



22 November 2024
Egmont Palace,
Place du Petit Sablon 8,
1000 Brussels

AGENDA

International Conference

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

AT A CROSSROADS:

Evolving Humanitarian Crises



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
Federal Public Service
Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and
Development Cooperation

unicef
for every child

PLAN
INTERNATIONAL
Until every girl is free

With the support of:



National Commission
on the Rights of the Child

09:00 - 09:30 WELCOME & REGISTRATION

09:30 - 10:00 HIGH-LEVEL OPENING REMARKS

Opening Address by Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians

Kitty van der Heijden

UNICEF Deputy Executive Director,
Partnerships

Marc Pecsteen

Chief of Staff of the Minister of Foreign Affairs,
European Affairs and Foreign Trade and the
Federal Cultural Institutions of Belgium

10:00 - 10:10 YOUTH VOICES

Fatima and Halima

Youth Ambassadors Plan International
Co-Researchers Impact Climate Change on Adolescents

10:10 - 11:10 HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY DEBATE

Panelists :

Virginia Gamba

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-
General for Children and Armed Conflict

Najat Maalla M'jid

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-
General on Violence against Children

Ann Marie Skelton

Chair of the United Nations Committee on
the Rights of the Child

Olof Skoog

EU Special Representative for Human Rights

Cécile Aptel

Deputy Director, UNICEF Innocenti

Chairperson :

Geert Cappelaere

Children's rights expert

11:10 - 11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 - 13:00 WORKING GROUPS 1

WG 1A: CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT - PROTECTION OF EDUCATION

Panelists :

Virginia Gamba

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

Allyson Bachta

Senior Researcher, Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack

Chairperson :

Petra Heusser

Executive Director, Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies

James Cox

Head of Education, Policy & Advocacy, Save the Children International

WG 1B: THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS A CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CRISIS

Panelists :

Benoît Van Keirsbilck

Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Director of Defense for Children International Belgium

Abheet J. Solomon

Senior Advisor Environment, UNICEF

Chairperson :

Isabelle Kolebinov

Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, Child Rights International Network (CRIN)

Aoife Fleming

Core Team Member, World's Youth for Climate Justice

13:00 - 14:30 LUNCH

14:30 - 16:00 WORKING GROUPS 2

WG 2A: GIRLS IN CRISIS - ADDRESSING THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS

Panelists :

Florence Raes

Director, UN Women Brussels Liaison Office

Antonia Mulvey

Founder and Executive Director, Legal Action Worldwide (LAW)

Chairperson :

Najat Maalla M'jid

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children

Anita Queirazza

Head of Global Child Protection, Humanitarian Action Unit, Plan International

WG 2B: MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS) IN EMERGENCIES

Panelists :

Leah James

Regional Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Specialist, UNICEF ECARO

Akfer Karaoglan Kahilogullari

Mental Health Expert, World Health Organization (WHO) Country Office in Türkiye

Chairperson :

Rachel McKinney

Team Lead, Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE)

Relinde Reiffers

Senior Technical Expert on MHPSS, Save the Children Netherlands

16:00 - 16:45

PLENARY DEBATE: REPORTING BACK ON THE WORKING GROUPS

Panelists :

Lindsey Hutchison - WG 1A

Head of Global Humanitarian Policy, Advocacy and Diplomacy Unit, Plan International

Iris Abraham - WG 1B

Communications & Fundamental Rights Advisor, Cabinet of the European Commission Vice President for Democracy & Demography

Birgit Van Hout - WG 2A

Director, UNFPA Representation Office to the European Union

Bertrand Bainvel - WG 2B

UNICEF Representative to the European Union Institutions

Chairperson :

Geert Cappelaere

Children's rights expert

16:45 - 17:00

CLOSING REMARKS

Heidy Rombouts

Director General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid at the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

17:00 - 18:00

RECEPTION