

# The Global Impact Fund

Advancing Child Protection and Building Safer Childhoods



ADVOCATE · TRAIN · COLLABORATE

# Welcome

We live in an increasingly inter-related world where on any given day our attention can be captured by even the most insignificant story. And while we are absorbed in the latest celebrity gossip or irrelevant headline, the desperate drama of an individual child can go unheard. This year in the U.S. alone, 1 in 10 children under the age of 18 will be abused. Those aren't just numbers. Those are real children facing a terrifying and life-changing event. They need us to be their voice – to speak for them when they are unable and to develop ways for them to speak when they are ready.

## **This is why we are launching The Global Impact Fund.**

ICMEC has enjoyed great success over the years. Now, as we work toward our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are positioned to take on an even greater role as the leader in advocating, training and collaborating with the global community to protect the world's children. As advocates we will propose changes to laws, treaties and systems based on rigorous research and the latest technology. As trainers we will provide tools to those who interface with children to improve the possibility of prevention, to treat victims and to enhance our ability to identify, investigate and prosecute anyone who abuses or exploits children. Finally, as collaborators we will build international networks of professionals across disciplines to anticipate issues, identify gaps and develop cross-cutting solutions.

This work is challenging. We will need your help. As you will see in the pages that follow, our work has many interconnected pieces all coming together to bring about the changes needed to ensure the safety of children everywhere. From building capacity and strengthening our focus to enhancing our programs and launching new initiatives, this fund will allow us to challenge ourselves to better identify the gaps in the global community's ability to properly protect children from abduction, exploitation and abuse and expertly assemble the people, resources and tools needed to fill those gaps.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to working with you.



# Our Vision & Mission

Making the world safer for children by eradicating child abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation. We advocate, train and collaborate to protect the world's children.

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# Our History

In 1996, Belgium was shaken by the tragic “Dutroux Affair.” Over the course of many years, Marc Dutroux, an unemployed electrician and father of three, committed a series of kidnappings, rapes and killings of an unknown number of teenage girls. As the atrocity of his crimes was disclosed, the public became very critical of the way the authorities handled the case. More than 300,000 Belgian citizens expressed their anger in the now-legendary “White March,” and shortly thereafter, Belgian Prime Minister Dehaene visited the U.S.-based National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). He asked that NCMEC establish a center in Brussels to which NCMEC’s President responded, “You do not need an American solution to this problem – you need a Belgian solution. But we will help.” NCMEC then worked with the Belgian government, private sector leaders, victim parents, and law enforcement to create the Brussels-based Child Focus.

Other countries began visiting NCMEC and asking for help. While NCMEC was able to provide training, technical assistance and support, it was difficult for the organization to become too involved in international programs and operations without diverting time and resources from its core mission of serving America’s missing and exploited children. Therefore, in May 1997 the NCMEC Board of Directors authorized the creation of the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC). ICMEC’s Board of Directors held its first meeting in May 1998, and ICMEC was officially launched in April 1999 at a ceremony hosted by the British Ambassador in Washington, D.C.

Today, through our headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, ICMEC works around the world to advance child protection and safeguard children from abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation.

ICMEC has regional representation in Brazil and Singapore. Together with an extensive network of public and private sector partners, ICMEC’s team responds to global issues with tailored local solutions.





# Our Philosophy

We believe all children have a right to live without fear of abduction and free from sexual abuse and exploitation. We believe every child deserves a safe childhood where they are able to grow into healthy and successful adults.

# The Global Impact Fund

Your gift to The Global Impact Fund will support several strategic initiatives that provide ICMEC with the ability to properly protect children from abduction, exploitation and abuse. Rarely does your generosity have such an immediate impact on the lives of children around the world as with a donation to The Global Impact Fund. Why? Because dollars from The Global Impact Fund are flexible and immediately available, giving us the ability to direct resources where they are needed most.





# Our Strategy

ICMEC identifies gaps in the global community's ability to properly protect children from abduction, exploitation and abuse and expertly assembles the people, resources and tools needed to fill those gaps.

**ADVOCATE:** Propose changes to laws, treaties and systems based on rigorous research and the latest technology to better protect children worldwide.

**TRAIN:** Provide tools to professionals who interface with children to improve prevention, facilitate treatment for victims and increase the efficacy of the identification and prosecution of people who victimize children.

**COLLABORATE:** Build international networks of professionals across disciplines to anticipate issues, identify gaps and develop cross-cutting solutions.



