

# Lesson 2.7



## Child Protection

### Lesson at a Glance

#### Aim

To explain the duties of peacekeeping personnel in child protection.

#### Relevance

As peacekeeping personnel, the UN expects you to protect and promote human rights, including children's rights.

Children are vulnerable, and have special protections under international law. You must protect children from the six grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict. This includes protection from violence such as illegal recruitment into armed forces and armed groups as "child soldiers".

This lesson explains your responsibilities to protect children and promote their rights. You must be familiar with the special vulnerabilities of girls and boys.

#### Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Define a "child" according to international law
- Explain why children need special protection, especially during armed conflict
- Describe the duties of peacekeeping personnel to protect children and promote their rights, as reflected in UN policies
- List actions to take to protect children

## Lesson Map

**Recommended Lesson Duration: 60 minutes total**

1-2 minutes per slide

Use short option learning activity

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## The Lesson



### Starting the Lesson

Introduce the following (using the Introductory Slides):

- Lesson Topic
- Relevance
- Learning Outcomes
- Lesson Overview

The subject matter in this lesson can be disturbing. The content is not just technical information. Prepare participants, noting that they may find it hard to accept and understand the deliberate harm to children. Privately ask participants with peacekeeping experience if they have observations or insights they can share. They may have tips on coping with emotional reactions to the difficult realities of children in conflict. If willing, invite them to help introduce the lesson with you. Learning activities include an exercise on interviews with child soldiers. Use these to guide participants in absorbing this content through the eyes of children affected by armed conflict, as well as the eyes of peacekeeping personnel.

## Learning Activity

## 2.7.1

### Film: *A Child's Fate – Child Protection and Peacekeeping*

#### METHOD

Film, group discussion

#### PURPOSE

To consider the impact of conflict on children and the importance of their special protection

#### TIME

15 minutes

- Film: 12:22 minutes
- Wrap-up: 2 minutes

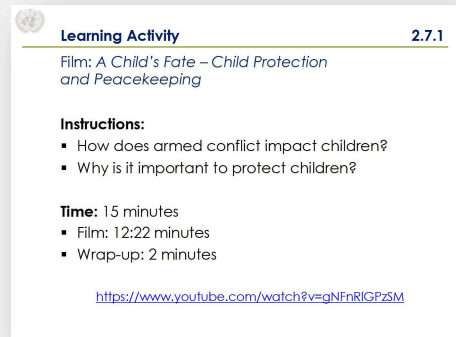
#### INSTRUCTIONS

- How does armed conflict impact children?
- Why is it important to protect children?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNFnRIGPzSM>

#### RESOURCES

- Learning Activity instructions



The thumbnail shows a document titled "Learning Activity" with the reference number "2.7.1". The subtitle is "Film: *A Child's Fate – Child Protection and Peacekeeping*". Under the heading "Instructions:", there are two bullet points: "How does armed conflict impact children?" and "Why is it important to protect children?". Below this, under the heading "Time:", there are three bullet points: "15 minutes", "Film: 12:22 minutes", and "Wrap-up: 2 minutes". At the bottom of the document is the URL <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNFnRIGPzSM>.


## Definitions

### Slide 1



**1. Definitions**

- A **child** is every boy or girl under the age of 18
- The aim of **Child Protection** is to protect children from violence, abuse and neglect, and promote their rights



**Key Message:** International law treats individuals under 18 years as children, irrespective of the national legislation on the age of a child. All children under the age of 18 have special protections and care under international law.

### What is a Child?

In some cultures, children enter adulthood once they marry, become partners or earn their own income. The social role they assume defines maturity, not age.

However, peacekeeping personnel should adhere to the internationally accepted definition.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is one of the international treaties that expand and detail specific human rights introduced in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and key covenants. The CRC states that a child “*means every human being below the age of 18 years, unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier*” (CRC, Art. 1).

“Age of majority” is the age that law recognizes a person as an adult.

Common understanding is that a child is every girl or boy under 18 years. This means every child from birth until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. This definition guides actions of all peacekeeping personnel.

### **What is Child Protection?**

The aim of Child Protection is to:

- Protect children from violence, abuse and neglect
- Promote their rights

**Protection of child rights** includes attention to the right to food, health and education. Children should have access to basic services such as health, food, sanitation, shelter and clean water.

**Learning Activity****2.7.2****Age and Vulnerability****METHOD**

Brainstorm, discussion

**PURPOSE**

To consider the specific vulnerability of children in general and in conflict situations

**TIME**

10 minutes

- Brainstorming: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 3 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Think about your childhood or your children's
- Identify needs and milestones in development at 0-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-12 years, 13-18 years
- Reflect on the vulnerability of children in armed conflict at these different ages

**RESOURCES**

- Learning Activity instructions
- Activity materials
- Photos

**Learning Activity** **2.7.2**

Age and Vulnerability

**Instructions:**


- Think about your childhood or your children's
- Identify needs and milestones in development at 0-3 years, 4-6 years, 7-12 years, 13-18 years
- Reflect on the vulnerability of children in armed conflict at these different ages

**Time:** 5 minutes

- Brainstorming: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes


**Learning Activity 2.7.2**

Image 1



## Importance of Attention to Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)


### Slide 2



### 2. Importance of Attention to Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)

Special Protection for Children

- Easily influenced
- Depend on structures for protection care
- Process of growing up



**Key Message:** When adults go to war, children bear the scars throughout their lives. Armed conflict disproportionately affects children.

Why are children most vulnerable during armed conflict? Why do children need special protection in conflict and post-conflict settings?

There are three reasons:

1. **Children can be more easily influenced and used than adults.** They may not fully understand consequences of actions. For example, an armed force or group may lure them to join with promises of employment or protection. Children have also innocently acted as 'suicide bombers', carrying explosives hidden in their bags or clothing without knowing it.
2. **Children depend on family, community and government structures for protection and care. Conflict destroys these structures.** Displaced and unaccompanied children are at greater risk of exploitation or abuse.
3. **Children are still growing up. The violence in armed conflict poses risks to their healthy development.** For example, the denial of access to basic services, including enough nutrition, has a more serious long-term effect on children than on adults. Babies and younger children are especially vulnerable. Similarly, traumatic experiences during this time or other negative influences to their development, such as indoctrination, carry more consequences for children than for adults.



**Examples of differences between experiences of girls and boys affected by armed conflict:**

While all children face increased risk during armed conflict, the needs of girls and boys may differ based on their gender roles during and after conflict. **Peacekeeping personnel need to consider these differences – especially those involved in planning, operations, protection, and all work with exposure to children.**

**Example 1: Darfur.** In refugee and Internally Displaced Person (IDP) settings throughout the world, women and girls are more vulnerable to sexual violence because of an almost daily need to leave camps in search of firewood for cooking. For example, in Darfur women and girls often walk several kilometres away from camps to find a few branches to burn. This turns them into prime targets for militia groups, national military or police forces and other men who act in a climate of impunity.

