



Press review on Children's rights – Children and Armed Conflict

October 2020

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Armenia and Azerbaijan - UNICEF Statement on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

6th October - It is now 10 days since violence escalated dramatically in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone. There are already reports of four children killed and seven injured, and without an end to the fighting, these figures will tragically increase. An immediate cessation of hostilities is in the best interest of every child.

UNICEF - [Full article](#)



Afghanistan - School Bombing Targets Minority Community

26th October - A massive suicide bombing on October 24 outside the Kawsar-e Danish educational center in west Kabul was the latest attack cruelly targeting the Hazara Shia minority. The explosion took place in a crowded, narrow street outside the center, killing 30 people and injuring more than 70, mostly children and young adults between 15 and 26 years old who were attending classes.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH - [Full article](#)

Cameroon - Gunmen kill children in attack on school in Cameroon as prime minister condemns 'act of wickedness'

26th October - Gunmen stormed a school in Cameroon and opened fire over the weekend, killing several children and wounding more. The attack occurred on Saturday in Kumba, a town in the country's restive Anglophone region, where separatist insurgents operate. At least seven children have died and 12 were injured in the incident, according to Reuters.

CNN - [Full article](#)

Colombia - Las aterradoras 'escuelas' en las que niños aprendían a desmembrar

12 de Octubre - Centro Nacional de Memoria presentó nuevo informe sobre paramilitarismo. Desgarradores testimonios. Un fallo del Tribunal Superior de Bogotá sala de Justicia y Paz, consultado por este diario, relata cómo miembros de ese grupo coaccionaban "a menores de edad para que ingresaran a las Autodefensas Campesinas del Magdalena Medio", que operaban en zonas rurales y urbanas de los departamentos de Caldas, Cundinamarca, Antioquia y Tolima.

EL TIEMPO – [Artículo completo](#)

DR Congo - Children suffering 'unrelenting violence', UNICEF deeply concerned

6th October - Since the beginning of the year, the brutality and chaos unleashed during longstanding conflict in the province of Ituri have deteriorated further, worsening conditions for children, according to the UN agency. The conflict-ravaged, and mineral-rich eastern DRC has been plagued by violence stretching over decades of brutal fighting that has forced millions of civilians from their homes – many of them numerous times.

UN NEWS - [Full Article](#)



Est de la RDC - La violence incessante continue d'affecter les enfants en Ituri

6 Octobre - Les enfants continuent de souffrir gravement à cause de la violence et du chaos déclenchés par le conflit qui sévit depuis longtemps dans la province. La violence s'est intensifiée au début de l'année et depuis lors, les conditions de vie de milliers d'enfants en Ituri se sont encore détériorées.

UNICEF - [Article complet](#)

Global - Children betrayed by our judicial systems

2nd October - The past decade has seen a gradual increase in terrorism-related crimes; a phenomenon that is accompanied by a growing trend of involvement of children and youth in terrorism-related offences. Today, 35,000 children are deprived of their liberty in the context of armed conflict. This figure is largely underestimated because neither the tens of thousands of minors under the control of the Islamist state, nor the 29,000 children still detained in camps in Iraq and northeast Syria are considered.

Terre des hommes Foundation Child Relief via RELIEF WEB - [Full article](#)

Global - How the UN Security Council Can Protect Education in Armed Conflict

7th October – “A few weeks ago, I sat in the United Nations Security Council chamber listening to Hadiza, a secondary school student in Niger and a youth ambassador for Save the Children, describe the perils she faces just to get an education. In Hadiza’s hometown, Boko Haram have attacked schools and made the journey to and from them treacherous. Some of her friends have dropped out, while others have disappeared.”

JUST SECURITY - [Full article](#)

Iraq - The impact of explosive weapons on children in Iraq

22nd October - The 21st century has been a tragedy for Iraq’s children. An entire generation of girls and boys have suffered violence, terror, poverty, and displacement. Iraq’s 17 year conflict began with the US-led invasion in 2003 and evolved into a sectarian civil war, with intense military confrontations between ISIS and the Iraqi Government between 2015 and 2017.

ACTION ON ARMED VIOLENCE - [Full article](#)



Myanmar - 'Shocking' killing of children allegedly used as human shields

14th October - The UN agencies also voiced "deep alarm" over an alarming increase of reports of killings and injuries of children in Myanmar. More than 100 children were killed or maimed in conflict during the first three months of 2020, amounting to more than half of the total number in 2019, and significantly surpassing the total number of child casualties in 2018.

UN NEWS - [Full article](#)

Pakistan - Schools 'must never be targeted', UNICEF says after deadly blast

27th October - A deadly bombing that killed at least seven people at a religious school in Pakistan on Tuesday, has been strongly condemned by the Children's Fund (UNICEF). "Education is the fundamental right of every girl and boy, everywhere", stressed Aida Girma, UNICEF's Representative in the country.

UN NEWS - [Full article](#)

Palestine - Israel is subjecting Palestinian children to physical and psychological abuse

4th October - Hundreds of children, some as young as 12, are detained and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system every year. The most common charge is stone-throwing, which the Israeli military consider to be a "security offence". Those found guilty can get up to 20 years in prison, depending on the child's age. Israel is the only country in the world to prosecute children routinely in military courts that lack basic safeguards for a fair trial. Moreover, Palestinian children detained by Israel face abuse and systematic torture, which has been legitimised by the judiciary and government.

MIDDLE EAST MONITOR - [Full article](#)

Philippines - Will Child Soldier Recruitment Ever End?

4th October - Children involved in armed conflict are still very much prevalent in the Philippines especially in war-prone and war-torn areas of SOCCSKSARGEN and Mindanao. SOCCSKSARGEN is an administrative region of the Philippines located in South-Central Mindanao. It stands for the region's four provinces and two cities, namely, South Cotabato, Cotabato City, Cotabato Province, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, and General Santos City.

THE ASEAN POST - [Full article](#)



Syria - Don't Let Orphan's Canadian Homecoming Be an Exception

6th October - After months of inaction, the Canadian government announced Monday that it had repatriated a 5-year-old orphan, Amira, who was trapped in a camp for Islamic State (ISIS) suspects and family members in northeast Syria. Amira's overdue rescue should not become an excuse for the government to stall on repatriating the 46 other Canadian nationals held in northeast Syrian camps and prisons teeming with deadly disease, inhuman treatment, and despair.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH - [Full article](#)

Turkey - 'Diyarbakir Mothers' demand return of missing children

21st October - Suleyman Aydin stood in front of an enormous Turkish flag wearing a T-shirt with a picture of a son he has not seen for five years. As he describes it, when Ozkan was just 15 he was kidnapped by the PKK, the Kurdistan Workers' Party, which Turkey, the United States, and 28 European nations list as a "terrorist" organisation. The Human Rights Watch has argued that "cases against HDP politicians provide the starkest evidence that authorities bring criminal prosecution and use detention in bad faith and for political purposes".

ALJAZEERA - [Full article](#)

Yémen - Pire niveau de malnutrition aiguë chez les enfants depuis le début de la guerre (ONU)

27 Octobre - L'analyse - qui porte uniquement sur 133 districts du sud du Yémen qui abritent 1,4 million d'enfants de moins de cinq ans - révèle une augmentation de près de 10% des cas de malnutrition aiguë en 2020. La plus forte augmentation concerne les cas de jeunes enfants souffrant de malnutrition aiguë sévère avec une augmentation de 15,5% en 2020.

ONU INFO - [Article complet](#)