



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-second session

27 February–31 March 2023

Agenda item 4

### Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

## **Written statement\* submitted by Villages Unis (United Villages), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[6 February 2023]

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\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



## **Protecting Migrant Children in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Europe**

The number of refugees in the world is increasing dramatically due to the suffering of the world from wars and armed conflicts, and with it the percentage of refugee children whose humanitarian suffering is multiplied due to the conditions of asylum and the deprivation of the care and family care they need, and the number of refugee children all over the world, according to UNICEF statistics, is about 36.5 million A child until the end of 2021. They suffer the most severe types of deprivation and are exposed to the worst forms of violations and crimes against humanity, without the international community taking this issue at the forefront of its concerns and care, and placing it in its work programs concerned with ending the suffering of these children, and providing them with the necessary protection and immunity, instead of leaving them to face childhood Miserable, a future full of misery, and they represent half the number of refugees in the world.

We affirm the right of refugee children to live like the rest of the world's children, enjoying their full rights equally and without discrimination, and enjoying their childhood far from any practices that detract from their rights and freedoms guaranteed to them by international legislation or expose them to the most heinous types of violations and crimes, or leave their fate and future in the hands of crime gangs In view of this, we draw the attention of your esteemed council to discuss the miserable conditions experienced by refugee children in many European countries, especially the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and work to take decisions and measures that guarantee full protection for refugee children urgently, and prevent their exposure to crimes of exploitation and forced labour that It is committed against them in light of the failure of the countries of asylum to provide them with the necessary protection, and the inability of the necessary protection and care measures for refugee children pursued by the countries of asylum, which are not at all commensurate with their inability and weakness to provide protection for themselves and their loss of family care.

Specifically, in this regard, we stress the importance of dealing with information and reports that talk about the miserable reality that refugee children live in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which was confirmed by many official statements by government representatives in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and what was confirmed by the discussion session on this issue held by the British Parliament in light of the information And documented reports and statements expressed by civil society institutions and non-governmental organizations, which confirmed the loss of hundreds of refugee children in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and documented cases of dropouts, disappearances, and losses that refugee children are exposed to from their places of care,

In light of the great concern that we are experiencing in light of the information that talks about the vulnerability of these refugee children to sexual exploitation or exploitation in crimes of human trafficking, drug trafficking and international cross-border crime, we raise to your esteemed Council our deep concern about the loss of nearly 200 refugee children from the centres designated for their accommodation and care. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, we specifically emphasize the statement of the Minister of Immigration before the British Parliament during his urgent briefing to the House of Representatives on the issue of the disappearance of refugee children, and the dangerous information he announced that threatens the security and safety of refugee children in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the failure of the concerned agencies in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to provide them with the necessary protection and track Cases of missing persons, ensuring their safety, and holding the perpetrators and those responsible for the crimes committed against them accountable.

We submit to your esteemed Council the following recommendations:

- The Human Rights Council allocating a session to discuss the conditions of refugee children in European countries and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

Ireland in particular, and take the necessary measures and decisions to provide them with the necessary protection in countries of asylum.

- Assigning the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to find out the situation of refugee children in European countries, especially in light of documented information on the disappearance of refugee children from care centres designated for them in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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Ref:

<https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-migration-and-displacement/displacement/>  
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<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/01/24/uk/uk-migrant-children-missing-gbr-intl/index.html>  
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<https://www.npr.org/2023/01/24/1151183405/uk-child-asylum-seekers-missing-abducted-hotels>  
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