**Comittie: United Nations Children’s Fund**

**Topic: Assessing The Current Situation of Child Labor**

**Country: France**

Founded by the United Nations, UNICEF's aim is to protect children's rights and help them fully realize their needs such as education, survival, security and shelter. Every country that is a member of UNICEF must adopt the same policy as UNICEF. According to UNICEF, every person is considered a child until the age of 18. Additionally, UNICEF has important articles on child labor, which has been a major problem in the world for years. The general age limit for child labor determined by UNICEF is 15. However, countries can regulate this according to their own laws.

Child labor is still a very important problem today. Factors such as poverty, lack of education and exploitation cause child labor. For these reasons, it is wrong to force child labor. Child labor will affect both the child's health and future thinking and behavioral structure.

Children can also do some work (such as some housework) to help their families or relatives, but these jobs must be appropriate for the child's age, health and safety.

According to a report published in 2021, the number of children working as child labor increased by 8.4 million in the last four years, reaching 160 million worldwide; Another 9 million children are at risk due to the effects of the COVID-19 epidemic. This is the first increase in child labor in 20 years.

Child labor policy in France prioritizes the protection and education of children. The laws include various measures to ensure that children grow up in a healthy environment and focus on their education. Children's working hours, working conditions and job types are regulated according to the children's personal characteristics. For the safety of children, workplaces are strictly inspected and violations are severely punished. Educational programs and awareness campaigns are also organized to combat child labour. France follows a policy that strives to protect the rights of children and provide them with a better future.

Despite these efforts, child labor has been going on for years in France, as in every country, and they are trying to take precautions against it. However, France started to take precautions against child labor later than other European countries. The reason for this is that the industrial revolution started to show its results later in France. In the 19th century, it decided to take precautions on this issue and passed three laws on 22 March 1841, 18 May 1874, and 2 November 1892, and has created a systematic policy by developing these laws until today. With the law of November 2, 1892, which was the most advanced law of the 19th century, the age for working as a child laborer was determined as 13. However, today in France, the age of working as a child laborer starts at the age of 16 and generally continues until the age of 18. This is an arrangement made to enable children to focus on their education. After the age of 18, young people can participate in the full workforce. These are also protected by the 21st Century French Labor Code. For this reason, France has a policy that prevents child labor and tries to take measures against it.

France can take a few measures to prevent child labor. First, they can ban child labor by passing stricter laws. They can also prevent child labor in workplaces by tightening controls. Such measures can help reduce child labor.