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المكتب الدولي لحقوق الطفل

Newsletter on Children's rights – Children and Armed Conflicts

June 2017

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

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1. Global Development on Children and Human's Rights

[News] UNICEF urges Governments to close data gaps on vulnerable children in residential care

1st of June 2017-At least 2.7 million children live in residential care worldwide and face increased risk of violence, abuse and long-term damage to their cognitive, social and emotional development, a United Nations study says, warning that “this is just tip of the iceberg.”

[Full Article](#) (UN News Center)

[Nouvelles] Le SPVM poursuit son opération contre l'exploitation sexuelle durant la F1

9 juin 2017-Le Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM) a déjà procédé à 14 arrestations pour de la sollicitation de services sexuels de mineurs depuis une semaine, et poursuit ses opérations lors de ce week-end du Grand Prix de formule 1.

[Article complet](#) (Radio-Canada)

[Nouvelles] Violence aux femmes: l'UE a signé la convention du Conseil de l'Europe

13 juin 2017 – L'Union européenne a signé mardi à Strasbourg la convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur la prévention et la lutte contre la violence faite aux femmes et la violence domestique.



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[Article complet](#) (L'Orient- le Jour)

[News] Children on the Move: Refugees and experts reassess the future of young migrants

13th of June 2017-At the Children on the Move global conference in Berlin, NGO representatives and youth delegates called for the abolition of child detention. In Germany, quick access to education was found to be the biggest hindrance.

[Full Article](#) (DW Made for Minds)

[News] Students Should Be Free From Religious Coercion

June 13, 2017 – The Canadian Civil Liberties Association welcomes the acknowledgement by two Catholic educational bodies that certain students in Catholic schools have the right to opt out of religious programs, courses and activities, free from religious or creed-based pressure. In Public Interest Remedies agreed to as a term of settlement, the Ontario Catholic School Trustee Association and Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District Board have agreed to acknowledge that students who meet the requirements for a religious exemption under Ontario's *Education Act* have the right to opt out of religious prayers and programming, based on their right to be free from discrimination on the ground of creed.

[Full article](#) (Canadian civil liberties association- CCLA)

[News] «Sexual violence is a threat to every individual's right to a life of dignity» – UN chief

June 19, 2017 – Marking the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres today paid tribute to the women, girls, men and boys who have suffered the atrocity of sexual violence in conflict, and reaffirmed “our global commitment to eliminate this scourge.”

[Full article](#) (UN News Centre)



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[Nouvelles] Droits de l'Homme- Journée internationale pour l'élimination des violences sexuelles dans les conflits

19 juin 2017 – À l'occasion de la journée internationale pour l'élimination des violences sexuelles dans les conflits, la France rappelle son engagement à lutter contre ce fléau.

[Article complet](#) (France diplomatie)

[Nouvelles] Droits de l'Homme- Journée mondiale des réfugiés

20 juin 2017 – À l'occasion de la Journée mondiale des réfugiés, la France réaffirme son engagement aux côtés des millions de personnes qui, dans le monde entier, sont contraintes à l'exil, ainsi que des pays et organisations qui leur viennent en aide.

[Article complet](#) (France diplomatie)

[News] «Africa's largest refugee crisis now a 'children's crisis» – UNICEF

June 20, 2017 – Raising alarm over the plight of refugees, in particular the situation of women and children, arriving in Uganda, Ethiopia and Kenya having fled violence and instability in South Sudan, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called on governments to do more to ensure that the most vulnerable are protected.

[Full article](#) (UN News Centre)

[Nouvelles] Médecins du monde soigne des enfants canadiens sans assurance maladie

20 juin 2017– « C'est comme des citoyens canadiens, mais de seconde zone. Ils sont nés ici, mais c'est la Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) qui tranche », explique l'infirmière Pénélope Boudreault de la clinique de Médecins du monde. Ces enfants, bien que Canadiens, sont jugés en vertu du statut de leurs parents, selon la Loi sur l'assurance maladie.

