

Call for child advisor applications: Children's Advisory Team 2023!

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Who is Child Rights Connect?

Child Rights Connect is a non-government organisation with a small office in Geneva, Switzerland, and a network of around 100 member organisations across the world. It empowers human rights defenders, including children, to learn about and connect with the United Nations system to push for every child to enjoy their rights.



Key info!

What is happening?

Child Rights Connect has a global Children's Advisory Team of 12 child advisors. The Team is central to our efforts to empower children globally to learn about children's rights and act to defend theirs and others human rights!

Some child advisors may choose to continue their mandates into 2023, so the new Team can build on the achievements and lessons from the past year!

What does being a child advisor involve?

The activities:

A child advisor will help to decide on the activities to take forward as a Team and to develop these together with Child Rights Connect's guidance.

These could be activities on making new child-friendly tools for children about their rights and the UN, gathering ideas from your peers on child rights issues (maybe climate change, the digital environment, or something else!) or advising Child Rights Connect on how to empower more child-led groups in its global network.

The activities of the Team will fit within these key goals:

- ★ Guide Child Rights Connect in delivering its 4-year plan (see it [here](#));
- ★ Help make a stronger connection between children and the UN;
- ★ Reach out to your peers, networks and child-led groups, to be part of our activities and network;
- ★ Act as a solid global platform for children to speak with a strong and united voice to the UN.

Our [Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedure](#) will be at the core of all our activities to make sure all children involved in the Team and its activities are safe from harm.



Key info!

How does the Team communicate and what commitment is expected?

- Using an online platform called **Basecamp**. If you do not have regular access to the internet, your supporting organisation could help you.
- Using Zoom to have **online group calls around once per month** for one hour (we will decide as a Team when we want to have these calls!). Sometimes there will be more calls for different activities.
- We expect that the different activities might take around **4 hours per month** in total (between our meetings and activities you take forward including with your peers and networks). This will be flexible and change depending on the different tasks where some might require more time. There will **never be pressure** to participate, and you can take a break for any reason.

- ★ **Please note: We hope to give the opportunity for all child advisors to travel to Geneva in May 2023 for our 40th anniversary celebrations. This is not yet confirmed, and more details will come!**

Why apply?

- ✓ You will be supported to learn about children's rights through education and training, including learning about your rights as a human rights defender and being empowered to exercise them!
- ✓ You will learn how to empower other children to take part in activities and increase our positive impact;
- ✓ You will be able to connect and exchange closely with other children across the world and develop knowledge and understanding of different challenges and good practices on children's rights;
- ✓ You will have the opportunity to bring new and creative ideas to the Team and build projects and activities;
- ✓ You will have the chance to take activities and campaigns that you might be involved in your community or country to an international and UN level, representing your peers!

What is the supporting organisation?

- A member or a partner organisation of Child Rights Connect – it can also be a child or youth-led organisation. They must commit to giving support and guidance to a child advisor in their role.
- It is essential that each child advisor has a supporting organisation because they will be the main contact in your country to help you in your role and to make sure all the activities are safe and meaningful.
- If you do not have a supporting organisation, we can try to help you find one in your country.
- You can find out more about the role of supporting organisations [here](#).

Who can apply and what is the selection process?



Key info!

- ★ Children who will **not** turn 18 years old before 31st March 2024.
- ★ Children who can commit to being part of the Team from **March 2023 to March 2024** (there is an option to stay in the Team for 2 years, providing you remain under the age of 18 during this time!).
- ★ Children who are interested in learning more about children's rights and to be involved in activities at local, national, and international levels.

If you meet the above, we'd love for you to apply! We welcome applications from all children across all countries of the world and speaking any language. If you are part of a group or network, we suggest that you take forward a selection process with your peers, to decide on a representative that could apply to be on the Team.

The **selection process** has been developed with previous child advisors and can be found [here](#). Current child advisors are also involved in the selection process and will review applications.

Not all applications will be successful and there is no guarantee we will be able to select you as a child advisor. However, we will respond to all applications making the selection process clear and open, and make sure that, if you are interested, we keep you updated on other opportunities!

How to apply?

You can apply by [completing a survey found on this webpage](#) alongside a supporting organisation if you have one, by the **deadline of Friday 20th January 2023**. It will ask some basic information on your profile and interests!

The 9 requirements for child participation that we will always follow:

1. Being able to **access information** about the Team and its activities and about your rights.
2. It is your **choice to participate** and you can decide not to take part at any point.
3. Your views and ideas to be **respected** by adults.
4. The activities will be **interesting and familiar** to you, and there will be space for you to put forward any issues that are important to you.
5. There will be preparations so that all children will feel happy to participate in the activities, within **comfortable and friendly spaces**.
6. The activities should be **open equally to all children** to take part from all communities and backgrounds, including children with disabilities.
7. **Adults will be prepared** for the different activities so that all children are comfortable and feel supported and listened to.
8. Adults will make sure that children are **safe** and know who to talk to if they feel unsafe.
9. You will get **feedback** on how your views have been acted on by adults, and the chance to give your opinion on the results of this project and the activities you took part in.