

The European Model for Restorative Justice with Children and Young People: a challenge for the Basque Country.

(ii) names and full contact details of the organisers,

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(iii) a list of the provisional participants,

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Fernando Alvarez* Coordinator of the Units of psychosocial professionals at courts and 5
professionals of the Units in charge of mediation with juveniles.

Local experts in RJ: **Gema Varona***. **Alberto Olalde***.

(iv) a **provisional programme** for the workshop, including working titles of presentations or
papers.

DATE: 18th of May of 2017. Thursday.

Timetable: 09.15-11.00; 11.15-13.00 and 14.45-16.15; 16.30-18.00.

- (09.15-11.00) Tim Chapman : “Presentation of the research about the European Model of RJ with young people”.
- (11.15-13.00) Tim Chapman “The different tools of RJ: VOM mediation, Circles and Conferences. Experiences in post sentence contexts ”.
- (14.45-16.15) Xabier Etxebarria Zarrabeitia: “ Legal possibilities for implementation in the Basque Country of the European Model. Experiences in Spain”.
- (16:30-18:00) Group discussion and conclusions: “Is it possible to develop a Basque-European model??”.
- (16.30-18.00) Conclusions: “How to develop a Basque-European model”.

The European Model for Restorative Justice with Children and Young People: The European Model, which analyses good restorative practices, and key features of effectiveness, is based on the research conducted by a team of experts in the field of restorative justice. The experts also investigated the use of restorative measures through three case studies: Belgium, Finland and Northern Ireland. Tim Chapman, Course Director of the Restorative Practices Masters at the University of Ulster, coordinated the overall project. Maija Sisko Gellin, Finnish Forum for Mediation, who has extensive experience of mediation with young people both in schools and the criminal justice system, supported the practice model, in particular through knowledge of the juvenile restorative justice system in Finland. Monique Anderson, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, also supported the practice model, calling on her experiences with the juvenile restorative justice system in Belgium.

Local Context: Since the end of the 80's the Basque Government started mediation processes with juveniles without a formal legal framework. It was in 2000 when the "*Organic Law about the responsibility of minors in criminal matters*" set up the legal possibility of "conciliation and mediation" for minor offenders. Since then the "Units of psychosocial professionals at courts" of the Basque Government have carried out the mediation with juveniles in our community, reaching a high number of cases (387 mediations in 2015) with a success rate of direct mediation between victims and offenders (about 40% of total).

Aim of the Workshop: We would like to present The European model of restorative justice with Children and Young People and compare and contrast it with the Basque experience in the field carried out with juveniles mainly by the "Units of psychosocial professionals at courts" and other post sentence Centres for minors of the Basque System of Justice for juveniles.

At the same time, is a good opportunity to approach to other methods of RJ like Circles and Conferences to explore the boundaries of the Restorative Justice in the Basque Country and a challenge to develop and debate the basement for a Basque model of RJ with young people with the legal operators like Judges and Prosecutors for minors and experts of RJ in the Basque Country and practitioners and workers of the Basque System of Justice for juveniles.