

# 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE: ENHANCING COOPERATION BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GENEVA FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT AND FROM OTHER FORMS OF VIOLENCE

23 OCTOBER 2023, 11:30-13:00,  
UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK:  
405 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK (ROOM 8) AND ONLINE

This panel discussion – co-organized with Switzerland, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict and Child Rights Connect – will highlight a number of strategic and practical opportunities to enhance connectivity in the area of protection of children in armed conflict between Geneva and New York, ranging from low-level pragmatic approaches to more structured institutional cooperation. Panelists will notably address the importance and inputs by Geneva-based human rights bodies in the New York discussions on children in armed conflicts or other situations of violence as a key example of how rights-holders can benefit from close connections between discussions in those major UN hubs.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra



UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
TREATY BODIES



WATCH LIST ON CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT



child rights connect



Permanent Mission of Uruguay  
to the United Nations



United Nations  
Human Rights  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

## OPENING AND MODERATION

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**Felix Kirchmeier**, Executive Director, Geneva Human Rights Platform,  
Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

## WELCOME REMARKS

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**Adrian Hauri**, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations

**Virginia Gamba**, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

**Ilze Brands Kehris**, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in New York

## PANELISTS

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**Mikiko Otani**, Member and former Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

**Najat Maalla M'jid**, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children

**Amara Sowa**, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in New York

**Brigid Kennedy Pfister**, Senior Child Protection Specialist at UNICEF

**Ilaria Paolazzi**, Deputy Director, Child Rights Connect

**Ezequiel Heffes**, Director of Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict

## LIGHT LUNCH

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The discussion will be followed by a light lunch.

## THE PRACTICE OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY BODIES: BEYOND INTERNATIONAL LAW?

21 OCTOBER 2023, 12:00 – 13:15 (EST), FORDHAM UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, 150 WEST 62ND STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10023

## AT UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK AND ONLINE

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Only people with a UN badge will be able to attend this event.

Registration here to follow this high-level panel online:

[https://geneva-academy-ch.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_p3\\_-aBAxSU-ihNwfoE4SA#/registration](https://geneva-academy-ch.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_p3_-aBAxSU-ihNwfoE4SA#/registration)

