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FINDING HUMANITY PODCAST EDUCATION TOOLKITS

This educational toolkit was created to help inspire additional learning and engagement around the Finding Humanity Podcast. The goal of the toolkit is to share information and inspire continued engagement about the podcast episodes and the substantial content and topics unearthed in each episode.

About the Finding Humanity Podcast:
Through real-life stories of courage and purpose, Finding Humanity takes listeners into the heart of the most complex social and political issues facing our world. By bringing you voices from the front lines of war and injustice, we peel back layers that surround today's massive challenges. In each episode, host Hazami Barmada puts a human face on a global issue that is overwhelming and difficult to grasp— be it the refugee crisis, climate change, or LGBTQ discrimination. While set in unfamiliar places, Finding Humanity tackles recognizable themes: love, hope, and overcoming personal struggles. The show weaves in voices of global human rights and development experts at the United Nations and leading institutions, while providing listeners with tangible steps to make a difference. Finding Humanity hopes to inspire the activist in each of us, to create a better tomorrow, today. Finding Humanity, a production of the Humanity Lab Foundation and Hueman Group Media.

EPISODE 1
Path to Peace: Victor Ochen on Facing the Lord's Resistance Army and Rebuilding Lives Post-Conflict

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Storyline Guest:
Victor Ochen | Founder and Executive Director for African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET) | UN Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Justice

Expert Guests:
Sasha Lezhnev| Deputy Director of Policy, Enough Project; Founding Director, Grassroots Reconciliation Group
Kristof Titeca | Professor of International Development at the Institute of Development Policy, University of Antwerp

Main topics in Episode: Peacebuilding, Genocide, Children in Armed Conflict

Short Description of Episode:
A childhood shaped by one of the most cruel rebel groups in history. Rape, killings and an abducted brother who was never found. If these defined decades of your life, the last thing you would want to talk about is peace — unless you are Victor Ochen.

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Our first episode takes us to Uganda, which has been plagued by civil unrest and rebellion since the 1980s. We dive into Victor's life, a young man, wise beyond his years, who refused to be enlisted as a child soldier. Growing up in between refugee camps, Victor was forced to confront his inner demons for survival, and won. Victor was hailed a hero for peace in his country, becoming the youngest ever African nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2015.

Learn from expert voices: Kristof Titeca, PhD, Professor of International Development at the University of Antwerp, and Sasha Lezhnev, Deputy Director of Policy at Enough Project, a nonprofit organization aimed at countering genocide and crimes against humanity.

Country Profile: UGANDA
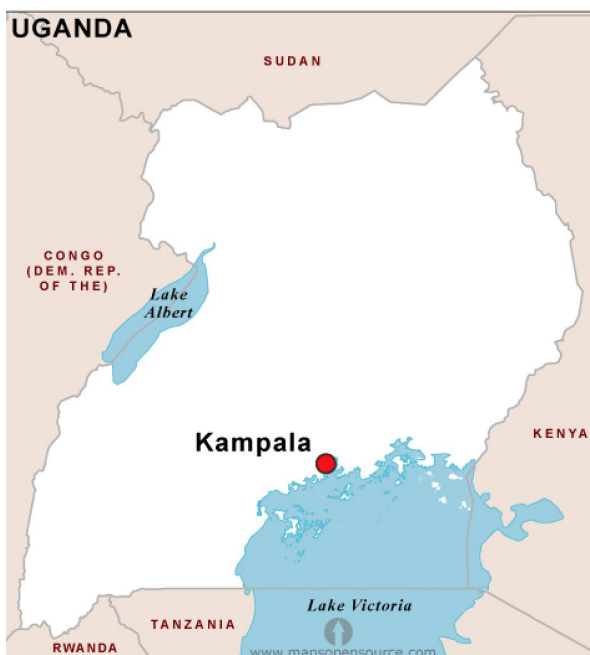
Uganda - Overview

Uganda is a landlocked country situated in East Africa, with neighbours Kenya and Tanzania to the east and south, respectively. It also shares a border with Rwanda to the south, the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west and South Sudan to the north. It covers an area of 241,038 square kilometres - Uganda is slightly smaller than the UK or the U.S. state of Oregon. Capital city is Kampala. Spoken languages are English (official language, taught in schools, used in courts of law and by most newspapers and some radio broadcasts), Ganda or Luganda (widely used), Swahili (official), Arabic and other native languages.

