

Invitation / Call for presenters

66th ICCFR Conference: *Helping Families through Separation and Divorce – Collaboration, not Confrontation, in social plurality*

Date: 29-30 October 2020 in Berlin

Background

Family life and models of relationships between married (or unmarried) couples are diverse and so are the arrangements made in the case of divorce / separation. In this year's conference we want to shed light on different legal and family support procedures that aim to increase the chances of having a good relationship, even if the partnership is over. The focus is especially on the children, the most vulnerable individuals in this process, who are wholly reliant on high-quality support in order to help keep them in a close relationship with both parents. Important questions:

- What are the legal and social frameworks with regard to custody, access and support after a divorce/separation?
- How does this framework influence the intensity of conflict / situation of separated parents, as well as their children?
- How do these legal and social and frameworks affect the social situation of parents?
- What is the role of (pre-trial) mediation procedures for an amicable settlement in divorce / separation?
- How can / should those (pre-trial) mediation procedures be shaped to have a significant positive role?
- What kinds of distinct mediation structures for pre-trial conflict resolution already exist and have proven helpful?
- What relevance does the notion of "shared parental responsibility" and "children alternating between different parental homes" have and what measures exist to cope with this challenge?
- What is the relevance of cross-border conflicts and what are possible solutions?
- What methods have proven useful for determining the child's wishes / best interests in divorce proceedings?
- What kinds of arrangements exist to strengthen the protection of children's interests?
- Are there any solutions for cases of separation/divorce for "social parents" and their children?
- How successful is collaboration between lawyers, courts and social workers in helping families before, during and after the separation / divorce process? Are there any good examples for interdisciplinary practice to help the families?
- How can consonance after separation be supported?
- What should the role of the grandparents be? How can established relationships be sustained?
- ...

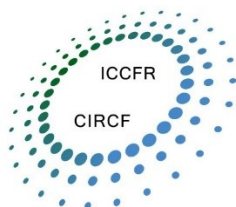
Participation

We heartily invite you to take part in this discussion. We are aiming for a participative conference, in which input from everybody is greatly appreciated, the better to get insights from different countries in all continents and all relevant professions. You are thus very welcome to share your knowledge and experience. If you are interested in doing so, please send us a note so that we can arrange slots in the agenda accordingly (see contact details below).

We also heartily invite you to take a strong and active part within ICCFR in the future, in the interests of strengthening our interdisciplinary network. In the afternoon of 30 October we would like to discuss the next steps for ICCFR and for jointly developing the future of our network. Your aspirations, advice and knowledge are very welcome contributions to the planning of for future conferences and other ICCFR activities.

Contact / Registration

Sven Iversen, Association of German Family Organisations: iversen@ag-familie.de
Ingrid Cranfield, ICCFR administrator: administrator@iccf.org
ICCFR Website: <https://iccf.org/berlin-2020>



Draft agenda

Thursday, 29 October 2020

08:30 – 09:30h	Registration
09:30 – 10:00	Welcome ICCFR, AGF, (BMFSFJ?)
10:00 – 10:45	Setting the scene: The need for collaboration of within the Family Court Services
10:45-11:45	Legal framework and family support structures in selected countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel / short interventions on topics like: Contentious divorce, no fault divorce, collaborative Law, same sex couples, grandparents custody etc.
11:45 -12:00	Coffee Break
12:00-13:00	Discussion Groups
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Putting the children in the center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel /short interventions: of Legal models to secure the child's best interest
15:30-15:45	Coffee break
15:45-16:45	Discussion Groups
17:00	End of day one, social event / Joint Dinner

Friday, 30 October 2020

09:00 – 09:30	It's not the divorce/separation, it's the conflict
09:30- 10:30	Examples of good practice for securing children's best interests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Panel: Collaborative Models designed to reduce negative impacts on children (cross disciplinary), Behavioral intervention, online eprogramming, parent education
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:45	Discussion Groups
11:45 – 12:45	Wrapping up and open-floor discussion
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Future developments and conferences of ICCFR
16:30	End of conference

Contact

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