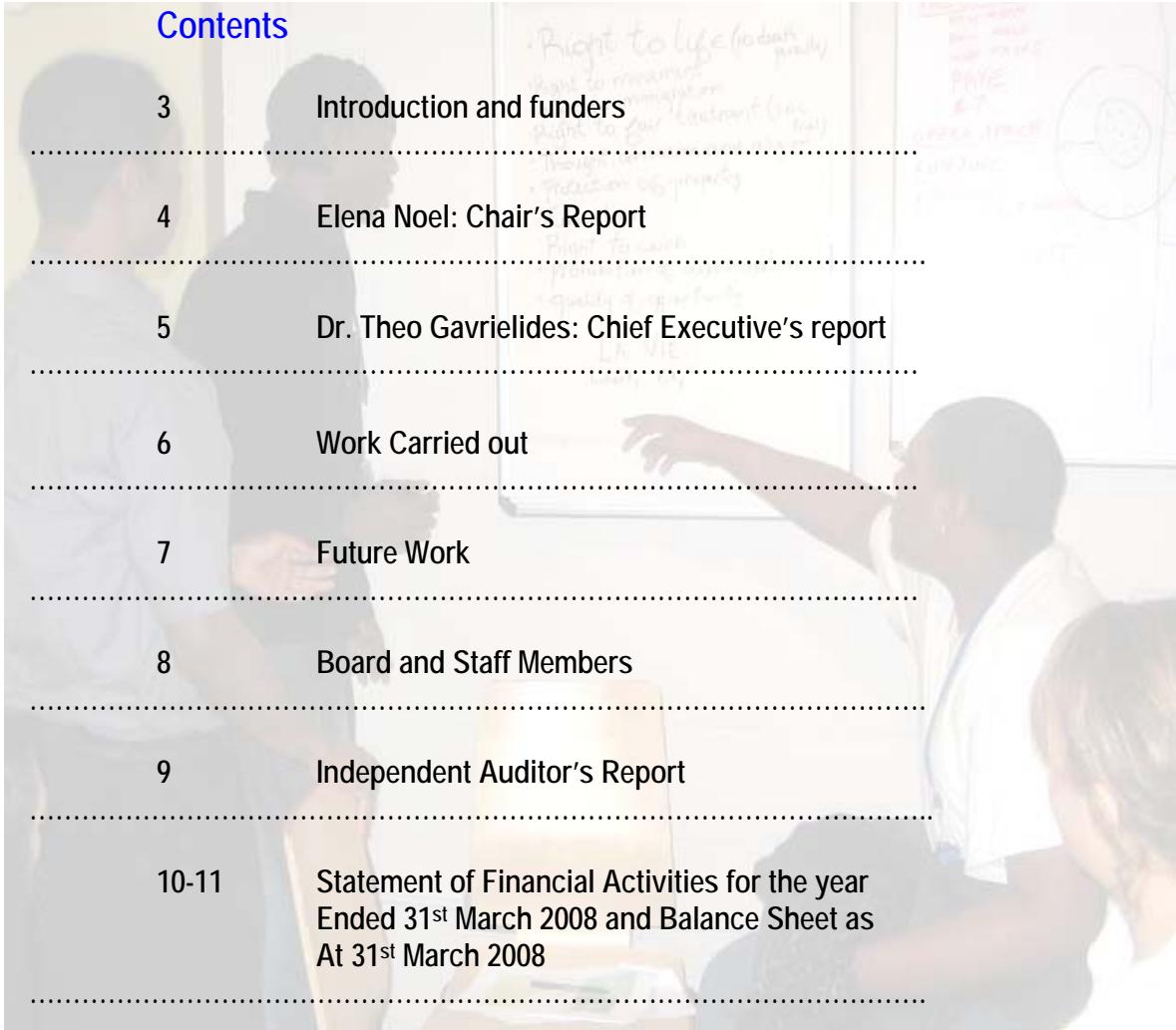




**Independent Academic  
Research Studies  
(IARS)**

Annual Report  
2007-8

A background image showing a group of people in a meeting. A woman on the right is pointing at a whiteboard. The whiteboard has handwritten notes in Arabic, including 'Right to life (الحياة)', 'Right to education', 'Right to work', 'Right to housing', 'Right to health', 'Right to a clean environment', 'Right to a safe environment', 'Right to a healthy environment', 'Right to a safe environment', 'Right to a healthy environment', 'Right to a safe environment', 'Right to a healthy environment'. There is also a diagram on the right side of the whiteboard.

