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States' Compliance to International Treaties Accountability Mechanisms Pertaining to States, IOs and NGOs

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ABSTRACT

This research analyzes mechanisms fostering states' compliance to international treaties. It argues that a treaty accountability network surrounds states when they commit to an international covenant and that actors belonging to the network have leverage on states to hold them accountable. This study is particularly interested in the role NGOs and IOs play as actors within this network. It identifies two main ways for holding states accountable: direct and indirect. Indirect accountability is conceptualized as mechanisms where aid recipients are empowered by organizations and will henceforth hold their states accountable. This research provides a small-N case-study on the UNCRC, maps the treaty accountability network surrounding it, identifies accountability mechanisms developed by one OI (UNICEF) and one NGO (Terre des Hommes Suisse) and examines pathways used by one state (Switzerland).

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List of acronyms

- 1 CFEJ Commission Fédérale pour l'Enfance et la Jeunesse / Federal Commission for Childhood and Youth
- 2 CSO civil society organization
- 3 C4D Communication for Development
- 4 DDC Direction du Development et de la Cooperation / Swiss Development Agency
- 5 EU European Union
- 6 FGC Fédération Genevoise de Cooperation
- 7 FIFA Federation of International Football Associations
- 8 FITDH International Federation Terre des Hommes
- 9 GCPK Global Community of Practice and Knowledge on child rights and social accountability
- 10 IFI international financial institutions
- 11 IHRI international human rights institutions
- 12 IMF International Monetary Fund
- 13 IO international organization
- 14 IOC International Olympic Committee
- 15 ILO International Labor Organization
- 16 IOM International Organization for Migration
- 17 INGO international non-governmental organization
- 18 NGO non-governmental organization
- 19 NSA non-state actor
- 20 OHCHR Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- 21 OP Optional Protocol
- 22 RSDE Réseau Suisse des Droits de l'Enfant
- 23 RSECI Réseau Suisse Education et Coopération Internationale
- 24 SBCC social and behavior change communication

- 25 SFC Swiss Federal Council
- 26 SFDHA Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs
- 27 SRA Sport and Rights Alliance
- 28 TDH Terre Des Hommes
- 29 TDHS Terre Des Hommes Suisse
- 30 UN United Nations
- 31 UNCRC United Nations Child Rights Convention
- 32 UNGA United Nations General Assembly
- 33 UNHCR United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- 34 UNICEF United Nations International Children Emergency Fund
- 35 WFP World Food Program
- 36 WHO World Health Organization
- 37 WTO World Trade Organization

1. Introduction and Literature

1.1 Introduction

Thirty years ago, nations joined together to make an unprecedented promise to the children of the world. They pledged not only to proclaim children's rights, but to uphold them and be accountable for them. The Convention on the Rights of the Child was a landmark achievement.

Antonio Guterres

- 1 This statement by the Secretary General of the United Nations was proclaimed at the 30th Celebration of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2019. This celebration marked decades of struggle to ensure child rights. Antonio Guterres highlighted later in his speech the considerable remaining challenges that need to be overcome if the Convention's goals are to be fulfilled. Yet, he did not expect the largest pandemic in a century to erupt a year later, destroying decades of hard work to build a more equitable and fairer world for children and youth. Basic rights such as education and protection have been jeopardized. A number of important questions thus stem from these events: to what extent are states held accountable for their actions in regard to the Convention and which actors are able to foster such an endeavor?
- 2 The notion of sovereignty is central to these questions. Sovereignty is a fundamental principle of the contemporary international order, yet with the increasing importance of non-state and international actors, this pillar of world politics is weakening. These more recent players in international governance are able to hold states accountable for their behavior, policies and commitments (Peters et al., 2009, p. 544; Charnovitz, 1997, p. 190).
- 3 Accountability can be defined as a process implying that an actor has to justify and explain his behavior to a forum to whom he responds and which can judge him (Bovens, 2007a, p. 447). It is a core element required to ensure that populations are "the cause and end of all things" (De Tocqueville, 2003, p. 65). Society is therefore given a voice to share its concerns, namely to its government. Thus, accountability is an essential mechanism to eliminate impunity. But one might wonder why such forms of

accountability endure despite the prominent role of sovereignty prevailing in the international order.

