

SYMPOSIUM

22 NOVEMBER 2022 / 2 - 5 PM CET

CHILD'S RIGHT TO IDENTITY IN EMERGENCY SETTINGS

REGISTER



The *Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI)*, *Child Identity Protection (CHIP)* and supporting organizations are pleased to convene a Symposium focusing on “The Child’s Right to Identity in Emergency Settings”. This symposium will delve deeper into the challenges of protecting and preserving identity rights, including nationality rights, for children on the move and children affected by armed conflict. This event will examine how children’s identity rights are undermined in emergency settings, the increased risk of statelessness and the need for urgent action on repatriation, reintegration and reunification of children affected by armed conflict. The event also seeks to identify best practices from the field and stimulate further action on these issues.

FEATURING:

Experts from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child:

Benyam Dawit Mezmur
Ann Skelton
Benoit van Keirsbilck

UNICEF, UNHCR
and the **Office of the Special
Representative of the Secretary
General for Children and Armed Conflict**

Diverse group of **organizations,
activists and persons with lived
experience**

Additional details on this event will be shared soon.

The child’s “right to identity” encompasses some of the most rudimentary elements necessary for the enjoyment of other rights. Children’s identity rights refer to a multi-dimensional concept which incorporates the right to a name, the registration of one’s birth, a nationality, and the right to enjoy family relations. Without an identity, children are at an increased risk of grave violations such as physical and/or sexual abuse, trafficking, and recruitment by armed forces.

The need to protect children’s identity rights is even more pertinent in emergency settings. Children born in humanitarian or conflict settings are most at risk of facing irregularities in the birth registration process, either due to the absence, suspension, or damage of civil registration services, thereby increasing their risk of statelessness. The absence of formal identification documents and/or lack of nationality may also contribute significantly to family separation often with little or no prospect of reunification in the future.

During the recent 49th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, the Council adopted a Resolution on the Rights of the Child and Family Reunification (2022 resolution), wherein it **reiterated** the right of every child to “*preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations*” and **urged** States to take all appropriate measures to respond to situations of separation amongst children in a migratory context, and take all appropriate states to reunite, reintegrate and rehabilitate children separated from family in armed conflict situations.

This symposium provides insights into how States can practically implement this 2022 resolution by providing examples across regions and with experts from diverse backgrounds.