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المكتب الدولي لحقوق الطفل

Newsletter on Children's rights - MENA

August-September 2018

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

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1. Global Development on Children and Human's rights

Allemagne - Des milliers d'enfants agressés dans l'Église catholique allemande

12 Septembre 2018 - Au moins 3677 enfants, en majorité des garçons âgés de moins de 13 ans, ont été victimes de sévices sexuels commis par 1670 clercs, selon ce rapport consulté par les hebdomadaires *Spiegel* et *die Zeit*.

La Presse – [Article complet](#)

Belgique - Migrants. En Belgique, il sera désormais possible d'enfermer des enfants

13 Août 2018 – Depuis le 11 août, des familles avec enfants pourront figurer parmi les immigrés en situation irrégulière que la Belgique détient dans des centres fermés, avant leur expulsion. Et ce malgré les très nombreuses condamnations, dont celle de l'agence de l'ONU pour les réfugiés.

Courrier international - [Article complet](#)

France - Les députés français adoptent une loi problématique sur l'asile et l'immigration

4 Août 2018 - En France, des demandeurs d'asile dorment dans la rue et des procédures défectueuses laissent souvent des enfants migrants non accompagnés livrés à leur sort, sans abri et exclus de la prise en charge dont ils ont besoin. Mais au lieu de relever ces défis ou de corriger les lacunes des lois existantes, les législateurs ont décidé d'adopter une nouvelle loi problématique en matière d'asile et d'immigration, qui pourrait rendre encore plus difficile pour les demandeurs d'asile d'obtenir la protection dont ils ont tant besoin.

Human Rights Watch - [Article complet](#)

France - Rentrée scolaire: de trop nombreux enfants à la porte de l'école

17 septembre 2018 - En France, des milliers d'enfants ne sont pas scolarisés, en raison de facteurs multiples (éloignement des lieux de vie, expulsions à répétition, manque d'infrastructure...). Un collectif interpelle le chef de l'Etat et le ministre de l'Education nationale pour rendre le droit à la scolarisation pleinement effectif.

Libération – [Article complet](#)

France - Les enfants de la diaspora tentés par l'Afrique de leurs parents

21 septembre 2018 - Le continent fait de plus en plus rêver les jeunes diplômés, qui sont aussi très courtisés par les entreprises pour des emplois entre Dakar et Lagos.

Le Monde – [Article complet](#)



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Global - 121 inspiring children nominated for International Children's Peace Prize 2018 (global)

Today Kids Rights proudly announces that 121 nominees are in contention for the International Children's Peace Prize 2018. The prestigious prize is awarded annually to a child who fights courageously to promote the rights of the child.

Kids Rights - [Full article](#)

Grèce - Les enfants demandeurs d'asile privés d'éducation sur les îles grecques

18 juillet 2018 - Des enfants demandeurs d'asile participent à un cours d'art dans un centre géré par des bénévoles, Refugee Education Chios, sur l'île grecque de Chios, le 29 septembre 2016. En juin 2018, seuls quelques centaines d'enfants demandant l'asile étaient inscrits dans publiques des îles de la mer Égée.

Human Rights Watch – [Article complet](#)

India - India's Bihar state takes over children's shelters after finding abuse

September 3, 2018 - Government authorities will take over all shelters in India's northern state of Bihar after an audit found that children were being verbally, physically and sexually abused in homes run by charities, an official said.

Reuters - [Full article](#)

Lebanon - UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Vanessa Redgrave meets children and young people

18 September 2018 - UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador met with Syrian refugee families in Housh al Refka informal settlement in Bekaa Valley including the Hamdou family - a mother and nine children - who discussed with her the struggles they face to support themselves. Othman Hamdou, 12, can't go to school as he must look after his siblings while his mother works as the sole breadwinner for his family.

UNICEF – [Full article](#)

Philippines - More than a million children missing out on education as thousands of schools remain shut following "super" typhoon Mangkhut

17 September 2018 - More than a million students face an extended period out of school, leaving them at risk of falling permanently out of the education system, warns Save the Children as the cleanup after Typhoon Mangkhut gets under way.

Save The Children - [Full article](#)



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Report - U.S Department of labor's 2018 List of goods produced by child labor or forced labor

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) has produced this eighth edition of the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor in accordance with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPPA), as amended.

