

# Report on The National Forum 2000 and National Forum Youth during and after the Conference on War-Affected Children

## What is not working

- Democratic process (in some countries governments elect who the leader is, not the people); no universal definition of democracy
- Poverty alleviation
- Peace talks and negotiations
- UN resolutions for preventing conflicts
- Resolutions often increase/aggravate conflicts because more issues are born to invite it.

## The Challenge of Conflict Prevention

## What actions can youth take

- Aid in raising public awareness of the issues so that they are known before violence takes place (i.e. in schools)
- Attend and press for more forums/conferences to share ideas with each other and governmental officials
- Youth should be more aware and involved in political issues

## Recommendations

- Impose political and military sanctions (not ones that will affect civilians)
- Elections should be monitored/facilitated by impartial NGOs
- Conflicts should be brought before a jury (i.e. International Court) before violence breaks out. (Rome statute)
- Youth should be represented in international summits
- An organisation should be created to monitor conflicts so that preventive measures can be taken before it is too late
- Countries should be held more strictly to recommendations/treaties/etc
- The UN should have more power to intervene in conflict situations (before and during)
- Youth should be included in the mediation process (as mediators) in conflict situations
- More emphasis should be placed on the awareness of the effect of wars world wide
- Land/border expansions should require UN approval so as to reduce the number of conflicts caused by land disputes
- More dialogues at National levels (not regional) involving all aspects of the communities to raise awareness
- Encourage cultural activities that promote peace
- More international agreements in regards to restrictions and control of weapons and implements of destruction

