



ECPAT Belgium

Ending the sexual exploitation of children

ACTIVITY REPORT 2018



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

ECPAT Belgium is the Belgian member of ECPAT International, a network with more than 100 members worldwide. We fight tirelessly against the sexual exploitation of children.

To this end, we pilot key events such as round tables with survivors or discussions with political leaders. Our commitment for and with children remains essential.

Our actions respond to current challenges through prevention activities related to online safety and through daily communication via our social networks. These networks gain followers each day, proof that our meaningful actions catch the attention and interest of multiple readers.

All this is only possible thanks to the moral and financial support provided by our donors. Therefore, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to those who support us and will continue support us in 2019.

SUMMARY

PREVENT

A powerful documentary
I say STOP!
Training for (future) professionals
With innovative tools
Involving vulnerable groups
And the youth

LISTEN

A key round table

MOBILIZE

Jeudi de l'hémicycle "Child trafficking in Belgium"
First World Summit for the Protection of Children in Travel and Tourism
National and European advocacy
Make our fight known

BEHIND THE SCENES

The team and the General Assembly
Funds
Get involved!

PREVENT

ECPAT Belgium organizes events, campaigns and training to inform varied audiences about child sexual exploitation and the ways to prevent it.

Our role is not restricted to that. We also provide tools for everyone to become able to detect and react to suspicious situations.

Indeed, victim identification remains a major issue in Belgium. And without identification, there cannot be protection.



PALACE

www.cinema-palace.be
@palace.brussels

A POWERFUL DOCUMENTARY

As part of *la Quinzaine de la Solidarité Internationale*, ECPAT Belgium organized the screening of the documentary "Child trafficking in the heart of Europe".

This was followed by a discussion with the director of the documentary and the centers for (child) victims of trafficking.

The evening ended with the opening of the "Photo Voice" exhibition, coordinated by PAG-ASA and featuring survivors of human trafficking.

I SAY STOP!

What should you do if you witness child sexual abuse abroad? Report what you saw on the [I say STOP website](#).



TRAINING FOR (FUTURE) PROFESSIONALS

"I didn't know that child exploitation and trafficking were taking place before our eyes.
Everyone should take this training!" (Françoise, social worker)

ECPAT Belgium provides training to professionals from different sectors:

Lawyers

Police officers

Guardians

Social workers

Hotel owners

Travel agents

Aid workers

Tourism students

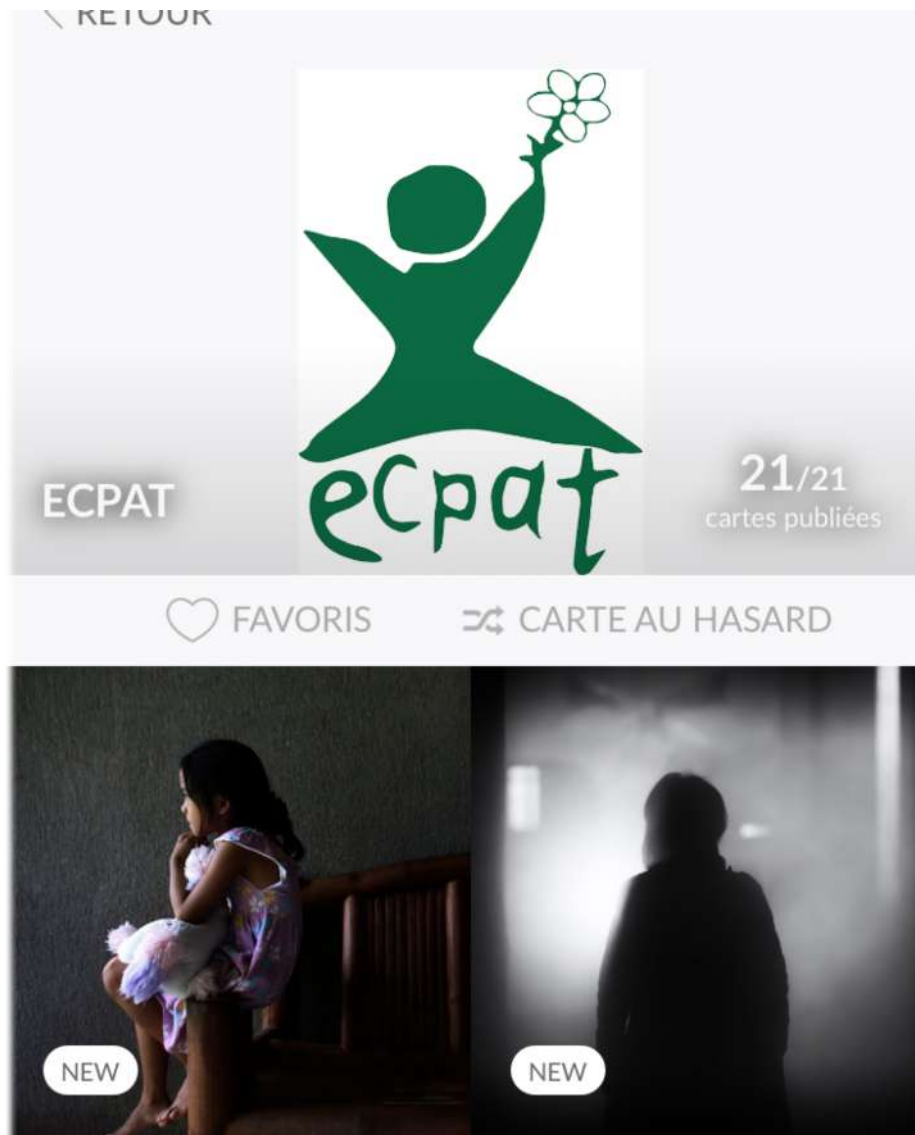
Teachers

14 activities
38 hours of training
420 people trained

WITH INNOVATIVE TOOLS

For our training to be sustainable, ECPAT Belgium uses interactive methodologies and innovative tools, such as the newly created « Go4Tips I say STOP! » application.

This application, which can be downloaded for free, provides you with reminders from training sessions through 17 "question and answer" cards.



INVOLVING VULNERABLE GROUPS

ECPAT was approached by PAG-ASA, a shelter for victims of human trafficking, to raise awareness among its beneficiaries about responsible ways to use social networks.