## Contents

- 3 Introduction and funders  
.....
- 4 Elena Noel: Chair's Report  
.....
- 5 Dr. Theo Gavrielides: Chief Executive's report  
.....
- 6 Work Carried out  
.....
- 7 Future Work  
.....
- 8 Board and Staff Members  
.....
- 9 Independent Auditor's Report  
.....
- 10-11 Statement of Financial Activities for the year  
Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 and Balance Sheet as  
At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008  
.....

## Introduction

---

**IARS** is a youth-led non-profit social policy think-tank that was set up in 2001 to give voice to young people to influence policies and practices that affect them and through their work to support youth-led organisations and groups in achieving community cohesion, and promoting equality, human rights, restorative justice and alternative dispute resolution. We achieve this aim by providing direct services to disadvantaged young people, by acting as an independent consultancy, by carrying out research and by informing strategic decision makers about issues affecting children and young people who are easily exposed to discrimination.

### In 2007-8 our work benefited from funding relationships with:

- V
- Big Lottery Fund – Big Boost
- The LGBT Consortium
- Equality and Human Rights Commission

**IARS'** strategic aims are to:

- Empower and enable young people, particularly those from disadvantaged groups, to influence, shape and inform policy and practices in the areas of criminal justice, human rights, equality, restorative justice and alternative dispute resolution.
- Provide youth-led policy and research support to the UK's Third Sector.
- Work with government and statutory bodies to ensure that youth issues and views of Third Sector organisations working on human rights, equality and restorative justice are represented and heard.
- Pilot new ideas in order to demonstrate new youth-led models, opportunities and emerging good practice for the benefit of the UK's Third Sector working on human rights, equality, restorative justice and alternative dispute resolution.
- Act as a network that enables young people and youth organisations to communicate with each other, work together and share best practice with the ultimate goal of influencing youth led policy.
- Build bridges between young people from different communities and encourage them to find out what unites rather than divides them.
- Engage disadvantaged young people at risk of exclusion into mainstream educational and skills development through tailored training and support programmes.

## Elena Noel: Chair's Report

---

Children and young people are not always included in the formation of policies and practices that affect them. Hate crime, poverty, ageism, racism, disablism, health inequalities, gang crime, homophobia, and the gun culture are some of the injustices faced by today's youth.

Through its work, **IARS** strives to empower young people from the most marginalised communities to sit at the policy table and voice their concerns through their publications, events, campaigns and art.

2007 saw **IARS** grow significantly both in terms of its impact on youth policy as well as its size and members. With a small and passionate team of staff and volunteers, we remain focused on the areas of our expertise: human rights, equality, criminal justice and restorative justice. For example, the Big Boost funded project on homophobic bullying enabled a team of young volunteers to engage with over 70 other young people who have been affected by this problem to inform current policy through youth-led evidence-based recommendations. We are particularly proud of our three year **Youth Empowerment Project** funded by V and conducted in partnership with seven other charities, as well as of our online youth-led library and newsletters.



On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to thank the volunteers and staff for their hard work and on-going commitment to **IARS**. Without it, the continued success that the organisation has had would be impossible.

## Dr. Theo Gavrielides: Chief Executive's Report

---

Since its creation in 2001, **IARS'** work has been carried out solely by young volunteers who passionately gave their time to represent youth matters at the policy table. I was one of those volunteers. After a lot of hard work and with the support of the Board and the Chair, IARS' young volunteers are now proud enough to say that their small group has developed into a reputable youth-led social policy think-tank that has proved to be making an impact on youth policy.