# Our Focus

**Global Initiative for Child Health & Well-Being:** Increasing recognition, identification and treatment of child victims through research, advocacy and training.

**Global Missing Children's Center:** Offering resources to the public and law enforcement to assist them with preventing and responding to reports of missing children and international parental child abduction.

**Global Training Academy:** Deploying instructors and technology tools to law enforcement around the world to combat online sexual abuse and exploitation, and to more effectively investigate cases involving missing children.

**The Koons Family Institute on International Law & Policy:** Combating child abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation on multiple fronts by commissioning original research into the status of child protection laws around the world, creating replicable legal tools, promoting best practices, building international coalitions, bringing together great thinkers and opinion leaders, and collaborating with partners in the field to identify and measure threats to children and ways ICMEC can advocate change.



# Global Initiative for Child Health & Well-Being

**A gift to The Global Impact Fund will help us:** Create a Global Initiative focused on the collaborative care of children staffed by a team of experts taking a holistic approach to the prevention of child sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation and treatment of victims.

## Our goals:

- Promote research to identify the risk factors for child abuse and exploitation.
- Empower children to reach out to a trusted adult when faced with sexual abuse or exploitation.
- Educate adults to understand the warning signs of child sexual abuse and exploitation and provide them the skills needed to intervene.

We know each year millions of children around the world are sexually abused and exploited.

...and because of this trauma, these children are more likely to struggle with:

- Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- Depression and Anxiety
- Suicidal Ideation
- Eating Disorders
- Sexually Transmitted Disease
- Asthma and Chronic Bronchitis
- Diabetes, Cancer and Stroke
- And, as adults, will earn less per year and be less likely to have a bank account or own a home.

**One**

**Child is one**

**Too many**

# Global Missing Children's Center

**A gift to The Global Impact Fund will help us:** Create awareness around the issues of missing and abducted children and share best practices to assist in prevention, response and recovery.

## Our Goals:

- Increase membership in the Global Missing Children's Network (GMCN) to enhance international information sharing on missing children.
- Advocate and assist with the introduction of Rapid Emergency Child Alert Systems.
- Expand the use of technology in the recovery of missing children (i.e. Age Progression Technology).
- Increase global support for the 1980 Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.



A **missing child** is defined differently in different countries. There is no way of measuring this problem accurately on a global scale.

## **THIS MUST CHANGE.**

EVEN WITH THIS CHALLENGE WE ESTIMATE THAT...

- **467,000 CHILDREN** IN THE **UNITED STATE** ARE REPORTED MISSING EACH YEAR.
- **140,000 CHILDREN** IN THE **UNITED KINGDOM** ARE REPORTED MISSING EACH YEAR.
- **100,000 CHILDREN** IN **GERMANY** ARE REPORTED MISSING EACH YEAR.
- **41,342 CHILDREN** IN **CANADA** WERE REPORTED IN 2014.
- EVERY MONTH IN **TURKEY** POLICE SEARCH FOR NEARLY **4,000 CHILDREN**.
- **2,205 CHILDREN** IN **JAMAICA** WERE RECORDED AS MISSING IN 2013.
- **1,460 CHILDREN** GO MISSING EACH YEAR IN **SOUTH AFRICA**.