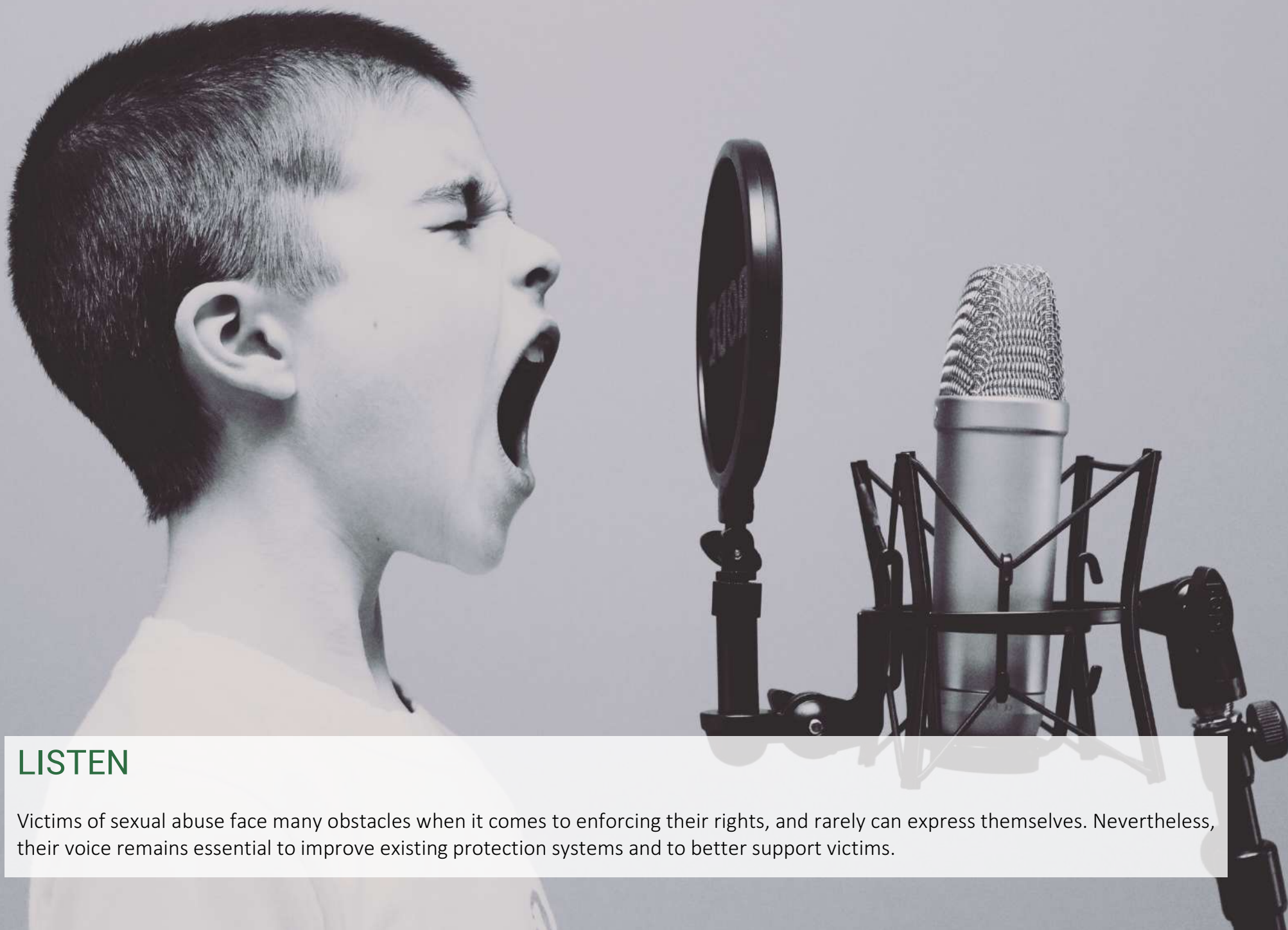


AND THE YOUTH !

ECPAT Belgium was at Science Expo to provide information on online safety to teenagers.



Through a competition organized at Thomas More University (Mechelen), students had to create the most innovative concept to promote the "I say STOP!" website. Here are the winners with their prizes!



LISTEN

Victims of sexual abuse face many obstacles when it comes to enforcing their rights, and rarely can express themselves. Nevertheless, their voice remains essential to improve existing protection systems and to better support victims.

A KEY ROUND TABLE

On 16 November 2018, during the European Day for the Protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, ECPAT Belgium and the FPS Justice co-organized a round table, bringing together adult victims, the police and judges.

During this event, victims' voices were under significant spotlight. Therefore, they were able to share their experiences with representatives of the police and judiciary.

What obstacles did they have to overcome to report? How was their testimony received and by whom? Were they informed of the main steps of the investigation? Did they feel supported during the legal proceedings? How can the police and the judiciary improve their support, regardless of when the complaint was lodged?

The event's relevance was unanimously underlined by participants. The recommendations drafted by the victims will serve as a basis for concrete changes. This marks the beginning of a promising process towards better justice.



MOBILIZE

"It seems to me that our society does not want to see, hear or testify when it comes to serious crimes. When will we stop considering human trafficking networks as mere myths? Shame must change sides" (testimony of a survivor, Jeudi de l'Hémicycle)

For shame to change sides, it is vital to mobilize. Not only political decision-makers, but anyone who can help stopping child sexual abuse. To this end, ECPAT Belgium uses all means available, both at national and European levels: advocacy actions, strategic partnerships, analysis writing and social networks.

JEUDI DE L'HEMICYCLE "CHILD TRAFFICKING IN BELGIUM"

On 8 November 2018, ECPAT Belgium came to the French-speaking Parliament of Brussels to raise awareness among parliamentarians about child trafficking in Belgium. In the morning, several professionals came to testify: police officers, the judiciary, employees of victims' shelters and the national rapporteur on trafficking. They reached the following conclusion: there is an urgent need for detection and protection improvement.

Parliamentarians are committed to implementing the concrete recommendations presented on that day. Let's keep an eye on this.



21 advocacy actions

12 opinion articles

5 expert interventions in conferences, meetings...



