



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

June 2020

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## **Afghanistan – UN: Afghanistan Is Deadliest Place for Children**

15<sup>th</sup> June – The United Nations said Monday that for the fifth consecutive year, Afghanistan was the deadliest country on the planet for children. In its annual Children in Armed Conflict report, the U.N. secretary-general reported that more than 3,000 Afghan children were killed in 2019, and nearly as many maimed, overwhelmingly by ground fighting, improvised explosive devices and suicide attacks.

Voa News – [Full article](#)



## **Burkina Faso – Violences au Burkina Faso: l'inquiétude de l'ONU sur le sort des enfants**

18 juin – Dans son dernier rapport, présenté en début de semaine, l'émissaire d'Antonio Guterres pour les enfants et les conflits armés Virginia Gamba a annoncé que ce pays serait désormais inclus dans le groupe de pays dit à « situation préoccupante » et qui feront l'objet d'une attention plus soutenue de la part de l'ONU.

RFI – [Article complet](#)

## **Burkina Faso – Crise sécuritaire dans le Sahel : Les filles vivent dans la peur, selon un rapport de Plan international et de l'UNFPA**

29 juin – Des travaux de recherche ont été menés auprès de 800 filles et adolescentes de 10 à 19 ans, qui subissent les conséquences de la crise sécuritaire et humanitaire que traversent le Burkina Faso et le Mali. « C'est un rapport assez important qui a permis de donner la voix à la jeune fille au niveau du Burkina Faso et du Mali. Sur le plan national, nous avons interrogé les filles déplacées qui ont donné leurs préoccupations et leurs besoins spécifiques », a expliqué le directeur du développement des programmes et de l'influence de Plan international Burkina Faso, Claude Kané.

Lefaso.net – [Article complet](#)

## **Central African Republic – Child Soldiers Are Helping End a Forever War**

10<sup>th</sup> June – An unlikely crew of maintenance workers, made up of former child soldiers and other vulnerable youngsters in the Central African Republic (CAR), was hard at work in June 2019. Deployed to an impoverished suburb of the capital, Bangui, they were digging a well for a community otherwise cut off from water supplies.

Foreign Policy – [Full article](#)

## **Colombia – Procuraduría denuncia reclutamiento de menores durante pandemia**

9 de junio – Grupos paramilitares y la guerrilla del ELN aumentaron el reclutamiento ilegal de menores de edad entre sus filas durante el tiempo de la pandemia por el coronavirus en Colombia. Así lo denunció este martes el procurador general, Fernando Carrillo.



Semana – [Artículo completo](#)

## **Global – "Aidez-nous à ne pas être les victimes de ces conflits" : Mariam, 15 ans, raconte la vie détruite des enfants maliens au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU**

25 juin – Hormis Malala Yousafzai et Greta Thunberg (en session plénière), les interventions de jeunes personnes au Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies sont rares. Au point que le discours de Mariam, jeune Malienne de 15 ans, a été particulièrement remarqué. Le 23 juin, lors d'une vidéo-conférence dans le cadre du groupe de travail sur les enfants et les conflits armés, elle a exhorté le Conseil à prendre des mesures afin de protéger ceux-ci dans les zones de guerre.

France Info – [Article complet](#)

## **Global – Between Despair and Hope for Millions of Children in Armed Conflict, Imperative to Actively Implement Ceasefires & Peace Processes**

15<sup>th</sup> June – The tragedy of boys and girls used and abused in, for and by armed conflict continued unabated during 2019, as the UN verified over 25,000 grave violations against children including late verification, highlighted the latest Annual Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict released today. The overall number of grave violations remains similar to the number reported in 2018 and represents some 70 violations per day.

United Nations office of the SRSO for Children and Armed Conflict – [Full article](#)

## **Global – Atrocity Alert No. 208: Children and Armed Conflict, Nigeria and Libya**

17<sup>th</sup> June – The UN Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict was released on Monday, 15 June, documenting more than 24,000 "grave violations" perpetrated against children. This included over 10,000 children who were killed or maimed across 19 different conflict zones during 2019. The report also documents 735 cases of sexual violence against children, over 7,000 cases of the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, and nearly 500 attacks on schools.

Global centre for the responsibility to protect – [Full article](#)



## **Global – La ONU verifica unas 70 violaciones diarias de los derechos de niños en guerras**

15<sup>th</sup> June – La Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) ha verificado durante 2019 unas 25.000 violaciones graves de derechos de los niños en situaciones de conflicto, esto es, unos 70 episodios diarios alrededor del mundo, según un documento presentado este lunes.

RTVE – [Artículo completo](#)

## **Iran – Houthis cage 20,000 abductees in 790 jails, recruit 7,000 children: Human rights groups**

28<sup>th</sup> June – AL-MUKALLA: Iranian-backed Houthi militias have incarcerated around 20,000 abductees in 790 prisons in Yemeni areas under their control, human rights chiefs have revealed. The coalition also reported that the armed group had recruited 7,000 children and was responsible for planting thousands of landmines that had killed 6,000 people.

Arab News – [Full article](#)

## **Libya – Bodies of children and others found in Libyan town after LNA retreat, Red Crescent says**

17<sup>th</sup> June – Bodies of children were among those found in the Libyan town of Tarhouna after eastern-based forces and their local allies withdrew this month, Red Crescent and Tripoli government officials said on Tuesday. The evidence of what rights groups have called possible war crimes came as Libya's frontlines suddenly shifted, displacing thousands of civilians and leaving a trail of landmines hidden in residential areas.

The Jakarta Post – [Full article](#)

## **RDC – Bukavu, le récit de trois générations marquées par la violence**

30 juin – Les Congolais ont soif de paix après les violences qui ont émaillé les soixante ans d'indépendance de la République démocratique du Congo. Trois générations ont été marquées par ces violences, celles de 1960, de 1996 et celles qui ont précédé les élections de 2018.

RFI – [Article complet](#)



## **UAE – UAE remains committed to upholding children's rights worldwide**

24<sup>th</sup> June – In a written statement submitted to the UN Security Council for its annual open debate on children and armed conflict, the UAE stated, "The Covid-19 pandemic is having broad-reaching and long-term impacts on lives and livelihoods. For children living in conflict situations, this adds yet another layer of vulnerability. They already struggle to access health services and coverage for their basic needs, including access to education. The weakening of their social protection systems incentivises child recruitment by armed groups, as well as sexual exploitation."

Khaleej Times – [Full article](#)

## **United States – Record Number of Countries on US Child Soldier Blacklist**

29<sup>th</sup> June – Last week the United States State Department named more countries than ever before – 14 – in its latest annual list of governments responsible for the recruitment and use of children as soldiers. Cameroon, Libya, and Nigeria were added this year, joining repeat offenders such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

Human Rights Watch – [Full article](#)

## **Yemen – UN takes Saudi-led coalition off child rights 'list of shame'**

16<sup>th</sup> June – Human rights groups have criticised the UN for removing the Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen from a blacklist of those whose actions harm children. The UN found 222 children were killed or injured last year by the coalition, which is backing Yemen's government in its war with the rebel Houthi movement. Secretary General António Guterres said that represented a "sustained and significant decrease" in casualties. Human Rights Watch accused him of ignoring evidence of grave violations.

BBC News – [Full article](#)