**Example 2: Afghanistan.** In Afghanistan, most victims of mines and other explosive remnants of war are boys aged 8 to 15. Boys often assume roles in Afghan society that take them outside the house, for example, herding cattle. Boys tend to be targeted for alleged association with armed forces and groups more than girls. This puts boys at greater risk of physical attack, detention and torture.

Low-level, intra-state conflicts have replaced major wars between two sovereign states. These conflicts are less visible, with less humanitarian access. Lines between civilians and combatants are blurring. **Today's wars increasingly target children, women and other civilians. Schools and hospitals – which are life-sustaining and life-saving for children – are increasingly targeted. Children in conflict need protection more now than ever before.**

**Examples of conflict-related abuse and violations of child rights:**


The UN documents conflict-related abuses and violations of child rights. The Secretary-General's report on Children and Armed Conflict (2016) reported the scale of the issue within one year – from January to December 2015. The figures may be higher, as many cases are not reported. This is because of lack of access and the fears of survivors and witnesses.

- **Afghanistan:** 2, 829 children killed or injured
- **The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):** 254 child victims of sexual violence
- **Nigeria:** 1. 8 million IDPs, including more than 1 million children
- **Somalia:** 523 children abducted
- **South Sudan:** 159 incidents of child recruitment and use, affecting 2, 596 children
- **Syria:** 6, 500 schools destroyed, partially damaged, used as IDP shelters, or inaccessible




*Before you move on with the lesson, see if participants can name the six grave violations against children's rights in armed conflict. Explain that these six are part of policy, and that peacekeeping personnel need to identify and report on them. What do they think the six are? Note points made on a flip-chart sheet, using one colour of pen for the six, another colour of pen for others people name. Prompt with questions. Ask the group what human right is violated in each case to strengthen applied understanding of human rights.*

Slide 3



**Six Grave Violations against Children's Rights in Situations of Armed Conflict**

1. Killing and maiming
2. Recruitment and use of children
3. Abduction
4. Sexual violence
5. Attacks against schools and hospitals
6. Denial of humanitarian access



**Key Message:** “War violates every right to a child”, Graca Machel concluded to the UN Secretary-General, following the 1996 landmark study, “The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children”. Six Grave Violations occur against children in conflict zones:

1. Killing and maiming
2. Recruitment and use of children by any armed force or armed group
3. Abduction
4. Sexual violence
5. Attacks against schools and hospitals
6. Denial of humanitarian access



*The content below covers the definitions of the six grave violations. Definitions are from the UN Field Manual for Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on Grave Violations against Children in Situations of Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC/UNICEF/DPKO, June 2014).*

Knowing the definitions of each grave violation helps peacekeeping personnel identify and report violations.

**Killing and maiming:**

- **“Maiming”:** refers to permanent injury. Killing and injury of children results from direct targeting and indirect actions. For example: crossfire, landmines, cluster munitions, improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Death or injury can happen as part of military operations, armed group activities, house demolitions, search-and-arrest campaigns or suicide attacks. Torture is reported under this violation.

**Example: Darfur**

Children were killed and maimed in incidents involving explosive remnants of war (ERW), shooting, shelling and aerial bombings by different parties fighting each other, including government forces.

**Recruitment and use of children:**

- **“Recruitment”**: enlisting any person under the age of 18 years in any armed force or group - compulsory, forced or voluntary.
- **“Use of children”**: use of children by armed forces or groups in any capacity. For example: boys and girls as fighters, cooks, porters, messengers, sexual slaves, spies and collaborators. “Use of children” does not only refer to children taking part directly in hostilities. The term “child soldier” suggests a role limited to fighting. A different term avoids that misconception: “children associated with armed forces and armed groups” (CAAFAG).



*Both the Geneva Conventions and the CRC state that children under the age of 15 years shall not be recruited into armed forces or used in hostilities. It is the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict, which is the treaty that aims to raise the age of compulsory recruitment and participation in hostilities to 18 years. The legal framework for child protection is covered below, with more details on these aspects.*

**Example: Iraq**

Armed groups recruited and used children to spy and scout, transport military supplies and equipment, videotape attacks for propaganda, plant improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and attack security forces and civilians.

**Abduction:**

- **“Abduction”:** unlawfully taking a child temporarily or permanently for exploitation. Abducted children may be removed, seized, captured, apprehended or forcibly disappeared. Exploitation includes:
  - Recruitment and use in armed forces or groups
  - Participation in hostilities
  - Sexual exploitation or abuse
  - Forced labour
  - Hostage-taking
  - Indoctrination

An armed force or group that recruits a child by force commits two separate violations, abduction and recruitment.

**Example: Libya.**

Opposition forces abducted children from camps for IDPs. They were interrogated in military bases.



*Ask participants if they know what “enforced disappearance” is. “Enforced disappearance” or “forced disappearance” is when state officials (or those acting on their behalf) arrest, detain or abduct individuals against their will and refuse to acknowledge their whereabouts. This definition is taken from the Declaration on the Protection of Persons from Enforced Disappearance – proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in resolution 47/133 of 18 December 1992.*

**Sexual violence:**

- This violation refers to any violent sexual act done to a child. Conflict related sexual violence (CRSV) includes rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization, and other forms of sexual violence.

**Example: DRC**

All parties to the conflict committed sexual violence against children. Most child survivors were between 8 and 17 years. Some were under 6 years.

**Attacks against schools and hospitals:**

- Includes both indiscriminate and direct attacks on schools and hospitals – buildings which are civilian objects – as well as attacks on the people. In armed conflict, there are recurrent attacks or threats against:
  - Schools and hospitals – including physical attacks, looting, and destruction
  - School children, educators and medical personnel – including killing, injury, abduction, and use as human shields

There are other interferences to the normal operation of these facilities. These include occupation, shelling and targeting for propaganda by armed forces or groups.

**Example: Afghanistan**

Attacks against schools, teachers, school staff and students going to and from school are examples of how conflict deprives children of their right to education.

**Denial of humanitarian access:**

- Intentional denial or obstruction to the passage of humanitarian assistance by parties to an armed conflict to people in need – in particular, children
- Obstruction to humanitarian actors to access and help children affected by armed conflict
- This denial violates international humanitarian law (IHL) – in other words, the Geneva Conventions

**Example: Somalia**

An army group issued an access ban against humanitarian organizations, affecting over 3.5 million people, half of them children.

**Learning Activity****2.7.3****Risks to Children during Armed Conflict****METHOD**

Testimonies, brainstorm, discussion

**PURPOSE**

To increase understanding of and empathy with children in armed conflict, and to consider the differences in the experiences of girls and boys

**TIME**

Short option: 10 minutes

- Brainstorming: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 3 minutes

Longer option: 25 minutes


- Brainstorming: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 10 minutes
- Summary and close: 5-7 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Consider the testimonies of children
- Why are they at risk?
- How does being a child increase their vulnerability?
- Does gender play a part?

