

Statement 10.03.2022

Respecting the dignity and rights of children in media reportage

In a crisis, protecting the rights of children and young people in media reportage is a serious challenge.

We call on all parties to respect the dignity and the rights of every child and young person in all circumstances and especially in crises. It is our collective duty, as a global community, to protect children and young people. In times of crisis, children and young people are subject to increased media exposure and their rights are at great risk.

We all have a collective duty to protect children and young people from harm and retribution. In crises, with heightened media attention, we must pay special attention to children's rights to privacy, confidentiality, to have their opinions heard, and to participate in decisions affecting them. This includes consulting those closest to the child's situation and best able to assess any potential political, social and cultural ramifications of a reportage on them.

We also call on all parties to respect the dignity and the rights of parents, caregivers, and anyone supporting children, especially those exposed to trauma in crises, recognizing the direct impact on the children in their care.

We call on the international community not to publish a story or an image that might put the child, their siblings, peers, or caregivers at risk.

Source: [Guidelines for journalists reporting on children | UNICEF](#)

Please refer to our [Protocol for Press & Media](#) for virtual and in-person access to SOS Children's Villages programmes.