

ŞHRMUN'24

UNICEF

STUDY GUIDE

**Ensuring access to healthcare services
for vulnerable children in conflict zones
and remote areas**

USG; İNCİ ERCİN



#FORABETTERWORLD

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LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Esteemed Participants and Respected Advisors,

Welcome to the Eskişehir Şehir Schools Model United Nations (ŞHRMUN) conference, happening this April at Eskişehir Şehir Schools. As Secretary-General, I'm honored to address you.

ŞHRMUN'24 is our second annual gathering, where students from around the world come together to explore diplomacy, international relations, and how the United Nations works. This year's theme, "For a Better World," aims to spark insightful discussions and find real solutions to global challenges.

Our committee sessions offer workshops led by experts in different fields, providing valuable insights and skills. We'll also delve into various global issues to enrich your understanding.

As we look forward to ŞHRMUN'24, I encourage you to prepare by researching your assigned countries and topics, learning the rules of procedure, and honing your speaking and negotiation skills. Your active participation is key to our success.

I'm excited for the lively discussions, meaningful connections, and memorable experiences that await us at ŞHRMUN'24. Let's seize this chance to inspire positive change and make a difference in our global community.

Warm regards,

Zeynep Turkurkor

Secretary-General

Eskişehir Şehir Schools Model United Nations

Letter From Under Secretary General

Distinguished delegates,

My name is İnci Erçin and it is my honour to welcome you all to the Şehir College Model United Nations as the Under Secretary General of this committee. We all came together, worked tirelessly and put a lot of effort to present all of you this study guide. I hope that every single one of you will enjoy the debate and discussions that will be held in the committee.

United Nations Children's Emergency Fund is based on protecting the rights of children and providing them an safe environment, education and healthcare system. Our agenda item touches on a very crucial point of the crisis that we are all experiencing right now. Across the world there are many different children who are suffering from the war and forced to flee from their homes, this has caused a significant increase in diseases which can be occur while traveling from one country to another. Since the children who were forced to flee isnt a registered citizen of the country governments cannot acknowledge them and this can cause such severe consequences. I tried my best to provide all of you with the information you need. However, the guide is not always enough. You should do your own research about the agenda item and your country. I believe that every delegate is capable of making great speeches. You just need to believe in yourself and try your best no matter what.

To sum it up, I believe that we can find the best solutions for this touching problem, please do not hesitate to contact me (inciercin2008@gmail.com) if you have any questions. See you all in SHRMUN'24!

Sincerely

İnci Erçin - Under Secretary General

I. Background of United Nations

The United Nations was founded after the Second World War with the aim of preventing future world wars and succeeded the League of Nations, which was described as ineffective. On April 25, 1945, 50 nations met in San Francisco, California, for a conference and began drafting the United Nations Charter, which was adopted on June 25, 1945. The Charter came into force on October 24, 1945, when the United Nations began its work. The objectives of the United Nations as defined in the Charter include the maintenance of international peace and security, the protection of human rights, the provision of humanitarian aid, the promotion of sustainable development and the observance of international law. The United Nations had 51 member states when it was founded; by 2023 there will be 193 – almost all of the world's sovereign states. During the Cold War (1945-1991) the United Nations had played an important and significant part. Helping countries reach peace and provide stable diplomacy, after the war the United Nations did not stop working with protecting human rights, solving humanitarian crises and developing a sustainable environment. The United Nations is actively supporting and promoting human rights (which was adopted in 1948) and development goals (2016-) in the world, providing aid to; conflict zones, natural disaster areas and health crises. United Nations mainly focus on:

1. To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.
2. To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to breach of the peace.
3. To be a centre for harmonising the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

4. To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of people and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace.

