



Statement by  
**the Republic of Slovenia**  
at the  
**43rd Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council**  
**Annual high-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming - 30th**  
**anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child**

Geneva, 24 February 2020

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Madam President,

Children are not just the future but are also in the present: our future depends on how we also treat children today.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child covers all aspects of child's life and sets civil, political, economic and cultural rights of the child. Therefore, it is of crucial importance to mainstream rights of the child across the UN.

My country is doing so by raising this issue in all UN fora, ranging from the Security Council to the HRC. We further reinforce this by organizing events or leading on initiatives such as the Group of Friends of Rights of the Child, here in Geneva.

In order to effectively implement their rights, we recognize further need for cooperation and collaboration among UN entities and beyond. We need to find ways to more effectively address also crosscutting issues - such as the right to safe, clean and sustainable environment or ICTs. These challenges were recognized also by Slovenian children with whom we engaged in discussions on different occasions marking the 30 Anniversary of the CRC last year.

In this vein we welcome UNICEF Executive Director's plead for recognition of the right to safe, clean and sustainable environment that was mentioned moments ago.

This year we are entering the year of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary since first two optional protocols were adopted. This should further our drive to promote, protect and fulfill rights of the child as we implement Agenda 2030.

To conclude, 30 years ago CRC has started a never-ending process to improve the lives of all children around the world. Slovenia is committed to contribute to the improvement of lives of children at home and abroad. We will give our best also in the future.

I thank you!