US Department of Labor – [Full article](#)

Study - Children Have Better Nutrition When They Live Near Forests

August 17, 2018 - Spending time in nature is [known to boost](#) mental and emotional health. Now, a new global [study](#) has found that children in 27 developing nations tend to have more diverse diets and better nutrition when they live near [forests](#). The paper, published Wednesday in *Science Advances*, provides evidence that forest [conservation](#) can be an important tool in promoting better nutrition in developing countries, rather than clear-cutting forests for more farmland.

EcoWatch – [Full article](#)

Territoires Palestiniens Occupés - Des enfants palestiniens font une rentrée précoce pour que leur école ne soit pas démolie

5 septembre 2018 - Si vous avez apprécié vos vacances d'été, ayez une pensée pour les enfants de l'école de Khan al Ahmar, en Cisjordanie occupée. Ils ont raccourci leurs vacances cette année, préférant faire leur rentrée à l'avance pour éviter que l'armée israélienne ne détruise leur école.

Amnistie Internationale – [Article complet](#)

World Humanitarian Day 2018 - Statement by Dr Ahmed Al-Mandhari. WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean

August 19, 2018 - The Eastern Mediterranean Region is witnessing an unprecedented number, magnitude and severity of emergencies, culminating in a major humanitarian tragedy. More than 70 million people need health aid, including 16 million people displaced within their countries, and 32 million people who are food insecure.

WHO – [Full article](#)



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2. Conferences, Courses and Events

Conference – “Education systems and turnout inequality in a cross-national perspective”

Les inégalités en matière d'éducation augmentent, ce qui a des répercussions importantes sur la représentation politique et le choix des politiques. Une compréhension approfondie du lien éducation-participation est donc d'autant plus importante. Cependant, les recherches existantes se caractérisent par une négligence des différences institutionnelles dans les systèmes éducatifs. En combinant la littérature sur la participation avec la recherche sur les systèmes éducatifs en science politique comparée, la sociologie et l'économie, Suzanne Garritzmann soutient que la structure institutionnelle des systèmes éducatifs nationaux modère le lien entre l'éducation et la participation.

Location: Université de Montréal, Salle C-4019, Pavillon Lionel-Groulx

Date: mardi 13 novembre 2018 12:00 - 13:00

[For more information](#) (Département de Science Politique, Chaire de recherche en études électorale)

Consultation– “Sub-regional Consultation for the United Nations Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty”

Esta consulta es organizada por el Gobierno de Uruguay en colaboración con Defensa de Niñas y Niños Internacional – Uruguay (DNI - Uruguay), el Instituto del Niño y Adolescente del Uruguay (INAU), el Instituto Nacional de Inclusión Social Adolescente (INISA), la Institución Nacional de Derechos Humanos y Defensoría del Pueblo de Uruguay, UNICEF, la Oficina del Alto Comisionado para los Derechos Humanos (ACNUDH) y el Instituto Interamericano del Niño, la Niña y Adolescentes (IIN). Se promoverá la participación de representantes de gobiernos, organizaciones internacionales, expertos académicos, INDDHH y de la sociedad civil (incluyendo niños –a confirmar).

Location: Institución Nacional de Derechos Humanos y Defensoría del Pueblo, General Artigas Street 1532, 11600, Montevideo, Uruguay

Date: October 25-26, 2018

[For more information](#) (UN)



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Forum – International Volunteer Cooperation Organisations - IVCO 2018

The IVCO brings together leaders of international volunteering agencies from around the globe in a unique dialogue focusing on the challenges and opportunities currently facing international development volunteering – longstanding, and newly emerging. IVCO allows its participants to learn, exchange ideas and practice innovation, build supportive peer networks, and participate in shaping sectorial policy and advocacy initiatives. The conference's three days of activities – including 3 panels, 19 dialogue sessions and many networking opportunities – aim to offer stakeholders innovative tools to engage in volunteerism more effectively moving forward.

By showcasing volunteer voices from all over the world IVCO 2018 will provide a collaborative space to reflect on the current state of the inclusion of women and youth in volunteering for development and share best practice.