II. Introduction to the Committee

a) United Nations Children's Emergency Fund's History

United Nations Children's Emergency Fund as known as UNICEF was established on 11 December 1946 in New York, United States of America. Its official name was set as United Nations International Children's Emergency

Fund. However, it was later changed as the name what we know now in 1954. The organization is one of the best-known and most visible social institutions in the world, operating in 192 countries and territories. UNICEF's activities



include providing immunisation and disease prevention, treating HIV-infected children and mothers, improving child and maternal nutrition, improving sanitation, promoting education and providing emergency relief in the event of disasters. In the same year, the United Nations General Assembly founded UNICEF to further institutionalize post-war relief work. In 1950, the organization's mandate was expanded to address the long-term needs of children and women, particularly in developing countries. In 1953, the organization became an integral part of the United Nations system and its name was later changed to its current form, retaining the original acronym. UNICEF is one of the biggest names in international aid and humanitarian work in the world today. It has received the Nobel Prize, the first to be awarded to an organization rather than an individual, and the Prince of Asturias Award. Although the organization is very active in fundraising, awareness-raising, emergency relief and research,

very few people know the origins of the organization. UNICEF has been an important player in global development work since its foundation. UNICEF is not only active in emergency situations, but also supports developing countries to provide children with basic resources and advocate for children's rights.

b) Countries That Have Regional Offices Of UNICEF:

- i. Europe and Central Asia Regional Office Geneva, Switzerland.
- ii. South Asia Regional Office Kathmandu, Nepal.
- iii. East Asia and Pacific Regional Office Bangkok, Thailand
- iv. Eastern and South Africa Regional Office Nairobi, Kenya.
- v. The Middle East and North Africa Regional Office Amman, Jordan.
- vi. West and Central Africa Regional Office Dakar, Senegal.
- vii. The Americas and Caribbean Regional Office Panama City, Panama.

c) 7 Main Aims Of UNICEF:

- i. Helping reduce child mortality all over the world by working to reach the most vulnerable children, everywhere.
- ii. Promoting policies and access to services that protect all children.
- iii. Supporting quality of learning for all boys and girls all over the world.
- iv. Innovating solutions that accelerate progress for children.
- v. Working to reach children for long-term and lifesaving aid assistance.
- vi. Empowering, woman and girls to the full participation in society.
- vii. Delivering sustainable access to the lifesaving supplies for most vulnerable children.

III. Agenda Item: Ensuring Access to Healthcare Services for Vulnerable Children in Conflict Zones and Remote Areas

1. History of Children Rights

In the middle of 19th century, France has given children special protection and enabled the development of minor rights. Since 1841, the government laws started to protect children in work and construction places. After that in 1881, French law has included the education right for children. At the beginning of 20th century, children's

and young adults' protection starts to take place in the board of the United Nations including social, medical and legal fields. This protection has firstly put out by the French government and then it was put out all across the Europe. As 1919, the international committee and League of Nations started on improving and strengthening the concept and elaborate a committee for children protection. On September 16, 1924, The League of Nations adopted the Declaration of the rights of the children.

The Second World War and its victims put thousands of children in a catastrophic situation. As a result, the UN Emergency Fund for Children was founded in 1947, from which UNICEF emerged and was given the status of a permanent international organization in 1953. From the beginning, UNICEF focused primarily on helping young victims of the Second World War and mainly cared for European children. However, in 1953, its mandate was extended to a truly international scope and its activities were expanded to include developing countries. Since 10 December 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has recognized that “motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance”. in 1959, the UN General Assembly adopts the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. Following the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations proclaimed that human rights should be respected and guaranteed throughout the world. In 1979, the United Nations declared 1979 the International Year of the Child. In May 2000, the International Charter on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict was discussed in committee. The Charter, adopted in 2002, prohibits the participation of minors in armed conflict.

To date, the International Charter on the Rights of the Child has been signed by 190 countries, with the exception of the USA and Somalia, which have signed but not ratified it.

