

MOOC on Children's Right to Education in Armed Conflicts

LECTURERS AND EXPERTS



**Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education
Farida Shaheed - OHCHR**

Farida Shaheed, from Pakistan, took office as new Special Rapporteur on the right to education on 1st August 2022. She is a sociologist and the Executive Director of Pakistan's leading gender justice organization, Shirkat Gah - Women's Resource Centre.

Widely published, and the recipient of several international and national human rights awards, her research and work as development consultant/practitioner have been dedicated to promoting and protecting people's rights, in particular marginalized groups such as women, persons of non-binary identities, those living with disabilities, religious and ethnic minorities, and the economically marginalized. She is also an independent expert/consultant to numerous U.N., international and bi-lateral development agencies, the government of Pakistan, as well as civil society initiatives, and serves on multiple international and national advisory committees.

She is a former member of Pakistan's National Commission on the Status of Women, and served as the first UN Independent Expert, and then Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights from 2009 to 2015. She has explored issues of education related to, inter alia, children's rights in the digital world, the impact of advertising in schools, history teaching and the right to scientific education.



**Elin Martínez
Senior Researcher, Human Rights Watch**

Elin Martínez is a Senior Researcher in the Children's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch where she works on the right to education. She conducts research, national and global advocacy, and advises Human Rights Watch staff on legal and policy issues, including on the right to inclusive primary and secondary education, school-related sexual violence, and discrimination and exclusion faced by girls, children with disabilities, refugee

children, and minorities.

Elin previously worked for the Global Partnership for Education's Secretariat, as well as Save the Children UK, where she led the organization's global advocacy efforts on the right to education in humanitarian emergencies. Prior to focusing on global education advocacy, she worked with grassroots human rights defenders and advocacy organizations in the Asia Pacific region to increase accountability for human rights violations through UN and national human rights bodies.

Elin has been a trustee of the Right to Education Initiative since 2017. She is a member of the Global Working Group to End School-related Gender-based Violence.



Hewad Alikhil

GC Alumnus

Hewad Alikhil, from Afghanistan, has recently graduated with a master's degree from the Global Campus of Human Rights.

The situation of Afghanistan and the collapse has always kept him awake during the night, even if sometimes he was far away. It deeply affects him witnessing the terrible conditions under which the people of Afghanistan has to live. He has always tried to be engaged in these issues one way or another.

Currently, he is working at one of the embassies in Berlin, Germany and also helps refugees during the weekends. He hopes to go back to Afghanistan one day and be in the service of his brothers and sisters.



Bede Sheppard

Deputy Director, Human Rights Watch

Bede Sheppard is the deputy director of Human Rights Watch's children's rights division. For more than a decade he has specialized in investigating war crimes and other abuses involving students, teachers, and schools during armed conflict.

He was a leading civil society advocate during the process that led to the 2014 Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict, and the 2015 Safe Schools Declaration. He has also conducted research and advocacy on the right to education during the Covid pandemic,

alternative care for children, the use of the death penalty on children, child domestic workers, extrajudicial executions, and forced evictions from informal settlements.

He has conducted human rights investigations in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Japan, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Nigeria, the Philippines, Thailand, Ukraine, and Yemen.



John Paul P. A. Amah

Children's Rights Officer, Global Campus of Human Rights

John Paul P. A. Amah joined the Global Campus of Human Rights as an intern in 2021. He worked with the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty team and supported the project management on children's rights. Presently, he is the Child Rights Officer based in Venice and supports activities of the Children's Rights Department. He is also a GC Alumnus having graduated from the European Master's Programme in Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA) in 2021.

Before joining the Global Campus, he worked for 10 years as youth and adolescent educator and counsellor in different regions of Cameroon. He also worked as Field Officer for 'Human Is Right', a Cameroon-based NGO where he undertook field missions and documented human rights violations in the English-speaking parts of Cameroon under armed conflict.



Sergey Ghazinyan

Legal Expert, Yerevan State University (YSU)

Sergey is an Armenian national. He has a BA in Law and an MA in European Studies and an LL.M. degree. His pending PhD thesis in Law is dedicated to the human rights protection of victims of trafficking in human beings. He has about ten years of experience in the field of protection and promotion of human rights, holding different positions in state institutions and academia, and cooperating with international organisations. Currently, as a Legal Expert at the Centre for European Studies at the YSU, he is engaged in the development of human rights-related topics in the curricula of the MA programmes. Sergey is also conducting training for professionals. As a Certified Tutor, he also implements those capacity enhancement activities via various online educational platforms. He has more than six years of experience as an academic lecturer at the YSU and the American University of Armenia.



Siraj Khan

Law & Policy Manager, Education Above All

Siraj Khan is Law & Policy Manager at the 'Protect Education in Insecurity and Conflict' programme at Education Above All Foundation, where he leads work on law, policy and accountability.

