



**QENDRA PËR MBROJTJEN E TE DREJTAVE
TE FEMIJEVE NE SHQIPERI**

Children's Human Rights Centre of Albania - CRCA

CHILD LABOUR AND STREET CHILDREN IN ALBANIA

A research into economical exploitation and forced child labour in Albania



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- CRCA- The Children's Human Centre of Albania
- IRCCRA- Information and Research Centre for Children's Rights in Albania
- UN- The United Nations
- ILO- International Labour Organization
- UNICEF- The United Nations Children's Fund
- IPEC- The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
- NGO- Non-Governmental Organization
- CRC- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Changes in the political system; economical and social instability during the 1990's, made transition in Albania longer and brought a lot of negative phenomena. Among the worst are two forms of economical exploitation: child labour and street children, which are some of most serious violations of children's rights in Albania.

Taking into consideration all these factors, even though many studies have been conducted and many projects have been launched in order to eliminate the phenomena of child labour, the situation does not seem to have improved. It is obvious that every day hundreds children in the streets sell, beg, wash car windows, work in the construction industry, take care of younger sisters and brothers, and contribute to the family income. This harsh situation of the economical exploitation of children is one of the main reasons why the Children's Human Rights in Albania (CRCA) prepared the research "Child Labour and Street Children in Albania".

The research "Child Labour and Street Children in Albania" is a qualitative one. It brings the basic concepts of what is considered child labour and street children; the general conditions of the economical exploitation of the child, the causes that facilitate the phenomenon, and the consequences that follows child labour; all illustrated with case studies. The study tackles also the issue of street children, and a list of conclusions and recommendations is addressed to institutional authorities that are obliged to undertake appropriate measures to eliminate any forms of economical exploitation of children.

Researchers faced many difficulties during the study, such as the lack of statistical and comprehensive data about the number of children that work and children that live on the street in Albania; the lack of up-to-date information on the families that live under the poverty level, and the lack of awareness by the representatives of the Albanian Government on the phenomenon of child labour.

There is no data in Albania about children that work and street children, in spite of fact that the phenomenon is evident and is one of the major problems facing children. The economical exploitation is a complex phenomenon. In the absence of a system that protects and takes care of children, they are forced to work, in the same time street children become the victims of the penal acts like stealing or drug trafficking.

The absence of a system that protects and takes care of children; the absence of a referral system makes it even more difficult to rehabilitate child labourers and street children. Some small services are provided by NGO-s, while governmental services are almost non existent.

Another major problem in Albania is the absence of appropriate legislation that prohibits the economical exploitation of children. Based on the existing legislation work in the family home is not considered to be child labour, while for international standards it is regarded as work in family or family work.

Lack of sanctions at the Labour Code, Family Code, or Penal Code against the families that employ their children has left the children without any legal protection. The study shows that the Albanian legislation does not meet the requested standards of the Convention on of Rights of the Child of UN, and the Convention of ILO for child labour.

Labour Code does not have any specific article related to the forced labour of child and young people. The Code also does not categorize the forms of work into the light forms and the worst forms of labour. It does not stipulate the rules of working in family, nor a particular protection for the children that work in the family. The legislation does not stipulate any tools to monitor children that work in informal sector. It has just stipulated General Inspectorate of Labour to monitor and inspect the formal sector of employment.

The Albanian Government, during the past 15 years has not paid much attention to eliminate the economical exploitation of children and to take away the main causes of child labour. The phenomenon appeared 15 years ago and the causes are the same. The absence of the governmental policies on child labour and street children is an indicator that the Government is not willing to build a Labour Market, which will respect the basic rights of children. If the appropriate measures will not be undertaken to eliminate the causes, the economical exploitation of children would remain one of the most severe violations of children's rights in Albania,

The involvement of thousands of children in child labour has not only individual consequences, but also national ones. One of the risks that Governments will face is the lack of professional human resources that will be able to meet European market standards. The inappropriate education of children will make it too difficult for them to integrate into the Albanian and European labour market. As a result, a considerable part of these children when they grow up will need social and financial assistance from the state, and these costs will have to be covered by the taxpayers.

Another grave consequence of the economical exploitation of children is their involvement in criminal acts or in groups of organized crime. The work of street children has created a market for the distribution of goods in small quantities. The Children's Human Centre of Albania – CRCA believes that there is the possibility that this market can be used also for the distribution of drugs by children themselves, their relatives, or other people that have an interest in the exploitation of children and their labour. The risks would certainly be avoided by eliminating child labour.

In the annexes of this research we have included some case studies of children that are collected by educators and social workers of the CRCA Children's Clubs Against Child Labour. Part of annexes there is a list of representatives of the Governmental and Non-governmental organizations interviewed by the researchers.

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2. THE CONCEPT OF CHILD LABOUR AND STREET CHILDREN

In this study, because of the lack of a basic definition and concept in Albanian legislation, we make an effort to explain the concept of child labour and street children based on international conventions of the UN and ILO.

2.1. THE CONCEPT OF CHILD LABOUR

Even though there is not a clear definition in Albania of what is considered child labour or street children, a number of international conventions and organizations made efforts to give an appropriate concept of child labour. Below are listed some of those concepts and definitions.

a) Definition of the Child Labour according to CRC

Article 32

1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

2. States Parties shall take legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to ensure the implementation of the present article. To this end and having regard to the relevant provisions of other international instruments, States Parties shall in particular:

- Provide for a minimum age or minimum ages for admission to employment
- Provide for appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment;
- Provide for appropriate penalties or other sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of the present article.

b) Definition of child labour according ILO

The International Labour Organization does not have a definition on child labour. It is left to the States Parties to decide the definition of what they would consider child labour in their countries. Nevertheless, ILO in two conventions, Convention 138, and 182, for the first time brought some important basic concepts, which help in establishing a definition of child labour.

Concept 1: “Child labourer” and “Child that helps”

These two concepts, which are too unfamiliar in Albania, make an effort to define what is considered child exploitation or forced labour. The concept “Child labourer” is related to economic exploitation of children (forced and hazardous one), that is a prohibited labour that is likely to harm growth and development, moral, emotional and education of the child. While the concept “a child that helps” is related to any work that a child

can perform in the family, school, community, and is not likely to exploit and to do harm to the child, as it is mentioned above.

In the study we have used the term “child labourer”, which is also commonly used in the Albanian Language.

Concept 2: “Light Work” and “Hazardous work”

ILO Convention 138 stipulates these two concepts “Minimum age for admission to employment” which aims to prevent child labour below the given age, and in the same time to determine under which a child is allowed to work and to protect them of any risks or exploitation forms. For this purpose the ILO Convention 138 asks from States Parties to recognize the minimal age of accepting a child at work, and to define the forms of light work and hazardous work for children.

ILO Convention stipulates that “light work” should not be harmful to a child’s health and development or not prejudice attendance at school and participation in vocational training. In order to stipulate if the work is hazardous and would effect negatively on the child, among many factors, ILO takes into consideration the duration or hours of work, circumstances in which it is carried out, effect on child education.¹

While ILO stipulates as “hazardous work” any work which by its nature or physical conditions of work has or leads to, adverse effects on the child’s safety, health (physical or mental), and moral development.

