

# UNHRC STUDY GUIDE



CHAIR: ALI HARYANAWALLA  
CO-CHAIR: SHANAYA JHAVERI

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## **LETTER FROM CHAIRS**

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to The United Nations Human Rights Council of DYPMUN 2020! We are so excited to be chairing this committee! Prepare to be part of an intense 2 day conference where we discuss one of the most predominant issues of our time: The sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It's a topic that takes precedence and is paramount to discuss. We think it would be an amazing agenda with many sub-topics to be researched upon and educate all delegates on the topic. We hope that everybody has an amazing time and a fruitful debate. Please research on sub-topics, topics to defend your delegation and always research your country's liabilities and source a way to ridicule them. Also research thoroughly on the topics listed on this Study guide. Study your ROP (Rules of Procedure) if you don't already know it! We wish you the best of luck and can't wait for the marvelous delegates to show their capabilities! Have fun!

-Ali and Shanaya.

DYPMUN

## **INTRODUCTION**

### About UNHRC

The United Nations Human Rights Council is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world. The UNHRC has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis. The headquarters of UNHRC is in Geneva, Switzerland.

The UNHRC investigates allegations of breaches of human rights in UN member states, and addresses important thematic human rights issues such as freedom of association and assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of belief and religion, women's rights, LGBT rights, and the rights of racial and ethnic minorities.

The UNHRC was established by the UN General Assembly on March 15, 2006 (by resolution A/RES/60/251) to replace the UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR, herein CHR) that had been strongly criticized for allowing countries with poor human rights records to be members. UN Secretaries General Kofi Annan and Ban Ki-moon, former president of the council Doru Costea, the European Union, Canada, and the United States have accused the UNHRC of focusing disproportionately on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and many allege an anti-Israel bias – the Council has resolved more resolutions condemning Israel than the rest of the world combined. The UNHRC works closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and engages the UN's special procedures.

### **About Our Agenda**

Agenda: Efforts to counter the trafficking of humans, child prostitution and child pornography.

In spite of several attempts to counter child prostitution, pornography, rape and trafficking; it is still an extremely prevalent issue. Not only are these topics extremely serious but sensitive too, every few minutes a child is being exploited and numbers are rapidly increasing. Even though governments are issuing harsher punishments, statistics aren't dialing down and something needs to be done. These are all global problems and some of the world's most shameful crimes, affecting the lives of millions of children around the world and robbing them of their dignity at such an early age. Traffickers deceive children from all corners of the world and force them into exploitative situations every day. Not only is this extremely scarring, both physically and mentally for a child but extremely harmful; psychologically. Apart from children, women and men also face extensive trauma and stress due to human trafficking. Every few minutes a human is exploited both physically and mentally, these issues have been becoming increasingly important, it should be our moral responsibility to take action.

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Something needs to be done to save the future of the world and to protect the integrity of little lives.

## **CURRENT ISSUES RELATED TO THE TOPIC**

### **1. Ryan Noble Child Pornography Case.**

A Pensacola man accused of utilising Instagram for the distribution of child pornography was booked into the Escambia County Jail with a bond over \$1 million. Ryan Noble, 30, was arrested Thursday and charged with 22 counts of possession of obscene material and 42 counts of in-state transmission of child pornography by electronic device. He was booked into the Escambia County Jail with a \$1,280,000 bond. County records indicated that he remained in custody as of Friday. According to his arrest report, a Pensacola Police Department investigator found a link between a complaint sent to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children about an upload of child pornography onto Instagram and a Pensacola resident's IP address. The investigator discovered the resident was named "Ryan Noble," that he lived in an apartment on Underwood Avenue and that he had used an Instagram account to send other social media users images of child pornography.

### **2. Child prostitution in Petaling Jaya**

PETALING JAYA: Police arrested eight men today in connection with the case of a child who was allegedly raped and prostituted by her father. In a statement, Selangor Criminal Investigation Department director Fadzil Ahmat said the suspects are a Malaysian man and seven foreigners. "They will be taken to Kajang Court on July 25 for a new remand application," he said. He added that the case is being investigated under Section 376B / 372 of the Penal Code & Section 43 (1) (a) of the Child Act. Investigation papers have been referred to the Selangor deputy public prosecutor and action will be taken under the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Act (Atipsom) 2007 in addition to the Penal Code. Previously, it was reported that the police were looking for a man accused of sexually assaulting his 13-year-old daughter for three years at their home in Kajang, after a report was lodged by the victim's aunt. According to Kajang district police chief Mohd Zaid Hassan, the victim was believed to have been raped by her biological father since she was just 10 years old. Zaid said the suspect is alleged to have forced the victim to entertain more than 20 customers. "The suspect is believed to have brought the customers home and forced the victim to cater to their sexual needs, but no payment was obtained," he said.

