



## **Submission to inform the 2018 Resolution on Civil Society Space**

### **Key recommendations from the Children's Advisory Team to the core group (Chile, Ireland, Japan, Sierra Leone, Tunisia)**

#### **Recommendations:**

- **We support the recent [civil society proposal](#) which calls for a 2019 panel or intersessional event on civil society space and children at the Human Rights Council. We want all Permanent Missions to recognise children as human rights defenders and that civil society space is for children as well as adults.**
- **The core group should focus their efforts on civil society space for the most marginalised children and leaving no one behind.** For example, children with extra challenges and facing stigmatisation, children with disabilities, children with problems with the law, children born in captivity and in alternative care, children out of school, children suffering from ill-health, refugee and migrant children and children suffering from a rise in far-right extremism.
- **We encourage the core group to mainstream a child rights-based approach and really think about children across all the issues they are working on.**
- **Child participation should be promoted by the core group, such as through pupil councils in school and other places like local governments.**

#### **About the Children's Advisory Team:**

- The Children's Advisory Team was set up at the end of January 2018 to empower children to take a central role in the preparations, implementation and follow-up to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's [2018 Day of General Discussion](#) on "protecting and empowering children as human rights defenders".
- There are 20 Child Advisors on the Team, from 19 countries and covering all regions of the world.
- Child Rights Connect has been coordinating the work of the Child Advisors through an online platform and organised a Geneva Workshop in March 2018 where 5 Child Advisors attended in person.

#### **Working on the topic of civil society space:**

- Jean McDonald met with the Child Advisors at our Geneva Workshop and presented the work of the core group on civil society space.
- Since then, Child Rights Connect has been discussing the topic of civil society space with some of the Child Advisors, including capacity building (through child-friendly resources and online calls) on the Human Rights Council and its Resolutions.
- The Child Advisors were interested in the opportunity to submit information to the core group to help inform the 2018 Resolution on civil society space.
- For questions and feedback to the Child Advisors, please arrange by contacting Emma at [grindulis@childrightsconnect.org](mailto:grindulis@childrightsconnect.org)