In 2007-8, the organisation recruited its first staff, and moved into new office premises, which we



are now sharing with FarmAfrica. We are about to be awarded our charity registration number, while the British Library has requested access to our online free youth-led library which they want to add to their database. Our website is now visited by over 2000 people per month, and our monthly policy e-newsletter is disseminated to over 200 organisations and individuals.

For the first time, we were supported by V and the Equality and Human Rights Commission, and by Third Sector infrastructure organisations such as the LGBT Consortium which also donated some office space for 10 months. With the support of Big Boost, our volunteers were able to bring their ideas to life and through their work inform policies and practices affecting all young

people and children particularly those from the most marginalised communities. We will continue to work in partnership with others, and remain focused on what we do best, which is making the youth voice heard at the policy table.

## Work carried out

---

### Research and Policy Projects:

- Youth Empowerment Project working directly with 150 young volunteers to inform human rights, equality and crime policies.
- Homophobic Bullying Project involving evidence-based policy recommendations produced by 70 young people.
- Restoring Relationships Project on the use of community based restorative justice approaches for hate crime.
- The human rights dimensions of community cohesion project for the Equality and Human Rights Commission's research and policy programme.

### Articles on us:

- Inspire Magazine on our work on community reassurance and cohesion.
- House of Commons on our work on human rights in healthcare.
- Best Practice example in Commission on Integration and Cohesion report.
- Prison Fellowship International on our work on restorative justice.
- Justice and Reconciliation Project on our work on sexual offending cases.

### Publications:

- Theo Gavrielides (2007) Restorative Justice Theory and Practice: Addressing the Discrepancy, HEUNI: Helsinki, Criminal justice Press: New York.
- Lewis Parle 2/11/2007 For the Guardian: Response to article 'Cotton Wool Revolution' by Tim Gill, October 30th 2007.
- Lewis Parle (2007) Human rights, equality, respect and dignity, London: IARS.
- Theo Gavrielides (2007) "Deconstructing 'justice and reconstructing 'fairness' in a convergent European justice system: an Aristotelian approach to the question of representation of justice in Europe", in Antoine Masson (ed), Representation of Justice in Europe, PIE Peter Lang Publications: Brussels.
- Theo Gavrielides (2008) "Human rights and customer satisfaction with public services: a relationship discovered", 12:2 International Journal of Human Rights, pp. 187-202.
- Theo Gavrielides (2008) "Restorative justice: the perplexing concept. Conceptual fault lines and power battles within the restorative justice movement" 8:2 Criminology and Criminal Justice Journal.
- Theo Gavrielides (2007) The Human Rights of older people in healthcare, Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights: London.

### Information Services:

- Free e-library with youth-led papers on human rights, equality and crime with over 2000 visits per month.
- Free youth-led monthly policy e-newsletter.
- Human Rights Training for young people.

## Future Work

---

### Over the next year, we intend to:

- Inform policies and practices affecting young people by disseminating youth-led information on equality, human rights, restorative justice and criminal justice through:
  - Ten targeted policy e-newsletters.
  - Two research reports.
  - Ten information and consultation events.
  - Four policy papers.
- Represent youth issues, youth groups and youth organisations from the Third Sector by:
  - Sitting on the Board of Trustees of the London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC).
  - Sitting on the Crown Prosecution Service Community Involvement Panel.
  - Sitting on at least ten policy steering groups and government boards.
  - Speaking at five external policy events.
  - Participating in three governmental consultations.
- Continue our Youth Empowerment Project delivering at least fifty high quality volunteering opportunities to young people from marginalised communities.

During 2008-9, we will build on our reputation for effective delivery of youth-led services by reaching more children and young people, youth groups and organisations. We will continue to work with others to ensure our mission is delivered.

