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# No Lost Generation E-Newsletter

April 2021 - Issue 15



## Special update on Brussels V Conference and Syria 10: let us ensure a better future for Syrian children

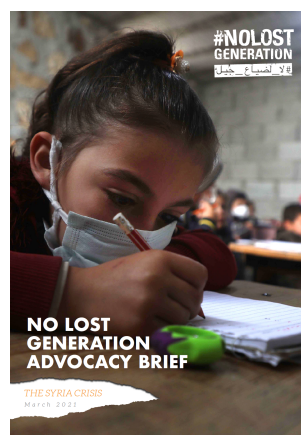
**Dear partners and supporters of the No Lost Generation initiative,**

March has seen two landmarks which shed light on the situation of Syrian children, youth and adolescents: the grim milestone of a decade of conflict in Syria on March 15, and the Brussels V Conference on the future of Syria and the region on March 29-30. [This week, the international community pledged US\\$6.4 billion for Syria and the neighbouring countries.](#) As we welcome these generous contributions supporting and responding to the humanitarian crisis, we also acknowledge that the situation of Syria's children is deteriorating significantly. The triple crises of continued conflict, economic downturn and the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated the existing vulnerabilities of children, their families and host communities. Humanitarian needs have never been deeper.

Regarding Syrian children, [the conference co-chairs' statement](#) highlighted similar recommendations to those we have pushed for [in our latest advocacy brief](#), namely access to quality education for one-third of Syria's children who are out of school. Many members states,

### Resources

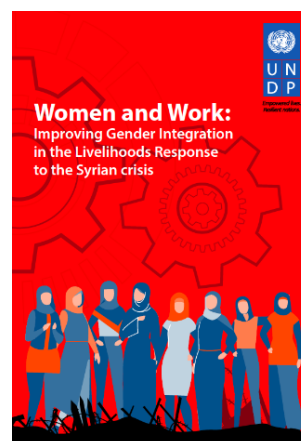
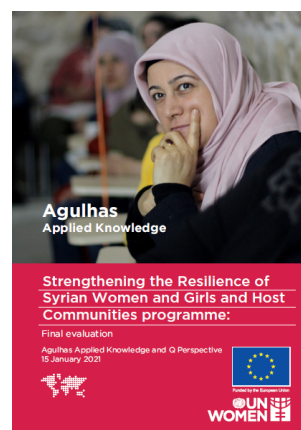
A selection of documents produced by, or relevant to the NLG initiative. For all current or previously mentioned resources, please visit [the NLG Resource Repository](#).



NGOs and international organizations also underlined the importance of addressing child marriage and child labor, of creating livelihood opportunities for Syrian refugees and young people and of providing systematic and sustainable mental health and psychosocial support. These will be our priorities in the coming year as we will continue to advocate for an improved support to the 6 million children in need, one million of them living outside Syria.

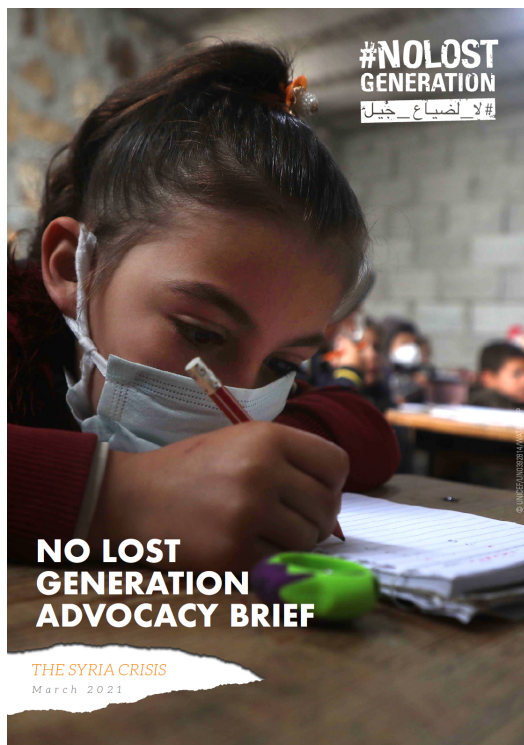
These issues have also been highlighted by our speakers during our side-event to the conference held on March 24. [Entitled “What is next for Syria’s children? The impact of a decade of war in Syria and neighbouring countries”](#), the event gathered over 250 attendees. Four young Syrian refugees shared their stories and concerns for their future. Our key stakeholders actively listened to them and recognised that Syria is a humanitarian crisis that children are paying the price for. They called for a political commitment to children for the war to stop.

