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Message from the
PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The year 2021 marked the end of the DCI Movement 2017-2021 Strategic Framework. We took stock of results and discussed where we want to go as we drafted a new Strategic Framework 2022-2026. A good strategic framework builds on strengths, results and achievements, but also on the challenges and weaknesses of the previous one, and of course, takes account of context. Justice for children - DCI’s overarching and historical priority - is still our raison d’être as much remains to be done. Going forward, we benefit from new tools and guidance. General Comment No 24 (2019) on children’s rights in the child justice system updates General Comment No 10 and DCI contributed to its development, among others in the Child Justice Advocacy Group (CJAG). The UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty (2019) was presented in Geneva in November 2019, coinciding with the 30th anniversary celebrations for the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the 40th anniversary of DCI. We welcome these innovative and progressive reference tools for the defence of the human rights of children, and will focus on how the recommendations of General Comment No 24 and the Global Study are implemented by the member states of the most universally ratified human rights instrument, the UNCRC.

DCI, faithful to its founding principles, is a grassroots movement that works on an annual basis with thousands of individual children around the world, each of them with their own story and dreams, and many of whom are still confronted with absent or dysfunctional child protection and child justice systems. Every child has the right to care and protection, and through our grassroots support to individual children, DCI has the knowledge and expertise to advocate for structural and system changes, to advocate for and promote protection (including safeguarding) and justice systems that can prevent future violations of the rights of the child and can provide the necessary environment for the harmonious development of every child. We also aim to support those children who wish to become agents of change and human rights advocates. In the 43 years of DCI, we have seen these children in action, understanding their rights, promoting their wellbeing and their viewpoints, advocating for more just and inclusive societies for them and their peers, across continents and frontiers.

Violence against children continues to be one of the main stumbling blocks for full implementation of the UNCRC, causing devastation to children and to our society. Thirty-three years after the adoption of the UNCRC, many governments and their agents still actively promote and order a vicious cycle of violence against children, or simply condone this violence through their inaction, by failing to prevent it and convict those responsible. But violence against children has never been, is not and will never be the answer. We do not need any more proof for this, you can see it in the eyes of children themselves; those who have been deprived of liberty or denied access to justice, children with no option but to migrate in an increasingly hostile world, children who “were born in the wrong place and time”, living in repression or oppression, through devastating wars... in Palestine, in Yemen, in Central African Republic, in Somalia,... in so many places we still see the intolerable and unacceptable: children detained, mistreated, traumatised, tortured or maimed, children losing their lives and their families. These last two years, we have seen structural and institutional violence against children further exacerbated by COVID-19 and related policies.

DCI will work for change. We seek to work together with all those who share our vision of a world that is respectful of children’s human rights, or to say it simply, a better world. The DCI Movement Strategic Framework 2022-2026 sets out our objectives and actions to help make our world better, with the overarching priority of ‘justice for children’ as our cornerstone.
DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL (DCI) is a leading child rights-focused and membership-based grassroots movement, founded in 1979 – the first International Year of the Child.

Our mandate is to ensure effective implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) at the local, national, regional, and international level.

Our vision is that children, as human beings, must be able to pursue a life in which they can exercise and enjoy their human rights with dignity, in a just and responsible society.

The creation of DCI in 1979 coincided with the international community starting the discussions about the adoption of a binding treaty on the Rights of the Child. DCI became in 1983 the lead coordinator of the NGO group providing the NGO input to the negotiations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), until the treaty was adopted in 1989.

The UNCRC is now the most universally ratified international treaty the world has ever agreed on. The Convention was a huge victory for defenders of child rights. Its adoption changed perceptions about children from passive objects of care and charity to full human beings with a distinct set of rights. Since the convention was adopted, DCI has focused on its implementation on the ground through lobbying and direct actions.

An International General Assembly (IGA) is DCI’s highest governing body and is composed of all National Sections of our grassroots Movement on equal footing. Guided institutionally by DCI’s Statutes and Code of Ethics & Gender Policy, it meets every four years, adopting the strategic framework, the priorities and position of the DCI Movement. It also elects the President and other members of the International Executive Council (IEC).

The International Executive Council (IEC) is mandated to govern the DCI Movement in between General Assemblies. It is currently composed of eight members elected every four years.

An Advisory Committee of renowned child rights and governance experts provides substantive and technical support to the DCI Movement.

Our Movement is composed of 36 Member National Sections and two Associated Members. They are independent grassroots structures led by local child rights defenders. Each of them works on child rights issues most directly relevant to their respective national contexts according to a Global Strategic Framework (2017-21) adopted by the International General Assembly of the Movement.

Our International Secretariat based in Geneva - Switzerland, is the heart of the Movement and acts as a coordinator and a focal point at the international level for the National Sections spread around five continents. The International Secretariat engages strategically with the relevant human rights mechanisms located in Geneva, including the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Human Rights Council (HRC), and other human rights bodies. Our added value is that all our advocacy and lobbying activities are based on the grassroots work of our National Sections. To this end, the International Secretariat provides tailored capacity-building and technical assistance to DCI National Sections in coordination with the Regional Desks.

Since 2017, we also have the World Service Foundation in Brussels. Directly linked to the International Secretariat in Geneva, the World Service works to develop the National Sections projects as well as, with advocacy towards the European Institutions.
PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

National Sections & Associated Members

International General Assembly (IGA)

World Service Foundation (WSF) (Brussels)

International Secretariat (IS) (Geneva)

Regional Desks

International Executive Council (IEC)

Advisory Committee

Monitoring direct services to children
Expertise & capacity-building
Advocacy & raising awareness

Governance & Guidance

Development Coordination Support/Capacity-building International advocacy

Fundraising Project expertise

Development Coordination Support Regional advocacy
OVERVIEW OF REGIONS
REGIONAL ADVOCACY AND RAISING AWARENESS OF CHILDREN’S RIGHTS

African regional activities

In Africa, DCI has National Sections in Burkina Faso, Central African Republic (CAR), Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Mauritius, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Uganda, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Zambia.

DCI has consistently shown its dedication to promoting children’s rights in the region. In Africa, DCI’s child protection and advocacy programmes are driven by the fact that children, must enjoy and exercise their human rights with dignity, in a just and responsive society. As such, DCI is working to create a more united region to better defend the rights of African children.

DCI’s African regional desk has focused its efforts on child participation and gender equality with programmes such as She Leads. In 2021, DCI and other institutional partners officially launched this programme (for further information refer to the Gender equality section).
With DCI leading the programme in Ghana, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, we conducted two sets of trainings for both the Mano River Youths Network and the ECOWAS Youth Council. During the training, each of the youth networks agreed on certain benchmarks to be achieved before the end of 2021.

**DCI-Liberia** trained **300 girls** from **20 schools** in **20 communities** on the response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

**DCI-Sierra Leone** also conducted a two-day training for journalists across Sierra Leone on Gender Sensitive Reporting on Girls & Young Women (GYW) issues.

With the understanding that vocational training instils confidence and sharpens individual skills that will enable them to succeed in the current environment, **DCI-Liberia**, within the Spotlight Initiative, supported by the European Union and UNICEF-Liberia, celebrated **24 girls** and young women who completed the trainings linked to various skills options for their economic empowerment.

With regards to violence against children, with support from the European Union and UNICEF-Liberia, in 2021, DCI-Liberia trained **300 “Buddy Clubs”** members in Montserrado and Grand Cape Mount Counties from **20 schools** in **20 communities** on the Prevention and Response to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), Harmful Practices, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.
Led by the **DCI-Africa** regional desk, the consortium organised a training course for girls and young women (GYW) aimed at showing them how to engage with regional organisations such as the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) and other African Union (AU) institutions. Throughout the year, the network contributed and presented statements to the ACERWC asking for active participation of GYW and youth in decision-making processes at the regional level. During the She Leads Pan African Launch, GYW were called to participate by sharing their aspirations and expectations for the programme. Among others, Habiba, from **Sierra Leone**, called for a continent that is safe for GYW to voice out their opinions, free education for girls and protection against sexual violence and other gender-based violence. She hopes the *She Leads* programme will help alleviate these concerns.

In terms of child safeguarding, **DCI-Sierra Leone**, led a capacity-building exercise on child safeguarding. The purpose of the training was to introduce the principles of child safeguarding and the ways DCI staff can keep children safe when they interact with DCI personnel, partners, and programmes. This increased the abilities and confidence of DCI staff in **Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia** in identifying and responding to child safeguarding issues. More training is planned for other sections in 2022.
Americas regional activities

In the Americas, DCI has National Sections present in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Uruguay, and a Provisional Section in Trinidad & Tobago. In the Americas, the situation is complex. There are several factors that contribute to the erosion and violation of children’s rights in the region, including cross-border migratory flows and human trafficking, gangs, violence, the climate crisis, political instability, and poverty.

