

Human Rights Watch

Children's Rights

<https://www.hrw.org/topic/childrens-rights/child-soldiers>

Campaign and Advocacy

Thousands of children are serving as soldiers in armed conflicts around the world. These boys and girls, some as young as 8 years old, serve in government forces and armed opposition groups. They may fight on the front lines, participate in suicide missions, and act as spies, messengers, or lookouts. Girls may be forced into sexual slavery. Many are abducted or recruited by force, while others join out of desperation, believing that armed groups offer their best chance for survival. We are working to prevent the use of child soldiers and to hold accountable the people who send children to fight.

October 11, 2022

April 19, 2022

December 17, 2021

Abuses against Children Suspected of ISIS Affiliation in Iraq

Beatings, Electric Shock to Coerce ISIS Confessions

Poor Record of Coalition and Houthi Indiscriminate Attacks and Aid Restrictions

UN, AU Need to Impose Sanctions, Get Court Running

But 4 Countries Recruiting Children Will Still Receive US Military Aid

Pledge Comes Amidst Ceasefire in Prolonged Conflict

Ten Points to Celebrate from 2021

Children Trained to Fight, Deployed Against Government Forces

Government, UN, Donors Should Ensure Reintegration

Guarantee Free Education for All; Tackle Abuses

Dominic Ongwen, Kidnapped by the LRA at Age 10, to Face ICC Judgment

88th pre-session

14 Governments Face Possible Military Sanctions

Treaty's 20th Anniversary Shows Uneven Progress, Need for Improvement

Oct 26, 2022

Preventing Intimidation in US Elections; Landmark Declaration on Explosive Weapons; Dam Trouble in Kyrgyzstan; Take Note; Listen: Qatar's Abuses of LGBT People; Watch: Speaking on Xinjiang at the UN; On Our Terms: Impunity.

Get updates on human rights issues from around the globe. Join our movement today.

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