
UN Council Clashes Over Child Protection Report



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Some UN Security Council members clashed Wednesday over a UN report on children in armed conflict, as the US defended Israel while others condemned alleged abuses against Palestinian children.

Colombia's envoy Leonor Zalabata Torres, chairing the Council, said the report attributes most grave violations last year to state forces, highlighting Gaza with the highest numbers largely attributed to Israel.

She said investigations show deliberate IDF attacks on children and asked what security justification allows shooting a child or infant.

Torres said evidence shows systematic dehumanization and urged the Council to recognize genocidal intent by Israel's government.

Pakistan's envoy Usman Jadoon said more than 12,000 grave violations occurred in one year in occupied Palestinian territory, calling the situation alarming.

Somalia's envoy said children are killed, maimed and denied rights across conflicts, with futures buried under rubble.

China welcomed listing perpetrators of grave violations in Gaza, Haiti and other regions and called for monitoring.

Russia said Gaza and the West Bank top child rights violations for a third year and criticized UN reporting on Ukraine.

US representative Jennifer Locetta did not condemn Israeli actions, saying children in conflict zones face multiple threats and blaming Hamas for abuses.

She also criticized the report for equating US forces with Houthi terrorists.