At the regional level, DCI-Americas actively participated in the main spaces linked to justice for children and the promotion of non-custodial measures and restorative justice. In this regard, agreements were signed with associations, universities and civil society organisations, supporting courses, diploma courses and the dissemination of good practices in this area.

On 14 October, DCI-Americas was invited to participate in the National Forum on Adolescent Justice in Mexico, where it shared a table with Francisco Castellanos, member of the Executive Secretariat of the State Systems for the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents (SE Sipinna) of Mexico and Juan Manuel Sandoval, representative of Tierra de Hombre in Latin America. The Forum focused on the functioning of the National Protection Systems (SIPINA) and child criminal justice system in the region. The event was attended by more than 470 practitioners.

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On 26 November 2021, representatives of DCI-Americas, together with other experts, participated as a panelist at the round table of the World Congress on Justice With Children, in order to analyse good practices before COVID-19 in national child criminal justice and protection systems. This event was an opportunity to discuss and share the best experiences and lessons learned in the region.

Moreover, on 29 November 2021, Dr. Camilo Torres, child criminal judge for adolescents in Asunción, Paraguay and university professor, invited DCI-Americas to give a lecture to the students of the Faculty of Law of Paraguay on General Comment No. 24 of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, low intervention criminal law and early intervention to prevent the entry of adolescents into the criminal system.

To end the year, together with the Capari Institute of Mexico and the sponsorship of various universities and civil society organisations in the Americas, DCI-Americas organised the Second Ibero-American Meeting entitled ‘Protection Systems and their Interaction with Child Criminal Justice’, which took place on 17 and 18 December in Mexico. Key experts such as Dr. Esmeralda Arosemena de Troitiño, Rapporteur on Children of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the OAS, Juan Martín Pérez, Director of the Redim of Mexico, Dr. Patricia Borges, Judge for Adolescents of Uruguay, Virginia Murillo Herrera, Executive President of DCI-Costa Rica, participated in this event.
In Europe, DCI has National Sections in Belgium, Czechia, France, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, and Spain.

European sections have engaged in collaborations through exchanging information and participating in joint projects, such as BECOME SAFE. The project ‘BECOME SAFE - Building Efforts for Children on the Move in Europe through Systemic Approaches, Facilitation and Expertise’ aims to improve the protection of unaccompanied children and young migrants who are victims of, or at risk of violence, and to support their rights to quality care and assistance for victims of violence in the EU. This initiative was created in collaboration with, DCI-Belgium, DCI-Italy, DCI-Greece, DCI-Spain, DCI-World Service Foundation, Terre des Hommes (Hungary) and the Association of Social Workers of Liguria, Italy. The main objectives of this project are (1) To empower and raise awareness of unaccompanied children and young migrants who are potential victims of violence regarding their rights and support services (2) To increase the capacity of professionals working in child protection systems and providing victim support services, to meet the specific needs of migrant children (3) Facilitate the access of unaccompanied children and young migrants who are victims or potential victims of violence to quality protection and multidisciplinary support services through the improvement of the referral system and coordination between child protection workers and services (4) Train practitioners and organise focus groups with unaccompanied children and young migrants to listen to their opinions on protection and safety and their practical knowledge of support organisations.
The Youthlab initiative in coordination with DCI-Italy, DCI-Belgium, Leiden University, Young in Prison (The Netherlands), works with young people who are deprived of their liberty. The main objective of the project is to enhance the child-friendly communication skills of professionals and practitioners, as enshrined in EU Directive 2016/800 and other international instruments on child justice, through the involvement of young people who have been or are still involved in criminal proceedings, especially those who have experienced detention in The Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland and Italy by including young people who have been deprived of their liberty as co-trainers within the training paths (so-called Youthlab) and the integration of the YouthLab model within the training curricula of child justice practitioners.

Defence for Children - ECPAT Netherlands focuses on justice for children, sexual exploitation, inclusive education, family and alternative care, and children on the move by promoting child participation, inclusion and empowerment. Through direct legal service, research, lobby and advocacy, strategic litigation, and capacity-building, DCI-Netherlands aims to bring positive change. One of their best-known initiatives, the Children’s Rights Helpdesk, aims at providing direct legal information and advice to children, parents, lawyers, caregivers and others. They do this based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and domestic legislation and policy and put the best interests of the child at the centre. This National Section works closely with other DCI National Sections in Africa, the Americas and the MENA region.
MENA (Middle East and North Africa) regional activities

In the Middle East and Northern Africa, DCI has National Sections in Egypt, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, and Yemen, as well as Associate Members in Jordan and Pakistan. DCI-Palestine hosts the DCI-MENA regional desk who aims at enhancing child justice and the protection mechanisms for children. DCI-MENA collaborates closely with the League of Arab States (LAS) and acts as a regional expert in all advocacy efforts to promote and defend the human rights of children in the region.

Throughout 2021, DCI-MENA desk has focused its efforts on establishing and further developing Socio-Legal Defence Centres (SLDCs) to support children affected by crisis or conflict.

In striving to support children as human rights defenders, DCI’s main programme promoting girl participation has been She Leads. Also supporting this goal, DCI-Palestine has started investigating and collecting data and evidence related to children’s rights to participation in the MENA region. DCI-Palestine also analysed the concluding remarks from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child for a group of Arab countries. These efforts have culminated in a summary policy paper which will present the recurring issues with regards to child participation in these countries.

In terms of capacity-building opportunities, the MENA regional desk has been collaborating with the League of Arab States. Following the adoption of the Arab Child-Friendly Justice Manual by the League of
Defence for Children International

Arab States, **DCI-Palestine** in partnership with the Women, Family and Childhood department of the Arab League, launched a capacity-building programme that started in 2020 and continued during 2021.

In 2021, a four-day online training workshop was conducted targeting around 40 official representatives from 15 Arab countries, in addition to representatives of **DCI-MENA** sections. The workshop explained the sections of the manual, which included practical examples on child-friendly justice in the Arab countries and noted for future recommendations.

**DCI-MENA** participated in the 2021 *World Congress on Justice with Children*. Many DCI sections and regional desks hosted workshops, panel discussions and participated in the different regional events focused on discrimination against children, children in contact with the law, children on the move and children deprived of liberty. In this Congress, **DCI-Palestine** (as the regional desk for the **DCI-MENA** programme) led a workshop focusing on the importance of having a participatory and child-friendly justice system, using the Arab Child-Friendly Justice Manual as guiding reference.

Lastly, **DCI-Palestine** organised a virtual workshop on child safeguarding policies for **DCI-MENA** sections and participated in a briefing session with all DCI sections. These interventions are part of a series of capacity-building opportunities provided to the National Sections to empower them in developing, updating and implementing child safeguarding policies.
Since the inception of the Defence for Children International movement in 1979, justice for children has remained the organisation’s overarching priority.

The past year has seen some progress in ensuring that children’s rights (as enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) are secured — legislation at national and local levels, as well as community support for child rights initiatives are cause for hope. However, ensuring justice for children remains an ongoing task for the DCI Movement. At the national level, approximately 15 National Sections and Associate Members provide on-the-ground legal services to children in the form of Socio-Legal Defence Centres (SLDCs). At the regional and international levels, DCI advocates on behalf of children in international fora such as the United Nations Human Rights Council, the African Union and more.

**Socio-Legal Defence Centres (SLDCs)**

Defence for Children International operates Socio-Legal Defence Centres (SLDCs) in many of its National Sections. These SLDCs provide holistic support to children and their families. From direct legal assistance to mental and physical healthcare services, SLDCs are a key point of aid for children seeking justice. Through its National Sections, DCI has found that SLDCs prove extremely effective in providing children with the opportunity to effectively access justice and obtain remedies. SLDCs proactively promote, and reactively protect, the human rights of children as codified in the UNCRC. SLDCs provide direct access to justice for children in conflict with the law, child victims and witnesses, and adults confronted with child rights violations. These services are further accompanied by corresponding social and legal support in the form of information provision, referrals to other service providers, psychological counselling, and free of charge legal advice and representation.
DCI currently has 15 SLDCs in the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Egypt, Greece, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, The Netherlands, Palestine, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, and Yemen. Hundreds of children and their caregivers received direct help from these SLDCs in 2021. These centres support children who are exposed to or at risk of being exploited, abused and arrested, as well as children in conflict with the law and navigating the justice system. Beyond providing legal support and therapy to these children and their families, many of the centres also host workshops for families, parents, and social workers to strengthen their capacity and knowledge of child justice and legal procedures. In the SLDC in Palestine, around 400 children received socio-legal services in addition to 4,000 children receiving legal and social awareness sessions. Some SLDCs also incorporate data-collection and monitoring into their work, allowing DCI to effectively advocate for children’s rights at national and international levels with accurate data.
Africa

Awareness raising efforts for justice for children in Zambia resulted in the Justice for Children radio programme, a show that broadcasts information at national level on issues of child justice. Similarly, in Mauritius, the IGF programme educated over 2,000 children about Internet governance and its intersection with child justice. In Sierra Leone, DCI managed the cases of 1,300 children, as well as provided them with holistic rehabilitation and reintegration services during and after their time in the justice system. Proactively, DCI hosted education sessions for 3,200 adolescents in Sierra Leone to inform them about the social and legal implications of violence and breaking the law. DCI facilitated the training of 80 community mediators in Sierra Leonean towns and managed the cases of 1,300 children. These children also received rehabilitation and reintegration services.

