


Civil War in Yaman: Do Women and Children Have Human Rights Protection?

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Abstract

Introduction: This article delves into the intricacies of the Yemen civil war, focusing on the human rights situation affecting women and children. The analysis underscores the severe challenges in safeguarding their rights due to limited access to essential services caused by the conflict. The article examines ongoing programs and policies to strengthen protection measures and reinforce global awareness of vulnerable populations in Yemen.

Purposes of the Research: The research is dedicated to analyzing the gravity of the human rights crisis in civil war, especially for women and children. Highlighting the hardships they experience, proposing pragmatic solutions, and increasing international recognition of their plight. Identifying gaps in existing protection mechanisms, this research advocates for cooperative strategies that can ease the burden faced by the Yemeni and nurture a more promising future.

Methods of the Research: Utilizes normative and legal methodologies to comprehensively explore the protection of human rights. A complete understanding of the challenges faced through a descriptive methodology, incorporating a literature review and case studies. Research information was drawn from relevant legal documents, media reports, and policy analysis.

Results of the Research: The findings of this research unequivocally reveal that Yemeni women and children face enormous obstacles in securing their human rights in armed conflict. Acts such as murder, rape, and recruitment of child soldiers exacerbate this already dire situation. Engaging government and civil society efforts are urgently needed to advocate for and ensure the well-being of Yemeni women and children during this protracted conflict.

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INTRODUCTION

Yemen became a member of the United Arab Republic, but later decided to leave in 1961 following Egypt's loss to Israel in 1967¹. In 1970, a consensus was achieved, leading to the recognition of the Yemen Arab Republic in return for the exertion of royalist power. In 1918, Northern Yemen was transformed into the Mutawakkilite Kingdom of Yemen, with Imam Yahya Muhammad assuming power. Yemen became a member of the Arab League in 1945 and the United Nations in 1947. Following his assumption of office in 1962, Crown Prince Muhammad al-Badr was ousted by revolutionary forces, who seized Sana'a and established the Yemen Arab Republic (YAR). Egypt sent military personnel and resources to support

¹ Muhammad Yusuf and R Firdaus Wahyudi, "Kata Kunci: Kontribusi, Republik Yaman, Peradaban Islam, Sejarah Dakwah MIMBAR Jurnal Media Intelektual Muslim Dan Bimbingan Rohani 22" 7, no. 1 (2021): 22-45.

the YAR in combating the armed forces loyal to the Kingdom.² Saudi Arabia and Jordan supported the royal Badr forces in opposing the recently established republic, instigating the North Yemen Civil War.³

The involvement of external actors in the Yemeni conflict has significantly contributed to its escalation and protraction, exacerbating the ongoing war that has persisted for several years. Saudi Arabia and Iran, two regional powers vying for influence in the Middle East, made the most notable interventions. Since 2015, Saudi Arabia, in collaboration with the international coalition, has initiated a sequence of aerial and terrestrial assaults targeting Houthi factions supported by Iran⁴. The Saudi operation seeks to bolster the internationally acknowledged Yemeni government and establish stability. Conversely, Iran has purportedly provided the Houthi group with weaponry, logistical aid, and further military backing as a component of its more comprehensive regional plan. The Yemeni crisis has emerged as a theater for power rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran, significantly influencing the geopolitical landscape in the Middle East.

These external actions have made the humanitarian crisis in Yemen worse, resulting in numerous civilian casualties and worsening the suffering of millions of people caught up in the conflict. The civil war has made their everyday lives harder, taken away their fundamental rights, and made them more likely to be hurt, exploited, or tortured.⁵ Women in Yemen face different problems because of the war. They face a lot of sexual and gender-based violence and are often directly attacked by the troops. Family separation, forced migration, and limited access to healthcare and schooling also affect the lives of Yemeni women. Also, most of the people who died in this civil war were children. They must run away, cannot go to school, and are often pushed to become child soldiers.⁶

The recently published report "Yemen's Humanitarian Needs 2024," issued by the United Nations and its collaborators, outlines a distressing situation for millions of Yemeni individuals, particularly women and children.⁷ They persistently endure the consequences of armed conflict, economic decline, disrupted infrastructure, and climate change. With a population exceeding 18.2 million requiring assistance, there is a pressing demand for humanitarian help, protective services, and economic and social rehabilitation. The Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 emphasizes the significance of cooperation among governments, humanitarian organizations, and development partners in delivering assistance, fostering resilience, and facilitating sustainable solutions. The humanitarian community and the government of Yemen are resolute in their dedication to helping the most vulnerable Yemeni citizens despite facing substantial challenges such as restricted access to vital services, acute malnutrition, and the exacerbating drinking water crisis⁸. Providing humanitarian aid and protection services requires \$2.7 billion, while sustainable

² Fajri Salim, "Analysis of Saudi Arabia Intervention in Decisive Storm Operations in Yemen," *Journal of International Studies on Energy Affairs* 3, no. 1 (2022): 93–107, <https://doi.org/10.51413/jisea.vol3.iss1.2022.93-107>.

³ Jörg Michael Dostal, "From Fragile to Collapsed Statehood: The Case of the Republic of Yemen (1990-2020)," *Korean Journal of Policy Studies* 36, no. 1 (2021): 69–84, <https://doi.org/10.52372/kjps36106>.

⁴ Arman Aya, "EXTERNAL INTERVENTIONS IN INTERNAL CONFLICTS: A CASE STUDY OF YEMEN," 2023.

⁵ Adeb Abdulelah Abdulwahid Al-Tamimi and Uddagatti Venkatesha, "The Main Factors of Yemeni Conflict: An Analysis," *Jdp (Jurnal Dinamika Pemerintahan)* 4, no. 2 (2021): 1–14, <https://doi.org/10.36341/jdp.v4i2.1912>.

⁶ Muhammad Hussin and Mohd Nor, "SERANGAN ARAB SAUDI KE ATAS HOUTHII (2011-2015): KESANNYA KE ATAS YAMAN (Saudi)" 11, no. 2 (2023): 1–14.

⁷ United Nations, "The Humanitarian Community Appeals to Donors to Help Millions in Need in Yemen," 2024, <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/humanitarian-community-appeals-donors-help-millions-need-yemen-enar>.

⁸ Deniz Kaptan, "The Unending War in Yemen," *Contemporary Challenges: The Global Crime, Justice and Security Journal* 2, no. October (2021): 55–79, <https://doi.org/10.2218/ccj.v2.5414>.

development projects require \$1.3 billion. This underscores the crucial need for consistent and ongoing support from donors to not only preserve lives but also enhance resilience and foster improved conditions for Yemen's future.

