



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 25 MARCH 2015

SECURITY COUNCIL – OPEN DEBATE

CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

STATEMENT BY MR. STEFAN BARRIGA

MINISTER, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.

SPEAKING POINTS (CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY)

(1) Abductions as criterion for listing

SC should recognize abduction as a ground for conflict parties to be listed in the annexes to the Secretary-General's reports on children and armed conflict.

(2) Direct engagement with ANSAs

Support efforts by SRSG Zerrougui to negotiate and help implement action plans with armed non-state actors; urge concerned governments to facilitate and support engagement.

(3) Deterrence through justice, in particular the ICC

Important role for justice mechanisms in deterring violations against children. (a) Perpetrators must be made aware that their actions are illegal, e.g. in the case of conscripting child soldiers.

(b) Perpetrators must be made aware that they could be prosecuted: Requires either

functioning national judicial systems, or jurisdiction by the ICC (if necessary via SC referral). In addition, third States could exercise jurisdiction.

Deterrent effect of the ICC is increasingly being documented.¹ Under certain conditions, the ICC can prevent crimes:

- through prosecutorial deterrence (i.e. signaling to perpetrators that they could be subject to indictment, trial and jail sentences);
- through social deterrence (i.e. extra-legal consequences, such as being shunned by the community, subject to informal sanctions, etc.).

Justice mechanisms can be a great ally for the Security Council in its fight to protect children in armed conflict – the Council should make better and more consistent use of this important tool.

¹ <http://www.ipinst.org/2015/03/assessing-the-deterrent-effects-of-the-icc>. See also Jo, Hyeran and Simmons, Beth A., Can the International Criminal Court Deter Atrocity? (December 18, 2014). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2552820>