Location: Montréal

Date: October 28-31, 2018

[For more information](#) (Oxfam-Québec, SUCO and Forum)

Forum – “2nd Forum of National Child Rights Protection Systems”

La Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño aprobada en 1989 (en adelante CDN), trajo importantes cambios en la forma en cómo los adultos perciben a los niños, niñas y adolescentes y dice que son “sujetos de derechos”; es decir que tienen el mismo valor que los adultos. Con su aprobación y firma por parte de casi la totalidad de Estados, la CDN se convirtió en el máximo referente a nivel internacional de sus derechos.

Es así, que sus opiniones cuentan y son tenidas en cuenta por los adultos, para mejorar la forma en que viven y se relacionan en las familias, en los lugares de estudio y en la sociedad, guiando el trabajo de los gobiernos para garantizar y promover sus derechos.

El 2° Foro de Sistemas Nacionales de Protección Integral de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes se propone generar un espacio de diálogo e intercambio entre los Estados Soberanos para potencializar dichos Sistemas con enfoque de derechos.

Location: Four Point Hotel – Ejido street 1275, Montevideo-Uruguay

Date: October 22-23, 2018

[For more information](#) (Instituto del Niño y Adolescente del Uruguay)



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Meeting on Child Participation – How can professionals Foster Real and Effective Child Participation?

The International Institute for the Rights of the Child, with the support of the City of Geneva, organizes a colloquium that will present the different experiences by the States, cantons and non-governmental organisations working on the issue of child participation. Special attention will be given to children in vulnerable situations, given that children's rights are the rights enjoyed by all children. During the meeting, children will be given the opportunity to express themselves on how participation in projects has impacted their lives.

Location: Centre international de conférences de Genève (CICG) Rue de Varembe 17, 1202 Geneva

Date: 13 -14 November 2018

[For more information](#) (Institut International des Droits de l'Enfant)

Seminar – “XVI Seminar on National Reality Public Policies on Children: from Discourse to Practice”

Este Seminario ha sido declarado de interés institucional por parte del Consejo Universitario de la Universidad Nacional dada la trascendencia para la niñez y adolescencia en nuestro país por estar relacionado con la política pública hacia esta población. Las políticas públicas son el conjunto de medidas que adopta el estado para atender determinadas necesidades sociales. En el caso de la población menor de edad, si se asume un enfoque de derechos, entonces las políticas públicas deberían convertirse en el conjunto de acciones a través de las cuales el estado busca cumplir los derechos de niños, niñas y adolescentes.

Location: Marco Tulio Salazar Auditorium, Center for Research and Teaching in Education (CIDE). Herediam, Costa Rica

Date: October 2-4, 2018

[For more information](#) (Universidad Nacional)



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3. Subregional and Country Updates – MENA

Egypt- Egypt's first national anti-bullying campaign to protect children from peer-to-peer physical and psychological violence

September 6th, 2018- Under the auspices of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), Egypt's first national campaign calling to end peer-to-peer violence was launched in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MOETE) in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and funded by the European Union (EU).

Bullying is a type of violence intentionally and repeatedly exercised by a child on another child in person or online, ranging from physical harm to verbal and psychological abuse which can lead to exclusion, depression and sometimes suicide. It is a terrible phenomenon against which several actors have decided to join hands.

[UNICEF - Full article](#)

Iran - Terrorists kill Iranian children and soldiers in military parade attack.

September 22nd, 2018- At least 29 people, including children, have been killed in a terrorist attack on a military parade in south-west Iran, responsibility for which has been claimed by both Islamic State and a separatist group. Four assailants disguised as military personnel opened fire from behind the viewing platform during the parade in Ahvaz to mark the anniversary of the eight-year war with Iraq in the 1980s. Members of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards and soldiers from the country's army, as well as civilians, including children, were among the victims, news agencies reported.