Concept 3: “Worst forms of child labour”ⁱⁱ

The ILO Convention for the Worst Forms of Child Labour was officially adopted in 1999 and until now has been ratified by 149 states, including Albania.ⁱⁱⁱ The Convention 182 limits even more works that were permitted before. The Convention also stipulates some of works that are strongly prohibited for children, as following:

All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;

The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;

Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

c) The Concept for child labour according to researchers

Child labour comprises paid or unpaid work, and all activities that are hazardous and may jeopardize child physical or mental health, education and moral development.^{iv}

2.2 DEFINITION OF STREET CHILDREN

Street Children are children who live on the streets, who do not have parent's care, or do not have home^v.

In the meantime UNICEF^{vi} and many researchers that deal with this issue have given a detailed definition on street children bringing some new concepts about the phenomenon. Below are some of main concepts:

Concept 1: Children in the Street:

- Are the children who have regular contact with their families;
- many of them attend schools;
- are in street to contribute to the family income;
- Try to avoid pressure and lack of space at home.

Concept 2: Street Children:

- Are children that occasionally, or very rarely visit their family and home;
- do not attend school;
- they leave home and go onto the street to avoid: domestic violence, parents that are addicted to alcohol , or lack of care;
- their home is a place of scare and mystery;

Concept 3: Children that live in street:

- Are the children who have cut ties with their families, or do not have a family at all;
- They consider the street as their home, seeking there safety and survival;
- They build groups or gangs with other children;
- They are addict to drugs.

Concept 4: Children that live in street with families, will be considered all the children that dwell in streets with their families.

3. THE PHENOMENON OF CHILD LABOUR AND STREET CHILDREN IN ALBANIA

3.1. STATISTICAL DATA AND CHILD LABOUR

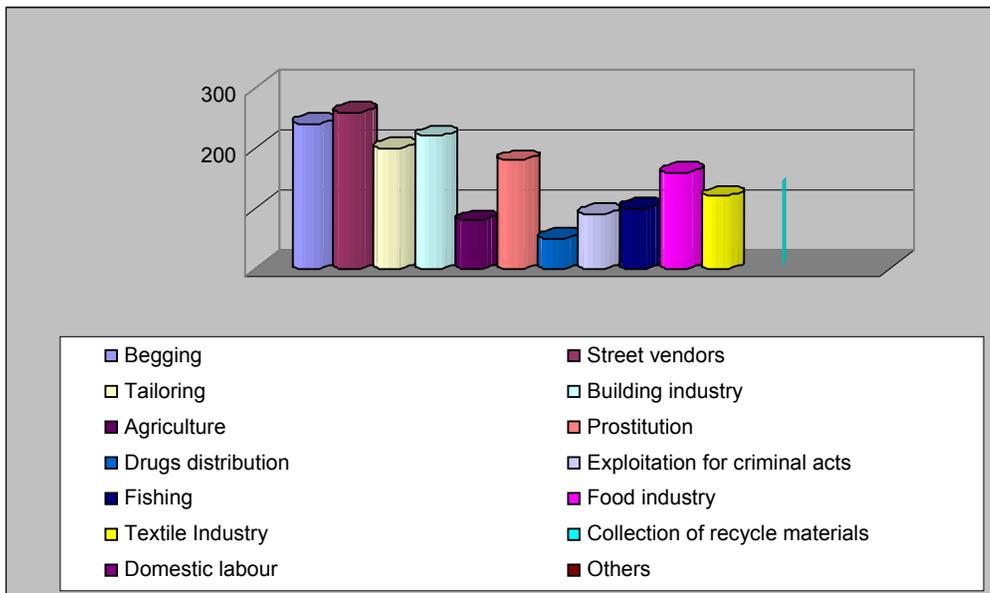
There are not reliable data on children that work or street children in Albania. The situation is made worse by the fact that the General Inspectorate of Labour has no clear definition on child labour; and secondly, not all children are registered in Civil Offices. Therefore, the number of child labourers and street children might be much more than what is officially declared.

INSTAT in their publication “People and Work in Albania” in 2004, reports that 9.8 percent of children in the 6-14 age group are involved in labour activities. Most of them are from rural areas and work in agricultural farms of their families.

According to INSTAT in urban areas work only 0.3 percent of children, while in the rural areas 16 percent of children of 6 – 14 years of age work. Most of children attended school, while only 8.9 percent claimed that they dropped out of school. The data indicates also that 2 percent of child labourers were involved in services, while most of them, at about 95.6 percent were involved in agriculture.^{vii}

According to a study conducted by CRCA^{viii}, the percentage of child labourers in Albania is higher than the official numbers. According to this study about 17 percent of children attend compulsory education claimed that they work to cover their living expenses. CRCA believes that over fifty thousand children in Albania are involved in child labour, including those that all street children.

3.2. THE FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR IN ALBANIA



The forms of child labour vary on family tradition, locality, geographical conditions of places where child work, etc. One question for governmental representatives and NGO's was: Based on your data and observation, what are the most common forms of child labour in Albania?

The graph shows in detail the most common forms of child labour in Albania, based on respondent's responses.

Based on respondent the most common forms of child labour is child vendor. Less common are: construction industry (for boys), tailoring (for girls), agriculture industry, pornography, etc. Other form which is common in coastal places is fishing. Trafficking of drug is not so frequent. The less common is child domestic labour. The reason might be that domestic labour is hidden and it performs in closed environment. This form of work is seen among girls.

3.3 THE CATEGORIES OF CHILD LABOUR

Based on the characteristics of the Labour Market, we have categorized Child Labour in two main important categories are:

Children that work in the formal sector of the economy, such as in tailoring, shoe factories and construction work. Most of children are 14 - 18 years of age. General Inspectorate of Labour monitors child labour in formal sector. But in reality children often give false indicators of their ages in order to get a job and to contribute to family's income, or it happens that sometimes employers do not respect Labour Code.

Children that work in the informal (gray) sector of the economy are children who work mainly on the streets, like child vendors, beggars, car window cleaner at street corners, trafficking of drugs, etc. or children that work in farming. Because the General Inspectorate of Labour is authorized to monitor only for formal sector, it does not monitor the work of these children. As the consequence, child labour in informal sector remains out of monitoring and supervision. Another characteristic of this sector is a number of these children are not registered Civil Offices.

3.4. THE STAGES OF CHILD LABOUR

Point of entry to the work place by the child. This moment can be felt in different ways depending on their formation and experiences of the child and the consequences vary. For some children the process of consequences can be shown more gradually than some others. During this phase the main area of interest of the child is focused on the way how he will be dealt by the employer and, how the child will respond to the requests of the job. This increases the possibility that the main consequence of child labour will result in raising levels of stress and fear.

Life in the work place. In this stage children are used with the nature of the job and the boss expectations. Some children have changed their jobs, or have done two jobs at the same time. For this stage it is important to observe the work places, employer – employee relationships and the child's views about work.

The End of childhood. In this stage the child has started a new job, or has quitted working at all, or carried on the same job, but now he or she is an adult. In this stage it is important to observe the socio-psychological welfare of the young, reflection on work experience during childhood, and correlation of current situation with future.

3.5. THE CONDITIONS OF CHILD LABOUR

The conditions of child labour are an important issue to assess. Children who work in the informal sectors have severe, even dangerous conditions in the work places. They work in very low, or very high temperature, or in places with heavy traffic.

These children do not have a work schedule, and if they do not make a given amount of money per day, they often undergo a physical violence.

Children that work in the formal sector normally have better conditions, but some work places can harm their health, such as with machinery or contact with dangerous substances.

According to General Inspectorate of Labour, employers quite often do not respect requirements that stipulate Labour Code.

