

Commemorative Event

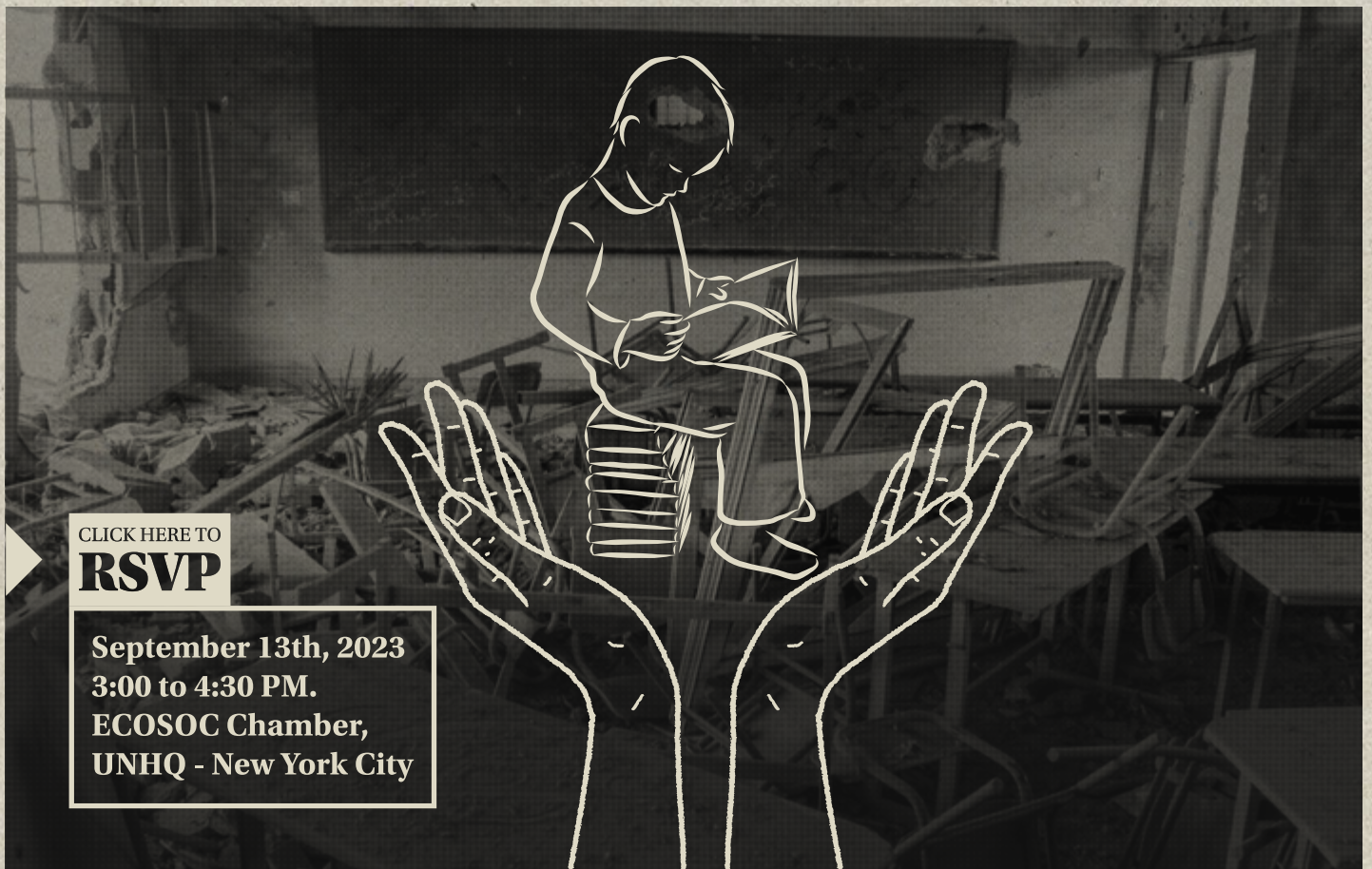


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THE 4TH OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY TO PROTECT EDUCATION FROM ATTACK



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September 13th, 2023
3:00 to 4:30 PM.
ECOSOC Chamber,
UNHQ - New York City

Six attacks on education or incidents of military use occurred each day.

Source: Education under Attack 2022

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS

HIGH LEVEL IMPACT CONVERSATION

Organised by the State of Qatar and Education Above All Foundation, together with UNESCO, UNICEF, and the United Nations Department of Global Communications.

BACKGROUND

The denial of the right to education is on the rise, with more than 244 million children and youth worldwide out of school, according to UNESCO's latest reports. The numbers of attacks on education around the world are increasing, as well as threats of attacks in contravention of international humanitarian law.

In 2020 and 2021, there were more than 5,000 separate attacks on education facilities, students, and educators, or incidents of military use globally, according to recent reports.* These attacks not only deprive children of their right to education, but they also have severe and long-lasting effects on teaching and learning, including physical damage to educational infrastructure and long-lasting distress and physical injury to students and teachers, disproportionately impacting women and girls.

In an era where science, technology, and digital literacy are essential for progress, millions of children without access to education do not benefit from digital technologies, thereby widening the gap, creating inequalities, and leaving future generations further behind, which will have an impact on sustainable development and peace.

Cognizant of the grave impact of such attacks have on the right to education, on May 28, 2020, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 74/275 designating September 9 as the **International Day to Protect Education from Attack**.

* *Education Under Attack 2022: A Report of the Global Coalition to Protect Education From Attack*



OBJECTIVES

The continuation of attacks on education, which are preventing millions of vulnerable learners from gaining access to education, makes it most appropriate for a commemorative session convened in the ECOSOC Chamber to reaffirm the right to education for all and to call for action to prevent attacks.

The Commemorative Event High level Impact Conversation will seek to emphasize the centrality of the right to education and its impact on long-term peace and stability, crucial to the achievement of the SDGs.

It will raise awareness and encourage collective action

on the part of the international community regarding the urgent need for concrete measures to protect education from attack and to take steps to protect educational institutions.

It will continue to call for justice for victims of attacks on education, and ensure effective enforcement of education related international law instruments. It will also continue to call for a strengthened international efforts in monitoring, investigation and accountability with regard to attacks on education.

It will inspire, mobilize, and create solidarity among young people in order to engage with the agenda for protecting education from attack.

THE PROGRAMME FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL IMPACT CONVERSATION

3:00-3:04pm

Opening Ceremony

Ms. Melissa Fleming,
Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications

Musical Performance

by MC Abdul

3:04-3:15pm

High-Level Opening Segment

Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, UN SDGs Advocate,
Chairperson of Education Above All Foundation

H.E. Mr. António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

H.E. Mr. Dennis Francis, President of the 78th Session of
the United Nations General Assembly

H.E. Mr. Julius Maada Wonie Bio, President of Sierra Leone

3:15-3:20pm

Education Under Attack Video

3:20-4:15pm

High-Level Panel

Moderated by Ms. Diya Nijhowne,
Executive Director of Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack

Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO (Video Message)

Ms. Catherine Russell, Executive Director of UNICEF

Ms. Virginia Gamba, SRSG for Children and Armed Conflict

Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General of UNESCO

Brother Peter Mokaya Tabichi,
Global Teacher Prize Winner (2019) from Kenya

Ms. Victoria Ibiwoye, Youth Advocate and
Founder of OneAfricanChild Foundation for Creative Learning

4:15-4:30pm

Concluding Remarks

Ms. Sofia Carson, American actress, singer,
and UNICEF USA Goodwill Ambassador

Ms. Melissa Fleming