International society and humanitarian groups have tried to help and protect Yemeni women and children as part of protecting human rights. Many non-governmental groups work to help war victims by making it easier for them to get essential services and protect them from violence and exploitation.⁹ We need shelter facilities, psychosocial recovery, emergency medical services, and cash help to reach these goals. However, there are still a lot of problems with protecting human rights effectively during armed combat. Access to war zones is getting harder, which makes it harder to reach women and children who need help. Also, many war victims live in remote parts of Yemen, where things are hard because of ongoing battles, blockades, and security worries. Also, ensuring women and children in Yemen have their human rights protected is hard because the law cannot be properly enforced. Fewer resources, gaps in a legal capacity, and political strife and instability make it harder to implement the law and run the courts.

This study will look at the laws, programs, and other ways that are already in place in Yemen to protect women and children. We will also figure out how well these efforts work and look for ways to improve and develop new ideas in this tough situation¹⁰. We hope that the results of this study can help protect the rights of women and children during armed conflicts by giving us a better understanding of how human rights are protected during the civil war in Yemen. Better human rights security measures can be put in place to protect the most vulnerable people in Yemen if people know more about their problems and the things that work. The main goal of this study is to help people worldwide learn more about the rights that women and children need during armed conflicts. So, it is hoped that more coordinated and long-lasting steps will be taken to protect their rights, stop unnecessary suffering, and give the people of Yemen a better future¹¹.

Regarding the effects of military conflicts in Yemen on women and children, Jeremy Bentham's welfare theory proposes that the assessment of laws should be grounded in the positive and negative outcomes resulting from their implementation. It is imperative to examine the immediate and indirect consequences of the conflict on the lives of women and children, encompassing their entitlements to welfare, safety, and safeguarding¹². Conversely, Satjipto Rahardjo's idea of legal protection emphasizes the significance of enforcing the law to save legal individuals, including women and children, from the adverse consequences of conflict and violence that arise during times of war¹³. Legal protection includes both proactive measures and robust law enforcement to combat human rights infringements, including sexual abuse, the conscription of minors into the armed forces, and limitations on healthcare accessibility. Soerjon Soekanto's philosophy of law enforcement is pertinent in this situation as it underscores the significance of actualizing the ideas and concepts of law that are intended to materialize. The establishment of efficient and fair law

⁹ Fahrudin and Habib Nuehakim, "PROXY WAR DALAM KONFLIK YAMAN" 18, no. 1 (2022): 1-12.

¹⁰ Farhan Arda Nugraha, Deasy Silvy Sari, and Kiagus Zaenal Mubarak, "Bantuan Kemanusiaan UNICEF Terhadap Anak-Anak Terdampak Kelaparan Dan Malnutrisi Dalam Konflik Yaman Abstrak" 6, no. 1 (2022): 32-49.

¹¹ AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, "YEMEN," 2022.

¹² Iwoeng Geovani et al., "JURIDICAL ANALYSIS OF VICTIMS OF THE ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE TO REALIZE LEGAL PROTECTION FROM HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS (RESEARCH STUDY AT THE OFFICE OF SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN BATAM CITY)" 1, no. 1 (2021): 45-52.

¹³ Yadi Darmawan, "Development Legal Theory and Progressive Legal Theory : A Review , in Indonesia ' s Contemporary Legal Reform," n.d.

enforcement is crucial in safeguarding the rights of women and children during times of armed conflict, with the objective of minimizing the adverse consequences of conflict and delivering justice and rehabilitation to the victims.

Karl Marx's conflict theory offers a comprehensive viewpoint on the repercussions of the civil war in Yemen on women and children¹⁴. Marx attributed the conflict to underlying economic disparities, where the upper classes unjustly dominate and possess resources while the lower classes are subjected to unfair treatment. Within the framework of the civil war in Yemen, the conflict has been primarily instigated by economic and social disparities. Consequently, women and children frequently emerge as the most susceptible targets of this type of conflict. Applying Marx's conflict theory framework, it becomes evident that the civil war in Yemen manifests the clash between divergent political, economic, and social interests. Women and children, who belong to the lower echelons of the social hierarchy, typically bear the brunt of the war's consequences. Marx's conflict theory showed that the civil war in Yemen was not solely a political dispute but a result of deep-rooted economic disparity.

Consequently, women and children frequently encounter significant obstacles in acquiring essential healthcare services, education, and protection. Additionally, they are susceptible to assault, exploitation, and recruitment as child soldiers. Hence, a comprehensive comprehension of Karl Marx's conflict theory can facilitate the analysis of the fundamental origins of war and its repercussions on women and children in Yemen. Moreover, this comprehension also serves as the foundation for sustainable endeavors to resolve conflicts and promote comprehensive development for all sectors of society.

Central to all these ideas is the recognition that an awareness of human rights serves as a crucial basis for safeguarding the universal ideals of safeguarding women and children in Yemen. Human rights assert that each person possesses an innate entitlement as a member of the human species, encompassing the entitlement to exist in a state of tranquility, safety, and self-respect without any exemptions. Hence, during the ongoing situation in Yemen, endeavors to safeguard women and children should be grounded in universally accepted and non-negotiable standards of human rights.

METHODS OF THE RESEARCH

This study used a normative and juridical approach in analyzing the protection of human rights for women and children in the context of the civil war in Yemen. The normative approach was used to analyze qualitative standards and principles related to the protection of human rights, while the juridical approach referred to applicable international and national laws. By combining normative, juridical, descriptive, and literature studies approaches, this research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the protection of human rights for women and children in the context of the civil war in Yemen. Research data sources included case studies, media reports, and relevant legal documents. Policies and practices related to protecting human rights were analyzed in the context of conflict. A descriptive approach was used to explain the context of the civil war in Yemen and its impact on human rights protection. Data was collected and analyzed systematically to understand the difficulties faced by women and children in obtaining adequate human

¹⁴ A Literature Review, "The Relationship between Conflict and Social Change in the Perspective of Expert Theory :," 2022, 9-16, <https://doi.org/10.32996/bjahs>.

rights protection. This study also used the library study method by searching for information through books, journals, the internet, and other literature. This literature search aimed to build a theoretical framework and strengthen the research thesis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Protecting human rights in the context of armed conflict, such as in Yemen, has a significant impact. It involves the protection of the safety, dignity, and lives of people who are vulnerable to the negative impact of conflict, especially women and children. Human rights protection involves efforts to prevent violence, torture, inhuman treatment, and unfair murder against them. Women and children are often the heaviest victims of armed conflict, including sexual violence, exploitation, and child warrior recruitment. Armed conflicts also lead to serious humanitarian crises, such as famine, a shortage of clean water, and limited access to basic services such as health care and education. Protecting human rights means ensuring unhindered access for humanitarian organizations to assist and protect those in need. Protecting human rights in armed conflicts is important in building lasting peace and strengthening international humanitarian law¹⁵. Human rights protection in the context of armed conflict in Yemen has broad implications. In addition to protecting the immediate victims of conflict, protecting human rights also reflects fundamental humanitarian principles and provides the basis for reconciliation, justice, and post-conflict recovery. It also contributes to future conflict prevention and builds public confidence in governments, international organizations, and conflict actors. In achieving these goals, cooperation between countries, international organizations, and NGOs plays an important role in protecting the rights of the child and achieving lasting peace¹⁶.

