



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

45th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

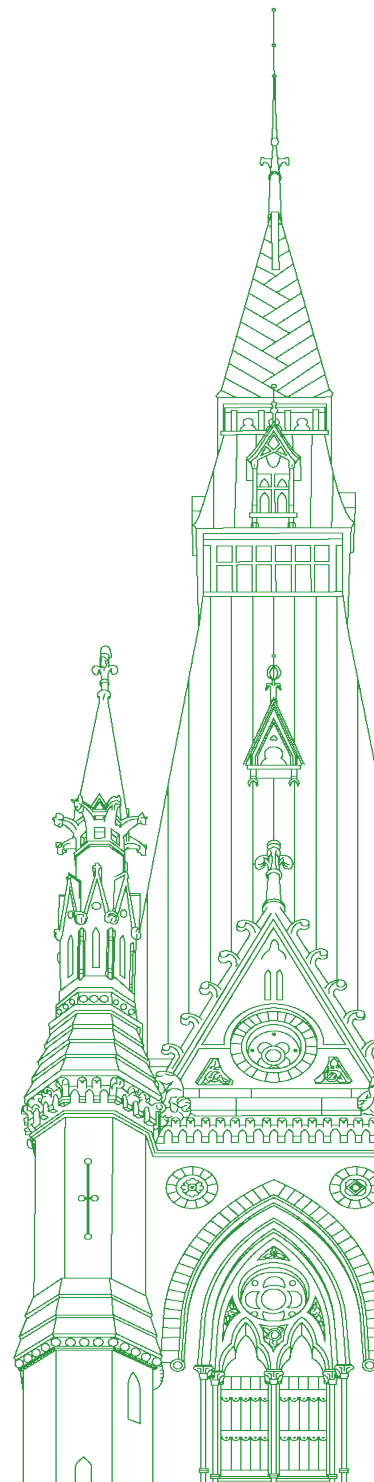
Subcommittee on International Human Rights of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development

EVIDENCE

NUMBER 024

PUBLIC PART ONLY - PARTIE PUBLIQUE SEULEMENT

Monday, October 5, 2026



Chair: Fayçal El-Khoury

Subcommittee on International Human Rights of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development

Monday, October 5, 2026

• (1535)

[Translation]

The Chair (Fayçal El-Khoury (Laval—Les Îles, Lib.)): I now call this meeting to order.

Welcome to meeting number 24 of the Subcommittee on International Human Rights of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development.

[English]

Pursuant to the motion adopted by the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, the subcommittee will meet today to study the subject matter of the human rights situation of children around the world, to assess how the Government of Canada can address and potentially mitigate violations of children's rights, and to do committee business.

[Translation]

Today's meeting is taking place in a hybrid format. Pursuant to the Standing Orders, members may participate in person or through the Zoom application.

[English]

I would like to welcome our witnesses today.

From the Kids International Development Society, we have Madame Adrienne G. Dartnall, administrator and co-founder, and Richard F. Lennert, president and co-founder. From Save the Children Canada, we have Madame Emilie Galland-Jarrett, lead, advocacy and public engagement. From the United Nations Children's Fund, or UNICEF, we have, by video conference, Madame Katherine Cocco, senior child protection specialist, and Mr. Samir Elhawary, chief, humanitarian policy.

I understand that each organization will deliver five minutes of opening remarks, for a total of 15 minutes. We will then proceed to questions from members of the committee.

Now I invite our witnesses from the Kids International Development Society to begin, followed by Save the Children Canada and UNICEF.

From the Kids International Development Society, you have the choice of who will start.

Adrienne Dartnall (Administrator and Co-Founder, Kids International Development Society): We'll share.

The Chair: Okay, one of you can start now. The floor is yours.

Adrienne Dartnall: Thank you very much. It's an honour to be here.

Mr. Chair and honourable members, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. Twenty-six years ago, we lost our daughter and only child, who was killed by a drunk driver. We decided, after much grief, to help children in developing countries, which led to the formation of Kids International Development Society, or KIDS, in her honour. We have focused on education, clean drinking water, housing, sanitation and health care.

Five years ago, we were awarded the Governor General's Meritorious Service Medal. We thank you, Canada, for that great honour.

We are committed to human rights, particularly those for children.

Richard Lennert (President and Co-Founder, Kids International Development Society): Having worked in several countries in the past, we now work only in Cambodia, where child labour and access to education, although improving, are still a big problem. An estimated 9% of children aged five to 14 are engaged in forms of child labour, with another 20% of older adolescents aged 15 to 17 working in hazardous conditions in construction and other forms of hard labour.

Child labour in brick factories is a particularly difficult and complex issue. Children and families, forced by poverty, often live directly on the brick factory land in very substandard housing with dismal sanitation situations. We have developed an education program in a brick factory area to address access to education, sanitation and housing for children in the program. We have also built several schools in these remote areas, including the floating schools on the Tonlé Sap lake, to improve access to education.

• (1540)

Adrienne Dartnall: Another issue that plagues children and families in Cambodia is the lack of access to clean drinking water. There is a stark disparity between urban areas and rural areas in access to safe, clean drinking water. In rural areas, factoring in seasonal fluctuations, lack of access to water varies between 60% and 83%, depending on the season. Water-borne pathogens and chronic stomach issues contribute to malnutrition and stunting. Bad water and diarrheal diseases are the second most common cause of death in children under five years of age.

Very few schools and villages have dependable wells. Water tests that we perform before building water projects often reveal bacteriological and fecal pathogens and high levels of arsenic and iron. We have witnessed the listless and reduced activity of children at school recesses before installing the water projects. Upon returning to the same schools after they have had access to clean and safe water, we see an outstanding difference: Children are much more vigorous at play, and due to better health care for the children, principals and teachers report much less time missed at school.

Currently, KIDS has installed and maintains 40 clean drinking water projects at rural schools and one at a health centre. Together they provide approximately 28,000 children, school staff and patients with direct access to clean, safe water. The villagers and children's families around the schools are allowed to take water home from the projects during school hours, which brings the number served to about 90,000 to 100,000 individuals.

Richard Lennert: Although the health care situation in Cambodia has improved in the 26 years that we have been working there, there are still areas in which there is much work to be done. One area is the fishing communities and villages on the Tonlé Sap lake, comprising approximately 80,000 people. The Tonlé Sap is the largest freshwater lake in Cambodia. The families there are facing complications to their health and well-being, especially in accessing health care.