Siraj is a rule of law expert with 11+ years' experience in international law, constitutional processes, legislative drafting, judicial reform and Islamic law. In 2012, he joined the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public and International Law to work on International Law and Constitutional Law in post-conflict states. Thereafter, he worked at the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law until April 2023, leading projects in several MENA countries, including Sudan, Yemen, Jordan, Palestine, Libya, Tunisia and Iraq. Siraj was called to the Bar in 2010 (Lincoln's Inn). In 2011, he was appointed Board Member of the Scottish Legal Complaints Commission by the Minister of Justice. His working languages include English, Arabic, and Urdu.



Alisina Saeed Ayobi

GC Alumnus

Alisina S. Ayobi's dedication to social change blossomed during his studies at Kabul University, where he initiated Omid Mushtrak (Common Hope) Organization, offering free classes on human rights, women's rights, and democracy to enlighten fellow students about their civil liberties and promoting democratic values. With extensive communication and spokesperson experience, Ayobi held roles in pivotal governmental departments, including the presidential palace and the Ministry of Transport. He earned a bachelor's in Journalism and Communication from Kabul University, a master of Human Rights and Democratization from the Global Campus of Human Rights, and a Diplomacy and Political Science diploma from the Institute of Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Ayobi's recent article, "From Unity to Division, Rule of Extremism," scrutinizes the Taliban's governance and regional extremism. Currently, his focus is on investigating the emergence of extremism in Afghanistan and its wider regional implications.



Delphine Dorsi
Director, Right to Education Initiative

Delphine Dorsi is the Director of the Right to Education Initiative (RTE) an international human rights organization focusing on the right to education. She is a lawyer specialised in human rights and has been working for more than fifteen years in the field of the right to education, including at UNESCO and in several NGOs in Europe and Africa.

She is part of the secretariat that facilitated the development of the Abidjan Principles on the right to education and supports their implementation. She authored, co-authored and supervised the edition of various publications on the right to education. She holds a research Master's in Human Rights from the University of Strasbourg.



Dean Brooks
Director, INEE

Dean Brooks has over two decades of international education experience working in complex emergencies, conflict, disaster and development contexts. Initially, he worked as an international educator (primary, middle-school, and special education).

Since 1999, he has focused his work on Education in Emergencies (EiE) and child protection, in a number of settings, including East and West Africa, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Dean has been an active member of INEE since 2001. He is based in Geneva, Switzerland at the EiE Hub.



Ariel Solari
Team Lead, INEE

Ariel Solari joins INEE as the Coordinator for Standards & Practice. Prior to taking on this role, Ariel has been overseeing NRC's programs in Colombia, Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, and Ecuador.

Ariel brings more than 20 years of experience working in Education in Emergencies and has worked in a number of contexts over the past two decades including: Gaza, Sudan, Uganda, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Somalia, Syria, as well as, holding regional and headquarters advisory roles in both Jordan and Oslo. Ariel started his career as an educator (inclusive education) in his home country of Argentina where he also worked as a social worker. His education background includes higher education degrees in the Social Sciences, Education, Management, International Cooperation and Child Protection. Ariel is also fluent in Spanish and English. Ariel is based in Bogota, Colombia.



Yevgen Gerasymenko

Associate Professor, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Dr. Yevgen Gerasymenko is an associate professor at Administrative Law and Process Chair, and vice-director (international cooperation) at the Educational and scientific Institute of Law (law school), Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.

His fields of expertise include, in particular, human rights, international protection law incl. refugee and internal displacement, administrative law and justice. He is an author and co-author of over 40 scientific publications, textbooks. He participated as an expert and manager at UNDP, USAID, EU bodies financed projects incl. Erasmus+ and Horizon. He actively participates in legislation drafting. Advocate. Member of the Kyiv Bar.

Participates more than for 10 years at the Global Campus of Human Rights activities, including teaching and managing GC Caucasus programme.



Barbara Strasser

Children's Rights Project Manager, Global Campus of Human Rights

Barbara Strasser is the Children's Rights Project Manager at the Global Campus of Human Rights. She is a child protection specialist with over 14 years of on-the-ground experience working in complex emergencies, focusing on conflict-affected contexts. She has worked with the ICRC and INGOs and has striven to promote and implement right-based approaches to humanitarian

work, with a focus on child rights.

Main areas of expertise: Children and Armed Conflict, including Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAAFAG), protection of children on the move, case management for children affected by violence and abuse, including child survivors of trafficking, child rights programming and child protection systems strengthening. Barbara holds a Master's degree in Social Anthropology from Vienna University, and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Juvenile Justice from Geneva University.



Apolline Montoya

Advocacy and Policy Adviser, Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack

Apolline Montoya is the Advocacy and Policy Adviser at GCPEA. Apolline supports GCPEA's advocacy related to promoting the endorsement and implementation of the Safe Schools Declaration and the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict.

Apolline previously worked at the UK Mission in Geneva in the Humanitarian Team. She also completed an internship at the International Criminal Court, in the Victims and Witness Section, and at the United Nations in Geneva, in the Office of the Director General. She holds a Masters degree in Human Rights from the London School of Economics and Political Science as well as a Masters degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Waterloo.