During extended periods of armed conflict, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have a vital responsibility in delivering humanitarian aid, safeguarding, and essential services to women and children who are susceptible to the consequences of the conflict.¹⁷ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can offer safeguards against violence, exploitation, and abuse, which are frequently distressing occurrences during times of conflict. Furthermore, they can also facilitate the dissemination of food assistance, pharmaceuticals, and healthcare provisions that are urgently required by women and children impacted by violence. In addition, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) frequently advocate for women's and children's rights in global arenas, raising awareness about the challenges they encounter within the Yemeni conflict among the worldwide community.¹⁸ Therefore, the crucial factor in ensuring safeguarding, assistance, and optimism for women and children in Yemen, who are ensnared in the turmoil and unpredictability of conflict, is the proactive involvement of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

A. Challenges and Obstacles to Protecting Women's Rights in Yemen

¹⁵ UNICEF, "Yemen Crisis Yemen Is One of the World's Largest Humanitarian Crises - and Children Are Being Robbed of Their Futures.," 2022.

¹⁶ Tien Suhartini et al., *The Role of Islamic Psychological Contract on Authentic Leadership and Organizational Commitment*, *Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems*, vol. 487, 2023, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-08084-5_68.

¹⁷ Abdulwahed Hamoud Abdullah Ahmed, Zaini Zainol, and Norsyahida Mokhtar, "An Insight of Accountability Practices in Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs): The Case of Yemen," *International Journal of Research in Business and Social Science* (2147- 4478) 11, no. 1 (2022): 178-86, <https://doi.org/10.20525/ijrbs.v11i1.1569>.

¹⁸ Mohammed Honinah and Wail Alhakimi, "Social Media Adoption in Yemeni Local NGOs," *Journal of Impact* 2, no. 2 (2021): 28-41, <https://doi.org/10.48110/joi.v2i2.36>.

In the context of conflict, women often face various challenges and risks, which include sexual violence, displacement, loss of family members, health, sexual harassment, mines and explosives residue in war, participation in war, detention, and the role of a party involved in conflict or as decision makers in peace. International Humanitarian Law protects women in conflict, including protection from intimidation and violence, as well as special attention to health and hygiene as a mother. However, implementation and law enforcement are sometimes inadequate, so women still face various challenges in conflict situations. Before the outbreak of the conflict in Yemen, women faced low status and a limited presence in society. They are often victims of physical and psychological violence, sexual harassment, rape, and restrictions on access to health services. Between 2012 and 2014, women in Yemen began to have the opportunity to participate in discussion forums and gain the votes of 30% of the participants to demand gender equality in everyday life and governance. Attempts were made to change the law to protect women from frequent violence. However, before those laws could be enforced, civil war broke out in Yemen in 2015¹⁹.

Yemeni women face greater pressure as the conflict erupts. They lost their husbands in the war and had to provide for their own families. Pregnant women and nursing mothers are the most vulnerable groups. Women depend heavily on medical assistance and care during the conflict. Data from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) shows that 90% of violence against women occurs within the household. In addition, women are more vulnerable to sexual harassment and violence during conflict. The conflict has resulted in a drastic increase in physical and sexual violence against women. They became victims of rape, sexual harassment, and sexual abuse by various groups involved in this conflict. As a result, women experience severe physical, mental, and emotional trauma and are more vulnerable to sexually transmitted infections and unwanted pregnancies. In addition, many Yemeni women are forced to flee and are stranded as a result of this conflict. They were forced from their homes and faced constant threats of kidnapping, exploitation, and violence. In refugee camps, women are vulnerable to exploitation, human trafficking, and sexual violence²⁰.

In addition, important infrastructure in Yemen, such as sanitation, education, and health systems, has been destroyed. This causes women to experience difficulties in obtaining health services, such as safe pregnancy and childbirth care. They also face difficulties obtaining an education, limiting their opportunities for personal and financial growth. The conflict has also damaged Yemen's economy, leaving Yemeni women more vulnerable to poverty and unemployment. They often lose their source of income due to damaged infrastructure, destroyed fields, and decreased job opportunities. As a result, they face difficulties in meeting their and their family's basic needs, such as food, clean water, and health care²¹. Despite these challenges, Yemen's patriarchal culture and social norms limit women's societal roles and rights. The conflict exacerbated this gender discrimination. Women are often barred from participating in political decision-making and have limited

¹⁹ Liz Sharp, "Yemen: Civil War and Regional Intervention," *Reconnecting People and Water*, 2019, 185-211, <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315851679-10>.

²⁰ David Paulus et al., "Reinforcing Data Bias in Crisis Information Management: The Case of the Yemen Humanitarian Response," *International Journal of Information Management* 72, no. April (2023): 102663, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2023.102663>.

²¹ Shatha Elnakib et al., "Providing Care under Extreme Adversity: The Impact of the Yemen Conflict on the Personal and Professional Lives of Health Workers," *Social Science and Medicine* 272, no. November 2020 (2021): 113751, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2021.113751>.

access to public space. They are also vulnerable to domestic violence and forced early marriage, which increases the risk of gender-based violence²².

The violence experienced by women in Yemen is dominated by physical violence, with the number of cases increasing from 1,752 in 2015 to 2,921 in 2016. The number of cases of sexual violence has also increased significantly, from 126 cases in 2015 to 437 cases in 2017. Despite the small number of rape cases, it remains a serious concern. In 2015, the city of Marib recorded the highest number of cases of rape and sexual harassment, with 28 cases of rape and 36 cases of sexual violence, respectively. Meanwhile, the highest number of physical violence and forced marriages occurred in the city of Sana'a, with 256 cases of forced marriage²³. The Safe World report, which collaborated with the Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient (CARPO) and the Yemen Polling Center (YPC), concluded that the war had raised three main concerns for women in Yemen during the conflict: security, livelihoods, and child protection. Legal uncertainty and injustice in the legal system in Yemen create fears of theft, killings, and sexual harassment. The circulation of weapons between the conflicting parties is also a concern for women, especially about incidents of shootings and stray bombs that can injure their families and children.

