

2023: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Making history at the UN Human Rights Council and beyond

With partners, we've helped improve the responsiveness of the Human Rights Council and General Assembly to children's views and rights, with a focus on the digital environment.

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Children, mostly girls, participated in-person as speakers and panelists in the Annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child (ADRC), the yearly discussion on children's rights during the March session of the Human Rights Council, this year focused on children's rights and the digital environment.



Caption: # of children participating in-person in the ADRC

From a history of exclusion to one of greater inclusion

No child participated in the ADRC between 2008-2018. 2019 marked a turning point. In 2023, children stood at the center of the morning dialogue, **making up, for the first time in the history of the ADRC, the majority of the panel.**



7 States gave their speaking slots to children!

They gave their speaking slots to a child representative from their country, signalling a **shift in States' practice** vis-a-vis child participation in intl' discussions and policy-making. The only precedent was in 2021, where two States had done so.



The Voice of Kidus, a 17-year-old from Ethiopia

"Children around the world suffer from various forms of violence, abuse and exploitation **because they are deprived of participation** on issues that matter to them" (ADRC, March).

2 international processes influenced

By our joint civil society position paper "Key Priority Issues on Child Rights and the Digital Environment": the **ADRC** and the related **UN General Assembly** resolution, with potential to influence the **Global Digital Compact!**

193 States

Adopted the resolution of the UN General Assembly on the Rights of the Child in the digital environment **by consensus, signalling strong political support for its implementation!**



A milestone resolution

- Indirectly informed by the views of children through the ADRC
- Reinforcing the CRC Committee's General Comment 25
- Reflecting **at least 3 recommendations from our joint Position Paper**, to better implement children's rights online