### **3. 17-year-old Javier Quintero.**

MIAMI SHORES, FLA. (WSVN) - A 17-year-old boy has been charged with sex trafficking after he was accused of selling a 14-year-old girl on social media. According to the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, authorities arrested 17-year-old Javier Quintero. According to the state attorney, Miami Springs Police were called to the Runway Motel

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in regards to a 14-year-old girl who had run away from home after a family dispute. The family member of the girl who called police told officers they believed the girl was in a hotel room and was being sold for sex on social media by a 17-year-old boy. The family member also directed officers to a specific account. Investigators interviewed the victim, and she told them after she left home, she was introduced to Quintero by a friend. Prosecutors said Quintero engaged in a relationship and told her she could make money for prostituting herself. The victim said that despite Quintero knowing she was a minor, he set up all of the contacts, referring to them as “dates” on social media, and told the victim how to handle the transactions. The victim noted she had up to five “dates” in one day. The victim told police that Quintero took all the money she made and controlled all economic aspects of her living situation. She said he also provided the hotel room, transportation, drugs, alcohol and social media platforms for the operation. The teen also said Quintero provided her with drugs, including cocaine, MDMA, Percocet and others. Quintero was later arrested and faces charges of human trafficking and more.





## **HISTORY**

### **China**

Internal trafficking is most pronounced among China's migrant population, which is estimated to exceed 150 million people. Forced labour remains a serious problem, including in brick kilns, coal mines, factories, and on construction sites throughout China. Since the loosening of government controls over society in the early 1980s, prostitution in mainland China not only has become more visible but can now be found throughout both urban and rural areas. PRC Criminal Law does not specifically regulate child pornography. Distributing pornography to minors under age eighteen is punishable by a heavier penalty within the punishments for distributing pornography.

### **France**

France is a destination country for women and girls trafficked for sexual exploitation from Eastern Europe, West Africa and several Asian countries. Men, women and children from African countries are trafficked for forced labour, including domestic servitude. The French government estimates that 18,000 to 20,000 women are victims of sex trafficking in the country. Prostitution in France (the exchange of sexual acts for money) was legal until April 2016, but several surrounding activities were illegal, like operating a brothel, living off the avails (pimping), and paying for sex with someone under the age of 18 (the age of consent for sex is 15).

### **United States**

Estimates suggest that about 50,000 people are trafficked into the US each year, most often from Mexico and the Philippines. In 2018, over half (51.6%) of the criminal human trafficking cases active in the US were sex trafficking cases involving only children. There have been many attempts to estimate the number of juvenile prostitutes within the United States. These estimates range from 1,400 to 2.4 million, although most fall between 300,000 and 600,000. Section 2256 of Title 18, United States Code, defines child pornography as any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor (someone under 18 years of age). Notably, the legal definition of sexually explicit conduct does not require that an image depict a child engaging in sexual activity.

### **United Kingdom**

99% of the estimated 4.8 million sex trafficking victims across the world working in the sex industry are women and girls. 13,000 people are estimated by the UK government to be the victims of modern slavery in Britain today. 70% of the world's 4.8 million sex trafficking victims are in the Asia and Pacific region. Child pornography laws in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are covered by the Protection of Children Act 1978 ("the 1978 Act"), which made it illegal to take, make, distribute, show, or possess for the intent of showing or distributing an indecent photograph of someone under the age of

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18. Under these changes, the Sexual Offences Act 2003 sections 47–50 "Abuse of children through prostitution and pornography" have been replaced by the offences of "Sexual exploitation of children". Child prostitution no longer exists as an offence in the UK.

### **Russia**

An estimated 20,000 men and women from North Korea are annually brought in to Russia and subjected to conditions of forced labour in Russia. Women and children from Nigeria, Central Asia, Ukraine, China, Moldova and Africa are subjected to forced prostitution and forced begging in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Child prostitution is well organized: those who become pimps are, as a rule, minors themselves. They get half of each prostitute's earnings. Prices for the services of minors fluctuate from 5,000 to 200,000 rubles. Child pornography legislation is insufficient, with critical gaps that must be addressed to bring Russia in line with international standards. The mere possession of child pornography does not constitute a crime in Russia. However, the distribution and advertising of child abuse images are criminalized.