The Yemeni Women's Association (YWU) stated that in 2015, the highest number of cases of rape and sexual violence occurred in the city of Marib, while the most physical violence and forced marriages occurred in the city of Sana'a. Yemen also ranked last in the Global Gender Gap Index conducted by the World Economic Forum in 2016, indicating a severe level of gender inequality in the country. High gender inequality and the prolonged duration of the conflict make women in Yemen vulnerable to rape, sexual violence, and physical violence²⁴. The impact of gender inequality can be seen in the large number of women who are victims of rape and physical violence, especially in the cities of Al Hudaydah and Abyan. In 2016, violence against women in Yemen increased significantly. According to the latest report released in August 2017, there are 2.2 million Yemeni women of reproductive age (15-49 years). Of these, 1.1 million pregnant women suffer from malnutrition, and 2.6 million women and girls are at risk of experiencing gender-based violence. However, only 17,109 women received health care and counseling for victims of gender-based violence, including cases of rape and domestic violence. This data is an accumulation of victims who received assistance from January to August 2017, according to UNFPA²⁵.

B. Protecting Women in the Conflict in Yemen: Best Policies and Practices

In the context of the civil conflict in Yemen, there is a protection framework that involves international legal instruments and UN resolutions which have an important role. One relevant international legal instrument is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which regulates the protection of women and encourages states to take action to prevent and end discrimination against women. In addition, the UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) also played an important role by

²² Maha Awadh, Edited By, and Sawsan Al- Refaei, *Women in Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding in Yemen Maha Awadh and Nuria Shuja' Adeen Edited By Sawsan Al-Refaei*, 2019.

²³ Yahya Ali Gaber et al., "Research Progress of Health Care in Yemeni Children during the War: Review," *Primary Health Care Research and Development* 23 (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1463423622000421>.

²⁴ AbdulGhani Gaghman, "The Importance of Good Governance on Achieving Sustainable Development Case Study: Yemen," *KnE Social Sciences* 2019 (2020): 170-92, <https://doi.org/10.18502/kss.v4i1.5987>.

²⁵ Elnakib et al., "Providing Care under Extreme Adversity: The Impact of the Yemen Conflict on the Personal and Professional Lives of Health Workers."

issuing a series of resolutions emphasizing the protection of women in armed conflict, including resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security. The Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions is also an important part of this protection framework, which provides additional protections for women in armed conflict, including the prohibition against sexual violence and protection for women affected by conflict²⁶.

The Geneva Convention, adopted in 1949, provides for the protection of civilians during armed conflicts. The Fourth Geneva Convention has 159 articles that provide special protection to women. Article 27, second paragraph, states that "Women shall be protected in particular against any attack on their honor, in particular against rape, forced prostitution or other forms of immoral assault." Additional Protocol I, adopted in 1977, also provides additional protection against sexual violence against women. Article 76 of the Additional Protocol states "Women shall be treated with special respect and protected in particular against rape, forced prostitution, and all other forms of cruelty"²⁷. International Humanitarian Law is a set of legal rules that aim to regulate the conduct of war to protect those not involved in the conflict and control the use of means and methods of warfare. Although International Humanitarian Law seeks to prevent and reduce human suffering during war regardless of gender, women often face special challenges in armed conflict. They are vulnerable to sexual violence, higher health risks, and family separation and suffering due to uncertainty about the fate of family members during and after conflict. Therefore, the protection of women is a very important aspect of the implementation of International Humanitarian Law.

Special protection is also afforded to pregnant women and prisoners by the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols. International Humanitarian Law seeks to recognize the special needs and vulnerabilities of women in the context of armed conflict and provide appropriate protection. It should be noted that the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols apply in armed conflicts between states, while in internal armed conflicts, only the Geneva Conventions and Protocol II apply. The involvement and commitment of states in adopting and respecting these rules is an important step in ensuring protection for women during armed conflict. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is also involved in addressing humanitarian issues in Yemen and carrying out several important initiatives to protect women and their families affected by the conflict. The ICRC works with relevant parties to provide urgent medical assistance, protection against sexual violence, adequate psychological support, and adequate access to clean water, sanitation, and food assistance. In their efforts, the ICRC adheres to the principles of the Geneva Conventions and is committed to protecting victims of conflict and reducing human suffering during armed conflicts²⁸.

Human Rights play an important role in protecting women amid the conflict in Yemen. The conflict has led to increased cases of violence against women, including sexual violence, harassment, and the practice of child marriage. By advocating for women's rights, human rights principles encourage protection against gender-based violence and emphasize the government and stakeholders to stop practices that harm women. In addition, human rights

²⁶ M Saeed, "Gender, Islam and International Frameworks in Yemen," *Al-Raida Journal* 43, no. 1 (2019), <https://doi.org/10.32380/alrj.v43i1.1758>.

²⁷ Wirda & Anggrayni and Adwani, "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Anak Di Yaman Pada Saat Konflik Bersenjata Non Internasional," *JIM Bidang Hukum Kenegaraan* 01, no. 1 (2017): 14-18.

²⁸ Jeannie Sowers and Erika Weinthal, "Humanitarian Challenges and the Targeting of Civilian Infrastructure in the Yemen War," *International Affairs* 97, no. 1 (2021): 157-77, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iaa166>.

also play a role in ensuring women's access to fair and equal health services, especially in conflict situations. This includes access to reproductive health services and protection from communicable diseases. Human rights also support efforts to empower women's economy through training, education, and equal employment opportunities, aiming to overcome the negative impact of conflict on their economic life²⁹. In addition, human rights advocates for women's rights to equal and quality education and ensures that conflict and instability do not hinder women's access to education and literacy. Human rights also monitor the situation, detect violations, and advocate for the protection of women's rights to the government and the international community. With the strong protection of women's rights amidst the conflict in Yemen, human rights play an important role in ensuring protection, access to basic services, economic empowerment, education, and active participation of women in decisions that affect their lives³⁰.

C. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Convention is an international treaty that aims to end discrimination against women and ensure gender equality. CEDAW protects women's rights in all aspects of life, including in conflict situations. The Convention emphasizes special protections for women and girls in armed conflict, including protection against gender-based violence and protection against sexual exploitation. Yemen adopted and ratified the Convention on the Elimination of

All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1984. In December 2020, Yemen officially agreed to and adhered to the principles of CEDAW³¹. The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This convention is an international agreement that aims to end discrimination against women and ensure gender equality. CEDAW protects women's rights in all aspects of life, including in conflict situations. This convention emphasizes special protection for women and girls in armed conflict, including protection against gender-based violence and protection against sexual exploitation. Yemen adopted and ratified the Convention Concerning the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1984. In December 2020, Yemen formally acceded to and complied with CEDAW principles. A worldwide network of organizations and civil society, the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security (NWG WPS), has submitted 19 Monthly Action Points (MAPs) to the UN Security Council from March 2015 to December 2020. In 2018, the NWG WPS stated that the government of Yemen has an internationally recognized responsibility under CEDAW to involve women in the political process and meet their humanitarian needs³².

The Office of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Yemen (OSESGY) and UN Women Yemen are the two main UN agencies responsible for implementing the WPS agenda in Yemen. In October 2015, the two groups formed the Yemeni Women's Pact for Peace and Security, known as *Tawafuq*. OSESGY appointed a full-time senior gender adviser

²⁹ Hannah Tappis et al., "Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Service Delivery during Conflict in Yemen: A Case Study," *Conflict and Health* 14, no. 1 (2020): 1–16, <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-020-00269-x>.

³⁰ Oxfam, "From the Ground Up: Gender and Conflict," no. October (2016).

³¹ Sarah Barakat, "The Cost of Justice. Exploratory Assessment on Women's Access to Justice in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and Yemen," *OXFAM Research Reports*, 2018, 57.

³² Joke Buringa, "Strategizing Beyond the Women, Peace and Security: The Importance of CEDAW," 2021.

in 2016. This should be an important tactic to encourage women's voices and involve them in peace processes.^{33a} This effort is unfortunately hampered by internal conflict, unprofessionalism, and rivalry between OSESGY and UN Women employees. Confidence in the functioning and reputation of the United Nations has suffered as a result of this. UN Women has an important role in the implementation of the WPS agenda in Yemen, even though its office does not have an independent status within the UN Women organizational structure. They worked closely with Tawafuq to organize consultations and submit 12 reports to OSESGY. However, Tawafuq received no feedback. The absence of such feedback can hinder the process of communicating and evaluating Tawafuq's performance in supporting the implementation of the WPS agenda in Yemen.

D. The Impact of the Civil War in Yemen on Children

The civil war in Yemen has serious consequences for children, the most vulnerable group in situations of violence and armed conflict. They are traumatized and directly exposed to the atrocities that occur around them. This has serious psychological consequences, damages their future, and destroys the environment and life they know. In times of war, children often witness cruelty committed against their family members. They can become victims of injuries and even lose their lives. Many were detained, separated from their families, or forced to flee their neighbourhood's. Even the children who manage to escape are uncertain about their future and those they love³⁴. The recruitment and use of child soldiers in Yemen have a particularly disastrous impact on children. Various factions involved in the conflict, including the Houthis, the government, and other armed groups, have had direct evidence of using children as soldiers. Data from the UN and UNICEF show an increase in the number of cases of recruitment of child soldiers from year to year. In 2017, the United Nations verified 842 recruitment cases with an average age of 11, most of them linked to the Houthis. In 2018, the number of cases increased to around 3,000, including children as young as 17³⁵.

The use of child soldiers in Yemen's armed conflict has not shown a reduction in numbers to date, with the Houthis responsible for the majority of such recruitment cases. Data from UNICEF also reveals that between 2015 and 2019, 3,321 cases of the use of child soldiers were verified, with the majority being boys. The use of child soldiers has serious repercussions for the children involved. They run the risk of being injured or losing their lives in battle, as well as losing their right to an education and a decent future. Psychological recovery is a big challenge for children who have experienced this traumatic experience³⁶. Children involved in recruitment as soldiers often experience conditions that violate human rights. They are placed in dangerous situations, exposed to violence, and must face tremendous psychological pressure. In addition, their basic rights, such as education, protection, and health care, are often neglected. Children are also experiencing serious suffering due to the food crisis that occurred. This crisis was triggered by factors such as

³³ Nadia Al-Sakkaf, "Explaining the Lack of Progress in Yemeni Women's Empowerment: Are Women Leaders the Problem?," *Journal of International Women's Studies* 22, no. 1 (2021): 104–20.

³⁴ Noha Jamal Ahmed Mutaher et al., "Prevalence and Causes of Traumatic Dental Injuries To Anterior Teeth Among Primary School Children in Sana'a City, Yemen," *Universal Journal of Pharmaceutical Research*, no. July (2020), <https://doi.org/10.22270/ujpr.v5i3.414>.

³⁵ Naura Hafiza Ainayyah, Joko Setiyono, and H M Kabul Supriyadhie, "Analisis Hukum Humaniter Internasional Pada Penggunaan Tentara Anak Dalam Konflik Bersenjata Non-Internasional Di Yaman," *Diponegoro Law Journal* 9, no. 2 (2020): 441–55.

³⁶ Nia Annisa Cerellia Clorinda Saputri, "Peran International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) Dalam Upaya Perlindungan Anak Pada Konflik Bersenjata Di Yaman Tahun 2015-2017," *EJournal Ilmu Hubungan Internasional* 8, no. 1 (2020): 435–47.

armed conflict, corrupt practices, and economic wars between the warring parties in the country.

The suffering experienced by children in Yemen is caused by hunger and malnutrition, which hurt their growth and development. Many children suffer from malnutrition and experience disturbances in their growth and development process due to a lack of nutritious food intake. Several factors exacerbate the food crisis in Yemen, including restrictions on the distribution of humanitarian aid and trade commodities by the parties involved in the conflict, high import taxes that affect food prices, as well as a sea blockade that hinders the import of food that is urgently needed by the Yemeni population. The economic war between the warring parties has also exacerbated the food crisis in Yemen. Disputes over natural resources, trade routes, and market dominance led to a depreciation of Yemen's currency, spikes in the price of essential goods, and difficulties for Yemenis to feed themselves. Children in Yemen are vulnerable to food crises. They experience hunger, malnutrition, and malnutrition, which weakens their immune system. This condition increases the risk of infection and hurts the health and future of these children. In this situation, the protection and fulfillment of children's rights, including access to sufficient and nutritious food, becomes very important.

