



Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia

at the
**37th Session of the Human Rights Council -
Annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child
Theme: Protecting the rights of the child in humanitarian situations**

Geneva, 5 March 2018

Mr President,

Slovenia would like to commend the organization of this year's full-day meeting dedicated to the protection of the rights of the child in humanitarian situations. Around the world, girls and boys are caught in diverse humanitarian situations, each situation demanding for each child a differentiated approach. Although there is no one-size-fits-all solution, it should be clear that the rights of each and every child must be respected and protected also in a humanitarian situation.

Slovenia aligns itself with the EU statement; however, would like to make some remarks in its national capacity.

Slovenian institutions have dedicated their efforts to raise the awareness and inform children through different activities and projects on prevention of natural and other disasters. The large movements of migrants and refugees on the Western Balkan route 2 years ago, in which also children accompanied by their families or alone came to Slovenia, caused the development of a more systematic approach to the accommodation and care of unaccompanied minors.

For more than 25 years Slovenia has been committed to lessen the burden of children affected by armed conflict, especially by supporting projects that provide psychosocial and physical rehabilitation to children. This commitment was reconfirmed by the adoption of a new Resolution on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance in September 2017, which defines the assistance in armed conflicts, particularly for children, as one of priority areas in humanitarian assistance.

Slovenia believes that empowerment of children should be achieved also through human rights education. In this regard in 2005 we launched the project "Our Rights" and have since supported its implementation in many parts of the world. We would like to ask the distinguished panellists on their views on the role of human rights education for children in humanitarian situations and for possible best practices already developed in this regard.

Thank you.