[Article complet](#) (Radio-Canada)



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[Nouvelles] Le chef de l'ONU demande à tous ceux qui mènent des opérations militaires en Syrie de protéger les civils

21 juin 2017 – Le Secrétaire général de l'ONU, António Guterres, s'est déclaré mercredi profondément alarmé par l'ampleur des souffrances humaines subies en Syrie et a demandé à tous ceux qui mènent des opérations militaires dans ce pays de protéger les civils.

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

[News] Police issue child safety warning over Snapchat maps update that reveals users' locations

23rd of June 2017—Parents have been warned to turn off "Snap Maps" on their children's phones after Snapchat, which is wildly popular among teenagers, introduced the location-sharing mode this week.

[Full Article](#) (The Telegraph)

[News] Human Rights Council Adopts 2017 Resolution To End Child Marriage In Humanitarian Settings

23rd of June—On Thursday 22 June, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution recognising the need to address child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian contexts. The resolution, led by The Netherlands and Sierra Leone, was adopted without a vote and co-sponsored by over 80 countries.

[Full Article](#) (Girls not Brides)



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[Nouvelles] Mariées de force

25 juin 2017- Sur les clichés, elles ont le regard fuyant, triste, vide ou embué de larmes... Quand elles posent auprès de ces époux qu'elles n'ont pas choisis, jamais elles ne sourient. Les pays occidentaux ne sont pas épargnés. En Europe de l'Est, 11 % des filles sont mariées avant l'âge de 18 ans. Selon le Pew Research Center, aux États-Unis, 57 800 jeunes de 15 à 17 ans se sont unis en 2014.

[Article complet](#) (La Presse+)

2. Conferences, Courses and Events

Course – Frontiers of Children's Rights

Frontiers of Children's Rights provides a comprehensive children's rights course, which takes a close look at contemporary children's rights issues from a legal perspective accompanied by reflections from other academic disciplines, legal systems, local perceptions and realities. Leading academic and professional experts in the field of children's rights, international law and other relevant disciplines offer inspiring and interactive lectures, seminars and excursions in and around Leiden Law School. The classes will be taught in the beautiful premises of the renovated Leiden Observatory. On Friday the participants will visit the International Criminal Court in The Hague. Classes will be taught at the Campus The Hague premises that day. The week will be concluded with a dinner party at the The Hague beach.

Location: Leiden and The Hague, Netherlands

Date: July 3rd to 7th 2017

[For more information](#) (Frontiers of Children's Rights)

Conference – CPI's Infant Mental Health Collaborative Luncheon #3

The California Psychological Institute's (CPI) quarterly IMH Collaborative Luncheon is for those working with infants, young children, and their families in the Central Valley. It is our goal to bring



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together providers that service this 0-5years of age population to network and build professional connections.

During the luncheon we also take a few minutes to highlight a program/agency to speak to us about thier wonderful services. This meeting we will be hearing from La Leche League of Fresno!

Location: California Psychological Institute, Fresno, CA, USA

Date: July 6th 2017

[For more information](#) (California Psychological Institute)

Conference – 29th Annual Crimes against Children Conference

Internationally recognized, the Crimes against Children Conference is the premier conference of its kind providing practical and interactive instruction to those fighting crimes against children and helping children heal. There were more than 4,200 professionals from around the world in 2016!

The conference is presented annually by the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center and the Dallas Police Department. The conference is conducted to provide training to those employed by government or non-profit agencies in the fields of law enforcement, child protective services, social work, children's advocacy, therapy, and medicine who work directly with child victims of crime.

Location: Sheraton Hotel, Dallas, TX, USA

Date: August 7th to 10th 2017

[For more information](#) (Crimes against Children Conference)

Conference – 2017 National Child Welfare, Juvenile & Family Law Conference

The top leaders in child welfare, juvenile justice, and family law will gather together for our National Child Welfare, Juvenile, and Family Law Conference, our premier national training. Over the course of several days, leading experts will expand your understanding of child law and provide you with practical tools to help protect the rights of the children, youth, and families you serve. Meet, connect with, and learn from attorneys, judges, and other multidisciplinary advocates.