Many of the metrics around health care for children are much worse there than they are in the rest of the country. Children face much higher rates of parasitic infections. Respiratory infections are also very common and account for over 44% of the top illnesses on the lake. Diarrheal diseases, stunting and malnutrition sit at 42% on the lake, compared with 27% in the cities and towns on shore. Low child vaccination rates are also a huge problem. Further complicating all these factors is the lack of access to health care due to the distance from land-based clinics; the high costs of getting there also create barriers to accessing health care.

KIDS works with The Lake Clinic Cambodia and their team of health care workers to bring health care services to the people by building the first of five floating clinics and funding midwife staff to bring health care services directly to the people.

Adrianne Dartnall: In closing, much has been gained, but much has already been recently lost with the shutting down of USAID, which has caused much unneeded hardship and larger gaps in aid to already—

The Chair: Can you wrap it up, please? Our time is up. You can have a couple of seconds.

Adrianne Dartnall: Okay.

We are proud beyond measure that Canada continues to reach out to assist other countries.

We appreciate very much the opportunity that Canada has given, not only to KIDS but also to many charities based in Canada, to fundraise and fan out to the far corners of the world to make huge differences to many.

Thank you for taking the time to hear the account of our experiences.

The Chair: Thank you.

Now I invite Madame Emilie Galland-Jarrett to take the floor for five minutes.

Emilie Galland-Jarrett (Lead, Advocacy and Public Engagement, Save the Children Canada): Honourable Chair and members of the subcommittee, thank you for the invitation to appear before you today on behalf of Save the Children, a child rights organization founded over a century ago and operating today in more than 100 countries to support children and communities affected by conflict, displacement and poverty.

I welcome this study because children around the world face unprecedented human rights violations.

One in five children globally now lives in conflict zones, with a steady increase of this proportion over time.

War exposes them to violence, but it also means losing access to shelter, education, health care, food, clean water and protection systems that are essential to their survival.

According to the United Nations, 2024 was the worst year on record for grave violations against children in conflict.

Every day, in the occupied Palestinian territory, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Myanmar, Nigeria and Somalia, to name a few, children are killed, maimed, recruited by armed groups, abducted, subjected to sexual violence, attacked while attending school or denied access to life-saving humanitarian assistance.

Children with disabilities face heightened risks during conflict, and girls often experience unique forms of violence, particularly sexual and gender-based violence, as well as early and forced marriage. Boys, meanwhile, make up the majority of children recruited into armed groups.

These are not isolated incidents. They reflect a broader erosion of respect for international humanitarian law, civilian protection and children's rights.

The committee's motion rightly identifies the root causes of children's rights violations. Armed conflict is among the most significant. Conflict drives displacement, destroys schools and health care facilities, fuels poverty and undermines children's physical and mental well-being.

A second driver is the weakening of global norms, as well as accountability and justice mechanisms. Too often, attacks on civilians, schools and hospitals occur without meaningful consequences. Humanitarian access is restricted, leaving children without food, medicine and protection.

Third, growing global inequalities and reductions in international assistance are putting children at greater risk. In crises, children become more susceptible to exploitation, hazardous labour, trafficking, child marriage and recruitment by armed groups. The result is a vicious cycle in which violations of children's rights both stem from and reinforce poverty, instability and conflict.

Canada has long been known for leading with its values. We have demonstrated international leadership on child protection, from the Ottawa treaty banning anti-personnel land mines to the Vancouver principles on the prevention of child soldier recruitment.

At a time when international norms are being questioned, Canada's leadership is needed once again.

We would encourage the Government of Canada to take three actions.

One, place children at the centre of its foreign policy. Children's rights and protection should be considered systematically across diplomatic engagement, humanitarian action, development programming, trade, security and arms export decisions.

Two, defend international humanitarian law and accountability. Canada should publicly and consistently condemn attacks on children, schools, hospitals and humanitarian operations, and it should support effective international justice mechanisms that hold perpetrators to account. Children's rights should apply in all crises. We should not be selective, and it should not be dependent on the individual politics of a particular context.

Three, maintain robust humanitarian and development assistance. Predictable and flexible funding supports access to education, health care, nutrition, child protection and mental health services that help children survive crises and recover from them. Cuts to international assistance, precisely at a time when children's needs are increasing, and underinvestment in peacebuilding, alongside increased investments in security and defence, threaten to exacerbate crises and fuel child rights violations.

The choices made today by governments, including that of Canada, will determine whether millions of children grow up in safety and dignity or continue to pay the highest price of war, poverty and displacement.

As Canada reconsiders its global role, the government must place children at the centre of its international engagement.

There can be no lasting peace, stability or prosperity in Canada or abroad when children's rights are flouted.

Thank you.

• (1545)

The Chair: Thank you. The time was respected. I appreciate that.

Now I invite, from the United Nations Children's Fund, either Madame Katherine Cocco or Mr. Samir Elhawary to take the floor, please.

Samir Elhawary (Chief, Humanitarian Policy, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)): Thank you, honourable Chair and distinguished members of the subcommittee, and good afternoon.

Thank you for inviting UNICEF to speak today, and thank you to Canada for its long-standing leadership on the protection of children in armed conflict, including through the Ottawa treaty and the Vancouver principles, and for your unwavering support in defending international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians. For UNICEF, Canada is not only a major humanitarian donor: You're among one of our strongest and most trusted partners in protecting children.

This leadership matters now more than ever. In 2026, more than 200 million children—half of them girls—across 133 countries and territories need humanitarian assistance as crises become more frequent, protracted and complex. The children living through armed conflict are paying the heaviest price.

More than 24,000 children suffered verified grave violations in armed conflict in 2025. This is the third consecutive year of record levels. Behind this figure are children killed or injured by explosive weapons; recruited, abducted or subjected to sexual violence; and denied life-saving assistance.

Across conflicts such as those in the State of Palestine, Sudan and Ukraine, the civilian infrastructure children rely on—schools, hospitals, power plants and water systems—is being attacked, damaged or destroyed despite protections under international law. A forthcoming UNICEF report shows that attacks on water, sanitation and hygiene systems have increased over the past five years, with almost half documented in the state of Palestine.

Conflicts have consequences for children. In 2025, famine was declared simultaneously in two places—in Sudan and in the Gaza Strip—a first. Whilst these were reversed thanks to humanitarian and diplomatic efforts, this year 9.3 million children across 14 countries face the highest risk of death from hunger and malnutrition.

Overall, there are four trends that are intensifying risks faced by children.

The first is the widespread use of explosive weapons in populated areas. When these weapons are used, 96% of casualties are civilians, 70% children.