- 4 States' compliance to their international commitments, notably regarding human rights, is questioned on a regular basis by media and public opinion (Simmons, 2010, p. 291; Tallberg et al., 2018, p. 214). At the same time, non-state actors' actions are also often brought up by various actors, including media and scholars, as either having life-saving or detrimental consequences (Nasiritousi, 2016, p. 123 ; Cammett & Maclean, 2011, p. 17). As a matter of fact, the role of non-state actors such as civil society has drastically increased over the past decades (Keohane & Nye, 2000), notably in terms of these organizations holding states accountable (Brinkerhoff, 1999, p. 83). Yet, neither the heterogeneity of non-state actors' programs nor their own legitimacy to conduct their activities have been thoroughly examined. As a matter of fact, the legitimacy of non-state actors such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations (Ios) in terms of how they act towards populations they support is put forward by numerous scholars as being undemocratic and lacking accountability mechanisms (Fox, 2000, p. 11; Bob, 2007, p. 6; Dahl, 1999, p. 22; Papadopoulos, 2007, p. 483). These deficiencies originate notably in the detachment between organizations and the people they work for and stem from a lack of inclusion (Kriesi et al., 2013, p. 118) and a too strong focus on donors (Barber & Bowie, 2008, p. 749; Fox, 2000, p. 12). Several mechanisms have been developed in these last years to offer different forms of participation and empowerment that enhance accountability towards the population these organizations foster (Bexell et al., 2010, p. 85; Malena et al., 2004, p. 4). Moreover, non-state actors gravitating around treaties should be analyzed in detail because they clearly establish a form of network whose role and implications for policies has to be examined. Therefore, the extent to which states can be made more accountable to societies by non-state actors has not yet been adequately studied and deserves a proper analysis.
- 5 Thus, the questions grounding my research are the following: to what extent can actors such as NGOs and Ios hold states accountable regarding specific conventions? Is there a network of non-state actors surrounding treaties? Can NGOs and Ios indirectly hold governments accountable through the empowerment of the populations they support?
- 6 I gather all these elements to pursue my research on the question of accountability mechanisms surrounding a specific treaty. It seems highly relevant to study these aspects since they are fundamental to democracy and the legitimacy of states regarding their citizens.
- 7 By identifying the actors and the variety of mechanisms that exist, by whom and how they are used, this study provides significant insight into ways to hold governments accountable. This requires an assessment of the complexity of this issue through an in-depth analysis to grasp all the relevant mechanisms. If such mechanisms exist, they improve the legitimacy of Is and NGOs as actors defending citizens' rights and demands. If states do this as well, there will be important gains for democracy, the credibility of international covenants and multilateral processes. Furthermore, it may mean that there are pathways through which compliance of states to international norms can be effectively demanded and actors can act and demand compliance even in non-democratic states.
- 8 In order to answer my research questions, I divide my thesis into six chapters. Firstly, I draw on the literature to provide a theoretical background of governance,

accountability, legitimacy and social accountability to demonstrate the need to address the pending puzzle raised here. In the second chapter, I provide a theoretical framework gathering key elements to understand the process followed in my study. In the third, fourth and fifth chapters, I analyze the UNCRC, an IO, an NGO and a state. The sixth chapter presents the results obtained and provides a critical analysis and synthesis of the research, as well as suggesting paths for further research.

- 9 My study relies on the “treaty accountability network” (TRAN) concept that I aim to develop in this study. Through this concept, I am able to map the network of actors surrounding a treaty that holds states accountable. I then take NGOs and Ios as principal actors able to hold states accountable using the UNCRC as a case study. Mechanisms developed by these actors can be coined as *direct* or *indirect accountability mechanisms*. While direct accountability’s definition stems from its name, indirect accountability mechanisms have to do with the empowerment of the populations created by Ios and NGOs to enable them to hold their governments accountable. I also analyze *accountability pathways* created by states to ensure their populations are able to hold them accountable. I use reports, constitutions, laws and rules, among other sources, to assess formal mechanisms, as well as interviews to analyze whether there are informal and implicit mechanisms operating as well.
- 10 I focus on the UN Child Rights Convention (UNCRC) because children and youth are of utmost importance to a society’s development. Consequently, their empowerment should have a dramatic impact on policy-making (Danhoudo et al., 2018, p. 6). The UNCRC is one of the most widely ratified human rights conventions. Related to this Convention, I focus on UNICEF because it is an important IO working for child rights and its central role for the UNCRC is acknowledged in the treaty itself. Regarding the NGO, I take the case of Terre des Hommes Suisse, a medium-size NGO working for child rights that is part of the Terre des Hommes International Federation, which constitutes one of the largest federations for child rights. Finally, I also focus on Switzerland to identify state-led initiatives. Thus, it is possible to identify the differences and similarities in the practices of the three categories of actors.