We are repeating this: **we are not giving up**. It is our responsibility to ensure Syrian children a better future. We will continue to fight for them, so as to keep our promise of a no lost generation.



## No Lost Generation Advocacy Messages

## NLG Side-Event Webinar and launching of NLG Advocacy Brief



In preparation for the Brussels V Conference on the Future of Syria and the Region, [NLG released an advocacy brief highlighting the costs of 10 years of war on Syrian children](#). Ten years since the war started in Syria, the situation for Syria's children keeps deteriorating, as the compounded effects of war, the economic crisis and the global pandemic push them and their families to the brink, inside Syria as well as in the five refugee host countries.

Moving ahead, NLG will advocate to: (1) **Keep learning going** for all Syrian children and adolescents; (2) **Address child marriage and child labour**; (3) Help Syrian adolescents and youth in **the transition from education to employment** and (4) Provide **systematic and sustainable mental health and psychosocial support**.

NLG's Education pillar published their annual report "[Continued learning for all Syrian children and youth](#)" on Syrian children's education. **The number of out of school children in Syria and the five host countries remain high, estimated between 3.2 M and 3.6 M.** Despite challenges and owing to the generosity of host countries, donors and partners, and the unwavering commitment from teachers and caregivers, over 5 million Syrian children are still learning inside and outside Syria. **The report concludes with key recommendations**

to take education out of the realm of politics and build inclusive, resilient and flexible education systems.



On March 24, NLG held the side-event ["What is next for Syria's children? The impact of a decade of war in Syria and neighbouring countries"](#), gathering over 250 attendees. Co-sponsored by the governments of Ireland and Germany, the event explored the costs of the conflict for children and communities.

The event began with a panel of **four young Syrian refugees living in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey** moderated by **No Lost Generation Champion and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Muzoon Al-Mellehan**. The young Syrians highlighted their needs to access education, to protect themselves and to see the economic situation improve and they suggested solutions for the future.

Their talk was followed by a technical panel on the progress and failures of a decade of war. Speakers included Johan Mooij, World Vision Syria Response Director; Ted Chaiban, UNICEF MENA Regional Director; Frank Smyth, IrishAid Humanitarian Aid Director and Michael Miller, European Commission DG Near - Head of Unit, Middle East.

The recording will soon be shared with attendees. For more information, please contact [mthepault@unicef.org](mailto:mthepault@unicef.org).





Read our key advocacy messages for Brussels V

## Our Syria 10 Campaign

As we marked the 10th year of the Syrian crisis, **No Lost Generation underlined the impact of the decade long war on children through a video and a series of blog posts.** Our partners helped us to underline the needs of children and youth affected by the Syrian crisis and shared their experience and their response to their plight. We need to redouble our efforts and to rethink our interventions, to shape a better future for 6 million children.



We asked Syrian children living in Syria and in neighboring countries, to send a message to their younger self. Their responses highlight the lasting impacts of war on their childhood memories.

Many thanks to our partners – Caritas Syria and Jordan, JRS Lebanon and Syria, Plan International, UNICEF Jordan, UNESCO and World Vision International - for their substantial contribution.

## Our blog posts series

Throughout March, our partners wrote blogposts to raise the visibility of Syrian children's needs and hopes. **A dozen blog posts have been published on key concerns such as access to education, child marriage, the transition from education to employment, mental health or online learning.** José Bergua, NLG Co-lead, also wrote an article recognizing that despite the many challenges, we need to keep the hope alive and continue our work, today more than ever. We hope these words inspire you to keep our promise of a No Lost Generation.