The second is the changing technology of warfare. Autonomous weapons and armed drones pose grave risks to children. In Sudan, drone strikes have become the leading cause of child casualties this year.

Third, attacks against humanitarian workers are surging. In 2025, 358 workers were killed, bringing the death toll to more than 1,000 in the last three years. Most of them are local staff.

Fourth, government forces and affiliated actors are responsible for more grave violations against children than non-state armed actors. These trends reflect an erosion of respect for international law and the rules-based order underpinning humanitarian action for decades.

We have four key asks.

Our first ask is for Canada to use its political influence to protect children and advocate for child protection as a priority. Canada must keep speaking clearly and consistently when international humanitarian law is violated and must safeguard the children and armed conflict agenda. This includes expanding endorsement and consistent implementation of the Safe Schools Declaration and the political declaration on EWIPA.

Our second ask is to protect education as a life-saving priority. Education in emergencies is falling through the cracks even as children consistently tell us how much it matters to them. In 2026, education has so far received under 1% of the UN's central emergency response fund. We thank Canada for its pledge to support crisis-affected children through the Education Cannot Wait fund.

Our third ask is to protect flexible predictable financing and to build bridges beyond humanitarian aid. As resources shrink, flexible funding enables UNICEF to respond rapidly to crises and to invest in resilience and national systems.

Our fourth ask is perhaps the most critical: Invest in addressing the root causes of conflict. Canada must use its leverage to advance diplomatic solutions to key crises, including in Ukraine, Haiti, Palestine and Sudan, among others. Canada's principled voice can shape the political conditions needed to protect children.

Humanitarian action is ultimately about whether a child forced from home can feel safe, whether a child living through conflict can learn and whether children surrounded by violence can imagine a future. Too many children are growing up under fire, cut off from education, protection and hope. We cannot allow that to become the new normal.

UNICEF is proud to stand with you. Together, we must do more to help children survive crisis: We must protect their dignity, their childhood and their future.

Thank you.

● (1550)

The Chair: I thank you also. The time was well respected. I appreciate that.

Now we will move to questions and answers. I would like to invite Madame Kronis to take the floor for seven minutes.

The floor is yours, Madame.

Tamara Kronis (Nanaimo—Ladysmith, CPC): Thank you so much, Mr. Chair.

Ms. Dartnall and Mr. Lennert, I first want to extend.... I realize this is something that may, on some days, feel as though it's in your distant past, but losing a child is never really in the past. It's one of those things that are present every single day. I want to acknowledge that loss and commend you for everything you've done to honour your child's memory by trying to help other children in this world.

It so happens that when you talk about Cambodia, you're talking about what I regularly describe as my favourite place on earth. I've been there twice myself. When my husband and I went on our honeymoon, we took duffel bags full of school and other supplies for kids and orphanages in Cambodia. A dear friend of mine, Barbara Seagram—I think you know her—also runs a charity that works on water and other schooling issues in Cambodia.

The question I want to ask you is one of balance. We have a lot of witnesses who come to committee. You've heard some of the other witnesses talk about very grave international situations. We're always trying to figure out how to strike the balance between the really incredible work civil society does in Canada through good people like you and organizations like yours—raising money and supplies, and getting things to the places they're needed in a really personal, connected way—and the work the Government of Canada does around providing institutional support and nation-to-nation support.

I'm wondering if you have anything to say about that balance between private and government support. What are some of your observations on it? How do we strike it in a good way?

● (1555)

Adrianne Dartnall: Thank you very much for your comments and acknowledgement. We appreciate that. It hasn't been easy in a lot of ways. Seeing so many people suffering from starvation and terrible situations makes you realize how fortunate we are, in terms of where we come from.

Yes, it's both. There are individual people helping, but there are also governments. Certainly, Cambodia is a country that has been under war situations for a long time. In fact, we were there in this last year. Thailand decided to attack and bomb Cambodia and displace 200,000 people, who now have no homes and nowhere to live. It's about combinations of individuals like us, who have raised money and can help mostly children but also families, and governments that can help support when those kinds of terrible things you were talking about happen—larger things like the wars that can happen.

When we first went there, it was totally destroyed. Everybody we met had lost their children or families. People were living on the streets. It was terrible. It has come some way, but sadly, it's still very poor and needs support.

Richard Lennert: It's about a combination of small, intermediate and large charities and our government working together. It's about allowing all charities to have charitable status so that we can fundraise better. We believe that it's really important to work together with consistency over the long term.

We've seen lots of changes. One of our idols is the late Stephen Lewis. We always remember some chapters from his book in which he talked about funding children over the course of, virtually, a generation. We've seen that. We always thought that, in the beginning—how amazing that was when we first started. Now here we are, 26 years later. We've put those constant supports behind children as we would do for our own children. We take them from elementary school right on up past post-secondary. We often support the vulnerable young women with secure housing until they get on their feet. This makes a huge difference, rather than just a one-time drop-in. It makes a big difference to those kids.

Adrianne Dartnall: Also, in turn, they help change those things in their own families.

Richard Lennert: They pay it forward in a big way.

• (1600)

Tamara Kronis: That kind of empowerment on the ground is really powerful.

One thing happening here in Canada is that, as people watch international conflicts, they want to get involved. Do you have any advice for people who might want to start their own organization to help children somewhere in the world or here?

Adrianne Dartnall: That's a big question.

For us, we just ended up going.

Richard Lennert: We were thrust into it.

Adrianne Dartnall: We decided to leave because we were in so much pain. We ended up in India, in the beginning, at an ashram in the jungle. It was 45°C or 50°C.

People were really poor. Rick is a builder, so we built a school and a day care.

It takes just going to places, looking and then asking, "What could I do?" Even a small bit can change, and that grows.

Richard Lennert: It takes a lot of commitment.

We had a real groundswell of support. It may have been partly because of our story, but it was also a lot of work. We worked endlessly.

We are very fortunate to have the impact we have, but it all comes down to the goodness of people and our donors, the kindness of foundations and our government's helping us along with our charitable status as well.

I would say, yes, be prepared for a lot of work and a lot of commitment but also huge rewards.

Tamara Kronis: Thank you so much for sharing your experiences with us. It's always a pleasure to have people who live in our communities here at committee to share their experiences and the ways in which they work to make the world a better place for kids, so thank you so much.

The Chair: Thank you, Ms. Kronis.

Now I would like to invite Mr. Zuberi to take the floor for five minutes.

