



UNESCO

United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural
Organization



Committee: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Topic: Education In War Zones Being Disturbed by the Country's Situation

Written by : Alex Rodriguez

Hello delegates! Welcome to the SPIS Model of the United Nations. We are entirely happy for you to go through this amazing experience. We hope you have fun while learning and working to solve real-world problems through debate skills.

Your Chairs will be Camila Leal, as your Moderator, Manolo Patiño as your Secretary and I, Alex Rodriguez, will be your Director.

We are eager to see how you all have fun debating this topic in this assembly.

If you have any question, feel free to contact us at:

spismunpaseo@sanpatricio.edu.mx

Sincerely,

Alex Rodriguez

I. COMMITTEE BACKGROUND

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a global organization whose mission is to contribute to the building of a culture of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development, and intercultural dialogue through education. UNESCO was established on November 16th, 1945 in London, United Kingdom.



This committee was created to combat the causes of World War II because people wanted to build peace, sustainable development, and human rights by facilitating collaboration and dialogue between nations. Around 700 staff members and 53 field offices worldwide comprise UNESCO. Some of the achievements are the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System in 1965. This captures the fundamental ideas of the Framework for the Global Tsunami and Other Ocean Hazards Warning and Mitigation Systems.

UNESCO's main focus is on global poverty areas like Africa and the gender equality mission to people that have not too many resources to be a stable environment for kids, men, and women. The United Nations has done a lot of things to help kids without education as a cause of war. An example is the Safe School Program. There are only some countries that do not agree to that program, and some of these countries are the USA, Colombia, Russia, and Venezuela. Schools are targeted by attackers who seek to kidnap children and force them to join armed group attacks against schools and hospitals. One of the six grave violations of children in conflict is that girls are especially discouraged from attending school because of the treaty of violence.

Children who experience educational disruptions are less likely to have prosperous futures and will have greater challenges integrating into society as adults. Understanding the recruitment of armed groups is also significantly impacted by inadequate educational opportunities. Consequently, it would seem that a lack of education not only contributes to instability but also undermines peacekeeping efforts and progress. For this reason, ensuring access to education in crisis areas.

II. HISTORY OF THE TOPIC

In 2022 and 2023, there were almost 6,000 attacks on educational institutions, and over 10,000 students, teachers, and academics were harmed, injured, or killed in these attacks, which occurred in armed conflicts across the globe against students, instructors, professors, and staff members of educational buildings and supplies, as well as military use. There was a report that at least 28 countries have experienced 10 cases of attacks or military uses; some examples are India, Iraq, Ukraine, Colombia and more.



Conflicts between countries often lead to attacks on schools because of their use for military purposes; one recent example is the war between Russia and Ukraine. Another example can be that there are criminal groups in the countries that attack the

schools. One example could be Salvador, where the government already solved this problem with the criminal group organizations. Also, in other countries, a cause of mafia or criminal organizations, the schools are on attack.

There are over 250 million kids that doesn't have basic education and over 27 million children can't have the basic education a cause of war or attack attempts in schools this problem is very big in all the earth there is a program that is called the safe schools declaration was opened for state endorsement in Oslo Norway in may 2015 now a days there is 120 states that have endorsed the program safe schools declaration political commitment to better protect students, teachers, schools and universities during armed conflict, to support the continuation of education during war, and to put in place concrete measures to deter the military use of schools.

In 1949, the UN declared that education is a protected right in war zones. In the 1990s, education in war zones became a priority topic because of the Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Rwanda war. In the 2000s, international communication started to recognize the

importance of education and recuperation after war in conflict areas. In 2015 the Development Sustainable Goal number 4 ensures an inclusive and equitable education during all the life of a kid.



It has been estimated by UNESCO that 87 percent of primary and lower-secondary learners in sub-Saharan Africa, where many nations are facing severe war, do not acquire basic literacy skills. This is what UNESCO refers to as a "global learning crisis." Strong teaching materials, mother-tongue instruction, and a sufficient quantity of certified teachers are all associated with high-quality education. In times of crisis, all four elements are frequently in low supply.

III. Current Issues

About 6,000 attacks on education took place in 2022 and 2023 a nearly 20 percent increase in the United States, there have been 46 school shootings in 2024; students and educators are protesting gun violence, with some removing their profession. South states have the highest rate of school shootings since 2008, with Washington, D.C. having the highest rate. Only five states have no school shootings in all United States

Afghanistan has faced decades of conflict, including the Soviet invasion, civil wars, and the rise of the Taliban in the 1990s. Education, especially for girls, was severely restricted during the Taliban's previous rule from 1996 to 2001. In August 2021, the Taliban regained control of Afghanistan, leading to significant concerns about the future of education in the country. Various NGOs and international organizations, such as UNICEF and Save the Children, have been working to provide alternative educational opportunities.

Yemen has faced decades of political instability, exacerbated by civil wars and regional conflicts. The current conflict escalated in 2015, leading to a humanitarian crisis. Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the Arab world, with a high percentage of the population living below the poverty line. The ongoing conflict has devastated the economy,

leading to unemployment and food insecurity. Organizations like UNICEF and Save the Children are working to provide educational support, including temporary learning spaces and supplies

IV. UN Action

The UN has taken several measures to protect education under attack, particularly in conflict-affected regions. The UN has adopted resolutions emphasizing the importance of protecting schools and universities from attack in armed conflict.

Resolution 1998 (2011) and subsequent resolutions call for the protection of education and the need for accountability for violations.

A child's right to education cannot be safeguarded in conflict zones without education itself being protected. Education can be a life-saver. Out of school, children are easy targets of abuse, exploitation and recruitment by armed forces and groups. School should provide a safe space where children can be protected from threats and crises. It is also a critical step to breaking the cycle of crisis and reduces the likelihood of future conflicts.

An action plan is a formal agreement, signed by the Secretary-General's Annual Report on Children and Armed Conflict, between the UN and parties identified as having committed grave violations against children. Every action plan is tailored to the circumstances of a particular party and provides specific, deadline-driven steps that lead to delisting, compliance with international law, and a better future for children.

Despite the efforts of the United Nations, immediate actions are needed to preserve and advance education in all regions of the world, especially the vulnerable communities which also lose what is left of their schools during armed conflicts.



V. Essential Questions

- 1- Where will it be a safe place for children to stay?
- 2- What has your country done to avoid this?
- 3- What can we do to prevent attacks on schools?
- 4- How frequently are the attacks?
- 5- What is the principal cause of the attacks in your country?
- 6- Which solutions do you think are going to be useful in the future?
- 7- How are you going to distribute the children's materials?
- 8- How does the problem affect children?



VI. Conclusion

To address the challenges presented by the attacks on education in conflict zones, it is imperative for the international community to strengthen existing frameworks, such as the Safe Schools Declaration, and ensure they are universally adopted and implemented. While significant progress has been made, including UN resolutions and action plans, the ongoing attacks highlight the need for enhanced protection of educational institutions. Ensuring access to education in these regions is crucial not only for the immediate safety and well-being of children but also for fostering long-term stability and peace. It is essential to continue advocating for education as a protected right in all conflict zones and mobilize resources to create safe educational spaces, even in the most volatile environments. Only through collective action education can be secured and quality education may be achieved.

VII. References

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