LABOUR CODE

Article 78/3 limits the length of work time for employees under the age of 18 to not more than 6 hours a day. For every 7-day working period, minors below the age of eighteen are entitled to a minimum holiday period of two consecutive days, including Sunday.

In the event of minors below eighteen years of age working longer than four and a half hours daily, they are entitled to a 30-minute nonstop break. Daily holiday for minors is at least 11 hour nonstop break or when it is needed for two consecutive days.

4. REASONS OF CHILD LABOUR

Various socio-economic factors come together to explain the existence of child labour and street children in Albania.

If we analyze the reasons of child labour phenomena of the street children in recent years, we will see that the reasons are almost the same and only the rate is changed. The main reason of child labour is poverty, which is decreased by increasing brut product, but it is far away from elimination and is still a great concern for many families.

After we analyze the phenomenon of child labour, we conclude that there are many reasons why children work, but the main one is to contribute to the family income. In the study we classified the reasons of child labour in three groups. In this chapter we will talk about economical reasons, while later on about family and social ones.

4.1. ECONOMICAL REASONS

Extreme Poverty

World Bank estimates that 150 000 people, or 5 % of population in Albania lives under the extreme poverty^{ix}. According to this assessment from this group is quite impossible to meet even elementary needs.

Extreme poverty is one of main reasons of child labour. The poverty is related to the place where the child or his family lives. Parents ask from children to work when is faced with survival and employment limitations for adults. Families that face severe economical problems are forced to push their children to work in order to ensure family survival, in spite of that is against tradition. "I like to attend school, but I must wash car windows,

otherwise my mother has nothing to give us to eat” says E.L. Children of divorced families; children that live in shelters and children of parents with disabilities can be under tremendous needs to find a job.

Unemployment

Changes in the political system closed many economical activities and increased the level of unemployment for people who are able to work. The unemployment rate at the end of 1992 was 26 percent, which shows that it is 3 times higher compare to 1991.

According to INSTAT indicators of unemployment rate in 2000 are 16.8 percent, while in 2002 at about 15.8 percent. Even though it seems paradoxical, unemployment of adults is where child work exist, and we believe that one interfere with other. Work market has different possibilities for adults compare to children.^x

Unemployment contributes on poverty and it is a great concern phenomenon that followed Albanian society during all over transition. Unemployment is strongly related to possibilities that offer work market and to limitations that family faces to ensure food, warmth, shelter and other basic material and spiritual needs for its members.

The wage levels and cost-of-living

Albanian wages are amongst lowest the in Europe, whilst the cost of living has risen constantly in recent years. A study of the World Bank on the situation of poverty in Albania shows that at about 25 percent of population in Albania, or approximately 780.000 people live under the acceptable minimum of poverty. Four out five poor people live in rural area and the wage level changes based on localities. Financial difficulties are higher among families where the head of the household is less educated.^{xi}

Poverty is not proportional with number of children – about 40 % of children with three or more children are poor compare with 25 % of total families in Albania.

Table 3.9. Population according to gender, locations and economical status: 2005 LSMS

Gender/Area	The gross level of employment	The level of unemployment		The Level of Activity	
		Standard Definition	Extended Definition	Standard Definition	Extended Definition
Male	52.2				
Tirana, urban area	48.3	18.9	24	64.4	68.7
Other urban area	65.6	19.8	26.8	60.6	66.4
Rural areas	58.5	4.3	7.2	78.5	80.9
Country		10.1	14.5	71.2	74.9
Female	26.4				
Tirana, urban area	26.1	22.2	29.8	33.9	37.6
Other urban area	46.9	28.3	40.7	37.2	45.1
Rural areas	38	2	6.7	59.1	62
Country		9.9	17.5	49.3	53.8
All	38.8				
Tirana, urban area	36.6	20.1	26.2	48.5	52.5
Other urban area	55.7	23.3	32.8	48.3	55.1
Rural areas	47.7	3.3	6.9	68.2	70.9
Country		10	15.8	59.6	63.8

The Source: the data analysis LSMS 2002
 (3) people that work in agriculture industry for less than 15 hours per week are considered unemployed

Labour Market

Labour Market offers work places in four industries: market, services, transport and building. The majority of employers deal with small or middle business, and their activity includes: car services, transport, petroleum, and municipal services, selling goods in small quantities. Some employers are not licensed for respective business and have a lot of problems with state taxes.

The reasons why an employer offers a job for a child are: a) to help the child and his family, b) to teach the child in a specific craft; c) to exploit economically children, because it is easier to keep children under control; d) employer is a relative, or neighbors of the child.

Children are easier to be keep under control, because they do not know their rights, they do not cause problems; they are more flexible and their work is less expensive.

The lack of infrastructure

Albania is a poor country and faces a lot of problems with infrastructure. In rural areas the roads are very bad, and schools are in a shabby condition. With schools in such a bad condition this contributes toward children giving up their education.

According to the World Bank financial poverty gets worse when the infrastructure is bad and services are poor in the country. About 40 percent of families are not provided with two basic needs: the supply of water and heating.

Interview with. T. 9 yr. old, Tirana

Why do you not attend school?

AT. There is no school in our village; the school in other village is too far from here

What do you do during the day?

AT. I work at house of the doctor of village.

What do you do there?

AT. I clean, wash dishes, iron clothes and take care of her little daughter until she came home.

How many hours per day do you work?

AT. I work from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m.

How much are you paid per day?

AT. She gives me 300 lek (the new ones) per day and the lunch meal; sometimes she gives me some clothes, as well.

5. SOCIAL ATTITUDES TOWARD CHILD LABOUR AND STREET CHILDREN

5.1. FAMILY FACTORS

Dysfunctional families

The number of families with one parent is increasing everyday in Albania. The two main causes are divorces and going abroad of one parent. Such things create a difficult situation for children.

For families with such problems, education of children is not any more a priority. Even when a child attends school, he or she has a little monitoring by his/her parents. In fact the child begins to contribute to the family's income.

Such a situation makes it is more difficult for a family to function normally. As a result, parents or relations of children turn into children exploiters. When children are questioned about the money that they get, the answer is

that they hand them over to their mothers. They are not even allowed to buy food with this money. When they do not get enough money, they are accused of being lazy and awkward.

The profile of child labour and street children

In this study we made an effort to present an exact profile of child labour and street children. This profile is built based on the data that was collected during many years from the CRCA Children's Club and taking into consideration family and social characteristics of each child.

In general, children that work and street children have problems in their families, or children that live under severe economical conditions and some of them have only one parent or none at all. Most of them do not attend school, or miss many classes, spending most of their time in the street.

A considerable number of street selling children come from families that have been displaced from rural areas to urban areas; this phenomenon appeared recently.

Children take the responsibility upon their shoulders too early and often work hard to help their families. This is the reason why they need sometimes to work together with parents.

Based on current results, in general, most of street children do not like to attend school, because they are not used with rules. As neglected children, they cannot concentrate on lessons. Older street children often are accompanied by other children, or adults, in the form of organized groups or gangs, that sometimes are exploited by adults for stealing or robbery. A combined feature of almost all children that work, or street children is that they are attracted by new experiences or adventures.

5.2. SOCIAL FACTORS

The attitudes towards some minorities

In Albania, as in many other countries, Roma communities are held in low esteem by a large part of the population. Several Roma children said that they do not feel at ease in school, that they were often at the back of the classroom, at times disregarded by teachers or the butt of jokes and attacks from other pupils. It is perceived that Roma families have more children than non-Roma ones, although there is no reliable data about this. The low income and the tradition that consider children as "adults" once in their teens, facilitate the phenomenon of child labour in this community.

