

# CENMUN 2019



# UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

Violation faced by children in conflict zones  
and solutions to improve their situation.

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Nagpur  
India*

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## Introduction

Introduction to UNICEF United Nations International Children's Fund, or widely known as UNICEF was established by United Nations General Assembly in the aftermath of World War II. The initial objective of this body was to help provide relief and support to children living in countries devastated by war.

Along with the development progress, UNICEF has shifted its mandate to not only provide assistance and help for children living in countries devastated by war, but as well as to ensure the rights of all children are fulfilled. The committee has played an important role in promoting the Convention on the Rights of Children, that now has become one of the most ratified convention in the world. UNICEF has also widely known by its development programs that engaging not only government but as well as NGO, private sectors and related stakeholders with the use of media and role model in campaigning their programs.

UNICEF was created to work with others to prevail over the obstacles that poverty, violence, disease, and discrimination place in a child's path. The way that UNICEF combats these issues is by taking a life-cycle based approach in which they recognize the importance of early childhood and development to adolescence and further. Each stage in a child's life is important to develop to a healthy human being. However those most prone are the ones who didn't do anything to deserve these repercussions and it is our job to ensure the well-being of children. In the 21st century our goals have expanded and now are a part of the Millennium Development Goals, children's rights are expressed in the 2nd goal to "Achieve Universal Primary Education" (Millennium Project 2006). With this in mind we hold ourselves accountable to make sure we put an end to child rights violations and give them the life they deserve.

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Message from the Executive Board!

Dear Delegates,

It is our pleasure to welcome you as Executive Board to UNICEF at CENMUN 2019. We hope that you will find the weekend to be informative both in the topics that you will discuss and in the diversity of people that you meet.

We would encourage you to make the most of it by preparing well, taking part in the committee sessions, and making full use of the socials.

If you have any question please do not hesitate to contact my co-chair and I. We very much look forward to meeting you all,

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## Violation faced by children in conflict zones and solutions to improve their situation

*“A Child killed, recruited as a soldier, injured in an attack or prevented from going to school due to a conflict is already one too many” - Virginia Gamba, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, 2017*

### Introduction

Millions of children globally are affected by armed conflict. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that by mid 2018, at least 25 million people had fled their country due to conflict and half of them were children.<sup>1</sup> Armed conflict affects children disproportionately in many ways, including causing elevated child mortality rates, removing the possibility of an education, and producing permanent displacement.<sup>2</sup> Children used in conflict are often forced to take part in combat, but can also be used in support functions that entail risks and can be subject to sexual violence.<sup>3</sup> Children and armed conflict has been placed at the forefront of the international agenda since the 1990s, with the United Nations (UN) and the Security Council (SC) taking leading roles.

### International and Regional Framework

The international community has produced a set of legal instruments codifying the protection of children in armed conflict. Foundational documents such as Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), Articles 23 and 24 of the *International Convention on Civil and Political Rights* (1966), and Article 10 of the *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* (1966) all narrowly address the rights of children within broader human rights frameworks.<sup>4</sup> Specific documents that deal with rights of children include the *Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child* (1954), adopted in an expanded form by the UN in 1959 as the *Declaration of the Rights of the Child*, and the *Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict* (1974).<sup>5</sup>

The *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) was adopted by the UN General Assembly (GA) in November 1989 and is one of the most rapidly and widely ratified human rights treaties in history.<sup>6</sup> Articles 38 and 39 of this convention oblige States Parties to protect children in armed conflicts and to not use children under the age of 15 as combatants.<sup>7</sup> It also requires States Parties to promote the recovery and reintegration of child victims of conflict.<sup>8</sup> *The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict* was adopted by the General Assembly in 2000 and increases the age limit for involvement in hostilities to 18 years of age, applicable to both States and non-State armed groups, while also emphasizing the rehabilitation and reintegration into society of children victimized by non-adherence to the protocol.<sup>9</sup> There are 166 States Parties to the Optional Protocol.<sup>10</sup>

The International Labour Organization's *Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour* (1999) defines forced recruitment of children for armed conflict as one of the worst forms of child labor.<sup>11</sup> The *African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child* (1999) is the first regional treaty establishing a minimum age of 18 for participation in a

<sup>1</sup> UNHCR, *Statistical Yearbooks: Figures at a Glance*, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 10, 41, 54.

<sup>3</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Child Recruitment and Use*, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/RES/44/25)*, 1989.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> UNICEF, *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, 2017.