E. UNICEF's Efforts to Protect and Provide Assistance to Children

The impact of the war in Yemen has had serious consequences for children, who are the most vulnerable victims of the conflict. However, various efforts have been made to protect and provide assistance to affected children in Yemen. Organizations such as UNICEF have taken significant steps in assisting children affected in Yemen. For example, they support mobile health clinics to provide the necessary medical care, provide access to clean water, as well as hygiene and health supplies. UNICEF also assists by providing information on the distribution of landmines in various major urban areas so that children can avoid the danger of the landmine. Education and nutrition promotion programs have also been provided in areas not affected by combat. Based on these efforts, children in Yemen are gradually receiving protection in the areas of education, health, water supply, and sanitation. They were also given very important knowledge about the dangers of exploding landmines, so they could help them avoid such dangers. Nevertheless, the protection provided is still considered insufficient, given the ongoing fighting and the number of children in need of humanitarian assistance. Many children in Yemen are suffering from hunger, malnutrition, and leaving school due to prolonged conflict. UNICEF is also actively involved in addressing the impact of conflict on children in Yemen. Consequences of conflict, such as a lack of clean water, sanitation, and food, have led to a significant increase in cases of malnutrition among children. In 2012, UNICEF said Yemen has a 57% malnutrition prevalence among children, with about 759,000 children affected, making it the second highest rate in the world after Afghanistan³⁷.

In addition, recruiting children as soldiers in Yemen contradicts UNICEF's mission to protect children's rights. UNICEF strives to ensure that children in Yemen have the same rights and opportunities as children around the world. To this, UNICEF is committed to fighting for the rights of children in various aspects, including health and nutrition, education, emergency assistance, shelter, clean water, and sanitation. UNICEF works with

³⁷ Vini Oktaviani, Nadila Auludya Rahma Putri, and Soni Akhmad Nulhaqim, "Upaya Organisasi Internasional Dalam Menangani Krisis Kemanusiaan Di Yaman," *Jurnal Kolaborasi Resolusi Konflik* 4, no. 2 (2022): 161, <https://doi.org/10.24198/jkrk.v4i2.40248>.

various stakeholders to create a better world for children. In terms of area-specific focus, UNICEF's efforts in Yemen can be categorized as follows: 1) Protection and enforcement of children's rights in the nutrition sector: UNICEF works with other countries and non-governmental organizations to address acute malnutrition cases among children. This involves the provision of food supplies, treatments, nutritional supplements, and monitoring of the nutritional system for children, pregnant mothers, and nursing mothers; 2) Protection and fulfillment of children's rights in the health sector: Due to restricted access to public facilities due to conflict, Yemen faces a range of health problems, including polio, measles, and cholera. UNICEF conducts health campaigns, immunization programs, and medical treatment for children affected by health problems. UNICEF is also fighting for the removal of restrictions on drug distribution through a ceasefire treaty; 3) Protection and fulfillment of children's rights in the WASH sector (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene): Conflict has caused damage to infrastructure, resulting in refugees and inadequate WASH services for half of the population in emergency settlements. In collaboration with the World Health Organization and the World Bank, UNICEF carries out projects to keep water and sanitation systems operational. This includes ensuring access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene services and strengthening local water institutions to prevent future disease outbreaks; 4) Protection of children's rights from the threat of violence: The conflict in Yemen has resulted in numerous casualties, including 7,500 children who have been killed and permanently disabled by explosives. Many children are recruited as soldiers, taken prisoner, or subjected to torture, abuse, and abduction. UNICEF provides psychological support and socialization opportunities for children affected by violence. They also raise awareness about the consequences of war and the danger of explosive weapons to prevent more casualties; 5) Protection and fulfillment of children's rights in the education sector: Conflict has significantly disrupted the education system in Yemen, with damaged facilities and unpaid teachers. UNICEF provides active learning training to teachers and facilitates access to education for 253,406 children through the construction of semi-permanent classrooms and school rehabilitation projects. The UNICEF intervention in Yemen aims to address the needs of children affected by conflict, promote their well-being, and protect their rights.

F. Implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to Protect Children and Women in Yemen

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is the first international agreement in the world to recognize children's rights. UNCRC aims to define and protect children's rights. While it is important for governments to put children's rights into practice, they often face challenges in implementing them. Children's rights continue to change with the times, so there is a need for regular discussion and improvement. The UNCRC Preamble reaffirms the values that have been agreed upon by the United Nations through various Charters, Declarations, Covenants, and Regulations. The UNCRC is the most comprehensive and legally binding agreement on children's rights. This Convention is based on several articles that reflect the main ideas of the UNCRC, including Article 2: The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child puts forward the principle of non-discrimination in protecting every child's right. Article 3, The principle of "the best interest of the child" is a major factor in decision-making involving children. Article 6, Every child

has the right to live and experience optimal development. Article 12, Children are free to express opinions according to their age and maturity³⁸.

UNCRC implementation can help protect and fulfill the rights of children and women in Yemen. Children in Yemen will receive better protection, especially in conflict situations, if the UNCRC is implemented. Foreign countries and groups that follow UNCRC principles can help children who have been physically, emotionally, or legally injured as a result of war by providing appropriate protection and assistance. These efforts include setting up safe refugee camps, access to health and education services, and recovering injured children so they can return to their communities. UNCRC implementation also plays an important role in ensuring the protection of children's rights by enhancing legal and social structures that support children. With the UNCRC, countries involved in the conflict can be given encouragement and assistance to respect, protect and fulfill children's rights by international standards. This includes the right to life, protection from violence, access to food, clean water, health care, education, and the right to participate in community life. UNCRC implementation also allows the development of policies and programs that assist the recovery of children injured by conflict so that they can return to society. This includes promoting mental and physical health, managing stress, and providing safe and quality education. The UNCRC also emphasizes the importance of preventing the use of children in violence and armed conflict, such as recruitment by armed groups³⁹.

However, it is important to remember that implementing the UNCRC in conflict situations is often not easy. Limited access, limited resources, and security instability are some challenges that must be faced in implementing UNCRC. Therefore, a collaboration between participating countries, international organizations, and civil society groups is urgently needed to effectively implement the UNCRC principles and protect children and women in Yemen. Overall, if the UNCRC is upheld and followed, this Convention can help protect and fulfill the rights of children and women in Yemen. States and international groups can help protect, heal, and reintegrate children injured by conflict by following UNCRC principles. They can also ensure that these children have access to basic services such as health care and education. Through the implementation of the UNCRC, it will be easier for children in Yemen to access education. UNCRC emphasizes that every child has the right to a good education. In Yemen, the implementation of the UNCRC can ensure that all children have equal opportunities to receive quality education, even in conflict situations. Steps that can be taken include establishing emergency schools, training teachers, providing learning equipment, and protecting children who want to attend school. Meeting health needs is also the main focus of UNCRC implementation in Yemen. The impact of the conflict has increased the risk of children in Yemen experiencing malnutrition, disease, and lack of access to adequate health care. By referring to UNCRC principles, countries, and international groups can work together to ensure that children's rights to health are fulfilled through the provision of clean water, health care, immunization, and disease prevention efforts.