The cultural norms

Researchers believe that child labour would not be so common, if it would not be so socially and culturally acceptable. Some of the social and cultural factors that facilitate child labour are:

Assumption that any work is good to develop character and to create good future skills to a child;

Tradition that encourage children to follow the craft of their parents from very young age;

Phenomenon of the contribution by all members of family in paying debts, which includes children too (in the even that the head of household has to pay back money lost in gambling children are often forced to work in order to pay back the father's debts);

The stereotype that girls do not need as good an education as boys, and that girls are only good for household;

The mentality of parents that live in the street (if I live in the street, the child has to live there too);
The lack of a qualitative and appropriate education for children with specific requirements.

6. INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION FOR CHILD LABOUR AND STREET CHILDREN

6.1. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF CHILD LABOUR^{xii}

European Convention on the Rights of the Child. Albanian Government in November 4, 1995, ratified the convention; law nr. 8137, in July 31, 19967, Official Gazette nr. 20 August 1996. Article 4 of Convention prohibits forced and compulsory labour.

International Convention on Civil and Politic Rights. It is adopted from the United Assembly of UN in December 16, 1966 (Albania ratified it in the law nr. 7510, in October 8, 1991. Official Gazette nr. 6, August 1991). Article 24 stipulates “Every child shall have, without any discrimination as to race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin, property or birth, the right to such measures of protection as are required by his status as a minor, on the part of his family, society and the State.

International Convention on Economical, Social and Cultural Rights. The United Assembly of UN adopts the Convention in December 16, 1966; Albania ratified it in August 1991. The Convention obliges the state parties to undertake the special provisions to protect children and teenagers. Children and teenagers must be protected from the economical and social exploitation. Article no. 10 stipulates that states parties must recognize the minimum age of admission to employment.

European Social Charter. Albania ratified it in law nr. 8960, in October 24, 2002 (Official Gazette nr. 75, December 2002.). European Social Charter stipulates especially these duties for states parties:

- Ensure to provide that the minimum age of admission to employment is at least be 15 years;
- Ensure to provide that persons who are still subject to compulsory education shall not be employed
- Ensure to provide that the working hours of persons under 16 years of age shall be limited ;
- Ensure to provide that employed persons of under 18 years of age shall be entitled to not less than three weeks' annual holiday with pay;
- Ensure to provide that persons under 18 years of age shall not be employed in night work;
- Ensure to provide that persons under 18 years of age employed in occupations prescribed by national laws or regulations shall be subject to regular medical control;

Convention on the Rights of the Child. The General Assembly of UN adopted CRC in November 1989 and Albania ratified it in February 1992. The State Parties recognize the basic right of education, compulsory and free for all children and protection of the children from any form of exploitation.

ILO Convention No. 182, the minimum age of admission to employment. Albania ratified it in 1999. States Parties should undertake provisions to prohibit and progressively to increase the minimum age of admission to employment in accordance with physical and mental development of children.

ILO Convention No. 138, for the minimal age of admission to employment. Albania ratified it in April 23, 2001. The Convention stipulates the worst forms of child labour (see the Chapter on The Forms of Child Labour). The State Parties shall undertake the provisions to prohibit any worst form of child labour.

6.2. ALBANIAN LEGISLATION AND CHILD LABOUR

The Constitution of Republic of Albania. Constitution is in base of Albanian Legislation. Article 54 of Constitution stipulates a specific protection for children. It upholds the right of every child to protection against violence, bad treatment, exploitation and work that can impair its health or morality and endanger its life or normal development.

The Labour Code. Labour Code in Article 11 stipulates that duties and responsibilities related to work issues are regulated by International Conventions, which Republic of Albania has ratified. As the result, the Convention that Albania ratified can be directly implemented, if a special law is not required.^{xiii}

The Labour Code treats the issues of employment by specific provisions, as the prohibition of forced labour, asking from employer to respect employee's rights, including the health care. Labour Code does not stipulate something related to forced labour of children under minimum age. Labour Code, Article 98 stipulates the minimum age of 16 years for admission to employment. This is in accordance with the ILO Convention nr. 138. Labour Code allows children aged between 14 and 16 years old to perform light works during the school holiday.

The Labour Code does not include family as well. The domestic work that can be performed by spouses, or children are included in article 5/c. But the Code does not stipulate the rules of domestic work and does not protect children that work at home. Labour Code, article 15, stipulates that an employee at home has the same rights as one in the enterprise. But it is not mentioned the specific protection for the children that work at home.

6.3. GOVERNMENTAL POLICIES FOR STREET CHILDREN AND CHILD LABOUR

The National Strategy for Children 2005-2010. The National Strategy for the Children in Albania was approved on 31st May 2005 by the Council of Ministers in sentence nr. 368, date 31 May, 2005 which defines the strategic objectives of the policies of the Government of Albania in eliminating of the child labour and child trafficking. It aims to monitor closely the labour market and to strengthen education of children.

The National Strategy on Fighting against Child Trafficking in Albania 2005 –2007. The National Strategy on the Fighting against Child Trafficking is approved on 11th February 2005 in the sentence of the Council of Ministers nr. 171. The strategy aims to minimize and eliminate the phenomenon of child trafficking in Albania, as one of the worst forms of child labour. In the strategy are foreseen the provisions related with truancy, child labour, reducing poverty and alternatives for solving the problems.

7. CONSEQUENCES OF THE ECONOMICAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

7.1. INDIVIDUAL CONSEQUENCES

Physical and sexual consequences^{xiv}. The physical consequences are related to the environment conditions, exhausting, illnesses, decreasing of immunity, malnourishment, radiation, toxic substances, which can cause the various illnesses to children, or can influence in later development of children.

Accidents. Accidents are common amongst street children and children that work. They jeopardize children life and sometimes can cause the death. The accidents are caused by the different factors, like falling from high places, cutting the fingers or limbs, mine and wall falling, hitting with solid tools in the different organs, etc. The most vulnerable group for car accidents is street children.

Poisoning. Poisoning is more common among children that work in industry, in shoe factories, pharmaceutical or detergent factory, or small enterprises that uses chemicals in their works. The intoxication is too harmful for children, especially it harms the respiratory system, but also the other part of the body; it may cause permanent invalidity, even the death.

Burns. Different harmful substances, such as alkali or acidic can cause the burns to the children, which can lead to the irreversible damages in children body. The burns can be superficial or deep ones.

Physical and sexual violation is reported by many street children, such as child vendors, or beggars. Children often become victims of adult violence, when the latter have no money to pay them, or when they ask from children to steal. On other side, because the street children sleep outside, they are always in risk to be the object of physical or sexual assaults, other street children, or from the adults.

Murder. The murder of children can happen by their abusers, or by other criminals, or pedophiles. Killing is the consequence of involvement of children in criminal activities, or it happens because of sexual abuse.

Emotional and psychological consequences

Behavioral Disorder. As the consequence of work, children are provided with an insufficient education. By working in the street, they adopt bad habits and manners that are not present in other peer group members. Their behavior is associated with inappropriate language for their age. What is typical amongst children that work is that their behavior is similar to adults.

Emotional disorders. Children behaviour that work and street children emotionally are different from other children. They feel that their needs are not fulfilled, such as need for love, for entertainment, etc. Nobody pays any attention to them, nor asks them how they feel about what they do. The emotions of these children are not developed. They do not know how to express their emotions. The children that work lead an unhappy childhood.