<sup>7</sup> UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/RES/44/25)*, 1989.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> UN 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)*, 2000.

<sup>10</sup> UN Treaty Collection, 11.b *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict*, 2017.

<sup>11</sup> ILO, *Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 1999.

conflict.<sup>12</sup> Furthermore, the 1998 *Rome Statute*, which created the International Criminal Court, classified deliberate attacks on hospitals and schools, sexual violence against children, and the enlistment or use of children under the age of 15 as war crimes.<sup>13</sup>

### **Role of the International System**

The protection of children in conflict falls within the mandate of several UN entities. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is mandated to advocate for the protection the rights of children, the Committee on the Rights of the Child is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the CRC, the UNHCR works to assist and protect displaced children, and the SC is responsible for maintaining peace and security.<sup>14</sup> Other agencies, programs, and funds are also able to work in concert and contribute to the protection, reintegration, and rehabilitation of children affected by conflict both inside and outside the UN system.<sup>15</sup>

In 1996, Graça Machel, an independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General to report to the GA, published a report on the "Impact of Armed Conflict on Children."<sup>16</sup> The report highlighted the disproportionate effects war has on children and recommend several different courses of action and priorities.<sup>17</sup> This seminal report has been a catalyst for action and led to the adoption of GA resolution 51/77 in 1997, which created the role of Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.<sup>18</sup> The Special Representative is mandated to assess the progress made in protecting children in situations of conflict, raise awareness and promote the collection of information, work closely with UN bodies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and foster international cooperation.<sup>19</sup> The Special Representative is the primary advocate for the protection of children affected by conflict within the UN system and reports yearly to the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council (HRC), and other bodies as necessary.<sup>20</sup>

In 2007, UNICEF and the French government co-hosted the Free Children from War Conference, attended by delegations from Member States, international organizations, and NGOs, with the goal of obtaining an international commitment for the protection, release, and reintegration of children used by armed groups.<sup>21</sup> 105 Member States signed the *Paris Commitments and the Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated With Armed Forces or Armed Groups*, creating guidelines on the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of children who have been exploited by armed groups.<sup>22</sup> These commitments and principles build upon the pivotal *Cape Town Principles*, adopted in 1997, which focused on preventing recruitment and facilitating reintegration.<sup>23</sup>

### **Security Council**

The Security Council has adopted 11 resolutions specifically on the topic of children and armed conflict, placing it within its mandate as an issue affecting peace and security.<sup>24</sup> Resolution 1261 of 1999, the first resolution on this topic, condemned six grave violations perpetuated against children in conflict that now serve as the basis for gathering and reporting abuses against children.<sup>25</sup> These violations include the killing and maiming of children, sexual violence against children, abduction and forced displacement, the recruitment and use of child soldiers, attacks against schools or hospitals, and the denial of humanitarian

<sup>12</sup> Organization of African Unity, *African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child*, 1990.

<sup>13</sup> UNICEF, *Machel Study 10-Year Strategic Review: Children and Conflict in a Changing World*, 2009, p. 60.

<sup>14</sup> UNICEF, *Child protection from violence, exploitation, and abuse*, 2017; OHCHR, *Committee on the Rights of the Child*, 2017; UNHCR, *Who We Help*, 2017; UN Security Council, *What is the Security Council?*, 2017.

<sup>15</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Child Mainstreaming*, 2017.

<sup>16</sup> UN General Assembly, *The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children: Report of the expert of the Secretary-General, Ms. Graça Machel*, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/157 (A/51/306), 1996.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> UN General Assembly, *The Rights of the Child (A/RES/51/77)*, 1997.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>20</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Our Work*, 2017. <sup>21</sup> UNICEF, *Paris Conference "Free Children from War"*, 2007.

<sup>22</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Paris Principles*, 2017. <sup>23</sup> UNICEF, *Cape Town Principles and Best Practices*, 1997.

<sup>24</sup> Security Council Report, UN Documents for Children and Armed Conflict, 2017; UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Our Work*, 2017.

