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## Newsletter on Children's rights – MENA

*April 2017*

Submitted by: International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR)

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## 1. Global Development on Children and Human's Rights

### **[Nouvelles] L'Unicef et le HCR se félicitent de la directive de l'UE visant à protéger les enfants migrants et réfugiés**

12 avril 2017 - Le Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (Unicef) et le Haut-Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés (HCR) se sont félicités mercredi de la nouvelle directive politique de la Commission européenne concernant la protection des enfants migrants et réfugiés.

[Article complet](#) (Centre d'actualités de l'ONU)

### **[Nouvelles] L'ONU nomme Malala Yousafzai Messagère de la paix de l'ONU sur l'éducation des filles**

10 avril 2017 - La jeune Pakistanaise Malala Yousafzai, militante des droits des femmes et Prix Nobel de la paix, a été nommée lundi Messagère de la paix de l'ONU sur la question de l'éducation des filles.

[Article complet](#) (Centre d'actualités de l'ONU)

### **[News] US cut to United Nations Population Fund 'devastating' for vulnerable**

April 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 - The US has been warned its decision to withdraw its support from the United Nations Population Fund will be a disaster for the world's most vulnerable families.

[Full article](#) (BBC)

### **[News] 25 million children out of school in conflict zones**

April 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 - More than 25 million children between 6 and 15 years old, or 22 per cent of children in that age group, are missing out on school in conflict zones across 22 countries, UNICEF said today.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)



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## **[Nouvelles] Services de médias dans l'UE: des règles identiques sur la télévision et internet pour mieux protéger les enfants**

25 avril 2017 - Les enfants devraient bénéficier de la même protection, qu'ils regardent la télévision, une vidéo partagée sur le web ou un film diffusé sur internet, ont déclaré les députés mardi.

[Article complet](#) (Parlement européen)

## **[News] Gordon Brown: Global education is 'the civil rights struggle of our time'**

April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017 - Ensuring every child has access to education is “the civil rights struggle of our time,” according to former United Kingdom Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

[Full article](#) (DEVEX)

## **[News] Global recession and austerity hit children in high-income countries**

April 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Nearly ten years after the first financial shock waves rippled through the world economy, generating a global recession, the track record of high income countries in protecting children from its worst effects, is mixed.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)

## **[Nouvelles] Pédopornographie sur WhatsApp: un réseau international démantelé**

18 avril 2017 - Ces personnes arrêtées par Europol et Interpol sont soupçonnées d'appartenir à un large réseau qui communiquait des contenus pédopornographiques sur WhatsApp. Les pédophiles présumés étaient implantés dans plusieurs pays, dont l'Allemagne, l'Italie, le Portugal, l'Espagne, l'Argentine, le Mexique, la Colombie, ou encore le Pérou.

[Article complet](#) (L'Express)



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## **[News] New series of research methods briefs to strengthen evidence on adolescence**

April 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 - The world is home to 1.2 billion adolescents: the largest cohort of this age-group in history. Adolescence is a critical period of cognitive, emotional, physical and sexual development with consequences that stretch far into adulthood.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)

## **[News] Unicef Call for papers on social protection in contexts of fragility and forced displacement**

April 7<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Humanitarian challenges of protracted fragility and conflict-related crises, and the recent unprecedented migration and refugee movement around the globe, underscore the need to break down the barriers between humanitarian and development work.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)

## **[News] Child online rights and privacy in focus at major conference in Brussels**

April 5<sup>th</sup> 2017 - A major conference on digital rights in Brussels has attracted over 1,500 people from 500 organisations including members of government, NGOs, policy makers, development practitioners and researchers.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)

## **[News] Save The Children and Unicef discuss 'understanding pathways' to prevent violence**

April 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 - As the first stage of the Multi-Country Study of the Drivers of Violence Affecting Children draws to a close an important consultation has been organized by UNICEF Innocenti and Save the Children to review current findings and chart the next stage of the study.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)



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## **[Nouvelles] De la formation supplémentaire sur les agressions sexuelles pour les juges ontariens?**

10 avril 2017 - La juge en chef de la Cour de justice de l'Ontario réfléchit à ce qui pourrait être fait pour parfaire la formation des juges sur la question des agressions sexuelles, selon le procureur général Yasir Naqvi.