According to 2020 estimates, the population of Uganda is around 45.74 million, up significantly from 2013's estimate of 33,640,833. The country has one of the youngest and most rapidly growing populations in the world. More than 75% of Uganda's population is below the age of 30. Uganda's annual population growth rate is among the highest in the world and expected to reach 100 million by 2050.

Most of Uganda's inhabitants live in rural areas with farming as their main economic activity. Major exports include coffee, tea, vanilla, flowers, sesame and cotton. A lot of foreign exchange also comes from tourism, and the country is beginning to pump oil in the west.

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Uganda has achieved remarkable results in reducing poverty over the past decades, mainly driven by the agriculture sector. From 1992 to 2013, the percentage of Ugandan households living in poverty was halved, but vulnerability to external shocks remains high; for every three Ugandans who get out of poverty, two fall back in.

Uganda's refugee population has almost tripled since July 2016 and is currently around 1.35 million, making it the largest refugee host in Africa, and third largest in the world. While its open-door refugee policy is one of the most progressive in the world, and refugees enjoy access to social services, and can move and work freely, the continued influx is straining host communities and service delivery.

Sources/ Extracted from:
Al Jazeera, Uganda: Country profile, https://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2012/03/2012314174233185720.html
CIA, The World Factbook, Uganda, https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ug.html
World Bank, The World Bank in Uganda, Overview, https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/uganda/overview
World Bank Blogs, 'We want to be heard': The voices of Uganda's young people on youth unemployment, https://blogs.worldbank.org/nasikiliza/we-want-to-be-heard-the-voices-of-ugandas-young-people-on-youth-unemployment
World Population Review, Uganda, https://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/uganda-population/

Quick Facts & Data

GENERAL TOPIC:

- One in six children - at least 357 million girls and boys - live in areas of the world affected by war or armed conflict. [1]

- The UN identifies six grave violations against children during armed conflict. Those are: recruitment and use of children, killing or maiming of children, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools or hospitals, abduction of children, denial of humanitarian access.

- 168 out of 197 UN Member States have ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

- Child soldier is a child associated with an armed force or armed group refers to any person below 18 years of age who is, or who has been, recruited or used by an armed force or armed group in any capacity, including but not limited to children, boys and girls, used as fighters, cooks, porters, spies or for sexual purposes. [2]

- There are at least 18 conflict situations in which children have participated in hostilities since 2016. [3]

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- At least 46 States still recruit children under the age of 18 into their armed forces. [4]

- In 2017, at least 21,000 violations have been verified - 6,000 by government forces, 15,000 by non-state armed groups. [5]

- Children in the Middle East are most likely to be living in a conflict zone, with two in five children in that region living in a conflict-affected area - the highest rate globally. Africa is second, with 1 in 5 children affected by conflict. [6]

- Internally displaced persons are "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border." [7]

- At the end of 2018, some 41.3 million people were internally displaced due to armed conflict, generalized violence or human rights violations. [8]

- In 2020, there are 1.85 billion young women and men 10 to 24 years of age in the world, 90% of whom live in developing countries. [9]

RELATED TO THE EPISODE:

- Since gaining its independence from British colonial rule, Uganda has had a tumultuous political history marked by coups, dictatorships, disputed election results, civil wars and a military invasion.

- The Lord's Resistance Army has been one of central Africa's cruelest and most enduring armed groups. [10]

- The Enough Project estimates that the Lord's Resistance Army has abducted over 67,000 youth, including 30,000 children, for use as child soldiers, sex slaves, and porters. [11]

- The United Nations estimates the conflict has displaced 2 million Ugandans, 80 percent of whom are women and children. An estimated 1.7 million internally displaced persons lived in more than 200 camps without adequate food, protection, water, sanitation facilities, and health care, while an estimated 300,000 were moved to other areas of Uganda. [12]

- In 2004, Uganda invited the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate an ongoing decades-long conflict between the Lord's Resistance Army and the government. In 2005, the ICC

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issued arrest warrants for five senior LRA members. One of them, Ongwen, is currently on trial. [13]

- The leader of LRA - Joseph Kony, has managed to avoid capture and is believed to be hiding in South Sudan. In 2017, Ugandan and US troops withdrew from the search for the LRA leader.

