

IV PYATIGORSK JUNIOR MODEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

UNICEF

"The efforts of the international community in the fight
against kidnapping and the prevention of child mortality"

EXPERT REPORT



Pyatigorsk, 2019



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Part 1. Historical information

Item 1. Introduction



The **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, originally known as the **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund**, was created by the **United Nations General Assembly** on 11 December 1946, to provide emergency food and healthcare to children and mothers in

countries that had been devastated by **World War II**. In 1953 it became a permanent part of the **United Nations System**, and the words "international" and "emergency" were dropped from the organization's



name, though it retained the original acronym, "UNICEF" .

Item 2.Actions of UNICEF.

For over 70 years, UNICEF has been the defender of children around the world, regardless of gender, religion, race or economic background. When the world's most vulnerable need a champion in the face of conflict, disease or exclusion, UNICEF has been there.

UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to save children's lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their potential, from early childhood through adolescence.

UNICEF operates on the principle of working with the government, public and international Lanka to jointly identify a list of children's needs.

Accordingly, the Fund is doing everything to help meet these needs.

UNICEF has always been and will continue to be a priority — to ensure the development of children from early childhood, children who have physical development characteristics, prevention and prevention of diseases, as well as the protection of children's rights.



Part 2.

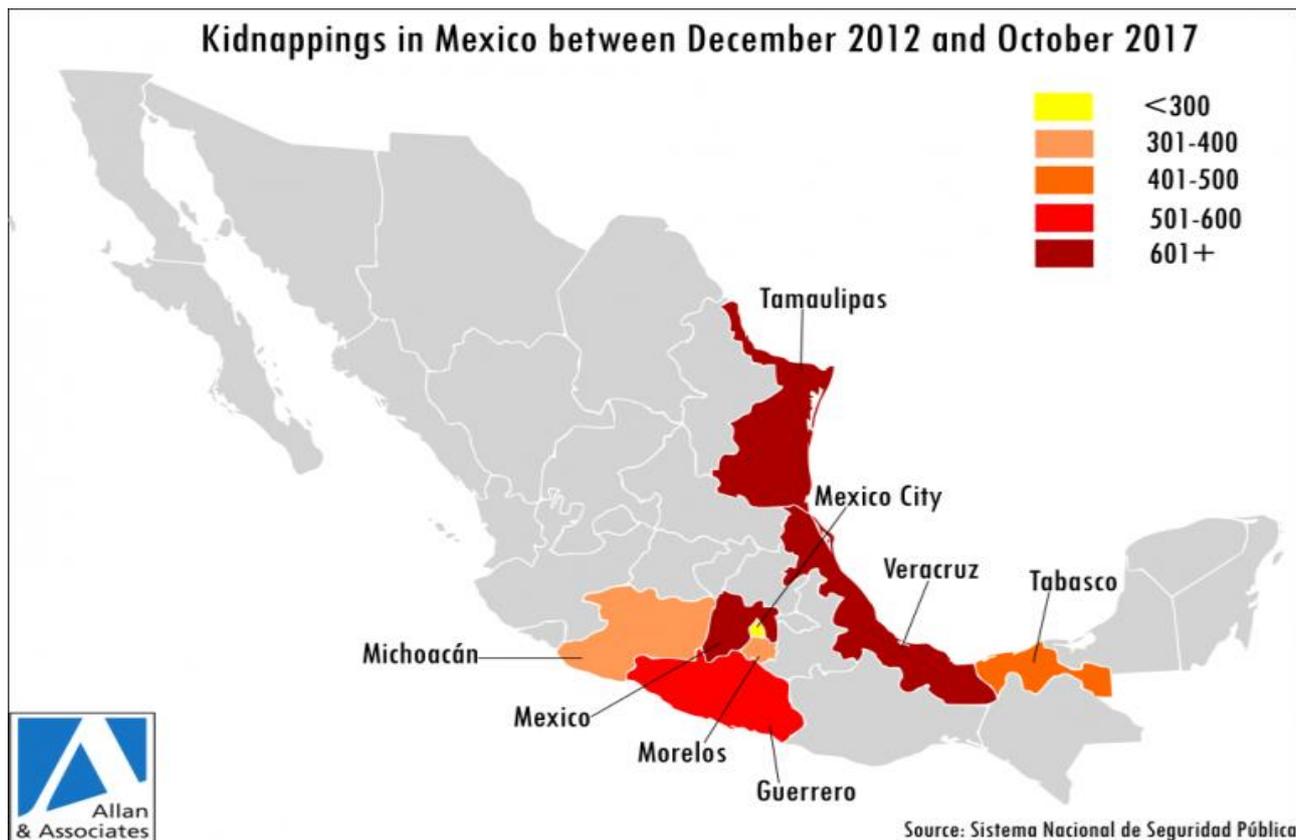
Item 1. Kidnapping worldwide

The rates of kidnapping in Europe, North America, and South America are attracting worldwide attention. The practice of kidnapping has become quite lucrative for some, and there are criminal groups that have made it their business model.