[*Translation*]

Sameer Zuberi (Pierrefonds—Dollard, Lib.): Thank you, Mr. Chair.

[*English*]

Thank you to the witnesses for being here today and, in particular, to Mr. Lennert and Ms. Dartnall for the courage you have shown in sharing your family's story and for how that has propelled you to do the humanitarian work that you've been doing for a considerable amount of time. It's a very powerful and personal story that you shared, and I'll look into the impacts of your work into the future.

To the other witnesses, thank you for being here virtually and in person.

I want to ask Ms. Galland-Jarrett a general question.

Ms. Galland-Jarrett, your organization has been involved, as you said, for the last 100 years in 70 countries, with a very large footprint and a long history of involvement. Now we are entering a new era in terms of where financing is going and the strain that's being put.... Also mentioned earlier in the first testimony was the strain on organizations. Could you speak a bit to the importance of building peace and the spending that's behind building peace? Do you want to share any thoughts on that?

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: First of all, it's essential that there is continued international assistance funding to support children in crises. We have seen, unfortunately, cuts from various donors, including Canada. At a time when we're seeing increasing risks for children, this is unfortunate.

Save the Children had a report that came out last year. It's one of our flagship reports. We call it "Stop the War on Children". It comes out every year in the fall. This particular report looked at the division of global spending for security. What we showed was that 55% of global security spending is military spending and that less than 1% is spending for peacebuilding. That discrepancy has been a global trend. In the last year, we're seeing more investments in defence.

While it's understandable that, in an unstable world, we want to invest in defence, we also know from recent studies and pollings of Canadians that Canadians understand that need to shift priorities but don't want that to be at the expense of international assistance. We have polling done by UNICEF and by Global Canada that came out in the last few weeks and really shows that Canadians still support investments in international assistance. They understand that this is a way Canada should continue to show up in the world. While Canada can't fill all the gaps other donors have left, this is the way we can express our values.

I also want to add that it has to go hand in hand with diplomatic engagement, and that's been said by other witnesses. International assistance is important because we need to respond to crises and address root causes. However, we can also address those root causes through diplomatic engagement that prevents conflict and prevents some of the situations we're seeing today.

Thank you.

● (1605)

Sameer Zuberi: Thank you.

If they're public, maybe you could table those two studies with us and the other recent study you mentioned in your answer to my question. We can include them in our report or on our website.

I'd like to go to UNICEF.

Thanks again for being here virtually.

Mr. Elhawary, the fourth point you asked us to consider was investment in "addressing the root causes of conflict" in Haiti, Ukraine, Palestine and Sudan, amongst other places. Can you elaborate further on that? What do you see that is so important within that?

We only have about two minutes left. If you'd like to elaborate on that particular point, we'd definitely like to hear what you have to say on that.

Samir Elhawary: Thank you, Mr. Zuberi.

Essentially, what we're seeing in many crises that are very protracted and prolonged is that, year on year, humanitarian needs are staying the same or increasing—getting worse in contexts like Sudan or the State of Palestine.

We have a saying within the humanitarian community that there are no humanitarian solutions to political problems. I think, for us, it's very important that we see diplomatic action to help resolve these conflicts in order for us to be able to start supporting these countries' transitions out of crises and to help children recover.

A concrete example, which I alluded to in my statement, was last year when we had famine declared in the Gaza Strip. It was very much diplomatic efforts together with humanitarian efforts that were able to facilitate the access for assistance to go in after the ceasefire in order to address the severe situation of malnutrition and food insecurity for children and other populations.

Similarly, in the situation in Sudan, it is really important that political efforts engage the government and other armed groups. To dialogue and to find a political way out of the crisis is essential.

Otherwise, year in and year out, we see a continuation of the situation of grave violations against children. That diplomacy is critical.

Really, the ask is for Canada to continue providing humanitarian and development support in these crises but not to leave out political engagement and diplomatic support that could help find solutions to these different crises.

The Chair: You have 20 seconds.

Sameer Zuberi: I'd like to go to Save the Children.

Are there any particular human stories that you would like to share with the committee in the few seconds remaining?

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: Thank you.

We work in many different crises in the world, as you said, but one of the crises that require our attention, particularly when we're thinking about children, is the one in the occupied Palestinian territory. I want to share the story of Suha, who is a mother of three children in the occupied Palestinian territory and who benefits from Save the Children's support. She speaks of how her home was destroyed on top of her family and having to pull her daughter out from under debris.

The Chair: Excuse me, you have to wrap it up. We have exceeded the time by 20 seconds. Probably in the next round....

Thank you.

[Translation]

Mr. Brunelle-Duceppe, you have the floor for five minutes.

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe (Lac-Saint-Jean, BQ): Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Ms. Galland-Jarrett, at the end of my speaking time, I will give you an opportunity to finish the point you were making.

You spoke about funding. We've seen the collapse of USAID, but there's also a broader global trend, whether in Europe or Japan, toward major budget reductions. Canada is part of that trend as well, as it is cutting humanitarian assistance under the pretext of a tariff war that, unfortunately, has no connection whatsoever to international aid funding.

I would therefore ask you to reiterate to the committee your position regarding the importance of the level of funding that Canada should provide. Rather than reducing it, Canada should at least be working toward the 0.7% target called for by the United Nations. At present, it is at roughly 0.28% and compares poorly with many of its peers. Perhaps you could reiterate the importance of maintaining this funding.

● (1610)

[English]

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: Thank you for the question.

Save the Children works with other peers in Canada and abroad.

We made a submission to pre-budget consultations by Parliament, particularly on humanitarian assistance. What we were calling for as a sector, understanding the current situation, was maintenance of the current humanitarian budget, taking into account inflation. This is already not guaranteed under the current government, with the announcements made last year about cuts over four years.

That's what we're asking for, to maintain the current levels from 2024-25, taking into account inflation, because that's a reality. Even with this, we also have to recognize that a lot of humanitarian supplies are becoming more expensive because of issues we have in parts of the world, such as the Strait of Hormuz. In reality, it's very difficult for organizations like ours, and others, to continue to operate at the scales at which we used to operate, with the current funding climate.

[Translation]

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe: There is another point you raised, to put it in diplomatic terms: the importance of never losing sight of the work done on behalf of children, or of children's rights, at least.

Over roughly the past year, the current government, led by Mr. Carney, has entered into agreements with China, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and others.

First, do you believe that children's rights were part of the discussions when those economic agreements were concluded?