1.2 Literature review

1.2.1. Governance as a network of actors

- 11 At the beginning of this research, it is important to raise the question of international governance, which can be defined as “the collective capacity to identify and solve problems on a global scale” (Slaughter, 2003, p. 83), and to consider what its significance is. Numerous authors have worked on this topic using different approaches and my study stems from this concept, which can be considered as central to international relations.
- 12 First, I argue that international governance is increasingly populated by various actors who are not necessarily states. Indeed, it is important to envision governance as a space where multiple actors interact, in opposition to a vision of the international order occupied by the state alone (Rosenau, 1992, p. 4; Ruggie, 2004, p. 507). According to Rosenau,

governance occurs on a global scale through both the co-ordination of states and the activities of a vast array of rule systems that exercise authority in the pursuit of goals that function outside normal national jurisdictions. (2000, p. 172)

- 13 Building on this, a number of authors confirm the importance of non-state actors as being able to challenge and change states' behavior in the international system (Auer, 2000; Bulkeley, 2005; Bulkeley & Betsill, 2003). Therefore, it is necessary, when discussing international governance, to identify all of the concerned actors.
- 14 International governance relates to the multilateral and international processes set by different actors to guarantee commitment to international treaties. However, there is no guarantee of compliance, because there is no central enforcing power. Thus, to better apprehend policy-making, decisions and their repercussions, it is necessary to analyze all relevant active participants within international governance (Willems, 2001, p. 2), to what Ruggie (2004) refers to as the "Global Public Domain". This ranges from governments to populations, multinational companies and transnational actors such as civil society, NGOs, religious associations, Ios and even transnational criminal groups (Ruggie, 2004, pp. 509–510). The best way to conceptualize these actors participating in governance is to understand them as part of a network. Slaughter explains that "transgovernmental networks [...] occur within a broader framework of sometimes formal, sometimes informal, interaction" (2003, p. 83). He affirms that networks should be understood as complex elements enabling interactions on different scales. While agreeing with the element of complexity, I would rather use the term *transnational network* as developed by Keck & Sikkink (1998). This term describes more accurately the range of actors rather than focusing only on governments as central actors. Thus, governments are still important actors but they are not as omnipotent in shaping governance as they were a few decades ago. New actors have found pathways to participate in international governance through traditional and/or unconventional ways (Andonova, 2017, p. 55; Naidoo, 2003, p. 1; Tallberg et al., p. 233).
- 15 The idea of networks of transnational actors having a key role in international governance is quite compelling because it includes a large variety of actors who are focusing on public goals and looking for an authoritative entity to support a process (Andonova et al., 2009, p. 56). Networks came to be understood not simply as a form of transnational interest organization, but also as a new form of global governance where public and private actors engage with each other across borders and jurisdictions (Andonova & Levy, 2003, p. 19; Andonova et al., 2009, p. 69). The following criteria are essential to transnational forms of governance: the "types of actors involved and the governance functions provided by the network" (Andonova et al., 2009, p. 57).
- 16 Interestingly, three types of transnational networks can be identified:
- 17 1. Epistemic communities (Haas, 1989; Adler & Haas, 1992; Betsill & Bulkeley, 2004), which consist of networks of experts who have a common approach to scientific and political issues;
- 18 2. Global civil society (Lipschutz, 1996; Wapner, 2017), which focuses on the diversity of actors influencing governance decisions; and
- 19 3. Transnational advocacy networks (Keck & Sikkink, 1998), which stem from the discussion on the power of transnational actors.
- 20 These networks reflect Putnam's (1994, p.167) argument that cooperation is needed to overcome the dilemma of collective action and that civil societies and citizens'

engagement have an important role to play. Thus, these actors and the sections of the population sharing their values and objectives are equipped with some leverage based on their capacity to build new pathways between civil society, states and Ios across borders (Keck & Sikkink, 1998, p. 10). Therefore, it enables them to hold governments accountable and to challenge state sovereignty (Keck & Sikkink, 1998, p.10).

