**Children’s right to play**

**IMPROVEMENTS** Fundesplai and the Fundació Pere Tarrés defend the rights of minors to more leisure time as an essential part of their development **DEMANDS** NGOs call for more benefits

**Staff**
**BARCELONA**

Benefits for families with children at risk, measures against school failure and help balancing work and family life are some of the initiatives demanded by the Plataforma d’Infància de Catalunya. Children’s organisations took advantage of Universal Children’s Day yesterday to focus attention on vulnerable households and to demand rights that should be part of every child’s development, such as the right to play or the right to have pleasant childhood memories.

The Fundació Fundesplai brought more than 10,000 children on to the streets to demand their right to play, an area in which there is most inequality according to the Ombudsman.

Boys and girls yesterday morning filled the Plaça de les Glòries in Barcelona to call for their right to play and have positive childhood memories.

**DEMANDS**

NGOs call for more benefits

**Staff**
**BARCELONA**

Benefits for families with children at risk, measures against school failure and help balancing work and family life are some of the initiatives demanded by the Plataforma d’Infància de Catalunya. Children’s organisations took advantage of Universal Children’s Day yesterday to focus attention on vulnerable households and to demand rights that should be part of every child’s development, such as the right to play or the right to have pleasant childhood memories.

The Fundació Fundesplai brought more than 10,000 children on to the streets to demand their right to play, an area in which there is most inequality according to the Ombudsman. Plaça de les Glòries in Barcelona was the starting point for a demonstration that began with an event that included more than 300 children from the Clot neighbourhood.

“With a third of Catalans under the age of 18 on the threshold of poverty, we have to guarantee their leisure time so that they are happy and become citizens committed to their environment,” said general sub-director of Fundesplai, Núria Valls. Vice president, Neus Munté, also stressed the need for leisure time: “Education is very important, but so is playing, which beyond just leisure is a complement that inculcates values,” she said.

The Fundació Pere Tarrés chose this year to launch an awareness campaign on the importance of all children having good memories of childhood. The focus is the website www.elpatimesgran.org, where people can geolocate an experience from their childhood and share it on social networks. At the same time, the Pere Tarrés campaign denounces lack of housing, food, education, leisure activities, health and emotional stability for minors.

The NGO, Save the Children, this year made refugee infants the stars. The group Mishima and the actress Aina Clotet took part in a video showing children arriving on the Italian and Greek coast with the song, Mentre floreixin les flors, as a soundtrack.

**FACES OF THE DAY**

**SPANISH ECONOMY MINISTER**
Cristóbal Montoro
State oversight

The Catalan government complies with the law, but at a price. Catalonia will get three billion euros from the autonomous fund but the state will supervise how it is spent.

**PRESIDENT OF THE CERCLE D’ECONOMIA**
Anton Costas
Business fears

The board of the Cercle d’Economia says that the independence declaration has had negative effects on the economy, with the loss of business and investment.

**POINT MADE**
Montse Frisach

**Vengeance and power**

The report about sexism in the country’s independent music videos comes to the conclusion that not everything hipster and/or indie is synonymous with feminism. Obviously, nor is it in the international commercial scene. The videos by the great divas of pop include tics and small examples of post-feminism. The videos of Lady Gaga are vengeance against dominant men, such as ‘Paparazzi’ and ‘Telephone’, in which she is a serial killer with Beyoncé. Madonna is the most powerful and the men around her are at her service, as in ‘Girl Gone Wild’. Pink, however, more explicit and not all ‘femme fatale’, is clearly critical of the tyranny of beauty in ironic clips such as ‘Stupid Girls’ and ‘Praise your Glass’.