



62th Session of the Human Rights Council
Benelux Intervention

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur - Child trafficking in the context of statelessness, migration and forced displacement - Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children

22 June 2026

Mr. President,

I have the pleasure to deliver this statement on behalf of our longstanding BENELUX union: Belgium, the Kingdom of Netherlands, and my own country, Luxembourg. We align with the statement of the European Union.

Child trafficking remains a grave and persistent violation of human rights. Children in situations of statelessness, migration and forced displacement are exposed to heightened risks, driven by discrimination, unsafe and irregular migration pathways, and gaps in access to international protection leading to acute vulnerability. Traffickers exploit this and force them into forced labor, sexual exploitation and child marriage. Their networks must be broken down.

These risks are compounded by gender inequalities, with girls facing heightened exposure to certain forms of abuse.

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her timely report. We welcome its clear and evidence-based analysis emphasis on the need for strengthened, rights-based responses.

Trafficking in children constitutes a serious crime and a violation of fundamental human rights. We recall the obligation of all States to act with due diligence to prevent and combat trafficking. It's imperative for States to protect all children without discrimination and to ensure effective access to international protection.