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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. 80: Global Action Week for Education, Elevate Children Funder's Group (ECFG) Consultancies, & U.S. Department of State 2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices.**

April 18, 2022

Quick Summary

**The U.S. Department of State [published](#) the FY 2021 Foreign Assistance Initial Actuals - Total (Base + America Rescue Plan Act + Title IX Emergency + Emergency Security Supplemental).** In this document, they state that, along with other child-centered accounts, USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance received \$6,632,069,000, the Blind Children account received \$4,000,000, and UNICEF UN Children's Fund received \$309,000,000. To read the report and the Foreign Assistance actuals, click [here](#).

**The U.S. Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor [released](#) the 2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices.** Covering 198

countries and territories, the country reports “paint a clear picture of where human rights and democracy are under threat.” The country reports highlight the abuses happening in each country, including violence against children, trafficking, and other harms that affect children and youth. In Secretary Blinken’s [remarks](#), he emphasized that “The Chinese Government continues to commit genocide and crimes against humanity in Xinjiang against predominantly Muslim Uyghurs, among other minority groups, to erode fundamental freedoms and autonomy in Hong Kong, and to carry out systematic repression in Tibet. **In Afghanistan, the Taliban’s takeover precipitated a humanitarian crisis and has resulted in serious erosion of human rights, from arbitrary detentions of women, protesters, and journalists, to reprisals against security forces for the former government, to growing restrictions on where women and girls can study or work.** In Ethiopia, all parties to the country’s conflict, as well as Eritrean forces, have committed atrocities, and thousands of Ethiopians are being unjustly detained in life-threatening conditions.” To view the report, click [here](#).

**Disability Rights International (DRI) created DRILifeSaver, in response to the crisis in Ukraine.** DRILifeSaver is a digital tool that allows individuals to easily and anonymously self-report discrimination or abuse they have experienced or witnessed. It is designed to be “simple to use and accessible to people with disabilities, including people who cannot read or enter text using a keyboard.” DRI emphasized that **“Children and adults with disabilities face barriers to escape the violence, get access to shelters, or find accessible transportation to safe areas... Locked away and out of public view, people in institutions, orphanages, psychiatric facilities, and children separated from families are at risk of being left behind – even when relief and support are available. Children in institutions may be abandoned by staff and caregivers or left without food and essential support. Without protection and oversight, children and adults with disabilities are at risk of violence and human trafficking.** During the war in Ukraine, civilians and health care facilities are being targeted for attack, making institutional placement even more dangerous.” Please visit [www.DRILifeSaver.org](http://www.DRILifeSaver.org) for more information.

**The Global Campaign for Education-US (GCE-US) will engage with youth/student leaders, coalition members, and partners during the Global Action Week for Education, April 25-29,** to advocate for quality and inclusive education for all, especially in crisis and emergency situations where **children and youth are most at risk for violence.** To get involved, please complete this [form](#) by **April 18, 2022.**

Examples of ways to participate include:

- Please complete this [Google Form](#) to submit ideas for the #YouthLead campaign focused on education, filling in a response for "I lead by..."

- Write a [blog](#), poem, or song on a specific education in emergencies topic (such as protecting girls' education, disability-inclusive education in emergencies, early childhood education, ending violence against children, recommendations to policymakers, etc.)
- Record a [video](#) to share your work/experience
- Join GCE-US at their [Coalition Meeting](#) on April 26 to hear from other young leaders making an impact!
- Other creative ideas and updates on your campaigning, advocacy, or project(s) are welcome!

If you know of a student/youth or another colleague who might be interested, please submit their name and contact information to **Pierina Anton Lopez** at [pantonlopez@gce-us.org](mailto:pantonlopez@gce-us.org) by **April 18, 2022**.

**Elevate Children Funder's Group (ECFG) is seeking applications for two consultancies.** First is a [Report on adultism in philanthropy and development](#). The report, geared towards resource allocators, particularly in the philanthropic and development sectors, will define adultism; identify examples of adultism in the international development, philanthropic, and nonprofit sectors; and make recommendations - particularly for funding organizations - to combat it. ECFG is seeking applications from individuals or research teams to develop this report ideally between June-December 2022. The deadline to apply is May 8, 2022, with applications reviewed on a rolling basis.

The second is a [MEL for systems change learning journey group support](#). ECFG is seeking a consultant with expertise in facilitation and monitoring, evaluation, and learning to guide the initial stages of a learning journey for our Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Working Group. The consultant will design a methodology for members of ECFG to share their current approaches on MEL for systems change in writing and orally on 3 calls (early May, July, and September 2022), organize and record the calls, assist the group in identifying next steps as well as learning questions, knowledge gaps in terms of systems change approaches, and strategies, and provide a memo on next steps. There is a potential for additional work beyond September, depending on where the group decides to take their joint learning.

