

# Newsletter on Children's rights – Children and Armed Conflicts

October 2019

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## **Afghanistan – Spiral of Violence Gives No Rest to Children, Still the Most Impacted by War**

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 - The deterioration of the security situation in Afghanistan throughout the reporting period had an immense impact on children with over 14,000 grave violations verified in four years, reveals the fourth report of the UN Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in Afghanistan. The four years covered in the report have been particularly devastating for boys and girls, with children accounting for almost a third of all civilian casualties.

United Nations - [Full article](#)

## **Afghanistan – La génération des Afghans de moins de 18 ans n'a connu que la guerre**

7 octobre 2019 - La guerre en Afghanistan a coûté son éducation au jeune cireur de chaussures Hamidullah, 13 ans. C'est la pauvreté qui a forcé Sabir, 11 ans, à fuir sa maison et vendre des fruits secs dans les rues de Kaboul. A 9 ans, Niyamathullah cherche du travail, et traîne dans un parc.

Libération.fr - [Article complet](#)

## **Africa – Children Affected by Armed Conflict in Africa Call on Governments to Take Action to Protect Most Vulnerable**

15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - Children and youth from Ethiopia, Mali, South Sudan, Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo are today converging in Addis Ababa to demand African decision makers enact changes in their countries to ensure children are safe in times of conflict.

Save the Children - [Full article](#)

## **Belgium – Didier Reynders confirms Belgium's commitment to the Children and Armed Conflict agenda**

18<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - Today, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defense Didier Reynders invited a group of high-level experts at the Egmont Palace in Brussels to discuss the importance of including child protection issues in peace negotiations. Belgium has played a leading role in this field for years and remains committed as the chair of the UNSC Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) during its mandate in the Security Council in 2019-2020.

Africanews - [Full article](#)

## **Burkina Faso – In Burkina Faso, skyrocketing violence puts children's education on hold**

October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 - A new school term began in Burkina Faso this month, but not for the many children living in areas affected by conflict – their education is on hold yet again. The UN's refugee agency, UNHCR, warned this month of an "unprecedented humanitarian emergency" in

the West African country of roughly 20 million people, as al-Qaeda and so-called Islamic State-linked groups – who are opposed to secular education – step up attacks.

The New Humanitarian – [Full article](#)

## **Canada – Ottawa appelé à secourir 25 enfants en Syrie**

10 octobre 2019 - Au moins 25 enfants canadiens « innocents » sont pris au piège dans un camp de réfugiés non loin de l'endroit où la Turquie a lancé une offensive militaire dans le nord-est de la Syrie, affirme une organisation caritative internationale, qui appelle Ottawa à agir dès maintenant pour les secourir.

La Presse – [Article complet](#)

## **Europe – European States urged to do more to protect and support child refugees and migrants**

14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - European States must step up their efforts to protect child refugees and migrants who have endured not only difficult and dangerous journeys but continue to face risks and hardship once in Europe, including unsafe accommodation, being incorrectly registered as adults, and a lack of appropriate care, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, has urged.

UNHCR – [Full article](#)

## **Global – Children, no matter their association, are entitled to rights and protections as children**

11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - ICRC Statement to the 74th UN General Assembly, Third Committee Meeting on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children. « [...] Today, we would like to draw attention to the worrying trend of the selective implementation of the law. We see this happening in various places and for various reasons, but primarily for questions of national borders or national security and in the emblematic case of children associated with groups designated as terrorists. »

International Committee of the Red Cross - [Full article](#)

## **Myanmar – Myanmar Ratifies UN Treaty Banning Use of Child Soldiers**

1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 - Myanmar has ratified the so-called “child soldier treaty”, the Foreign Ministry announced on Sunday. Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin presented Myanmar’s Instrument of Ratification of the treaty—formally known as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (CRC-OPAC)—to the UN secretary general during the UN Treaty Event of 2019 at the world body’s headquarters in New York on Sept. 27, the ministry said.

The Irrawaddy – [Full article](#)

## **Nigeria – Army Frees 25 Child Suspects After Abuse Reports**

4<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - The Nigerian army's release on October 3, 2019, of 25 detained children is an important step toward rights-respecting treatment of children affected by the Boko Haram conflict in northeast Nigeria. The 23 boys and 2 girls had been detained at Giwa barracks, the main military detention facility in Maiduguri, Borno State, for suspected involvement with the armed Islamist group Boko Haram.

Human Rights Watch - [Full article](#)

## **Nigeria – La vida de un niño soldado después de ser liberado**

9 octubre 2019 - Los menores reclutados a la fuerza en un conflicto sufren el rechazo de la sociedad, y en muchas ocasiones el de su familia, además de traumas físicos y psicológicos. En lo que va de año, 44 han sido rescatados en Nigeria.

El País – [Artículo completo](#)

## **Somalia – UN, Somalia Recommit to End the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers**

30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) has renewed its commitment to end the recruitment and use of child soldiers by signing a roadmap detailing measures and practical actions to prevent violations against children, release children associated with armed forces, and reintegrate them into communities. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Virginia Gamba, witnessed the signature of the roadmap.

UNSOM - [Full article](#)

## **Yémen – Les bombes américaines au Yémen coûtent l'avenir d'une génération entière**

14 octobre, 2019 - Il y a ceux tombés sous les bombes, certains qui n'osent plus quitter leur maison, d'autres qui sont même recrutés par l'Arabie saoudite comme mercenaires... Depuis le début de l'offensive saoudienne lancée contre le Yémen en mars 2016, un quart des deux millions d'enfants yéménites ont abandonné l'école.

Investigation.net - [Article complet](#)