**RESOURCES**

- Learning Activity instructions
- Testimonies
- Responses to discussion questions

 **Learning Activity** 2.7.3

Risks to Children during Armed Conflict

**Instructions:**

- Consider the testimonies of children
- Why are they at risk?
- How does being a child increase their vulnerability?
- Does gender play a part?

**Time:** 10 minutes

- Brainstorming: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 3 minutes

## UN Partners Leading in Addressing CAAC

### Slide 4



### 3. UN Partners Leading in CAAC

- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC)
- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)




**Key Message:** The UN created the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC), with a specific mandate to protect children from the impact of armed conflict. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is the leading humanitarian and development agency working globally for the rights of every child.

### **The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC):**

- The leading UN advocate for protection and well-being of children affected by armed conflict is the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAAC).
- The General Assembly created this mandate (Resolution A/RES/51/77).
- The SRSG-CAAC:
  - Strengthens protection of children affected by armed conflict
  - Raises awareness
  - Promotes collection of information about the challenges of children affected by war
  - Fosters international cooperation to improve the protection of children
  - Reports yearly to the General Assembly and Human Rights Council



- The SRSG-CAAC raises awareness amongst political bodies, for example the Security Council and relevant governments of Member States. The purpose is to:
  - Maintain a sense of urgency amongst decision-makers
  - Engage political and diplomatic support
- The Security Council has provided tools for the SRSG-CAAC to respond to violations against children

**The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF):**

- Works for the rights, survival, development and protection of children. This cuts across the life cycle of a child, from pre-natal to adolescence.
- Activities include safe shelter, nutrition, protection from disaster and conflict, pre-natal care for healthy births, clean water and sanitation, healthcare and education.
- Improves lives of children and families through its global presence in different countries.
- Lobbies and partners with leaders, thinkers and policy makers to advance children’s access to their rights, especially the most disadvantaged.

## Legal Framework



Participants should be familiar with parts of the international legal framework. Name the topic and ask participants to brainstorm: What legal framework covers child protection in conflict? This also serves to check absorption of key content. Two have been named so far: (1) IHL or the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols and (2) the UN CRC. Participants may also be able to name Security Council resolutions that apply, or refer to the Rules of Engagement (ROE) and Directives on the Use of Force (DUF). Note all points and draw on them as you move through the lesson.

### Slide 5



#### 4. Legal Framework

- International Law
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989)
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC, 2000)
- The International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 182 (1999)
- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC, 1998)
- Mine Ban Treaty of 1997 and Convention on Cluster Munitions (2008)




**Key Message:** The legal framework obligates UN peacekeeping operations to protect children in armed conflict. International human rights and humanitarian law entitle children to special protection and care.

The world community has steadily strengthened the legal framework for protecting children during conflict. Peacekeeping personnel need to be aware of important international treaties.

### International Humanitarian Law – Geneva Conventions (1949) and its Additional Protocols (1977):

- Protects children as civilians in international and intra-state armed conflict
- Also entitles children to special protection and care due to their age

**UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989):**

- Covers all basic rights of children, including to the right to education, health, survival and participation
- Member States obliged to CRC are to undertake the necessary actions and policies to further children's best interests
- This is the most ratified human rights treaty. At 31 December 2016, only one UN Member State has not ratified it – the United States

**Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (2000):**

- Its adoption marked a key turning point in addressing the involvement of children in armed conflict
- Strengthens protection of children during armed conflicts
- Focuses on recruitment and use of children in hostilities
- Increases the age limits for direct involvement in hostilities to a minimum of 18 years

**International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 182 (1999):**

- Calls for *“immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency”*
- Considers forced or compulsory recruitment for use in hostilities as one of the worst forms of child labour

**Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) (1998):**

- Makes recruitment and involvement of children under 15 years in hostilities a war crime

**The Mine Ban Treaty (1997) and Convention on Cluster Munitions (2008):**

- Ban the use of these weapons
- Have specific provisions to a) teach communities about the risk of mines and b) offer assistance for survivors

Some national laws and traditional customs of host states may not reflect international law. They may even contradict it. For example:

- Female genital mutilation or circumcision (FGM/C): Although illegal under international law, is prevalent in some parts of the world.
- Rape: National laws may not consider rape a crime, particularly rape within marriage.

- Age of marriage: National laws may set the legal age for marriage below international norms.

In such cases, **international laws and standards supersede national laws.**



*For more information on the special protection measures required under IHL, see article 77 of the first Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions and article 4 of the second Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions.*

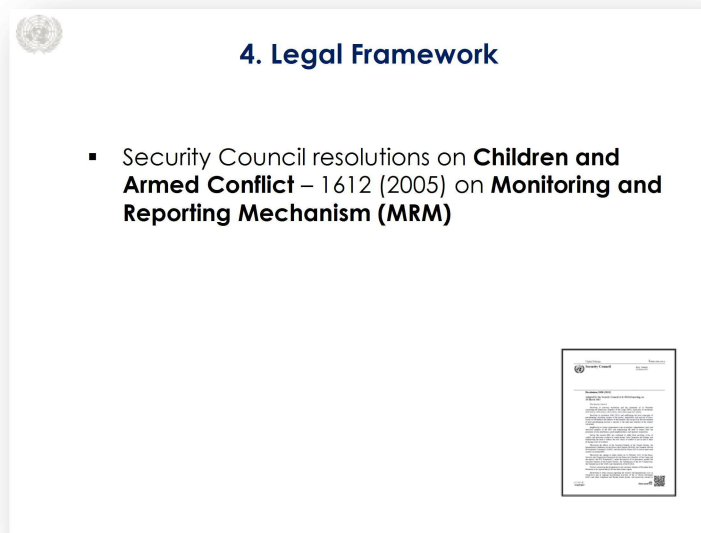


*Both international law and UN attention to child protection have become stronger. To help learners see this trend, consider preparing a timeline that shows key developments in international law and UN Security Council resolutions covered below (as suggested for lessons on WPS and CRSV). A timeline prepared as a wall graphic is an effective way to help people see trends over time.*

The legal framework also includes child protection mandate provisions in two key documents:

- Rules of Engagement (ROE)
- Directives on the Use of Force (DUF)

**Slide 6**



**Key Message:** In 1999, the Security Council formally acknowledged protection of children in armed conflict as an international peace and security concern when it passed Security Council resolution (SCR) 1261. This marked the beginning of the Security Council “children and armed conflict” agenda.

The Security Council has re-confirmed commitment to children in war zones through more resolutions:

- SCR 1314 (2000)
- SCR 1379 (2001)
- SCR 1460 (2003)
- SCR 1539 (2004)
- SCR 1612 (2005)
- SCR 1882 (2008)
- SCR 1998 (2011)
- SCR 2068 (2012)

The Security Council's "children and armed conflict" agenda makes the protection of children in armed conflict a high-level policy priority of UN peacekeeping operations (UNPKOs).

