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# *The Weekly Pulse*

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NEWS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS IN GLOBAL CHILD ADVOCACY



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Vol. 51: Children Disability Rights Call to Action, U.S.-Mexico Border, and Youth, Peace and Security Act Updates

13 September, 2021

Call to Action

**Autism Europe, Disability Rights International, European Network for Independent Living, Inclusion International, International Disability Alliance, International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, Validity Foundation, Women Enabled International, U.S. International Council on Disabilities, Stahili, and the Lori E. Talsky Center for Human Rights for Women and Children** released [a call to action](#) to protect the right to family life and to stop children from living in institutions. It highlights various reports that found that children living in an institution is detrimental for their growth and development. . They call on the United Nations to “help families to look after their children so that children don’t go to live in an institution...make sure that children with disabilities are treated with respect in the same fair way as everyone else”. Sign onto the call to action [here](#).

## Quick Summary

**Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA) and Rep. James McGovern (D-MA)** have recently cosponsored the Youth Peace and Security Act of 2021 ([H.R. 4838](#)). This brings the number of cosponsors to 7, including Rep. John Curtis (R-UT), Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN), Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Sarah Jacobs (D-CA) and Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA). This act was introduced by Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY) and hearings by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs are anticipated soon.

**Society for Research on Child Development** released a [report](#) titled “Global estimates of the implications of COVID-19-related preprimary school closures for children’s instructional access, development, learning, and economic well being”. Using data on early childhood education from 2004-2019, they were able to measure education closures on over 167 million pre-primary aged children in 196 countries. They found that “19.01 billion person-days of ECCE [early childhood care and education] instruction lost and 10.75 million additional children falling ‘off track’ in their early development”. They project that “developmental and learning losses were concentrated in low- and lower middle- income countries, likely exacerbating long- standing global inequities”.

**The Women’s Refugee Commission** released a [one-pager](#) “Doubling Down on Deterrence: Access to Asylum Under Biden” which highlights the Biden administration’s continuation of “cruel, unlawful, and ineffective deterrence-based policies that block and endanger those fleeing persecution and create chaos at the U.S.-Mexico border”. It specifically emphasizes the continuation of expedited flights to send back parents and children who cannot be expelled to Mexico and other Central American countries. . . So far, it is estimated that there have been 32 flights to Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

## Virtual Events

- UNICEF [event](#) titled “Evidence Matters: Taking stock of the evidence on preventing and responding to violence against children” **14 September, 2021 9am EST.**
- Global Partnership for Education, UNICEF, International Rescue Committee, & Sesame Workshop [event](#) on “Accelerating Early Childhood Education in Crisis and Conflict Settings” **15 September, 2021 9am EST.**

- U.S. Youth, Peace and Security & Search for Common Ground [webinar](#) on “Young Women’s Role in the South Sudan Peace Process” **14 September, 2021 8:30am EST.**
- Better Care Network [webinar](#) titled “Prepare The Future: Converting Covid-19 Liabilities Into Investments That Protect Children” **21 September, 2021 8am EST.**

## Reports, Articles & Resources

- The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action’s [online course](#) on “Protecting Children During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Adapting Child Protection Programming”
- Joining Forces’ [policy brief](#) titled “Strengthening family environments to realize children’s rights”
- USAID’s [interactive tool](#) on “Mapping Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM) and Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C)”
- World Bank Group, End Violence Against Children, & Safe to Learn [publication](#) on “Ending Violence in Schools: what we know and how to accelerate progress”
- Society for Research in Child Development’s [report](#) on “Global estimates of the implications of COVID-19-related preprimary school closures for children’s instructional access, development, learning, and economic well-being”
- Amplify Girls and Echidna Giving’s [report](#) about “Understanding the Barriers to Girls’ School Return: Girls’ Voices from the Frontline of the COVID-19 Pandemic in East Africa”
- Plan International [toolkit](#) for “Adolescent Girls’ Consultation”
- Research and Support Hub [podcast](#) “Spotlight on disability inclusion and safeguarding”



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