



KATHLIJN DECLERCQ

Vice chair of ECPAT International

ECPAT International



I am a member of ECPAT from the beginning of the first campaign "End child prostitution in Asian tourism". I started in 1994 to work for ECPAT Belgium. I managed from 1995 until 2007 ECPAT Belgium programs. I'm currently ECPAT's international focal point on European institutions. Together with the European groups of ECPAT, we lobby for ECPAT International the main European institutions and we are involved in the preparation and the monitoring of the several conventions, frameworks decisions and directives. The European institutions consider me as an expert on CSEC. I participated at all general assemblies of ECPAT International.

I work as an expert for the Belgian government and Belgian parliament on the issue of CSEC. In 1996, I was invited to be the secretary of the national commission on CSEC, installed by his royalty King Albert II of Belgium and president of the Belgian delegation to the Stockholm World Congress. In 2001 and in 2008, I was head of the Belgian NGO delegation to the Second and the Third World Congress in Yokohama and Rio de Janeiro. I coordinate, together with the team of ECPAT Belgium, a two-year prevention campaign 'stop child prostitution.be', against child sex tourism together with the Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Police, Justice, Child Focus, Plan Belgium, FEBETRA (truck drivers federation), NMBS (national railways), Federation of Tourism Industry.

I have coordinated several projects in the area of capacity building (for tourism sector, judges, NGO staff ...) in Eastern Europe, Colombia, Dominican Republic, and Morocco.

I'm currently the Western European representative of the Board of ECPAT international.

In 2013 I served for several months as Acting Chair of the Board and was appointed in 2014, Vice Chair of ECPAT international Board of trustees.