Americas

DCI’s work in the Americas is wide-ranging. In Canada, DCI’s activity focuses on advocacy at the national and local level. DCI-Canada’s Cross Over Project was a study that investigated the pipelines funnelling children from the welfare system to the justice system, as well as ways to intervene and break these paths. With the participation of children, DCI-Canada used the results of this study to advocate for child justice to lawmakers and provincial legislators.

In South America, the Colombian DCI national section hosted 3 in-school workshops for children, educating 80 students on their rights, conflict resolution, restorative child justice, and restorative practices (this project was called Convivencia Restaurativa en los Contextos Escolares, or “Restorative Coexistence in the Context of Schools”). 30 children in Argentina benefited from the holistic and individualised services of DCI-Argentina’s SLDC. This centre also engaged in data collection for factual reporting to international and regional human rights mechanisms that monitor the implementation of children’s rights.
Europe

Across Europe, DCI National Sections strive to inform children - and the individuals who work with them – about children’s rights, as well as the specific needs of children in European justice systems. Both DCI-Italy and DCI-Netherlands led projects to raise public awareness of child rights issues and to advocate to European governments. Exemplifying this is the role of the iCARE project in Italy. This project improved the situation of children by enhancing judicial cooperation regarding parental responsibility and international child abduction. Specifically, the iCARE project organised a series of meetings with key European stakeholders, created and disseminated a questionnaire on family mediation, organised a partnership meeting in December 2021 in Rome, created a chatbot (a computer programme designed to simulate conversation) for parents and children and developed recommendations to promote the effective implementation of the existing international and European law and policy frameworks while strengthening a child-centred and rights-based approach in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child.

MENA

In Lebanon, the focus on justice for children stretches beyond reactive legal support for children in conflict with the law — this national section routinely gave proactive instruction and workshops to children and families on topics of child rights laws, legal residency, and refugee rights and duties. They also offered classes in reading and numeracy, as well as language courses for children and their caregivers.

A project in Mauritania titled Together for child-friendly justice provided holistic protection services for children in conflict with the law. These children benefited from individualised legal, judicial and psychosocial assistance before all administrative, security and judicial authorities.

DCI’s national section in Palestine has centred its work around providing legal aid for children under the jurisdiction of Israeli or Palestinian laws, including representation, consultation, monitoring visits to detention centres, and collecting affidavits/data on child rights violations. Beyond this, DCI in Palestine recently launched the Protect Your Future campaign. This campaign entailed 36 workshops for 727 children in conflict with the law in addition to seven workshops targeting 130 parents.

The pursuit of justice for children does not end when court cases or legal interventions finish. Tunisia knows this all too well, as their recent capacity-building projects for social workers, psychologists, magistrates, lawyers, and other child justice workers address child reintegration and developing tools for dealing with children traumatised by their conflict with the law.
VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

DCI–Liberia is working jointly with the International Secretariat to influence the government to: Develop a legal framework in the Penal Code that explicitly criminalises the practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Africa

DCI’s National Section in Burkina Faso started a project about Gender-Based Violence (GBV) to underline the importance of keeping girls in schools. In total, 50 people including 30 representatives of parents’ associations and women’s associations participated in these discussions. Furthermore, Burkina Faso also undertook another project titled Le travail des enfants dans les sites miniers artisanaux « défis d’une nouvelle vie scolaire » (“Child labour in artisanal mining sites ‘challenges of a new school life’”). Its aim was to remove children from mining sites for re-schooling, and 3 child victims of violence have already been helped.

In Liberia, DCI was involved in the UPR Review of the State of Liberia. The State received 27 recommendations related to violence during the previous UPR cycle. Unfortunately, a widespread culture of impunity for SGBV, particularly for rape, persists and COVID-19 put young women and girls at increased risk of violence exacerbated by economic hardships and despair within families. Unintended pregnancies are also on the rise with potentially many deaths of girls from unsafe abortion and complicated births due to inadequate access to emergency care. Liberia also received several recommendations on the issue of child marriage. Despite efforts by the State to implement the international legal frameworks at the national level, gaps still exist between these legislations and the customary laws, in particular those relating to child rights issues. DCI-Liberia is working jointly with the International Secretariat to influence the government to: Develop a legal framework in the Penal Code that explicitly criminalises the practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) including specific penalties, and to prioritize the Strategy for the Protection of Girls against Child Marriage (2016) in conformity with the 2063 Agenda of the African Union.

DCI-Zambia advocated for improved psychosocial counselling services for children. The project is titled Mental Health for Children, and it raised awareness on traditional media such as the radio and TV. As a result, schools strengthened their counselling systems, the Zambian government is currently making policy statements, and children are calling the helpline and receiving help.
Americas

DCI’s National Section in Argentina undertook two projects dedicated to capacity-building and raising awareness. The first project titled Programa Solidario de Asistencia en Salud Integral y Orientación Jurídica Social ("Solidarity Programme for Comprehensive Health Assistance and Social Legal Guidance"), also known as SOJUS, aimed to assist and guide people whose rights have been violated due to institutional violence and, assist and guide children in cases of deprivation of liberty. This project provided psychological and medical assistance, as well as monitoring victims in specialised centres, providing legal guidance and family accompaniment. DCI-Argentina’s second project titled Fortalecimiento de las Comisiones Provinciales para la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil ("Strengthening of the Provincial Commissions for the Eradication of Child Labour"), focused on providing technical and administrative advice to consultants to strengthen national and provincial capacities, and ensure better alignment between national priorities and provincial planning within the framework of the National Plan for the Eradication of Child Labour.

In Bolivia, DCI started the project Rastreando las huellas de la violencia contra Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes ("Tracing the footsteps of violence against Children and Adolescents"). They focused on disseminating information about acts of violence and sexual violence against children and adolescents, as well as infanticide in the cities of Cochabamba, La Paz, and Oruro. By raising awareness on these matters, actions to combat them are promoted.
DCI’s National Section in Costa Rica created several initiatives to address violence against children. For instance, they launched the campaign Desenrédate, libérate y mové tus manos (“Unwind, free yourself and move your hands”) to offer alternative activities for teenagers to develop in their free time, stimulating logical thinking and creativity; and organised conferences on prevention and eradication of violence against children. These conferences reflected on the response frameworks for dealing with violence against children. Furthermore, Costa Rica also led two different projects. The Proyecto EEMPATA: Educación y Empleabilidad para Adolescentes Trabajadores en Agricultura (“EEMPATA Project: Education and Employability for Adolescent Workers in Agriculture”) implemented a Rural Vocational Curriculum Model that aimed at accompany children and adolescents from tobacco-growing areas around schools B16 and B18 in the municipality of San José La Máquina, Guatemala, so that they remained in the educational system, and completed their secondary education. The second project, titled Proyecto Arte y Parte; adolescentes promoviendo una vida libre de explotación sexual comercial (“Art and Part Project; adolescents promoting a life free of commercial sexual exploitation”), generated a participatory process of information and virtual training with 100 adolescents, who belong to Participatory Councils in five border and coastal communities. This helped stimulate their personal strengths and active citizenship; it also provided the opportunity to project their ideas and opinions through artistic expression to promote the right to a life free of commercial sexual exploitation.
RESULTS OF DCI-COSTA RICA’S PROJECTS

01 It has helped 800 children/victims of violence

02 361 students of which 150 students participate in Telesecundaria and 65 students in third grade of Telesecundaria

03 25 local companies visited to request information on available positions

04 110 services and accompaniment provided by the municipal youth employment office to young people to support their insertion into employment

05 Reached 16,666 people through Facebook, Twitter and Mailchimp followers

06 18 members from the education sector, community and companies, consolidated supported the Committee for the implementation of the Model

07 99 adolescents participated on the virtual museum tours

08 100 adolescents from five border and coastal communities were how violence manifests, and how to detect it and report it

09 99 adolescents participated in the synchronous and asynchronous virtual course for the prevention of Commercial Sexual Exploitation

10 90 adolescents participated in the synchronous and asynchronous virtual course on photography and messages for the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation.
In **Spain**, the overall objective of the **BECOME Safe** project was to improve the protection of children on the move and young people who are victims or at risk of violence, and to defend their rights to quality victim assistance and care in the EU. Its main activities consisted of training various groups of people in different ways: **5** Youth Facilitators on Human Rights, violence and migration; peer-to-peer training; and training for professionals, social entities, municipalities and social services. Moreover, **40** children on the move participated in the consultations about violence during their migration process and during their stay in Spain. They also carried out **10** interviews with key actors in the protection of children from institutional violence. Furthermore, round tables were organised to present the overall results.