- 21 I also would like to emphasize that international governance can seem and actually be undemocratic. This explains the pressing demand to develop accountability. Dahl (1999, p. 23) argues in this sense that international decision-making cannot be democratic and Papadopoulos puts it more bluntly: “actors involved in governance networks are not accountable at all” (2007, p. 483). According to Dahl (1999, p. 22), the delegation of authority from individuals to states and from states to international organizations puts people’s concerns too far from the actions of organizations. For Papadopoulos, this distance is the consequence of four inherent aspects of governance networks: “the weak presence of citizen representatives in networks; the lack of visibility and uncoupling from the democratic circuit; the multilevel aspect; and the prevalence of ‘peer’ forms of accountability” (2007, p. 470).
- 22 Moreover, there is an actual gap between the policies taken at the international level and what is concretely relevant for populations. Indeed, actors participating in international governance convey their own interests and are not necessarily representative of populations, hence creating democratic deficits (Naidoo, 2003, p. 1). While highlighting the importance of “new media” as a new avenue for a population to get political information and to socialize, Kriesi et al. (2013, p. 42) believe that there is too much disconnection between people shaping and enforcing policies and those impacted by them. This raises issues of legitimacy that I discuss later in this thesis.
- 23 However, many authors argue that international governance facilitates cooperation through international institutions to address issues that are beyond state control, particularly in instances affecting global commons, transnational interactions, threats or norm-making (Abbott & Snidal, 2001, p. 366; Keohane, 1982, pp. 354–355; Milner, 1992, p. 495; Snidal, 1985, p. 56). Scholars of democratic governance have furthermore proposed solutions to make international cooperation more inclusive: for instance, by enlarging the scope of policy-making in international governance, notably through the inclusion of citizens, thanks to other schemes rather than simple elections (Kriesi et al., 2013, p. 118). Bexell et al. also develop their argument on transnational actors and governance: “problem-solving effectiveness is no longer sufficient in itself, but [it] must be supplemented with more democratic procedures of decision making” (2010, p. 85). This can be resolved to some extent with the participation of transnational actors in international institutions (Bexell et al., 2010, p. 88). Indeed, transparency and participatory methods are expected to provide more legitimacy to such processes (Backstrand, 2006, p. 290). Thus, the question of accountability emerges as a significant parameter giving international governance legitimacy and effectiveness (Woods, 1999, p. 41).
- 24 The consideration of networks of both state and non-state actors in the analysis makes it possible to better grasp their roles in addressing the democratic deficit in global governance. Indeed, civil society’s role in global governance comes with strong consequences for accountability (Scholte, 2004, pp. 212–213), such as greater

public transparency of global governance operations, [which enables] monitoring and reviewing [of] global policies, [...] by advancing the creation of formal accountability mechanisms for global governance. (Scholte, 2004, p. 217)

- 25 These forms of accountability could be what Papadopoulos advocates for: a “parliamentarisation of multilevel governance systems” (2007, p. 484). This implies that inclusion and participation could be adequate tools for international governance but would require a genuine representation of people and not only some strata of them (Schmidt, 2006, p. 12).

1.2.2. Accountability and its societal impacts

- 26 Accountability has a dramatic importance for international governance since it defines relations among all actors participating in this field. As I try to demonstrate, accountability is a powerful mechanism to increase states’ compliance with international treaties. Thus, it is important to clarify what the constitutive elements of accountability are since the term “often serves as a conceptual umbrella covering various other often highly contested concepts” (Bovens, 2007, p. 105b).
- 27 Therefore, the definition of accountability given by Bovens seems to be overwhelmingly favored by authors and the most accurate for my research:
- A relationship between an actor and a forum, in which the actor has an obligation to explain and to justify his or her conduct, the forum can pose questions and pass judgement, and the actor may face consequences’. (2007a, p. 447).
- 28 Moreover, Bovens (2007a) provides three main practices permitting institutions and powerful actors to verify their capacity to be responsible:
- 29 1. Gathering relevant information regarding their actions;
 - 30 2. Building a setting where accountability-holders can question the actions taken by those who wield power and their legitimacy;
 - 31 3. Requiring some type of liability.
- 32 Different ways to apprehend accountability have been raised in the literature. Mulgan (2000) shows how accountability is becoming a chameleon word whose definition is constantly expanding. It can refer to either internal accountability, which is about personal responsibility, or external accountability, which pertains to the relationship between two entities (Mulgan, 2000, p. 557). In sum, accountability is a concept that is used to name all mechanisms relating to individuals or institutions that need to justify their conduct (Mulgan, 2003, p. 9). Koppell also raises the issue of the meaning of accountability, coining the phrase “multiple accountability disorder” (2005, p. 94), because of the various conceptualizations that the word implies. He identifies five elements linked to accountability: transparency, liability, controllability, responsibility and responsiveness (Koppell, 2005, p. 94). Yet, the most prominent distinction that can enhance comprehension of accountability is the differentiation between vertical, diagonal and horizontal accountability (Bovens, 2007a; Schillemans, 2008; O’Donnell, 1998; Scott, 2000). Bovens (2007a) refers to this distinction as one between traditional and modern mechanisms.
- 33 On one hand, vertical accountability can be understood, for instance, as the most obvious public form of accountability in Western democracies, stemming from a principal-agent relationship where delegation of sovereignty is entrusted to

parliamentary representatives and consecutively delegated to an executive branch (Strom, 2003). Among the different mechanisms of this more traditional type, Stewart (2014) raises the importance of elections as an element of vertical accountability. Moreover, the judicial system is another mechanism enabling this form of accountability (Scott, 2000).

