



Children's Manifesto by Thiago

Hi, my name is Thiago Alexandre. I'm 15 years old and I live in Brazil.

I am here speaking on behalf of children, children's networks across the world.

Firstly, we would like to express our gratitude for the invitation to participate in this **Together to #ENDviolence event as part of the Global Forum for Children and Youth**. It is very important for us to have spaces where we can listen to each other and our right to participate and be heard is guaranteed.

In the community where I live, I volunteer to support children and teenagers who are out of school. I go to their houses, ask if they are all right, and ask what they need to get back to school. It is a major issue where I live.

My first statement in this meeting is: governments need to work to ensure safe and inclusive schools for all children, especially those more marginalised.

As my friends and child leaders from Kenya, Yemen and Uganda shared earlier, children and adolescents in many countries around the world suffer violence. It ruins our lives and our futures - and is not acceptable. That is why we need to end all forms of violence, from child marriage to child labour, from bullying to sexual abuse, from physical to emotional violence. And we need to do it now!

Like every child, I want to feel safe in all the places that I live my life – at home, at school, online and in the community.

On behalf of children everywhere, we demand that governments:

1. Work to ban all forms of violence against children, without any excuses.
2. Support parents and guardians to keep us safe and free from violence.
3. Make the Internet safe for children and prevent online abuse. Because on the internet, children are becoming more and more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, especially as people can access it anonymously.
4. Make schools safe, non-violent and inclusive for all children, especially for the most vulnerable.
5. Protect children from violence in disasters and catastrophes.
6. Governments must also invest more resources to protect children from violence.
7. Children and adolescents need encouragement in the areas of education, safety, health and leisure. That's why we are claiming our rights established in the laws – today and every day.
8. And we are here to offer our energy, ideas and experience

We cannot allow any more breaches. We want support! We need action now!

Thank you very much.

