

### Annex III

Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Rights of the Child  
(Please respect the specified amount of lines when filling out this form and  
return it electronically in word format to [ohchr-crc@un.org](mailto:ohchr-crc@un.org))

Family name and first name: **Benoit Van Keirsbilck**

Date and place of birth: **4 March 1963 – Cochabamba (Bolivia)**

Place of residence: **Belgium**

Nationality: **Belgian**

Email address:

United Nations working languages: **French – English - Spanish**

Current position/function: <sup>1</sup>  
(5 lines maximum)

1. **Director of Defence for children international (DCI-Belgium) since 2012, a leading child rights-focused organization committed to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the local, national and international level.**
2. **Member and Teacher at the Interdisciplinary Centre for the Rights of the Child (Centre interdisciplinaire des Droits de l'Enfant - CIDE - [www.lecide.be](http://www.lecide.be)) an academic Research and Training Center, since 2007.**
3. **Editor in Chief - Journalist at the “Children’s right journal” (Journal du Droit des jeunes - [www.jdj.be](http://www.jdj.be)), since 1990.**
4. **Member of the advisory body of the National Commission on the Rights of the Child, since 2015.**
5. **Member of the Advisory Committee of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty ([www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/StudyChildrenDeprivedLiberty/Pages/Index.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/StudyChildrenDeprivedLiberty/Pages/Index.aspx))**

Other main professional activities, in particular related to children’s rights:  
(10 lines maximum)

**Lecturer in numerous international symposiums, conferences and seminars in matters dealing with migrant children, juvenile justice, access to justice, child protection, socio-legal defence of children, etc.**  
**International trainer and expert in children's rights, justice for children and child protection, notably for the Council of Europe, the European Union, the International Organisation of the Francophonie and other international bodies, universities and research centres.**  
**Participation in the Council of Europe Expert Group in charge of the drafting of the Council of Europe Guidelines on Child Friendly Justice, the development of an online training on the same topic for the COE HELP Programme and participation in the evaluation of the Council of Europe strategy on the rights of the child.**  
**Expert in child justice for many European projects: Children rights behind bars, My Lawyer, my rights, Projus, TALE, Twelve, AWAY, BRIDGE ([www.dei-belgique.be](http://www.dei-belgique.be)).**

---

<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that membership in the Committee on the Rights of the Child requires participation in three (January/February, May/June and September /October) sessions of three weeks duration each per year; in addition, pre-sessional working groups are held immediately after each session during five working days in order to prepare the following session. The total number of weeks during which the Committee meets in Geneva therefore amounts to at least 12 weeks per year.

Educational background:  
(5 lines maximum)

**Academic background:**

**1982-1985 : Institut Supérieur de Formation Sociale -Brussels Bachelor in Social Work**

**1995 University of Ghent : Postgraduate studies on children's rights**

**Other training and courses:**

**Training in youth law and children's rights at the Training center Jeunesse et Droit and at the Summer School of the University Institute Kurt Bosh in Sion (University of Geneva - Switzerland)**

**Numerous occasional training courses, participation in study days, symposiums, working seminars at national and international levels.**

Relevant expertise on children's rights.

Please elaborate on your areas of expertise under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and related experience:  
(5 lines maximum)

**Benoit Van Keirsbilck has dedicated his entire +35-year career to children's rights at national and international levels. He has a rich and broad experience: working in the field alongside children and families, legal expertise, evaluation of social and legal systems, training of professionals, writing articles and publishing books, monitoring legal proceedings at national and international levels, participation in expert committees, teaching. He has an in-depth knowledge of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and has followed the work of the United Nations Committee since its creation, in particular by participating in several monitoring activities. He is member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child since 2021 and coordinates the Working Group on Individual Communications as well as the Working Group on the drafting of the next General Comment on the right of the child to access to justice and remedies.**

List of most recent publications in the field of children's rights:  
(5 lines)

- Benoit Van Keirsbilck and Anna Tomasi, *Socio-legal Defense Model : Realising children's rights*, in *The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Taking Stock after 25 Years and Looking Ahead*, ed. Brill / Nijoff, edited by Ton Liefaard and Julia Sloth-Nielsen, 2016
- Benoit Van Keirsbilck et Sarah Grandfils, *Privation de liberté d'enfants, les défis du monitoring*, in *Justice Juvénile : les fondamentaux* ; ed. Institut International des droits de l'enfant, Genève, 2016 (sous la direction de Philip D. Jaffé, Michel Lachat, Paola Riva Gapany, Renate Winter, Jean Zermatten).
- Benoit Van Keirsbilck et Géraldine Mathieu (dir.), *Les droits de l'enfant expliqués aux grands*, Couleur livres, Jeunesse & Droit (éd.), 2014
- Benoit Van Keirsbilck, *La privation de liberté des enfants, l'importance du monitoring*, in *Justice Juvénile : les fondamentaux*, Institut international des Droits de l'Enfant, 2016
- Benoit Van Keirsbilck, *Rôle des ONG dans la mise en oeuvre de la Convention internationale relative aux droits de l'enfant*, in «Regards croisés sur deux décennies d'application de la Convention des Nations-Unies relative aux droits de l'enfant au Nord et au Sud de la Méditerranée», 2014