

The TWG was proposed in February 2012 and approved by ECREA in May 2012. Its formal objectives and modus operandi are available on the ECREA website. See also:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZSgCRW0PgxDkOLP8N6hjDaZY59O2Uu4Zc3LYJ15r7EY/edit>

**Activities and achievements to date:**

- We held a kick-off meeting at the ECREA conference in Istanbul, October 2012. In addition to a welcome by the Chair and one of the Vice Chairs, two speakers (Cynthia Carter and Michel Walrave) were invited to initiate discussion of mutual research interests. Some 40 scholars and research students were in attendance. A register of interests and email addresses was taken.
- We established a listserv for regular communication among members: [LISTSERV@listserv.heanet.ie](mailto:LISTSERV@listserv.heanet.ie). The purpose of the list is to exchange news of ongoing projects and upcoming conferences and events, to identify emerging research interests and identify possible research collaborators. Currently, the list has 144 members, from most European countries, plus members from the US, Japan, Australia, Brazil and others. The listserv is lively, with members debating mutual interests and the wider research and policy agenda. This continues to grow.
- Jane Fleischer, a Ph.D. student at Augsburg University, Germany, was originally elected as the YECREA representative to the TWG. She has worked with research students to stimulate and support their participation in the TWG activities and host student-focused social events to accompany TWG events. This year she has been joined by Philip Sinner, University of Salzburg, to collaborate on student activities.
- Members have met at: the Youth 2.0 conference organised by Michel Walrave at the University of Antwerp, March 2013; at The Children, Adolescents and Media section of the ICA conference, London, June 2013; at a preconference at the 2014 Lisbon ECREA conference, at EU Kids Online events and more.
- At IAMCR, Dublin, July 2013. At IAMCR, we co-organised a panel on youth and online safety with the Audience Section. Additionally, Brian O'Neill organised a networking reception for the TWG, followed by a dinner in Dublin. We also organised a trip to Facebook (their European headquarters are in Dublin) which was very successful and for which extensive notes were circulated, to inform those working on public policy and social networking issues.
- At the ECREA biannual conference in Lisbon, November 2014, the TWG panel session celebrated 25 years of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The result was a lively discussion with excellent speakers.
- Cristina Ponte organised a very well-attended pre-conference in Lisbon, the day before the 2014 ECREA conference, at the New University of Lisbon. The pre-conference was entitled "Researching children, youth and media - Lessons from the field." Presentations are posted here: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/media@lse/research/EUKidsOnline/Presentations/PreECREA/ECREAprCoference.aspx>
- Planning is now underway for our off-year conference, to be held at the University of Westminster, on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2015, as a pre-conference to this event: <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/camri/events/comparing-childrens-media-around-the-world-policies-texts-and-audiences> The conference team is about to publicise the agenda and finalise planning for the event (April/May 2015).

- This year the TWG holds its elections for the management group. Due to his new role as Dean at the Dublin Institute of Technology, Brian O'Neill is stepping down from his formal role as Vice-Chair. The TWG is hugely grateful to him for his efforts and vision in establishing the TWG. Elections will be held in April: a call for nominations has been circulated and it is likely that Sonia Livingstone, Cristina Ponte and David Smahel will stand for the election.
- In support of the above activities, a further promotion and recruitment drive is anticipated, especially among the EU Kids Online network but also more widely, to be sure that the TWG is inclusive of researchers working on children, youth and media in Europe.
- There are now plans to develop a dedicated website for the TWG, to be online by Autumn 2015.

Sonia Livingstone (chair), Brian O'Neill and Cristina Ponte (vice-chairs)