

# A Richer Understanding of Article 31

Children's right to culture, leisure and play

'Launching the UN General Comment on article 31 in Scotland'



## What does this mean for Scotland's children?

Thursday 28th March 2013, Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

(9.15 Registration; 10 am—3.30 pm)

A one day conference presented by IPA Scotland

In partnership with Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People;  
with support from Creative Scotland

In association with the Richer Understanding of Article 31 Group



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# What does this mean for Scotland's children?

## Article 31: Children's right to culture, leisure and play



### Aims of the conference

To celebrate and raise awareness of the adoption of the UN General Comment on article 31: children's right to culture, leisure and play; and to explore how policy-makers and practitioners can make the expectations of the UN General Comment a reality in Scotland.

To highlight the importance of the UN General Comment– what it says and the government responsibilities on which it elaborates.

The day will provide opportunities for individuals and organisations from the fields of culture, arts, leisure, play, and human rights to come together and explore how best to work collaboratively to ensure that all children in Scotland have the best opportunities to access culture, leisure and play.

Through keynote presentations, workshops and discussion opportunities the following questions will be considered:

- What does the General Comment on article 31 mean for Scotland's children?
- What access do children have to culture, leisure and play in Scotland?
- How do we put article 31 rights into practice, and what can I do?
- In terms of article 31 how can we make Scotland the best place for children to grow up?

### Who should attend?

We are looking for individuals and organisations who work directly with children, are responsible for delivering services to children or who support and promote the rights of children. We are seeking the participation of policy and decision makers from local and national governments and infrastructure organisations, services delivering culture, leisure and play services; and also practitioners working with children of all ages: care workers, playworkers, musicians, drama workers, youth workers, coaches... in short anyone with an interest in supporting children (0-18) to have the best possible access to culture, leisure and play opportunities.

### Outcomes for delegates

Delegates will have a greater and richer understanding of what article 31 means, and the expectations for implementation described for us through the UN General Comment; a greater understanding of our shared responsibilities to uphold article 31 rights within own work and practice; raised awareness of the importance of cross-sector working and the benefits of sharing skills and knowledge; and, identified opportunities for collaborative work and practice.

**To explore, share and importantly, also have fun! This is a day to celebrate.**

## Keynote presentations & workshops

Drawing from the world of culture, leisure, play, rights and politics in Scotland, we are delighted to announce the confirmed participation of the following individuals:

- Children from St Mirins Out of School Care, Glasgow
- Aileen Campbell MSP, Minister for Children and Young People
- Tam Baillie, Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People
- Theresa Casey, President, International Play Association
- Dr Bridget McConnell, Chief Executive, GlasgowLife
- Joanne Orr, Chief Executive, Galleries Museums Scotland
- Dr Richard Holloway

Workshops will be organised around three topic strands:

- Policy development and outcomes in relation to article 31
- Rights-based practice in relation to article 31
- Practical ideas for implementing article 31

Confirmed workshop leaders include: GoMA, Starcatchers UK, Play First Scotland, People's Palace, with additional leaders to be confirmed.

## About UN General Comment for Article 31

**UN General Comments** are official documents of the United Nations. They are the UN's interpretation of the content of human rights treaties. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child publishes General Comments in relation to the **Convention on the Rights of the Child**. General Comments are directed to the Governments of those countries which have ratified the Convention (currently all but two of the countries of the world). Their purpose is to widen and deepen understanding of a particular aspect of the Convention, and to reflect the changing conditions under which children grow up.

General Comments can be used by national and local Government to guide implementation, and by nongovernmental organisations and individuals to advocate for children's rights. . The General Comment on Article 31 is about the whole of article 31, **rest, play, recreation, leisure and participation in cultural life and the arts** and for **all children and young people** up to the age of 18. It was adopted by the UN on 1st February 2013.

## About The International Play Association

The International Play Association (IPA) is an international membership-based association which advocates for children's play rights. From 2008-11, IPA led an international group requesting a UN General Comment on article 31. In 2011, following the UN Committee's decision to draft the GC, IPA was invited to manage the drafting process. Scottish IPA member Theresa Casey was elected IPA President in 2008 and re-elected for a second term 2011 - 14. IPA Scotland is the Scottish branch of IPA.

## Richer Understanding Group [www.article31.org.uk](http://www.article31.org.uk)

Theresa Casey, President, International Play Association; Andrew Shoolbread, Scottish Out of School Care Network; Joan Parr, Creative Scotland; Gregor Urquhart, Young Scot; Marion Flett, Independent Consultant; Katie Bruce, Glasgow Life (Gallery of Modern Art); Margaret Westwood, IPA Scotland; Susan McIntyre, Midlothian Association of Play; Juliet Harris, Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)



# A richer understanding of article 31

The child's right to culture, leisure and play

## What does this mean for Scotland's children?

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013, Our Dynamic Earth

### Delegate Details

Name:

Job Title:

Organisation:

Address

Postcode:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Special requirements (please note here any special requirements you may have, dietary or otherwise):

### Cost and payment

IPA Scotland Members and individuals working directly with children  
(Practitioners within arts, culture, leisure, play services etc)

£25

Individuals not included in above category

£50

I enclose a cheque £ \_\_\_\_\_ (Cheque number: \_\_\_\_\_)

Please make cheques payable to: "IPA Scotland" and enclose with completed booking form.

I would like to be invoiced

Invoice address, if different from above:

Postcode:

**Online card payment can also be made through: [article31.eventbrite.co.uk](http://article31.eventbrite.co.uk)**

Please be aware that online bookings and payment have an additional charge:

£2.15 for £25 rate and £3.65 for £50 rate

**Please send completed booking forms to:**

**c/o 4 Arts Education, 4 Abbey Mains Cottages, Haddington, East Lothian EH41 3SB**

**If you would like to request this booking form in word format, please contact Tracy Morgan: [info@article31.org.uk](mailto:info@article31.org.uk)**

**Cancellations:** we regret that we cannot refund cancellations made less than 3 days before this event. Any cancellations made prior to 3 days before the event will be subject to a 50% charge. Delegates can be substituted.