[The Guardian - Full article](#)

Liban – Au Liban, c'est l'enseignement qui est aujourd'hui en danger, avertit l'Unrwa

16 Août 2018 – En juillet dernier, l'Unrwa, qui emploie 20 000 personnes au Proche-Orient, annonçait le licenciement de 250 employés à Gaza et en Cisjordanie occupée. Et ce après la forte réduction de l'aide américaine qui a chuté de 360 millions de dollars en 2017 à seulement 60 millions pour l'année 2018. Résultat, le 8 août, des employés de l'agence onusienne occupaient partiellement le QG de l'organisation à Gaza, un mouvement qualifié de « mutinerie » par la direction locale de l'Unrwa

[L'Orient-le-jour - Full article](#)

Morocco - Morocco's unaccompanied minors – today and tomorrow.

September 12, 2018- For several years now, the situation of unaccompanied minors has been revealing a new aspect to migration. The situation of minors is all the more worrying because their legal status is not clearly covered by domestic legislation. This is because the concept of unaccompanied minors is relatively recent. This results in unaccompanied minors being abandoned to their own fate in many countries, living precarious lives, often without having their rights respected. On the other hand, because of their age, they are more vulnerable to the abuse these children might encounter on their migration journey, such as child exploitation, sexual trafficking, and human trafficking networks.



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[Humanium - Full article](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel – UN officials call for children’s rights to be respected

August 1, 2018 – Children’s rights continue to be violated in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and Israel, according to three leading UN officials in the region who on Wednesday called on all parties responsible to take concrete and immediate steps to “allow children to live free of fear and to realize all their rights”.

[UN News - Full article](#)

Syrie – Les Kurdes nient avoir recruté des enfants dans leurs milices

5 Août 2018 – Une coalition kurdo-arabe en Syrie a nié dimanche avoir recruté des enfants dans ses milices, réfutant les accusations de Human Rights Watch et s'engageant à faire rendre des comptes aux éventuels d'abus individuels". L'organisation de défense des droits de l'Homme Human Rights Watch (HRW) avait accusé vendredi la milice kurde des Unités de protection du Peuple (YPG) de recruter des enfants dans les camps de déplacés du nord-est syrien. Cette milice est la colonne vertébrale des Forces démocratiques syriennes (FDS), une coalition kurdo-arabe engagée dans la lutte antijihadistes.

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

Syria – UNICEF fears escalation in violence in Idlib, Syria will leave 350,000 children with no place to go

August 10, 2018 – “I can’t describe to you what’s happening here. We don’t have enough water or food and we live in fear,” says 12-year-old Rand in Idlib as she breaks into tears. There are more than 1 million children like Rand across Idlib: exhausted of war and fearful of uncertainty, violence and further displacement. Many children were forced to flee, some up to seven times. Most now live in overcrowded camps and shelters in rural areas. Food, water and medicine are in extremely short supply. Any further escalation in violence will have catastrophic consequences on the province which is host to one of the largest communities of internally displaced people in Syria.

[UNICEF - Full article](#)

Syria - Children in Jordan refugee camp at risk of becoming Syria’s ‘lost generation’

September 6th, 2018- While Syrian refugee children have undoubtedly experienced trauma, many are determined not to be defined by their past.

Amidst the desert sands and pressed up against the Syrian border, there is a town that did not exist seven years ago. It is a collection of homes cobbled together from corrugated iron and rough cement; where children are too often taught in makeshift, overheated classrooms. This is Zaatari



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refugee camp in northern Jordan, one of the largest in the world with almost 80,000 people scraping out an existence. Nearly all reached it to escape the bombs and bullets of the seven-year Syrian civil war. Many who embarked on that journey never arrived: children saw fathers beaten in front of them and relatives die en-route. Rula is one of the lucky ones. The childhood home she fled in the anti-government region of Daraa has been “completely destroyed” and she has little chance of ever returning.

Independent - [Full article](#)

Syria - Education for Millions of Syrian Children in Crisis

September 9th, 2018- The U.N. children’s fund reports only half of Syria’s four million school children will be able to return to the classroom this month because of conflict and a severe shortage of money.

UNICEF reports more than seven years of war in Syria has put one in three schools out of use. It says many have been destroyed or damaged, while others are sheltering displaced families. Some schools are being used for military purposes in this war, which is estimated to have killed more than one-half million people.