### **India**

Human trafficking in India, although illegal under Indian law, remains a significant problem. Nepali children are also trafficked to India for forced labour in circus shows. Indian women are trafficked to the Middle East for commercial sexual exploitation. There are estimated to be over 900 000 sex workers in India. 30% are believed to be children. Recent reports estimate that the number of children involved in prostitution is increasing at 8 to 10% per annum. A recent study by the US National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and the Indian National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) found that more than 25,000 pieces of alleged child sexual abuse content have been uploaded to social media platforms in India over the last 5 months

### **Pakistan**

Pakistan is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to trafficking in persons, specifically forced labour and prostitution. Estimates of bonded labour victims, including men, women, and children, vary widely, but are likely well over one million. Child pornography is illegal in Pakistan. Culprits found involved in child pornography and child sexual abuse will be subject to 7 years in prison and a fine of US\$7,000 as per the Pakistani laws. Most of the 15,000-20,000 estimated child sex workers present in Lahore live in areas near bus stands and railway station. Male child prostitution is more common than any other form of commercial sexual exploitation in Pakistan.

### **Thailand**

Thailand's sex industry is a human trafficking destination. Ethnic Thais are trafficked from poor areas of Chiang Rai, Nong Khai, and Phayao to the tourist areas. Thailand has an unfortunate reputation for being a centre for child sex tourism and child prostitution

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. Even though domestic and international authorities work to protect children from sexual abuse, the problem still persists in Thailand and many other Southeast Asian countries. Child prostitution, like other forms of child sexual abuse, not only causes death and high morbidity rates in millions of children but also violates their rights and dignity.

### **Bangladesh**

Bangladesh is a source and transit city's for men, women, and children subjected to trafficking in persons specifically forced labour and forced prostitution. Some children are sold into bondage by their parents, while others are induced into labour or commercial sexual exploitation through fraud and physical coercion. In 2009 a report found an increase in the production of child pornography. A study found that over 30 million Taka worth of pornography is downloaded per month in Cyber Cafes in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The report also found 77 per cent of pornography viewers were underage. Child prostitution is widespread and a serious problem. The majority of Bangladeshi prostituted children are based in brothels, with a smaller number of children exploited in hotel rooms, parks, railway and bus stations and rented flats.

### **African nations**

Women and girls from other African countries are often imported to South Africa for commercial sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, and other jobs in the service sector. Victims from several different countries such as Thailand, the Philippines, China, and Russia are trafficked into South Africa. The legal status of prostitution in Africa varies widely. It is frequently common in practice, partially driven by the widespread poverty in many sub-Saharan African countries, and is one of the drivers for the prevalence of AIDS in Africa .



## **QARMAS – Questions A Resolution Must Answer**

1. What can be done if child pornography is not illegalised in some states?
2. What consequences should governments impose for people who violate laws against human trafficking, child pornography or child prostitution?
3. Is human trafficking justified if non-governmental organisations take action against another country as retaliation?
4. Should governments around the world have to appear before the ICJ if they are held in contempt of inaccurate accusations of trafficking humans or the trading of child pornography?
5. How do governments aid to our agenda, if they do at all?
6. How do citizens differentiate between fake news and real news?
7. How can there be a program to promote awareness on human trafficking, child prostitution and pornography?
8. What strict laws should be created, especially in developing countries, to combat these issues?
9. Other possible solution to the major causes of human trafficking, child prostitution and pornography?
10. How can there be a special check to prevent these acts.

Another important focus of the resolution must be not only the above questions but other essential causes of human trafficking, child prostitution and pornography and how they may be combatted.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH**

Is child prostitution/pornography/human trafficking used in delegate's country or region of the world?

What is the delegate's government doing about it?

How can the committee draw the world's attention to these problems and the ongoing process of eliminating this issue?

What methods can the delegate's use to educate children in areas where illiteracy is common?

What are some of the basic standards that should be implemented globally with respect to child prostitution/pornography and human trafficking?

What kind of laws are needed to solve the political, economic barriers in developing countries?

What kind of organizations or tools are needed to monitor government and associations in the process of solving the problem?

## **Potential Moderated Caucus Topics**

These suggested moderated caucus topics are included in order to provide some direction for delegates with respect to the topic at hand, however, delegates are strongly encouraged to move beyond these topics during committee in order to create comprehensive solutions.

- Regional risk factors with respect to the exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against children

A moderated caucus to discuss regional risk factors would provide countries with greater insight into how these different forms of violence may arise, and allow countries to tackle root causes.

- Existing action plans that have successfully existing forms of violence against children

A discussion of existing, successful action plans would allow delegates to share information on viable strategies to create solutions to the agenda at hand.

- Strengthening existing policies and initiatives, especially in developing and least developed countries (LDCs)

A moderated caucus on strengthening the reach of existing policies and initiatives would be a good way for delegates to tackle the lack of sound government policies in this sphere.

- The role of the economy in the achievement of universal rights for children

It is important to consider the role that economics plays in the existence and prevalence of forms of violence against children, and for countries to work to tackle these economic causes.

- Methods to improvise education system to make educational institutions more approachable, attractive and affordable to ensure that children attend school regularly?

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## **BEST OF LUCK!**

