

Country: Türkiye

Committee: ECOSOC-2

Agenda Item: Combating Child Labor and Promoting Fair Opportunities for Youth

Türkiye's area is 783,562 km², and it is neighboring with Greece, Bulgaria, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan (Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic), Iran, Iraq, and Syria. Its GDP was 1.323 trillion USD, and its GDP growth rate was 3.2% per year in 2024. Türkiye's GDP per capita is 18,200 US dollars in 2025. Türkiye's population is nearly 85 million. There are 12.7 million people between 15–24. Nearly a quarter of the population are children, and some are working.

Child labor mostly started with the Industrial Revolution. Child labor is causing problems for families, parents, and mostly for children. There has been a decrease in the number of child laborers for 20 years, but child labor still affects nearly 138 million children (5.7% of the child population), and 54 million are participating in hazardous work (39.13% of child workers). In Türkiye, 6% of children (ages 5–17) are participating in economic activities and household chores. Globally, child labor mostly occurs in Africa (72 million), followed by Asia and the Pacific (62 million). There are some solutions to end child labor, such as ILO Convention No. 138 and No. 182.

Türkiye's Ministry of Labor and Social Security, the Ministry of Family and Social Services, civil society, the private sector, and universities are partnering with UNICEF to end child labor in Türkiye. UNICEF also implements social protection and partners with related ministries to improve employment and skills development programmes. ECOSOC can work with other organizations such as ILO and UNICEF. Child labor is a very serious issue. Children are our future, and we should provide them with a quality education. Children should live their childhood in parks and schools, not in working areas. The committee will surely find great solutions for child labor.

References:

<https://www.google.com/search>

<https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-protection/child-labour/>

<https://www.unicef.org/turkiye/en/child-labour-0>

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