**Europe**

**DCI-Italy** has undertaken several projects. For instance, the project **Fairytales** aimed at raising awareness and prevent gender-based violence by challenging gender stereotypes from an early age in the EU. They did this by carrying out a gender analysis of nine classical fairtales for children. Around **60** teachers were trained on how to introduce this topic to children (ages 5-7). Another project was **E-PROTECT II: Enhancing Professionals’ Capacity to Deal with Child Victims**, through which a series of objectives were pursued. Some of these objectives included boosting the practical application of Directive 2012/29 in cases of child victims of crime; delivering capacity-building based on the training elaborated by the **E-PROTECT** project to child protection professionals by combining standard (MeetUps, twinning visits, etc.) and novel (virtual events & simulation game) approaches; improving cooperation among competent national authorities, NGOs and/or professional organisations in the field of child victims’ rights; and enlarging and growing the established E-PROTECT community—a pan-European multidisciplinary, multi-sectoral network of professionals, working with child victims and facilitate their cooperation. With this project, **over 200** professionals of the social service offices of the Child Justice were trained. The last project is titled **Child Protection**, aimed at increasing capacity-building and supporting the development and implementation of a Child Safeguarding and Wellbeing Policy for a Nursery School. In total, around **30** children in nursery school benefitted from this project.
MEET OMAR

While they were migrating, 16-year-old Omar was beaten physically, emotionally abused, and threatened because of a debt contracted by his relatives. They were informed of the rights they were entitled to, and they were taught how to file a complaint. After that, Omar was referred to a health centre so that they could receive psychological support.

MENA

DCI's National Section in Lebanon continued the INCREDIBLE ME: Psychosocial Support project with the aim to support refugee children in developing new strengths, overcoming daily challenges and past experiences, and rebuilding a meaningful course of life. To do this, DCI-Lebanon coached educators in refugee camps to become facilitators and to develop their capacity in delivering organised psycho-social support programmes by using movement therapy, sophrology, and/or art therapy based on the child's needs.

In Mauritania, a reception and care centre for child victims of gender-based violence was created in the town of Nouadhibou. Under the name of Prévention et Protection des enfants victimes de violences basés sur le genre particulièrement les violences sexuelles à Nouakchott et Bassiknou (“Prevention and Protection of Child Victims of Gender-Based Violence, especially Sexual Violence in Nouakchott and Bassiknou”), this project aided almost 300 children. DCI-Mauritania also started the project titled Promouvoir un environnement protecteur des droits humains des enfants et des femmes victimes de violences, particulièrement de violences sexuelles dans les wilayas du Hodh El Gharbi et de Dakhlet Nouadhibou (“Promoting a protective environment for the human rights of children and women victims of violence, particularly sexual violence in the wilayas of Hodh El Gharbi and Dakhlet Nouadhibou”). The aim of this second project was to put in place prevention, reparation, and support mechanisms that favour the children's family, school, and socio-professional reintegration. Moreover, it also aimed to provide holistic protection services for children and women victims of violence, particularly sexual violence, in Hodh El-Gharbi and Nouadhibou.

Lastly, DCI's National Section in Palestine started the project titled Community Mobilisation Unit to empower Palestinian children to act as human rights
defenders by establishing protection teams, as well as the local and national child councils, raising awareness and capacity-building for children to act as human rights defenders and for community leaders, school officials, and social workers. It also supported child-led advocacy efforts, including the involvement of children in accountability and advocacy sessions and child-led initiatives and campaigns. Mainly, the targeted children under this project were not the victims of violence; they were children from the most marginalised areas, whom DCI-Palestine empowers to monitor, address, and report violence against children. In total, over 120 children monitored cases of children victims of violence —89.5% being made by boys— and 500 other children were involved in the activities conducted.

**MEET AHMED**

Ahmed is a 17-year-old boy, from Nablus, a member of the Palestinian children’s council. Ahmed suffers from kidney failure since he was 3 years old. The condition has always affected his life and his abilities to be involved in non-curricular activities. Ahmed’s participation in the child-led monitoring groups was the first of its kind for him. DCI-Palestine’s staff was aware of his condition and managed to integrate him in the activities.

Last year, Ahmed decided to participate in the election process of the local council, and he won, following that he nominated himself to the membership of the Palestinian children’s council. Although he could not attend the election day as he had to go to a dialysis session, he was able to send his electoral campaign video and attended the day via virtually. When revealing the votes results, Ahmed was elected as a member of the council.

In 2021, Ahmed started to participate more in the in-person activities and was able to attend the centralized workshops in Ramallah, through which he participated actively in the national advocacy campaign activities. DCI-Palestine’s community activator said that she was very proud of his progress: “Ahmed can bring hope and encouragement wherever he is. We are happy that he became able to interact and actively participate in the different activities.”
MEET ARMIN AND NEDA

12-year-old Armin and 10-year-old Neda lived with their divorced mother, who was a cleaning lady. Every time she had to work, she would entrust her children to her neighbour and her husband would sexually assault the children. This is what gave them long-term psychological issues. The children and their mother were considered as victims and, thus, the centre provided social aid, psychological follow-ups, and legal assistance.

The project allows the creation of a sustainable partnership and effective collaboration between the centre and the social defence services of the Ministry of Social Affairs and the delegate for child protection to improve the methods and procedures of care, as well as the exchange of experiences and good practices. A cooperation and collaboration agreement between the Tunisian Association for the Rights of the Child and the Ministry of Social Affairs is currently being finalised.

DCI’s Safeguarding Policy

Prioritising the safeguarding of children is essential to tackle violence against children. DCI has established a safeguarding policy which aims at respecting and protecting children that the DCI movement has direct or indirect contact with. Every child needs to be treated with dignity and as a unique and valuable human being with an individual personality, distinct needs, interests and privacy, with due regard to the child’s right to participation. All children, without discrimination of any kind, have the right to protection from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse. Everyone who works for DCI (including all those affiliated with the organisation: staff members, contractors, interns, volunteers, board members ...) must take all possible precautions to protect the children with whom they come into direct or indirect contact, in their DCI-related activities as well as in their private life.

In 2022 and beyond, DCI aims to continue hosting workshops and trainings to build capacity of the DCI movement, develop child-friendly materials, organise events to advocate for the safeguarding of children, and create spaces to exchange experiences on how to respect children in specific situations that violate their human rights.
Every year, children on the move are exposed to risks such as trafficking, family separation, and armed conflicts, to name some. Children can constitute up to 50% of a displaced population, yet they are often regarded as an invisible group of people, and not as key members of our society with specific needs that need to be recognised and addressed. Children on the move, as well as their parents, are not aware of their rights. This can be especially alarming considering that some practitioners may be unaware of such rights as well. DCI has always tried to raise awareness on the rights of children on the move, so they are acknowledged and respected. For this reason, DCI has put into place projects at a national level to safeguard these specific rights.

### International advocacy

At the international level, DCI successfully conducted advocacy in the lead up to the 2022 Annual Day on the Rights of the Child, focusing on family reunification and the subsequent UN Human Rights Council resolution on the rights of the child. National sections provided their experience to inform the advocacy, including DCI-Greece which delivered a statement during the Annual Day urging States to put in place a well-established inter-state structure which places best interests procedures at its core, where children on the move are seen as children first and foremost and their voices be heard.

### Africa

Once children on the move arrive in a host country, one of the most significant challenges they will face is integration into the local community of said country. The Central African Republic (CAR) recognises this issue and, through their project *Information, conseil et assistance sur l’identité légale et la documentation civile dans la Mambéré Kadei* (“Information, advice and assistance on legal identity and civil documentation in Mambéré Kadei”), they have successfully helped over 900 different cases in total. The overall objective of this project was to assist persons affected by displacement, by integrating them into the local community through access to their rights and legal identity in the Central African Republic.

DCI’s National Section in Guinea has undertaken two initiatives: *Lutte contre la traite des enfants* (combating child trafficking) and *Emission Radio* (radio show). Both projects have helped raise awareness about children on the move and, also, have succeeded in capacity-building strategies. This has been done through radio shows and intense trainings of security officials, community leaders, media, and youth groups. Thanks to DCI-Guinea’s efforts, many children have been reunited with their families.