2. Current Conflict Zones and how it effects Children:

Over 400 million children live in the countries where is war or conflict going on and they are often forced to leave their homes in search of a safe environment. Many of them are displaced for a time or never return to their homes, some has become orphaned or separated from their legal guardians. Over half of the citizens that were killed by land mines in the war are children, UNICEF reports that attacks on children have been in a triple of the normal since 2010. The children who are suffering in conflict zones such as: Russia-Ukraine conflict, Isreal- Palestine conflict, Syria civil war, Myanmar civil war and more

Children also being forced to join the armed services to provide support and help the army, these children are being being threatened with death, deprived of food, given drugs and risk at physical and mental injury. UNICEF calls on all organisations to take action on their obligations under international law; and to immediately end violations against children and the targeting of civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and water sources. UNICEF plays an important role in establishing alliances and organisations to address violence against children, by improving data availability and help raise awareness. Specific program efforts include:

- supporting millions of children in areas affected by landmines and explosive weapons with prevention and survivor assistance interventions.
- creating and supporting Child-Friendly Spaces that give children a safe space to rest, play, learn and receive psychosocial support
- helping to dismantle systematic sexual abuse and providing recovery services to victims.

- protecting children from military conscription, facilitating the release of child soldiers and supporting their reintegration back into their communities
- providing emergency relief to children impacted by war, including medical care, safe water and sanitation, hygiene kits and more
- caring for and working to reunite children who have been separated from their families

3. Children being forced to join armed forces:

Lot's of children are being taken and used in armed conflicts all across the world. Between the years 2005 and 2022, more than 100,000 children were recruited and trained to be used by armies in the conflicts. Although the numbers are verified by the governments the people who are living there had reported that the numbers are much higher than told. These children are often referred as the child soldiers who suffer from extensive forms of exploitation and abuse that are not fully captured by that term. The children is not only used as fighters, also they are used as cooks, porters, guards, messengers and many more. Many of them being girls and also subjected to gender-based violence.

Children becoming part of an armed force or group for extensive reasons; some of them are threatened, coerced, abducted and manipulated by armed actors to join the armed force, others are being effected by poverty and stressed to have an income for their families. No matter their involvement, the recruitment and use of children by armed forces is a grave violation of child rights and international humanitarian law.

4. Healthcare services that work with UNICEF:

i. Intergovernmental Organisations:

1. *United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*: USAID is the world's leading international development agency and a catalytic actor driving development results. USAID's work promotes U.S. national security and economic prosperity, demonstrates American generosity, and fosters a path to self-reliance and resilience for recipients.

ii. Non-governmental Organisations and Advocacy Network:

1. *Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN)*: Is a Network organisation committed to improving the quality of life of those in need, particularly in Asia and Africa, regardless of their background, faith or gender. Their multi-faceted development approach aims to help communities and individuals to stand on their own two feet.
2. *Food Fortification Initiative (FFI)*: supports country leaders in promoting, planning, implementing and monitoring the fortification of industrially milled wheat flour, maize flour and rice. FFI is the only global group that focuses exclusively on these three commonly consumed cereals.
3. *Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)*: The organisations aim is improving nutritional outcomes by increasing the consumption of nutritious and safe food for all people, especially those most affected by malnutrition.
4. *Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance*: The alliances aim is improving access to new and underutilised vaccines for millions of vulnerable children, the Vaccine Alliance is transforming people's lives, helping to boost the economies of low-income countries and making the world a safer place for all.

