

EKIN COLLEGE

JUNIOR MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

JANUARY 2019

**"REACH FOR JUSTICE"**



**UNICEF**

*Topic A: The role of children in armed conflict*

*Topic B: The protection of children with a special focus on child prostitution and sex tourism*

## RESEARCH REPORT

CHAIR: SELİN CÖMERT

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EKINJMUN CONFERENCE JANUARY 2019

## RESEARCH REPORT

### Welcome Letter from the Secretary General

It is with my utmost pleasure to welcome you all to the 3rd annual session of EKIN Junior Model United Nations. My name is Isabella Yazıcı and I will be serving as your Secretary General. Our conference will take place in Izmir, Turkey between the 11th and the 13th of January, 2019. In alliance with our annual slogan imagine, innovate, inspire we are aiming for younger generations to comprehend that they have the capability of changing the world.

As Albert Einstein once said, "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." This year in EKIN JMUN we will simulate 12 extraordinary committees. In light of these words, these committees will focus on finding the spark of light within all of the darkness and try to solve the crises both our world and the conference presents. I fully believe that every participant will do their best to make the world a better place. Both the academic and organizational team have worked many hours to bring you the best version of EKIN JMUN and an overall inspiring, unforgettable experience that will stay with you your whole life.

To come to a conclusion, on behalf of our academic and organizational team I would like to invite you to the third annual session of the biggest JMUN organization in the region. I cannot wait to meet you in January.

Sincerely,

Isabella Yazici

EKINJMUN 2019 SG

## RESEARCH REPORT

### Introduction

#### A: Introduction to the committee:

UNICEF, as known as United Nations Children's Emergency Fund was established on 11 December 1946 by United Nations in order to help children's needs in post-war Europe and PR China. In 1950 it started to address needs of children and women all around the globe. In 1953 UNICEF became a permanent part of the UN, and it's been active since. It is a UN-Body which has its main issues as health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, childrens problems and diseases among other issues. UNICEF, is also the main combating body against Child Prostitution, Child Sex Tourism and Children in Armed Conflict.

#### TOPIC A-THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON CHILD PROSTITUTION AND SEX TOURISM

#### B: Introduction to the topic:

Child prostitution is the use of children for sexual activities in exchange for multiple kinds of retribution such as but not limited to; money, gifts, shelter, food, clothes etc. Victim childrens' workplaces are bars, clubs, streets and brothels. CST(Child Sex Tourism) is defined as people travelling from their own country to a different country with the aim of engaging in underage sexual acts. The crime is determined by weak international law enforcement, internet and poverty. In response to increasing CST, governments and the tourism industry have started to address the issue more.

### Definition of Key Terms

**Sex Tourism:** The act of travelling to another country for the purpose of paying to have sex, especially with children.

**Prostitution:** The business of having sex for money.

**Sexual Act:** Any and all acts of sexual intercourse.

**Poverty:** Lack of money.

**Orphan:** A kid whose parents are dead..

**Abuse:** All kinds of violent behaviour.

## RESEARCH REPORT

**Pornography:** Visual materials involving sexual act or organs.

**Exploitation:** The action of benefiting from one's resources.

**Age of consent:** Sexual intercourse validity age in law.

### General Overview

A child is, as defined by United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, is '*every human being below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier*'

And child prostitution is, also as defined by United Nations Human Rights Commission, is '*Child Prostitution' refers to the sexual exploitation of a child for remuneration in cash or in kind, usually but not always organized by an intermediary (parent, family member, procurer, teacher, etc.)'*'

Child prostitution is basically the marketing of a child's sexual service or performance of any kinds of sexual acts. The difference between child sexual abuse and child prostitution is that prostitution is commercial. Nevertheless, their common point is; both acts are exploiting actions since children are not capable of making decisions, both acts are mostly without consent.

It should also be noted that not every case is the same and the different ones have historic backgrounds. Chinese and Indian children were mostly sold by their parents into prostitution. Sometimes Hindu parents sold their children to temples, where they became 'devadasis' which is a traditional high status. These children's original tasks were cleaning temples, learning about music and how to dance. By the time the system evolved and children's tasks changed into offering sexual services to upper-class men.

