

# Newsletter on Children's rights – Children in armed conflicts

January 2020

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## Afghanistan - Khost leaders advocate for the rights of children in armed conflict

26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - The abuse and recruitment of children in the Afghanistan remains a reality that must be challenged, said participants at a UN-backed event in the southeast province of Khost. More than 60 participants, including representatives of the provincial government, police, armed forces, civil society and media, gathered in Khost city to discuss measures to help protect children, including from being recruited as labourers, soldiers and insurgents in the Afghan conflict.

UNAMA – <u>Full article</u>

#### Afghanistan - UNICEF, Afghan Govt Signs Work Plan for Children

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 - The Afghan government and the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF) signed a joint work plan on Thursday in Kabul to help children in Afghanistan in 2020 and 2021.

TOLO News – Full article

#### Bangladesh - 'Great news': Bangladesh allows education for Rohingya children

30<sup>th</sup> january 2020 - Under new programme, 10,000 Rohingya boys and girls to be enrolled in grades 6 to 9, a move hailed by rights groups. To date, only one-third of Rohingya child refugees - who fled a brutal 2017 crackdown in neighbouring Myanmar - are able to access a primary education through temporary learning centres run by international agencies.

Al Jazeera – <u>Article entier</u>

### Colombia - Inclusion of child protection provisions in peace process contributed to decrease in violations against children

27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - The implementation of *the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace* between the Colombian Government and the FARC-EP which contained important child protection provisions contributed to a significant decrease in violations against children, highlighted the fourth report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) in Colombia.

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict – <u>Full article</u>



### Global - Countering terrorism and violent extremism: the erosion of children's rights in armed conflict

January 2020 – In this policy note, Watchlist examines how counterterrorism efforts are impacting the rights of children in conflict-affected countries, such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen. In response to the threat of armed groups using extreme violence, governments have introduced counterterrorism measures that lack adequate safeguards for children and have, in some cases, led to violations of their rights.

Watchlist on children and armed conflict – Full article

### Libya - 'Dire and untenable' situation for tens of thousands of children in unrelenting conflict

17 Janvier 2020 - "Children in Libya, including refugee and migrant children, continue to suffer grievously amidst the violence and chaos unleashed by the country's longstanding civil war", Executive Director Henrietta Fore said in a statement. UNICEF has received reports of children being maimed, killed and also recruited to fight, said Ms. Fore.

UN News – Full article

#### Myanmar - Renewed engagement to end and prevent violations against children affected by armed conflict

20th January 2020 - "Children in Myanmar have suffered tremendously from the impact of hostilities, especially in Rakhine, Shan and Kachin States; it is crucial for all parties, including the Tatmadaw and other Government security forces, to continue their engagement with the United Nations to end and prevent violations against children," said the Special Representative.

United Nations Myanmar – Full article

#### Palestine - Transfer of Palestinian minors from prisons a 'violation of law'

13 Janvier 2020 - Moving Palestinian children from one Israeli jail to another without adult supervision puts them at risk, activists say.

Al Jazeera – <u>Full article</u>

#### Syrie - « Ils ont effacé les rêves de mes enfants », dénonce un rapport de l'ONU

17 Janvier 2020 - La Commission indépendante d'enquête de l'ONU sur la Syrie dénonce dans un rapport accablant de 25 pages les multiples violations perpétrées par toutes les parties du conflit sur des millions d'enfants. Intitulé « Ils ont effacé les rêves de mes enfants », ce document à l'initiative du Conseil des droits de l'homme de l'ONU, est le fruit d'une enquête sur les violations du droit international commises sur les enfants en République arabe syrienne, depuis mars 2011.



Radio Canada – Article entier

#### Syrie - Syrian conflict has 'erased' children's dreams: new UN report

16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - Nearly nine years of conflict in Syria have robbed boys and girls of their childhood and subjected them to "unabated violations of their rights", including being killed, maimed, displaced, forced to fight or subjected to torture, rape and sexual slavery.

UN News – Full article

### West Africa - 8 million children have been forced out of school by growing violence in west Africa

28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - A new UNICEF report released on Tuesday quantifies the alarming human cost of the escalating violence. More than 8 million school-aged children in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger have been forced from school. Nearly 1 million people are now displaced, with more than half of those coming from Burkina Faso.

CNN – Full article