Post-traumatic Stress disorder is a syndrome that associates the consequences of abusing, trauma, personality and moral damages of children. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder is a complex health condition that can develop in response to a traumatic experience – a life-threatening or extremely distressing situation that causes a person to feel intense fear, horror or a sense of helplessness. Because of depression the children often commit suicide. It often happens that all the family is depressed, so the children reflect the depression of their parents. This type of

depression happens more to the head of household, who cannot support their family. In this situation the eldest child (usually boys) takes the role of the father.

Concept about themselves. The Concept that children have about themselves depends on the form of child labour. If children work in construction, they feel they are grown up and are able to do hard work and make a lot of money. They may also feel inferior to other children. The feeling of inferiority follows them throughout the rest of their life.

Stagnation of child development. (Definition: It's a condition of inactivity, the state of being motionless or inertness). In this context stagnation of development is referred to the child development and the syndrome failure to thrive. Some researchers of human development believe that certain developmental changes are dictated by human genotype or genetics, while other theorists such as stage theorists believe there are other ways to describe the overall sequence of changes. This is so clear after the genetic code invents.

Standing on the ground of those theories, on development of human behaviours and personalities every phase in child life create very important blocks which make him ready for the next phase. In the all child developmental steps environment around him, family, parents, school, society and other relatives play a key role to help the child to pass from one phase to the next one. In the case this environment is not supportive for his development the future is the stagnation of his development. In this case we are not talking about stagnation of the development of one child but for stagnation of the other generations which will bring in the future microeconomic and macroeconomic stagnation.

Mental health. Some children that work are not mentally healthy. They are prone to suffer from anxiety, sleeplessness, depression or other mental disorders. Depression is one of the most common child mental conditions. The children that work do not have optimism in their life. They realize that in spite of their hard work, the financial situation remains the same. They realize that someone else benefits from their work, and this fact disappoint and frustrate them. A consequence of child labour is psychic disorders, too. The children that work are at risk to have disorders from mental health, such as severe depression, personality disorder, anorexia, bulimia, or anxiety.

7.2. CONSEQUENCES FOR FAMILY

Consequences of child labour are not only individual, but they affect the family, as well.

Social Consequences

- The Family do not increase the level of education
- The Family is full with social problems;
- The Family can be involved in criminal activities;
- The Family produce victims of sexual or economical exploitation;

Economical Consequences

- It seems that in the beginning child labour improves temporary the economical situation of the family, but in fact child labour make it worse.
- The family remains poor.
- It is created the vicious circle of poverty

7.3. CONSEQUENCES FOR SOCIETY AND THE COUNTRY

Social and Political Consequences

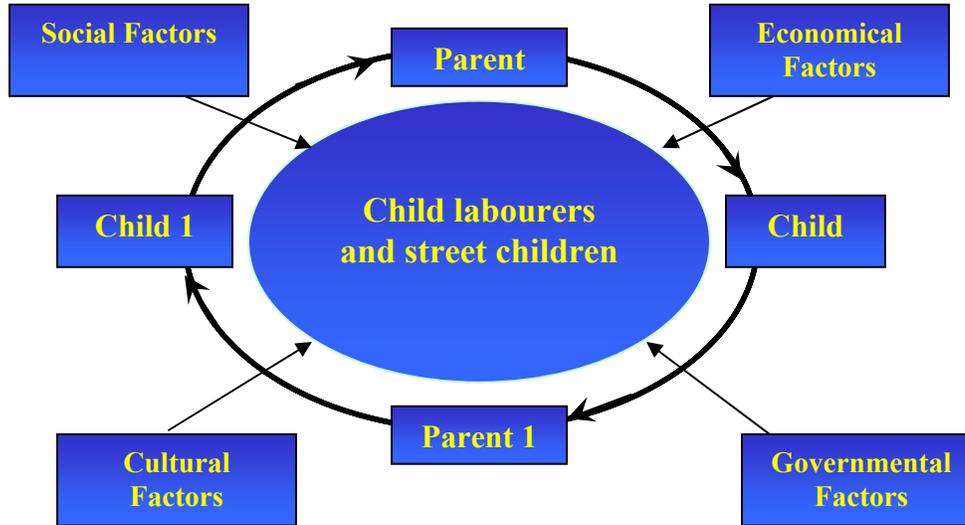
- Street children, children that work and their families requires for a permanent social assistance.
- They have problems to integrate into society and risk being excluded from society, which make them more vulnerable.
- The economical exploitation of children influence in the level of education of the society and country;
- It influences in the level of socio-cultural aspects of country;
- It influences in development of criminality and organized crime;

Economical Consequences

- The economical exploitation of children influence the economical development of the country, because an inappropriate education does not meet the labour market requests and these children would not be able to integrate in this market.
- Lack of an appropriate education makes these children dependent on social assistance.
- The economical exploitation of children decreases the economical power of the country, by decreasing the purchasing power of society.
- It does not enhance the family income; quite on the contrary, the family gets poorer. With the lack of social insurance, the children and their families do not have a pension when they get older, making them reliant on public funds.
- A percentage of children that work and street children, during their lifetime need social assistance, so they consume a lot of funds that could otherwise be used for education or health care.

8. THE VICIOUS CIRCLE OF CHILD LABOUR

8.1 THE VICIOUS CIRCLE OF CHILD LABOUR AND STREET CHILDREN



Above, the researchers have presented a simple scheme to give a better explanation of the phenomena of child labour and street children. The scheme is called “The Vicious Circle” because the phenomena are repetitive and are carried from one to other generations.^{xv}

Child labour has the worst impact on child development and his welfare and society welfare. Child labour is so well known around the world as much as poverty of the people. Poverty comes because the people are vulnerable form the exploitation. Child labour it’s the main cause of poverty and caused by the poverty. Child labourers could be tired from their jobs; they can grow up without going at school to have an education; they are destined to do jobs, which are not asking for intellectual or emotional skills.

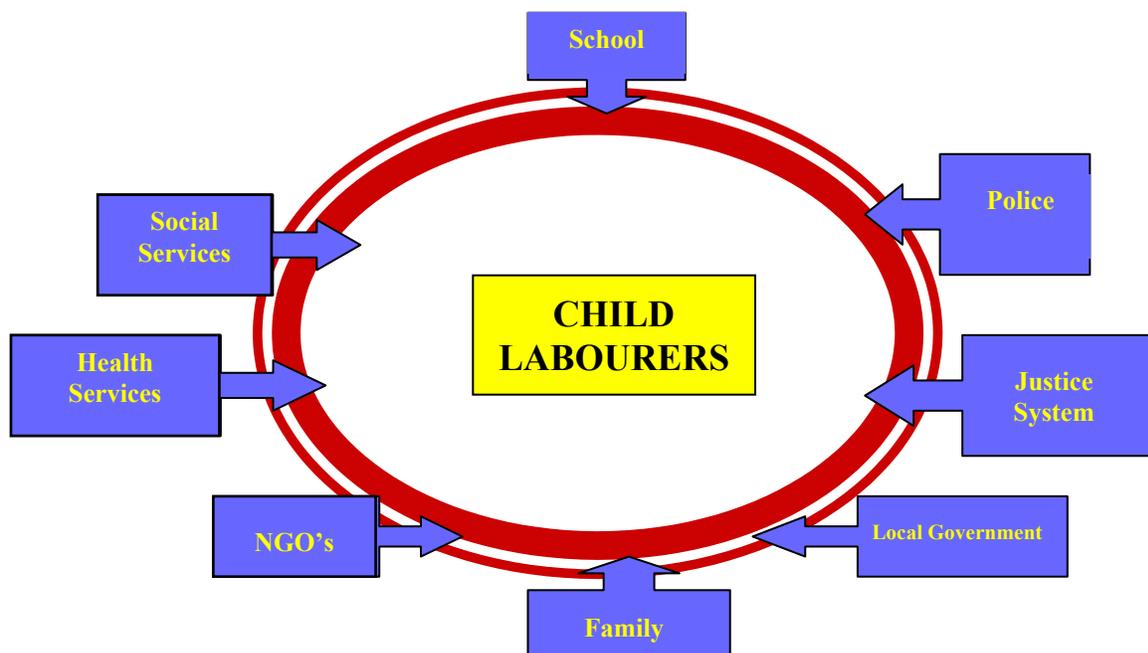
This can create a vicious circle. Child labourers grow up to live as poor people and they are economically obliged to behave with their children in the same way. Most of the children who work make the largest number of children who drop out of school or receive very little education.