In Mexico, with its history of drug-related violence and police corruption, kidnapping is an old story. According to the U.S. Department of State, Mexico suffered an estimated 105,682 kidnappings in 2012, and in 2013 the number reached 131,946, the highest number on record.

The disappearance of children in the United States is not unheard of, either, and it is a problem that police and other agencies are working hard to address. According to the National Centre for Missing and Exploited

Children, roughly 800,000 children are reported missing each year in this country.



In some cases, the kidnapping seems to make very little sense. One example is an incident that took place in the United Kingdom in which a woman kidnapped her own daughter. According to The Sun, "Karen Matthews was jailed for eight years for her part in faking the kidnap of her own daughter in 2008. The mum-of-seven, who has been dubbed Britain's Most Hated Mum, was released from prison after serving half of her sentence."

The question we might ask is why would a mother kidnap her own daughter? What could possibly inspire her to do such a terrible thing? The answer is that she did it for the money. She did it so that she could claim the £50,000 reward offered by the government for "finding" Shannon. She planned to share the reward money with her accomplice, Michael Donovan, who was a relative.

According to the Offender Management Caseload Statistics, the UK recorded about 57 convicted kidnappings cases between 2007-2008. In some countries, kidnapping has also affected who occupies top government positions.

The son of the former president of Slovakia was once kidnapped. In August of 1995, Michal Kovac Jr, whose father was president of newly independent Slovakia, was stopped in his car by armed men who handcuffed him, forced him to drink two bottles of whisky, and then drove him to an unknown destination (The Economist, 2017).

It is sometimes said that corruption can lead to kidnapping. Somalia, which is one of the most corrupt countries in the world, unfortunately has quite a bit of experience with this problem. On May 3, 2018, a German nurse named Sonja Nientiet was kidnapped there. According to a BBC News report, "A German nurse with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been kidnapped in Somalia's capital Mogadishu, the aid group says."

According to the International center "Search for missing and exploited children" (ICMEC) in the world annually lost 8 million minors. The EU accounts for about 250 thousand people. Kidnapping statistics show that 10% to 25% of children will never be found.

In India, a child can pull out of the mother's hands a passenger passing by car. Here almost half of the children do not find ever.



In 2014, data were published by USA Department of justice. Every year about 267 thousand children are victims of kidnapping. Often kids steal directly from the house.

Experts compared 172 States, paying special attention to the reasons why children do not have a normal childhood in certain countries. The rating took into account such factors as the level of child mortality under the age of 5, malnutrition, the number of children unable to go to school, child labor, early marriage, the level of teenage pregnancy and childbirth, the proportion of child mortality due to physical violence.

As a result, Sweden, Finland, Norway, the Netherlands, and Slovenia were considered ideal countries for children. The worst were Niger, Angola, and Mali. At the same time, experts noted that in Niger, the country with the lowest rating, 43% of children under the age of 5 years lag behind in physical development due to malnutrition.

As for the General trends, the report says that currently, the lives of about 700 million children around the world are far from normal: about 263 million did not attend school, 168 million are involved in child labor,

almost 28 million were forced to leave their homes because of armed conflicts.



Item 2. Causes of Kidnappings

There are many causes of kidnapping around the globe, including:

- Unemployment
- Poverty
- Illiteracy
- Religion
- Greed

Politics

Corruption

Below, we'll examine each cause individually.

Unemployment

The high unemployment rate in many countries has forced citizens to find other ways to make money—and some of those ways are illegal.

Kidnapping a rich person can be a lucrative business. A cash-strapped unemployed person may believe that when he kidnaps someone who is rich, he may be able to become rich himself.

Poverty

Any person who lives below \$1.25 a day is living below the poverty line.

Poverty can propel people toward crime as a way to make ends meet.

Sometimes, a person who is poor might believe that kidnapping or other illegal acts could provide the necessary money to start a new life—a life that will no longer involve crime.



Illiteracy

Illiteracy is the inability to read or write. When people know how to read and write, they can gain the skills they need in order to become educated, get a job, and live a productive life. Literacy and education can also be an important foundation upon which to build a deeper understanding of moral judgment and decision making.

