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## **Social injustice and protection - child poverty**

Honourable excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, first I would like to thank you for the opportunity, I feel deeply honoured.

As an adolescent myself, living in Luxembourg and representing my peers I could not help but worry about two aspects of social injustice : the rise of child poverty, and the stigmatisation that comes with it. I am overwhelmed by the lack of awareness concerning the topic, it often being taboo. Children are suffering and are struggling to share their experiences with their entourage.

I am even more alarmed by the fact that one in four children are at risk of poverty in Luxembourg, which is one of the highest in Europe.

The member states of the European Union have recognised these inequalities, and have started and will continue to implement until 2030 the principles of the European Child Guarantee, such as free education.

We still have to do better. Hence why I urge government officials to start applying these principles, even beyond Europe, in order to achieve social justice and protection worldwide.

Additionally, we should provide children and adolescents with platforms and start awareness campaigns that would grant them a voice, to combat stigmatisation on the matter. We need to take action, so that children can finally have equal opportunities.

Thank you.