



SRMUN ATLANTA 2019
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Greetings Delegates,

Welcome to SRMUN Atlanta 2019 and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Board! My name is Alyssa Jaime and I will be serving as your Director. I am currently a junior at the University of Central Florida majoring in International and Global Studies. This will be my third time on staff, having previously served as the Assistant Director for the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Organization of American States (OAS). Our committee's Assistant Director will be Emily Bowen. This will be Emily's first time as a staff member. However, she is not new to the SRMUN scene, as she has participated in SRMUN as a delegate over the past three years. Emily is currently a graduate student at George Mason University studying International Security.

UNICEF's mission is to advocate for the protection of children around the globe and was founded in 1946 after World War II in order to respond to the needs of children whose homes had been demolished during the war. The UNICEF Executive Board is the governing body of UNICEF and reports UNICEF policies and plans to other United Nations bodies.

By focusing on the mission of UNICEF, we have developed the following topics for the delegates to discuss and work together on developing meaningful and sustainable solutions:

- I. Protecting the Rights of Refugee, Migrant, and Internally Displaced Children
- II. Preventing the Recruitment of Children in Armed Conflicts

This background guide provides a strong introduction to the committee and the topics, and should be utilized as a foundation for the delegate's independent research. While we have attempted to provide a holistic analysis of the issues, this background guide should not be used as the single mode of analysis for the topics. Delegates are expected to go beyond the background guide and engage in intellectual inquiry of their own. The position papers for the committee should reflect the complexity of these issues and their externalities. Delegations are expected to submit a position paper and be prepared for a vigorous discussion at the conference. Position papers should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and demonstrate your Member State's position, policies and recommendations on each of the two topics. Delegates should visit srmun.org for more detailed information about guidelines, formatting and how to write position papers. **All position papers MUST be submitted no later than Friday, November 1, 2019 by 11:59pm EST via the SRMUN website.**

Emily and I are enthusiastic about serving as your dais for the UNICEF. We wish you all the best of luck in your conference preparation and look forward to working with you in the near future. Please feel free to contact Victoria, Emily, or myself if you have any questions while preparing for the conference.

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History of the United Nations Children's Fund

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is an international body created by the United Nations General Assembly (GA) on December 11, 1946, to discuss the role of the international community in the lives of children following the Second World War.¹ Originally named the United Nations International Emergency Children's Fund, UNICEF broadened its mandate in 1950, changed its name, and kept its acronym.² UNICEF became a permanent United Nations (UN) agency in 1953.³ Today, UNICEF is committed to addressing the needs of children in over 190 Member States and territories around the world.⁴ UNICEF is headquartered in New York City and has seven regional offices, as well as a research office, supply operation office, and shared service centers.⁵

The UNICEF Executive Board is the governing body of UNICEF, providing oversight and support for the organization in accordance with policy guidance from the GA and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and report policy suggestions and ideas.⁶ The Executive Board oversees all UNICEF activities, as well as approves the budgets and policies that UNICEF and its regional programs passed.⁷ This body is comprised of 36 Member States made up from members of all five regional groups of the UN, elected to 3-year terms by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Each region of the world is allocated a different number of seats: Africa (8), Asia (7), Eastern Europe (4), Latin America and the Caribbean (5) and Western Europe/Others (12).⁸ The Executive Board functions as the main authority on all functions, programs, innovations, and strategies of UNICEF.⁹ UNICEF is composed of seven regional office and each of the seven regional offices has a working goal list to address problems specific to their region.¹⁰ Collectively, these regional plans are called Generation 2030.^{11,12} All of the offices, regardless of location, work to address war, statelessness, malnutrition, education, and medical care.¹³ Meetings of the UNICEF Executive Board occur three times each year at the UN headquarters.¹⁴

The mission of UNICEF is "to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential."¹⁵ Expansion of this mandate came in 1950, and was made permanent in 1953, when the UN saw the necessity for continual aid to children in developing Member States.¹⁶ This mission is accomplished through a series of programs based on survival and development, education, gender equality, health services and research, and policy activism.¹⁷ UNICEF responds to global children's crises in six ways: local presence, low costs, emergency response, new solutions, powerful partnerships, and by being a voice for

¹ "What does the acronym UNICEF stand for?" UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/about/who/index_faq.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

² What does the acronym UNICEF stand for?" UNICEF.

³ What does the acronym UNICEF stand for?" UNICEF.

⁴ "About UNICEF," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/about/who/index_introduction.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁵ "Where does UNICEF operate and where is it based?" UNICEF, (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁶ "UNICEF Executive Board," UNICEF, August 15, 2019, <https://www.unicef.org/about/execboard/> (accessed August 22, 2019).

⁷ "Home: UNICEF Executive," UNICEF.

⁸ "Home: UNICEF Executive," UNICEF.

⁹ "Executive Board: Functions of the Executive Board." The UNICEF Executive Board, https://www.unicef.org/about/execboard/files/Executive_Board-An_Informal_Guide-2017-EN-23Nov2016.pdf (accessed March 04, 2019).

¹⁰ "UNICEF's regional offices help coordinate ongoing work and initiatives with the country offices," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/where-we-work> (accessed February 18, 2019).

¹¹ *Generation 2030: Africa*. UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Generation_2030_Africa.pdf (accessed February 18, 2019).

¹² *Generation 2030: Middle East and North Africa*, UNICEF.

¹³ *Generation 2030: Middle East and North Africa*, UNICEF.

¹⁴ "UNICEF Executive Board." August 15, 2019, <https://www.unicef.org/about/execboard/> (accessed August 22, 2019).

¹⁵ "Organization: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)." Human Rights Library, University of Minnesota, <http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/UNICEF.html> (accessed February 18, 2019).

¹⁶ "Organization: United Nations..." Human Rights Library.

¹⁷ "Organization: United Nations..." Human Rights Library.

children everywhere.¹⁸ UNICEF promotes its mission by providing vital healthcare, educational opportunities, and nonviolent environments for children to grow and prosper.¹⁹

UNICEF plays an essential role in providing protection and opportunity for children around the world by working with Member States to build agendas and legislation that assure the safety and quality of life for the world's youngest citizens.²⁰ This translates into more comprehensive responses to violence and exploitation of children around the globe.²¹ After 1953, UNICEF expanded outside of Europe to the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, particularly to locations within those regions that have been plagued by war and poverty.²² UNICEF was key in coordinating relief efforts to African Member States who declared independence in the mid-1900s, providing food, water, and medicine in a time of political instability.²³ These programs have also worked to teach parents proper nutrition and healthcare techniques to assure the healthy lives of their children.²⁴ This is done in a variety of ways, from parenting classes in regional locations to providing information via email subscriptions.²⁵

Today, one of UNICEF's primary goals is to uphold the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), as it employs it as a guideline for the organization.²⁶ The CRC recognizes the rights of children as humans, defining children as "a person up to the age of 18."²⁷ Member States must provide benefits and assistance to children, regardless of economic or social background.²⁸ Access to services like healthcare and education are deemed vital for the development of healthy and active people in society and must be provided to society's most vulnerable members: children.²⁹ The CRC provides UNICEF with a guide for assessment and integration of child benefits in individual Member States, as well as a way to analyze the specific needs of children in each Member State.³⁰ The CRC and the Committee on the Rights of the Child encourage governments of Member States to make comprehensive plans on the legislation, monitoring, and awareness of children's rights.³¹

These accomplishments of the past are what inspire UNICEF to continue its mission of protecting children with new ideas and improved efforts. Currently, UNICEF is working on expanding its Office of Innovation, which is a team at UNICEF that works on global issues by using emerging technology and broad thinking to positively impact children around the world.³² These technologies include digital health initiatives, coding, urbanizing innovation, and drone technology.³³ Through the Office of Innovation, UNICEF is working diligently to provide technology and supplies to Member States who lack them, and train children on how to integrate technology into their homes and communities.³⁴

¹⁸ "For every child results," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/results> (accessed February 20, 2019)

¹⁹ "UNICEF: The United Nations Children's Fund," UNICEF, <https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2013/09/unicef-the-united-nations-childrens-fund/> (accessed February 18, 2019).

²⁰ "What we have achieved." Convention on the Rights of Children, UNICEF, <https://www.unicefusa.org/about/faq#q-funding> (accessed February 18, 2019).