### **The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism**

The landmark Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) established the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM).

The MRM is a global system to monitor and report grave violations of children's rights in armed conflict. The goal is to hold perpetrators accountable.

The MRM focuses on the six grave violations introduced above:

- Killing and maiming of children
- Recruitment and use of children
- Abduction
- Sexual violence
- Attacks against schools and hospitals
- Denial of humanitarian aid

UN-led country-based task forces – co-chaired by UNICEF and DPKO – gather information on these grave violations and engage in dialogue with parties to armed conflict about how to end them.

The Security Council receives this information through the Secretary-General's reports on children and armed conflict. Responses may be sanctions or other measures. By identifying the perpetrators and exposing the crimes ("naming and shaming"), the UN system works to increase political and public pressure on armed forces and groups to end violations.



*The Monitoring Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA) for CRSV and the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) for Child Protection are similar. Stress that MARA and MRM are on-the-ground support for peacekeeping personnel to report abuses/violations of the rights of children and women.*

The **Group of Experts** is the *Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict*. It was established with the 15 Security Council members in 2005. The Working Group reviews, reports and recommends measures to promote protection of children affected by armed conflicts. The recommendations are made to the Security Council, governments, donors and the UN system. Recommended measures may include appropriate mandates for peacekeeping missions.

Most peacekeeping missions have full-fledged human rights mandates. Together with protection of civilians (POC) mandates, there is detail on special attention to the protection of boys and girls. Similarly, provisions on conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) give special attention to women and men, girls and boys.

The Security Council has included child protection in mandates of several UN peacekeeping operations.

Peacekeeping personnel have legal and professional duties to protect children and promote their rights.

**Example: Specific Provision for Protection of Children in MONUSCO Mandate, DRC**

In Resolution 1952 (2010) on the situation in the DRC, the Security Council “encourages the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) to continue to share all relevant information with the Group of Experts, especially information on the recruitment and use of children, and on the targeting of women and children in situations of armed conflicts” (Paragraph 13).

## DPKO-DFS Policies on Child Protection

### Slide 7

**5. DPKO-DFS Policies on Child Protection**

<p><b>DPKO-DFS Policy on Mainstreaming Child Protection (2009)</b></p> <p>"DPKO shall ensure that the concerns of protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into all aspects of UN peacekeeping".</p>	<p><b>DPKO Policy on the Prohibition of Child Labour in UN Peacekeeping Missions (2011)</b></p> <p>"The use of children under the age of 18 for the purpose of labour or rendering of services by UN peacekeeping operations is strictly prohibited".</p>
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**Key Message:** Peacekeeping missions have a critical role in carrying out Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict. DPKO-DFS policies guide peacekeeping operations to promote, respect and protect children's rights.

### DPKO-DFS Policy on Mainstreaming Child Protection (2009)

The policy states: *"DPKO shall ensure that the concerns of protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into all aspects of UN peacekeeping"*.

Core actions are:

- **Monitoring and reporting grave violations against children:** Peacekeeping missions monitor and report grave violations committed against children. There is a Country-based Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR).
  - The Child Protection unit is a member of the CTFMR. Other units are also included. For example: Human Rights, Political Affairs and Civil Affairs. They support information collection from relevant parts of a mission. UN military and police are particularly relevant as the eyes and ears of the mission.
  - The CTFMR is co-chaired by:
    - The Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Head of Mission (SRSG/HOM) or the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG)
    - The UNICEF representative

- **Dialogue with perpetrators:** The SRSG/HOM is responsible for dialogue with perpetrators. Dialogue is needed to develop action plans to end violations of children's rights including recruitment and use. The SRSG/HOM consults with the CTFMR and OSRSG-CAAC.
- **Training on child protection:** UNPKOs are responsible for ensuring all peacekeeping personnel are trained on child protection. Child Protection Advisers (CPAs) are deployed to help implement child protection provisions of mandates. Where deployed, CPAs ensure continuous training and guidance on child rights.

### **DPKO-DFS Policy on Prohibition of Child Labour in UN Peacekeeping Operations (2011)**

The policy states: *“the use of children under the age of 18 for the purpose of labour or rendering of services by UN peacekeeping operations is strictly prohibited, regardless of the minimum age of child labour stipulated under the national law in the mission's area of operation, and irrespective of the involvement of compensation (in the form of a salary, food or other benefits)”*.

- **The UN prohibits peacekeeping personnel from using anyone under 18 years for labour.**
- Peacekeeping personnel cannot have a cook, cleaner, driver or house help who is under the age of 18 years. This is child labour.
- Children are not allowed on UN premises to do any tasks. In some cultures, young girls set up stalls to sell milk or vegetables or cut hair. Since they are conducted by children, these services are not allowed and peacekeeping personnel must not support them.



*This position may seem harsh. Peacekeeping personnel may want to support local people in their livelihoods. Families are fractured and children may be the only income source. The policy is strong for a reason. Supporting child labour is a kind of abuse and violation of child rights. Let learners know that they can consult the Child Protection unit in the mission on issues relating to children. More details on the Child Protection unit are given later in the lesson.*

*Instructors should note that the new DPKO-DFS Policy on Mainstreaming Child Protection due in 2017 replaces the 2009 policy.*



## Learning Activity

## 2.7.4

### Obligations when Interacting with Children

#### METHOD

Visuals, scenarios, questions

#### PURPOSE

To clarify the obligations of peacekeeping personnel when interacting with children

#### TIME

Short option: 5 minutes

- Brainstorming: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes

Longer option: 15-20 minutes

- Brainstorming: 7-10 minutes
- Discussion: 7-15 minutes

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Consider the scenarios
- What should you do?

#### RESOURCES

- Learning Activity instructions
- Responses to discussion questions
- Scenarios with photos

**Learning Activity** **2.7.4**

Obligations when interacting with Children

**Instructions:**

- Consider the scenarios
- What should you do?


**Time:** 5 minutes

- Brainstorming: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes

**Learning Activity 2.7.4**

**Scenario 1**

You are newly deployed to a UN peacekeeping mission. As you are waiting at a traffic intersection, two little boys come and offer to clean your car for a small amount of money.




## Child Protection in UN Peacekeeping

### Slide 8



### 6. Child Protection in UN Peacekeeping

- Alert for six grave violations
- Alert to other violations:
  - Illegal arrest, detention
  - Forced displacement
  - Trafficking for sexual exploitation, domestic labour
- Record and refer to child protection, human rights experts



**Key Message:** As peacekeeping personnel, you need to be alert and able to identify violations against children.

### Be Alert for the Six Grave Violations

To “**be alert**” is to be “**vigilant**” or “**watchful**”. All peacekeeping personnel are responsible for fully understanding the violations which the UN expects them to report on. **The primary focus should be on the six grave violations committed by armed forces or groups in armed conflict.** Mandates and resources are limited. While children suffer a range of violations in conflict zones, the Security Council selected these six because of a) their gravity and b) the UN’s ability to monitor and report on them.