How can the Vicious Circle be broken?

**Implementing the strategies to eliminate the poverty ;
 Preparing and implementing the policies that stimulate employment for particular classes of society;
 Improvement and empowerment the system of education by increasing the budget of education ;
 Providing professional training courses for street children and children that work ;
 Providing services for children and families ;
 Elimination of the causes that facilitate child labour phenomenon ;
 Arising the awareness of the public opinion, families and children on the consequences of child labour ;
 Implementing of projects which will include all actors that can influence in elimination of child labour.
 Improvement the national legislation by adopting international standards.**

By our observations in more than one occasion, parents of children who work often have never finished primary or secondary education themselves. Because of lack of education and poverty, they employ or use their children to create income for the family survival. However as older the child gets less possibilities he / she has to generate income for the family, because the jobs he does are not considered as appropriate for an adult. The same child when becomes a parent, because of the conditions under which he has been raised and lack of appropriate education and care, has a large probability to put at work his children. This vicious circle continues from generation to generation if not broken.

8.2 THE REFERRAL SYSTEM AND THE ROLE OF INSTITUTION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF THE ECONOMICAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN



Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Equal Opportunities

Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Equal Opportunities is in charged of children that work and street children. Therefore, before some years it is subordinate to this ministry the Child Labour Unit. The Role of the Unit is as following:

- Building an institutional unit to implement the national projects on elimination of child labour;
- Building the capacities and providing with training for labour inspectors in order to treat and monitor effectively the child labour issues;
- Raising the public awareness on the phenomenon of child labour and prevention its progress;
- Review the law frame on child labour and harmonization it with international standards.

General Inspectorate of Labour

General Inspectorate of Labour is a central structure in Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Equal Opportunities. Duties of Inspectorate are determined in Labour Code. The role of Inspectorate for children is:

- To control and monitor the child labour in public and private sector;
- To control the conditions of child labour;
- To sanction undertake other measures, even to take off the license the private companies that employ children under the minimum age, or that do not provide appropriate conditions for them in accordance with Labour Code.

National Authority of Police

The National Police and The Police stations take care about the child from the moment when they receive reports on cases concerning the economical exploitation of the child. The lack of a data collection system by the Police authority makes it almost impossible to study the role that the police play in the protection and care of children who have been economically exploited.

The role of the Police Service is to protect children, to open penal procedures against offender, to involve a lawyer or social worker for the child, and to refer children to a special institution, such as health service, social service or NGO's. However, it happens that because in the lack of infrastructure that will protect and care children, police officers have alternative than but to returning the child to the party offending.

In the other hand, there is no relationship between institutions, police services and social services. In this situation, the police officer is alone, and having not a written procedure or manual, he or she does not know how to deal with the child.

Health Services

The Health services are to take care of health children and to promote a healthy physical, mental and social life. Even though the child labour is a great concern for society, in a lack of specialists and infrastructure that will provide training, care and rehabilitation, the exploited children do not have appropriate support.

On the other side, the health services are to verify the forms and consequences of child labour: physical, sexual or emotional ones. The facts and data gathered by the doctors are the ones that can serve as evidence to the police, prosecutors or courts.

Social Services

Although there is some time that Social Services have been established in Albania, the system can be rather described more as a provider of financial assistance rather than as a service to communities and people in need. The law establishes methods for intervening on cases of the economical exploitation of a child, but in the lack of a structure in Social Services at local levels (except in Tirana Municipality), it has not been used.

The Social Services are subordinate to Public Institutions and are responsible for monitoring and observing children that work and street children, but until now there is no case that is recorded, monitored or referred. This shows that the Social Services have not enough human, financial resources, and appropriate infrastructure to be

closer to community. Social Services are also responsible to establish a system for case referring and managing, and to have close relationship with Police Services, schools, Health Services, family, NGO's, etc.

Local Authorities

The Local Authority can be the key to the elimination of child labour. But the process of decentralization is still unclear and many representatives of local authorities do not have a clear picture of the role played by municipalities. Based on the new law for social services, the management of social services is subordinate to the local authority, while the General Administration of Social Services is responsible only to inspect the local authority for services that provides.

Below there is a short list of responsibilities that have local authority to eliminate the phenomenon of child labour and street children.

- To assess the situation of phenomenon of child labour and street children municipal levels;
- To provide appropriate social services for children that work and street children;
- To coordinate different services for children that work and street children;
- To provide a fair distribution of services that local and national NGO's provide for children that work and street children;
- To implement sanctions against parents that exploit their children;
- To contract services for NGO's and other private services.

Schools

The Schools, as an institution, should have its absolute role in the reporting of cases of children that work, especially children who are at risk to be involved in work. As far as children spend relatively a long time in school, teachers are the first ones that see the consequences of child labour. In rare cases, children are referred to social workers or school's psychologists. If system of education provides teachers with an appropriate training and build working team, it could identify and protect children that are at risk for exploitation. The role of teacher is to improve the system education by establishing a good teacher-student relationship. In the case of children that work, the role of teachers is to refer them to specialized persons.

Justice System

The Justice System is responsible, not just to provide justice and punishment for child abusers, but also to create for children such conditions that they could freely tell their story, and to compensate children for the damage. The study of the role of justice system and how justice has been assisting children is difficult because of a lack of data. In the other hand, in the absence of a specialized court for children issues, judges that are not specialized lead the trial on children's rights issues. The system of justice should change the attitude for children by establishing special polices and procedures for a better treatment of children.

NGO's

There is no doubt that NGO's have an important role in raising the awareness of Government (at central and local level) about the consequences of child labour. On the other side, civil society can play an important role in establishing new models of successful child care and protection services such as the establishment of help lines.

Community

Community has an important role in recording and reporting of cases to the responsible institutions. Any form of exploitation of children is a crime not only for individuals, but also for society. The community is present and observes not only the different cases of economical exploitation from parents, but also the child behavior, which sometimes is weird, or is not likely normal. Today there are possibilities for the community to report cases of exploited children to the Police Service and Social Services so allow cases to go through system of referral by the relevant authorities.

9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1. CONCLUSIONS OF THE RESEARCH

Child labour and street children are two forms of the economical exploitation and forced child labour in Albania and the most severe forms of violations of children's rights in Albania, and they are all against national legislation and international standards of UN and ILO.

The situation of the economical exploitation of child labour and street children is not changing; quite on the contrary, in the absence of civil or penal sanctions against all the people that exploit child labour, it is getting worse. The existing legislation does not consider exploitation when families exploit its own children.