Second, would this not send a rather troubling message at the present time? It's as though the ongoing tariff dispute with a U.S. administration that is, in many respects, failing in its responsibilities, is being used as a pretext to conclude agreements with regimes that, frankly, don't have exemplary records when it comes to children's rights, or human rights more broadly. Would that not constitute a problem and a risk? It appears that the Canadian government may be falling into the trap set by those countries.

[English]

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: I can't speak to what was discussed in diplomatic engagements that I wasn't part of. From that point of view, I can't say. The hope would be that when such agreements are discussed, they're used, at the very least, as an opportunity to engage on these topics and to potentially improve the situation.

We all need to monitor how these agreements develop over time. Certainly, I don't think that having an agreement in place should mean that a government can't speak out and engage diplomatically on issues. Indeed, in the messages I was trying to pass, we do call on Canada to consistently stand up for children's rights in all situations, no matter whether violations might have been committed by allies or trade partners, or by governments that we don't tend to ally ourselves with.

[Translation]

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe: Thank you.

I will now turn to the UNICEF representatives.

Your organization has produced reports identifying specific territories. Indeed, if we look at what's happening in Sudan, for example, or in Gaza, we can see that these are among the most severe humanitarian crises, where children are suffering the most.

Does UNICEF also have reports that it could provide to the committee concerning children's rights violations in Tibet and Xinjiang, also known as East Turkestan? Could UNICEF provide the committee with the information it currently has regarding children's rights in China, particularly in Tibet and Xinjiang? You spoke to us about education, among other things, as well as diplomatic engagement.

I am listening.

• (1615)

[English]

Samir Elhawary: Thank you for the question.

With UNICEF, we have programs in over 190 territories and countries. In those countries we provide support to different governments, and we work with civil society and other key stakeholders to provide key assistance for children and to support the upholding of children's rights.

There are a number of different reports that we make public in terms of the situations for children in many different contexts. One of the key areas of focus that we support is the United Nations' monitoring and reporting mechanism for grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict. This is in support of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict within the United Nations. The secretary general issues a report every year, outlining the situation of children in the context of armed conflict. The report was released publicly in June this year. Some of the statistics I referred to in my statement—for example, the 24,000 cases of verified violations against children—were from this report.

There are a number of different concerning trends in relation to the information in the report, especially with regard to the use of explosive weapons in populated areas—the number one killer of children in many conflict contexts. However, there are also many concerns related to trends in sexual violence and the fact that we are now seeing that the majority of grave violations are committed by state armed forces and their affiliates, which is very concerning. It should concern us all because these states are the ones that have the primary responsibility for protecting and upholding children in conflict contexts.

Maybe I'll pass—

The Chair: Thank you, Mr. Elhawary. The time has passed.

[Translation]

Thank you, Mr. Brunelle-Duceppe.

Ms. Vandenbeld, you have the floor for five minutes.

[English]

Anita Vandenbeld (Ottawa West—Nepean, Lib.): Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

My first question is for UNICEF. In particular, it is about something you mentioned when you started your intervention: armed drones and autonomous weapons. This is not something we have heard about a lot in this committee, but I imagine we probably will in the future. I wonder whether you could elaborate a bit on that, particularly in the context of children.

Samir Elhawary: It is a concerning trend, in terms of the use of armed drones and new technology we're seeing. It's often as a result of armed drones that we're seeing conflicts expand across the territory. This is technology that's quite cheap for different armed groups to use. They can travel long distances. The use of armed drones to carry explosive weapons is having a huge impact on children, whether through direct hits on public places or critical infrastructure—hospitals, markets, schools, etc. Also, in contexts in which drones are consistently used, it's having a psychological impact on children, in terms of hearing the noises they make, knowing they're present and not knowing whether they're potentially carrying an explosive weapon.

In Sudan this year, the use of armed drones has been one of the primary causes of child casualties. This is a huge concern for us in terms of the way different conflicts are playing out. For us it means having a very clear eye on the impact of armed drones but also thinking about what we can do to regulate the use of those technologies in order to better protect children.

Anita Vandenberg: Thank you. It's very concerning.

I don't know whether any of the other witnesses want to comment on that. No.

I have another question I want to pick up on with Save the Children, which is about sexual violence. We know that sexual violence is used as an actual weapon of war. Children are abducted and are in terrible situations. I wonder whether you could speak specifically about how sexual violence is used against children as a deliberate tactic in order to achieve the ends, in terms of war, not just as something that happens on the side but something that is targeted, and targeted against, in particular, adolescent girls—we know it happens to boys too.

• (1620)

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: Yes. Certainly, there's recognition that sexual violence can be used as a weapon of war and can also be part of the acts that then amount to genocide. We see both. We also see sexual violence as part of—I hate to use this term—"trophy wives" for soldiers as a reward for joining an armed group or as a way to keep certain men involved in armed groups and militias. We see sexual violence play out in various different ways.

I also want to connect this to what we see as an increase in early marriage during conflict. Families are desperate to provide for their children, and they think early marriage is a solution. Somebody else will look after that child. When we're talking about early marriage, what is behind early marriage but sexual violence? A child cannot consent to relations with an adult, even if they are officially their husband.

I wanted to mention that too. Thank you.

Anita Vandenberg: Thank you for that. It's absolutely horrific.

Mr. Elhawary, could you elaborate on this? You said that a lot of the sexual violence is perpetrated by state forces. Can you talk a bit about that? It's a different kind of thing when it's happening by state forces.

Samir Elhawary: Thank you for the question. I will maybe clarify that I was referring to the majority of overall grave violations as being committed by state fighters, not specifically sexual violence.

Maybe I'll ask my colleague Katherine to speak a bit about the responses given to some of those grave violations.

The Chair: Thank you, Anita. The time is up.

I invite Mr. Mahal to take the floor for five minutes, please.

Jagsharan Singh Mahal (Edmonton Southeast, CPC): Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I want to thank all the witnesses who are present today for their testimonies.

Adrianne and Richard, I want to acknowledge the loss you've shared with the committee today. I want to acknowledge the spirit you had. The hard times, the pain—you did not go down. Rather, you found that as a purpose to help other people in need, particularly children in different societies and different communities. I really want to acknowledge that on the record and to say thank you.

Either of you can answer this question. How do conflicts, displacements and poverty affect children differently from adults?

Richard Lennert: Could you say that again? How do poverty and conflicts...?

Jagsharan Singh Mahal: How do conflicts, displacements and poverty affect children differently from adults?