In Europe child prostitution grew until the ends of 19th century. In England, a scandal which caused the government to raise the age of consent occurred. In 1885 William Thomas Stead published 4 articles, 'The Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon' in order to describe the underground sex trafficking focusing on Eliza Armstrong, who was a 13 year-old girl sold for £5 (equivalent of £500- £700) After a week of the public dishonor, age of consent was raised from 13 to 16. By the time, the term 'White Slavery' began to be used in order to define prostituted children.

Child sex tourists are individuals or groups travelling from their home to another geographical region, country or city with the aim of having sexual relations with children. CST(Child Sex Tourism) is a fully commercial act which is made in exchange of cash, food, clothes or any other material interests. The CST's location is not stable and the direction of the tourist flow changes every year. However, the exploiting is very

## RESEARCH REPORT

prevalent in countries like Costa Rica, Honduras, Cambodia, Thailand and Philippines.

### Timeline of Events

1989	Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNGA Res 44/25)
1990	Appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
1991	Creation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
1996	UN Forces on Peacekeepers Involved in Child Prostitution
1996	First World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, Sweden
1997	Initiation of the World Tourism Network on Child Protection (World Tourism Organisation, UNWTO)
1999	Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, (No.182, ILO)
2001	Second World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Yokohama, Japan (SWC)
2002	Adaptation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sales of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, (A/RES/54/263/UN)
2003	PROTECT Act
2003	Prevention of Child Pornography Ordinance, Government of Hongkong

## RESEARCH REPORT

2004	Establishment of The Child Sex Tourism Prevention Project, World Vision, U.S.
2006	UN probes child prostitution ring: The United Nations is investigating allegations that some of its peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of Congo have used child prostitutes. (BBC)
2007	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), Guidelines on the design of direct action strategies to combat commercial sexual exploitation of children, Geneva (ILO)
2007	Mandate update of the World Tourism Network on Child Prostitution UNWTO
2008	World Congress III against the Sexual Exploitation of the Children Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2008	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of the Children and Adolescents: The ILO Response
2010	Adaption of the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Council of Europe)
2010	UNODC, Interpol, "Project Childhood": Protection Pillar: 'Enhancing law enforcement capacity for national and transnational action to identify and effectively act upon travelling child sex offenders in the Mekong'
2010	"Brazil's sex tourism boom": Young children are supplying an increasing demand from foreign tourists who travel to Brazil for sex holidays, according to BBC investigation
2014	Report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/69/262, UN)

## RESEARCH REPORT

### Possible Solutions

- Improvement and empowerment of international law upon the issue,
- Improving the control on brothels and its workers,
- Promoting facilities that are focusing on combating child prostitution and sex tourism,
- Encouraging countries to configure and reinforce its laws upon child right

### TOPIC B: THE ROLE OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT

#### Introduction to the topic:

Armed conflict is defined as a weapon-involved fight between two or more sides. The role of children in armed conflict is one of the most significant issues. Children are the most vulnerable members of society. There are millions of children worldwide which are affected by armed conflict. They are facing physical harm, violence, exploitation, sexual abuse, killing and maiming, abduction, recruitment, denial of humanitarian access, attacks against schools or hospitals. Some are separated from their families or witness the death of loved ones, some have permanent disabilities or psychological trauma which makes it easier to pull the trigger themselves. The issue of children in armed conflict is an increasing trauma, leading a generation at risk and which should be solved urgently.

#### Definition of Key Terms

**Armed conflict:** Is a term which explains situations when an armed force is used by an organized actor against another organized actor, or against civilians.

**Conflict areas:** Are areas which are hosting one or more conflict.

**The six grave violations:** Killing and maiming, recruitment and use of children as soldiers, sexual violence, abduction, attacks on schools or hospitals, denial of humanitarian access

**Sexual abuse:** The act of having sex against one's wishes

**Abduction:** Taking someone away, kidnapping.

**Maiming:** To injure one's body part harshly, making it not work as it should

**Military forces:** Government-authorized professional armed branches

## RESEARCH REPORT

### General Overview

The number of children in armed conflicted areas is excessive in the world. Children have not developed the concept of death, yet. So they have been used as efficient fighters in armed conflicted areas. Witnessing or taking part in any armed conflict or killing is especially harmful to children. There is also a higher risk of sexual abuse for children who are in military forces. These are only a few incidents makes armed conflicted areas always an unhealthy environment for children.