The phenomenon of child labour and street children is strongly related to the crime of child trafficking. A lot of children who work would like to leave Albania in order to find a job in a western country. As far as child labour is concerned it mainly takes place in the streets, and this in turn makes children vulnerable to be kidnapped and trafficked. On the other side, a percentage of children that work, especially street children, claim that they have been victims of trafficking into western countries. This tells us once more that those children are one of the most vulnerable groups for trafficking purposes inside the country or abroad.

Based on the official statistics about 9.8 percent of children aged between 6 and 14 years old in Albania are exploited economically, based on a study of CRCA, over 50 thousand children in Albania are involved in child labour or are street children. Because of the old system of data collection, the data on children that work and street children are not correct, so the Government cannot rely on them in order to make an analysis of the situation that in turn will help to prepare appropriate policies for this social group.

The Albanian Government, during the past 15 years did not pay any attention to eliminate the economical exploitation of children and to take away the main causes of child labour. The absence of governmental policies

on child labour and street children is an indicator that the Government is not willing to build a Labour Market, which will respect the basic rights of children

The children's parents are the number one offender. In the absence of a written law that prohibits the economical exploitation of children, child labour can turn into a crime, which can be even more dangerous than child trafficking, because it is scattered and is not illegal.

Extreme poverty, family tradition and the lack of an appropriate system of education are among the main factors that facilitate child labour. But there are many cases when parents, or other people, economically exploit children, because it is easier to keep children under the control and child labour is less expensive.

The absence of a system that will protect and take care of children; the absence of a referring system and other qualified systems make it more difficult to rehabilitate children that work and street children.

The absence of sanctions in the Labour Code, Family Code, or Penal Code, against the families that use their children for work, let children without any protection from the laws and institutions that execute the laws.

The involvement of thousands in child labour since at a very young age has not only individual consequences, but also national ones. One of the risks that each Government will face in the near future is the lack of professional human resources that will be able to meet European market standards, and Albania aims to be part of the European market. The inappropriate education of the children will make it more difficult their integration into the Albanian and European Labour Market. As the result, a considerable part of these children when they will grow up will need the social and financial assistance of the state, and this cost will have to be covered by the taxpayer.

Another heavy consequence of the economical exploitation of children is their involvement in penal acts or in groups of organized crime. The work of street children has turned into a market for the distribution of goods in small quantities. There is the possibility that this market can be used also for the distribution of drugs by children themselves, their relatives, or other people that have interest in exploitation of the child labour. The risk would certainly be avoided by eliminating of child labour.

9.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

For the Albanian Parliament

- The Parliament shall approve legislative changes in Labour Code, Penal Code and Family Code to protect children from any forms of the economical exploitation, regardless who exploits children;
- Shall compile a law to guarantee that children's rights in Albania are respected;
- Shall approve an extra budget to be allocated for provisions of services to child labourers and street children, including their education.

For the Albanian Government

- The Albanian Government shall take steps to improve the Labour Code, Penal Code and Family Code, to enable the protection of children from any forms of the economical exploitation;
- The Government should undertake provisions to make compulsory education accessible to all children in Albania;

- The Government should increase the budget and social assistance, including the possibilities of economical assistance for poor children to enable their attendance AT school.

For the Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Equal Opportunities

- The Ministry shall undertake provisions to improve the national legislation in accordance with international standards for child labour.
- The Ministry shall strengthen the capacities of the General Inspectorate of Labour to monitor child labour in Albania and to set sanctions against any businesses that economically exploit children, especially in the light industry, tourism and construction.

For the Ministry of Interior

- The Ministry shall offer appropriate protection and rapid procedures to follow and refer all cases of the economical exploitation of children;
- The Ministry shall enact a Code of Procedures and Ethics for police officers who deal with street children, child labourers and children perceived as in conflict with the law;

For the Ministry of Education

- The Ministry shall stimulate the Government to increase the budget for education and to undertake provisions to improve infrastructure of schools, especially in rural areas.
- The Ministry shall review the Law for the “System of Pre-University Education” and propose to establish new mechanisms that enable the implementation of the law.
- The Ministry shall provide a modern education and with appropriate standards for all the children attending compulsory education;
- The Ministry shall foresee the possibility for opening dining halls in schools, and could establish a public / private partnership, which can provide free food for poor children and those in risk to drop out of school;
- The Ministry shall foresee the possibility to provide classes against illiteracy for all children regardless of their age and gender.

For the Ministry of Justice

- The Ministry of Justice shall take measures to improve Family Code and Penal Code that sanction the prohibition of economical exploitation of children;

For the Municipalities / Communes

- The Municipalities / Communes shall undertake measures to open Offices for Children’s Rights in every Municipality, offices which can provide social services for children;
- The Municipalities / Communes shall establish a referral system, involving all governmental and nongovernmental actors;

- The Municipalities / Communes shall provide appropriate services for child labourers and street children in their areas;

For NGO's and civil society groups

- NGO's and civil society groups shall provide services for the prevention, rehabilitation and reintegration of child labourers and street children;
- NGO's and civil society groups shall increase the pressure towards the Albanian government and its institutions, to take measures to improve situation of child labourers and street children;
- NGO's and civil society groups shall raise the awareness of public opinion on consequences of the economical exploitation of children and their future.

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ANNEX I

CASE STUDIES

G. I. CASE

G.I is the second son. He has an older brother and a younger sister. His older brother is in prison because of some crime that he did when he was drunk. G.I. father works, while his mother stays at home.

G.I. started to work when he was 10 years old and his current job is a washing car. The way he is employed is the very most common one in Albania. The boss is one of his relations and employed him to give him a helping hand. G.I. has attended school until the seventh class. In the beginning he attended school, and at the same time worked, but later on he left school without completing elementary education.

He had bad relationship with the school. He claimed that he liked attending school, but disliked taking books with himself, so he used to leave his bag at school. He had bad relationship with teachers, as well. He was an irregular student, but he did not tolerate any criticism and was aggressive toward teachers and other students. Sometimes he justified even physical violence toward his teachers. He claims that would like to continue his education, although he has no plans to do so at the moment.

G.I. behaves much older than his 15 years. In his imagined world, he would want to have his own job, where he could work alone and not have somebody else behind him. When he attends The Children Club Programme of CRCA, he likes to be at the center of attention. He is sometimes skeptical about all around him. He has neither a wide circle of friends, nor one or two close friends and do not try to make new friends.

G.I. together with his mother regularly visits his brother in jail, and it does seem that he misses him. In spite of the fact he is in jail, his brother is an important figure for him. He likes to work very much and has obtained many skills in car establishments on car repairs. Everything he has learnt was by experience, and he finds other alternatives unavailable.

E. L. CASE

Family of E. L. has come to Tirana 11 years ago. There are five family members. E. L.'s father is merchant. Mother does some little things, but he does not like to talk about her and simply says that she is a housewife. He is uneasy when he explains her job because it looks like a kind of men job. Brother E.L. is 12 years old and attends classes in the same school with E.L. He also attends regularly the Children Club. E.L. has one sister 3 years old whom has close relationship. E.L. is the oldest child in family.

