

## Jillian van Turnhout, Chief Executive, Children's Rights Alliance



Aug 2005 - Present

### **Chief Executive, Children's Rights Alliance**

The Alliance is a coalition of over 90 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working to secure the rights and needs of children in Ireland, by campaigning for the full implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. During her time with the Alliance she has led the strategic direction of the organisation. In her role as Chief Executive, Jillian is also member of the National Children's Advisory Committee and Chair of the Children's Mental Health Coalition. She formerly represented the Alliance on the Management Committee of the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF).

1998 - Present:

### **Member and Vice President (Various Interest Groups), European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)**

In 1998 she was nominated by the Community and Voluntary Pillar on behalf of the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) to the EESC and was appointed by Government. She was reappointed in 2002. In 2006 and 2010 she was nominated by the Children's Rights Alliance through the Community and Voluntary Pillar, and was duly appointed. From October 2006 to October 2008, Jillian was Vice President of the EESC. Her involvement in the EESC has included: Social Affairs, External Relations and Communications. Jillian represents the EESC on the Steering Group of the EU Forum on the Rights of the Child and the EU-China Round Table.

Oct 2008 - Present:

### **Vice Chairperson, European Movement Ireland (EMI)**

EMI is an independent, voluntary membership organisation that works to publicise the work of the EU, and Ireland's role in it. It aims to be the source of clear cut and simple information about the EU.

April 2007 - Present:

### **Member, National Youth Work Advisory Committee**

2001 - 2007:

### **Chief Commissioner, Irish Girl Guides (IGG)**

Jillian continues to volunteer and is an active leader in her locality in Dundrum, Dublin.

1998; 2001:

### **State appointee to the Council of the President's Award**

1998 - 2005:

**World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)** representative on the European Union Affairs Commission of the European Youth Forum.

1993 - 1999:

### **President, National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI)**

1993 - 1996:

### **Secretary General, ECB-BEC (predecessor to the European Youth Forum).**

In this role, she was a founder of the very successful European Youth Forum.