

POSITION DOCUMENT

Committee: UNICEF

Country: France

Agenda Item: Practicing Freedom of Religion With a Special Emphasis on Forcible Imposition of Religion on Young Children

Basic Facts

France, officially the French Republic of France, is a member state of the European Union and its capital is Paris. Its total surface area is 675,417 square kilometers and it has a population of 64.5 million. French territory comprises various regions of the world. Metropolitan France, also known as Continental France, is in Western Europe and its island territory includes Corsica in the Western Mediterranean, and various coastal archipelagos in the Atlantic.

Our Countries Policy On The Matter

According to the Constitution of 1958, "France is an indivisible, secular, democratic, and social Republic, guaranteeing that all people be regarded as equals before the law, regardless of their origin, ethnicity, or religion, and recognizing all religious convictions." In France, law no. 2004-228 of 15 March 2004 forbids pupils in public primary schools, secondary schools, and high schools from donning religiously expressive clothing and symbols, as reported in a report submitted by the International Center for Advocates Against Discrimination.

Our Solution Ideas

As our country, we believe that forbidding any religious clothing or symbols that students might carry on them before they turn 18 is the best choice to give them the space to decide whether they believe in religion or not.