In Sierra Leone, DCI undertook a project on child trafficking, carrying out several activities including, training security border officials and local community leaders, developing case management and
documentation, providing direct social services to victims of trafficking, and, after that, pursuing legal action against the perpetrators, as well as advocating for national policies to combat child exploitation and child trafficking. DCI-Sierra Leone’s efforts had a positive impact on the capacity-building of border security officials, community leaders, and other structures within border communities, local CSOs (including transport unions and youth groups around border areas in the Mano River Union (MRU) countries) to effectively prevent and respond to cases of child trafficking. This project contributed significantly to the ongoing legal reforms in Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia by addressing the legislative and policy gap in the fight against child and human trafficking. Moreover, Sierra Leone has provided direct support to victims of trafficking (legal assistance, cross-border tracing, referrals for shelter services, family tracing and reintegration of victims) in collaboration with DCI-Guinea and DCI-Liberia and, thus, has strengthened the children’s rights movement in West Africa. Lastly, this National Section launched and implemented the See or hear something, say something campaign in border communities, as well as both on social and traditional media, which is still ongoing.
RESULTS OF SIERRA LEONE’S PROJECT TO FIGHT CHILD TRAFFICKING

01. OVER 5,800 PEOPLE benefited (directly and indirectly) from this project

02. MORE THAN 30 CHILDREN’S RIGHTS CSOS including children and youth groups working in the Mano River Region of Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia committed to include fight against child trafficking amongst their priorities

03. 52 CASES OF CHILD TRAFFICKING as well as children on the move were reintegrated into their families and communities after addressing their legal and PSS issues

04. 10 CASES OF TRAFFICKING are being prosecuted; the pursuit of several other alleged perpetrators is still ongoing

05. 150 FRONTLINE SECURITY OFFICIALS, COMMUNITY LEADERS AND CHILDREN AND YOUTH ADVOCATES improved their knowledge and skills

06. OVER 1,800 LOCAL LEADERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS were able to prevent and respond to child trafficking across 10 border towns

Americas

Through the *Motherisk* Project, **DCI-Canada** formulated recommendations in a report that outlined how children were abruptly separated from their parents due to gaps in family reunification processes.

**DCI-Costa Rica** has undertaken two projects to help children on the move. The first one, *Protección de niños, niñas y adolescentes refugiados y solicitantes de refugio en Costa Rica* (“Protection of refugee and asylum-seeking children and adolescents in Costa Rica”), aims at generating strategies to promote the enjoyment and exercise of human rights and the integral development of children and adolescents in need, or in conditions of refuge in selected communities in the Northern Zone and the Greater Metropolitan Area of Costa Rica. The second one, *Prevención de la Explotación y el Abuso Sexual por parte de personas trabajadoras humanitarias hacia personas menores de edad refugiadas en Costa Rica* (“Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by Humanitarian Workers of underage refugees in Costa Rica”), has focused on sharing information on social networks about the different manifestations of sexual violence. With these projects, DCI’s National Section in **Costa Rica** has provided face-to-face or virtual care, has informed parents about the rights their children are entitled to and has led 3 sessions of guidance for adolescents.
**MEET LUCIA**

**LUCIA AND DCI–COSTA RICA**

*Lucía* was a 13-year-old refugee. She joined groups of children and adolescents to talk and learn about the rights of children and adolescents in refugee situations in **Costa Rica**. Since then, Lucía has continued to be part of the group processes that the project has developed: she is now a member of the **RED de Adolescentes Refugiados (REDFU)** where she has been able to participate in spaces with adults and PME to share her experiences, achievements and challenges. Lucía is an adolescent who has been empowered by her learning, has managed to integrate into her community, and understood that she can help and carry out actions so that other children and adolescents feel more integrated. She has been able to take advantage of other opportunities offered by DCI, such as an English and an ICT course. Despite her economic limitations, Lucía managed to buy a computer by her own means and continue with her curricular studies. Moreover, she also took some courses at the **Grow Up Virtual School**, with whom DCI has an agreement for training. In February 2022, at the Intercontinental Hotel, she participated together with other adult representatives of organisations in an event with an Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity. There, she was able to express her experiences, and those of other adolescents in conditions of refuge, pointing out the problems of access to rights in the areas of education and health. Lucía is currently in her tenth year of school and hopes to study International Relations.

*Lucía, together with other adolescents in conditions of refuge, have given greater visibility to the situations they live in and the needs they have; they have participated as a group in the process of formulating the National Policy on Children and Adolescents and we hope that their contributions will be considered in the policy document.*
As a country along the Mediterranean Sea, Greece is the first point of European contact for many refugees from the Middle East. Therefore, DCI-Greece created the Child Protection Centre offering beneficiaries the ‘safe space’ to express their story, needs, fears but also dreams. It becomes their ‘refuge’ when they arrive tired from a long and dangerous journey that they were forced to undertake. When they get in touch with the Helpdesk, through which the Child Protection Centre operates, they meet our team of experts in the field of child protection of children on the move. They meet the people who are meant to become their fellow travellers in their complex journey to become visible, protected, and empowered. Thus, the Child Protection Centre becomes their focal point where they can ask for and receive information, empowerment, legal support, and protection. The Helpdesk reached out and supported more than 1500 children in cases of: Asylum Process, Shelter, Detention, Family Reunification, Age Assessment, Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, Access to help and Education, while more than 1000 have been participating in our information and empowerment sessions.
DCI-Belgium, DCI-Italy, DCI-Greece, DCI-Spain, DCI-World Service Foundation, Terre des Hommes (Hungary) and the Association of Social Workers of Liguria, Italy lead the Building Efforts for Children on the Move in Europe through Systemic change, Facilitation & Expertise (BECOME Safe) project to improve the protection of migrant children and young people victims or at risk of violence and uphold their rights to assistance and quality victims care in the European Union. This project aims to ensure that 1,300 migrant children and youth victims or potential victims of violence are aware of their rights to protection and available support services, and 580 relevant professionals in contact with migrant children and youth victims of violence or at risk of violence have enhanced capacity and knowledge to deliver quality, tailored and specialised victims support services to migrant children and youth.

DCI's National Section in Italy has implemented various projects to cover as many areas as possible: Child Rights Help Desk, Supports, Re-generations, and Child Protection. DCI-Italy has expanded its reach, and, among other things, this National Section has developed an independent observatory to verify the state of implementation of guarantees and rights of foreign children in the country and improved the support given to young adults aged 18-21. Furthermore, it has also promoted the active participation of children in decision-making and, lastly, it has developed a Trainers' Manual on Guardianship for Unaccompanied Children.

MEET AISHA
HOW DCI-ITALY HELPED AISHA
Since the beginning of 2020, upon change of shelter where she was living, 18-year-old Aisha was being denied legal residence in the municipality she was living in. The lack of legal residence in Italy compromises the possibility of having an identity card, accessing national health system, enroll in job center, having a regular job contract and a bank account, to name a few. Furthermore, it was not clear who had the responsibility of paying for Aisha's passport request, thus potentially impeding the conversion of her residence permit.

Aisha was feeling very depressed and helpless, and her guardian tried her best to support her emotionally while referring legal issues to DCI professionals.

Social services and registry services passed the responsibility for this omission from one to the other. Thus, DCI legal professional established a set of contacts (emails, formal letters, video calls, etc.) with all the actors involved in order to respect Aisha's right to a legal residence and to obtain her passport.
DCI-Netherlands helps to ensure that the best interests of the child are integrated in Dutch and European immigration law, policy and practice. This section has successfully finished their 4th year of supporting children in migration with 9 organisations in 7 EU Member States.

As for other National Sections in Europe, Spain undertook the Erasmus+ project and issued multiple questionnaires to professionals working with people and children on the move, as well as informed them of the rights they are entitled to, and how migration processes work.

MEET MOHA

HOW DCI-SPAIN HELPED MOHA

With the information provided to him in a clear, understandable and friendly manner and the participation in his documentation process, 17-year-old Moha was able to obtain his residence permit, since he had previously refused to hand over the documentation from his country of origin, because he thought he would be repatriated.
MENA

In Lebanon, through the project Early Learners; Early Childhood Education for Refugee Children and Children Affected by Displacement, DCI has assisted Syrian refugee children aged 4-6 years old in joining and integrating formal education. Some of the key activities include providing out-of-school refugee children with an Early Childhood Education (ECE) curriculum that includes educational standards for first grade (letters, numbers, sizes, shapes, etc.), assist students who have finished the ECE program in passing entrance tests and enrolling in public schools; Syrian refugee children who are falling behind in school and are at risk of failing, can benefit from the Remedial Learning Program (RLP). Moreover, parents of selected refugee children are given information about their children's rights to safety and learning. DCI-Lebanon has been extremely successful and has given support to more than 1,000 children.

DCI's national section in Morocco, more specifically in the Greater Casablanca area, has begun a project titled Assistance et protection des enfants non accompagnés et séparés au Maroc (“Assistance and protection of unaccompanied and separated children in Morocco”) through which they have provided emergency intervention, and psychological and social assistance to children on the move. This project has been extremely effective, as it has already provided medical consultations to over 250 children, and psychological support to almost 400 children.