Adrianne Dartnall: It's interesting; I was listening to what was said earlier, that sometimes in poor areas, people are desperate and are doing different things. We got an email not too long ago that said one of the young girls we had taken and put through education was doing well. When they went out to the countryside to visit her grandmother, her nine-year-old daughter got raped. The fact is that even though we can do some, a lot more needs to happen for education and for people to understand that physically abusing children is not all right.

There is also a lot of child labour. Things happen to them during child labour too. We try to go around and talk to people and organizations to say that this is not all right.

Richard Lennert: Often, too, with extreme poverty, sexual exploitation is more common. We've seen families sell their children, such as their oldest daughter. You often think, in our world, how can you come to that decision? However, imagine having to make that decision to save the other two, three or four and sacrifice the one because of such extreme poverty.

On education, referring to Stephen Lewis and his work in Africa, the more you educate people and the more you educate young women in particular, the lower the number of children they have in their families and the older they are before they get married. The health of their children is much better. Education is key. Of course, in conflict zones, it's all exacerbated by the lack of law and order and everything else.

We really admire the work that you people are doing in those conflict zones.

Cambodia right now is relatively peaceful, but it's from the effects of poverty that sexual violence is still there for young people.

• (1625)

Adrianne Dartnall: That's why we try to go into schools and talk and work with people to say this isn't all right, because they...

Richard Lennert: We support as many children as we can. Thank you for the question.

Jagsharan Singh Mahal: In your experience and in your opinion, what are the most effective ways for Canada to support local organizations working directly with vulnerable children?

Richard Lennert: For Kids International Development Society, getting our charitable status was a huge thing. It increased our revenue quite a bit.

Adrianne Dartnall: We went from painting schools to building schools.

Richard Lennert: With the government standing behind charities and using the goodwill and the kindness of Canadians, because there are a lot of people out there who have huge hearts and lots of energy, we're making a big difference in the world.

Adrianne Dartnall: I think our major areas are that we're looking to protect children against any kind of abuse. As for medicine, we've built several clinics now. That's a real goal for us because when people get sick and they don't have any form of help, there are no doctors available. I'd say we put medical health and educating children in the format now. No, you don't go with other people you don't know and get taken advantage of. We also take a look at who we can work with within the community and bring them together, so if there is some...

Richard Lennert: Finding a local champion is always a huge asset.

The Chair: Thank you. Time is up.

[Translation]

Mr. Brunelle-Duceppe, you now have the floor for five minutes.

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I will once again address the UNICEF representatives.

Your organization is dedicated to improving conditions for children, ensuring their survival and promoting their well-being around the world. Earlier, I asked you a question about Tibet, because experts from the United Nations and several non-governmental organizations have told us that close to one million Tibetan children have been separated from their families and placed in state-run boarding schools, where Mandarin is imposed at the expense of their language and culture. What's happening, in effect, is a state is

using the children of a specific population group on a large scale as a means of assimilation.

How does one respond to a state-led, systemic practice like that? How should a country position itself in response? What can be done to help, and what is UNICEF's position? How much can you do when you see something of this nature occurring on such a scale?

[English]

Katherine Cocco (Senior Child Protection Specialist, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)): Thank you for the opportunity. Maybe I can come in from the programmatic side.

We can come back to you and provide additional information separately on the specific situation that you have raised perhaps, but I would like to mention that in every country where UNICEF is present, as my colleague was saying, we work mostly with both national authorities and the civil society organizations that are represented in the room today to really reach children and have an impact on them in terms of creating a protective environment.

This means reaching not only the individual child but also the family and the community that is supporting that child to really create that protective environment and particularly to work with governments to establish a system that is a child protection system, an education system or health system so that there are social workers, health workers and education staff who are on the ground and are prepared and able to respond to the needs of children, both the conflict-affected and those at risk—every single child. Really, this is the purpose of our programming on the ground.

I wanted to take the opportunity to say that this is responding particularly to situations of armed conflict, as the discussion focused on today. It's really looking at programming for responding to victims of sexual violence, responding to children who have no choice but end up being recruited and used by armed forces and armed groups, and really ensuring that they are treated as victims of grave violations and are not designated as perpetrators.

Thank you.

• (1630)

[Translation]

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe: In fact, the committee's study is entitled "Human Rights Situation of Children Around the World". It's therefore not being conducted exclusively in the context of armed conflicts, which explains the direction of my questions.

I just want you to know that I'm a tireless supporter of UNICEF, and I will always be on your side, wherever you may be working in the field.

What I'm trying to emphasize is that, unfortunately, sometimes when we're faced with a situation like the one in Tibet, it becomes more difficult for organizations such as yours, and yet you're part of major international organizations like the UN, whose mandate with respect to children's rights is quite clear. Unfortunately, you must work with the government in power. Right now, despite all your good intentions, the government in Tibet is preventing you from protecting nearly one million children who have been separated from their families and regrettably sent to boarding schools run by the Chinese state.

So please don't take this the wrong way. I just want you to know that I'm not putting you in the hot seat. I merely want to highlight the fact that, right now, one million children in Tibet are being used by the Chinese state to assimilate an entire culture. Sadly, a number of countries, including Canada, aren't doing enough to call out this situation.

I'd now like to turn to the representative of Save the Children Canada.

Ms. Galland-Jarrett, I don't know whether you have a report for us on what is happening right now in Haiti. If there's one place where children's rights are being severely violated, it's Haiti. We're seeing sexual violence, kidnapping, a lack of education and extreme poverty. Could you tell the committee what Canada needs to do, particularly given the special relationship between Canada and Haiti? How do you see—

[English]

The Chair: Thank you, Mr. Brunelle-Duceppe. Time is up. You're over by 10 seconds.

I'll give you five seconds for a quick answer.

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: The one thing I want to say is that Canada is involved in the gang suppression force. For us, what's really important is that there is child protection expertise in the force, so those who are involved know how to best protect the children they might encounter during their work.

Thank you.

The Chair: Now I would like to thank all the witnesses for their presence.

Today you enlightened the subcommittee with good opinions and ideas. They are highly appreciated, and I am sure the subcommittee will take them into consideration. If any of you would like to share some more information, feel free to write to either me or the clerk, and the subcommittee members will receive it. Thanks for your presence.

This meeting is suspended temporarily. We're going to resume our meeting in camera.

- (1630) _____ (Pause) _____
- (1640)

The Chair: We are restarting the meeting.

There was a miscalculation. I invite you to stay for another 25 minutes. Thanks for your understanding.

Now I would like to invite Ms. Dhillon to take the floor for five minutes.