[Syria - 10 years](#)

José Bergua, NLG Co-lead



[Finding a safe haven and a way to contribute](#)

IOM Turkey Public Information Unit



[Syrian and Lebanese youth supporting the restoration process after Beirut blast](#)

UNESCO



[Empowering children with disabilities in Aleppo](#)

Caritas MONA



[A girl with a bright smile and a new home](#)

UNICEF





## Addressing traumas of Gender-Based Violence survivors in Northwest Syria

World Vision International



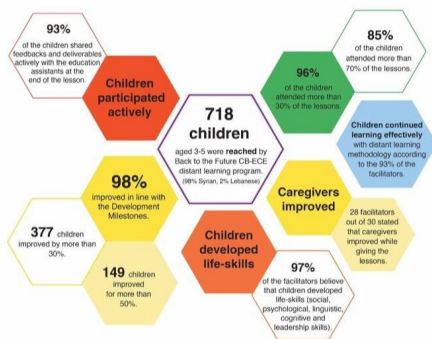
## Caregivers are our best allies for effective online learning

Caritas MONA



## Fostering wellbeing through education in Northeast Syria

War Child



## Making spaces more inclusive for women and girls with disabilities in Northwest Syria

World Vision International



## I play therefore I learn

War Child, Terre des Hommes, AVSI

## What does an education mean for a refugee?

UNDP



[Empowering Syrians, Iraq internal  
displaced populations and  
institutions in Jordan and Iraq](#)

**Action Against Hunger**

[Adolescent Girls: Vital voices in  
any humanitarian response](#)

**UNFPA**

## Our partners' publications for Syria10

[Action Against Hunger's report "#Syria10:  
Time to look ahead"](#) assesses the consequences of 10 years of war in Syria. Key recommendations include moving away from emergency program to long-term early recovery and resilience-focused solutions and investing in restoring infrastructure, sustainable food production solutions and gender-response livelihoods. Flexible and long-term funding approaches need to be expanded.



**#SYRIA10:**  
TIME TO LOOK AHEAD



[In this short fast facts report](#), UNICEF provides key data on the consequences of ten years of war on Syrian children. The report covers grave violations against children, extreme survival measures, education, health and nutrition both in Syria and in neighboring countries. Among the key data, over 8.5 million children are in need, 6.1 million inside Syria and 2.5 in neighbouring countries. Inside Syria, 80% of the population live in poverty.





[World Vision and Frontier Economics' report "Too high a price to pay: the cost of conflict for Syria's children"](#) shows the incredible loss of human capital in Syria as a result of a continuous cycle of grave violations against children, heavy economic costs and shattered opportunities for future generations. It highlights that Syria's children will ultimately bear the cost of war in Syria. The cost of this conflict over the past decade equals \$US1.2 trillion in lost GDP.



[In this report on attacks on health care services in Syria](#), International Rescue Committee and its Syrian partner organizations reveal the widespread and devastating impact that a decade of systematic attacks on health facilities has had on Syrian civilians, and the crippling effect the decimation of the country's health care system has had on its ability to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Read more about our Syria 10 campaign

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## NLG Champion Dr. Al-Meraikhi on ten years of war in Syria: "It is our responsibility"



Dr. Ahmed Al-Meraikhi, Special Adviser to UN Secretary-General and NLG champion shares with us an important message on the child rights crisis in Syria. **In an article, Dr. Al-Meraikhi calls for greater support to national child protection systems and legal framework and for a sustainable and improved psychological support to Syrian children.**

He also tells us about a conversation he recently had with Bana, a young Syrian girl he first met in 2017 as part of a No Lost Generation event. Bana is one of many Syrian children who have been affected by forced displacement. Since 2017, she had been displaced three times.

**Together with No Lost Generation, Dr. Al-Meraikhi recommends governments to scale up their effort to seek a political solution and stop the war.** It is time to bring peace to Syria. The conflict must stop now so every child is safe and protected from harm.

