

International Reference Centre for the Rights of Children Deprived of their Family (ISS/IRC)

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EDITORIAL

A call to readers

In order to consolidate and develop its activities, the ISS/IRC launches, for the first time, a call to the readers of its Monthly Review.

Dear readers.

Like every month, you are about to read ISS/IRC's information Review, which has just arrived in your inbox. For approximately 15 years, this Review has made it possible to disseminate good practices relating to the care of children deprived of their family, to maintain and develop a world-wide network of professionals interested in child protection. and to provide our programme with the visibility it requires to establish its recognition. As you well know, the creation and dissemination of the Review is possible thanks to the annual contributions of the 20 countries, which currently support the ISS/IRC. Whilst this financial support enables all these countries' professionals to receive the Review free-of-charge, it also makes it possible to distribute it for free in developing countries or countries in transition.

Thanks to this solidarity, the Review is nowadays sent to approximately 4,000 contacts worldwide, and through its redistribution, one can reasonably estimate that over 10,000 people read it every month. Of course, we feel honoured and proud of this result, and always appreciate the compliments and expressions of interest, which we receive from our readers.

The preparation of the Review certainly involves the implementation of financial and human resources, within the framework of the ISS/IRC programme's general management. To date, 80% of our global budget relies on

the 20 state contributions; the remaining 20% are covered by specific projects. As such, the programme is financially stable, but these incomes do not make it possible to make funds available aimed at undertaking additional activities or investments, such as the improvement of the distribution's IT system or the creation of a new design for the Review, the development of services accessible via our website, the promotion and dissemination of our research, etc.

For the past three years, the ISS General Secretariat has initiated an active research process for new funding sources, either via the development of new projects or the With search for donations. regards, specifically, to the ISS/IRC, this process is challenging given that our services are only quantifiable to a limited degree in terms of results and direct beneficiaries, and that the needs, which we have identified, do not really fit the usual frameworks of donations. Thus, we have considered calling upon you and have devised five possible means of supporting us:

- 1) Send us an e-mail, explaining why the Monthly Review is important to you in relation to your professional activity. Your contributions will enable us to explain more easily to our potential donors the interest and value of our work.
- 2) Help us to **develop our network**: share the Review and send us the contact details of new readers, in particular in

countries of origin. The more the Review is read, the stronger it will be!

- 3) Take out a support subscription to express your attachment to this publication. The support subscription is set at 500 USD / Swiss Francs or 400 Euro.
- 4) Make a donation to the ISS/IRC in order for it to improve its services and in order to ensure its permanence.
- 5) Suggest **new means of funding**, based on your knowledge and experiences

(new contributing countries, potential donors, new services, etc).

For all these possibilities, a unique address: irc-cir@iss-ssi.org.

We rely on your valuable support and thank you for giving the ISS/IRC the strength it requires.

The ISS/IRC team January 2011