



## Human Rights Council Geneva: Make an Impact

### Fall 2014 Voyage

### The Rights of the Child

*Imagine gaining insight into one of the most prestigious and active NGO's in the world...*

While many have access to observe, SAS voyagers will be expected to engage and see how they can make a difference in the world through their voice and actions. In the program's second year we will once again take a group of selected students to Geneva during one of the most exciting times of year, the Human Rights Council.

Participants will wrestle with real issues on the main topics during the HRC. The main theme this year is Rights of the Child. Other topics being discussed this September are Enforced and Voluntary Disappearances and Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This is a transformative experience that includes shipboard preparation between London, England and Antwerp, Belgium and reflection throughout the duration of the voyage. Participants are asked to tackle on of the Rights of Child issues and then apply the lens of this issue in different ports throughout the voyage.

All participants will share their experiences and projects with the shipboard community through a seminar.

The combined on-ship workshop and in-port field program is open to 20 voyagers.



## Who We Want

- \* Creative and engaging leaders who can communicate their perspectives in a clear and moving way.
- \* Voyagers who have a passion for international relations, human rights and making a positive impact.
- \* Individuals who can think “outside” the regular perimeters and show us a new way to solve world issues

## How to Apply

**Due: July 15<sup>th</sup> 2014**

Please answer the question below creatively via photography, film, media, writing, etc. Show us your passion, intelligence and creativity. This will be fantastic experience unlike any other. We look forward to seeing your perspective and to working with you in Geneva!

### Prompt:

The Convention on the Rights of a Child includes 54 articles. Select one of the following articles (presented in the appendix of this application) and do the following.

1. Answer why the article is significant and why you believe the UN decided to include the issue in the convention.
2. How do you believe this article can be enforced?
3. Research two of the ports that the Fall 2014 voyage will be traveling to and find an example of how each of these ports protects the right described in the article or how some children are currently not provided this right in the port. What could we learn from these two ports?

Please Submit Application to: [Field@ISE.Virginia.edu](mailto:Field@ISE.Virginia.edu)



Photo taken by: Qingruo Zhao, Semester at Sea Alunae from Spring 2014

## **Text of the UN Rights of the Child - in child friendly language**

**"Rights" are things that every child should have or be able to do. All children have the same rights.**

**These rights are listed in the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child. Almost every country has agreed to these rights. All the rights are connected to each other, and all are equally important.**

**Sometimes, we have to think about the rights in terms of what is the best for children in a situation, and what is critical to life and protection from harm. As you grow, you have more responsibility to make choices and exercise your rights.**

### **Article 1**

**Everyone under 18 has these rights.**

### **Article 2**

**All children have these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.**

### **Article 3**

**All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.**

### **Article 4**

**The government has a responsibility to make sure your rights are protected. They must help your family to protect your rights and create an environment where you can grow and reach your potential.**

### **Article 5**

**Your family has the responsibility to help you learn to exercise your rights, and to ensure that your rights are protected.**

### **Article 6**

**You have the right to be alive.**

### **Article 7**

**You have the right to a name, and this should be officially recognised by the government. You have the right to a nationality (to belong to a country).**

### **Article 8**

**You have the right to an identity - an official record of who you are. No one should take this away from you.**

### **Article 9**

**You have the right to live with your parent(s), unless it is bad for you. You have the right to live with a family who cares for you.**

### **Article 10**

**If you live in a different country than your parents do, you have the right to be together in the same place.**

### **Article 11**

**You have the right to be protected from kidnapping.**

**Article 12**

**You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.**

**Article 13**

**You have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.**

**Article 14**

**You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.**

**Article 15**

**You have the right to choose your own friends and join or set up groups, as long as it isn't harmful to others.**

**Article 16**

**You have the right to privacy.**

**Article 17**

**You have the right to get information that is important to your well being, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources. Adults should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need.**

**Article 18**

**You have the right to be raised by your parent(s) if possible.**

**Article 19**

**You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.**

**Article 20**

**You have the right to special care and help if you cannot live with your parents.**

**Article 21**

**You have the right to care and protection if you are adopted or in foster care.**

**Article 22**

**You have the right to special protection and help if you are a refugee (if you have been forced to leave your home and live in another country), as well as all the rights in this Convention.**

**Article 23**

**You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability, as well as all the rights in this Convention, so that you can live a full life.**

**Article 24**

**You have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well.**

**Article 25**

**If you live in care or in other situations away from home, you have the right to have these living arrangements looked at regularly to see if they are the most appropriate.**

**Article 26**

**You have the right to help from the government if you are poor or in need.**

**Article 27**

**You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you can't do many of the things other kids can do.**

**Article 28**

**You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.**

**Article 29**

**Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.**

**Article 30**

**You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion - or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.**

**Article 31**

**You have the right to play and rest.**

**Article 32**

**You have the right to protection from work that harms you, and is bad for your health and education. If you work, you have the right to be safe and paid fairly.**

**Article 33**

**You have the right to protection from harmful drugs and from the drug trade.**

**Article 34**

**You have the right to be free from sexual abuse.**

**Article 35**

**No one is allowed to kidnap or sell you.**

**Article 36**

**You have the right to protection from any kind of exploitation (being taken advantage of).**

**Article 37**

**No one is allowed to punish you in a cruel and harmful way.**

**Article 38**

**You have the right to protection and freedom from war. Children under 15 cannot be forced to go into the army or take part in war.**

**Article 39**

**You have the right to help if you've been hurt, neglected, or badly treated.**

**Article 40**

**You have the right to legal help and fair treatment in the justice system that respects your rights.**

**Article 41**

**If the laws of your country provide better protection of your right than the articles in this Convention, those laws should apply.**

**Article 42**

**You have the right to know your rights! Adults should know about these rights and help you learn about them, too.**

**Article 43 to 54**

**These articles explain how governments and international organisations like UNICEF will work to ensure children are protected with their rights.**