**FIRST WORLD SUMMIT
ON THE PROTECTION OF
CHILDREN IN TRAVEL
AND TOURISM**

The fight against child exploitation must take place beyond national borders. ECPAT Belgium is therefore delighted to have taken part to a unique event, co-organized by ECPAT International in Bogota (Colombia). The summit gathered 400 participants (from governments, the tourism industry, the police, the judiciary, civil society) from 25 countries ready to implement concrete measures to eradicate the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism.

ECPAT Belgium took advantage of this Colombian event to participate to the International Assembly of the ECPAT network, bringing together all of the 104 member organizations. A significant day as it marked the vote of the movement's new strategy (2018-2021), as well as an opportunity to meet, share, exchange!

NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN ADVOCACY

ECPAT Belgium regularly shares its expertise during events. Here are some examples:

- *Lost in Migration II*, Brussels, 12 April 2018
- *Visit of the Egyptian inter-ministerial delegation in charge of the fight against trafficking in human beings*, Brussels, 10 May 2018
- *Ten years of implementation of the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: impact and challenges ahead*, Strasbourg, 22 May 2018
- *Peer review meeting on the Practical Guide to enhance transnational cooperation: EU child victims of trafficking or in need of protection*, 28-29 November 2018
- *Delivering real change: effectively protecting refugee and migrant children's rights*, Strasbourg, 13-14 December 2018



Besides, ECPAT Belgique is an active member of several national (Coordination des ONG pour les droits de l'enfant, Kinderrechtencoalitie, Plateforme Droits de l'Enfant dans la Coopération au Développement) and European coalitions (Initiative for children in migration, EU Civil Society Platform Against Trafficking in Human Beings, the European Parliament's Intergroup on Children's Rights).

MAKE OUR FIGHT KNOWN

In the media



“ NL BE Dacht ”

« Overal ter wereld zijn teveel kinderen nog steeds het slachtoffer van seksuele uitbuiting. De dag van 4 maart is gewijd aan de strijd tegen deze plaag. Toch blijven de slachtoffers vaak anoniem en worden de daders zelden veroordeeld. Zonder melding, geen vervolging. Indien u tijdens een buitenlandse reis getuige bent van een mogelijke situatie van seksueel misbruik van kinderen, kunt u dit melden via de website <http://ikzegstop.be> of de Europese lijn www.reportchildsextourism.eu. De campagne "Ik zeg STOP!" is een uniek multisectorieel initiatief waarvan de FOD Buitenlandse Zaken reeds lang partner is. De strijd tegen seksuele uitbuiting van kinderen dient samen te worden gevoerd: het is een uitdaging van vandaag, niet van morgen! »

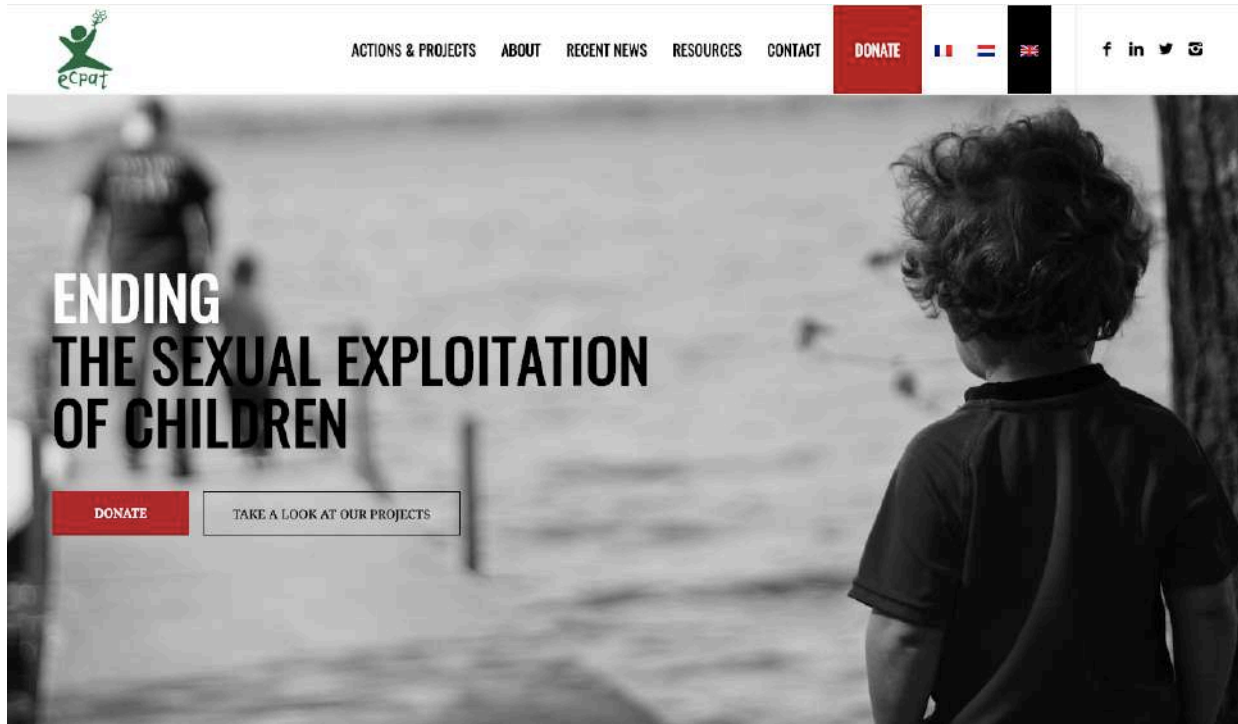
Ariane Couvreur, Project Manager, ECPAT België