²¹ "What does UNICEF do? Frequently Asked Questions," UNICEFUSA, <https://www.unicefusa.org/about/faq#q-funding> (accessed February 18, 2019).

²² "What is UNICEF and UNICEF USA," UNICEFUSA, <https://www.unicefusa.org/about/faq#q-funding> (accessed February 20, 2019).

²³ "Great Moments in UNICEF History," UNICEF, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlBP97bXxHA> (accessed February 20, 2019).

²⁴ "Great Moments in UNICEF History," UNICEF.

²⁵ "Great Moments in UNICEF History," UNICEF.

²⁶ "Frequently Asked Questions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30225.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

²⁷ "What is the Convention on the Rights of the Child?" UNICEF, <https://unicef.org/child-rights-convention/what-is-the-convention> (accessed February 18, 2019).

²⁸ "Frequently Asked Questions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30225.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

²⁹ "What is the Convention on the Rights of the Child?" UNICEF, <https://unicef.org/child-rights-convention/what-is-the-convention> (accessed February 18, 2019).

³⁰ "Frequently Asked Questions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/crc/index_30225.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

³¹ "Frequently Asked Questions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child," UNICEF.

³² "Office of Innovation," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/innovation/> (accessed February 20, 2019).

³³ "Our Initiatives, Office of Innovation," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/innovation/initiatives> (accessed February 20, 2019).

³⁴ "What We Do, Office of Innovation," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/innovation/what-we-do> (accessed February 20, 2019).

UNICEF receives funding through donations of various governments, non-governmental organizations, corporations, and private entities and all contributions are voluntary.³⁵ The UN does not provide funding for UNICEF's projects or daily operations.³⁶ Large portions of fundraising are done through the national committees of UNICEF, the oldest of which is in the United States of America (UNICEF USA).³⁷

³⁵ "Where does UNICEF get its funding?" UNICEFUSA, <https://www.unicef.org/about/faq> (accessed February 18, 2019).

³⁶ "Where does UNICEF get its funding," UNICEFUSA.

³⁷ "Where does UNICEF get its funding," UNICEFUSA.

I. Protecting the Rights of Refugee, Migrant, and Internally Displaced Children

Introduction

With over 50 million children currently displaced from their homes, the child migrant and refugee crisis is currently in its worst period since World War II.³⁸ Migration due to war and armed conflict have detrimental effects on societies and often times result in asylum seekers that often have no place to go. The journey of migration is often harsh and difficult, presenting many challenges and dangers for families, and especially children, along the way.³⁹ Children are often affected by migration in ways different than that of adults.⁴⁰ For example, the long process of migration stunts educational growth as the child is not able to attend school.⁴¹ In many instances, children are separated from their families and must migrate alone.⁴² This leaves children susceptible to many dangers along the way. Challenges for refugee, migrant, and internally displaced children only become more prevalent with the increase in climate change, marginalization and discrimination, and lesser access to necessary resources as non-citizen residents.

In today's world, over 100 Member States have detained children in their migrant detention centers.⁴³ Children in refugee centers are five times less likely to be enrolled in school, severely hindering their education.⁴⁴ Migrant children are also more likely to be forced into some form of human trafficking, such as forced labor or sexual exploitation.⁴⁵ Therefore, the protection of refugee, migrant, and internally displaced children is of the utmost importance in discussing the ongoing human rights and migrant crisis' affecting the world today. It falls upon UNICEF and its Member States to ensure that these children, at all stages, are ensured the proper health care, housing, education, and guardianship that they deserve.⁴⁶

History

Centuries of history has demonstrated that humans have migrated in order to attain freedom from conflict and religious intolerance, and to escape poverty by uncovering new economic and employment opportunities.⁴⁷ Humans often migrate in search of better opportunities and more stable living conditions.⁴⁸ In recent decades, the vast scale of modern human migration has only become more complex and recurrent as a result of advanced transportation and communication, increased social inequality, climate change, and a greater ease of movement throughout the world.⁴⁹ However, migration as a result of war, poverty, and violence has also continued to affect humanity on a large scale. This form of migration can be evaluated based on several factors surrounding the "home state" of migrants.⁵⁰

³⁸ "Child Refugee and Migrant Crisis," UNICEF, <https://www.unicefusa.org/mission/emergencies/child-refugees> (accessed February 18, 2019).

³⁹ "Migration and Children," Office of Research-Innocenti, <https://www.unicef-irc.org/article/606-migration-and-children.html> (accessed August 2, 2019).

⁴⁰ "Migration and Children," Office of Research-Innocenti.

⁴¹ "Children on the Move," Data, UNICEF, <https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Data-brief-children-on-the-move-key-facts-and-figures-1.pdf> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁴² "Migration and Children," Office of Research-Innocenti, <https://www.unicef-irc.org/article/606-migration-and-children.html> (accessed August 2, 2019).

⁴³ "Children on the Move," Data, UNICEF, <https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Data-brief-children-on-the-move-key-facts-and-figures-1.pdf> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁴⁴ "Children on the Move," UNICEF.

⁴⁵ UNICEF, *A Child is a Child: Protecting Children on the Move from Violence, Abuse, and Exploitation*, (New York: UNICEF, 2017). https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/UNICEF_A_child_is_a_child_May_2017_EN.pdf.

⁴⁶ "Children Uprooted," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/children-uprooted> (accessed July 18, 2019).

⁴⁷ "A History of Migration." Striking Women | Migration, <https://www.striking-women.org/module/migration/history-migration> (accessed August 4, 2019).

⁴⁸ "Understanding Migration," Migrant Clinicians Network, September 25, 2014, <https://www.migrantclinician.org/issues/migrant-info.html>

⁴⁹ "Understanding Migration," Migrant Clinicians Network.

⁵⁰ "Understanding Migration," Migrant Clinicians Network.

Persistent armed conflict and persecution emanates one such factor, driving increased migrant and asylum-seeking families from their homes.⁵¹

In response to the problems of large-scale migration, Member States have taken various initiatives in protecting the rights of refugee, migrant, and internally displaced children. In 1959 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), ensuring that children, no matter their circumstance, have the right to protection, education, health care, shelter, and good nutrition.⁵² The United Nations (UN) first responded to the migrant and refugee crisis following World War II, when approximately 60 million Europeans became refugees.⁵³ As a result, the UN created the United Nations Rehabilitation and Relief Administration (UNRRA) as a response to this crisis.⁵⁴ Three years later, the UN created the International Refugee Organization (IRO) in order to focus on the resettlement of refugees as opposed to repatriation.⁵⁵ Alongside the UNRRA and IRO, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was also formulated in 1950 as a direct response to the refugee crisis during the Second World War.⁵⁶ Early efforts of the UNHCR primarily focused on Europe, helping resettle refugees from both World War II and the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.⁵⁷ Many Member State governments, both during and after World War II, took specific action to protect children during these times. One such action was the Kinder transport initiative, a British effort to rescue children from Germany in the shadow of the Holocaust.⁵⁸ This act alone saved approximately 10,000 children from the fate of the German Nazi regime.⁵⁹

Decolonization in Africa and the uprisings in Latin America in the 1960s also provided a wider challenge for refugee and migrants rights in the following years.⁶⁰ Provisional governments created unstable societies, causing people to flee to refugee camps organized by the UN.⁶¹ This increase in asylum seekers further contributed to a region of instability, especially within Africa.⁶² The Cambodia Civil War of 1976 and the Rhodesian Rebellion of 1979 further contributed to instability of the region and the displacement of people.⁶³ These issues only expanded as Cold War proxy states warred in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, displacing millions from their home states.⁶⁴

In the 1990s, as conflict in northern and central Africa began to increase, UNICEF saw the rise of 25 million displaced peoples and 18 million refugees, of which two-thirds were children.⁶⁵ UNICEF provided safe water supplies, shelter, clothing, sanitation, education, nutrition, and healthcare to refugee children during this time.⁶⁶ UNICEF also worked closely with the UNHCR, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to create the Optional Protocol to the CRC.⁶⁷ The CRC set minimum

⁵¹ "Asylum and Migration," UNHCR, <https://www.unhcr.org/asylum-and-migration.html> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁵² "Children," United Nations, <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/children/> (accessed June 2, 2019).

⁵³ Kathy Reid, "What Is a Refugee? Facts, FAQs, and How to Help." World Vision. June 26, 2019, <https://www.worldvision.org/refugees-news-stories/what-is-a-refugee-facts> (accessed August 2, 2019).