<sup>25</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *The Six Grave Violations*, 2017.

aid to children.<sup>26</sup> The SC has encouraged Member States to pursue non-judicial measures focusing on rehabilitation and reintegration instead of detention and prosecution.<sup>27</sup>

In 2001, the SC adopted resolution 1379, requesting the Secretary-General to attach an annex to their annual report on children and armed conflict naming parties to conflict that recruit and use children.<sup>28</sup> Resolutions 1882 of 1998, 1998 of 2011, and 2225 of 2015 progressively asked the Secretary-General to include parties that kill and maim children, commit sexual violence, attack schools and hospitals, or abduct children as triggers for inclusion in the annexes.<sup>29</sup> The denial of humanitarian aid is the only grave violation not to prompt inclusion in the annexes.<sup>30</sup> In the 2016 report, 59 parties in 14 separate countries were listed.<sup>31</sup> To be removed from the annexes, a party must submit and implement an action plan designed to end the violations against children that they have been listed for.<sup>32</sup>

In 2004, the SC adopted resolution 1539, proposing a monitoring and reporting mechanism that utilizes expertise from within the UN system, external states, regional organizations, NGOs, and civil society to provide information on violations against children and on the recruitment and use of child soldiers.<sup>33</sup> Resolution 1612 of 2005 formally requested the Secretary-General to implement this mechanism in order to gather accurate, timely, and objective data, and also established the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.<sup>34</sup> The Working Group is comprised of all 15 Member States of the Security Council and has the mandate to review the monitoring and reporting apparatus, evaluate the development and implementation of country-specific action plans, make recommendations to the SC on issues such as the protection of children within the mandates of peacekeeping missions, and to address requests to other UN bodies for action within their particular mandates.<sup>35</sup> The Working Group regularly receives updates from UNICEF and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, issues annual reports on its activities to the Security Council, and publishes conclusions and press releases regarding country specific situations contained in reports by the Secretary-General.<sup>36</sup> An annex to a letter published by the Chairman of the Working Group contains broad recommendations for fulfilling the Working Group's mandate that can then be applied to specific circumstances, including actions it may undertake within the UN system and external political steps it can take.<sup>37</sup>

### *Peacekeeping Operations*

Peacekeeping missions are often the largest UN-affiliated actor on the ground in conflict areas and the protection of children in conflict has been included in the mandates of peacekeeping operations since 2001.<sup>38</sup> The Department of Peacekeeping Operations trains its personnel on how to protect children and is focused on mainstreaming the protection of children within its operations.<sup>39</sup> Child Protection Advisors report violations against children to the Special Representative, collect and verify data for the Secretary General's annual report, and help develop action plans with armed groups for the release of children.<sup>40</sup> UN peacekeeping forces have, in particular cases, been responsible for violations against children, with sexual abuse recently occurring in the Central African Republic.<sup>41</sup> The Secretary-General and the SC have responded by demanding accountability from the perpetrators.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>26</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict (S/RES/1261 (1999)), 1999.

<sup>27</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict, (S/RES/2225 (2015)), 2015.

<sup>28</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict (S/RES/1379 (2001)), 2001.

<sup>29</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Identifying Parties to Conflict who Commit Grave Violations Against Children*, 2017.

<sup>30</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Denial of Humanitarian Access*, 2017.

<sup>31</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Identifying Parties to Conflict who Commit Grave Violations Against Children*, 2017.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>33</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict, (S/RES/1539 (2004)), 2004.

<sup>34</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict, (S/RES/1612 (2005)), 2005.

<sup>35</sup> UN Security Council, Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, 2017.

<sup>36</sup> UN Security Council, Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, 2017.

<sup>37</sup> UN Security Council, Letter dated 8 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/AC.51/2007/2), 2007.

<sup>38</sup> UN Peacekeeping, Children in Conflict, 2017; UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Mainstreaming, 2017.

<sup>39</sup> UN DPKO, Mainstreaming the protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict within UN Peacekeeping Operations, 2009, p. 4.

<sup>40</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Mainstreaming, 2017. <sup>41</sup> Laville, UN Inquiry into CAR abuse claims identifies 41 troops as suspects, *The Guardian*, 2016.

<sup>42</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict: Report of the Secretary General (S/2016/360), 2016, p. 3.

