Country:Portugal

Committee:Unesco

Agenda Item: Barriers to Education in Conflict-Affected Countries

Portugal, or officially the Portuguese Republic, is the country at the very end of the European Continent, located on the Iberian Peninsula of Europe. Portugal is bordered by Spain to the north and east, and by the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west. Portugal is a democratic republic ruled according to the constitution adopted in 1976. Portugal is located between the Azores Islands in the Atlantic Ocean and Europe and North America. The reason behind the climate changing from region to region in the mainland of Portugal is the location relative to the sea. The location relative to the sea creates mild winters, especially in places like the Algarve. For example, the Porto e Norte region is one of those who experience the winter more severely than the others. There is also snowfall in the Serra da Estrela mountains, the highest point in Portugal. Summers are hot and dry, especially in the interior. Again, due to the effect of the sea, a decrease in temperature is observed in the coastal areas.

Portugal itself has been a victim of wars. Portugal fell into the hands of the French in the Peninsular War. Thereupon, the Portuguese are at war against the French. The English, who were against the French, helped the Portuguese in this war. Accordingly, the French, who were connected to the system, were influenced by the innovations, and an uprising was started in Porto in 1820. This has really affected education in Portugal badly.

As a solution schools should be safe spaces for children, even amid armed conflict. Safe schools not only provide children with an education, but also offer much-needed stability and routine during times of conflict, help ease the impact of war on children's mental health, and provide a place to play and be a child despite the discord all around . Schools can provide children with access to health information, help them learn how to avoid landmines, and allow them to gain the knowledge and skills to build a brighter future for their countries