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Repatriation and the best interests of the child

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Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:

2017

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Zevulun, D. (2017). *Repatriation and the best interests of the child: The rearing environment and wellbeing of migrant children after return to Kosovo and Albania*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.

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Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift

“Repatriation and the Best Interests of the Child: The rearing environment and wellbeing of migrant children after return to Kosovo and Albania”

1. Currently making up around 30% of asylum applicants in the European Union, children will remain an important group on which to focus in the field of migration. (this dissertation)
2. The Best Interests of the Child principle – one of the core articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child – is included in European regulations and directives concerning asylum, stipulating that in all decisions impacting children their best interests should be a primary consideration. (this dissertation)
3. With regard to return decisions in migration procedures, a best interests of the child assessment implies that different scenarios of the child's development should be considered with regard to the outcome of the decision whether or not to repatriate a child to the country of origin. (this dissertation)
4. Rearing situations of children growing up in non-Western countries – more than 90 per cent of the world's children – are often assessed and judged through a Western view on the necessities for a child's healthy development. (this dissertation)
5. Professionals can validly assess the quality of the child-rearing environment from a local cultural perspective on child-rearing in Kosovo and Albania through the childrearing conditions in the Best Interests of the Child Model (BIC Model). (this dissertation)
6. In order to know how children could best be supported before and after repatriation, insight is needed into children's wellbeing after return to their countries of origin. (this dissertation)
7. The wellbeing of returned children seems not only dependent on the conditions after repatriation, but also on the conditions that the families and children left in the host country. (this dissertation)
8. Monitoring the situation after return provides valuable insights for policy and practice regarding the repatriation of rejected asylum seekers who are obliged to leave, but also regarding the reception and care for families and children who are currently residing as asylum seekers in host countries. (this dissertation)
9. To enable sustainable return in a child's best interests, the needs of children and families should be thoroughly assessed and made explicit prior to their return, and targeted in advance in a well-reasoned return plan. (this dissertation)
10. If you try the best you can, the best you can is good enough. (Radiohead)
11. Wie wat vindt, heeft slecht gezocht. (Rutger Kopland)
12. Met geld op zak bent u wijs en bent u mooi en kunt u nog prachtig zingen ook. (Jiddisch gezegde)