[Article complet](#) (Radio Canada)

## **[News] SDG Advocates Address Children's Rights, PPPs**

April 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 - UN Secretary-General António Guterres appointed Nana Akufo-Addo, President of Ghana, to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Advocates Group, replacing former Ghanaian president John Mahama. Akufo-Addo will serve as co-chair alongside Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway, until the end of 2018.

[Full article](#) (SDG knowledge hub)

## **[News] Child refugees in Europe 'forced to sell bodies' to pay smugglers**

April 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Governments urged to end 'most heinous human rights violation' as report finds widespread sexual exploitation of migrant children in Greece.

[Full article](#) (The Guardian)

## **[Nouvelles] Quand lutter contre la maltraitance des enfants en institution passe par la bientraitance des professionnels**

21 avril 2017 - Dans les milieux professionnels, la maltraitance institutionnelle semble parfois difficile à aborder. Toutefois, lorsqu'un cas de violence avérée à l'encontre d'enfants pris en charge institutionnellement éclate au grand jour, les réactions sont vives et ne se font pas attendre.

[Article complet](#) (Institut international des droits de l'enfant)



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## [Briefing] Financing Learning for Every Last Child

April 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Education is a human right and a critical stepping stone for development and prosperity for individuals and for society. World leaders have promised to ensure every girl and boy will learn from a quality education. This is a bold and important promise. Without it, we will not even come close eradicating poverty or reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Without a step change in financing education now, we will fail the next generation of children.

[Full article](#) (Save the Children)

## 2. Conferences, Courses and Events

### Formation – IBCR : Protection internationale et comparée des droits de l'enfant

Le cours d'été sur la protection internationale et comparée des droits de l'enfant vise à exposer les étudiant(e)s à différentes dimensions du travail de protection des droits de l'enfant – juridique, politique, sécuritaire, administrative – et à diverses problématiques auxquelles les intervenants sur le terrain sont confrontés (exploitation sexuelle des enfants, détention des mineurs, travail des enfants, enfants associés aux forces et aux groupes armés, santé mentale des enfants, éducation des filles, etc.).

**Location:** Université du Québec à Montréal - Canada

**Date:** 3, 10, 17, 24 et 31 mai, 7 et 14 juin 2017

[For more information](#) (Bureau international des droits des enfants)

### Event – Joint ACPF & Graça Machel Trust launch and advocacy event: The African Report on Child Wellbeing 2016

The African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) issued its biennially flagship report series, the African Report on Child Wellbeing, entitled "Getting It Right: Bridging the gap between policy and practice" and was launched in Dakar in December 2016. The African Report on Child Wellbeing 2016 was published in French and English to expand outreach to both Francophone and Anglophone countries. Following the launch of the French version in Dakar, the launching and advocacy event to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, is a collaborative initiative of ACPF and



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Graca Machel Trust intended to serve as a launching pad of report to the English speaking Africa and further publicize its main findings and also a platform for advocacy to promote greater commitment for effective implementation of the rights of children in Africa.

**Location:** Johannesburg- South Africa

**Date:** 12 mai 2017

[For more information](#) (The African Child Information Hub)

### **Training – Children at the heart of human rights**

The International Institute for the Rights of the Child (IDE) and the Centre for Children's Rights Studies (CCR - UNIGE) have the great pleasure to announce the launch of the Summer School 2017 "Children at the heart of human rights". This training in English will take place at the University of Geneva from 6 June to 16 June, 2017.

**Location:** University of Geneva – Switzerland

**Date:** June 6<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> 2017

**Registration deadline:** May 1<sup>st</sup> 2017

[For more information](#) (Geneva Summer School)

### **Conference – Access to Justice for Children Conference: Child Rights in Action**

This is an innovative, multi-disciplinary Conference (an international award winner in 2015) that will share the latest law, knowledge and practice tips to help you better support children affected by justice and administrative decision-making.

**Location:** Vancouver - Canada

**Date:** May 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2017

[For more information](#) (The Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia)





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## Conference – 6th Conference on Child Rights & Sight

Distressed Children and Infants (DCI) holds its International Conference on Child Rights & Sight to raise awareness on child rights, including child labor and diseases that affect vision. The event gathers world-class speakers and leaders to address these pressing issues and discuss creative solutions.

