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**ABSTRACT**

**referring to ICSP Vancouver2020 Live Online Conference**

In Central European countries there is to be observed a trend towards increasing number of loss of a parent after separating or at least a significant restriction of the relationship to a parent. The Council of Europe has dealt with this phenomenon in its resolution from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015 “Equality and shared parental responsibility” (2079/2015). In it the Council demands under point 5.9. “encouraging multidisciplinary co-operation based on the ‘Cochem model’ “.

The impulse lecture presents the long experience of the co-founder of the Cochem model with its promotion and practice in divorce proceedings. This practice, which is an effective tool that protects children’s interests in conflict situations such as a divorce or separation of their parents, is presented as an interdisciplinary co-operation. It has proven to be very effective for all parties, i.e. the children, parents, judges, attorneys, legal experts, counselling clinics or the departments for the social and legal protection of children. The main goal of the practice is saving children’s relationship to both parents, creating such conditions for the partners, who are getting divorced or separated, to be able to act together as parents. That does not mean it will lead to restoring the family situation before separating, but it will create a new situation, where the parents are willing to make a common decision, where they will consider the best interests and desires of their child. The significance of early intervention during the conflicts of separating parents is explained which, in case it is properly used and with the cooperation of the participating professions/institutions it can prevent not only the escalation of the conflict but also leads to a change in the behavior of the parents in favor of the child’s best interests. To ensure the establishment of the necessary standards for such a practice, and above all, to introduce it, it is essential to establish the legal conditions that would ensure the education of the professions involved in this conflict, and the organization of the individual working places to enable an interdisciplinary networking.

**Keywords:** *Interdisciplinary co-operating professions/institutions (Cochem Model) – regulations saving children’s relationship to both parents – curatorial courts – family conflicts – prevention*