



**ZIP**  
ZENTRUM FÜR  
IGNATIANISCHE  
PÄDAGOGIK

# PROTECTING THE MINORS IN OUR SCHOOLS

## PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO SEXUALISED VIOLENCE

SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE in cooperation of  
JECSE (Jesuit European Committee  
for Primary & Secondary Education)  
and ZIP (Centre for Ignatian Pedagogy)

**Ludwigshafen**  
**Tuesday March 1st (6 pm)**  
**till Friday March 4th (2 pm) 2022**

Creating a safe and healthy environment for all is a top priority for schools in our worldwide Jesuit network today. As outlined in the Living Tradition, the most recent official document on Jesuit education, our schools are expected to actively promote and guarantee an environment free from all forms of abuse. This conference is about protecting the minors (and vulnerable adults) in our schools from all abuse, especially (highly harmful and clandestine) sexual abuse.

„What does this have to do with my school?“ you might ask, especially if no cases (past or present) have come to light. But abuse of power, and especially sexual violence, is unfortunately becoming more and more visible in (all kinds of) institutions today. This conference aims to integrate this important but difficult topic into broader reflections on pedagogy and abuse of power.

First and foremost, the conference aims to support the principals of our schools. The ultimate responsibility for protecting all members of the school community rests with them, and it can be complex. After all, what do you do when you receive a serious complaint that someone in your school is crossing boundaries? School leaders immediately face a loyalty issue, even if they „just listen“ to such a complaint, because it is their duty to protect both their students and their staff. The temptation might also be to protect the institution first and foremost. And even before „something“ surfaces, the fundamental question arises: am I possibly a person who is blind to what is happening before my eyes?

Even recognising the importance of the issue, fostering a true „culture of integrity“ is not that simple; it requires real attention and expertise. Prevention is about creating an atmosphere of trust in an institution and using power properly to actually be trustworthy by listening to and protecting the vulnerable.

It is about adults in the school community being aware of the risks of asymmetrical power relationships. This does not mean creating a climate of mistrust! But it does mean empowering staff, students, and parents to speak up when necessary by breaking the taboo and avoiding secrecy.

By actively creating and supporting a robust and accessible grievance system, while taking staff fears and safety very seriously. And finally, more broadly and in the longer term, by further integrating this awareness through positive social learning curricula.

**This Safeguarding Conference aims to support European schools by inviting head teachers, along with a dedicated support person, to inform themselves, to share experiences with others and to take fruitful insights back to their everyday school life.**

**The programme will offer the following:**

- expert keynote speakers to help deepen reflection and address questions and uncertainties;
- a variety of workshops to share resources, experiences, pitfalls and best practices;
- essential insights to help school leaders support themselves in this special responsibility;
- valuable general information for beginning or deepening reflection in school communities;
- practical resources to help organise (initial and in-service) training for staff;
- establishment of a European support group for possible exchange of future experiences and initiatives.

Following the conference, there will be helpful publications and a recommended follow-up procedure. However, we would like to emphasise that the goal is not to standardise everything, but rather to support the school's own process. While deepening awareness of (the importance of) this should be a priority for all our schools, it is obvious that our schools have different contexts and experiences; beginning or deepening the process ourselves, in our own authentic way and as part of our overall Ignatian approach, is what is most important.

Ultimately, it is a matter of embracing this development as a school community in the spirit of a true „culture of integrity“ for the good of all.

# Planned Programme

## Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2022

14.00 – 18.00	Participants arriving at Heinrich Pesch Hotel & accommodation
17.15 – 17.45	Meeting of facilitators of Dynamic groups
18.00 – 19.00	Dinner
19.00 – 19.15	<b>Opening of the Conference</b> Agnieszka Baran, Director JECSE, and Ulrike Gentner, Director ZIP
	<b>Words of greeting</b> José Mesa SJ, Secretary for Education, Society of Jesus, Rome Franck Janin SJ, President Jesuit Conference of European Provincials, Brussels
19.15 – 19.30	<b>The Irish perspective</b> Brian Flannery, Deputy Director JECSE, Dublin
19.30 – 19.45	<b>Let there be light!</b> Susana Pradera, Provincia de España
19.45 – 20.30	<b>The year 2010 and the German “story”</b> Klaus Mertes SJ, Former Rector of the Canisius College in Berlin and the College of St. Blasien
20.30 – 21.00	<b>Q&amp;A to all speakers</b>
21.00	Social time

## Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022

08.45 – 09.00	<b>Morning impulse</b>
09.00 – 09.15	<b>Introduction to the dynamic of the day</b>
09.15 – 10.00	<b>Risks of asymmetric relationships</b> Prof. Dr. Jörg M. Fegert, Medical Director of the Clinic for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry/Psychotherapy at Ulm University Hospital
10.00 – 10.15	<b>Question time</b>
10.15 – 10.30	Coffee break
10.30 – 11.15	<b>Sexual abuse: an issue of our whole society</b> Julia von Weiler, Innocence in Danger e.V., Berlin
11.15 – 11.45	Break
11.45 – 12.00	<b>Spiritual abuse: theological implications</b> Dr. Peter Hundertmark, Episcopal Ordinariate Speyer, Spiritual Education Department
12.00 – 12.20	<b>Q &amp; A to the speakers Julia von Weiler and Dr. Peter Hundertmark</b>
12.30 – 13.15	Lunchtime
13.30	Departure
14.00	<b>Visit of the Cathedral of Speyer &amp; Mass Ash Wednesday</b> with Dr. Christoph Maria Kohl, Dean of Cathedral José Mesa SJ, Secretary for Education, Society of Jesus, Rome Tobias Zimmermann SJ, Director Heinrich Pesch Haus  Free time
18.00	Departure
19.00	Dinner (Heinrich Pesch Haus)

## Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2022

08.45 – 09.00	<b>Morning impulse</b>
09.00 – 09.15	<b>Introduction to the dynamic of the day</b>
09.15 – 10.15	<b>Sexual abuse and my institution</b> Marek Spitzczok von Brisinski, External contact person on issues of sexualised violence at the Jesuit Order, Berlin
	<b>Question time</b>
10.15 – 10.30	Break
10.30 – 11.00	<b>First conditions for responding – Justice and Prevention</b> Klaus Mertes SJ
11.00 – 11.15	<b>Personal time with questions for reflection</b>
11.15 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.15	<b>Sharing in groups</b>
12.15 – 12.30	Meditation Exercise
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch & Free time
14.00 – 15.30	<b>Workshops (1<sup>st</sup> phase)</b>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 – 17.30	<b>Workshops (2<sup>nd</sup> phase)</b>
17.40 – 18.00	<b>Examen of the day</b> (Plenary)
18.00	Dinner & Social time

## Friday March 4th 2022

- 08.45 – 09.00 **Morning impulse**
- 09.00 – 09.15 **Introduction to the dynamic of the day**
- 09.15 – 09.45 **Promoting a Consistent Culture of Protection in the Society of Jesus – a global and European perspective**  
John K. Guiney SJ, Director Irish Jesuits international, Dublin
- 09.45 – 10.15 **HORIZON +: Transforming themselves to transform. Becoming „4C“ citizens for a better society**  
Enric Masllorens (General Headmaster of „Fundació Jesuïtes Educació“) and Joaquim Molina (EDUCSI-Zone East Coordinator, Spain)
- 10.15 – 10.45 Coffee break
- 10.45 – 11.45 **Country groups**
- 11.45 – 12.15 **Evaluation, next steps, closure – Plenary**
- 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch & Departure

## Organisation and information

### TECHNOLOGY

The conference will be hybrid, i. e. at the Heinrich Pesch Haus in Ludwigshafen/Germany and online.

We will use ZOOM for the video conferences.

### TRANSLATION

The conference will be accompanied by a team of professional simultaneous interpreters.

English <> Spanish <> French <> German

### CONFERENCE LEAD

**Agnieszka Baran**, Director JECSE

**Ulrike Gentner**, Director ZIP

JECSE – Jesuit European Committee for Primary & Secondary Education

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[www.zip-ignatianisch.org](http://www.zip-ignatianisch.org)

### MATERIALS CAN BE FOUND AT

<https://www.educatemagis.org/safeguarding-conference/>

### VENUE OF THE CONFERENCE

Heinrich Pesch Haus / Hotel, Frankenthaler Straße 229,

67059 Ludwigshafen, Germany

Phone: +49 621 5999-0

[www.heinrich-pesch-hotel.de](http://www.heinrich-pesch-hotel.de)



### ARRIVAL

**By plane via Frankfurt/Main Airport:** the long-distance train takes about half an hour from Frankfurt Airport long-distance train station to Mannheim main station. From there, take streetcar line 4 in the direction of Bad Dürkheim/Oggersheim to the Heinrich Pesch Haus stop.

**By train:** train to Mannheim main station; from there, take streetcar line 4 in the direction of Bad Dürkheim/Oggersheim to the Heinrich Pesch Haus stop.