VOA news - [Full article](#)

Syria and Yemen - UNICEF appeals for end to ‘war on children’ in Syria and Yemen

August 13, 2018 – Attacks against children caught in the conflicts in Syria and Yemen must stop, the UN children’s agency, UNICEF, appealed on Monday. In a tightly worded statement, UNICEF pointed out that since Sunday, 28 children were reported killed in Idlib and western Aleppo, located in northern Syria. The death toll included an entire family of seven. Furthermore, three UNICEF-supported health facilities were also attacked, two of which are now out of service. “The war on children in Syria is putting at least one million children at risk in Idlib alone,” said the statement, attributable to Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. These latest incidents follow the deaths of 21 children in Yemen last week, killed when their school bus was hit during an airstrike.

UN News - [Full article](#)

Tunisie- Des centaines d'enfants sans soutien familial dans la précarité. Le réseau Amen Enfance alerte

18 septembre, 2018- Ils sont environ 1000 enfants nés hors mariage chaque année en Tunisie, d’autres ont perdu leur soutien familial ou ont été victimes de violence. Que deviennent ces enfants ? Quelle prise en charge leur réserve-t-on ?

Depuis 1971, l’État a créé l’Institut national de protection de l’enfance (INPE), une structure sous la tutelle du ministère des Affaires sociales qui prend en charge une centaine d’enfants dès leur naissance, en général pour quelques mois, jusqu’à leur adoption ou placement en famille d’accueil- moyennant une certaine somme pour ladite famille-ou dans le meilleur des cas leur réintégration dans leurs familles



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biologiques. D'autres y restent car ils n'ont pas été adoptés ou mis sous tutelle en raison de leur état de santé.

[Huffington post - Article complet](#)

Turquie - La Turquie doit mettre un terme aux graves violations des droits humains imputables à ses propres forces et aux groupes alliés à Afrin

2 Août 2018 – Les forces turques donnent aux groupes armés syriens toute latitude pour commettre de graves violations des droits humains contre les civils à Afrin, ville du nord du pays, a déclaré Amnesty International le 2 août après avoir mené des recherches approfondies sur la vie sous occupation militaire turque. Ces recherches publiées le 2 août révèlent que les habitants d'Afrin endurent de multiples atteintes aux droits humains, qui sont pour la plupart le fait de groupes armés syriens équipés et armés par la Turquie. Ces violations, sur lesquelles les forces armées turques ferment les yeux, englobent les détentions arbitraires, les disparitions forcées, la confiscation de biens et le pillage. Certains de ces groupes, et les forces turques elles-mêmes, ont réquisitionné des écoles, empêchant l'éducation de milliers d'enfants.

[Amnesty International - Article complet](#)

Yemen – Drinking water systems under repeated attack in Yemen

August 1, 2018 – “Attacks against civilian facilities and services are unacceptable, inhumane and in breach of the basic laws of war. “Ongoing violence and repeated attacks on lifesaving civilian infrastructure in Hodeida are a direct threat to the survival of hundreds of thousands of children and their families. “Yet the past few days have seen an escalation in the targeting of systems and facilities that are essential to sustaining civilian lives.

[UNICEF - Full article](#)

Yemen – Dozens of civilians killed in school bus attack

August 9, 2018 – Red Cross says many children under 15 dead and wounded after air raid blamed on Saudi-UAE coalition hits bus in Saada. The Saudi-UAE military alliance at war with Yemen's Houthi rebels has been blamed for an air attack on a school bus that killed dozens of people, including at least 29 children.

[Al Jazeera - Article complet](#)

Yemen- A further one million children at risk of famine as food and fuel prices soar across the country

September 19th, 2018- An additional one million severely food insecure children in Yemen risk falling into famine as families struggle to afford basic food and transport to health facilities for treatment. This brings the total number of children in Yemen at risk of famine to 5.2 million. Already, more than two-thirds (64.5 per cent) of Yemen's population don't know where their next meal is coming from.

As Hodeidah experiences renewed fighting there is a real risk its port – a vital lifeline for goods and aid for 80 per cent of Yemen's population – could be damaged or temporarily closed, reducing the supply of



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available of food and fuel as well as driving up prices even further. This would put the lives of hundreds of thousands of children in immediate danger while pushing millions more into famine. The United Nations has warned that failure to keep food, fuel and aid flowing into Yemen, particularly through Hodeidah, could result in one of the worst hunger crises in living history.

Save the Children - [Full article](#)