Anju Dhillon (Dorval—Lachine—LaSalle, Lib.): Thank you to our witnesses for being here today. I will start with Ms. Galland-Jarrett.

You mentioned that children in conflict zones and occupied territories are the most vulnerable. Just before we suspended, you were asked a question by my colleague.

If you want to, you could complete your thoughts on that.

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: Thank you.

I wanted to share a little more, particularly on the situation of children in the occupied Palestinian territory. Over 21,500 Palestinian children have been killed since the start of the war, and more than 44,000 have been injured.

I want to share, in particular, the story of Suha, who's a mother of three children and who benefits from Save the Children's support. She spoke of how her home was destroyed on top of her family and having to pull her daughter Bissan out from under debris. She says that their lives changed entirely after the war started. She says that they kept moving from place to place until even the most basic necessities of life no longer existed. Honestly, everything can be summed up by saying that her children's childhood was completely lost.

We're seeing a generation of children who are being killed, injured or traumatized and missing out on education, health care and nutrition. This will affect their long-term potential and the very fabric of Palestinian society. This is one example of a situation in which violations of children's rights will have long-term impacts far beyond even the hoped-for end of conflict.

Thank you for the opportunity to share that.

Anju Dhillon: Yes, thank you for the work you are all doing.

UNICEF didn't come back, so I'll continue with Ms. Galland-Jarrett.

You spoke about child rape and marriage. What solutions do you see that we can put forward to prevent this—to stop these atrocities, in which innocent children become victims in this most horrific way?

- (1645)

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: Part of the solutions and responses to these crises is getting humanitarian assistance in as fast as possible, so we're supporting families and communities. That's a prevention tool.

Then there's a need to do this in a gender-sensitive way. We even aspire to a gender-transformative way. Canada has been instrumental with its feminist international assistance policy, taking those approaches to recognize the differing vulnerabilities of boys and girls in these situations. It's not just about saying that girls are affected by X. As I mentioned in my opening remarks, boys are generally more at risk of being recruited as child soldiers, so the way children are affected by crisis and conflict is gendered in both directions. It's about having this understanding, being able to come in with responses that really tackle this and recognizing the role that gender norms play in those vulnerabilities.

Thank you.

Anju Dhillon: Through the work your organization does and according to your experience so far, what could make a grown person, a human being, treat other people in this way? What kind of world are we now living in when children are subjected to the worst outcomes possible in wars created by adults?

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: It's a tough question to answer.

Whether we're talking about violence against children or just in general, a lot of it is about dehumanization. It's about not recognizing the humanity of others and the rights of others.

That's why, particularly when we're talking about children, it's so important to remember that children don't choose where they're born. They don't choose what communities they grow up in. They don't choose the politics of their communities or countries. This is why they deserve a level of.... They're particularly vulnerable, and the impacts of war, armed conflict and crisis on them are felt for years to come in ways that are sometimes irreversible in terms of their development. If a child suffers from malnutrition when they're young—

The Chair: Thank you. Your time has elapsed, but thank you.

Scott, you have the floor for five minutes, please.

Scott Reid (Lanark—Frontenac, CPC): Thank you very much.

I wondered, Ms. Dartnall and Mr. Lennert, if I could inquire along the same line of questioning about forced marriage, about child brides—I'm not sure what the right term is—in Cambodia in your experience. I want to get a bit of a sense of what this is like.

Maybe as a starting point, you could give me an idea. In the example you gave, you said that it was the oldest daughter. This sounds plausible. In order to sustain the younger children, it's the one who is seen as being of marriageable age or as sexually available who is sent off. I'm not sure what the right framework for that is.

Could you describe what you've seen and what that process is like? For example, fill me in on how old the girls typically are and whether they're being married—as in, they'll be with someone as their partner for the rest of their lives and have their children—or whether they're meant to be some kind of concubine. What does that look like?

Richard Lennert: Often there are arranged marriages in Cambodia. It's to do with finding a husband, a partner, for the daughter, but it also often happens to the very young. It's also driven by poverty, because there's a dowry or a bride price. The wealthier

girls, the more attractive girls or the lighter-skinned girls have a higher bride price, unfortunately.

It was much more prevalent 26 years ago when we first started this education, but it seems to be getting better. More and more young women, as they receive an education, are becoming better critical thinkers and are making much better decisions and going against tradition.

Arranged marriages are a worldwide problem. It is in a lot of developing countries, so yes, education is the key.

Adrianne Dartnall: I'd like to say, too, that certainly in some places, such as out on the lake where people live and it's fairly isolated—people are in floating homes and things like that—we have put a lot of energy into working to bring in education, because there wasn't education before. That's one of our topics: No, you don't get married at 12 or 13, and it's important that you learn, that you get an education.

We support them. We take them out of the lake area and put them into regular schools. We've worked in very poor areas and certainly in isolated areas. You really have to work with the educational team and with the young people to say, "That doesn't have to be your only option." If we take them to the city and we put them in other education programs, we do the same thing: It is about learning; it is about getting ahead themselves.

Unfortunately, we've seen a lot of young people, especially young girls, who have been taken advantage of, who have been raped, who have done all those things and have been sold. We take those girls and we teach them something different: that this is not the way life is supposed to be and this is not going to happen to them again.

● (1650)

Scott Reid: In changing the world view of the young women, I would have assumed that the critical person to convince to change their world view would not be the young woman herself, but rather her parent. From the way you've described it, it sounds as though I'm mistaken in my belief.

Adrianne Dartnall: We absolutely work with the whole family. We work with the parents as well and just talk to them about how this isn't all right. We actually work with young men too. If we come across them before they're doing the worst that they can do, we try to take them...because we'll work with the whole school. We'll come in and work on those issues with the whole school, not just....

Richard Lennert: If I might, I would add one thing: As Ms. Galland-Jarrett was saying, they're right in the thick of this conflict in Sudan and in different places. We're seeing the aftermath. There was a genocide that happened in Cambodia from 1975 to 1979. We've seen the aftermath of the conflict in the generations.

One of the fellows we work with, for lack of a better word, says to forget the parents, that they're a lost cause, because they've had such severe trauma as children. Sometimes, it's very difficult to work with the parents, and sometimes the kids basically end up leaving, going into our education programs and having to make a break, because there's just too much trauma for those parents from those war zones and war conflicts.

Scott Reid: Thank you very much.

[Translation]

The Chair: Thank you very much.

Mr. Brunelle-Duceppe, you have the floor for five minutes.

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe: Thank you very much.

