



Topic B: “Armed Conflict decision making, based on children human rights as a life saver.”



Welcoming letter

Dear delegates,

We are truly honored to welcome you to the UNICEF committee for this edition of CFMUN. We wish you the best of luck during these sessions and hope you take this opportunity to grow, challenge yourselves, and share your ideas with confidence. Each of you brings unique perspectives and abilities that will enrich our discussions on children's rights and participation. In this committee, you will learn not only from the topic, but from the delegates around you. A single argument, question, or conversation can change the way you see an issue, so stay open to new viewpoints and don't be afraid to raise your voice. Your participation matters—especially in a space dedicated to advocating for children who cannot speak for themselves.



Above all, enjoy the experience. Debate with purpose, collaborate with respect, and let this conference help you discover what you're capable of. We are excited to see the ideas and energy you will bring.

Kind regards, Perla Perez and Isabella Flores.

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I. Committee Background

UNICEF is an ONU agency that was created in 1946 to help children who were affected by World War II, offering emergency supplies and aid. It is the United Nations agency dedicated to children human rights and its mission is to protect the rights of all children, especially the most disadvantaged and those who are hardest to reach. UNICEF works in more than 190 countries and territories and they try to do everything to help all the children survive, thrive and reach their full potential.

More than 17,000 staff members work around the world every day providing drinking water, therapeutic food, vaccines, temporary shelter and psychological support; working to create or improve laws, protection systems, social programs and more all trying to improve the life of millions of kids around the world.

II. Introduction to the Topic

In armed conflicts around the world children have been victims of all the effects that this conflicts have, such as kidnapping, violations of school environments, sexual violence, extrajudicial killings, and forced displacement, among others. They tend to be the most affected ones in this situation given that they are the most vulnerable.

For this reason, the international community has increasingly emphasized the need for making decisions prioritizing and placing children's human rights at the center. When decisions are taken without considering the impact they will have on children, the consequences can be devastating and very impactful. On the other hand, when children's human rights become a guiding principle, decisions can prevent further harm, protect essential services such as education and health, and reduce the psychological trauma war brings.

III. Evolution of the Topic

Countries involved in armed conflicts must base their decisions on international human rights standards, especially when it comes to safeguarding the lives of children. It has been observed that children are the group of people that suffers the most after armed conflicts, left in a very vulnerable state and dying from the indirect consequences of those conflicts, such as hunger, disease, the loss of their families or left without shelter, exposure to violence, and more. Although there are no statistics on the number of child deaths in world wars, it is clear that they are the most vulnerable group left behind.

In the past, these impacts were seen as inevitable. However, as testimonies and reports from conflict zones increased, the international community began to understand that the protection of children could no longer be ignored. This reality forced organizations to rethink their approach, adopting laws, protocols, and mechanisms that ensure children's rights are considered from the very first moment a decision related to arm conflicts is made.

V. UN and External Actions

A. UN Actions

Due to the fact that a large amount of children are affected by armed conflict in many ways. In 2005, the Security Council established a Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) to systematically monitor, document, and report on violations against children in situations of concern around the world.

The six grave violations serve as the basis to gather information and report on violations affecting children, these violations are: recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming of children, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools and hospitals, abduction of children and denial of humanitarian access. Ending and preventing these six grave violations is the focus of the Special Representative's work and advocacy.

B. EXTERNAL ACTIONS

There are organizations out of the UN that are helping children that suffer the consequences of armed conflicts, such as “Save the Children” that develops policies and campaigns, calling for protection and access to assistance for children in all conflict zones like Yemen, Syria, Palestine, Ukraine and more.

There is also the “Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action” who has a program named The Child Protection Minimum Standards (CPMS) which supports the participatory setting of sector-wide standards for child protection in humanitarian action, promoting their use and institutionalisation and captures lessons learned to improve them.

VI. Conclusion

In conclusion the consequences children face in armed conflicts are really severe and strong and can affect their lives very strongly and in a way that can last forever, that's why it's important to take action, think about their human rights and consequences they can face through these conflicts, put their well being in priority, and take into consideration all the actions that have already made to protect children, improve and influence new generations and make a better world.

VII. Committee Focus

UNICEF must look for solutions achievable for every country, both underdeveloped and developed countries, should be able to reach the solutions debated in the committee. The solutions accorded must help to solve the previously mentioned situation, the committee should have short, middle and long term solutions, each one supported with arguments and reasonable ways to achieve them.

When considering the possible solutions to the committee's topic, the following points must be considered:

- How is each delegation being affected when they make decisions thinking about children's human rights ?
- What is the impact of armed conflicts on children in each delegation?

- How can armed groups ensure that children's human rights are considered a priority when making military or political decisions during armed conflicts?
- What mechanisms or policies can be implemented to prevent the consequences faced by children in armed conflicts?
- What strategies can be adopted to improve early warning systems that identify risks to children before violence escalates in conflict zones?

VIII. Participation List

- Canada
- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- Federal Republic of Nigeria
- French Republic
- Islamic Republic of Pakistan
- Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan
- Italian Republic
- Japan
- Kingdom of Spain
- Republic of Bangladesh
- Republic of Brazil
- Republic of Chile
- Republic of China
- Republic of Egypt
- Republic of Germany
- Republic of Ghana
- Republic of India
- Republic of Indonesia
- Republic of South Africa
- Republic of Kenya
- Republic of the Philippines

- Republic of Turkey
- Republic of Uganda
- Russian Federation
- United Kingdom
- United Mexican States
- United States of America

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