

Behaviour with children

Rights of the child

Children are one of the groups most exposed to human rights violations, especially in conflict and post-conflict contexts and in situations of underdevelopment, extreme poverty and social tension.

Among the several multilateral initiatives for the protection and promotion of children rights, the UNGA Resolution on the Rights of the Child, which is presented every year by the European Union together with the countries of the Latin American Group, plays a major role.

Italy supports the initiatives aimed at protecting the rights of children in armed conflicts, implementing the principles established by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and by the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (2000). In line with this commitment, for instance, Italy promoted the adoption of the “EU Guidelines on Children and Armed Conflicts” and, at the UN level, supported the inclusion of specific provisions on children protection within the mandates of UN peacekeeping operations. The international agenda for the protection of the rights of children in armed conflict nowadays includes also the initiatives aimed at strengthening the protection of schools and hospitals in areas of conflict, in order to guarantee continuous education and effective care to the victims of conflicts.