De ambassade laat u wekelijks met een Belg of Nederlander kenismaken

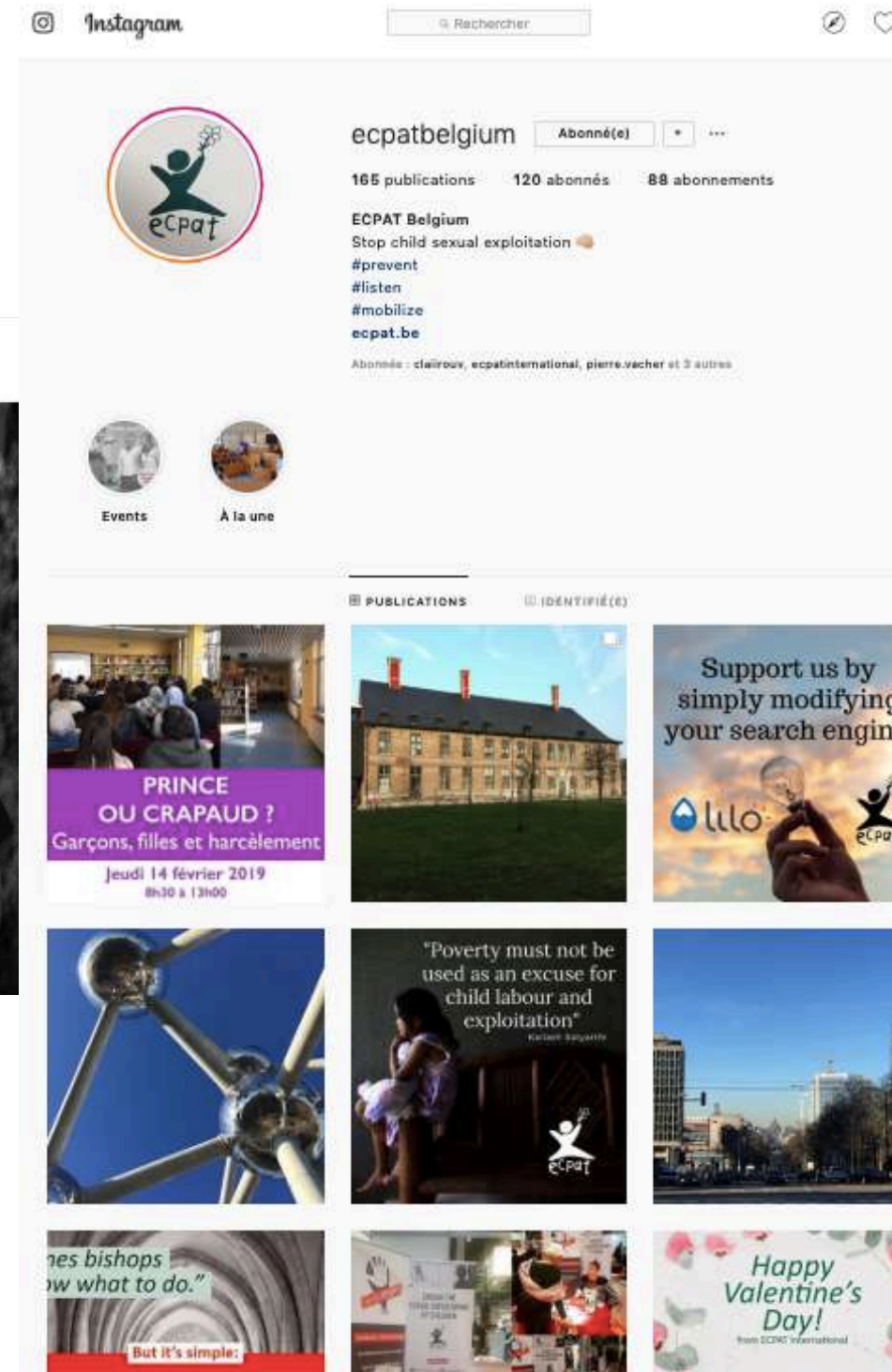
KONINKRIJK BELGIË • FOD Buitenlandse Zaken, Buitenlandse Handel en Ontwikkelingssamenwerking
<http://diplomatie.belgium.be> • Twitter: @BelgiumMFA • Facebook: Diplomatie.Belgium • Instagram: BelgiumMFA