⁵⁴ "Learning from the past: working with WWII refugees," University of Melbourne, <https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/learning-from-the-past-working-with-wwii-refugees> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁵⁵ "Learning from the past," University of Melbourne.

⁵⁶ "History of UNHCR," UNHCR, <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/history-of-unhcr.html> (accessed July 21, 2019).

⁵⁷ "History of UNHCR," UNHCR.

⁵⁸ "The Heartbreaking WWII Rescue That Saved 10,000 Jewish Children from The Nazis," History, <https://www.history.com/news/holocaust-child-refugees-kindertransport-britain> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁵⁹ "The Heartbreaking WWII Rescue That Saved 10,000 Jewish Children from The Nazis," History.

⁶⁰ "History of UNHCR," UNHCR, <https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/history-of-unhcr.html> (accessed July 21, 2019).

⁶¹ Grace Atim, "The Impact of Refugees on Conflicts in Africa," Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution Abjua, <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/560a/e3251c89b8627c09d64362876c9c01f3f7c1.pdf> (accessed July 21, 2019).

⁶² Grace Atim, "The Impact of Refugees on Conflicts in Africa."

⁶³ Lydia DePillis, Kulwant Saluja and Denise Lu, "A visual guide to 75 years of major refugee crises around the world," The Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/world/historical-migrant-crisis/?noredirect=on> (accessed July 21, 2019).

⁶⁴ DePillis, Saluja and Lu, "A visual guide to 75 years of major refugee crises around the world,"

⁶⁵ "Milestones: 1986-1995," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/about/history/index_milestones_86_95.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁶⁶ "Milestones: 1986-1995," UNICEF.

⁶⁷ "Milestones: 1986-1995," UNICEF.

standards on protecting children across the globe from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.⁶⁸ These standards emphasize the right to life, appropriate access to the social institutions imposed by the Member State, and the preservation of family and nationality.⁶⁹ By 1995, all but eight Member States had ratified the Convention on the Rights of a Child in order to protect children in armed conflict who are at risk of becoming refugees or internally displaced.⁷⁰

Case Study: European Migrant Crisis

The European Migrant Crisis is a growing phenomenon resulting from increased migration to European Union (EU) Member States. The mass migration movement primarily came about following the unrest of the Arab Spring in 2011 and ongoing Syrian Civil War.⁷¹ The refugees and asylum seekers entering Europe primarily come from Africa and the Middle East in an effort to flee war, violence, oppression, and corruption.⁷² In 2016 it was estimated that almost 397,000 children applied for asylum in Europe, with 67 percent of those children being from Syria, Iraq, or Afghanistan.⁷³ As of 2017, child refugees consist of 30 percent of all refugee claims throughout Europe.⁷⁴ Many of these children are victims of the continuing Syrian Civil War, which is the world's largest producer of refugees.⁷⁵ To date, UNICEF has helped register approximately 2.6 million Syrian children outside of Syria seeking refugee status, many of whom have ended up in Europe.^{76 77}

Another considerable aspect in the evaluation of refugee, migrant, and displaced children includes the safety of migration. In the European Migrant Crisis, children crossing the Mediterranean Sea from Africa and the Middle East may risk shipwreck, human trafficking, or denial of access into Member States upon their arrival in Europe.⁷⁸ If denied access, these children will go for months without proper medical care and sanitary conditions.⁷⁹ The conditions these children must endure varies based on the Member State. Of all the EU Member States, Italy and Greece have had the most migrants come through their borders.⁸⁰ While Greece has taken in many migrants, Italy's approach has differed.⁸¹ With the direction of Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, Italy has frequently turned away migrants.⁸² In spite of this, Italy is home to over 10,000 asylum claims from children, of which their fate is currently unknown.⁸³

⁶⁸ "Milestones: 1986-1995," UNICEF.

⁶⁹ "Convention on the Rights of the Child," United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx> (accessed July 21, 2019).

⁷⁰ "Milestones: 1986-1995," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/about/history/index_milestones_86_95.html (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁷¹ George Diez, "The Migration Crisis and the Future of Europe," The American Prospect, <https://prospect.org/article/migration-crisis-and-future-europe> (accessed August 4, 2019).

⁷² "Latest Statistics and Graphics on Refugee and Migrant Children," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/eca/emergencies/latest-statistics-and-graphics-refugee-and-migrant-children?fbclid=IwAR26Bwv3X4YQw5cbq2E1j5Ns3Zlavf722AHPZnxXaGsSkH9IyNcfSz5iQCs> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁷³ UNHCR, "Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe: Accompanied, Unaccompanied, and Separated," Europe, UNHCR, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/58431> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁷⁴ "Latest Statistics and Graphics on Refugee and Migrant Children," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/eca/emergencies/latest-statistics-and-graphics-refugee-and-migrant-children?fbclid=IwAR26Bwv3X4YQw5cbq2E1j5Ns3Zlavf722AHPZnxXaGsSkH9IyNcfSz5iQCs> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁷⁵ "Latest Statistics and Graphics on Refugee and Migrant Children," UNICEF.

⁷⁶ "Refugees," United Nations, <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/refugees/> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁷⁷ "Syrian Crisis Snapshot," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/syrian-crisis#what-unicef-is-doing> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁷⁸ "The Sea Route to Europe: The Mediterranean Passage in the Age of Refugees," July 1, 2015, <https://www.unhcr.org/5592bd059.pdf>

⁷⁹ "Vital Protection for Refugee and Migrant Children Making Perilous Sea Journeys to Europe Urgently Needed," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/vital-protection-refugee-and-migrant-children-making-perilous-sea-journeys-europe> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁸⁰ "The migrant crisis and the very different approaches adopted by the 28 EU states," Irish Examiner, <https://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/the-migrant-crisis-and-the-very-different-approaches-adopted-by-the-28-eu-states-472296.html> (accessed June 2, 2019).

⁸¹ "The migrant crisis and the very different approaches adopted by the 28 EU states," Irish Examiner.

⁸² "The migrant crisis and the very different approaches adopted by the 28 EU states," Irish Examiner.

⁸³ "The migrant crisis and the very different approaches adopted by the 28 EU states," Irish Examiner.

As a response to the European Migrant Crisis, the EU and Turkey have attempted to curb the influx of refugees through signing what is known as the EU-Turkey Deal.⁸⁴ This deal states that every person arriving “irregularly” in the Greek islands from Turkey, including asylum seekers, would be returned to Turkey.⁸⁵ In return, the EU would take one Syrian Refugee from Turkey for every Syrian that was returned from the Greek islands.⁸⁶ This deal was intended to slow the influx of refugees into Europe. Conversely, it ended up harming refugee, migrant, and asylum seeking families, as well as the economy of the Greek islands.⁸⁷ The Greek islands have become sites of indefinite containment for migrants who have arrived as they await their ship back to Turkey.⁸⁸ Instead of the EU-Turkey Deal, the UN, along with UNICEF and the UN Refugee Agency, have urged the EU to open a regional system for taking in refugees and stateless people.⁸⁹ These measures would ideally include the identification, protection, and granting of nationality as a sustainable solution for the children migrants entering Europe.⁹⁰ As of 2017, the EU has set guidelines for child migrants, such as the appointment of guardians, data tracking, and boosting child protections at all levels of asylum.⁹¹ As the safety of refugee, migrant, and displaced children are of the utmost importance, all UNICEF Member States must contemplate additional methods to ensure the valuable rights of these children.

Case Study: United States of America Southern Border

Latin America’s Northern Triangle of Violence has produced a large amount of migrants and refugees from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, who are often fleeing gang violence, poverty, and high homicide rates in their communities.⁹²⁹³ From October 2017 to January 2018, the United States of America (USA) saw 37,450 children arrive unaccompanied at its southern border from these Member States.⁹⁴ These refugees often seek asylum in the USA, causing a strain of resources at the Mexican-USA border. The USA’s migration control strategies include detention of refugees in Mexican prisons, USA detention centers, and family separations.⁹⁵ While the USA does not currently have a system to track children who have been separated from their parents, the most recent estimate lists about 15,000 children in detention.⁹⁶ Children often spend 100 to 240 days in the detention center without access to legal representation or contact with their families.⁹⁷

Separated children often go without legal representation in the USA’s immigration court as a result of the USA executive administration’s family separation, “zero tolerance” policy.⁹⁸ Since the child separation policy’s enactment, approximately 1,440 children have been returned to their families, following a federal judicial order to

⁸⁴ “The Turkey-EU Deal Explained,” Choose Love, <https://helprefugees.org/news/eu-turkey-deal-explained/> (accessed June 2, 2019).