Ms. Galland-Jarrett, you spoke to us about Canada's feminist international assistance policy, which we supported and strongly endorsed.

I don't want to criticize for the sake of criticizing. I'm here to make suggestions and help move things forward.

Unfortunately, when Mr. Carney came to power, one of the first things he did was say that Canada no longer had a feminist international assistance policy. He is on the record as stating it. He went on to make significant cuts to the international assistance budget. That's what I'd like to focus on with you.

He decided to link international trade and international assistance. There used to be a minister of international development, but under Mr. Carney that position became secretary of state (international development), which made it a more junior portfolio. In addition, the parliamentary secretary to the secretary of state (international development) is also the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of International Trade. As a result, Canada's new international assistance policy is directly linked to its international trade policies.

Is there not a danger in that? In my view—and you can tell me whether you agree since you're the expert—those should be two completely different things. Of course, there's international trade, and there are ways to foster development and invest in countries that need support, but there are also humanitarian crises that have nothing to do with international trade. Are we not headed for disaster? Could this not be a somewhat dangerous approach when it comes to the health and well-being of children, especially, who are affected by crises around the world?

● (1655)

[English]

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: When it comes to this, we have to be nuanced, because there can be situations in which it makes sense to, for example, promote public-private partnerships and to focus on economic empowerment and providing economic opportunities to local populations in developing countries.

Many organizations in our sector have taken approaches that could be said to ultimately also support the development of a country that will become a trading partner with Canada. There are good examples, such as Vietnam, in which we have invested for many years and we have graduated to being a trading partner. This needs to be recognized.

However, yes, the definition of official development assistance is quite clear that it's supposed to support those who are most in need, and we need to make sure that there remains a core budget for ODA that is responding to the needs of local populations, with additional benefits for Canada from the primary response to need and often to crisis.

[Translation]

Alexis Brunelle-Duceppe: We didn't have time to discuss this earlier, so I will return to the example of Haiti. If we currently have a public policy geared to international trade rather than a more feminist humanitarian assistance policy, for example, we may end up making very different investment decisions. That's why I asked the question. If we put on blinders by choosing a particular policy direction, we risk overlooking extremely important issues and people who are quite literally in danger. That was really the point of my original question.

[English]

Emilie Galland-Jarrett: You can't trade with a country that doesn't have an educated local population, that doesn't have a certain amount of security and stability. This is why I think it's a question of a short-term and a long-term view as well, because if we prevent crisis and conflict from being exacerbated through investments we're making in responding to crisis, ultimately we'll be creating the conditions for a society that may develop and be a trading partner in the future. However, you're right that we also have to have a view of what's needed by the local population to even think about creating those conditions in the future.

[Translation]

The Chair: Thank you, Mr. Brunelle-Duceppe.

[English]

I really feel sorry about the inconvenient timing of when I suspended the meeting. It was a miscalculation, so I feel sorry.

Again, I would like to welcome you and to thank you for your presence, your opinion, your ideas and for giving us clear ideas about this important humanitarian section in our study.

If you have anything to add, you could write to either me or the clerk.

Thanks to all members. I'll now suspend the meeting for a few seconds.

[Proceedings continue in camera]

Published under the authority of the Speaker of
the House of Commons

SPEAKER'S PERMISSION

The proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees are hereby made available to provide greater public access. The parliamentary privilege of the House of Commons to control the publication and broadcast of the proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees is nonetheless reserved. All copyrights therein are also reserved.

Reproduction of the proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees, in whole or in part and in any medium, is hereby permitted provided that the reproduction is accurate and is not presented as official. This permission does not extend to reproduction, distribution or use for commercial purpose of financial gain. Reproduction or use outside this permission or without authorization may be treated as copyright infringement in accordance with the Copyright Act. Authorization may be obtained on written application to the Office of the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Reproduction in accordance with this permission does not constitute publication under the authority of the House of Commons. The absolute privilege that applies to the proceedings of the House of Commons does not extend to these permitted reproductions. Where a reproduction includes briefs to a committee of the House of Commons, authorization for reproduction may be required from the authors in accordance with the Copyright Act.

Nothing in this permission abrogates or derogates from the privileges, powers, immunities and rights of the House of Commons and its committees. For greater certainty, this permission does not affect the prohibition against impeaching or questioning the proceedings of the House of Commons in courts or otherwise. The House of Commons retains the right and privilege to find users in contempt of Parliament if a reproduction or use is not in accordance with this permission.

Also available on the House of Commons website at the following address: <https://www.ourcommons.ca>

Publié en conformité de l'autorité
du Président de la Chambre des communes

PERMISSION DU PRÉSIDENT

Les délibérations de la Chambre des communes et de ses comités sont mises à la disposition du public pour mieux le renseigner. La Chambre conserve néanmoins son privilège parlementaire de contrôler la publication et la diffusion des délibérations et elle possède tous les droits d'auteur sur celles-ci.

Il est permis de reproduire les délibérations de la Chambre et de ses comités, en tout ou en partie, sur n'importe quel support, pourvu que la reproduction soit exacte et qu'elle ne soit pas présentée comme version officielle. Il n'est toutefois pas permis de reproduire, de distribuer ou d'utiliser les délibérations à des fins commerciales visant la réalisation d'un profit financier. Toute reproduction ou utilisation non permise ou non formellement autorisée peut être considérée comme une violation du droit d'auteur aux termes de la Loi sur le droit d'auteur. Une autorisation formelle peut être obtenue sur présentation d'une demande écrite au Bureau du Président de la Chambre des communes.

La reproduction conforme à la présente permission ne constitue pas une publication sous l'autorité de la Chambre. Le privilège absolu qui s'applique aux délibérations de la Chambre ne s'étend pas aux reproductions permises. Lorsqu'une reproduction comprend des mémoires présentés à un comité de la Chambre, il peut être nécessaire d'obtenir de leurs auteurs l'autorisation de les reproduire, conformément à la Loi sur le droit d'auteur.

La présente permission ne porte pas atteinte aux privilèges, pouvoirs, immunités et droits de la Chambre et de ses comités. Il est entendu que cette permission ne touche pas l'interdiction de contester ou de mettre en cause les délibérations de la Chambre devant les tribunaux ou autrement. La Chambre conserve le droit et le privilège de déclarer l'utilisateur coupable d'outrage au Parlement lorsque la reproduction ou l'utilisation n'est pas conforme à la présente permission.

Aussi disponible sur le site Web de la Chambre des communes à l'adresse suivante :
<https://www.noscommunes.ca>