Lastly, Tunisia started 2 projects: (1) Rights of refugee and migrant children and their families (2) Respect for the right to be different. Through both projects, DCI has raised awareness about the rights of refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants while interviewing them for legal, social and psychological assistance. DCI-Tunisia has also trained leaders of civil associations in the framework of workshops to reflect on respect for the differences of children belonging to other cultures different from the national culture and the need to integrate them into local communities.
CHILDREN AFFECTED BY CONFLICT

Despite the amount of international attention and progress on the issue of children affected by armed conflict, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG CAAC) estimates that around **250 million children** are living in conflict-affected nations. On top of this, at a global level, it has been revealed that more than **170,000 grave violations** have been verified by the United Nations. DCI reaffirms its commitment to fighting for the observance of the boundaries established by international law to protect children from the devastation caused by armed conflicts considering the increase in conflicts on a national and international level in many regions of the world. Children affected by armed conflict are deprived of their basic human rights, as well as their childhood. Even though they should be protected under the law, they are vulnerable to a whole range of risks.

Children can be affected directly by conflict by being recruited by armed forces or groups, or indirectly by experiencing the consequences of the conflict such as being separated from their families, detained, killed, injured or exploited in other ways. Even when children survive, their experiences throughout the war shape them for the rest of their lives.

**International advocacy**

At the **International Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland**, DCI advocacy representatives delivered statements and interventions at the 46th, 47th, and 48th sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council. These statements highlighted the need for the international community to demand that Israeli forces refrain from using lethal force against civilians, including children, who pose no imminent threat to life. Furthermore, the International Secretariat sustained cooperation with relevant international mechanisms such as the Independent Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, to keep the issue of child rights violations in Palestine at the top of the agenda.
Africa

DCI’s National Section in Burkina Faso implemented the Projet d’accompagnement des personnes déplacées internes lié au terrorisme (“Project to support internally displaced persons (IDPs) linked to terrorism”). This project was carried out at a national scale and aimed at raising awareness and increase capacity-building. Through visiting various sites for internally displaced persons, this project was able to impact approximately 200 women and children.

The living conditions in the Central African Republic (CAR) have worsened during 2021 due to the increase of violence and deterioration of basic services. The recent Report of the Secretary General on the Central African Republic presented at the United Nations Security Council in October 2021, informed that between 1 June to 1 October 2021 alone, the country task force on monitoring and reporting verified 282 grave human rights violations on 241 children, committed by armed groups, defence forces, and unidentified armed individuals. In CAR, DCI is also known as the Center for the Promotion and Defence of Children’s Rights (C.P.D.E.-RCA). On 27th September 2021, DCI held focus group discussions on children and armed conflict with the participation of 4 boys and 3 girls in Bangui, aged between 16 to 21 years old, all affected by the ongoing conflict. The children’s testimonies and recommendations were shared by DCI in its new Children in War report, a publication informing and listening to children and their concerns regarding meaningful participation, being provided with safe pathways, and having their views are duly addressed.
Americas

In Colombia, the Coalición contra la prevención del conflict armado Colombiano ("Coalition against the prevention of the Colombian armed conflict") was created to strengthen children’s capacities to protect their rights and prevent recruitment into illegal armed groups. Through recreational and artistic workshops on prevention and social and political advocacy, more than 5,000 children and adolescents in rural and indigenous areas have been protected. Capacities have been built and strengthened in nearly 200 schools and colleges to prevent armed conflict, there is an Observatory that monitors the situation of girls and boys in the armed conflict.

A 17-year-old child suffered brain damage due to the impact of a warhead device. The project helped the child as he was provided with healthcare assistance straight away and was able to get the necessary operations and treatments.
The **Occupied Palestinian Territory** (OPT), including East Jerusalem and the West Bank are experiencing a chronic humanitarian crisis. In 2020, the crisis aggravated due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Israel’s plans to annex part of the West Bank. Figures from the new Children in War report estimate 2.5 million people, including 1.4 million children are in need of humanitarian assistance. Between 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic, the rise of tensions in East Jerusalem, and the increase of hostilities in the Gaza Strip have fast deteriorated the situation in the OPT. Palestinians are at risk of violence and lack access to basic services due to the financial crisis, political divisions, and protracted political conflict.

As the tensions continue in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, 9 Palestinian children were killed and 556 were injured by tear gas, rubber-coated bullets, live ammunition, and concussion grenades between May and July 2021. In the Gaza Strip, 67 children have been killed and 685 were injured. In the same period, in East Jerusalem 170 Palestinian children were detained. Around 675,000 children need mental health and psychosocial support in the Gaza Strip and West Bank. In the West Bank, Israel’s restrictive and discriminatory planning regime prevents civilians, including children from.

Through the **Accountability Programme** (“Documentation and Advocacy units”) in Palestine, accountability of duty bearers has increased, to respect, protect and fulfil children’s rights in accordance with international laws. The scope of this project was at a national and international level, including Gaza, West Bank, and East Jerusalem. By monitoring and documenting children’s rights violations stemming from the Israeli occupation and exposing these violations against Palestinian children through evidence-based advocacy, this project documented and advocated for 650 children. Also, in response to the hostilities against Palestinian children in the **Gaza Strip** in May 2021, the project **Supporting Palestinian children in Gaza** was implemented. Through cooperation with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) that worked with children in Gaza, two main interventions were carried out: (1) Provide psychosocial support for children and caregivers following the attacks, and (2) Support children with hearing impairments through the provision of assistive devices to assist in the inclusion within their communities. In total, more than 2,600 children were assisted.
CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY

Children deprived of liberty continue to face serious challenges since they are often overlooked and invisible despite internal and external migration, and the increasing number of conflicts in the world. An alarming number of children across the world live in inhumane and violent conditions, violating their most basic rights. Deprivation of liberty is a cross-cutting issue that is present throughout DCIs thematic priorities as it intersects with a wide range of issues.

International advocacy

The Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty (GSCDL) published in 2019 following years of advocacy by DCI on the need for such an instrument, aims to shed light on the scale and conditions of children deprived of liberty, identify and assess best practices, and recommend measures that assist in preventing human rights violations. The study encompasses a wide range of case studies, ranging from migration-related contexts to children deprived of liberty in institutions with intersectional issues such as gender and disability amongst others. Despite the publication of the GSCDL, the shortcomings in data collection and dissemination, make it difficult for the study to adequately portray the nature and magnitude of the problem, given that children deprived of liberty remain largely invisible.

Nevertheless, the GSCDL serves as a benchmark for best practices at an international level, as it raises awareness of children deprived of liberty and positively contributes to changes in practices and policies.
Additionally, DCI is the co-chair of the NGO Panel on Children Deprived of Liberty, which aims to call on governments and UN agencies to support the study. The UN General Assembly (UNGA) invited the Secretary-General in 2014 to commission “an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty” in Resolution 69/175 as a result of the NGO Panel’s advocacy campaign.

DCI organised an international panel discussion during the 2021 World Congress on Justice with Children on Promoting Alternative Solutions to Deprivation of Liberty, which provided an opportunity to exchange on promising practices, such as investment in non-custodial measures to ensure children’s safe reintegration into families and communities and to advocate for the follow up of data collection on children deprived of liberty.

Almost 2 years after the presentation of the UN Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty (GSCDL) at the UN General Assembly, while the High-Level Political Forum was ongoing in New York, and in a context where the COVID-19 pandemic had disrupted child protection and justice systems, hindered access to justice for children in detention and exacerbated health risks for children deprived of liberty, DCI organised a webinar on Promoting Alternatives to Deprivation of Liberty, Integral Protection and Access to Justice for All Children.
Americas

DCI’s national section in Bolivia introduced Programa Cometa (“Comet Programme”), geared towards educating children on their rights in Cochabamba. This programme took an approach of restorative justice and offers “Know your rights” workshops and trainings to educate children who are deprived of liberty on their legal rights and obligations regarding the criminal justice system. A total of 11 workshops were carried out, and 68 children participated in the trainings.

Also, this initiative hosted 9 training workshops with children about their rights, the internal workings of the child justice system, and hearing from guest speakers from the legal profession. DCI-Bolivia also developed 2 training workshops for justice system professionals and police on child criminal justice with a restorative approach. In sum, 55% of these children deprived of liberty were released into non-custodial situations.

Europe

Through the Focus project, DCI-Netherlands wanted to ensure that children in contact with the law, as victims and offenders, received individualised care and had access to personalised support and responses by promoting the implementation of robust and multidisciplinary individual assessment practices, including through restorative justice processes. The outcomes of this project were increasing the knowledge, capacities and skills of youth justice professionals, about standards and practices in the use of multi-disciplinary individual assessments with children and empower children to become agents of change, and advocates for child-centred justice.

