



Committee: Human Rights Social Relations (SOCHUM)

Topic: Ensuring Access to Education for Refugee Children

There are four countries within the United Kingdom. The UK has a strong economy and a low poverty rate. It is a free and developed country with high standards compared to many other countries. It includes Scotland, Wales, England, and Northern Ireland. It is an island made up of united countries. The UK was formed by the merger of several nations and covers an area of 244,376 square kilometers.

The number of refugees worldwide has reached 120 million, 35 million of whom are children. Sixty-one percent of refugee children cannot attend school. Some cannot receive education because they do not speak the language of their host country. Refugee children face significant challenges learning a language other than their own, and there are very few courses or schools that provide this support. Most refugees stay outside cities because they cannot find housing in the big cities they arrive in. There are very few schools outside the city, and finding a school with language support is even more difficult. Unfortunately, many refugees are forced to live in shantytowns, which makes it difficult for children to attend school. Most refugees are often bullied because they come from different countries and for this reason, most of them don't want to return to school after the first day. Bullying is a major problem worldwide.

The United Kingdom is conducting a lot of work on this issue. Language-supported schools could be opened for refugee children. Schools specifically for refugee children could be established. Language-learning courses could be expanded. Programs to address and prevent bullying could also be developed so that we can have a better world.

References:

- UNHCR – “*New UNHCR report reveals over 7 million refugee children out of school*” (2023) — highlights that over half of school-aged refugee children are not enrolled in school.
- UNHCR – “*Millions of refugee children going without schooling*” (2018) — gives statistics on refugee children not attending school globally.
- UNHCR – “*Education*” overview page — explains barriers to education for refugees, such as legal status, lack of infrastructure, documentation and language.
- UNICEF / UN – “*Refugee education in crisis: More than half of the world’s school-age refugee children do not get an education*” — summarises global challenges for refugee children’s access to education.