

BECAUSE OUR CHILDREN DESERVE IT

Today, it is World Children's Day
20.11.2021



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is 32 years old.

As Peaceful Actions Platform we underline and call the governments to protect the rights of child. Our call is for all the people to unite around the efforts to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This Convention has enjoyed being a human rights convention that has been signed by the largest number of states in UN history. Yet it is necessary for the signatory states to renew the commitments and bring them into concrete actions.

It is so unfortunate that every year millions of children are exposed to violence, abuse and various other types of exploitation. We are living in a world where children are forced to work as workers and even soldiers deprived of the basic rights that they have. They suffer from physical, emotional and sexual violence and are again forced to leave their countries because of the conflicts in their countries. Furthermore, thousands of children are kidnapped and therefore disappear from the face of the earth.

In Turkey, violation of children's rights has become commonplace. As the numbers indicate it is time that significant steps are taken to protect them. According to 2020 date children in the age group of 0-14 constitute 27,2 % of Turkey's population and this renders Turkey a younger population in comparison to other European countries.

However, the number of children that cannot enjoy their rights is rising despite the fact that Turkey is a signatory to UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. According to Turkish Statistics Institute, 18375 children experienced sexual abuse in Turkey in the year 2020. As this is the official figure that consists of the cases that made their way to authorities, there is room to consider that the real figures would be a lot higher. Another unfortunate situation is that a lot of girls are being forced to get married at extremely young ages.

Turkey also violates the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child's articles 17, 29 and 30 regarding the education in the mother tongue. Similarly, a significant number of children suffered from lack of internet access and access to necessary technological devices at a time when the education turned online for significant amount of time.

Distance Learning

Another issue is the children of the political dissidence that have been targeted by the authoritarian government of the country. These children are being excluded not only by the state but also by the broad masses that bought into the narrative of the government. Some of these children have no option but to live with their parents in prison far below international standards. Similarly, they are deprived of state assistance such as the support for handicapped children.



A Sad Result

In brief, there are many children in Turkey that are abused, put to work, silenced, left to the streets, excluded for political reasons and forced to get married at young ages. These children are fighting for their lives.

Being A Child In Turkey

It is so unfortunate that the Law on the Protection of Children also failed to protect them. Of course, it takes time and effort to fully exercise children's rights and there is no commitment on the issue at the side of the state officials.

Every step should be taken on the basis of high benefit of the children. Every child is entitled to an equal, free, happy and dignified life. As Peaceful Actions Platform and its shareholders, we commit there we will remain against every stance that underplays the exploitation of children speak for the rights of the children.

BECAUSE CHILDREN DESERVE THAT!





Today, it is World Children's Day



@4PeacefulAction



www.peacefulactions.org