Keep in mind that these violations only refer to violations:

- Committed as a direct result of armed conflict
- Usually perpetrated by parties to the conflict

Sexual violence and exploitation by peacekeeping personnel is not listed as one of the six grave violations and not covered by SCR 1612. Neither is child participation in a criminal gang.

### Be Alert for Other Violations

Peacekeeping personnel may also be alert to other violations in a mission area.

Examples:

- **Arrest and detention of children:** The arrest and detention of children is a serious concern in conflict settings. It may result from alleged association with armed forces or groups. Children may be seen as 'enemies' or 'deserters' – rather than a victim of child rights violations.
- **Forced displacement:** Forced displacement may be of concern when it relates to fear of child recruitment, sexual violence or any other grave violation.
- **Child trafficking:** Armed groups or criminals have also taken advantage of the desperate situation of children and insecure borders. Children are “traded” or “trafficked” for sexual exploitation or domestic labour.

### Recording and Referral

Peacekeeping personnel report basic information to Child Protection, Human Rights or Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) units competent on these issues for verification and follow-up. Child Protection and Human Rights units must investigate.

Reported information is also essential to:

- Refer survivors of violations to appropriate services
- Provide them with medical, legal or psycho-social help

The Child Protection unit, CPA or Child Protection focal point leads in referrals involving children, based on information from peacekeeping personnel. There are referral systems set up by UNICEF, humanitarian actors and other child protection partners. This is for timely and adequate responses.

## Slide 9



**Coordination with Child Protection Partners**

- UNICEF
- Other UN agencies – UNHCR, ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA
- International and national NGOs
- National ministries – social, health, education, youth and inter-agency groups

The slide also includes a grid of logos for the following organizations: UN DPKO, UNICEF, United Nations Human Rights, UNHCR (The UN Refugee Agency), UN Women (United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women), ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA, and THE WORLD BANK.

**Key Message:** Peacekeeping missions coordinate with children's rights and child protection partners. Coordination and information sharing are essential for adequate response.

UN, national and external partners include:

- UNICEF
- Other UN agencies – for example, UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Labour Organization (ILO), UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UN Population Fund (UNFPA)
- Relevant international and national NGOs
- National ministries – for example, social, health, education, youth and inter-agency groups

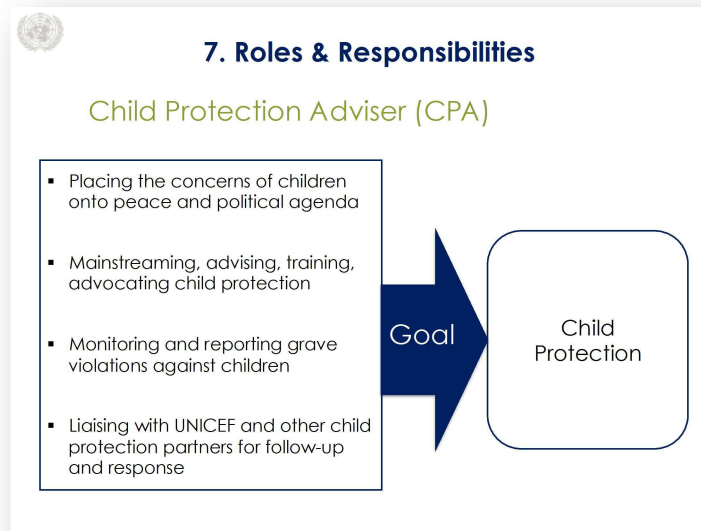
Peacekeeping missions report on cases of sexual violence against a child. They do not provide survivor support. Humanitarian actors and other child protection partners are equipped and able to give the child survivor timely and life-saving services. Services include medical, psycho-social and legal assistance.

The Child Protection unit of the mission helps to identify and facilitate contact with relevant partners. Specialist knowledge and expertise are essential in the follow-up of delicate cases, for example, risks of traumatization and witness protection.

Contacts and follow up with mission partners on child protection should go through or happen in close consultation with CPAs or Focal Points, whenever possible.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### Slide 10



**Key Message:** The Child Protection unit of the mission leads and coordinates the child protection work of the mission.

**Child Protection Advisers (CPAs)** are specialist personnel sent to missions to help fulfil child protection mandates. In the absence of a Child Protection unit, the mission may designate the Human Rights component or another mission component as focal point on child protection.

The focus of their work is to:

- Place the concerns of children on the peace and political agenda.
- Ensure child protection becomes an integral part of the mission's engagement, through advising mission leadership on mainstreaming or integrating child protection concerns.
- Coordinate the child protection work of the mission. Child protection is a shared responsibility. Peacekeeping personnel coordinate with the CPA or the Child Protection focal point on child protection and actions relating to children.
- Train newly-deployed peacekeeping personnel on child protection. This adds to child protection training every peacekeeping personnel must receive before deployment. In-mission briefings are also given on the specifics of children affected by armed conflict in the peacekeeping area, and how personnel are to share information.
- Advocate child protection issues with mission leadership and partners.
- Monitor and report on the six grave violations against children.

- Liaise with UNICEF and other child protection partners for follow-up and response to individual cases.
- Help establish dialogue with perpetrators to end the gravest violations against children – including the recruitment and use of children associated with armed forces and armed groups (CAAFAG). This dialogue has led to signing of action plans by military and armed groups and the release of thousands of CAAFAG.

**Slide 11**



**Key Message:** All components in a mission contribute to child protection in their daily tasks.

Some units **work closely** with the Child Protection unit.

**Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR):**

- Work with CPAs to identify children associated with armed forces and groups.
- Ensure children get special protection during the DDR process.

**Human Rights:**

- Assist with investigations of human rights violations committed against children in armed conflict.
- Feed into information collection on grave violations.
- Monitor illegal arrest of children.

**Political Affairs:**

- Ensure child rights and child protection concerns are part of political negotiations.

**Gender Adviser and Women Protection Adviser:**

- Help identify and address gender-specific protection needs of girls and boys in conflict and post-conflict settings.



*Get participants to brainstorm what roles other units have in child protection. Use lists of units from earlier lessons or ask people to name a unit and its role. List points on a flip-chart sheet and build on them. Prompt with the question: What about...?. After the brainstorm, cover content below as a summary review, reinforcing the group's growing knowledge base.*

Other units **contribute** to child protection.

**Civil Affairs:**

- Sensitize local community on child protection concerns.

**Rule of Law (ROL)/Justice:**

- Advise local counterparts on juvenile justice reform.
- Ensure children's rights are secured in national legislation.

**Corrections:**

- Monitor the presence of children in prisons and refer to CPA.

**Security Sector Reform (SSR):**

- Help ensure protection of children and young people in weapons collection programmes.
- Follow *International Small Arms Control Standards (2012)*, for example:
  - Children and adolescents get priority at weapons collection point
  - A staff member experienced at interacting appropriately with children helps with handover and follow up, as necessary

**Electoral Assistance:**

- Help avoid exploitation of children for political purposes in election campaigns.
- Ensure safety of pregnant women and young children accompanying adults during voting.