The UNCRC also states that children who are victims of violence, abuse, or exploitation have the right to assistance and reintegration into society. In Yemen, the implementation of the UNCRC will make it easier for children injured by violence to get the physical and

³⁸ Anggrayni and Adwani, "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Anak Di Yaman Pada Saat Konflik Bersenjata Non Internasional."

³⁹ Sheri R. Levy et al., "A Human Rights Based Approach to the Global Children's Rights Crisis: A Call to Action," *Journal of Social Issues* 78, no. 4 (2022): 1085-97, <https://doi.org/10.1111/josi.12563>.

mental health care they need. This includes helping them deal with stress and return to their family and community environment. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child has faced criticism over its interpretation of the "best rights of the child" and whether countries are obliged to follow international standards within their cultural context. It is important to continue to debate and evaluate this Convention to improve the protection and fulfillment of children's rights throughout the world, including in Yemen.

G. International Committee of The Red Cross (ICRC)

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral, and independent organization whose humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflicts and other violent situations and to assist them. The ICRC directs and coordinates humanitarian activities and strives to promote and strengthen the law of humanity and the principles of universal humanity. The ICRC's tasks include monitoring compliance with the Geneva Conventions by the parties involved in the conflict, providing care to wounded victims on the field, overseeing the treatment of prisoners of war, conducting covert interventions with the authorities carrying out detention, assisting in the search for missing persons in armed conflicts, providing protection and care to the civilian population, and acting as a neutral mediator between the parties in conflict. In addition, the ICRC also carries out activities beyond its legal mandate, such as visiting political prisoners outside of conflict and providing humanitarian assistance in natural disasters⁴⁰.

The ICRC follows seven fundamental principles applied by all Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement components: humanity, equality, neutrality, independence, voluntariness, unity, and independence. These principles unite the ICRC, the National Red Cross, and the International Federation as their distinctive identities. The ICRC's activities are divided into four main categories: protection, assistance, prevention, and cooperation. The ICRC operates based on legal mandates derived from the Geneva Convention, the Additional Protocol, and the Statute of the Red Cross Movement. The Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocol constitute the main legal basis of international humanitarian law governing the implementation of armed conflicts and efforts to mitigate their impact. Therefore, the ICRC is an actor working by the rules set out in the Geneva Convention. The ICRC has been present in Yemen since the Civil War in 1962. However, since the outbreak of conflict between the Houthi group and the Yemeni government in 2004, when it was led by President Saleh, the ICRC has worked with the Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) to mitigate the impact of the conflict. The ICRC and the YRCS began collaborating in June 2005 by providing clean water in Saada. During the conflict, the ICRC strived to ensure access to health care for civilians amid restrictions on health care during the war. In addition, the ICRC also conducts bilateral communications with the parties involved in the conflict, visits prisoners, and endeavors to gather information about family members separated as a result of this conflict⁴¹.

H. ICRC efforts to protect women in Yemen conflict

1) Medical assistance

⁴⁰ Erika Weinthal and Jeannie Sowers, "The Water-Energy Nexus in the Middle East: Infrastructure, Development, and Conflict," *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Water* 7, no. 4 (2020): 1-14, <https://doi.org/10.1002/wat2.1437>.

⁴¹ Saputri, "Peran International Comitte of Red Cross (ICRC) Dalam Upaya Perlindungan Anak Pada Konflik Bersenjata Di Yaman Tahun 2015-2017."

In the context of the conflict in Yemen, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has made various efforts to provide medical assistance and surgical equipment to address the shortage. The ICRC works with the Yemeni Red Crescent Society (YRCS) and has provided support to hospitals, health facilities, and major health centers in several provinces in Yemen. In 2015, the ICRC supported 62 hospitals and 44 health facilities in 15 provinces through 282 donations of medical and surgical equipment. This enabled medical personnel to treat more than 26,000 wounded victims and perform more than 14,900 surgeries⁴². In addition, the ICRC has also supported 18 major health centers in several cities, such as Saada, Amran, Sana'a, Al-Baida, Abyan, and Al-Dhale. This support benefits about 300,000 people by providing complete availability of medicines. The ICRC also supports two hospitals in Aden, Al-Joumhouria and Al-Mansoura, by providing intensive medical staff and supplies of medicines. To address the shortage of medical supplies, the ICRC provides medical and surgical assistance to the main hospitals each month. This allowed them to perform about 3,449 operations and provide a nursing room. In addition, the ICRC also supports 52 hospitals and 16 health facilities in 14 provinces through 1,000 health aid⁴³.

In addition to providing medical assistance, the ICRC also holds Emergency Trauma Training courses in three hospitals in Sana'a, Hadramawt, and Amran for 60 medical professionals. In addition, first aid training was also provided to 278 people in 2015, and 13 training sessions to 242 armed and medical personnel in 2016. By increasing the ability of first aid, the number of casualties can be expected to be reduced during the conflict. The ICRC also helps women in Yemen. In 2016, approximately 69,812 women received food aid, and 31,521 women received household supplies to meet daily needs. More than 99,505 women were consulted about their health issues by the end of 2016. In addition, the hospital received about 92,211 patients, 23,416 of whom were women. The ICRC also provides assistance in childbirth for pregnant and nursing mothers. There are approximately 10,530 women registered for childbirth and 50,626 women undergoing road care. In addition, about 18,702 women also received physiotherapy for sexual or physical violence⁴⁴. In the context of international armed conflicts such as those in Yemen, the legal provisions of the 1949 Geneva Convention and the 1977 Additional Protocol I apply. The Geneva Conventions regulate the protection of civilians in the IV Geneva Convention and specifically position women as objects to be primarily protected. Article 27 of the Geneva IV Convention reaffirms that women must be protected, in particular, from attacks that undermine their honor, such as rape, sexual harassment, and other unfair acts. However, in reality, women are often the victims of conflict.