[Read Dr. Al-Meraikhi's article](#)

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## NLG Champion Muzoon Al-Mellehan interviewed by UN

## News



@UNICEF/UN0135670/Rich

**No Lost Generation champion, Muzoon Al-Mellehan, recently gave an interview to United Nations News where she shared her experience and her thoughts as we are entering ten years of conflict in Syria.** Her and her family took refuge in Jordan, where they lived in Za'atari and Azraq camps. While there, she decided to advocate for children's rights and especially for their access to education.

Now living in the UK, she sounds the alarm on the situation of Syrians and calls on the international community to urgently address their needs, as many do not have access to a shelter, to clean water and electricity and suffer heavily from the winter conditions.

[Read more about Muzoon's interview](#)

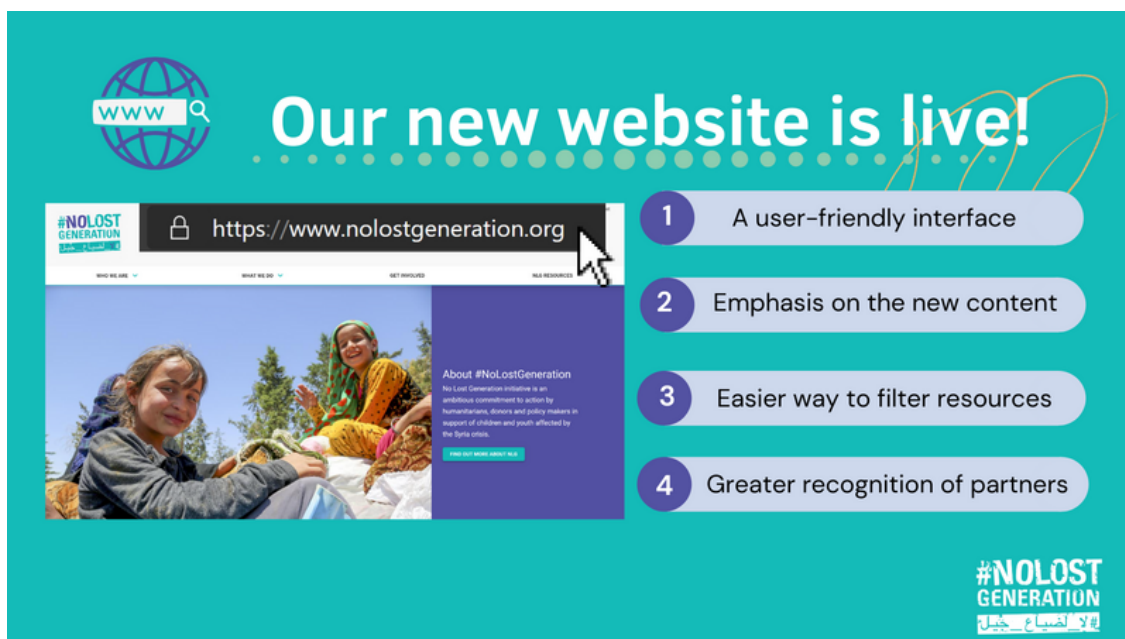
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## Launch of NLG Twitter and our new website



We are pleased to announce the launch of our NLG Twitter account. As we aim to raise the visibility of Syrian children's experience of war, we decided to expand our digital presence and join Twitter. [Follow us on @NLG\\_Syria](https://twitter.com/NLG_Syria) where you will find regular updates of our work as No Lost Generation and of our partners' contributions and responses to the Syrian crisis.

Among the other good news is the launch of our new website. [It has been revamped](https://www.nolostgeneration.org) with a more user-friendly interface, a greater emphasis on the new content and a better recognition of our partners and donors. It is also now easier to filter resources [in the NLG repository](#).



## No Lost Generation Partners





## Donors who have supported No Lost Generation since its inception include:



Instagram



Twitter



Website

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