**Mission Support:**

- Movement Control (MovCon) supports the availability of transport to respond to child protection concerns.

**The SRSG/HOM:**

- Ensures child protection concerns are a priority in a peace process.

**All Mission Personnel:**

- Effective child protection depends on commitment of mission staff in all components.
- The UN expects peacekeeping personnel to protect children and promote their rights:
  - In each specific function
  - According to mission mandate
  - Guided by the CPA or Child Protection focal point



Slide 12

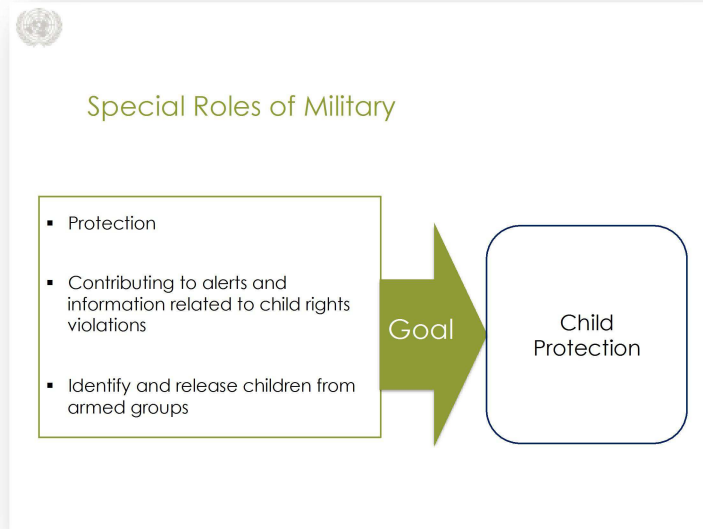


**Key Message:** The police component can take action in support of child protection.

UN Police:

- Advise national police force in dealing with children in contact with the law to ensure the rights of children, including victims and witnesses, as well as perpetrators
- Train members of the new or restructured national police service on human rights, including child protection
- Report to Child Protection or Human Rights units when children are arrested by national police, so they can follow up

Slide 13




**Key Message:** In daily tasks, military peacekeeping personnel contribute to a mission’s child protection mandate.

Military:

- Provide physical protection to children facing imminent threats
- Monitor and report on the six grave violations against children
- Provide alerts and information to CPAs on child rights violations faced during regular work
- Help identify and support the implementation of action plans to release children from armed groups
- Support DDR


## What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do

### Slide 14



### 8. What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do

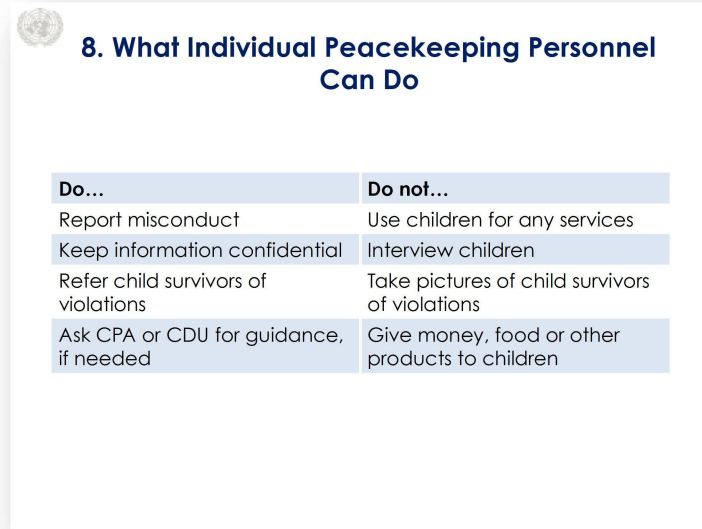
- Identify and be alert – Six Grave Violations
- Record essential information
- Do not interview
- Report to CPA or other experts



**Key Message:** All UN peacekeeping personnel have a duty to protect children in their official functions and personal conduct. Peacekeeping personnel must be ready to take action if they see violations against children.

- **Identify and be alert** to protection threats and violations against children, including the **Six Grave Violations**.
- **Record essential information** about observed violations or threats: time, location, alleged perpetrator, victim and circumstances.
- **Do not interview.** Take note of the age and sex of the child. Gather information on his/her parents or caretakers, including if it concerns an unaccompanied or separated child.
- **Report to CPA** or other relevant units (for example, Human Rights, DDR) for verification and follow up, including referral of survivors to services.

Slide 15



**8. What Individual Peacekeeping Personnel Can Do**

Do...	Do not...
Report misconduct	Use children for any services
Keep information confidential	Interview children
Refer child survivors of violations	Take pictures of child survivors of violations
Ask CPA or CDU for guidance, if needed	Give money, food or other products to children

**Key Message:** Peacekeeping personnel should make the child's safety and well-being the priority. The best interest of the child should guide all contact with them.

While some situations may not appear harmful at first, they may cause harm to children or their families.

**Here are some “dos” and “don’ts” to help peacekeeping personnel make the right decisions:**

**DOs**

- Do report suspected misconduct or sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by peacekeeping personnel to the Conduct and Discipline unit (CDU).
- Do keep information on child protection confidential, as this information is often sensitive (e.g. names, locations, images).
- Do refer survivors of violence to appropriate services through the CPA.
- Do ask the CPA or CDU for guidance if you are uncertain about how to respond to certain situations.

**DON'Ts**

- Do not use children for sexual services, labour or any other services.
- Do not interview children. Note down the basic information and share this with units trained to work with children, e.g. Child Protection or Human Rights units.
- Do not take pictures of child victims of human rights violations, or use these pictures in reports. This includes children in custody or children associated with armed forces or armed groups.

- Do not give money, food or other products to children. It may encourage children to beg from other strangers who could harm them.

## Summary

### A “child” is an individual under 18 years

- International law treats individuals under 18 years as children, irrespective of the national legislation on the age of a child

### Children need special protection, especially in conflict

- Children need special protection in conflict and post-conflict settings because:
  - Children can be more easily influenced and used than adults.
  - Children depend on family, community and government structures for protection and care. Conflict destroys these structures.
  - Children are still growing up. The violence in armed conflict poses risk to their healthy development.

### The duties of UN peacekeeping personnel: protect children and do not use children for labour or services

- **DPKO-DFS Policy on Mainstreaming Child Protection (2009)** states: *“DPKO shall ensure that the concerns of protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into all aspects of UN peacekeeping.”* Core actions are:
  - Monitoring and reporting on the six grave violations against children
  - Dialogue with perpetrators to end violations
  - Training on child protection for all peacekeeping personnel
- **DPKO-DFS Policy on Prohibition of Child Labour in UN Peacekeeping Missions (2012)** states: *“the use of children under the age of 18 for the purpose of labour or rendering of services by UN peacekeeping operations is strictly prohibited”*. Peacekeeping personnel cannot have a cook, cleaner, driver or house help under age 18. This is child labour. Children are not allowed on UN premises to do any tasks.