⁸⁵ “The Turkey-EU Deal Explained,” Choose Love.

⁸⁶ “The Turkey-EU Deal Explained,” Choose Love.

⁸⁷ “The Turkey-EU Deal Explained,” Choose Love.

⁸⁸ “The Turkey-EU Deal Explained,” Choose Love.

⁸⁹ “UNHCR and UNICEF urge action in Europe to end childhood statelessness,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unhcr-and-unicef-urge-action-europe-end-childhood-statelessness> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹⁰ UNHCR and UNICEF urge action in Europe to end childhood statelessness,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unhcr-and-unicef-urge-action-europe-end-childhood-statelessness> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹¹ “UNICEF and UNHCR welcome EU policy to protect migrant and refugee children,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-and-unhcr-welcome-eu-policy-protect-migrant-and-refugee-children> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹² “Central America’s Violent Northern Triangle,” Council on Foreign Relations, <https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/central-americas-violent-northern-triangle> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹³ “Central America’s Violent Northern Triangle,” Council on Foreign Relations.

⁹⁴ “Child Refugee and Migrant Crisis,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicefusa.org/mission/emergencies/child-refugees> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹⁵ “UNICEF USA Statement on the Protection of Children at our Southern Border,” UNICEF USA, <https://www.unicefusa.org/press/releases/unicef-usa-statement-protection-children-our-southern-border/34423> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹⁶ Mona Chalabi, “How Many Migrant Children are Detained in US Custody?” The Guardian, <https://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2018/dec/22/migrant-children-us-custody> (accessed February 18, 2019).

⁹⁷ Mona Chalabi, “How Many Migrant Children are Detained in US Custody?”

⁹⁸ Christina Jewett and Shefali Luthra, “Immigrant toddlers ordered to appear in court alone,” The Texas Tribune, <https://www.texastribune.org/2018/06/27/immigrant-toddlers-ordered-appear-court-alone/> (accessed June 2, 2019).

reunify children with their guardians.⁹⁹ Even with the reunification of families, separation for any prolonged amount of time causes serious stress on the child.¹⁰⁰ This kind of stress, referred to as “toxic stress,” can lead to lifelong health consequences like depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), addiction, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).¹⁰¹

In order to address these issues, UNICEF has been working to establish safer alternatives to detention and their long-term health consequences, including through expanding existing protection measures; advocacy and strengthened sponsor systems; and direct interaction with Central American and Mexican governments to protect children from violence and crime while further supporting health and education programs.¹⁰² Although UNICEF has made progress in these respects, many organizations, within the USA and Mexico are also taking steps to ensure the safety of children that cross the USA’s southern border, whether accompanied and unaccompanied. The Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights employs child advocates to visit children while they are in detention and ensure that they are placed with family or proper foster care parents after their release.¹⁰³ Additionally, many organizations such as the Children’s Immigration Law Academy have attorneys who work pro bono to represent children in immigration court in hopes of preventing them from having no representation.¹⁰⁴ Many Member States have urgently requested in the past that the USA rethink their immigration policy, particularly towards children, in order to put the welfare of children first.¹⁰⁵ UNICEF believes the best way to protect children from violence, abuse, and from going missing, is to keep them with their families.¹⁰⁶ Threat of separation prevents families and children from seeking the help and care they desperately need.¹⁰⁷ Based off of these initiatives, UNICEF hopes to develop an all-encompassing solution to tackle the root causes of this crisis.¹⁰⁸

Actions Taken by the United Nations

UNICEF’s approach to protecting migrant, refugee, and internally displaced children is multi-faceted, with focuses on addressing the rights of children in their state of origin, state of migratory transit and reintegration, and state of return back home and in their state of entry.¹⁰⁹ In response to the dangers of migration, UNICEF addresses these concerns across four continents by creating safe spaces for children to move through while on their journey to Europe through Africa and the United States through Central America.¹¹⁰ UNICEF regularly coordinates with multiple national governments to ensure the safety and protection of migrant children, as well as implement higher

⁹⁹ Laura Jarrett, “Federal Judge orders reunification of parents and children, end to most family separations at border,” CNN, <https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/26/politics/federal-court-order-family-separations/index.html> (accessed June 2, 2019).

¹⁰⁰ Allison Abrams, “Damage of Separating Families,” Psychology Today, <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/nurturing-self-compassion/201806/damage-separating-families> (accessed June 2, 2019).

¹⁰¹ Allison Abrams, “Damage of Separating Families.”

¹⁰² “Child Migrants in Central America, Mexico and the U.S.” UNICEF USA, <https://www.unicefusa.org/mission/emergencies/child-refugees-and-migrants/child-migrants-central-america-mexico-and-us> (accessed August 22, 2019).

¹⁰³ Alex Samuels, “Here’s a list of organizations that are mobilizing to help immigrant children separated from their families,” The Texas Tribune, <https://www.texastribune.org/2018/06/18/heres-list-organizations-are-mobilizing-help-separated-immigrant-child/> (accessed June 2, 2019).

¹⁰⁴ Alex Samuels, “Here’s a list of organizations that are mobilizing to help immigrant children separated from their families.”

¹⁰⁵ “UNICEF USA Statement on the Protection of Children at our Southern Border,” UNICEF USA, <https://www.unicefusa.org/press/releases/unicef-usa-statement-protection-children-our-southern-border/34423> (accessed June 2, 2019).

¹⁰⁶ “UNICEF USA, Statement on the Protection of Children at our Southern Border,” UNICEF USA.

¹⁰⁷ “UNICEF USA, Statement on the Protection of Children at our Southern Border,” UNICEF USA.

¹⁰⁸ “Child Migrants in Central America, Mexico and the U.S.” UNICEF USA, <https://www.unicefusa.org/mission/emergencies/child-refugees-and-migrants/child-migrants-central-america-mexico-and-us> (accessed August 22, 2019).

¹⁰⁹ Sarah Ferguson, “UNICEF Is Mobilizing To Protect Migrant Children In The U.S.,” Forbes, July 10, 2019, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/unicefusa/2019/06/28/unicef-is-mobilizing-to-protect-migrant-children-in-the-us/#419c09331e7b>.

¹¹⁰ “Child Refugee and Migrant Crisis,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicefusa.org/mission/emergencies/child-refugees> (accessed February 18, 2019).

standards for protecting these children.¹¹¹ Recently, UNICEF has been working closely with Central American Member States to address the root causes of migration, immigration, and asylum seeking.¹¹² UNICEF plans to protect migrant, immigrant, and internally displaced children through conceiving alternatives to detention, strengthening sponsor systems, providing legal assistance, and advocating the issue.¹¹³

Through their work with the GA, UNICEF helped draft the Global Compact for Safe, Regular, and Orderly, and the Global Compact on Refugees.¹¹⁴ These compacts provided a comprehensive guide to how Member States should communicate and work with the UN on the issues of refugee response and the rights of migrants.¹¹⁵ This was furthered in 2006, when a UN study provided recommendations on how to end violence against children. As a result, the Secretary-General appointed a Special Representative to ensure effective follow up with Member States and their implementation.¹¹⁶ Since then, many strides have been made with Member States creating and adopting legislation to prohibit all types of violence against children and protect them when they come forward.¹¹⁷ Optional Protocols have been added to the CRC, such as the protection of children in armed conflict and prevention of sexual exploitation of children.¹¹⁸ The CRC has also been used in various UN resolutions when addressing this topic. Most recently, the Human Rights Council passed A/HRC/RES/36/5 of 2017, discussing the issues of unaccompanied migrant children in the promotion of human rights and family separation.¹¹⁹

Although identifying and advocating these issues is essential to combating its detrimental effects on children, UNICEF seeks to implement more resolutions to further emphasize and expand upon the its previous initiatives. Specifically, the expansion and further development of UNICEF's Agenda for Action for Refugee and Migrant Children is a primary goal for the committee. The agenda highlights some of UNICEF's focus points, including helping uprooted children stay healthy and in school; together with their families; kept from exploitation and violence; free of xenophobia, discrimination, and detention; and given legal status.¹²⁰ UNICEF has worked towards all of these aspects and will continue to push more initiatives in these respects.

