
The Weekly Pulse

NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



Vol. 167: U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, International Day of Education, & Thrive Coalition Event

January 29, 2024

Quick Summary

The U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary will hold a [hearing](#) on January 31, 2024 focusing on “Big Tech and the Online Child Sexual Exploitation Crisis.” The CEOs of Meta, X, Snap, TikTok, and Discord are set to testify for the first time and to respond to their alleged failures in protecting children online. The Senate Judiciary Committee has introduced bipartisan bills to address the surge in online sexual exploitation and abuse of children. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children [reported](#) a doubling of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) reports in 2022, reaching over 32 million. A growing movement in the U.S., including organizations like the End Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse against Children (OSEAC) Coalition and campaigns like ChildFund’s #TakeItDown, urges action against online child exploitation.

Currently tech companies are required to report CSAM. However, tech companies are not mandated to be proactive in their search for it, and standards for transparency and accountability are lacking. The hearing will focus on how these platforms fall short and have failed to ensure safety for children, with three CEOs subpoenaed for non-compliance. In a [blog post](#) by ChildFund, they emphasize the need for regulation and for passage of three bipartisan bills: the EARN-IT Act, REPORT-Act, and STOP CSAM Act. The organization urges Big Tech to go beyond legislation, advocating for comprehensive internal teams, technological solutions, annual transparency reports, and investment in survivor resources to create a safer online environment for children. To learn more click [here](#). To watch the hearing on January 31, 2024 at 10 am ET, click [here](#).

The International Day of Education was January 24th and this year focused on the theme "learning for lasting peace". Currently, a quarter of humanity, approximately 2 billion people, reside in conflict-affected areas. To address this concern, activists are mobilizing support for the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development (READ) Act ([H.R. 681](#) / [S.41](#)) and urging Congress to reauthorize this critical bill. The READ Reauthorization Task Force is calling for Congressional action to build upon the achievements of the original five-year strategy enacted in 2017, which significantly enhanced access and learning outcomes for inclusive, quality education for children and youth globally. Click [here](#) to learn more about the READ Reauthorization Act.

Spotlight

The Thrive Coalition recently hosted a learning event that focused on the intersection of Climate Change and Early Childhood Development. The presentations delivered during the event were highly informative, providing insights into the critical aspects of these two interconnected issues. Speakers included [Evelyn Santiago](#), who served as the Executive Director of the Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC). Her insights offered a regional perspective on the challenges and opportunities related to early childhood development in the context of climate change.

The event also featured [Sara Dang](#), who served as the Lead Advisor for Early Childhood Care and Development at Save the Children. As an expert in this field, Dang's contribution provided valuable perspectives on the global implications of climate change on the well-being and development of young children. Additionally, Joy Sampang, another expert in Early Childhood Care and Development at Save the Children – Philippines, shared insights into the specific challenges and initiatives in the Philippines, offering a localized perspective on the broader topic.

The diverse expertise of these guest speakers, representing both regional and international perspectives, contributed to a comprehensive understanding of the complex relationship between climate change and early childhood development. The event facilitated an exchange of knowledge and ideas, fostering collaboration and awareness within the Thrive Coalition community.

To rewatch this event, click [here](#).

Events

- Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, & Security [in-person event](#) **“Rebuilding After Atrocities: Accountability and Reconstruction in Sinjar and Beyond.”** January 31, 2024 at 1 pm ET.
- Georgetown University Collaborative on Global Children’s Issues [hybrid event](#) **“The War Against Ukraine’s Children.”** February 2, 2024 at 2 pm ET.
- UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, & WHO [virtual event](#) **“High-level event on International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation.”** February 6, 2024, at 8:30 am ET.
- The International Society for Child Indicators [conference](#) **“Global Childhoods - Critical Perspectives Promoting Theoretical, Empirical and Policy Understandings.”** February 14, 2024.
- GCE-US [virtual event](#) **“GCE-US February 2024 Coalition Meeting.”** February 21, 2024, at 9 am ET.
- George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs Humanitarian Action Initiative, George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs, & Hewlett Foundation [in-person event](#) **“The Power & Politics of Localization.”** February 22-24, 2024.
- The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action [meeting](#) **“2024 Annual Meeting for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.”** June 4-6, 2024.

Reports, Articles & Resources

- RESULTS [report](#) **“Building on strong foundations The U.S. role in tackling the global learning crisis.”**
- The Guardian [article](#) **“Courts reprimand Spain, Greece and Hungary over treatment of child asylum seekers: Rights of lone minors were not protected, with some deported and others left homeless for months.”**
- The Atlantic Council [blog post](#) **“Putin accused of fast-tracking Russian citizenship for abducted Ukrainian kids.”**

- USAID & Momentum [brief](#) “**Learning from MOMENTUM: Community Engagement and Systems Strengthening Approaches to Addressing Gender-Based Violence.**”
- International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC), Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) [manual](#) “**Child-Specific Data Capacity Strengthening on Children on the Move.**”
- UNICEF [report](#) “**Prospects for Children in 2024: Cooperation in a Fragmented World.**”

Professional Opportunities

The Global Campaign for Education-US (GCE-US) is currently [seeking](#) an Executive Director to enhance the influence, expertise, and impact of the organization. The Executive Director collaborates closely with the GCE-US Board of Directors, coalition members, and various stakeholders to advance the organization's agenda in global education with key decision-makers. The Executive Director serves as the liaison with the Global Campaign for Education Secretariat in Johannesburg and other GCE Coalitions globally. The role involves expanding the reach and influence of GCE-US, facilitating coalition meetings, and leveraging member work for shared advocacy goals. Policy advocacy and strategy management are integral, with the Executive Director leading the vision and strategy for GCE-US, building relationships with key policymakers, and drafting policy briefs. The ideal candidate possesses a track record in advocacy campaigns, coalition management, fundraising, and team leadership. Individuals from historically marginalized groups are strongly encouraged to apply. Preferred qualifications include experience in global education policy, legislative advocacy, and proficiency in relevant technology tools. To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

RESULTS, a movement dedicated to ending poverty in the United States and worldwide, is [seeking](#) a dynamic Senior Associate for their Global Policy team. The Senior Associate will play a pivotal role in supporting policy research, project management, and collaboration with grassroots advocates. With a primary focus on tuberculosis and health equity, along with a broader portfolio covering global poverty issues, this role offers a unique opportunity to contribute to impactful change. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.



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