### You must take action – be alert to violations, record essential information, coordinate, intervene

- Peacekeeping personnel must be ready to take action if they see violations against children:
  - Identify and be alert to protection threats and violations against children
  - Record essential information about observed violations or threats
  - Gather information on the child
  - Report to the CPA for verification and follow up

## Evaluation

**Notes on Use:** An example of learning evaluation questions for this lesson may be found below.

There are different types of learning evaluation questions for the instructor to choose from (See Options). Types of learning evaluation questions are:

- 1) Narrative
- 2) Fill in the blank/sentence completion
- 3) True-False

Combine in different ways for pre-assessment and post-assessment. Each evaluation type covers different content. No sub-set covers all learning outcomes. Make sure you include learning evaluation questions for each learning outcome when you combine them.

Three main uses of evaluation questions are: a) informally ask the whole group, b) semi-formally assign to small groups or c) formally give to individuals for written responses.

Evaluation Questions for Lesson 2.7	
Questions	Answers
<b>Narrative</b> <i>Note: Frame narrative evaluations as questions, requests or directions</i>	
1. Give three reasons why children need special protection in conflict and post-conflict.	<p><b>Children can be more easily influenced than adults.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ may not fully understand consequences of actions</li> <li>- an armed force or group may lure them to join with promises of employment or protection</li> <li>- may innocently act as 'suicide bombers,' carrying explosives hidden in bags or clothing without knowing</li> </ul> <p><b>Children depend on family, community and government for protection and care. Conflict destroys these supports.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ displaced and unaccompanied children are at greater risk of</li> </ul>

	<p>exploitation or abuse</p> <p><b>Children are still growing up. The violence in armed conflict poses risks to their healthy development.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ denial of access to basic services, including enough nutrition, has a more serious long-term effect on children than on adults</li> <li>▪ babies and younger children are especially vulnerable</li> <li>▪ traumatic experiences during this time or other negative influences such as indoctrination carry more consequences for children than for adults</li> </ul>
<p>2. What DPKO/DFS policy guides peacekeeping operations in their critical role carrying out Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict? Describe 3 core actions in the policy.</p>	<p><i>DPKO/DFS Policy on Mainstreaming Child Protection (2009)</i></p> <p><b>Monitoring and reporting grave violations against children</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Peacekeeping missions monitor and report grave violations committed against children.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dialogue with Perpetrators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SRSG/Head of Mission (HOM) is responsible for dialogue with perpetrators. Goal is to develop action plans to end violations of children's rights, including recruitment and use.</li> </ul> <p><b>Training on Child Protection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Peacekeeping operations are responsible for ensuring all peacekeeping personnel are trained on child protection.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Name four “dos” and four “don’ts” for individual peacekeepers on child protection.</p>	<p><b>DO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do report suspected misconduct or sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) to the Code and Discipline Unit (CDU).</li> <li>▪ Do keep information on child protection confidential as this</li> </ul>



	<p>information is often sensitive (e.g. names, locations, images).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do refer survivors of violence to appropriate service, if possible through the CPA.</li> <li>▪ Do ask the CPA or CDU for guidance if you're uncertain about how to respond to certain situations.</li> </ul> <p><b>DON'T</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Don't use children for sexual services, labour or any other services.</li> <li>▪ Don't interview children. Just note down the basic information and share this with units trained to work with children, e.g. Child Protection or Human Rights.</li> <li>▪ Don't take pictures of child victims of human rights violations, including children in custody or children associated with armed forces or armed groups, or use these pictures in reports.</li> <li>▪ Don't give money, food or other products to children. It may encourage them to beg from other strangers who could harm them.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Peacekeepers must be alert and ready to take action if they see violations against children. What actions are basic?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify and be alert to protection threats and violations against children – this means know main protection threats including six grave violations.</li> <li>▪ Record essential information about observed violations or threats:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- time</li> <li>- location</li> <li>- alleged perpetrator</li> <li>- victim</li> <li>- circumstances</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Take note of the age and sex of the child and gather information on his or her parents or caretakers, including if it concerns an unaccompanied or separated child.</li> <li>▪ Report to CPA or other competent colleagues (HR, DDR) for verification</li> </ul>

	and follow up, including referral of survivors to services.
<b>Fill in the blanks</b>	
5. Under international law, a child is every boy or girl under ____ years.	18
6. What policy states: <i>“DPKO shall ensure that the concerns of protection, rights and well-being of children affected by armed conflict are specifically integrated into all aspects of UN peacekeeping.”</i>	<i>DPKO-DFS Policy on Mainstreaming Child Protection (2009)</i>
7. All contact with external actors and follow-up on child protection goes through or happens in close consultation with _____.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Child Protection Advisers or</li> <li>▪ Child Protection focal points</li> </ul>
<b>True-False</b>	
8. Peacekeeping missions monitor and report grave violations committed against children.	<p><b>True</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ one of 3 core tasks in DPKO-DFS policy on mainstreaming child protection (2009)</li> <li>▪ country-based Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) leads</li> <li>▪ co-chaired by SRSG or DSRSG and UNICEF representative, with Child Protection and other substantive sections: human rights, political and civil affairs</li> </ul>
9. The UN does not permit peacekeepers to pay children for work, but they can give them food or other benefits.	<p><b>False</b></p> <p>The UN prohibits all use of children under 18 for labour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ UN prohibits all child labour</li> <li>▪ regardless of age permitted in national law</li> <li>▪ regardless of whether exchange is for money or other benefits</li> </ul>

**Commonly Asked Questions and Key Words**

Key Words or phrases for this lesson:

Key Word or Phrase	Definition
<b>Child</b>	<p>The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) states that a child “means every human being below the age of 18 years, unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.” (CRC, Art. 1)</p> <p>“Age of majority” is the age that law recognizes a person as an adult.</p>
<b>Child protection</b>	<p>The aim of <b>child protection</b> is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) protect children from violence, abuse and neglect, and</li> <li>b) promote their rights.</li> </ul> <p><b>Protection of child rights</b> includes attention to the right to food, health, and education.</p> <p><b>Child protection</b> is protection of children from violence, abuse and exploitation.</p>
<b>Six Grave Violations</b>	<p><b>Six Grave Violations</b> occur against children in conflict zones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) killing and maiming;</li> <li>(2) recruitment and use of children by any armed force or armed group;</li> <li>(3) abduction;</li> <li>(4) sexual violence;</li> <li>(5) attacks against schools and hospitals; and</li> <li>(6) denial of humanitarian access.</li> </ul> <p>Definitions are in the UN Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) Field Guide on Grave Violations against Children’s Rights in Situations of Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC/UNICEF/DPKO, April 2010).</p> <p>While children suffer a range of violations in conflict zones: the Security Council selected these six because of a) their gravity and b) the UN’s ability to monitor and report on them.</p>