Conclusion

Nearly one third of all children are currently living out of their state of birth, in conditions that do not meet UNICEF standards and do not allow children to grow and thrive safely.¹²¹ As over 46 million children continue to be considered migrants and refugees throughout the world, UNICEF strives to ensure that every child is taken care of and has proper access to every right set forth by the CRC.¹²² As violence and natural disasters increase around the globe, so do the number of children left stateless, displaced, and seeking refuge.¹²³ It is the responsibility of

¹¹¹ Sarah Ferguson, "UNICEF Is Mobilizing To Protect Migrant Children In The U.S.," *Forbes*, July 10, 2019.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/unicefusa/2019/06/28/unicef-is-mobilizing-to-protect-migrant-children-in-the-us/#419c09331e7b> (accessed on February 18, 2019).

¹¹² Sarah Ferguson, "UNICEF Is Mobilizing To Protect Migrant Children In the U.S."

¹¹³ Sarah Ferguson, "UNICEF Is Mobilizing To Protect Migrant Children In the U.S."

¹¹⁴ "Beyond Borders: How to make the global compacts on migrants and refugees work for uprooted children," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/UNICEF_Beyond_Borders_Nov_2017.pdf, (accessed February 18, 2019).

¹¹⁵ "Beyond Borders," UNICEF.

¹¹⁶ "Children," United Nations, <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/children/> (accessed June 2, 2019)

¹¹⁷ "Children," United Nations.

¹¹⁸ "Strengthening the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Optional Protocols," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/strengthening-convention-optional-protocols>, (accessed July 21, 2019).

¹¹⁹ United Nations Human Rights Council, Resolution 36/5, *Unaccompanied Migrant Children and Adolescents and Human Rights*, A/HRC/RES/36/5, October 4, 2017, https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_HRC_RES_36_5.pdf.

¹²⁰ "UNICEF's Agenda for Action for Refugee and Migrant Children," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/eca/emergencies/unicefs-agenda-action-refugee-and-migrant-children> (accessed August 03, 2019).

¹²¹ "Child displacement: refugees and internally displaced persons," UNICEF, <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-migration-and-displacement/displacement/> (accessed June 2, 2019).

¹²² "Child displacement," UNICEF.

¹²³ "Global Trends - Forced Displacement in 2016," UNHCR, <https://www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2016/> (accessed August 04, 2019).

UNICEF and Member States to ensure the safety of these children as they navigate turmoil, uncertainty, and trauma all while trying to simply remain children.

Committee Directive

Delegates should ask themselves how their Member States are protecting and addressing migrant, refugee, and internally displaced children. Delegates should address how their Member State's current legislation, fails or succeeds both nationally and in this endeavor. Delegates should ask: how can the body of UNICEF globally address this crisis? Are there specific areas, such as education or health care that should be focused on? How can UNICEF become more pro-active and address these situations as they develop to avoid Member States becoming overwhelmed?

Overall, delegates should not only address these questions, but also have realistic and implementable goals. One focus may be on how to better implement UNICEF programs that are currently in place in order to make them more successful. They should also consider regional bodies and regulations in order to maintain sovereignty. Delegates should look past the surface level when considering solutions and be aware that children become displaced for a multitude of reasons. Delegates are further encouraged to effectively build upon established UNICEF initiatives prior to assessing the need for the creation of new programs. Delegates should ask themselves how they can address the issue as a whole, rather than zero in on singular aspects of the problems UNICEF is facing. All angles should be considered, from conflict to natural disasters. Overall, a primary goal for delegates is to figure out how to develop UNICEF's programming methods to protect the safety of all displaced children, regardless of their backgrounds.

II. Preventing the Recruitment of Children in Armed Conflict

Introduction

Throughout history, children have been at risk of being recruited in armed conflicts signifying a longtime warfare trend and causing a detrimental impact on children and their societies.¹²⁴ Recruitment may be forced or voluntary under social, economic, or safety concerns and covers the inclusion of sexual slavery, suicide missions, and serving as messengers and spies.¹²⁵ Approximately 250,000 children are currently serving as child soldiers around the world, 40 percent of whom are girls and are often forced into sexual slavery.¹²⁶ Disputing Member States with high levels of poverty and migration are susceptible to child armament.¹²⁷ As with armed conflict, children are exposed to violence, whether they are witnesses or commit violent acts themselves and often are abused, exploited, or killed by their recruiters.¹²⁸

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) strives to protect the safety and prosperity of children around the world, a goal that is hindered when children are involved in armed conflict recruitment. Since 1998, more than 100,000 children have been released from their combat roles and reintegrated into their communities in over 15 Member States.¹²⁹ While being forcibly kept in these groups the children are exposed to and commit acts of violence, causing both mental and physical harm. It is within the purview of UNICEF to foster solutions that help address the extent of these physical, emotional, and mental damages, and restore their rights.¹³⁰ The reintegration process provides psychosocial assistance, medical care, and economic support through UNICEF-funded transit centers, foster families, or immediate families.¹³¹ UNICEF is currently working to promote legal framework and resolutions to prohibit the recruitment of children in all forms of armed conflict and armed forces.¹³²

History

UNICEF considers a child associated with an armed force or armed group as "any person under 18 years of age who is part of any kind of regular or irregular armed force or armed group in any capacity – including, but not limited to, combatants, cooks, porters, messengers and anyone accompanying such groups, other than family members."¹³³ As societies grow and the lifespan of humans increase, the need for safety and protection of the child has also been observed as a priority.¹³⁴ When children are involved in armed conflict, both their development and the prosperity of their Member State are in jeopardy. Following the events of both World Wars, the United Nations (UN) set the standard for treatment of children during war and armed conflict.¹³⁵ Most notably on the principles of child recruitment, the 1949 Geneva Conventions set the age limit for participation in armed conflict at 15 years old.¹³⁶

¹²⁴ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_58007.html (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹²⁵ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF.

¹²⁶ "Explainer: Child soldiers," TheirWorld, <https://theirworld.org/explainers/child-soldiers> (accessed May 16, 2019).

¹²⁷ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_58007.html (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹²⁸ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF.

¹²⁹ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF.

¹³⁰ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF.

¹³¹ "Children Associated with Armed Forces - Images," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/protection/images/UNICEF-child-soldier-infographic-16-03-2012-en.jpg> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹³² "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_58007.html (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹³³ "Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups," UNICEF.

¹³⁴ Emma Butcher, "Children at War," History Extra, <https://www.historyextra.com/period/children-at-war/> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹³⁵ United Nations, *Geneva Convention of 1949*, August 12, 1949, Article 26, https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹³⁶ R.K. Dixit, "Special Protection of Children During Armed Conflict Under the Geneva Convention Regime," *ISIL Year Book of International Humanitarian and Refugee Law*, <http://www.worldlii.org/int/journals/ISILYBIHRL/2001/2.html> (accessed May 6, 2019).

UNICEF has advocated for the release and rehabilitation of children in 18 Member States involved in armed conflict since the mid-1980s.¹³⁷ Since 2014, nearly 52,000 children have been released from armed forces and groups through advocacy and support, and have received appropriate care and services through UNICEF and their partners.¹³⁸ Child protection and advocacy has become a more refocused effort of the UN since 2001, resulting in Peacekeeping initiatives that focus on caring for and protecting children.¹³⁹ With the support of Peacekeeping forces, thousands of children have been released from armed conflict in Member States like the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, South Sudan, and Sudan in partnership with UNICEF.¹⁴⁰ The Security Council reaffirmed the need for these peacekeeping efforts in S/RES/2427 (2018), including an evaluation of monitoring and reporting procedures.¹⁴¹

War torn Member States that may include children in their fighting are often impoverished and socially discriminatory.¹⁴² Some children in these circumstances will resort to volunteering in armed conflict for the promise of food or money for their families or shelter for themselves.¹⁴³ Other children are kidnapped and forced to work for their captors.¹⁴⁴ Children that are forced into conflict are subject to a heightened rate of traumatic psychological changes.¹⁴⁵ A 2010 study on child soldiers in the Nepalese civil war found that children with little education, poor family lives, low economic class, and/or were abducted into conflict were more likely to develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and other psychological regressions, compared to voluntary child soldiers from less impoverished and educated backgrounds.¹⁴⁶ These children are less likely to reintegrate properly into their home society, increasing the instability of the Member State as these children grow to adulthood.¹⁴⁷ When children cannot integrate into their society, the Member State becomes unstable and unproductive, increasing the likelihood of prolonged conflict.¹⁴⁸

Actions Taken by the United Nations

In 1989, the Geneva Conventions were expanded upon when The Convention of the Rights of Children (CRC) was adopted by the UN General Assembly (GA).¹⁴⁹ The CRC outlines the rights and protections of children that Member States should follow and implement in their own national laws.¹⁵⁰ The original CRC, however, did not include protocol on the recruitment of children in armed conflict.¹⁵¹ To remedy this, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC) was ratified by the General

¹³⁷ “Child Recruitment by Armed Forces or Armed Groups,” UNICEF, https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_58007.html (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹³⁸ UNICEF, *Annual Results Report 2017: Child Protection* (New York: UNICEF, 2017), https://www.unicef.org/publicpartnerships/files/Child_Protection_2017_Annual_Results_Report.pdf

¹³⁹ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/about-us/> (accessed June 30, 2019).