During summer holiday E.L. works regularly with his father in the market. While during the months of school he continues his work after classes, or at weekends. While his father supplies the market, the son manages his bookstall. Otherwise, he spends his time helping father in the market. He does not find his work to tiring. It does not seem that school is interesting for him, but work is not interesting too, apart from having his own money he fulfill his father's wish. His father gives him just a little money from what he earns. His relationship with his father is not so good. He is too authoritative and is often violent to his son, if he doesn't obey him. He does not get on well with his mother too. She does not support him and often shouts at him. This makes him feel bad. He is a proud boy and, like many in his neighborhood, he often argues with others to protect his image and dignity. He doesn't have a close relationship with his brother, because of many quarrels, but when his brother is in need, he cares for him. The staff of the Children's Club has helped him to know his rights and to learn how to deal with situations, in order to avoid quarrelsome situations.

I.G. CASE

I.G. is the youngest child in the family. He has a sister and three older brothers. Izmir's family arrived 15 years ago in Tirana, where Izmir was born. The origin of his father is from Northern Albania. Two of I.G. brothers, one is 24 years old, and other 19, are in prison. Both have been sentenced to many years prison; the brother 19 years old must spend another 18 years in prison. Almost three times per month he visits his brothers in prison. The other brother is 18 years old and works in carpentry. His sister is 13 years old; she has left school and does housework.

The work of I.G. is throwing of wooden dust into garbage. He earns 5.00 lekë per day and gives money his father. The boss lives in his neighborhood and they agreed for this kind of work. I.G. works four hours in day: from 8:30 until 16:00. He finds tiring his job, but he must do it, otherwise his father would beat him.

The very first impressing thing to I.G. is discrepancy between age and his constitution. He is shorter and smaller for his age. I.G. most of the day spend with boys of neighborhood, which are older than he is.

The images of his brothers influence on him, and somewhat conditioned the way of his education, putting him in a big risk. In the club his manner is very good and his socialization with his mates is satisfied, but he does not frequently visit the club, because he must work and his boss does not give a leave.

The Children's Club provides him with the information and awareness of his rights; he plays there with his friends and other children have an environment where he feels protected and among people who care of him.

A. K. CASE

A.K. family has seven members and he is the youngest of three brothers. A.K. father doesn't have a stable job. He deals with the repair and fixing of cooker, and some small mending at home. A.K. mother is housewife. His family is patriarchal one, so the mother is not allowed to work outside home. One of A.K. brothers is 19 years old and works in his car wash. This family arrived in Tirana 11 years ago. A.K. has had one more brother, who died when he was 22 years old. He died as a consequence of a common quarrel with a boy of his age from the same neighborhood; who is now in prison.

A.K. since two years ago has worked regularly in his brother's car wash. During the summer he works every day from 7:00 until 18:00, 11 hours per day, and while during winter he works less: about 8 hours. He finds work too tiring. He faces with clients who do not pay regularly, and because of that he picks a fight with them. He works to fulfill his father's wish, and besides he feels that his family appreciates his work. A.K. has good relationship with his brothers, even though he said that he has been closer with dead brother. His older brothers have declared that as soon as the person who killed their brother gets out of prison, they will kill him. Unfortunately, this is an expectation of their relatives and A.K. shares the same opinion with them.

A.K. relationship with his mother is good, for she cares of him. However, a woman is less valued in his family, so A.K. believes that is fortunate that has no sister, for sisters brings "troubles", hinting in moral or honor issues. His relationship with father is not good, but acceptable. He claims that "I behave well, otherwise he beat me up".

E.B. CASE

E.B. family arrived in Tirana 12 years ago. There are five members. His father does not work, because before 12 years ago he got sick and the disease left him disabled. He could do some works that does not require physical activity, but he has no qualification. Before he got sick, he was a shoemaker. E.B. mother does not work as well. Some days ago she found a job as a tailor, but the work place was closed after a while, because of shortage in electricity. E.B. has a brother 15 years old who lives in Greece. He left when he was 12 years old together with his uncle. He works there as a harvester. E. B. says that his brother does not send money at home. The youngest brother of E.B. is 10 years and he attends school. E.B. has a sister 5 year old, who attends kindergarten.

E. B. says that he had nothing to do, so he started to work since when he was 9 years old. In the beginning he sold almonds in the street and now he has a bookstall in the front of his house. During the summer he worked from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., while in winter he worked from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. He does not find tiring his work, but he gets bored of long schedule, and because he has to stay there and has not the same chances as other children. Some days ago he got sick in the work place and needed hospitalization, which cost money to his family. The reason that he got sick and the fact that bookstall did not bring earnings, they decided to close it. E.B. was forced to look for another work. He managed to find a part time job in building industry. When he has no job, he goes to “Ushtari i Panjohur” and work whatever.

ANNEX II

LIST OF INTERVIEWEES

**LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS
AND NGO's INTERVIEWED FOR THIS RESEARCH**

1. **Prof. Nikoleta Mita, University of Tirana, Faculty of Social Sciences.**
2. **Mr. S. Thornton Barkley, Co-director of CRCA and expert for the administration of juvenile justice.**
3. **Mr. Gëzmim Tusha, Vice-Director of General Administration of Social Services, Tirana.**
4. **Mrs. Suzana Sakiqi, Director of "Every Child", Tirana.**
5. **Mrs. Lume Cici, lawyer of General Inspectorate of Labour, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Tirana.**
6. **Mrs. Shkëlqesa Manaj, Child Labour Unit, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Tirana.**
7. **Mrs. Snezhi Bedalli, ILO-IPEC Office in Albania, Tirana.**
8. **Mr. Bilbil Jaupi, the Regional Labour Office, Tirana.**
9. **Mrs. Anola Shala, Juvenile Justice Unit, Ministry of Justice, Tirana.**
10. **Mrs. Eleni Laperi, Director, Cultural Centre Lindart, Tirana.**
11. **Mr. Leonard Guni, Coordinator of the Centre of World's Children – Albania.**
12. **Mr. Skënder Veliu, Director of Roma Union Amaro-Drom, Tirana.**
13. **Mrs. Sonila Agolli, Director of the Programme "Professional Alternative" of UAW, Tirana.**
14. **Mrs. Drita Teta, Chair of Community for Equal Opportunities, Tirana.**

ENDNOTES

ⁱ <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/webmils/intllaborstandard/childlabor.html>

ⁱⁱ Translated in Albanian as “bad labour”

ⁱⁱⁱ ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour was ratified by Albania on 2 August 2001.

^{iv} The Manual of Training “Child Labour and its Worst Forms” CRCA –ILO, Tirana, September 2001

^v en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Street_children

^{vi} www.house.gov/international_relations/109/sex091305.pdf

^{vii} People and Work, Employment and Unemployment, INSTAT 2004

^{viii} “The Vicious Circle” – A study of the Children’s Human Rights Centre of Albania - CRCA on the reasons of truancy in Albania, Tirana 2000.

^{ix} The World Bank, Report No. 26213-AL, Albania: The Poverty Assessment (http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2003/12/16/000012009_20031216103618/Rendered/PDF/262130AL.pdf)

^x People and Work, Employment and Unemployment, INSTAT 2004

^{xi} The World Bank, The Strategy of Assistance for Albania 2003 - 2005

^{xii} Child Labour and Albanian Legislation, a study of Ministry of Labour and Social Affaire, Tirana, July 2005

^{xiii} Child Labour and Albanian Legislation, a study of Ministry of Labour and Social Affaire, Tirana, July 2005

^{xiv} The Manual of Training “Child Labour and The Worst Forms of Child Labour: CRCA – ILO, Tirana, September 2001.

^{xv} “The Vicious Circle” is called the first study conducted by The Children’s Human Rights Centre of Albania – CRCA about the phenomenon of child labour in Albania and its consequences. “The Vicious Circle” was published for the first time in 2000.

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