- LRA continues to operate outside Uganda - mostly in the northern Democratic Republic of Congo and eastern Central African Republic. Since 2018, LRA has abducted a total of 112 children, 49 of whom remain missing. [14]

[1] The War on Children, Save Children,
https://www.savethechildren.org/content/dam/usa/reports/advocacy/war-on-children-report-us.pdf
[2] Paris Principles on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict 2007
[3] Child Soldiers World Index, https://childsoldiersworldindex.org/
[4] Child Soldiers World Index, https://childsoldiersworldindex.org/
[5] Children and armed conflict, Report of the Secretary-General, Annual Report Summary 2017,
https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Children-Armed-Conflict-Annual-Report-Summary-2017-web.pdf
[6] https://www.savethechildren.net/news/one-six-children-globally-living-areas-impacted-conflict
[7] https://emergency.unhcr.org/entry/44826/idp-definition
[8] https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/internally-displaced-people.html
[9] Youth and peace and security, 2020 Report of the UN Secretary-General, S/2020/167,
https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2020_167_e.pdf
[10] https://enoughproject.org/conflicts/lra
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[13] http://www.coalitionfortheicc.org/country/uganda
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https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/%5BPress%20Release%202%20December%5D%20LRA%20abducts%2043%20children%20in%20eastern%20CAR%20and%20northeastern%20DRC.pdf

Topical Background Information & Context

Conflict in Uganda

Since 1987, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a violent rebel group, has been fighting the Ugandan government in the northern part of the country. This uprising resulted from the longstanding political divide between the north and south of Uganda, and was a direct response to President Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Movement (NRM) and its efforts to consolidate control

over the northern part of the country. An earlier insurgency, Alice Lakwena's Holy Spirit Movement, had garnered popular support in the north, but was defeated in 1987. The LRA then emerged, headed by Joseph Kony, a former commander in the Uganda People's Democratic Army (UPDA) with little formal education. Kony saw himself as a messenger of God and a liberator of the Acholi people. He had his own belief system and set of rituals, drawn from a mixture of Christianity, Islam, and animist traditions.

Northern Uganda faced a protracted conflict between the government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) since Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni first came to power. Both sides are suspected of the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity. The LRA rose up in northern Uganda in the late 1980s claiming to defend the interests of the Acholi ethnic group. Reports suggest the LRA has consistently targeted and directed brutal attacks against civilian populations in Northern Uganda. Between 1987 and 2006, at least 20,000 children were allegedly abducted to become child soldiers, servants, and sex slaves while more than 1.9 million civilians from northern Uganda alone were displaced into government camps. LRA Crisis Tracker has registered thousands of civilian deaths and abductions attributable to the group.

The neighboring territories of the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic have seen increased LRA activities since the group signed a truce with the Ugandan government in 2006. Regarding alleged crimes by state actors, the Ugandan government in 1999 - unable to defeat the LRA by force - began driving the Acholi civilian population into 'protected camps.' To ensure compliance with its strict camp policy, the government allegedly beat civilians and randomly shelled villages. The camps themselves witnessed claims of grievous conditions and inhumane acts. Some reports indicate systematic rape by Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) soldiers. The UPDF claimed the suspects were court-martialed. Human Rights Watch suggests they were merely transferred. The army also allegedly failed to protect the civilian population in the camps against LRA attacks and against the spread of diseases such cholera, ebola, and HIV/AIDS in unhygienic and crowded conditions. At the height of the conflict, 1.8 million people lived in the camps and roughly 1,000 were dying each week.

Sources/ Extracted from:
PeacebuildingData.org, Historical Background Northern Uganda,
http://www.peacebuildingdata.org/research/uganda/background
Global Security, The War in the Bush, https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/uganda3.htm
The Coalition for the International Criminal Court, Uganda,
http://www.coalitionfortheicc.org/country/uganda

The Peace Process in Uganda

Several attempts have been made to end the conflict, either militarily or through dialogue. Military actions such as Operation North in 1991, and Operations Iron Fist I and II in 2002 and 2004 failed to weaken the LRA significantly. Each time the LRA managed to escape and regroup, responding to

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the military operations by carrying out massive attacks on civilians. Various peace talks with the LRA also failed, allowing the LRA to regroup and launch attacks.