¹⁴⁰ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,

¹⁴¹ United Nations Security Council, Resolution 2427, S/RES/2427, July 9, 2018, http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/{65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9}/s_res_2427.pdf.

¹⁴² Brandon A. Kohrt, et al., “Social Ecology of Child Soldiers,” *Transcultural Psychiatry*, November 19, 2013, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3833694/>.

¹⁴³ Brandon A. Kohrt, et al., “Social Ecology of Child Soldiers.”

¹⁴⁴ Brandon A. Kohrt, et al., “Social Ecology of Child Soldiers.”

¹⁴⁵ Brandon A. Kohrt, et al., “Social Ecology of Child Soldiers.”

¹⁴⁶ Brandon A. Kohrt, et al., “Social Ecology of Child Soldiers.”

¹⁴⁷ Brandon A. Kohrt, et al., “Social Ecology of Child Soldiers.”

¹⁴⁸ “Child Recruitment and Use,” Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/six-grave-violations/child-soldiers/> (accessed August 4, 2019).

¹⁴⁹ “What is the Convention on the Rights of the Child?” UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/what-is-the-convention> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁵⁰ “Implementing and monitoring the Convention on the Rights of the Child,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/implementing-monitoring> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁵¹ “Strengthening the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Optional Protocols,” UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/strengthening-convention-optional-protocols> (accessed May 16, 2019).

Assembly in 2002.¹⁵² OPAC is a multinational and non-state treaty that prohibits the compulsory recruitment of children under the age of eighteen, states that have voluntary military recruits must be older than sixteen, and it prevents voluntary recruits under age eighteen from being in direct combat and hostilities.¹⁵³ As of 2019, 168 Member States have ratified OPAC, 12 Member States have signed but not ratified, and 17 Member States have neither signed nor ratified OPAC.¹⁵⁴

Following the release of the report “Impact of Armed Conflict on Children” by Graça Machel in 1997, the GA created the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.¹⁵⁵ Resolution A/RES/51/77 created the office and gives power to the Special Representative to report to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council yearly on the challenges faced by children in conflict.¹⁵⁶ The Special Representative also works as a liaison between UNICEF, various UN bodies, and specific Member States to develop action plans and domestic legislation to protect children during the State’s conflict.¹⁵⁷ Actions Plans are time-bound and concrete measures agreed upon by the Special Representative, the UN, and the Member State on what needs to be done to prevent harm and allow children to prosper within their borders.¹⁵⁸ These action plans must contain enforceable and direct measures to protect children, such as issuing military commands to prohibit child recruitment and integrate age verification in recruitment processes.¹⁵⁹

From April 27 through April 30, 1997, in Cape Town, South Africa, the Cape Town Principles and Best Practices was created by an international convention of non-governmental organizations on how to best prevent the recruitment of children in armed conflict.¹⁶⁰ The Cape Town Principles created a guideline for how Member States should address the issue of children in armed conflict.¹⁶¹ These guidelines are broken into three sections: prevention, demobilization, and reintegration.¹⁶² Prevention includes a government-regulated minimum age of 18 to volunteer in armed conflict, as well as safeguards for monitoring this process.¹⁶³ Demobilization within these principles places emphasis on children before peace negotiations are made.¹⁶⁴ All peace negotiations made should include a child demobilization process as a priority.¹⁶⁵ These efforts include family reunification, health treatment, and protection against remobilization.¹⁶⁶ Lastly, the Cape Town Principles provide a format to reintegrate children into their families and communities.¹⁶⁷ These measures often include programs to address the mental and physical health of the child and their wellbeing. Children and their families should become productive members of their society, both socially and economically. The Cape Town Principles have been integral in the formatting of international law on this topic, such as in the International Criminal Court’s Principles on Reparation.¹⁶⁸

¹⁵² United Nations General Assembly, *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict*, A/RES/54/263, March 16, 2001, <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/625/67/PDF/N0062567.pdf?OpenElement>

¹⁵³ United Nations General Assembly, A/RES/54/263, 2001.

¹⁵⁴ “Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict,” Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/tools-for-action/opac/> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁵⁵ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/about-us/> (accessed May 16, 2019).

¹⁵⁶ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

¹⁵⁷ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

¹⁵⁸ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

¹⁵⁹ “About Us,” United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

¹⁶⁰ “1997 Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” Nuhanovic Foundation Centre for War Reparations, <http://www.nuhanovicfoundation.org/en/legal-instruments/cape-town-principles-and-best-practices/> (accessed August 4, 2019).

¹⁶¹ “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF, April 27-30, 1997, [https://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/Cape_Town_Principles\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/Cape_Town_Principles(1).pdf).

¹⁶² “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF.

¹⁶³ “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF.

¹⁶⁴ “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF.

¹⁶⁵ “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF.

¹⁶⁶ “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF.

¹⁶⁷ “Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” UNICEF.

¹⁶⁸ “1997 Cape Town Principles and Best Practices,” Nuhanovic Foundation Centre for War Reparations, <http://www.nuhanovicfoundation.org/en/legal-instruments/cape-town-principles-and-best-practices/> (accessed August 4, 2019).

Dialogues created by UNICEF, the UN Security Council, and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAS) have released over 115,000 children from armed conflict since 2000.¹⁶⁹ These bodies have provided the six Grave Violations against children for the UN Security Council to monitor in 20 conflict-affected Member States. The six Grave Violations are the recruitment and use of children in conflict, killing and maiming of children, sexual violence against children, attacks on schools and hospitals, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access.¹⁷⁰ The number of these violations has been rising in the past decade, and must be addressed by UNICEF and affected Member States.¹⁷¹

Case Study: Yemen

Considered the world's worst humanitarian crisis by the UN, the civil war in Yemen has been ongoing since March 21, 2015.¹⁷² Following the replacement for the authoritarian regime in Yemen, Abdrabbuh Mansour Hadi, could not control the corruption, food insecurity, and separatist movement in the south of this Member State.¹⁷³ This separatist moment, the Houthis, took control of the northern Saada province, bringing many Yemeni citizens to support the Houthis by 2014.¹⁷⁴ In 2015, the Houthi took over Sana'a, the constitutional capital of Yemen and Hadi was forced to flee the state in March 2015.¹⁷⁵ In the years since, Yemen had been in a gridlock civil war, with a barricade of ports and streets preventing humanitarian relief from entering the state.¹⁷⁶ Severe malnutrition, cholera, and famine plague the people of Yemen who cannot leave or receive help from the outside world.¹⁷⁷

Even before the Houthis began to mobilize and slowly take over the Yemeni government, they recruited and used child soldiers.¹⁷⁸¹⁷⁹ The role of children within the Houthi group has evolved from logistical jobs like guards into that of combatants.¹⁸⁰ Within Yemen, the Houthis have a strategic use for children within their armies, assigning each child combatant a bracelet with a serial number.¹⁸¹ If that child dies, they enter the number into a computer and alert the family of the death and their child's new "martyr" status.¹⁸² While international focus has been placed on the Houthi Rebels, other parties involved in the civil war have also been accused of using child soldiers. The Yemeni government has been employing the use of child soldiers, an issue the Security Council expressed grave concern over in S/RES/2201.¹⁸³ The Yemeni government recruit child soldiers from all over Yemen and the greater Middle East area with the financial aid of neighboring Member States.¹⁸⁴ Child soldiers travel from as far as Darfur,

¹⁶⁹ "Commemorating 20 Years of Work for Children." United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/commemorating-20-years-of-work-for-children/> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁷⁰ "About Us," United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, <https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/about-us/> (accessed May 16, 2019).