But also on our brand-new website and Instagram account



570,000 views on YouTube
 1860 subscribers on our social networks
 30% of newsletter opening rate
 8809 visitors per year on our website



BEHIND THE SCENES

The team

COUVREUR Ariane (project manager)

VACHER Emmanuelle (intern from January to June 2018)

RIGAL Ivan (intern from February to May 2018)

MAJEAN Elisabeth (intern from September to December 2018)

The General Assembly

BOULANGER David, Chair and Board member

DE MAEGT Isabelle

DE NEVE Ann

DECLERCQ Katlijn, Board member

JEKELER Sophie, Board member

LEDEGEN Inge

MAERTENS Thomas

NTEZIYAREMYE Augustin, Board member

REBOLLEDO Sofia

TUYTTENS Bernard

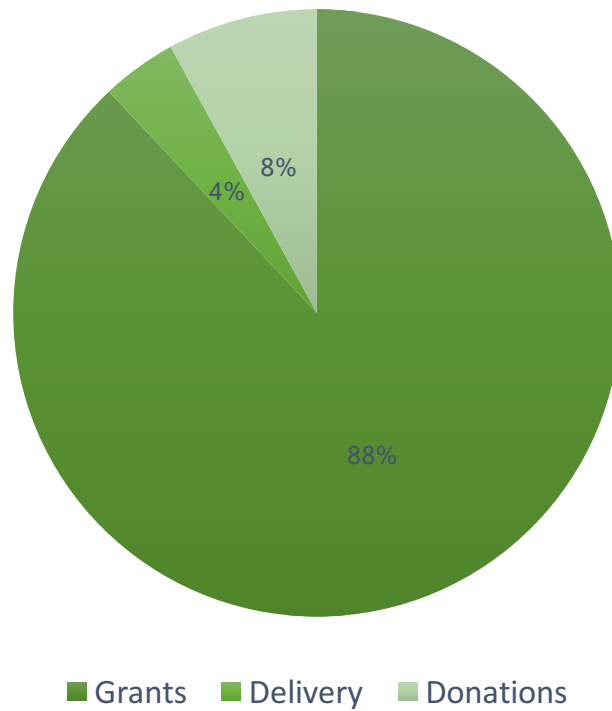
VAN KERCKHOVEN Danielle, Board member

WINTGENS Karl

Thank you to all these daily heroes!

FUNDS

PRODUCTS ECPAT BELGIUM 2018



Thanks to all the people who participated to our fundraising events (20 km from Brussels, crowdfunding, Philantroupe...).

Without you, we could not be as efficient as we now are.

GET INVOLVED!

Donate

Each euro helps protecting child victims and preventing all forms of child sexual exploitation!

Rent our meeting room in the heart of Brussels

All the funds collected are meant to fund the work of ECPAT Belgium

Participate in or organize a fundraising event

Follow us on social networks

