

Highlights

THE EDUCATION DEFICIT

Failures to Protect and Fulfill the Right to Education in Global Development Agendas

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Read the Full Report at: <https://www.hrw.org/report/2016/06/10/education-deficit/failures-protect-and-fulfill-right-education-through-global>

The Education Deficit

At the international level, more than 120 million children and adolescents are still absent from class. Despite concerted efforts, the UN and other global experts have indicated that global progress in education has significantly “left behind” millions of children.

Further, more children and adolescents continue to face the risk of dropping out school, and adverse learning conditions. This has resulted in an “education deficit”—a shortfall between the educational reality that children experience around the world and what governments have promised and committed to.

Some of the Violations and Barriers Affecting the Right to Education

- The Cost of Going to schools
- Indirect costs and expenses
- Discrimination and Violence in Schools
- Armed conflicts
- Natural Hazards and Health Crises
- Forced Displacement

Key Suggestions made through the Report to Governments:

- Increase primary and secondary enrollment, attendance, and completion statistics by age, gender, disability, and other categories, especially where minorities have been traditionally discriminated against.
- Ensure protection for the right to education, including secondary education, consistent with international law.
- Ensure primary education is free and ensure indirect costs do not become a barrier to access.
- Protect the compulsory nature of primary education, adopting mechanisms to monitor the enforcement of compulsory education at a local level.
- Increase the legal age of marriage to 18 for both men and women and monitor local compliance
- Ensure the provision of education in crises and displacement, and adopt special measures to ensure children can continue to go to school in highly insecure areas, by reducing the distance to school, offering distance learning programs, and setting up protective spaces for girls and teachers.
- Endorse the Safe Schools Declaration and implement the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict and ratify key treaties

Recommendations

- Ensure that education is integrated into national planning for risk reduction, and increase special protections or financial measures for children who are at risk of dropping out.
- Host states, and bilateral and multilateral donors should provide resources and technical cooperation to ensure the continuity of education in planning for emergencies and early recovery.
- Governments and humanitarian and development agencies should ensure that internally displaced, asylum seeking and refugee children and youth are included in national education plans.
- Governments hosting children of foreign nationality regardless of immigration status should provide access to free and compulsory primary education, access to secondary education for adolescents or vocational and skills training on an equal basis with their nationals.
- Governments should de-link immigration-related requirements from enrollment criteria, particularly where such requirements effectively serve to isolate or discriminate against refugee and asylum-seeking children

Read the full report at the official website,

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