¹⁷¹ "Children under attack: Six grave violations against children in times of war," UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/stories/children-under-attack-six-grave-violations-against-children-times-war> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁷² David D. Kirkpatrick, "On the Front Line of the Saudi War in Yemen: Child Soldiers from Darfur," December 28, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/28/world/africa/saudi-sudan-yemen-child-fighters.html>.

¹⁷³ "Yemen Crisis: Why is there a war?" BBC News, March 21, 2019, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-29319423>.

¹⁷⁴ "Yemen Crisis: Why is there a war?" BBC News.

¹⁷⁵ "Yemen Crisis: Why is there a war?" BBC News.

¹⁷⁶ "Yemen Crisis: Why is there a war?" BBC News.

¹⁷⁷ "Yemen Crisis: Why is there a war?" BBC News.

¹⁷⁸ Abdul-Aziz Oudah, "Supreme Revolutionary Commission Declares General Mobilization," Yemen Observer, <https://archive.is/20151121172248/http://www.yemenobserver.com/front-page/1397-supreme-revolutionary-commission-declares-general-mobilization.html> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁷⁹ Mohammed Al-Khayat, "Checkpoint Children: Armed Houthis Under 18," Yemen Times, <http://archive.fo/vLHZ1> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁸⁰ Mohammed Al-Khayat, "Checkpoint Children: Armed Houthis Under 18."

¹⁸¹ Maggie Michael, "In Inferno of Yemen's War, Child Soldiers are the 'Firewood,'" Pulitzer Center, <https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/inferno-yemens-war-child-soldiers-are-firewood> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁸² Maggie Michael, "In Inferno of Yemen's War, Child Soldiers are the 'Firewood.'"

¹⁸³ United Nations Security Council, Resolution 2201, S/RES/2201, February 15, 2015, [https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2201%20\(2015\)](https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2201%20(2015))

¹⁸⁴ David D. Kirkpatrick, "On the Front Line of the Saudi War in Yemen: Child Soldiers from Darfur," December 28, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/28/world/africa/saudi-sudan-yemen-child-fighters.html>

Sudan, to fight for Yemeni government with a promise of USD 10,000 to their families.¹⁸⁵ While the Yemeni government is responsible for using child soldiers, Houthi rebels have used more and often recruit through force.¹⁸⁶ Houthi rebels have used over 18,000 child soldiers since the start of the conflict in 2014, a fact confirmed by a senior member of Houthi leadership.¹⁸⁷ The UN also found that two thirds of all child soldiers used in 2017 were from Houthi rebels and their allies.¹⁸⁸ UNICEF and the UN are concerned with this, as UNICEF has discovered over 6,000 children have been killed or maimed during the conflict.¹⁸⁹ With the protection of children as the utmost concern for UNICEF, preventing children from being seized or voluntarily joining the raging civil war and providing alternative paths for the children of Yemen to thrive in their homeland is a priority that Member States cannot overlook. On May 14, 2014, the Yemen government signed an action plan with the UN that would lead to the stop the use of children within the Yemeni Armed Forces.¹⁹⁰ Since then, UNICEF has aimed to provide a protective environment for children through UNICEF Yemen. UNICEF Yemen is a collaborative effort with local authorities and non-governmental organizations to provide appropriate responses to the crisis among children.¹⁹¹ These responses include psychological treatment, education support, and exploitation prevention measures through national monitoring systems and legislative reform.¹⁹² While the Yemen crisis is still an ongoing threat, UNICEF is working to provide stability and legislative protection for Yemeni children.

Case Study: South Sudan

South Sudan, the newest Member State of the UN, continues to be affected by conflict. The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UN-MISS) has provided aid and reconstruction efforts to the Member State as peace negotiations began in 2015 and have continued to the present.¹⁹³ Since the beginning of the South Sudanese conflict in 2013, an estimated 19,000 children have been associated with armed forces or groups.¹⁹⁴ A majority of these children came from the Boma and West Equatoria States, with 34 percent of these children under the age of 14.¹⁹⁵ To accommodate for this high number, UNICEF has supported community-based reintegration programs based around the people of South Sudan.¹⁹⁶ These programs encompass the needs of each child, from case management, social development, and socioeconomic integration.¹⁹⁷ So far, in 2019 alone, 248 children have been rescued and placed into reintegration programming, where they were returned to their families.¹⁹⁸ UNICEF works with the National Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Program to support the needs of these rescued children.¹⁹⁹

As of October 2018, the two conflicting parties, the South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) and Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA-IO), have signed peace agreements to end the conflict.²⁰⁰ Along with the other Grave Violations, both sides have admitted to recruiting children into their armed forces.²⁰¹ The recruitment of children is based on manipulation for money or power; and is still a concern for South Sudanese youth today, as

¹⁸⁵ David D. Kirkpatrick, "On the Front Line of the Saudi War in Yemen."

¹⁸⁶ Maggie Michael, "In Inferno of Yemen's War, Child Soldiers are the 'Firewood,'" Pulitzer Center. <https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/inferno-yemens-war-child-soldiers-are-firewood> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁸⁷ Maggie Michael, "In Inferno of Yemen's War Child Soldiers are the 'Firewood.'"

¹⁸⁸ Maggie Michael, "In Inferno of Yemen's War Child Soldiers are the 'Firewood.'"

¹⁸⁹ Maggie Michael, "In Inferno of Yemen's War Child Soldiers are the 'Firewood.'"

¹⁹⁰ "Children, Not Soldiers: Yemen Signs Action Plan to End Recruitment and Used of Children in Armed Forces," UNICEF, May 14, 2014, https://www.unicef.org/media/media_73490.html (accessed August 4, 2019).

¹⁹¹ UNICEF Yemen, "Our Work," What We Do, UNICEF Yemen. https://www.unicef.org/yemen/activities_11432.html. (Accessed August 19, 2019).

¹⁹² UNICEF Yemen, "Child Protection," What We Do, UNICEF Yemen, https://www.unicef.org/yemen/activities_11436.html, (Accessed August 19, 2019).

¹⁹³ "Background," United Nations Missions in South Sudan, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/background> (accessed May 6, 2019).

¹⁹⁴ "Release and Reintegration: Child Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups," UNICEF, March 2019, www.unicef.org/southsudan/media/1846/file/UNICEF-South-Sudan-CP-CAAFAG-Briefing-Note-Mar-2019.pdf.pdf.

¹⁹⁵ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

¹⁹⁶ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

¹⁹⁷ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

¹⁹⁸ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

¹⁹⁹ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

²⁰⁰ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

²⁰¹ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

children are left out of peace negotiations in a civil war they fought in.²⁰² Both the SSPDF and SPLA-IO have worked with UNICEF to train army officials against the recruitment of children and educate on the rights of children during this conflict through the UNMISS Child Protection Unit.²⁰³²⁰⁴

The main components of South Sudan's reintegration program are family reunification, social development, and socioeconomic reintegration.²⁰⁵ UNICEF believes that children should have quality of life outside of their rescue, and that Member States should provide for the resources.²⁰⁶ As such, UNICEF has provided vocational training and apprenticeships for rescued children to ease the economic tension behind joining armed forces.²⁰⁷ Case management and family reunification include food rations, basic necessities such as clothes and blankets, and a community system for those still searching for their families.²⁰⁸ Social development focuses on psychological support and community building, where children learn how to handle inter-community violence and engage in supporting and healing community growth.²⁰⁹ These basic principles of community-based reintegration programming are the strong force in protecting children from armed recruitment within South Sudan, and should be looked at as building blocks to address the other grave violations that conflicting parties continue to perpetrate.

Conclusion

Children around the world continue to be recruited as combatants in armed conflict, negatively affecting their health and their Member States. UNICEF believes in a world where children are encouraged to play, learn, and thrive, which are actions that cannot occur when children are serving as combatants. Through the creation of schools and community centers, as well as domestic research, individual Member States have been able to bolster their ability to protect children.²¹⁰ While multiple Member States and international non-governmental organizations have made many strides in stopping and reunifying child soldiers, there is still much more work to be done. When children are forced into combatant roles, their education and contribution to their Member State's economy and social culture halts. The world is worse when children are not allowed to contribute. It is for this reason that UNICEF strives to end the use of children in combat roles around the globe.

