

“SIMPLY PUT, AGE IS NOT WHAT MAKES THE WORLD GO AROUND. IT IS IDEAS. AND TO PROTECT THE YOUTH AND TO PROTECT CHILDREN IS TO PROTECT IDEAS AND TO PROTECT THE FUTURE.”

- MYRAH OLOO

(YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DALLAIRE INSTITUTE'S INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL)



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CHILDREN, PEACE AND SECURITY

A POLICY CHECKLIST ON BUILDING THE AGENDA TOGETHER

2022



WHAT THIS IS

A policy checklist on what governments need to understand, and tangible actions they must take, to build and implement a Children, Peace and Security (CPS) agenda. The recommendations below are meant to create dialogue and galvanize action in building a CPS agenda together.



THE CHILDREN, PEACE AND SECURITY POLICY CHECKLIST AT A GLANCE

1. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

The development of a UN Security Council Resolution on Children, Peace and Security is key to ensuring there is international agreement on what a CPS agenda looks like.

2. NATIONAL CPS ACTION PLANS (GOVERNMENT MANDATES)

Government ministries must have clear national mandates which set out their roles and responsibilities in upholding a CPS agenda.

3. INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEGAL STANDARDS

States must ratify or endorse key children's rights treaties and standards and amend or pass domestic legislation that aligns with these international obligations.

4. NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY INCLUSION

National security and defence policies must be revised to include reference and provisions on the prioritisation of children's protection in national policy, doctrine, and directives.

5. FOREIGN POLICY INCLUSION

The design of new foreign policies must include and prioritise child-centred indicators, early warning indicators and children's perspectives and all foreign policy tools must be used to uphold, implement and strengthen a CPS agenda.

6. RESOURCES

Financial targets need to be set for CPS agenda resourcing.

7. CHILDREN'S PERSPECTIVES ON PEACE

States must harness children's potential by prioritising their perspectives in building and upholding a CPS agenda, including involving their perspectives in peace processes, as well as empower the youth to give voice to the protection of children.

8. INTERSECTIONALITY

States must ensure that the diversity of children's experiences in conflict is factored into the development of law, policy and practice.

9. IDENTIFYING AND FILLING IN THE GAPS

States must work with civil society and academic partners to better understand the gaps in current global policy with respect to children, peace and security and how to address them.

10. IMPACT

States must design effective monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning mechanisms to measure the impact of a global CPS agenda.