In 2006, the Ugandan government and the LRA began a new round of negotiations, known as the Juba Peace Talks, mediated by the President of South Sudan, Riek Machar. The LRA declared a unilateral cessation of hostilities and, within a month, representatives of the Government of Uganda and the LRA signed a formal Cessation of Hostilities Agreement as a first step toward a mediated settlement. South Sudan had been a traditional base for the LRA, and it is possible that political changes in Sudan prompted the LRA to enter the negotiations. It is also possible that the LRA entered the negotiations to avoid criminal prosecution by the newly established International Criminal Court.

The new peace talks offered the first significant prospect for peace. The LRA withdrew its forces from northern Uganda, assembling in Garamba National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With the guidance of the mediation team, the parties created a five-item agenda: (1) Cessation of Hostilities; (2) Comprehensive Solutions to the Conflict; (3) Accountability and Reconciliation; (4) Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration; and (5) Formal Ceasefire. The government conducted a large-scale public consultation about measures for justice and reconciliation, but after several crises with walk-outs by the LRA, the peace process ultimately collapsed.

In response to Kony's refusal to sign the final peace agreement, the Ugandan government, together with the United Nations, the governments of Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo , supported by the U.S. government, undertook a joint military operation against the LRA. Operation Lightning Thunder, with significant support from the U.S. government, sought to neutralize the LRA leadership from Garamba National Park, in eastern DRC, and dislodged the LRA in December 2008. Once again the LRA evaded the attack and regrouped but now the conflict had become regional, with the LRA operating mainly in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic.

Uganda case before the International Criminal Court

After ratifying the Rome Statute in June 2002, Uganda became the first state to 'self-refer' to the International Criminal Court by inviting the prosecutor to open an investigation into alleged grave crimes in northern Uganda, where the government had been fighting Joseph Kony's Lord's Resistance Army for many decades. The ICC investigations have focussed on alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the context of an armed conflict predominantly between the Lord's Resistance Army and the national authorities, mainly in Northern Uganda, since 1 July 2002. The ICC may exercise its jurisdiction over crimes listed in the Rome Statute committed on the territory of Uganda or by its nationals from 1 July 2002 onwards.

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Investigations opened in July 2004, and alleged crimes include:

- war crimes, including murder; cruel treatment of civilians; intentionally directing an attack against a civilian population; pillaging; inducing rape; and forced enlistment of children; and
- crimes against humanity, including murder; enslavement; sexual enslavement; rape; and inhumane acts of inflicting serious bodily injury and suffering.

In 2005, International Criminal Court Pre-Trial Chamber II issued arrest warrant for five senior Lord's Resistance Army members, including leader Joseph Kony, second-in-command Vincent Otti, along with commanders Dominic Ongwen, Okot Odhiambo and Raska Lukwiya. All were believed to be key members of the LRA's "Control Altar" command structure. In issuing the arrest warrants, ICC judges found a reasonable basis to believe that the LRA established a pattern of brutalizing civilian populations, including in internally displaced persons camps, during the course of its insurgency against the Ugandan government in 2002-04. The cases against Lukwiya and Odhiambo were withdrawn following their deaths in 2006 and 2013 respectively. Otti is also suspected to have died. Ongwen became the only LRA leader to enter into ICC custody in January 2015.

While the LRA has for many years no longer been active in Uganda, the neighboring territories of the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic (CAR) have borne the brunt of alleged LRA crimes. A 2014 UN Security Council report suggested that Kony and other LRA commanders were in hiding in a region of South Sudan bordering Sudan and the CAR. LRA commanders were engaged in "survival mode activities" in remote regions of the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo and were exploiting Sudan's protection and the lawlessness in the CAR to regroup.

The ICC's investigation in Uganda is still on-going.