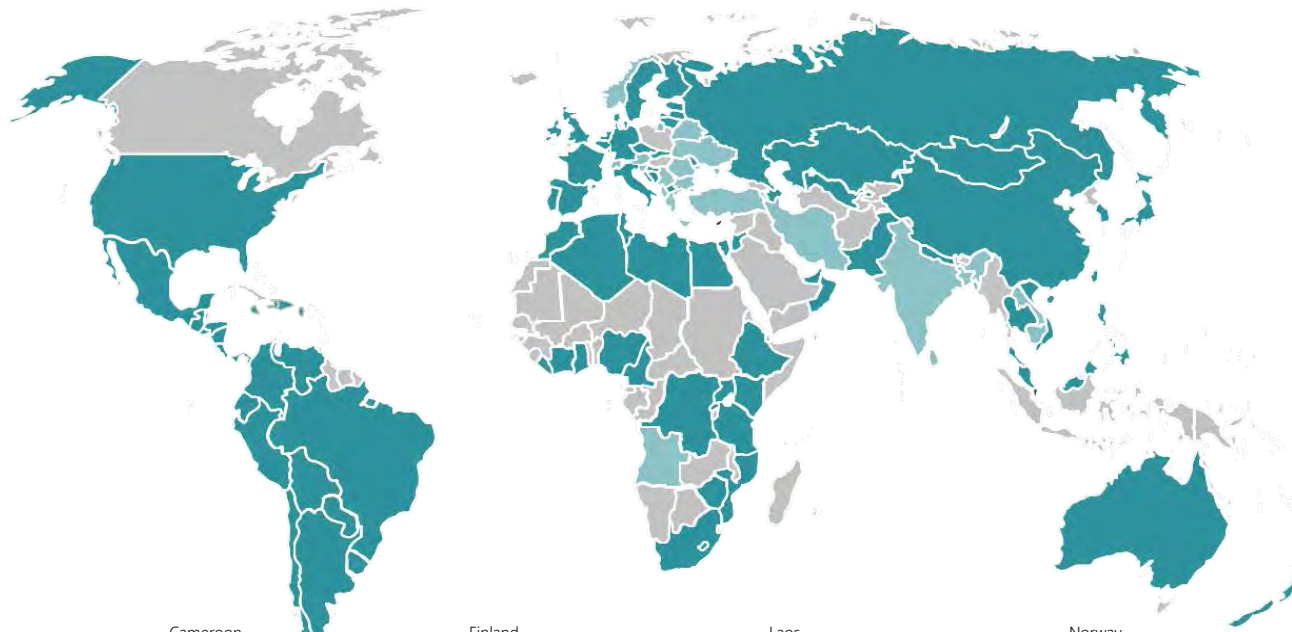
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# Global Training Academy

**A gift to The Global Impact Fund will help us:** Create comprehensive training programs to improve victim identification, and improve efficiency of identifying, investigating and prosecuting people who victimize children.

## Our Goals:

- Introduce advanced tools and technology to law enforcement around the world to expand the number of victimized children who are identified and the speed with which those children are recovered.
- Create online tools for teachers, parents and professionals who work with children.
- Develop training modules for health care workers and other professionals serving children.



Albania  
 Algeria  
 Angola  
 Antigua and Barbuda  
 Argentina  
 Australia  
 Austria  
 Azerbaijan  
 Bahamas  
 Bahrain  
 Bangladesh  
 Barbados  
 Belarus  
 Belgium  
 Bermuda  
 Bolivia  
 Brazil  
 Brunei  
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Cameroon  
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 Costa Rica  
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 Singapore  
 Slovakia  
 Slovenia  
 South Africa  
 South Korea  
 Spain  
 Sri Lanka

St. Kitts and Nevis  
 St. Lucia  
 Sweden  
 Switzerland  
 Tanzania  
 Thailand  
 Trinidad & Tobago  
 Tunisia  
 Turkey  
 UAE  
 Uganda  
 UK  
 Ukraine  
 Uruguay  
 USA  
 Uzbekistan  
 Venezuela  
 Vietnam  
 Zimbabwe

ICMEC has trained more than 7,500 law enforcement officers, investigators, prosecutors, and other specialists from over 115 countries.



# The Koons Family Institute on International Law & Policy

A gift to The Global Impact Fund will help us:  
Conduct and commission original research into the status of child protection laws around the world and advocating for changes based on that research.

## Our Goals:

- Increase the number of countries developing and implementing policies and legislation that protect children.
- Improve the reliability and consistency of the data available regarding child abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation.
- Create replicable legal tools.
- Collaborate with partners in the field to identify and measure threats to children.
- Equip young professionals with the skills needed to better understand and address the issues related to child protection.



*"Through ICMEC and The Koons Family Institute on International Law & Policy, we are making an international difference. At any moment we are one step closer to saving another child, saving another childhood, bringing another child home."*

*-Justine Koons*

# We need your help

Since our inception, the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children has repeatedly brought together policy leaders, law enforcement, researchers and scholars to address the most compelling issues related to child protection. This work, along with the generosity of our donors, has allowed us to make an impact on global policy, build capacity and produce unprecedented change in the lives of children.

While we are proud of the work we have done, we know there is still so much yet to accomplish. Please join us by making a contribution to [The Global Impact Fund](#). Your investment will help make the world a safer place for children.

On behalf of the millions of lives that will be touched by your generosity, **THANK YOU**.





A circular arrangement of diverse hands holding each other, symbolizing unity and support. The hands are of various skin tones, including light, medium, and dark brown. They are positioned in a circle, with fingers pointing towards the center. The background is white, and the text "Thank you." is centered in the middle of the circle.

**Thank you.**