**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**"Children Left Behind: Best Practices in Protection and Challenges – Romania, Ukraine, and the Republic of Moldova"**

**LISBON, 4-5 October 2023**

**INVITATION**

Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj, Romania, and the Terre des Hommes Foundation are jointly organizing the conference "Children Left Behind. Best Practices of Protection and Challenges – Romania, Ukraine, and the Republic of Moldova", online, on October 4-5, 2023.

The conference aims to include the launch of the second document containing public policy recommendations for the protection of the rights of children left behind because of labor migration. Additionally, key points of the research on transnational families in Moldova and Ukraine, which covers aspects of social inclusion, risks, needs, and opportunities encountered by children, as well as an intersectional qualitative analysis of children's rights in transnational family contexts in the two countries, will be presented.

We would be deeply honored if you could attend this event. The agenda is attached to this document.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Oct 4, 2023 09:30 AM Lisbon (11.30 AM Bucharest time)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIkd-2trTkvGtHR7nonnX-bPxdhTPWDggwb>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The link is valid for both days.

The event will be attended by representatives from central authorities responsible for child protection, project partners, and researchers from Romania, Moldova, Ukraine, Portugal, and other European countries. Please note that this will be a hybrid event, allowing for both physical and virtual participation.

This experience exchange is part of the CASTLE project - Children Left Behind by Labor Migration: Supporting Moldovan and Ukrainian Transnational Families in the EU - ICMPD/2021/MPF-357-004.

The project is being implemented by Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj, in collaboration with the Terre des Hommes Foundation – Aide à l'Enfance dans les Mondes (delegation in Romania), Terre des Hommes Moldova, Terre des Hommes Ukraine, the Ukrainian Institute for Social Research after Oleksandr Yaremenko, and the Academy of Economic Studies from Moldova.

The project's main objective is to assist the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in improving their child protection frameworks and migration and mobility policies, with a particular focus on the social and legal impacts of labor migration on transnational families.

For more details about the project, please watch this short video:

<https://www.facebook.com/100075874216327/videos/221519463873788>.

The project is funded by the European Union and ICMPD (International Center for Migration Policy Development) under the Partnership Fund for Mobility III and is scheduled to run from June 15, 2021, to December 15, 2023.

We thank you for your attention and assure you of our full consideration.

Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj Terre des hommes Foundation Romania

Viorela Telegdi-Csetry Laura Sava-Ghica

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