### Internally we will:

- Complete our registration as a charity.
- Increase our membership.
- Complete development of our database to give us easier access to our membership.
- Increase our annual turnover by 60%
- Update our Policies and Procedures.
- Recruit more Trustees below the age of 25 and from marginalised communities.

## Board and Staff members

---

### Board of Trustees:

#### Chair:

Elena Noel

#### Vice-Chair:

Borbala Fellegi

#### Board members:

Prof. John Wintedyck

Lisa Rea (resigned Feb 08)

Francis Kadaplackal

Lorna Robins (appointed Feb 08)

### Staff:

#### Chief Executive:

Dr. Theo Gavrielides

#### Head of Youth Programmes and Research

Lewis Parle (from March 08)

#### Youth Empowerment Project Officer

Alexandria Burch (from March 08)

#### Human Rights Training Officer

Carla Garnelas (from March 08)

### Volunteers:

Ruby Smith (17 yrs)

Rochelle Sampy (19 yrs)

Chetna Mavadia (22 yrs)

Baber Khan (23 yrs)

Carlene Firmin (24 yrs)

Tim Eastwood (26 yrs)

Anthony Salla (26 yrs)

Gemma Hyland (17 yrs)

Elizabeth Mullinder (21 yrs)

Jamexis Christian (22 yrs)

Ryan Honeyman (24 yrs)

Nikolaos Stamatakis (26 yrs)

David Mutton (25 yrs)

Dale Coker (35 yrs)



# Independent Auditor's Report

---

I report on the accounts of **IARS** for the period ended 31 March 2008, as are set out on pages 10 and 11.

## Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner

As the company's Directors and Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

## Opinion

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act: and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



## Statement of Financial Activities

	2008 RESTRICTED £	2008 UNRESTRICTED £	2008 TOTAL £	2007 TOTAL £
<b>INCOME RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary Income (Note 2)	40,569	1,947	42,516	11,430
Investment Income		154	154	-
Charitable Activities		-	-	-
Other Incoming Resources	-	250	250	-
Total Incoming Resources	<u>40,569</u>	<u>2,351</u>	<u>42,920</u>	<u>11,430</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Cost of generating funds				
Cost of generating fundraising income	-	-	-	-
Cost of goods sold and other costs	-	-	-	-
Investments Management Costs	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities (Note 3)	16,140	705	16,845	9,286
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<u>16,140</u>	<u>705</u>	<u>16,845</u>	<u>9,286</u>
<b>Net Income/expenditure for the year before transfer</b>	<u>24,429</u>	<u>1,646</u>	<u>26,075</u>	<u>2,144</u>
<b>Transfers to fund fixed assets</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Movement in funds for the year</b>	<u>24,429</u>	<u>1,646</u>	<u>26,075</u>	<u>2,144</u>
<b>Total Funds Brought Forward</b>	1,505	639	2,144	-
<b>Prior Year Adjustments (Note 4)</b>		1,687	1,687	-
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<u>25,934</u>	<u>3,972</u>	<u>29,906</u>	<u>2,144</u>

## Balance Sheet

---

	Note	2008 £	2007 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	5	-	639
Investments		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>639</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Bank		29,906	1,505
Creditors: falling due within one year		-	-
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>29,906</u>	<u>1,505</u>
<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>		<u>29,906</u>	<u>2,144</u>
<b>Income Funds</b>			
Restricted		25,934	1,505
Unrestricted		3,972	639
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>29,906</u>	<u>2,144</u>

The directors are satisfied that, for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, the company is entitled to exemption under Section 249A(1) of the Companies Act 1985 and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to section 249B(2) of the Act.

## Independent Academic Research Studies (IARS)

---

Clifford's Inn, Fetter Lane,  
London EC4A 1BZ

Tel: 0044 (0) 20 7067 1255,

Fax: 0044(0) 20 7430 0460

Email: [contact@iars.org.uk](mailto:contact@iars.org.uk)

Web: [www.iars.org.uk](http://www.iars.org.uk)

Company no: 5348191



**IARS** is funded by:

---