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Location: The Roosevelt New Orleans

Date: August 10th to 12th 2017

[For more information](#) (National Association of Counsel for Children)

Conference – Indigenous Child Welfare Research Group

A monthly discussion group of graduate students, faculty and researchers as well as professionals from university affiliated organizations. Aimed at building empirical knowledge on topics related to Indigenous child welfare and to facilitate knowledge translation of Indigenous child welfare research.

Location: Centre for Research on Children and Families (CRCF), Montreal, QC

Date: First Thursday of every month

[For more information](#) (McGill Centre of Research for Children and Families)

Formation – Responsable De Projets Protection De L'enfance En Situation D'urgence | Parcours Court Afrique

Les situations d'urgence, conflits armés ou catastrophes naturelles, exposent les enfants à de graves risques : séparation d'avec leur famille, association avec les forces et groupes armés, détresse sociale et psychologique, risques de blessures et de violences sexuelles. Ces contextes accentuent des problèmes existants : mariage forcé, travail des enfants, violence à l'école et dans la famille.

Chaque année, ce sont 2000 personnes qui franchissent les portes de l'Institut Bioforce pour se former aux métiers et compétences de la solidarité internationale. De 3 mois pour les profils experts à 3 ans pour les plus jeunes, accessibles sur sélection et concours ou Validation des Acquis de l'Expérience, les formations métiers de l'Institut Bioforce permettent d'acquérir les compétences professionnelles et le savoir-être indispensables pour exercer des responsabilités dans l'humanitaire et le développement.

Emplacement: Dakar, Sénégal

Date: 19 Septembre au 22 décembre 2017

[Pour plus d'information](#) (Institut Bioforce)



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Congress– Child Dignity in the Digital World

‘Child Dignity in the Digital World’ is the first world congress of its kind that brings together key stakeholders and international leaders from all relevant areas.

This pioneering congress hosted by the Centre for Child Protection at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome sets a milestone in the international fight against digital sexual child abuse.

The invitation-only congress brings together distinguished academic experts, business leaders, leaders of civil society, high-level politicians and religious representatives from across the globe. This provides a historic opportunity to set the global agenda for the fight against online sexual child abuse and for child protection in the digital world.

Location: Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome

Date: October 3rd to 7th, 2017

[For more information](#) (Centre for Child Protection and Pontificia Università Gregoriana)

Conference – Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse National Conference 2017

Now in its sixth year, this national conference, hosted by Lancashire Constabulary, will have a focus on the prevention of such crimes. Key to any prevention strategy is the need for continued awareness raising and for help and protection to be the best it can possibly be. Enhancing children’s and young people’s resilience and strengthening the protective factors around them are critical strands of prevention. As a society we all have a responsibility to protect those children and young people who are vulnerable and we can only be effective through collaborative working and consistency of messages. The conference will provide an opportunity for delegates to hear from key note speakers who will provide details of current trends and research, ground breaking initiatives and examples of good practice.

Location: Hilton Blackpool, Blackpool

Date: November 15th, 2017

[For more information](#) (Lancashire Constabulary)



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Congrès – 8e Congrès québécois sur la maltraitance envers les enfants et les adolescents

Cet évènement scientifique s'adresse à tous les intervenants concernés par la maltraitance envers les enfants et les adolescents, qu'ils soient des domaines de la santé, de la justice, des services de police, des services sociaux, de l'éducation, des centres de la petite enfance ou encore du réseau communautaire.