Sources/ Extracted from:
PeacebuildingData.org, Historical Background Northern Uganda,
http://www.peacebuildingdata.org/research/uganda/background
International Criminal Court, Uganda, https://www.icc-cpi.int/uganda
The Coalition for the International Criminal Court, Uganda, http://www.coalitionfortheicc.org/country/uganda

Child soldiers

Six Grave Violations against children during armed conflict

Protecting children from the effects of armed conflict is a moral imperative, a legal responsibility and a question of international peace and security. The UN Security Council has resolved that the

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protection of children from armed conflict is an important aspect of any comprehensive strategy to resolve conflict, and should be a priority for the international community. The UN Secretary-General identified six grave violations against during armed conflict, based on their suitability for monitoring and verification, their egregious nature and the severity of their consequences on the lives of children. The legal basis for these violations lies in relevant international law, which in turn encompasses international humanitarian law, international human rights law and international criminal law.

The six grave violations serve as the basis to gather information and report on violations affecting children, and are:
- Killing and maiming of children (learn more [here](#))
- Recruitment or use of children as soldiers
- Sexual violence against children (learn more [here](#))
- Abduction of children (learn more [here](#))
- Attacks against schools or hospitals (learn more [here](#))
- Denial of humanitarian access for children (learn more [here](#)).

Recruitment or use of children as soldiers

There are many ways for children to become associated with armed forces and groups. Some children are abducted and beaten into submission, others join military groups to escape poverty, to defend their communities, out of a feeling of revenge or for other reasons. Regardless of how children are recruited and of their roles, child soldiers are victims, whose participation in conflict bears serious implications for their physical and emotional well-being. They are commonly subject to abuse and most of them witness death, killing, and sexual violence. Many are forced to commit violent acts and some suffer serious long-term psychological consequences.

Combat and support roles

In many conflicts children take direct part in combat. However, their role is not limited to fighting. Many girls and boys are also used in support functions that also entail great risk and hardship. Their tasks can vary, from combatants to cooks, spies, messengers and even sex slaves. Moreover, the use of children for acts of terror, including as suicide bombers, has emerged as a phenomenon of modern warfare.

No matter their role, child soldiers are exposed to acute levels of violence – as witnesses, direct victims and as forced participants. Some are injured and have to live with disabilities for the rest of their lives. Girls are also recruited and used by armed forces and groups. They have vulnerabilities unique to their gender and place in society and suffer specific consequences

including, but not limited to, rape and sexual violence, pregnancy and pregnancy-related complications, stigma and rejection by families and communities.

Definition of a child soldier

A child associated with an armed force or armed group refers to any person below 18 years of age who is, or who has been, recruited or used by an armed force or armed group in any capacity, including but not limited to children, boys and girls, used as fighters, cooks, porters, spies or for sexual purposes.

Paris Principles on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict 2007

Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict

In 2000, the UN General Assembly adopted the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict to protect children from recruitment and use in hostilities.

The Optional protocol is a commitment that:

- States will not recruit children under the age of 18 to send them to the battlefield.
- States will not conscript soldiers below the age of 18.
- States should take all possible measures to prevent such recruitment –including legislation to prohibit and criminalize the recruitment of children under 18 and involve them in hostilities.
- States will demobilize anyone under 18 conscripted or used in hostilities and will provide physical, psychological recovery services and help their social reintegration.
- Armed groups distinct from the armed forces of a country should not, under any circumstances, recruit or use in hostilities anyone under 18.

The Protocol entered into force in 2002 and has now been ratified by a majority of the world's countries.

Prohibition under International Law

Human rights law declares 18 as the minimum legal age for recruitment and use of children in hostilities. Recruiting and using children under the age of 15 as soldiers is prohibited under international humanitarian law – treaty and custom – and is defined as a war crime by the International Criminal Court.

The UN's latest Children and Armed Conflict Report monitors the violation of children's human rights in 20 conflict-ridden countries and cites verified cases of recruitment and use of children in

the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, among others.

Sources/ Extracted from:
The Six Grave Violations Against Children During Armed Conflict: The Legal Foundation, Working Paper No.1, Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,
https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/publications/WorkingPaper-1_SixGraveViolationsLegalFoundation.pdf
UNICEF Is Working to Free Child Soldiers Around the World,
https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/unicef-working-free-child-soldiers-around-world/35474
Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,
https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/six-grave-violations/child-soldiers/

Youth and Peacebuilding

On 9 December 2015, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted Resolution 2250. This is the first resolution that deals specifically with the role of young people in issues of peace and security. The resolution is an important landmark for the recognition of the positive role young people can play in conflict and post-conflict settings. Resolution 2250 has 5 main action areas:

- **Participation**
  - Resolution 2250 asks governments to increase the participation of young people in decision-making at all levels in local, national, regional and international institutions and in mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict. It also stresses the need for the Security Council to consider young people's needs during its missions.
- **Protection**
  - Resolution 2250 requires governments to ensure the protection of civilians, specifically including youth, at times of armed conflict and post-conflict, including protection from all forms of sexual and gender-based violence. It also demands countries to end impunity by bringing to justice those who commit genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes against young civilians.
- **Prevention**
  - Resolution 2250 calls on governments to support youth's engagement by creating spaces in which young people are recognized and provided with adequate support to implement violence prevention activities. The document also stresses the need to create policies for youth that would positively contribute to peacebuilding efforts, including for their social and economic development. The Security Council also calls on all relevant actors to establish mechanisms to promote a culture of peace and discourage youth from all acts of violence.
- **Partnerships**
  - Resolution 2250 urges governments to establish and strengthen partnerships with relevant actors by:

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- increasing political, financial, technical, and logistical support to UN bodies engaged in promoting peace, development and equality;
- considering the Peacebuilding Commission's advice and recommendations on how to engage young people during and after conflict when developing peacebuilding strategies;
- engaging community actors and empowering local people(s) - including youth, families, women, religious, cultural and education leaders - in countering violent extremism and promoting social cohesion and inclusion.

- **Disengagement and reintegration**
  - Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) are strategies used in the aftermath of a armed conflict as a way to achieve sustainable peace. It refers to removing the armament from the possession of paramilitary groups (disarmament) as well as disengaging their participants (demobilization) and reintegrating them into society (reintegration).
  - Resolution 2250 encourages all actors engaged in DDR to consider the impact of these processes on youth as well as the needs of young people affected by armed conflict. Aspects to be considered include: opportunities and policies in the fields of education, employment and training in preventing the marginalization of youth and promoting a culture of peace.

Want to learn more about the current state of youth inclusion? - check 2020 Report of the UN Secretary-General on Youth, Peace, and Security [here](#)! You can also become a member of Youth4Peace community and support young people's participation in peacebuilding (read more [here](#)).

Sources/ Extracted from:
UNOY, A Guide to UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace & Security, http://unoy.org/wp-content/uploads/Guide-to-SCR-2250.pdf
UNOY, 2250: A Youth Toolkit, http://unoy.org/en/2250-toolkit/

Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

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Sustainable Development Goal 16

Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels. This aims to promote peaceful societies at national levels, as well as the role of cooperation at the international level.

The UN has defined 12 Targets and 23 Indicators for SDG 16. Targets specify the goals and Indicators represent the metrics by which the world aims to track whether these Targets are achieved.

SDG 16 - Targets and Indicators

Targets	Indicators
16.1	16.1.1

Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age
	16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause
	16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months
	16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live
16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	**16.2.1** Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month
	16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation
	16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18
16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	**16.3.1** Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms
	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population
16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime	**16.4.1** Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)
	16.4.2 Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments

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16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months 16.5.2 Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months
16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar) 16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services
16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions 16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group
16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance	16.8.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations
16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age
16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements	16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months

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	16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information
16.A Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime	**16.A.1** Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles
16.B Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development	**16.B.1** Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

Sources/ Extracted from:
UN Sustainable Development Goals, Knowledge Platform, https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300
SDG Tracker, https://sdg-tracker.org/peace-justice

Proposed Discussion Questions

- How can former child soldiers be reintegrated into society? Are there any precedents?
- How do you understand youth inclusion in peacebuilding processes? How youth from non-conflict zones can participate?
- How can youth peacebuilders engage with local, national and international stakeholders?
- What will be the emerging challenges for world peace in the future?
- How do Sustainable Development Goals apply to you, wherever you live? How can you pursue SDGs in your daily life?
- What is the best way for the international community to support sovereign countries to end violence, exploitation and all other forms of violence, especially against children (in line with SDG 16)?