Committee Directive

During committee, delegates should look at how its Member State is addressing the CRC and various protocols on the prevention of child recruitment. Delegates must look into the regional and global cooperatives on how their Member State plays a role in condemning or allowing children to serve in armed conflict. Delegates should also seek information on what their Member State is doing nationally to address the issue and how those actions may affect other Member States in its region. In doing so, delegates should ask themselves, what can UNICEF do to incentivize the release of children in armed conflict and prevent further recruitment? What factors play a role in a child's decision to voluntarily join an armed group, such as economic or security concerns? What incentives, if any, can be made to convince Member States to follow the CRC and various optional protocols? Delegates should also consider how to develop UNICEF's programming methods to protect the safety of children within armed conflicts. Overall, delegates should address these questions with realistic solutions for implementing their goals. Delegates should

²⁰² Emmanuel Kele, "Aweil Youth Say Unemployment Makes Them Engage in Criminality," UNMISS, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/aweil-youth-say-unemployment-makes-them-engage-criminality> (accessed May 6, 2019).

²⁰³ "45 SPLA Officers Attend Workshop Against Recruitment of Children in the Armed Forces," UNMISS, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/45-spla-officers-attend-workshop-against-recruitment-children-armed-forces> (accessed May 6, 2019).

²⁰⁴ Beatrice Mategwa, "South Sudan's Armed Groups Commit to End Violations Against Children," UNMISS, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/south-sudan%E2%80%99s-armed-groups-commit-end-violations-against-children> (accessed May 6, 2019).

²⁰⁵ "Release and Reintegration: Child Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups," UNICEF, March 2019, www.unicef.org/southsudan/media/1846/file/UNICEF-South-Sudan-CP-CAAFAG-Briefing-Note-Mar-2019.pdf.pdf.

²⁰⁶ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

²⁰⁷ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

²⁰⁸ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

²⁰⁹ "Release and Reintegration," UNICEF.

²¹⁰ UNICEF, *Annual Results Report 2017: Child Protection* (New York: UNICEF, 2017), https://www.unicef.org/publicpartnerships/files/Child_Protection_2017_Annual_Results_Report.pdf.

focus on building upon established UNICEF and other UN programs and initiatives rather than creating new bodies within UNICEF. Delegates should also focus on the issue as a whole, and not specific situations. All angles should be considered from recruitment to reintegration.

Annotated Bibliography

Topic I: Protecting the Rights of Refugee, Migrant, and Internally Displaced Children

“Child Displacement: Refugees and Internally Displaced Peoples,” UNICEF. <http://data.unicef.org/topic/child-migration-and-displacement/displacement/>

This website was a part of the UNICEF: Data series, which UNICEF provides a variety of data that has been collected and organized into charts and paragraphs to explain findings. Information on this page will provide delegates with basic content in the beginning of research. General information of refugee and migrant children can be found through this database, providing a stable background to the information that each Member State should provide within their assessment of the topic.

“Syrian Crisis,” UNICEF. <https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/syrian-crisis#what-unicef-is-doing>

This website gives an in depth look into the crisis in Syria and how it is affecting the global refugee and migrant crisis today. The Syrian Conflict and the refugee crisis that followed has affected large numbers of UN Member States. With most refugees and displaced persons in Europe coming from Syria, understanding the conflict is crucial. UNICEF’s data on how the Syrian civil war is contributing to the global migrant crisis becomes clear, and UNICEF offers ideas on how to protect the children that are victims and survivors of the conflict. Delegates should use this information as historical context on a present issue.

Migration Data Portal, “Child and Young Migrants,” Themes, Migration Data Portal, June 4, 2019. <https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/child-and-young-migrants>

The Migration Data Portal is a group focused on providing up-to-date statistics and information on international migration data for policy makers, journalists, and the public. One of the themes of the Migration Data Portal is child and young migrants, which analyzes the age dynamics of migration issues. This page gives information of definitions, current trends per continent, and in-depth analysis on these statistics. Sources for these statistics are provided throughout the page, allotting further research on that specific issue. The end of the page presents further reading on the topic, including links to UN studies and continental research.

“Displaced Children and Adolescents: Challenges and Opportunities,” Forced Migration Review, October 15, 2002. <https://www.fmreview.org/sites/fmr/files/FMRdownloads/en/displaced-children-and-adolescents.pdf>

Forced Migration Review is a collection of publications and articles on migration and refugee crises around the globe. The Forced Migration Review is part of the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford. This 2002 publication analyzes the effects of migration on children through various articles on different situations. With articles ranging from the prevention of sexual exploitation to education standards in crisis, delegates will find background information of a wide variety of specific issues within the topic, as well as providing historical context for refugee issues that still persist today.

Yahya, Maha, and Marwan Muasher, "Refugee Crises in the Arab World," Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2019. <https://carnegieendowment.org/2018/10/18/refugee-crises-in-arab-world-pub-77522>

The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is a network of international research centers, focusing on strategies and policies that will stimulate peace and prosperity around the globe. This collection of comments on the refugee crisis in the Middle East as of the 21st century provides context for the issues of various refugee and migrate crises of today. The commentators focus on policy framework for sharing responsibility and power reallocation within conflict zones. Potential actions plans and policy ideas are discussed, along with their potential effectiveness of promoting the rights of refugees.

Topic II: Preventing the Recruitment of Children in Armed Conflict

UNICEF, *Annual Results Report 2017: Child Protection* (New York: UNICEF, 2017).

https://www.unicef.org/publicpartnerships/files/Child_Protection_2017_Annual_Results_Report.pdf

UNICEF's Child Protection Annual Results Report 2018 is the most recent publication the status of children around the world. This comprehensive report explores seven program areas of child protection, including violence against children and strengthening families and communities. Also included is a strategic plan for 2018 through 2021, looking at the lessons learned from the previous strategic plan of 2014 through 2017, and how potential UNICEF partnerships could strengthen UNICEF's mission for child protection. Lastly, the report provides funding information for UNICEF on these particular program areas. This report provides a general overview of the rights of children under conflict conditions and can be used as a starting point for delegate research.

"Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child," OHCHR, May 25, 2005.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/opaccrc.aspx>

The Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC) provides an overall view of UNICEF's mission for child protection. The optional protocol to the CRC goes into detail on the rights of children involved in armed conflict. This protocol is vital to the understanding of Topic 2 and lays out the guidelines by which Member States should follow when discussing the use of children in armed conflict. Articles of this protocol are used by UNICEF to prevent child recruitment and initiate diplomatic discussions on current recruitment processes in Member States. This protocol provides a template for the international standard of child protection in armed conflict and should be used as reference for all ratifying Member States in their response to this situation.

Jo Becker, "Some Child Soldiers Get Rehabilitation, Others Get Prison," *Atlantic Council*, March 4, 2019.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/some-child-soldiers-get-rehabilitation-others-get-prison/>

The Atlantic Council is a nonpartisan group of foreign policy analysts who help explain the complex international changes of the 21st century. This article investigates the lives of children in post-war Member States and how current global affairs is failing them. The rehabilitation and reintegration of children into peaceful and productive societies can be disrupted by legal proceedings of their former organizations. Becker follows a 14-year-old schoolboy from Iraq as he is imprisoned for his connections as a cook for the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS). Stories like these are not uncommon, as Becker discusses her work with child soldiers in several other conflict states.

"Cape Town Principles and Best Practices," UNICEF, April 27-30, 1997.

[https://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/Cape_Town_Principles\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/Cape_Town_Principles(1).pdf)

Created by the NGO Working Group on the Convention of the Rights of Children and UNICEF, the Cape Town Principles is a strategy and checklist for Member States to following when tackling the problem of children in armed conflict. These principles and commitments focus on preventing the use of child soldiers as well as reintegration of children into their communities, demobilization of current children, armed control among groups using children in armed conflict, and logistics of all these measures. Included in the reintegration process is the provision of health assessments and family tracing, so children affected by conflict may be properly and effectively reintegrated. The Cape Town Principles provides added support and language to the Convention on the Rights of Children, as well as resolutions and treaties that have come since its publishing.