



## Press release

### **International Forum and International Meeting – Working Children in La Paz, Bolivia**

Between 16 and 21 October 2017, at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés in La Paz, Bolivia, organized working children and adolescents, scientists and public policy experts from four continents will meet to review the practices and approaches of the work of protection and promotion of human rights with working children.

The city of La Paz has been chosen because the Plurinational State of Bolivia with the Children and Adolescents Code (Law No. 548) prioritizes protection before the prohibition of the work of children, which has caused an intense debate at international level. It also implemented the right to participation of children, which was again denied by the International Labor Organization (ILO) for the "Fourth World Conference on the Sustainable Eradication of Child Labor" on 14-16 November in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina.

The **International Forum "Public Policies with Working Children and Adolescents: Perspectives and Experiences from the Global South"** is organized in Bolivia by the La Paz Foundation, the network EuropaNATs and the Latin American and Caribbean Movement of Working Children and Adolescents (MOLACNATs), under the auspices of the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés. It will be held with keynote speeches from scientists and experts in children's rights of Zimbabwe, Senegal, Ivory Coast, India, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium, Germany and the United States. There will be panels with specialists in the work with working children, state representatives, as well as working children and adolescents, to deepen discussions later in working groups. Issues to be addressed include the emergence of new public policies and their reconceptualization for the best interests of the children. Topics will be e.g. child work in the Andean-Amazonian cultures, a review and revision of eradication policies and alternative proposals, implementation of the Bolivian Children and Adolescents Code, the validity and the challenges of the working children's movements, advocacy campaigns and finally the area of education and working children.

At the end of the Forum, there will be a public event with the presentation of conclusions and the installation of an allegorical mural on occasion of the 41 years of history of movements of working children and adolescents.

After the Forum, representatives of the movements will meet internally from 19 to 21 October at the **International Meeting of Working Children and Adolescents and Social Movements** to coordinate future actions.

*Interested media can invite the participants to their studios or offices, they can attend the Forum to provide coverage or use materials (videos, audios, short summaries) of the event for dissemination. For more details, please contact:*

**Organizing Committee Bolivia:**

**Fundación La Paz:**

Teléfono 591-2-2235112, Celular 71980221, 71230180, Casilla Postal 9726, La Paz, Bolivia

[flpsocioeduca@gmail.com](mailto:flpsocioeduca@gmail.com) y [forointernacionalboliva2017@gmail.com](mailto:forointernacionalboliva2017@gmail.com)

**International Organizing Committee:**

**Europa Nats:**

Manfred Liebel [mliebel@ina-fu.org](mailto:mliebel@ina-fu.org)

Marta Martínez Muñoz [martamartinezm@gmail.com](mailto:martamartinezm@gmail.com)

**Molacnats:**

Carlos Flecha [jycflecha@yahoo.com.ar](mailto:jycflecha@yahoo.com.ar)

