Commitee: UNİCEF

Country : Colombia

Topic : Helping children in Colombia

Delegate : Ahmet Demir GKV

**UNICEF** is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

İn coordination with the Ministry of Health, local governments and academia, UNICEF Colombia has managed to strengthen the capacities of 1,300 healthcare professionals from 14 departments with the highest prevalence of acute malnutrition in the management of acute illnesses.

45% of the population of Colombia lives in poverty. Although the country possesses much wealth, it is shared very unequally, and conditions are aggravated by the regular armed conflicts and frequent natural disasters it faces.

The most vulnerable victims of this oppressive poverty – the multitudes of homeless children abandoned to sleep on the streets of big cities, without shelter or aid – represent an unacceptable situation.

In Colombia, approximately one in ten children receive no school educatıon[.](https://www.humanium.org/en/right-to-education/) Many schools are forced to close for extended periods on a regular basis, as it takes days or months to reconstruct them following each disruption: periods often prolonged by failure to achieve peace.

Moreover, poverty forces many children to work to help meet their families' daily needs: making education a distant secondary priority

23% of young Colombian women - especially those living in rural areas - are married before the age of 18.

The biggest challenge Colombia faces is violence. Domestic violence, violence at school, street violence. A country completely traumatized by violence.

About 10% of births in Colombia are not registered. Non-registration of births is particularly common in rural areas and more than 20% of rural children do not appear in administrative registers. Such children are considered invisible and cannot claim even the most basic human rights.