



Newsletter on Children's rights – Middle East and North Africa

June 2020

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Egypt – National committee to eliminate FGM: We will not tolerate any practice against Egyptian girls' rights

13th June – On the occasion of the national day against FGM in Egypt, which falls on the 14th of June of each year, the National Committee to end FGM – chaired by the National Council for Women and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, jointly with its representative members from all the relevant ministries, judicial authorities, Al-Azhar and the 3 Egyptian churches and concerned civil society organizations, in addition to cooperating development partners – renew their commitment to work on eradicating this inhuman crime against Egyptian girls.

Egypt Today – [Full article](#)



Iran – Iran Criminalizes Child Abuse After Outrage Over Killing of Teenage Girl

8th June – After 11 years of stalling, Iran passed a measure on Sunday making it a crime to emotionally or physically abuse or abandon a child, expanding significantly the legal protections offered to children and juveniles. The new law materialized largely in response to nationwide outrage over the killing of a teenage girl last month. Romina Ashrafi, 14, was beheaded by her father with a farming sickle because she had run off with a boyfriend.

NY Times – [Full article](#)

Jordan – Jordan: Secondary School Gap for Syrian Refugee Kids

26th June – The majority of Syrian refugee children in Jordan don't have the chance to go to secondary school, close to a decade after Syrian refugees began arriving, Human Rights Watch said in a report released today. International donors and humanitarian agencies should work with Jordan and other countries hosting Syrian refugees at this year's Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region conference on June 30, 2020 to urgently improve access to quality, secondary education for Syrian refugee children.

Human Rights Watch – [Full article](#)

Maroc – Indice mondial des droits de l'enfant : Le Maroc gagne 3 places

8 juin – Dans ce nouvel indice, le Maroc a obtenu un score de 0,898 pour le droit des enfants à la santé, ce qui le place au 88^{ème} rang mondial. Pour ce qui est du droit à la vie, le Royaume occupe la 82^{ème} position avec un score de 0,837. Il est à la 99^{ème} place pour le droit à l'éducation avec un score de 0,674 et 68^e pour le droit à la protection avec un score de 0,914. En revanche, le Maroc se place dans l'avant-dernière catégorie concernant l'environnement propice aux droits des enfants avec un score de 0,571.

Aujourd'hui le Maroc – [Article complet](#)

Middle East and North Africa – New Report Details Where Children Are Excluded From Education

24th June – In Jordan, one-third of children go to schools without sanitation facilities at all, a barrier to education for girls who begin menstruation. In Lebanon, school officials often shut children with disabilities out of regular classes despite laws ensuring their right to an education. In Morocco, some disabled children don't even bother trying to go to school as they know they won't be let in.



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Al Fanar Media – [Full article](#)

Middle East and North Africa – How Some Arab Children Are Shut Out of Classrooms

25th June – Across the Middle East and North Africa region, millions of children and young adults are excluded from education due to gender, religion, sexual orientation, poverty, ability and other factors, says Unesco's newly released 2020 Global Education Monitoring Report: Inclusion: All Means All.

Al Fanar Media – [Full article](#)

Sudan – The Criminalization of Female Genital Mutilation in Sudan

8th June – In a historic development concerning women's rights, the Sudanese transitional government recently criminalized the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) and made it punishable by up to three years in prison. FGM is a deeply discriminatory practice which results in the partial or total removal of external female genitalia without any medical reasons.

Jurist – [Full article](#)

Syria – HRW calls on Canada to repatriate citizens stuck in north-east Syria

30th June – Canada has ignored its human rights obligations to citizens who are being held in camps in north-east Syria over links to Daesh, and must facilitate their return, a new report by the Human Rights Watch (HRW) says. Among the detainees are 26 children, most of whom are under the age of six, and include five-year-old Amira – an orphan who told HRW her parents and siblings were all killed in an air strike on Baghouz in 2019.

Middle East Monitor – [Full article](#)

Tunisie – Moez Cherif, Président de l'Association Tunisienne de Défense des Droits de l'Enfant(ATDDE), à la presse: « Les enfants payent de leur personne les dérives du système éducatif »

23 juin – La réforme de l'éducation est un sujet auquel la société civile participe activement. Quelle éducation offre notre école aujourd'hui ? Pourquoi la réforme tarde à venir ne serait-ce que pour rassurer les parents sur l'avenir de leurs enfants ? Quelle éducation pour demain ? A ces



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questions, répond l'un des militants pour cette réforme, le docteur Moez Chérif, président de l'Atdde.

La Presse de Tunisie – [Article complet](#)

Tunisie – Enfants : la Tunisie réitère sa volonté de réaliser les engagements internationaux

12 juin – Le Ministère de la Femme, de la Famille, de l'Enfance et des Seniors, a réitéré son engagement à mettre en œuvre les engagements internationaux en faveur des enfants. De même qu'à lutter contre l'exploitation économique des enfants et à les protéger de différents risques. Notamment la marginalisation, le problème des sans-abris et de la maltraitance ainsi que la traite des êtres humains.

L'Economiste maghrébin – [Article complet](#)

UAE – Dubai Police game 'My Rights and Duties' becomes a hit

17th june – The Dubai Police game, "Rights and Duties," has proved successful with more than 86,610 downloads by iPhone and Android users. Launched last year by the General Department of Human Rights, the game aims at raising children's awareness of their rights and duties in accordance with modern educational and recreational methods.

Gulf Today – [Full article](#)