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Country: Russia

Topic: The Impact of Conflict on Childhood Education

Over the past few years, particular attention has been focused on children in conflict situations. Education is not only a right but also a necessity to achieve development. Conflict deprives children access to education stunting the growth of the community. Children and families exposed to violence are often traumatized and desperate, making it difficult to maintain effective education. The United Nations (UN) already has contributed with the construction of transitions from crisis to stability. However, many people in need of an education have not been reached.

 Russian values a strong education and recognizes that many children, 36% of wich live in conflict affected countries, are in need of schooling. Russia has given refugees from countries such as Syria and Ukrian a chance for a better life by giving them an equal chance for work and education. However, the majority of people in need focus their attention on the Western world. The most accessible route to Russia is by air, and many refugees are going by land or sea to other countries. By virtue of its geographic location, Russia is not accessible to most refugees. Russia accepted 1 million Ukrainian refugees, and 600,000 stayed and became Russian. Russia stands ready to receive families who will work and accept our values.

 In order to reach the many children in need of education, a system must be devised. Sometimes children have missed years of school from the ongoing war in their country. If they are able to enter peaceful countries, programs to catch them up and learn the language of that country should be provided. Many refugees do not send their children to school for fear of discrimination. This could be prevented by more closely monitoring teachers and students interactions. In some schools teachers do not trust refugee students. Other students also may find them different. To help create a safe environment in post-conflict countries with factions that have ongoing rifts and in host countries accepting these refugees, the countries must develop programs to encourage successful assimilation. Creating a safe inviroment in after school programs where children can work together and learn to put aside past fudes. If the youngest generation learns to cooperate, they can work to insure peace in the future. By teaching children from different backgrounds life skills and artforms such as sculpture and music, together and promoting interdependence among them we can create this safe enviroment. Using orginizations such as W.O.S.M.( World Orginization of the Scout Movement ) as an example countries can create a system that works for them. If countries are going to take in children they need to make sure said children will be educated. The refugee children’s educational needs should be a high priority for the UN.