Emplacement: Centre Mont-Royal, Montréal, Québec, Canada

Date: 23 et 24 octobre 2017

[Pour plus d'information](#) (CHU Sainte Justine)

Colloque – 18e Colloque Annuel de Formation sur les enfants disparus ou exploités (CEDE)

La 18^e édition du CEDE, un grand colloque sur les enfants disparus ou exploités au Canada, organisé par le Centre canadien de protection de l'enfance. Le CEDE offre trois jours de formations données par des experts sur divers sujets, dont la détection et l'investigation des violences faites aux enfants et l'exploitation des enfants par Internet.

Emplacement: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Date: du 15 au 17 mai 2018

[Pour plus d'information](#) (Colloque sur les Enfants Disparus ou Exploités)

Conference – 5th Children's Rights Research Symposium

The Centre for Children's Rights Studies of the University of Geneva is pleased to organise the 5th edition of the Children's Rights Research Symposium (CRRS). The event will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, on the 31st of August and the 1st of September 2017.

In line with the four previous symposia (Liverpool 2013, Cork 2014, Antwerp 2015, and Leiden 2016), the event facilitates a space where doctoral researchers and supervisors from different universities and backgrounds (law, education, sociology, anthropology, psychology, history) come together to share and develop research related to children's rights studies. This 5th edition



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of the symposium will have as theme: Conversations between Children's Rights and Childhood Studies.

Location: Carl Vogt building, University of Geneva

Dates: from August 31th to September 1st 2017

[For more information](#) (Centre for Children's Rights Studies CCRS)



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3. Subregional and Country Updates

Democratic Republic of Congo – Hear the Voices of Congo’s Girl Child Soldiers

June 19th, 2017 - Multiple conflicts simmer across eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, further impoverishing already struggling rural communities, trapping children in a web of violence. The conflicts have destroyed communities and created thousands of child soldiers, serving directly on the front lines, or labouring as porters, cooks, and spies. Up to 40 percent of them are girls.

[Full article](#) (IRIN News)

Democratic Republic of Congo - Urgent Aid Needed for Over 9,000 Children Fleeing Violence in DR Congo to Angola

June 2nd, 2017 - More than 9,000 children who have arrived at two temporary reception centres in a northern Angolan city from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) need urgent support, the United Nations Children's Fund ([UNICEF](#)) said today.

[Full Article](#) (UN News Centre)

East and Southern Africa - Millions of Children Robbed of Childhood

June 14th, 2017 - In East and Southern Africa, poor health, malnutrition, conflict, exclusion from school, extreme violence, child marriage, teen pregnancy or having to be exposed to harmful work are leading factors stealing childhood in East and Southern Africa. Failure to address these childhood enders seriously threatens the realization of SDGs for children.

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



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Iraq - Lives of 100,000 Children on the line as Fighting Continues in West Mosul

June 5th, 2017 - Some 100,000 children remain in extremely dangerous conditions in western sections of Iraq's Mosul city as fighting between Government and terrorist forces continues, the United Nations children's agency today reported, warning that "children's lives are on the line."

[Full Article](#) (UN News Centre)

Myanmar- 849 children and young people released from Tatmadaw since 2012

23 Jun 2017- The Tatmadaw today released 67 children and young people from its rank. Since the signature of a Joint Action Plan (JAP) between the UN Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) on Grave Violations against Children and the Tatmadaw in 2012, 849 children and young people have been released by the army. Today's release is the first discharge of children and young people to take place in 2017, and underlines the importance of protecting children in the context of armed conflict and within the peace process.

[Full Article](#) (Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflicts)

Monde - Violences Sexuelles par des Casques Bleus

12 juin 2017 - Suite à l'émergence en 2014 de nombreux rapports faisant état d'abus sexuels perpétrés par des soldats français à l'encontre d'enfants en RCA, la réponse de l'ONU est restée évasive. L'objectif principal de la hiérarchie a été de punir le représentant ayant transmis l'information au gouvernement français, qui a été suspendu de son poste. La nécessité de protéger les enfants touchés, qui aurait dû être leur priorité, a été ignorée, de même que celle de traduire les responsables en justice.