MENA

DCI’s intervention in child detention facilities in Yemen resulted in a marked success: specialists and lawyers provided guidance to detained children; professionals who worked in child detention settings were given better training; and the government changed its policy and became more concerned about children deprived of liberty.
CHILD PARTICIPATION

One of the pillars of the DCI Movement is the involvement of children in all areas and activities that have an impact on them. According to DCI, children are their own best advocates for their rights. They are not solely rights holders who require protection, but they are also engaged citizens who can speak up for their own rights. The rights outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) — including the ability of every child to express their opinions in judicial and administrative processes — serve as the foundation for DCI’s work on child participation.

Americas

The DCI National Section in Canada introduced the Rights in Action Award which focused on the formation of youth project plans and implementation advisory groups. In total, 225 children were directly involved in planning or receiving presentations and information, as well as, distributing such information to their own youth agency networks.

In Colombia, efforts to promote child participation have focused on awareness raising and capacity-building of indigenous children and adolescents in Mitú (Vaupés) and Caloto (Cauca) throughout the transition towards peace. Around 280 children and adolescents from indigenous communities participated significantly in the project; a group of 30 girls have participated in the ancestral protection workshops based on their uses and customs with an indigenous knowledgeable person; 40 boys and girls have participated in talking circles including playful and recreational, cultural and ancestral activities; meetings with children and young people on coexistence and peace were attended by 20 children; community meetings on restorative circles to resolve conflicts in the community gathered 15 children and 10 adults.

Furthermore, Costa Rica organised a consultation with migrant, refugee and national children, and young people aged 10-24 on discrimination, xenophobia and social inclusion, which allowed children to provide inputs on communications and advocacy strategies to design public policies and the UNICEF’s new programme of cooperation for 2023 to 2027. Overall, 18 face-to-face and virtual consultation sessions were held, organised by age group and territory. 170 children, and young people contributed proposals to prevent and address discrimination and xenophobia in families, communities and institutions.

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**ANA’S STORY: HOW DCI-BOLIVIA SUPPORTED A YOUNG GIRL’S RIGHT TO BE HEARD**

Ana, a 15-year-old girl from Bolivia, always spoke out to improve her community. She showed interest in sharing her voice, and took up her right to participate with great conviction. As an avid advocate for herself and her rights, Ana was often met with pushback: she experienced discrimination and dismissal from the adults in her community.

In the face of this pushback, DCI-Bolivia stepped in. DCI advocates encouraged and channelled Ana’s interest in civic engagement and participation. Today, she is a member of the Municipal Committee of Children and Adolescents of Cochabamba and was also a spokesperson for a DCI-Bolivia report titled "Listen to our voice." These spaces for participation allowed Ana to actively participate in the defence of children’s rights, making known, from her experiences, how children and adolescents are living their rights and demanding that the authorities recognise with them.

Thanks to Ana’s decisive participation and DCI-Bolivia’s encouragement her local government is taking the participation of children and adolescents more seriously, involving them in decision-making to a fuller level.

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**MENA**

In Morocco, the initiative *Soutien à la jeunesse en situation précaire* ("Support for young people in precarious situations") enhances child participation by creating a children’s municipal council in Essaouira. Overall, more than 120 children were involved in the project, the council is now autonomous, and the elected children have been able to draw upon their own 2021 programme (focusing on the environment and accessibility for people with disabilities). This project also focused on reintegrating street children and provide them agency to be able to raise their concerns.

Furthermore, DCI-Yemen established the *Child Rights Governance: The Children’s Parliament*, promoting child participation by building their capacities, enhancing their confidence, raising awareness on their rights at different levels, conveying their voice and advocating for causes that matter to them. This project allowed for civil society and children to identify gaps in child rights according to children’s needs and advocating for changing policies and practices in Yemen. In total, 3,815 children meaningfully participated in the project, and were able to raise many issues and problems that concerned them, especially, the government’s decision to stop the activities of the Children’s Parliament in the northern part of the country.

The second project that aimed to enhance child participation in Yemen was *MANARA Regional Project for Child Protection*. Its purpose was to improve child-based government accountability in the local and national governance in the MENA region, by strengthening resilient national institutions capable of delivering all rights to those children who were marginalised by society. The total number of children assisted in Yemen was 158, and 530 in the entire MENA region.
GENDER EQUALITY

Despite numerous improvements, many girls and young women still face challenging obstacles and discrimination when trying to exercise their basic rights. They experience multiple forms of discrimination and violence, and these cycles of discrimination can be perpetuated throughout time. In contexts of conflict or instability, these forms of violence and discrimination are exacerbated, thereby, depriving girls and young women of their most basic human rights. Especially in contexts where the rule of law breaks down, women and young girls tend to be a target of acts of sexual violence, given that it is used as a form of war tactic. DCI’s work on gender is underpinned by the rights enshrined in the UNCRC and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Even though DCI incorporates a gender dimension into all its programmes, DCI’s main initiative with regards to gender equality is the new She Leads programme. She Leads is a five-year joint programme of Plan International Netherlands, Defence for Children – ECPAT Netherlands (DCI-ECPAT), African Women’s Development and Communication Network (FEMNET), and Terre des Hommes (TdH) Netherlands, in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands. Started in 2021, this programme is a consortium that brings together child rights organisations, feminist/women’s rights organisations, and girl- and young women- (GYW) led groups in a joint effort to increase the sustained influence of GYW on decision-making and the transformation of gender norms in formal and informal institutions. It aims to support and equip girls and young women to drive change in their countries and works at the international level to drive policy change on girls’ and young women’s participation and to empower GYW to use international systems to advance their advocacy. This programme has a specific geographic focus on East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda), West Africa (Ghana, Liberia, Mali, and Sierra Leone), and the Middle East (Lebanon and Jordan). The programme also aims at targeting regional institutions, international human rights institutions, and other stakeholders, as well as facilitating girls’ and young women’s access to regional and international platforms.
**Overall Outcomes**

- Media advocacy: Sharing positive feminist narratives and influencing the media.
- Enabled joint learning and support among GYW-led organisations supported by the programme.
- Facilitated meaningful engagement between GYW-led organisations and women’s rights groups operating at the international level.
- Direct support to and amplification of GYW-led organisation partners to access strategic international institutions, spaces and processes for advocacy.

**Lebanon**

- Created 4 girl scouts in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.
- Equipped 4 established girls’ scouts with music instruments for the marching band.
- Implemented extensive music training programmes in state schools.
- In total, 86 children benefitted from this programme.

**Sierra Leone**

- 13 girls and young women’s organisations have been strengthened.
- 900 parents were educated about positive parenting skills and equal treatment.
- 35 young women acquired jobs and skills.
- The Minister of Gender and Children Affairs presented the Gender and Women’s empowerment Bill to Parliament providing 30% minimum quota for women’s political representation.
- 10 communities have agreed on a roadmap for the inclusion of girls and young women in decision-making.

**The Netherlands**

- 100 young people were impacted by this initiative.
- Policy is more consistent to the needs of young people.
- Established youth ambassadors, who contribute and influence policy and legislation.
- Increased the acceptance of positive social gender norms.
- Enhanced the collective action of girls and young women.

**Influenced decision-makers at an international level**, including diplomats and representatives of UN agencies and bodies (lobbying).
- Consortium members leveraging support and creating space for advocacy by GYW in international spaces.
- Research and data report and launch on GYW’s leadership power and potential, including on data gaps that held back action.
Africa

In Burkina Faso, the Programme de soutien à l’égalité de sexe en milieu scolaire (“Support programme for gender equality in schools”) aimed at increasing the number of girls that attend school. In sum, this national initiative impacted 20 girls.

Capacity-building initiatives such as the Promotion of women in Guinea and Défenseuses des Droits humains, actrices de la consolidation de la paix dans la préfecture de Mambere Kadei, Sous Préfecture de Berberati (“Women human rights defenders, peace-builders in the Mambere Kadei prefecture, Berberati sub-prefecture”) in the Central African Republic (CAR), strengthen and empower women, as well as changing gender-based social norms through a transformative approach. These programmes, strengthen local community networks to support and protect women human-right defenders. In Guinea, 130 girls benefited from this project.

Addressing sexual violence is also a key component of gender-focused programmes. In Sierra Leone, the Protekt Gial Project is a national programme that raises awareness about sexual violence against girls and young women in Bo and Kenema.

Another critical aspect of gender dimension programmes is women’s reproductive health rights. In Zambia, the programme Reproductive Health Rights for Rural Children was created to assist rural girls and young women who cannot access menstrual hygiene materials, by teaching them how to make pads. Over 60 children were assisted throughout the duration of this programme. Aside from this, this initiative helped girls to remain in school.