The kidnappings and bombings perpetrated by Boko Haram, the militant Islamic group in Nigeria, are caused by illiteracy, at least in part. The

leaders of this group feed their men false information, which the men cannot disprove by reading outside sources. Boko Haram fighters engage in suicide bombings, killings, and kidnappings. They are told that if they die while carrying out their mission, they will inherit the kingdom.

Religion

Many kidnappings in the world today have their root cause in religion. Some people love their religion so much that even when it teaches them something that is wrong, they believe it is right. One religious leader may want to take over another group—and order his men to kidnap his rivals.

Greed

Some people are not content with what they have and wish they could buy more and more things—whether it's fancy clothes, cars, houses, or jewelry. This person may turn to crime to make more money. A wicked businessman can kidnap his business rival for a large ransom to become richer.

Politics

Corrupt politicians may arrange for the kidnapping of their opponents. Sometimes, they do this so that their opponents will make concessions or change their votes on the issues.

Corruption

A society where corruption is rife is likely to experience a high level of kidnapping. The truth is that if a government is corrupt and embezzling



public funds, citizens may react by kidnapping those corrupt politicians in an attempt to recoup some of the stolen money.

Item 3. Bride kidnapping and child marriage

Some 200 people took to the streets in a northern Kyrgyz province earlier this week to protest the longstanding practice of bride kidnapping.

The custom in which single young men kidnap their bride of choice and pressure them to agree to marriage is not uncommon in Kyrgyzstan.

But bride kidnapping has recently come under sharp criticism in the Central Asian country after two kidnapped brides committed suicide in a matter of months.

During the protest participants called on authorities and community leaders to put an end to the old tradition.

Bride kidnapping is officially a criminal offence in Kyrgyzstan, where the criminal code stipulates a maximum three-year prison term for bride-kidnapping.

In reality, however, few cases reach the courtroom, and those who are tried for bride-kidnapping usually walk away after paying a small fine.

"Once bride-kidnapping was characteristic mostly to rural areas, but it has become widespread everywhere, including the capital, Bishkek," says Gazbubu Babayarova, founder of Kyz Korgon Institute, a nongovernmental organization that campaigns to eliminate the tradition of bride-kidnapping in Kyrgyzstan.

"Our researches indicate that between 68 and 75 percent of marriages in Kyrgyzstan take place with bride kidnapping."

According to the tradition, when a Kyrgyz man, usually in his twenties, wants to get married for the first time, he picks a bride and starts to arrange her kidnapping.

The man and his friends seize the young woman in streets, sometimes using violence, and forcibly drive her to the captor's family home. The rest is left to female relatives of the man, who try to persuade the kidnapped woman to marry her captor.

The woman is put under enormous pressure, including physical violence, but in the majority of cases, the captor refrains from rape, Babayarova says.

If the woman finally agrees to marriage, the family of her potential husband puts a white kerchief on her head, and asks her to write a letter to her parents. They take the letter to the bride's family to ask their daughter's hand in marriage and arrange a quick wedding ceremony.



While the groom's relatives take part in "choosing" and arranging the kidnapping of their future daughter-in-law, the potential bride and her family do not usually know the captors or their intentions until after the kidnapping takes place.

Many brides follow tradition and simply accept their fate. But some of the marriages born from bride-kidnapping fall apart and for some -- like the two young students in Issyk-Kul -- this can bring a tragic end.



Item 4 . Solutions of kidnapping

There are solutions that may help reduce the rate of kidnapping, including:

1. Training strong anti-kidnapping agents
2. Monitoring the activities of the police
3. Serious punishment for offenders
4. Job creation
5. Training Anti-Kidnapping Agents

Training strong anti-kidnapping agents

Any country that wants to fight kidnapping successfully must hire and train capable agents to combat the issue. When law enforcement agencies are actively involved, the incidence of this crime can be lessened.

Monitoring the Police

Reports show that the police are involved in some kidnappings. Notable examples have occurred in Mexico. Eliminating the criminals within the ranks of law enforcement is key.

Seriously Punishments for Offenders

Mild punishment does nothing to deter criminals. When the government treats kidnapers harshly, fewer abductions will occur.

Job Creation

Generating jobs for citizens, especially for the youth, can have a huge impact in the fight against crime. When people are gainfully employed, they do not need to commit crimes.



Part 3. Conclusion

Kidnapping is a global problem with many root causes, including unemployment, poverty, religion, and politics. Each of these root causes must be evaluated and addressed in order to eliminate this terrible scourge once and for all.





Part 4. Useful literature and web-sites

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