## Emerging Challenges

### *Challenges in Enforcement*

Parties listed in the annexes of Secretary-General's annual report are requested by the Security Council to develop action plans - written commitments between these parties and the UN - including specific steps leading to compliance with international law and the protection of children.<sup>43</sup> As of 2017, 26 parties listed in the annexes of the Secretary-General's reports have signed 27 action plans, including 11 government-affiliated forces and 15 non-State armed groups, though only nine parties have fully complied and been delisted from the annexes.<sup>44</sup> The annexes of the report are a useful tool, but as of the 2016 report, 37 separate parties to conflict had been named in the annexes for at least five years and are considered persistent perpetrators, with most failing to conclude an action plan.<sup>45</sup>

Unlike the GA, which does not possess enforcement power, the SC may decide to use enforcement options that do not include armed force in order to uphold international peace and security under Article 41 of the *Charter of the United Nations*.<sup>46</sup> The SC establishes sanction regimes through the adoption of a resolution establishing a sanctions committee, which may target parties economically, diplomatically, or through travel restrictions.<sup>47</sup> The SC has gradually developed a readiness to do so on this topic, beginning with resolution 1539 of 2004, which expressed its willingness to consider targeted and graduated measures.<sup>48</sup> Sanctions can only be adopted against parties where an existing sanctions committee is in place and where the committee is mandated to take action when violations against children have occurred; as a result, asset freezes and travel bans have only been instituted against two individuals in Côte d'Ivoire and against 14 individuals in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>49</sup> The Machel Study 10-Year Strategic Review recommends that the SC establish mechanisms that would enable sanctions to be placed against those that violate the rights of children, including the establishment of a sanctions committee for children and armed conflict.<sup>50</sup>

### *The Changing Nature of Conflict*

The Machel Study 10-Year Strategic Review lauded the progress made in protecting children, but also highlighted new priorities and responses that are now necessary due to the changing nature and tactics of armed conflict.<sup>51</sup> The absence of clear battlefields, the diversification of parties to conflict, and the targeting of traditional havens for children have all contributed to new threats faced by children in conflict, while the proliferation of small arms, light weapons, and ammunition has perpetuated the use of children as soldiers and allowed conflicts to become intractable.<sup>52</sup> Millions of children have been displaced by armed conflict and many have been separated from their families and caregivers; these children are often housed in camps, are at a high risk for violations, and parties to conflict often take advantage of the vulnerability of displaced populations to recruit, abduct, and violate the rights of children.<sup>53</sup> In his 2016 report, the Secretary-General encouraged the SC to focus on the prevention of displacement of children, the rights of children that have been displaced, and the obligations of states to child refugees.<sup>54</sup>

The increase in the number of discrete actors, especially non-State armed groups, involved in armed conflicts is a growing concern and poses challenges for monitoring and reporting, while also causing difficulties in the UN's attempts to engage with parties in a conflict to prevent child casualties.<sup>55</sup> Bringing these groups into compliance with international standards is hampered by a lack of accountability, limited routes for engagement, and the varying political and social contexts in which these groups exist.<sup>56</sup> Abductions are increasingly used by armed groups as a means to recruit and exploit children for their own ends; children are often directly targeted to maximize the impact of an attack or forced to be

<sup>43</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Action Plans with Armed Forces and Armed Groups, 2017.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid*, 2017.

<sup>45</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict: Report of the Secretary General (S/2016/360), 2016, p. 37-40. <sup>46</sup> UN Security Council, Sanctions, 2017.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid.

<sup>48</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict, (S/RES/1539 (2004)), 2004.

<sup>49</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Sanctions, 2017.

<sup>50</sup> UNICEF, Machel Study 10-Year Strategic Review: Children and Conflict in a Changing World, 2009, p. 65.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid., p. 8.

<sup>52</sup> UN Office for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Changing Nature of Conflict, 2017; UNICEF, Machel Study 10-Year Strategic Review: Children and Conflict in a Changing World, 2009, p. 8.

<sup>53</sup> UN Security Council, Children and Armed Conflict: Report of the Secretary General (S/2016/360), 2016, pp. 4-5. <sup>54</sup> Ibid., p. 35.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid., p. 2.

<sup>56</sup> Child Soldiers International, Non-state armed groups, 2017.

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perpetrators of terrorist attacks such as suicide bombings.<sup>57</sup> Terrorism and counterterrorism measures can also restrict children's freedoms and their access to basic services like medical care or education.<sup>58</sup> The 2016 Report of the Secretary-General noted that both armed groups and government forces in numerous conflict areas are increasingly targeting schools and hospitals, and non-State armed groups in particular target girls' access to education.<sup>59</sup> Educational infrastructure, teachers, and schoolchildren are increasingly being deliberately targeted and schools are being illegally used as bases for military operations in contravention of international law.<sup>60</sup>