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Additional Reading & Follow up

Learn more about Victor's work:
- African Youth Initiative Network: https://africanyouthinitiative.org
- Sustainable Development Goal 16: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/peace-justice

Learn more about the work of our expert interviewees:
- Sasha Lezhnev, The Enough Project: https://enoughproject.org/
- Kristof Titeca, PhD: https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/staff/kristof-titeca/

Learn more about Uganda and its history:
- CIA, The World Factbook, Uganda, https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ug.html
- PeacebuildingData.org, Uganda, http://www.peacebuildingdata.org/research/uganda
- Human RIghts Watch, World Report 2020, Uganda, https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020/country-chapters/uganda

Learn more about:

Child soldiers:
- UN Children and Armed Conflict Report, https://undocs.org/s/2018/465
- The Six Grave Violations Against Children During Armed Conflict: The Legal Foundation, https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/publications/WorkingPaper-1_SixGraveViolationsLegalFoundation.pdf
- The War on Children, Save Children, https://www.savethechildren.org/content/dam/usa/reports/advocacy/war-on-children-report-us.pdf
- Child Soldiers World Index, https://childsoldiersworldindex.org
- Child Soldiers International, Annual Report 2017-2018, https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/CSI_annual_report_2018.pdf

Youth and Peacebuilding
- UN Resolution 2250 - Annotated and explained, http://unoy.org/wp-content/uploads/2250-annotated-and-explained.pdf
- Report of the Secretary-General on Youth, Peace, and Security, https://undocs.org/en/S/2020/167
- Youth4Peace community, https://www.youth4peace.info/UNSCR2250/Introduction

Episode Speaker Biographies

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Victor Ochen
Victor Ochen is the Founder and Executive Director for African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET). Born in northern Uganda, he spent 21yrs of his childhood as a refugee in the camps, where he survived on one meal-a-day for over 7 years. He grew up amidst violent conflict that displaced over 3 million people, where 60,000+ children were abducted and forcefully recruited as child-soldiers, including his own brother. His organisation has so far provided reconstructive medical repair to over 21,000 war victims of rape, mutilation, gun shots). Challenged by the hardships of war and poverty, while living in the camps at the age of 13 years, Ochen formed a Peace Club and bravely led the anti-child soldiers' recruitment campaign amidst the war in northern Uganda. He grew up to become one of the most important figures in Africa, a key reference when it comes to struggle for human rights and justice, a product of resilience, a personification of struggle. He is a lead example on tolerance and nonviolence activism; who is creatively working to address the root cause of conflict in Africa. Forbes Magazines named Ochen in 2015 as one of the 10 most powerful men in Africa, while Archbishop Desmond Tutu attested that "my heart swells with joy to see Ochen as one of the new hope for Africa". He is the first Uganda and the youngest ever African nominated for Nobel Peace Prize 2015. Ochen is the YGL and has received several awards including Elyse Treaty in 2016; Pan-Commonwealth Youth Workers 2015, Mundo Negro Award 2016; all recognizing his service to poor people and his inspirational leadership for peace in Africa. He is the UN Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Justice promoting SDG Goal 16. Mr. Ochen is a member of the Global Advisory Group to the UNHCR on Gender, Forced Displacement and Protection.

Sasha Lezhnev
Sasha Lezhnev is Deputy Director of Policy at the Enough Project, where he focuses on peace, conflict, and corporate accountability issues in central Africa. He is also Founding Director of the Grassroots Reconciliation Group, an organization that runs projects with former child soldiers and refugees in northern Uganda. He is a founding member of the Public-Private Alliance on Responsible Minerals Trade (PPA). He previously worked at Global Witness, the International Crisis Group, and the U.S. Institute of Peace on U.S. policy issues on conflict resources, extractive industries transparency, and peace processes in Africa. He was based in Uganda for 2 1/2 years as Senior Program Officer with the Northern Uganda Peace Initiative and advisor to the chief mediator of the peace process with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA).

He is author of the book Crafting Peace: Strategies to Deal with Warlords in Collapsing States. He holds a Master's in International Relations from Cambridge University and a B.S. in Foreign Service magna cum laude from Georgetown University.

Kristof Titeca
Kristof Titeca is a Professor in International Development at the Institute of Development Policy, at the University of Antwerp. He has been working for close to 20 years on governance and conflict in Central Africa, and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in particular. He was an expert

witness at the International Criminal Court (ICC) for the case of (former LRA commander) Dominic Ongwen. His latest book and exhibition 'Rebel Lives. Photographs from inside the Lord's Resistance Army' shows photographs taken by LRA commanders in the 1990s and 2000s.