## Spotlight

During the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office of the UK, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of Bangladesh, the United States Mission to the United Nations, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health, the global alliance for women's,

children's and adolescents' health, and the International Disability and Development Consortium held a side event "**Equity and Inclusion for Adolescent Girls Everywhere: Policy and advocacy approaches to promote disability inclusion.**" To read and watch a recording of the event, click [here](#).

During the webinar, delegates shared evidence on the impact and drivers of discrimination, as well as policy approaches and practical improvements to advance equity and reduce exclusion for **girls and women with disabilities**. The session included discussions about the risks girls and women with disabilities face in humanitarian crises, including increased exposure to **sexual abuse and violence**. Delegates stated that "Conflict and displacement heighten the discriminations that women and girls with disabilities already face in times of peace, and destroy their protection systems, making them more vulnerable to exploitation. They may find themselves cut off from general and specialized health- and disability-related support services, or facing significant barriers to affording and accessing such services, as well as food, clean water, housing, sanitation items, and other basic needs."

Expert panelists [emphasized](#) that "Women and girls with disabilities also suffer up to three times greater risk of rape, and are twice as likely to be survivors of domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence (over a longer period and with more severe injuries) than women without disabilities." Delegates called for "more resources and technical support to be made available to address the needs of all persons with disabilities, and to find and integrate innovative solutions and additional normative guidance with explicit consideration of disability, to create more enabling and accessible environments. Disability-related support services must also be classified as essential services."

To read and watch a recording of the event, click [here](#).

#### Virtual Events

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) [virtual event](#) "**Why and how schools should nurture students' creativity.**" April 21, 2022, at 8 am ET.
- Georgetown University Collaborative on Global Children's Issues [webinar](#) "**Innovating Protection for Children Along the Migratory Route and at the U.S.-Mexico Border.**" April 22, 2022, at 12:30 pm ET.
- The Center for Global Development [virtual event](#) "**Ensuring an Inclusive COVID-19 Recovery through Investments in Cash, Care, and Data.**" April 22, 2022, at 11 am ET.
- Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security [virtual panel](#) "**Ensuring Accountability for Sexual Violence in Conflict.**" April 25, 2022, at 10 am ET.

- Girls Not Brides [side event](#) at the 21st session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues “**Child, Early and Forced Marriages and Unions in Indigenous Communities in Latin America: An urgent call for action.**” April 26, 2022, at 12 pm ET.
- The Brave Movement to End Childhood Sexual Violence [virtual summit](#) “**Brave Movement Global Survivors Action Summit.**” April 27, 2022, at 9 am ET.
- World Vision and the CPHA Alliance [virtual event](#) “**Advancing children’s mental health and protection in humanitarian response: latest evidence and practice.**” May 4, 2022, at 9 am ET.

#### Reports, Articles & Resources

- Devex [article](#) “**Peace funding advocate urges more giving for Ukraine, other conflicts.**”
- Radio Free Europe [article](#) “**Russia Revokes Registrations Of Pro-Democracy, Human Rights Groups.**”
- Girl Up [op-ed](#) “**Community Solidarity in the Midst of War.**”
- Plan International [article](#) “**Stand up for children, especially girls, impacted by conflict in Ukraine.**”
- Voices of Youth [resource](#) “**Youth Advocacy Resources Hub**”
- Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security [report](#) “**Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Through Multilateral Sanctions.**”

#### Professional Opportunities

**Wellspring Philanthropic Fund is looking for a Program Associate for its Global Children’s Rights Program.** Through grantmaking and philanthropic leadership, the Global Children’s Rights Program catalyzes action to realize rights and advance social justice for all children, with a specific emphasis on girls and gender justice. The Program Associate will collaborate with the GCR team to contribute to the following key priorities; Grants Process Coordination, Administration and Communications, and Program (grantmaking, monitoring, evaluation, and learning). To learn more and apply, click [here](#).

**Search for Common Ground is looking for a consultant for its “Terms of Reference: Delivery of an advocacy training Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action.”** The consultant will be expected to support The Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action’s (JISRA) youth inclusion efforts by providing an advocacy training to a group of approximately 6-9 participants (both online and in-person), using the “Common Ground Approach to Advocacy” and curriculum developed by Search, adapted to the specific needs of the participants. To learn more and apply, click [here](#).



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