#### *Recruitment, Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration*

Children recruited, coerced, or forced into armed conflict risk death and severe injury. The forced removal from their families stunts their development, and may subject the children to violence, including gender-based violence.<sup>61</sup> The consequences of conflict on children are not always easily defined or self-evident; even if a child is not exploited or abused in a conflict, the fabric of their society can be destroyed in the aftermath and children living in countries affected by conflict are more likely to be poor malnourished, or not attending school.<sup>62</sup> Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) is a process that aims to contribute to the security and stability of postconflict regions by targeting former child combatants so that they can re-enter society.<sup>63</sup> Facilitating the psychosocial recovery of children and protecting their mental health is a necessary component of a post-conflict scenario, though there are gaps in coverage and a lack of consensus at the country level.<sup>64</sup> DDR programs utilizing innovative and context-specific approaches are beginning to fill these gaps, but more work is necessary, particularly with expanding protections and opportunities to girls that may be indirect victims of conflict and not eligible for DDR programs.<sup>65</sup> The effective reintegration of children associated with armed groups is an international priority, but children, once repatriated by governments, are often viewed as security threats instead of victims because of their former opposition, coerced or not, and can be detained or prosecuted for their alleged relationships with armed groups.<sup>66</sup>

#### **Conclusion**

While there has been concrete action taken by the UN, particularly the SC, in dealing with children and armed conflict, there is much that still needs to be done. All relevant UN bodies should continue to take specific actions to ensure mainstreaming of children and armed conflict and should continue to build on their prior work. The changing nature of conflict, the difficulties in reintegrating child victims, the gaps in reporting and response mechanisms, and the challenges inherent in enforcing international law all must be addressed. The SC is uniquely positioned to take a leading role on the topic and expand the scope of its activities with children and armed conflict.

#### **Further Research**

Is enough currently being done to protect children in peacekeeping operations? How can compliance be ensured with party-specific action plans? Are there additional violations against children that should be considered? What direct action can be taken against those parties that violate the rights of children? Are sanction regimes a viable avenue for action? How can existing instruments be modified for use with the changing nature of conflict?

#### **Also**

When children are in conflict zones, one thing that has been seen in media is the faces of young children being used as child soldiers. This problem arose when organizations needed more soldiers so these violent groups would raid villages and towns to capture many children and train them to become child soldiers. Children were the perfect candidates to become soldiers for these groups as they are still learning and will follow orders. Since 1999 when the Security Council has addressed the issue of violations of children's rights there has been an exponential number of children who are raped, beaten, tortured, used as soldiers, and stripped from their essential rights as children. The right to an education is the first thing that is stripped away from a child when they are in conflict zones. "South Sudan is home of the highest proportion of out of school children with over 51% of primary and secondary children not accessing an education" (UNICEF 2016). When a huge proportion of children are not allowed to get an education at a young age this does not allow for the country to develop once these children become producers and consumers of their respective societies. This in turn halts a country's progress to develop due to violence and lower numbers of a producing group to help the society grow.

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**Current Situation:**

A report by UNICEF published in the beginning of this year has stated that 1 in 9 children or about 250 million children worldwide live in conflict zones (UNICEF 2016). This a staggering number of children who have done nothing to deserve the effects brought with violence such as the hindrance of education. UNICEF is "asking donors for \$2.8 billion dollars to provide education and humanitarian aid to 43 million of children at greatest risk" (Deutsche Welle 2016). These donations would help the children that are at most risk especially in areas of the Middle East and Africa where conflicts are still occurring. A big chunk of this funding would be going to aid the conflict raged Syria and help millions of Syrian refugees and refugees in neighboring countries. While these conflicts do impede much aid to come in, UNICEF plans to appropriate its funds by different sectors such as nutrition, health, wash, child protection, education and cash assistance. Working by every side of this issue will recover the children of today and the future of our world. UNICEF representative Sikander Khan stated that "if a child doesn't go to school for 5 years, you have lost a generation". UNICEF and partnering organizations are still combating the issue of finding ways to protect children in conflict zones. Solutions to make sure we can protect children in conflict zones involve being able to provide food, water, safe shelters, and health care. Any additional necessities can be addressed to partnering organizations or countries who seek to provide resources for the less fortunate children and families. The hardest part of solving this issue is being able to restart the lives of these children who had to witness the violence brought because of war. However by restarting the educational systems in these areas, children will be able to look forward to do something that will make them the better future for their community. Adding checks to countries on how they are doing with children will create a sense of accountability and will enforce the notion that children are of upmost priority.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What else can UNICEF do to reestablish the rights of children in conflict zones?
2. For countries having conflict zones, what will your country do to protect children during and after war?
3. What can your country do to protect children from conflict zones?

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