

**Committee:** UNESCO-1

**Country:** United Arab Emirates

**Agenda Item(s):** Barriers to Education in Conflict-Affected Countries

United Arab Emirates or basically The Emirates is a muslim country located in Western Asia. It shares borders with Oman and Saudi Arabia and also it has maritime borders in the Persian Gulf with Qatar and Iran. Our country is ruled by elective monarchy formed from a federation of seven emirates.

Education during conflict effects has always been an important issue that is needed to be solved. As we look through the current situation of the world, more than 25 million children between 6 and 15 years old, are affected by conflict and missing out on school. Our country sets education as priority during these kinds of situations. Since 2011, the UAE has donated $1.55 billion in support of education projects globally and has also worked with Unicef and other partners to support the education of 20 million children in 59 countries since 2017. A presidential statement approved by all 15 council members we expressed “grave concern about the significant increase of attacks on schools in recent years and the resulting alarming number of children denied access to quality education.”. Another important situation that the whole world is facing right now is Covid-19. Covid-19 has made our lives change especially when it comes to education. So we set education as our priority. Our country has implemented online education in March 2020. More than 30,000 teachers and administrators had one week professional training about online education. Not everyone had enough opportunity to access education. We worked with Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA), Du and Etisalat to facilitate free mobile internet package for families in the UAE who have no home internet connection.

As we mentioned before at the UN Security Council (2019), we firmly believe that education is not only the right of every child, but is an essential tool to uplift entire communities in order to reduce conflicts and the exploiation of children. So it is time to take serious the current issue. Working together to help children is not an option anymore. It’s a necessity now. Because children didn’t choose these things to happen. As delegates, we are the ones who are suppose to solve this.