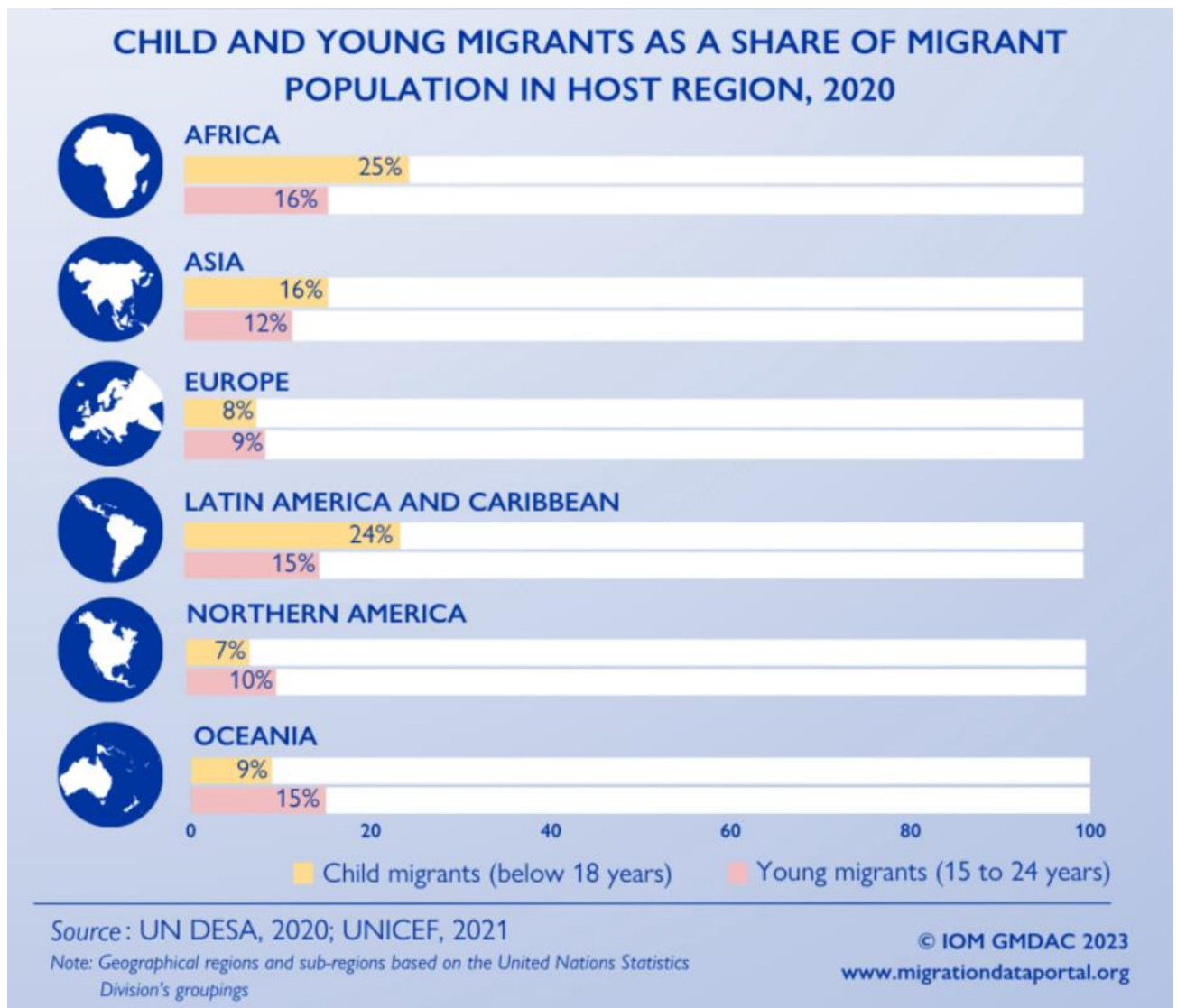
5. *Iodine Global Network (IGN)*: The Iodine Global Network is committed to the sustainable elimination of iodine deficiency worldwide. The organization dedicated to ensuring that salt is forever iodized to protect the health and brain development and learning abilities of children everywhere.
6. *International Pediatric Association (IPA)*: The International Pediatric Association (IPA) was founded in Paris in 1910 by a group of European paediatricians who gathered in 1912 for the first International Congress of Pediatric's. Over the years, the IPA has evolved into a non-governmental organization comprising 154 national pediatric societies from 144 countries, 7 regional pediatric societies representing all regions of the world, 12 international pediatric societies and one affiliated society. The IPA, which is currently staffed by volunteers, is incorporated in Switzerland and governed by a Council of Delegates composed of one representative from each member society, an elected Standing Committee, an Executive Committee of the Standing Committee and the Officers.
7. *Sabin Vaccine Institute (SVI)*: Sabin Vaccine Institute collaborated with several institutions, including George Washington University, Baylor University of Medicine, and Texas Children's Hospital for Vaccine Development, to research low-cost vaccines against infectious diseases and neglected tropical diseases This research included vaccines against human hookworm, Chagas disease, schistosomiasis, leishmaniasis, onchocerciasis, West Nile and SARS.
8. *Save the children*: The Save the Children organisation is committed to addressing the special needs of children to give them a healthy start in life, give them the opportunity to learn and protect them from harm. This creates lasting change for children, their families and communities.

