

**Committee:** United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

**Country:** Dominican Republic

**Agenda Items:**

- Child, early, forced marriage,
- Combating child poverty and social exclusion,
- Education in emergencies.



### **Dominican Republic**

Firstly, Christopher Columbus visits the island, which he names Hispaniola, or "Little Spain" in 1492. After ages, Boyer overthrown; Santo Domingo declares its independence and becomes the Dominican Republic in 1844 and now Dominican Republic is sovereign. The population of the Dominican Republic is predominantly of mixed African and European ethnicity, and there are small Black and white minorities. Dominican Republic is located on the island of Hispaniola. The country is bordering the Atlantic Ocean to the north and the Caribbean Sea in south. Hispaniola is home to the independent nations of Haiti in west and the Dominican Republic, which occupies the eastern part. Dominican Republic has a population of around 10 million. The Dominican Republic is an upper-middle income developing country primarily dependent on mining, agriculture, trade, and services.

Children are very important for a good and peaceful world. Some parts and areas in the world, nearly 500 million live in countries affected by ongoing emergency situations. Also in 2017 alone, 75 million children and youth had their education disrupted, received poor-quality education or dropped out of school altogether. That's why education in emergencies should be one of the most important issue that UN should discuss. Conflict alone is one of the biggest barriers to education, keeping more than 25 million children out of school during 2016-17. In South Asia, at least 18,000 schools were damaged or destroyed due to severe flooding and landslides in 2017. Almost two million children were unable to attend school after the worst flooding in years to hit regions of Bangladesh, Nepal and India. Also during health-related crisis such as Ebola, COVID-19, SARS, cholera and more are effecting children's life a lot. The cholera outbreak of 2017 in Yemen, combined with war and malnutrition, led to two million children being out of school. More than 2000 have died since April 2017.

Children are very important for a good and peaceful world. That's why we as Dominican Republic government and our community help children about their education. Our economy is the best economy in the Caribbean countries and this shows that our education system is good and educate our children. Natural disasters might stop education and in Dominican Republic, there are lots of earthquakes in our country and 8 people died since 1950 by direct consequences of earthquakes. During COVID-19, we have distributed laptops and notebooks for around 64 thousand Dominican high-schoolers as well as 4.6 thousand teachers between March and June of 2020. There are natural disaster problems, poverty problems, social exclusion and early and forced child marriage in other countries and these problems can be solved by rebuilding the schools and building new schools with better and durable material in safe places of conflict zones and making sure that all children have access to clean water, food and supplies that children and their parents. Other actions can be taken after natural disasters are by giving mental education and give appointment to students for psychological support from professional psychologist in the country, temporary learning spaces and temporary vacation can be established for children to have funny times with their family and children to chill out and action can be taken before natural disasters is to prepare a Emergency Action Plan for students to act quickly and planned under the tutelage of teachers.

During health-related crisis problems can be solved by having access to lecturing from technologies like mobile phones, TVs with applications like Zoom, google meet or radios can be alternative opportunity and children who do not have access to any of these technologies like mobile phones, TVs or radios by sending them learning and teaching materials such as test books, textbook, worksheet and other reading materials, calendar and schedules for students to see what to study each day, week and month for one year.