<p><b>Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM)</b></p>	<p>The landmark Security Council resolution 1612 in 2005, established the <b>Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM)</b>.</p> <p>The <b>MRM</b> is a global system to monitor and report on the six grave violations of children's rights in armed conflict. The goal is to hold perpetrators accountable.</p> <p>Peacekeeping missions monitor and report grave violations committed against children. There is a Country-based Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR). The Child Protection unit is a member of the CTFMR. Other units are also included. For example: Human Rights, Political Affairs, and Civil Affairs.</p> <p>UN-led country-based task forces gather information on the six grave violations and engage in dialogue with parties to armed conflict about how to end them.</p> <p>The Security Council receives this information through the Secretary-General's reports on children and armed conflict. Responses may be sanctions and other measures. By identifying the perpetrators and exposing their crimes ("naming and shaming"), the UN system works to increase political and public pressure on armed forces and groups to end violations.</p> <p>The MRM is put in place where parties to conflict are listed in annexes of the Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict.</p> <p>Before 2009, only parties recruiting and using children were named in report annexes. Through Resolution 1882 (2009) and Resolution 1998 (2011), the Security Council decided to also list those armed forces and groups who kill and maim children, commit sexual violence against children, and attack schools and hospitals. By expanding early focus on child recruitment and use, the Security Council took an important step toward addressing all six grave violations.</p>
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Commonly asked questions from participants:

Possible Questions	Possible Responses
<p>Is the recruitment of anyone under 18 into armed forces a human rights violation or a war crime?</p>	<p>According to both IHL and international human rights law, the forced recruitment of anyone under 18 and their participation in hostilities is strictly forbidden. This has been prosecuted as a war crime. Under human rights law, countries are permitted to allow children between the ages of 15 and 18 to voluntarily join the armed forces of a State. If 15-18 year-olds are forced to join armed forces or other armed groups that are separate from the State's armed forces, then this may be considered a violation of their human rights.</p>

## Reference Materials

Below are materials which are a) referenced in this lesson, and b) required reading for instructor preparations:

- [Charter of the United Nations, 1945](#)
- [United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines, also known as the Capstone Doctrine, 2008](#)
- Review peacekeeping mission mandates (See 'Additional Resources')
- [The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, 1949](#)
- [International Bill of Human Rights](#)
- [Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948](#)
- [Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court \(ICC\), 1998](#) (came into force in 2002)
- [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child \(CRC\), 1989](#)
- [Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 2000](#)
- [International Labour Organization \(ILO\) Convention 182, 1999](#)
- [The Mine Ban Treaty \(also known as the Ottawa Convention\), 1997](#)
- [Convention on Cluster Munitions, 2008](#)
- [Report of the Expert of the Secretary-General \(Graça Machel\) on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children, 1996 \(A/51/306\)](#)
- [General Assembly resolution on Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children, 20 February 1997 \(A/RES/51/77\) \(Establishment of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict \(OSRSG-CAAC\)\)](#)
- [Report of the Secretary General: Children and armed conflict \(S/2016/360\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1261 \(1999\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1261\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1314 \(2000\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1314\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1379 \(2001\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1379\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1460 \(2003\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1460\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1539 \(2004\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1539\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1612 \(2005\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1612\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1882 \(2009\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1882\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1998 \(2011\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/1998\)](#)

- [Security Council resolution 2068 \(2012\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/2068\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 2143 \(2014\) on Children and Armed Conflict \(S/RES/2143\)](#)
- [Security Council resolution 1674 \(2006\) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict \(S/RES/1674\)](#)
- [DPKO-DFS Policy on Mainstreaming the Protection, Rights and Well-being of Children Affected by Armed Conflict within United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, 2009](#)
- [DPKO-DFS Policy on Prohibition of Child Labour in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, 2011](#)
- [DPKO-DFS Policy on Training for all United Nations Peacekeeping Personnel, 2010](#)
- [OSRSG-CAAC/UNICEF/DPKO, Field Manual for Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism \(MRM\) on Grave Violations against Children in Situations of Armed Conflict, 2014](#)

## Additional Resources

### UN Information

The website for UN peacekeeping: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/>

UNICEF: <https://www.unicef.org/>

UN Office of the SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC):  
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/>

Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) tools: <http://www.mrmtools.org/mrm/>

Original Security Council Resolutions on peacekeeping mission mandates:  
<http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/>

(You must know the start year, country and resolution reference details for the mission you wish to search for. For this information, identify the name of the mission using the following links: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/current.shtml>;  
<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/past.shtml> )

### UN Documents

UN documents can be found on: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.html> (Search by document symbol, e.g. A/63/100)

## DPKO and DFS Guidance

The repository for all official DPKO and DFS guidance is the Policy and Practice Database: <http://ppdb.un.org> (only accessible from the UN network). Official peacekeeping guidance documents are also accessible through the Peacekeeping Resource Hub: <http://research.un.org/en/peacekeeping-community>. Instructors are encouraged to check for the latest guidance.

## UN Films

UN films can be found on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/unitednations>

[A Child's Fate - Child Protection and Peacekeeping \(12:22 minutes\)](#)

[Children in armed conflicts: Ishmael Beah speaks of the devastation of war \(6:13 minutes\)](#)

[Mandated to Protect: Protection of Civilians in Peacekeeping Operations \(43:12 minutes\)](#)

## Additional Information

Human rights information on the situation in a country from the website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR):

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/HumanRightsintheWorld.aspx>

Latest human rights reports issued by the UN Secretary-General, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and to identify key human rights violations:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/PeaceMissionsIndex.aspx>

(Click on the appropriate link for countries with peace operations).

Country-specific information on the international humanitarian response:

<http://www.reliefweb.int>

OHCHR, The Core International Human Rights Treaties:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CoreInstruments.aspx>

OHCHR, New Core International Human Rights Treaties:

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/newCoreTreatiesen.pdf>

Trainers should let participants know that in addition to the Mission-specific information received during this training, participants should also familiarize themselves with the Pre-deployment Information Package (PIP). The PIP provides information on the mission and the local context.



### **Additional Training Resources**

UN peacekeeping training materials can be found on the Peacekeeping Resource Hub: <http://research.un.org/en/peacekeeping-community/Training>

UN peacekeeping Specialised Training Materials (STMs) include:  
Protection of Civilians Operational Level (POC OL)  
Protection of Civilians Operational Level (POC TL)  
Integrated Protection of Civilians Training (IPOC) – for UN Military  
Child Protection (CP) – for UN Military  
Child Protection (CP) – for UNPOL

UN mandatory training 'United Nations Human Rights Responsibilities' can be accessed on Inspira:  
<http://inspira.un.org>

For additional information or support on human rights aspects of this lesson, instructors can contact the Methodology, Education and Training Unit of the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva at [Metu@ohchr.org](mailto:Metu@ohchr.org)