



## German Model United Nations

**Code:** Resolution 1/2

**Committee:** United Nations Security Council

**Topic:** Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts

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*The Security Council,*

*Acknowledging* Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217), which states that all are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection without discrimination in compliance with International Humanitarian Law and human rights,

*Mindful of* The fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilians in Time of War (1949) stating that all civilians are entitled to be treated humanely in all cases of conflict,

*Bearing in mind* Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) on 'Children and Armed Conflict' and resolution 1325 on 'Women, Peace and Security' (2000) establishing the need for protection of vulnerable groups,

*Fully aware* that, according to the United Nations Children's Fund, more than 90 percent of deaths in armed conflict are civilian and more than 80 percent of these deaths are vulnerable groups such as women and children,

*Guided by* Article 26 of the Declaration of Human Rights stating the universal right to elementary and fundamental education for all civilians to direct to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Reaffirming* Resolution 1261 (1999) and the six grave violations affecting children, namely the killing and maiming of children; recruitment or use of children as soldiers; sexual violence against children; abduction of children; attacks against schools or hospitals; denial of humanitarian access for children,

*Viewing with appreciation* the 2022 Virtual Summer School (VSS) on Child Protection in Armed Conflicts by The Office of the United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG - CAAC), in collaboration with the Government of Malta,

*Convinced* that the Safe Schools Declaration (2021) is of great importance in the commitment to protect students, teachers, schools, and universities from the worst effects of armed conflicts,

*Referring* Resolution 2601 (2021) as the first resolution of its kind, which condemns attacks against schools, children and teachers, urges conflict parties to immediately safeguard the right to education and explicitly links education, peace and security, further as a fundamental instrument to highlight the importance of the continuity of education in conflict and the potential of technology, particularly digital platforms, to mitigate disruptions to education,

*Emphasizing* the importance of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) working to increase protection measures for children affected by conflicts, to support their physical and mental health as well as psychosocial wellbeing,



*Underlining* the importance to support children with continuing their education, even in the midst of conflict, as it is essential for their development and contributes to the achievement of peace and security,

*Noting further* the importance of coordination, cooperation, and investment between MS and UN agencies, such as the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, UNICEF and UNESCO in order to support: distance learning facilities, digital literacy and education in armed conflict, and digital infrastructure and technology,

*Acknowledging* the significance of Mental Health as stated in the SC Resolution 2668 (2022) on the importance of Mental Health Services for Peace Operations Personnel.

*Recognizing* the need to raise awareness of the importance of mental health and psychosocial support for civilians as a basis of long-lasting peace,

*Encouraging* Member States to conduct research in order to develop guidelines in response to the latest challenges of protection of civilians in armed conflict,

*Acknowledging* state sovereignty as according to International Humanitarian Law and Article 2 Paragraph 4 of the UN Charter and territorial integrity, to further protect the territorial framework of all independent States,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States (MS) to:
  - a. comply with their obligations under International Humanitarian Law and in line with Sustainable Development Goal 16: peace, justice and strong institutions, with special regards to the provision of humanitarian assistance during armed conflict to civilians, including but not limited to;
    - i. financial aid;
    - ii. access to adequate food and water as well as their responsibility to respond to the denial of said access in armed conflict;
    - iii. clothing;
    - iv. humanitarian personnel such as medical units;
  - b. increase cooperative work with and support of humanitarian organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the United Nations World Food Programme by supplying resources;
2. *Decides* the implementation of a standard of care in mental health, as laid out by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health and Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), which will be a non-binding policy framework to improve the mental health of vulnerable groups, especially children, by:
  - a. *asking* the troop and police-contributing countries, including consenting member states and the Secretariat, to provide acute response and emergency services that are associated to the UN peacekeeping forces and that offering acute professional evidence based psychological support for civilians and especially vulnerable groups, including but not limited to:
    - i. former child soldiers;
    - ii. orphans;
    - iii. abused women and children;
  - b. *expecting* the Human Rights Council, the World Health Organisation, and other Non-Governmental Organizations focused on mental health, to consider the



elaboration of education and training programmes for regional personnel, such as local doctors, psychotherapists, paramedics on mental health issues.

- c. *paying special tribute* to the cultural circumstances and the individual needs of the persons concerning mental health, and therefore create the basis for long-term progress in combating and preventing mental diseases such as post-traumatic stress disorder.
3. *Supports* the establishment of safe spaces that are supposed to provide a safe and peaceful environment free of violence for civilians who are impacted by armed conflicts and do not support or influence the conflict in any way by:
    - a. *recommending* secure physical networks for instance refugee camps and shelter by either building a space or organizing an already existing space to provide shelter and protection favorably for women and children threatened by physical danger in the conflict related area; those shelters should be equipped to provide basic needs of every human to live, concerning human standards;
    - b. *calling upon* the Strategic Communications Division to establish digital networks to provide a safe forum for civilians who are affected by conflicts to talk, listen and exchange experience
  4. *Stresses the importance* of safeguarding schools from attacks in ongoing conflicts;
    - a. *suggests* a United Nations country-level task force who serve in a surveilling function to protect children, teachers and other personnel from kidnapping;
      - i. made up off regional personnel;
      - ii. directed and overseen by the UN SC;
      - iii. tasked with surveilling whether attackers commit one of the six grave violations, as identified by the UN SC;
    - b. *suggests* affected Member States sign the Safe Schools Declaration (2021);
    - c. *calls for* military personnel to be provided on-the-ground to protect teachers from being threatened or killed, educational facilities from being demolished, and learning material from being burned or destroyed;
    - d. *repeats* that the explicit consent of the sovereign state hosting UN peacekeeping missions is mandatory;
  5. *Reminds* member states of the importance of cooperation between UN programmes and regional security-oriented intergovernmental organizations, such as the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Women Peace and Security Network Africa (WIPSEN) and *demands* specific efforts to be made to increase such cooperation..
  6. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.