9. *Scale Up Nutrition (SUN)*: The SUN was established in 2010, the SUN Movement has inspired a new way of working collaboratively to end malnutrition, in all its forms. With the governments of SUN Countries in the lead, it unites people; from civil society, the United Nations, angels, businesses and experimenters in a collaborative work to ameliorate nutrition.
10. *Sickkids Center for Global Child Health (C-CGH)*: The Center is dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable children and their families. Throughout collaboration in research, sustainable development of education and active usage of advocacy.
11. *World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA)*: WABA is a global network that promotes, supports and protects breastfeeding.

iii. United Nations Agencies and International Financial Institutions:

1. *World Health Organisation (WHO)*: WHO is a UN organisation that brings nations, partners and people together to promote health, make the world safe and help the vulnerable – so that all people everywhere can achieve the highest level of health
2. *Asian Development Bank (ADB)*: ADB was established in the early 1960s as a financial institution that would be a help for economic growth and cooperation in one of the poorest regions in the world.
3. *Food And Agricultural Organisation (FAO)*: FAO was established under UN for decreasing and leading international works to defeat hunger.
4. *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*: UNDP was established under the UN to help end the poverty, reduce inequalities and exclusion, building a sustainable environment for the future.

5. *United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)*: UNFPA was established in order to provide safer children birth areas and help the world believe every pregnancy is wanted.
6. *United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)*: The UNHCR was founded to help people who have been displaced from their homes and forced to leave them for their own safety. The agency provides international help and assistance to these people who suffer from extreme conditions.
7. *World Food Programme (WFP)*: WFP is the largest association that save lives and provides food to make a peace, sustainability and environment friendly place for people who has suffered from disasters and the climate change.



IV. Questions To Be Considered:

- How did children in war zones suffered from mental illness?
- How can NGO's support children's healthcare services in the countries where they migrated?
- What education services can be provided to the future generations?
- What actions may be taken for the children who suffered and was the victim of the medical non accessibility?

- How can UN bodies support the accessible healthcare to the children?

V. Useful Links

- <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/12/05/afghanistan-taliban-schools-also-failing-boys>
- <https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/emergency-response/conflict#:~:text=In%20war%2C%20children%20suffer%20most&text=Often%20forced%20to%20flee%20their,remnants%20of%20war%20are%20children>
- <https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/emergency-response/conflict#:~:text=In%20war%2C%20children%20suffer%20most&text=Often%20forced%20to%20flee%20their,remnants%20of%20war%20are%20children>

VI. Reference

<https://www.unicef.org/history#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20International%20Children's, had%20played%20in%20the%20war.>

<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/history-of-the-un>

<https://the.akdn/en/home>

[United States Agency for International Development](#)

[Food Fortification Initiative](#)

[Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition](#)

<https://www.gavi.org/our-alliance/about>

<https://ign.org/>

<https://ipa-world.org/page.php?id=142>

<https://www.sabin.org/about/our-history/>

<https://www.savethechildren.org/us/what-we-do>

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/about/what-we-do>

<https://www.sickkids.ca/globalchildhealth/>

<https://waba.org.my/>

<https://www.who.int/>

<https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/about#history>

<https://www.fao.org/about/about-fao/en/>

<https://www.undp.org/>

<https://www.unfpa.org/about-us>

<https://www.unhcr.org/what-we-do>

<https://www.wfp.org/who-we-are>

<https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/emergency-response/conflict#:~:text=In%20war%2C%20children%20suffer%20most&text=Often%20forced%20to%20flee%20their,remnants%20of%20war%20are%20children.>

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/countries-currently-at-war>

