



Reinforcement Training Package on Child Protection for the United Nations Police

Pre-training Assessment – Answers

1. What is the international definition of a child that the United Nations Police (UNPOL) should promote?
 - e. Anyone below the age of 18



Article 1 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that a child is every person below the age of 18 years, unless under the national law applicable to the child the age of majority is attained earlier.

2. What is the international definition of a child associated with an armed force or an armed group?
 - c. Any person under the age of 18 who is or has been recruited or employed by an armed force or armed group in any capacity



The Paris Principles define a “child associated with an armed force or an armed group” as any person below 18 years of age who is or who has been recruited or used by an armed force or armed group in any capacity, including, but not limited to children, boys and girls, used as fighters, cooks, porters, messengers and spies or for sexual purposes. It does not only refer to a child who is taking or has taken a direct part in hostilities.

3. A child in contact with the law is:
 - e. A child who has either been a victim of a crime, a witness of a crime or who is in conflict with the law



A person below the age of 18 who comes into contact with the justice system as a result of being suspected or accused of committing an offence, or as a victim or witness of a criminal offence, fits that definition.

4. Child protection is defined as:
 - a. The prevention of and response to all forms of violence against children



The term 'child protection' refers to preventing and responding to violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse against children. In its simplest form, child protection addresses every child's right not to be subjected to harm. It complements other rights that, together, ensure that children receive what they need in order to survive, develop and thrive.

5. Which violation of children's rights is not considered a 'grave violation against children in situations of armed conflict' and is not covered by the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism established by Security Council Resolution 1612 (2005)?
 - b. Trafficking for labour exploitation



All violations of children's rights should be monitored and reported, including, but not limited to, the six grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict. In this sense, trafficking in children for the purpose of labour exploitation is a serious violation which must be monitored and reported by UNPOL personnel. However, it will not be reflected in the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism, which focuses only on the six grave violations (killing and maiming, recruitment and use, rape and other forms of sexual violence, abduction, attacks on schools and hospitals, and denial of humanitarian access).

6. Which one of these acts is not considered a crime under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court?
 - c. Under crimes against humanity: Arbitrary and prolonged detention of children



While arbitrary and prolonged detention of children is unlawful in many countries and contrary to the rights of children stipulated in several international conventions and guidelines, it does not constitute a crime against humanity for the purpose of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

7. Which of the following mandates is not attributed to United Nations peace operations by the Security Council?
 - g. Conduct preventive actions directly with vulnerable population, including children, and provide direct services to those in need



The role individual United Nations Police (UNPOL) personnel is to mentor and advise host-State police and not to undertake direct interactions with children themselves.

8. Which statement is correct?

- a. The United Nations Police (UNPOL) is bound to the international norms, laws and standards and must uphold the highest international standards of protection, including child protection standards, in all aspects of their work through assisting, mentoring, advising, reporting, promoting, training, etc.



The United Nations Police (UNPOL) must understand the nature of the national legal system, promote the implementation of international norms and standards according to the principle of the best interests of the child, and get informed on child protection issues in the context of the national legal system.

9. Can a child who witnessed a crime contribute to judicial proceedings?

- c. Yes, if the conditions are met to adapt the process to the special rights afforded to children in justice proceedings



Child witnesses should be treated fairly and equally no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, what they think or say, whether they are boys or girls, rich or poor. This includes migrants and refugees and children who are sick, can't hear or speak, or use a wheelchair or crutches.

10. Is sexual and gender-based violence against children a concern during armed conflict?

- b. Yes, girls are the primary victims of sexual and gender-based violence, while boys too are also subjected to different forms of sexual and gender-based violence



Armed conflicts create an environment in which sexual and gender-based violence can become endemic because of the climate of impunity and the security vacuum that the conflict aggravates. While women and girls comprise the overwhelming majority of victims of sexual and gender-based violence, it is important to recognise that men and boys are also targeted and victimised by sexual and gender-based violence.