

**THIRTY YEARS AFTER THE ADOPTION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**
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Since 1948, OMEP, present in 70 countries, has been working in the field of peace education, defending and promoting the right and access to education and quality care for all children, for girls as for boys, all over the world, from the youngest age, from birth to 8 years old.

In 1989, OMEP participated in the elaboration of the CRC with 32 other NGOs, under the auspices of UNICEF and the Red Cross.

OMEP is participating in the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the CRC, which is in line with all the SDGs goals, more particularly with the SDGs 1,2,3,4 ... 16.

In 2019, the last World Assembly in Panama renewed its commitment to the implementation of the CRC for the best interests of the child, the right to non-discrimination, the right to life and survival, development, and the freedom to express oneself and to be heard.

Thus, children are citizens from birth who have the right to participate in the development of our societies and a sustainable future.

By ratifying the CRC, States parties are obliged to respect and protect all children, as well as to guarantee and promote their human rights. This Convention is legally binding on the signatory states and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child monitors its implementation.

However, there are still major challenges. The international context presents inequities and injustices that must be addressed to ensure the rights of young children. Today, too many children around the world live in conditions that deserve immediate action.

OMEP has drafted a Declaration and appealed to all governments and other stakeholders to take immediate and concrete steps to ensure that children have a secure life so that every boy and girl can fully flourish, with the imperative of equality and non-discrimination, without leaving anyone behind.

Education is a fundamental human right for every person and the foundation for achieving all other goals and rights.

The CRC has 54 children's rights, we will target 2 articles in particular:

- Article 7, on the right to have an identity, a name to be able to claim other rights

Article 7. The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know his/her parents and to be raised by them.

For example, "unnamed children" following the "one-child policy" applied in China; children not registered at birth in Africa and elsewhere

No name, no rights (neither to care, nor to education, nor to work when they are adults).

- Article 38.2 and .3, on children enlisted in conflict

Article 38.2: States Parties shall take all practicable measures to ensure that persons under the age of fifteen years do not participate directly in hostilities.

Article 38.3: States Parties shall refrain from recruiting any person who has not attained the age of fifteen years into their armed forces. When incorporating persons over the age of fifteen but under the age of eighteen, the States Parties endeavor to recruit the older ones as a priority.

According to the UN, the definition of "early childhood" includes the period from 0 (prenatal age) to 8 years and that of a "child" as "every human being under the age of 18" (unless the majority is reached earlier under the legislation applicable in the country).

This ratification by the UN in 2000 is non-binding for states.

For example, in France, a 17-year-old can be enlisted if parental permission is obtained.

Another example is "child soldiers" and "wizarding children" in Africa: it requires upstream work through the knowledge and respect of children's rights, but also downstream repair work to reintegrate these children into their village and their children into their community.

OMEP carries out actions for the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the CRC:

- A global project "OMEP World Art" in which children illustrate different articles of the Convention. It will be followed by the publication of all the projects carried out in the world.

- Local projects

The OMEP section of Haute-Savoie runs parents' cafes with detained parents.

The OMEP section of Paris has conducted a reflection with children and adults to discover and understand the rights of the child through various events in schools, early childhood structures, associations, libraries ...

An event of valorization of these actions will take place in the Hall of the town hall of the 12th district, on December 11, 2019, with meetings between participating classes and a round table from 13:30 to 16:30, to which you are invited to participate.

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