[Article complet](#) (CRIN)



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Nigeria - Child Protection Referral Pathway

June 9th 2017 - Community members and humanitarian stakeholders from all sectors are strongly encouraged to refer individual cases of children affected by any form of neglect, abuse, violence and exploitation and to flag concerns regarding a situation affecting children to the Child Protection Working Group, led by the State Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and co-led by UNICEF, and its member organizations.

[Full Article](#) (ReliefWeb)

Philippines – Rebel Attack on Philippine School Endangers Students

June 22nd 2017 - On June 21, dozens of armed Islamist rebels stormed and occupied a school on the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, the latest in a slew of attacks that highlight the continued risks children face seeking an education in the volatile region. The rebels, reported by the police to be members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, attacked the school in Pigcawayan town, North Cotabato province and allegedly held several students hostage. The rebels later withdrew and no injuries were reported.

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

République démocratique du Congo - Le droit à la participation au nord Kivu

12 juin 2017 - Dans la province du Nord-Kivu déchirée par des années de conflits armés, la mise en œuvre de la stratégie de participation des enfants a remarquablement contribué à l'émergence d'une jeunesse citoyenne, active et très engagée dans la vie professionnelle et associative. La plupart de ces jeunes sont passés par des mouvements associatifs des enfants comme le Parlement d'enfants, les Clubs d'écoute pour enfants, ou encore les Enfants reporters. Devenus adultes, ces jeunes partagent aujourd'hui leurs expériences et se prononcent sur le bien-fondé de la participation des enfants.



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

Sudan – Children Continue to Bear the Brunt of Multiple Emergencies in Sudan

June 28th 2017 - Over the last few months, Sudan has faced multiple emergencies with the rapid spread of suspected cases of acute watery diarrhea across 12 of its 18 states, a significant influx of South Sudanese refugees, and high rates of malnutrition, especially in the Jebel Marra area of Central Darfur.

[Full Article](#) (UN Children's Fund)

Syria - UNICEF warns 40,000 children in the line of fire in Raqqa

June 9th, 2017 - An estimated 40,000 children are trapped in extremely dangerous conditions in Raqqa as fighting intensifies in and around the Syrian city, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported today, warning that "many are caught in the crossfire."

[Full Article](#) (UN News Centre)

Syria - UNICEF-Backed Projects for Millions of Children in Syria on Verge of Being cut off

June 16th, 2017 - Programmes supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to assist more than nine million children in Syria and neighbouring countries are on the verge of being cut off due to a critical funding shortage. (UN News Centre).

[Full Article](#) (UN News Centre)



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Syria – Syrian Children Fleeing War Alone Find a Welcome in Spain

June 27th 2017 - Taking a broom and pretending to sweep the floor of the classroom, volunteer teacher Bienvenido Ortega takes a playful approach to language instruction. “Where will you be tomorrow?” he asks the students, sitting at desks in a room decorated with world maps. “In class!” they respond. “Will you be studying or will you be playing around?” he asks. “Studying!” comes the reply in a chorus of laughter.

[Full Article](#) (UNHCR)

World - On World Day Against Child Labour, UN Urges Protection for Children in Conflicts and Disasters

June 12th, 2017 - Children in areas affected by conflict and disasters are among the most vulnerable, the United Nations International Labour Organization ([ILO](#)) in warning on the World Day Against Child Labour, making a strong call for an end to the scourge, especially as children trapped in crisis risk falling prey to trafficking or being forced into hazardous work.

[Full Article](#) (UN News Centre)

Yemen - Children Hardest Hits as Cholera Spreads in War-Torn Yemen

June 14th, 2017 - As the outbreak of cholera in Yemen continues to spread at an alarming rate – with terrible impact on children – the United Nations Children's Fund ([UNICEF](#)) has called for immediate support to enable the country's health workers respond or risk even more deaths from the deadly disease (UN News Centre)

[Full Article](#) (UN News Centre)



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