.
- If a child suspects abuse or violence, pay more attention not to increase his / her victim's feelings with the adult's behaviour.

Protect privacy

- Manage confidentially all personal information that the child shares during his / her participation to the conference.
- Always be informed if there is permission from the legal representative to take a picture, or make video or voice recording of the child in question at the event.
- Do not take picture, or make video or voice recording for your own use without the consent of the legal representative and the child in question.
- Do not publish any record on which the child is not dressed properly or for not being authorized.
- Do not ask for any personal information from the child and do not bring the child into a delicate, vulnerable position.

Involve the accompanying adult(s)

- Do not take the child anywhere without the consent of the accompanying adult unless it is strictly necessary for the safety of the child.
- Do not involve the child in any initiative (e.g. interview) without the consent of the accompanying adult.

Be accountable

- Give rapid and clear feedback to children on the impact of their involvement and the value of their involvement.
- Share your feedback about your personal experience.
- Encourage children to share their participatory experiences.

Make further steps

- Get information about organizers and adults who accompany the child on all the necessary details needed to work together with the children.
- Always abide by the principles of ethical and meaningful participation of children, the relevant child safeguarding policies of the organizers, and the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Agree that the above rules apply only to the most important or most risky events and do not constitute a complete listing. It does not implement any behavior that is not listed in this list but is considered endangering or risky for the child's well-being or safety.
- If being unsure whether a particular situation or behavior is endangering or jeopardizing a child, might always seek advice from the adult accompanying the child in question or from the person who is responsible for child participation.

LEARN MORE

- UNCRC (2009). General Comment No. 12. The right of the child to be heard. Committee On The Rights Of The Child, Fifty-first session, Geneva.
- Lansdown, G. (ed.) (2011). Every child's right to be heard - A resource guide on the UN Committee on the rights of the child general comment No. 12. UNICEF/The Save the Children Fund.
- Eurochild Child Protection Policy
- Terre des Hommes Child Safeguarding Policy
- Hinalovon Child Safeguarding Policy (Hungarian)
- Hinalovon Child Participation Policy (Hungarian)

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