**Location:** Yale University – New Haven -USA

**Date:** October 14<sup>th</sup> 2017

[For more information](#) (Distressed Children and Infants)

## Appel de propositions – 8e Conférence internationale sur l'éducation aux droits humains à Montréal, Canada

La conférence internationale sur l'éducation aux droits humains (CIEDH) est le forum des praticiens, décideurs et universitaires pour explorer les solutions aux défis mondiaux par l'éducation. Cette conférence de 3,5 jours rassemblera 300 participants du monde entier pour des ateliers pratiques et des sessions de travail présentant les derniers outils, le savoir et les meilleurs pratiques en matière d'éducation aux droits humains.

**Emplacement:** Montréal - Canada

**Date:** 30 novembre – 3 décembre 2017

[For more information](#) (Equitas)

## 3. Subregional and Country Updates

### Afghanistan – Will Afghanistan follow through on promise to end child marriage?

April 20<sup>th</sup> 2017 – The Afghan government launched a National Action Plan this week to end child marriage, an important initiative in a country where about a third of girls marry before age 18. Child marriage is deeply harmful, leaving girls at increased risk of leaving school, health consequences due to early pregnancy, poverty, and domestic violence.

[Full article](#) (HRW)



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## **Afghanistan – Netherland taking “Unacceptable risks” in deporting families to Afghanistan: child rights organizations**

April 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 - The Netherlands should immediately stop deporting asylum seeker families with young children to Afghanistan, according to UNICEF and Defense for Children in their annual report. According to the organizations, Afghanistan is becoming more dangerous by the day and the Netherlands is taking unacceptable risks by sending children back there, AD reports.

[Full article](#) (NL Times)

## **Israel – Israel arrest 300 Palestinian children since start of 2017**

April 7<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Israeli occupation forces have arrested around 300 children since the start of this year, most of them from occupied Jerusalem, the Palestinian Prisoner’s Club (PPC) said Tuesday.

[Full article](#) (MEMO)

## **Lebanon – Pass Bill to End Child Marriage**

April 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 – Lebanon’s parliament should quickly pass legislation to end child marriage in the country, Human Rights Watch said today.

[Full article](#) (Human Rights Watch)

## **Palestine – Palestinian education ministry suspends contact with the UNWRA over amendments to the Palestinian curriculum**

April 14<sup>th</sup> 2017 – The Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education is suspending contact with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) it announced, Thursday. The move came in protest at UNRWA’s intention to amend the Palestinian curriculum in West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza Strip schools.

[Full article](#) (MEMO)



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## **Saudi Arabia – UN must list Saudi Arabia-led coalition for violating child rights in Yemen – report**

April 20<sup>th</sup> 2017 – A military coalition led by Saudi Arabia in Yemen must be named in the UN's annual list of perpetrators of child rights violations for carrying out repeated attacks on medical facilities and personnel, a new report says today.

[Full article](#) (Save the Children)

## **Tunisia – Tunisia Develops Policies to fight child labor**

April 19<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Tunisia has launched a project dubbed “All Against Child Labor in Tunisia” as part of the government's efforts to curb child labor in the North African country. The project, which was launched Monday in Hammamet, is projected to run for three years and focuses on providing practical plans for the National Program to Combat Child Labor.

[Full article](#) (Face2Face Africa)

## **Turkey – Turkey marks National Sovereignty and Children's Day**

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 - The April 23 celebrations focus on children after Atatürk, the first speaker of the parliament, dedicated the day to children as the nation's future.

[Full article](#) (MEMO)

## **Yemen – Nationwide immunization campaign protects 5 million children against polio in war-torn Yemen**

April 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 – In an effort to keep Yemen polio-free, nearly 5 million children under the age of five have been vaccinated in a nationwide campaign covering all governorates in the country. The campaign was supported by a partnership between the World Bank, UNICEF and WHO launched in February 2017.

[Full article](#) (UNICEF)



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## Yemen – Race against time to save millions of lives in Yemen

April 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 – The continuing violence in Yemen is fuelling one of the worst hunger crises in the world, with nearly 7 million people not knowing where their next meal will come from and in desperate need of food assistance. Nearly 2.2 million children are malnourished, including half a million who are severely malnourished and at imminent risk of death if they do not receive urgent care and specialized treatment.

[Full article](#) (Unicef)