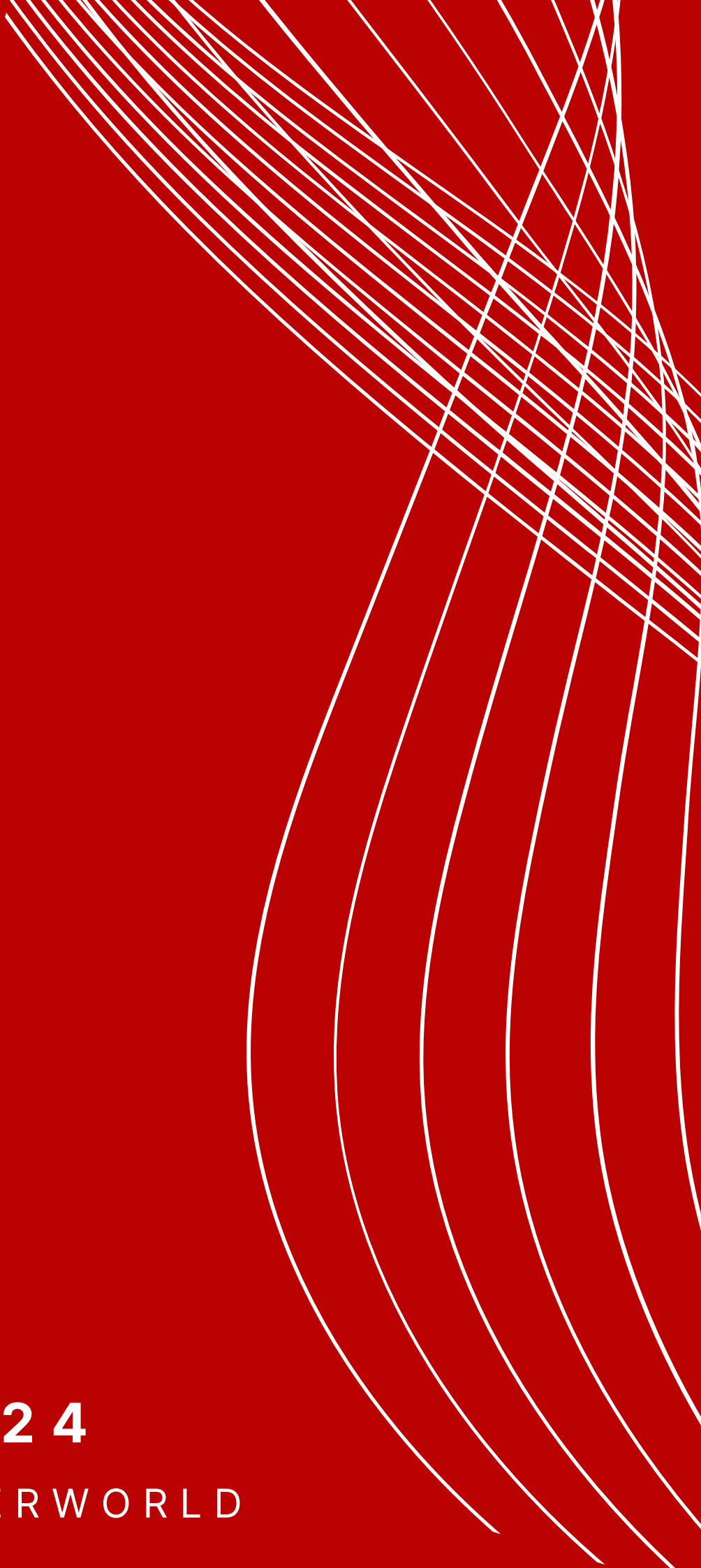
<https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/history-child-rights>

<https://www.humanium.org/en/childrens-rights-history/>

<https://www.unicef.org/protection/children-recruited-by-armed-forces>

<https://www.unicefusa.org/what-unicef-does/emergency-response/conflict#:~:text=Specific%20interventions%20and%20program%20efforts,been%20separated%20from%20their%20families>

<https://www.migrationdataportal.org/themes/child-and-young-migrants>



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