Children are being forced to fight, abducted, denied humanitarian access, sexually abused, attacked in school or hospital and most importantly they are killed and maimed. According to the information which is based on the Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict nearly, 3,279 children killed, 4,535 children maimed, 5,116 children recruited or used, 547 children sexually abused and, 1,896 children abducted. Also, there are 494 verified attacks on schools and hospitals and, 947 verified denials of humanitarian access recorded only in Afghanistan, Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria, Somalia and, Iraq. (This report covers 20 countries documenting over 21.000 violations against children in total.)



## RESEARCH REPORT

### Over the course of 2017

#### EASTERN UKRAINE

220,000 children live under constant threat of mines and other explosive remnants of war.

#### IRAQ AND SYRIA

Children were used as human shields, targeted by snipers and suffered through intense bombardment.

#### AFGHANISTAN

Nearly 700 children were killed in the first nine months of the year.

#### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Children were killed, raped, abducted and recruited by armed groups.

#### NORTH-EAST NIGERIA AND CAMEROON

Boko Haram forced at least 135 children to be suicide bombers.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

In Kasai region, 850,000 children were driven from their homes. An estimated 350,000 children suffered from severe acute malnutrition.

#### SOUTH SUDAN

More than 19,000 children were recruited into the armed forces and armed groups, and over 2,300 children were killed or injured since the conflict erupted in December 2013.

#### MYANMAR

Rohingya children suffered widespread violence as they were driven from their homes in Rakhine state; children in remote border areas of Kachin, Shan and Kayin states are at risk from tensions between the Myanmar Armed Forces and various ethnic armed groups.

#### YEMEN

At least 5,000 children were killed or injured in nearly 1,000 days of fighting. Out of 1.8 million children suffering from malnutrition, 385,000 are severely malnourished and at risk of death if not urgently treated.

#### SOMALIA

1,740 cases of child recruitment in the first 10 months of the year.

Source: UNICEF STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

### Major Parties Involved and Their Views

**NATO:** NATO developed a policy entitled 'Protection of Children in Armed Conflict – the Way Forward' in close cooperation with the United Nations.

**WORKING GROUP ON CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT:** Was introduced in July 2005 in order to recommend methods of protecting children impacted by armed conflicts.

**CHILD SOLDIERS INTERNATIONAL:** Works with communities to prevent child recruitment, and to support the reintegration of former child soldiers.

**WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL:** It is an organization aims that children can grow up healthy and strong, are cared and protected, and has opportunities to flourish. And they have a new global strategy, Our Promise 2030, in order to save and help children in conflicted areas.

**WAR CHILD:** They are supporting children in conflicted areas in order to help them overcome their experiences, and have a real chance at a better future.

## RESEARCH REPORT

### Timeline of Events

The historical background of an issue is crucial to understanding the issue in depth. Please use the following table for the timeline.

1996	The United Nations General Assembly established the mandate of a special representative, following a report by Graça Machel which helped to create the basis of an annual list of countries that fail to protect children.
2000	The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict adopted by the General Assembly on May 25 in order to protect children from recruitment and use in hostilities.
2002	The Protocol entered into force on February 12.
2005	Under a resolution adopted in 2005, the report counts six categories of human rights violations. (Six grave violation)
2007	The voices of young people from Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Colombia, Haiti, Iraq, Liberia, Nepal, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and many other countries affected by war have been brought together in a unique report named "Will You Listen?"
2010's	Resolutions adopted by the Security Council.
2018	Report released on June 27 Secretary-General António Guterres announced that he was removing Saudi-led coalition from the list of parties that have attacked schools and hospitals. He also fails the list Israel, Sudan, Iraq, and parties in Ukraine as responsible for violations against children.

### Possible Solutions

Attracting the notice to societal development, acknowledging its one of the causes of the issue,

Raising the recruitment age in order to prevent children to be involved in armed forces,

Enhancing international communities' act to prevent children's involvement in armed forces and to assist affected children to recover from the violence.

Changing the political behavior and manner towards the issue and recognizing children can never be a part of contemporary armed conflict.

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