MEET LARA

Lara, a 16-year-old who had experienced sexual violence was helped throughout the process of reporting the matter to the police, accessing medical treatment and examination, as well as, obtaining psychosocial counseling services. DCI-Sierra Leone supported her movement from her community together with her parents and witnesses to attend sessions in police until the case was concluded. DCI also assisted and provided relevant support to the prosecutor to ensure proper case prosecution. As a result of this programme, there is now a mechanism to regularly review cases and meet with prosecutors, as well as police awareness on sexual violence matters.
Americas

The project *Familias: Garantés de los derechos y deberes de la niñez* (“Families: Guarantors of the rights and duties of children”) in Bolivia, contributed to the integral development and fulfillment of the rights and duties of children in families in the parish of La Divina Misericordia in the southern zone, in District 9 of the Municipality of Cercado - Cochabamba. In sum, 75 parents assumed responsibility as agents of rights, providing safe environments for their children, and making their homes much safer and more protective environments. 25 people were reached, including municipal authorities and leaders. 50 mothers and fathers were assisted in the process of strengthening the upbringing and education of their children without violence. In total, 150 girls benefited from this project.

In Colombia, the *Proyecto Garantía de Derechos de Niñas y Niños que permanecen en la Reclusión de Mujeres de Bogotá* (“Project to Guarantee the Rights of Children held in the Women’s Prison in Bogotá”) was created to conduct an exploratory enquiry within the National Women’s Prison El Buen Pastor in 6 months to know and detect the main shortcomings that contribute to the violation of the rights of children who are in prison, and to propose some relevant actions to contribute to a better guarantee of their rights in the future. 42 children in total benefited from the programme.

Lastly, DCI’s national section in Costa Rica, *Proyecto Orugas* (“Caterpillars Project”) paved the way for the creation of spaces for reflection, analysis and construction of social skills from a gender perspective, aimed at girls in the process of transition from school to higher education, which will allow them to strengthen their personal development in different spaces and life situations. This programme delivered 9 workshops and 14 training sessions in total, and it is estimated that 400 adolescent girls and women are impacted through these activities.

MENA

In Mauritania, the project *Renforcement de la continuité des soins de santé sexuelle, reproductive et infantile et de la lutte contre toutes les formes de violences basées sur le genre* (“Strengthening the continuity of sexual, reproductive and child health care and the fight against all forms of gender-based violence”) focused on care for victims of GBV and on the referral of those cases identified in the province of Nouakchott South and Nouakchott West and provided comprehensive medical and psychosocial care for victims. As a result, 152 girls were positively impacted by this project.

In Tunisia, implemented some initiatives to raise awareness on violence against women and children and gender-based violence. These initiatives enabled the presentation of the provisions of the law combating violence against women and children in Tunisia and the provisions of the laws concerning gender-based violence in general, discussion, means of combating it, difficulties in implementing the law. A total of 35 children benefited from this project.
## DCI Profit and Loss Accounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 (CHF)</th>
<th>2020 (CHF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project activities income</td>
<td>421,996</td>
<td>442,088</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>11,584</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Subrenting</td>
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<td>Membership Fees</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>516,590</strong></td>
<td><strong>539,620</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPENDITURE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
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<td>Consultancies</td>
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<td>Strategic Activities</td>
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<td>202,354</td>
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<td>DCI World Service</td>
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<td>International Executive Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
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<td>Office rent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other expenditure</td>
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<td>27,467</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
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<td><strong>673,051</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>RESULTS BEFORE FUND VARIATION</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation of earmarked funds</td>
<td>-60,307</td>
<td>-133,431</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of allocated funds</td>
<td>-457,291</td>
<td>-442,088</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RESULTS OF THE YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>68,735</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This relates to DCI International registered in CH only*
Report of the Auditor on the limited statutory examination to the Treasurer of DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN – INTERNATIONAL (DCI), Geneva

In accordance with the mandate received, we have audited the accounting and financial statements (balance sheet, profit and loss account, change in equity and restricted funds and notes) of the DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN – INTERNATIONAL (DCI), Geneva, for the year ending December 31st, 2021.

The Treasurer is responsible for these financial statements in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, in particular Swiss GAAP FER 21, the legal requirements and the bylaws. Our responsibility is to perform a limited examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss standard on the limited statutory examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of association and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of association documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of the examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with the Swiss GAAP FER and Swiss law and the company’s articles of incorporation.

Geneva, 27 July 2022

FIDUCIAIRE WUARIN & CHATTON SA

Raymond Bühlmann  
Licensed Audit Expert  
Auditor in charge

Patrick Ciocco  
Licensed Audit Expert

Enclosures:
Financial statements:
- Balance sheet
- Profit and loss account
- Change in equity and restricted funds
- Notes
The **International Secretariat** is an active member of NGO networks and coordinating organisations, such as Child Rights Connect, the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, the Initiative on Child Rights in the Global Compacts, Child Justice Advocacy Group and the African Child Policy Forum, Watchlist on Children in Armed Conflict.

We wish to warmly thank all the institutional donors who supported our work with children in 2021.

**We would also like to thank our individual donors for contributing to DCI’s mission and activities.**

*This relates to DCI International registered in CH only, not the whole Movement*
LOOKING FORWARD

WHAT’S NEXT FOR DCI?

Children in War 2022 Report
DCI Report on Children and Armed Conflict for the 20th Anniversary of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC) and the 25 years of the CAAC mandate. The Children in War report highlights the challenges children from Palestine, Yemen, Central African Republic and Greece face.

Human Rights Council
DCI delivered statements on the following sessions for the Human Rights Council:
- 49th Session – 28th February to 1st April.
- 50th Session – 13th June to 8th July
- 51st Session – 15th September to 7th October

The Committee on the Rights of the Child
DCI was involved in the following sessions for the Committee on the Rights of the Child:
- 87th Session – 17th May to 4th June 2021. The state of Tunisia was under review.
- 88th Session – 6th September to 7th September 2021. Czechia was under review.
- 89th Session – 31st January to 11th February 2022. The Netherlands was under Review.
- 90th Session – 3rd May to 3rd June 2022. Canada, Greece, Somalia and Zambia were under review.
- 91st Session – 29th August to 25th September 2022

THE GLOBAL FORUM AND IGA XIII

Global Forum on Justice for Children and Deprivation of Liberty
DCI together with Terre des Hommes is organising the Global Forum from the 8th to the 9th of November 2022 in Nouakchott, Mauritania. The Forum will be opened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Dr. Najat Maalla M’jid and Prof. Manfred Nowak, the independent expert and lead author of the Global Study who will be also participating and sharing his experience from the Study and its dissemination.

XIII International General Assembly (IGA-13)
In November 2022, the XIII International General Assembly (IGA) will take place in Mauritania, where DCI will approve an updated version of its Statutes, Memorandum of Understanding and its Strategic Framework for 2022 to 2026.
## DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

#### INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (IEC)

**Composition of the International Executive Council IEC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Abdul Manaff Kemokai</td>
<td>DCI-Sierra Leone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Mirjam Blaak</td>
<td>DCI-Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President Africa</td>
<td>Nirmal Busgopaul</td>
<td>DCI-Mauritius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President Americas</td>
<td>Juan Fumeiro</td>
<td>DCI-Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President Europe</td>
<td>Margaret Tuite</td>
<td>DCI-Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President MENA &amp; AP</td>
<td>Khaled Quzmar</td>
<td>DCI-Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Fernando Sabogal Báez</td>
<td>DCI-Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor</td>
<td>Arwa Al-Fakih</td>
<td>DCI-Yemen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| Name                        | Title                                                                 |
|-----------------------------|                                                                     |
| Nigel Cantwell              | Founder of DCI and child protection specialist                      |
| Sally Christine Cornwell    | Former executive of the International Labour Organisation           |
| Moushira Khattab            | Former member and Vice-Chair of the UNCRC on the Rights of the Child, Member of the Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child (ACRWG) |
| Rosa Maria Ortiz            | Former member and Vice-Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child |
| Meskerem Geset Techane      | Human Rights Lawyer, Member of the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. |
| Jaap Doek                   | Former Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child    |
# International Secretariat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex Kamarotos</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sasha Richards</td>
<td>Advocacy Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecile Pilot</td>
<td>Project &amp; Capacity Building Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begoña Santaella</td>
<td>Communications Associate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Regional Desk Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luna Mazzilli</td>
<td>Americas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Buvens</td>
<td>Europe, World Service Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prodigé Kabunga</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lina Qumsiyeh</td>
<td>MENA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Interns and Volunteers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gonzalo Carvajal Montejo</td>
<td>Blanca Ginés</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marissa Messinger</td>
<td>Susan Carswell (Designer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Carol</td>
<td>Raúl Saucedo Ortiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andrés Cambronero (Designer)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special thanks to all our volunteers in Geneva and around the world without whom our mission would be impossible.
TOGETHER WE CAN SUPPORT CHILDREN TO BECOME ACTORS FOR JUSTICE AND ADVOCATES FOR THEIR RIGHTS.

Scan the QR code or go to defenceforchildren.org/take-action-2/make-a-donation so that together we can support children to become actors for justice and advocates for their rights.