2) Safe Houses

With the increasing number of families led by women in Yemen, women and girls have to take on the important roles that men normally play. However, they face social exclusion, restricted mobility, and limited access to resources, which ultimately increases the risk of sexual exploitation and harassment. Women face difficulties in meeting everyday needs and surviving. In addition to working with the YRCS, the ICRC also partners with UNFPA to provide shelter for civil society, especially women, in the form of safe homes. These safe

⁴² Mehmet Sukru Sever, Lale Sever, and Raymond Vanholder, "Disasters, Children and the Kidneys," *Pediatric Nephrology* 35, no. 8 (2020): 1381-93, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00467-019-04310-x>.

⁴³ Elnakib et al., "Providing Care under Extreme Adversity: The Impact of the Yemen Conflict on the Personal and Professional Lives of Health Workers."

⁴⁴ Saputri, "Peran International Comitte of Red Cross (ICRC) Dalam Upaya Perlindungan Anak Pada Konflik Bersenjata Di Yaman Tahun 2015-2017."

houses are spread across various regions in Yemen, such as Ibb, Sana'a, Shabwah, and others. In safe homes, women who have experienced harassment or rape or who are pregnant and breastfeeding can receive legal services, health care, and psychosocial counseling. Safe Home also provides social assistance and information about women's rights, health, and services available.

They also provide relevant skills to women, such as basic medical skills, sewing, household financial management, and other skills. If possible, they are also allowed to work as hygiene staff or in the hospital kitchen to generate income to meet family needs. In 2016, about 6,000 women received assistance and shelter through safe homes. In 2011, women in Yemen had great opportunities to claim their rights after President Saleh resigned, and they won about 28% of the votes in the National Dialogue that supported bills related to the role of women in politics. However, before the bill was passed, the conflict between the government and the Houthi group was widening. When faced with issues of legal protection for women, the ICRC has limits on what action it can take. As a humanitarian organization, the ICRC cooperates with other international organizations, such as UNFPA. Therefore, the problems faced by women during conflicts are not due to the lack of laws protecting them but due to a lack of adequate respect, enforcement, or law enforcement⁴⁵.

I. The Influence of the Conflict in Yemen on Children's Welfare and Future

Children's and women's futures are greatly affected by the war in Yemen. Yemeni children's health is in danger because of the high rates of acute malnutrition, the lack of proper nutrients, and the high risk of getting sick. Also, battles have bad effects on food security and the economy, making it hard to meet people's food needs. In this situation, it is very hard for health workers to provide the necessary services. They face threats and hurdles, and their trust in the health system goes down. Still, the people who work in health care are strong and creative in how they deal with this problem. But disagreements also hurt how they feel about themselves and what they think they can do. So, Yemeni children and women need to be protected and given emotional support, and more needs to be done to reduce the negative effects of the war on their health and future.

In addition to its effects on health and the economy, the war in Yemen is also very stressful for children and women.⁴⁶ When people are in conflict, the violence, fear, and loss they face can have long-term effects on their mental health. Trauma can affect a child's growth, make them feel bad, and make it hard to make friends and do well in school. In times of conflict, women can also be victims of sexual and gender-based violence, making them more likely to have major mental and social disorders. To help children and women in Yemen who have been affected by the war, it is important to know how to deal with trauma and give them psychosocial support⁴⁷.

CONCLUSION

This study has investigated the protection of human rights for women and children in Yemen within the context of the protracted armed conflict. The research findings indicate that women and children in Yemen continue to face serious challenges in accessing

⁴⁵ Sever, Sever, and Vanholder, "Disasters, Children and the Kidneys."

⁴⁶ Moosa Elayah and Matilda Fentiman, "Humanitarian Aid and War Economies: The Case of Yemen," *Economics of Peace and Security Journal* 16, no. 1 (2021): 52–65, <https://doi.org/10.15355/epsj.16.1.52>.

⁴⁷ Anggrayni and Adwani, "Perlindungan Hukum Terhadap Anak Di Yaman Pada Saat Konflik Bersenjata Non Internasional."

adequate human rights protection. The prolonged armed conflict in Yemen has created an unstable and high-risk environment for women and children. Widespread human rights violations, including killings, rape, human trafficking, forced recruitment of children into armed groups, and restricted access to education and healthcare, continue to harm them. Weak legal systems and infrastructure destruction further hinder human rights protection efforts in Yemen. Child marriage and child soldier recruitment persist as significant issues in Yemen. The practice of child marriage obstructs the education and development of young women, while children are forced to engage in the conflict as combatants, robbing them of their childhood and jeopardizing their safety and well-being. However, despite the challenges, there are prospects for improving human rights protection for women and children in Yemen. Post-conflict recovery must be a top priority to rebuild damaged infrastructure and strengthen the legal system that safeguards their rights. Expanding access to education for women and children is crucial, enabling them to develop their potential and raise awareness of their rights fully. International cooperation is also necessary to support human rights protection efforts in Yemen. Financial and technical support from international institutions and non-governmental organizations can help strengthen local capacities, promote awareness, and advocate for sustainable changes. Overall, it is important to continue advocating for and striving towards human rights protection for women and children in Yemen. Collaborative efforts involving the government, civil society, and the international community are needed to address existing challenges and ensure that women and children in Yemen can live safely, with dignity, and enjoy the full protection of their human rights. Human rights are highly important in protecting women and children amid the conflict in Yemen. The application of human rights in armed conflicts, including the war in Yemen, is based on several international conventions and UN Security Council resolutions that regulate the protection of women and children, as well as several legal instruments. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is an international treaty providing special protection for the child's rights. The CRC establishes a range of rights and protections for children, including the right to survive, the right to education, the right to protection from violence and exploitation, and the right to participate in decisions that affect their lives. States that have ratified this Convention must protect children's rights in armed conflict situations. Prior studies on armed conflict in Yemen primarily concentrated on general impact analysis, neglecting to address the repercussions endured by women and children specifically. This results in a substantial disparity in the existing body of knowledge, leading to a limited comprehension of the consequences of conflict on daily living and the basic rights of women and children in Yemen. Prior studies frequently neglect to consider the involvement and influence of key actors, including as governments, non-governmental organizations, and international agencies, in addressing the protection and requirements of women and children impacted by conflict. The limited comprehension of this phenomenon hinders our capacity to devise and execute efficient and enduring measures to aid and safeguard women and children in Yemen during conflict. Hence, the study seeks to address this lack of understanding by performing a comprehensive analysis of the effects of armed conflict on women and children in Yemen. Additionally, it examines the responsibilities and contributions of different stakeholders in protecting and advocating for their rights. Therefore, it is anticipated that this will offer a more thorough and pertinent understanding for professionals, policymakers, and individuals involved in endeavors to enhance the safeguarding and welfare of women and children in Yemen throughout periods of conflict.

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