- 34 On the other hand, modern horizontal and diagonal accountability mechanisms “include accountability to administrative forums, to citizens, clients, and civil society” (Bovens, 2007b, p. 110). As indicated by Bovens (2007b), many pathways of accountability refer neither to a top-down and principal-agent relation nor to a democratic process per se. Grant and Keohane confirm that “we should resist the temptation to narrow the issue of accountability to that of democratic control” (2005, p. 42). These new forms of accountability identify numerous societal mechanisms where civic engagement, associations, civil society organizations or social capital, to mention only a few, are essential for holding governments accountable and more responsive (Bovens, 2007b, p. 116). Actually, horizontal forms of accountability often possess an informal character (Schillemans, 2008, p. 305). However, Schillemans also mentions that, for instance in the case of the Netherlands, “formal mechanisms have been developed [...] that give third parties the formal possibility to demand accountability from agencies” (2008, p. 305). Therefore, states have the possibility to develop horizontal accountability mechanisms enabling other actors to participate.
- 35 For instance, the work of McCubbins and Schwartz (1984) on fire alarms and police patrols in the United States Congress demonstrates the existence of different mechanisms: while police patrols would rather refer to vertical forms of accountability with Congress using its own power to trigger inquiries into specific processes, fire alarms refer to mechanisms established by Congress as “a system of rules, procedures, and informal practices that enable individual citizens and organized interest groups to examine administrative decisions” (McCubbins & Schwartz, 1984, p. 166). This has dramatic consequences for my work: firstly, it implies that the power-wielder has to develop and allow pathways for such mechanisms to exist and, secondly, it indicates that non-state actors can effectively be *watchdogs*, or to name them differently, *accountability holders*, provided they are granted the possibility to express themselves. It would therefore be interesting to question this assumption in my research.
- 36 Putnam (1993), along the same lines as Tocqueville in *Democracy in America*, underlines the importance of societal inclusion and concrete action in society. He also emphasizes that “associationism is a necessary precondition for effective self-government” and notes that “there was a strong correlation between civic participation and institutional performance” (Putnam, 1993, pp. 90, 98). He thus insists on the benefits of horizontal networks of actors as accountability holders for the effectiveness and responsiveness of governments.
- 37 A number of authors (Brett, 2003, pp. 22–23; Sarker & Hassan, 2010; Odugbemi & Lee, 2011) note that transparent media and proactive academia are essential for an active civil society to exercise accountability. Indeed, there is an increasing need to identify the will from the population to inform, monitor and participate in the processes of [...] institutions as elements of accountability (Goetz & Jenkins, 2001, p. 363; Harrison & Sayogo, 2014, p. 523). Therefore, it is unavoidable to adopt a non-state vision of accountability and examine carefully the role of non-state actors in this research.

- 38 The literature on accountability in non-democratic countries is of interest because it provides some elements going beyond traditional accountability mechanisms. According to Levitsky and Way, there are four arenas of democratic pillars: the electoral arena, the legislature, the judiciary and the media (Levitsky & Way, 2010, pp. 55–56). Not all of these four mechanisms are always in the government's hands, which creates what is often referred to as hybrid regimes and leaves room for certain forms of opposition. These arenas are relevant places where NGOs and Ios can work to hold states accountable. Even in neo-patrimonial regimes, governments are accountable to some segments of society, notably elites and supportive parts of their populations (Snyder, 1992, p. 379). To conclude, voting is obviously, and by far, not the only means holding those in power accountable. Many other mechanisms exist, namely where actors in the accountability network, such as NGOs and Ios, can have an impact and leverage on states. This is what I aim to demonstrate in my study.
- 39 Furthermore, the distribution of power is an important way for the power-wielder to be held responsible by accountability holders. Power resources are not equally distributed among actors and pro-accountability actors may face severe resistance when power is not equally shared among the actors involved (Fox, 2000, p. 19). In undemocratic states, this is an important issue and this is why it is often the elites that are the most powerful group to hold governments accountable (Snyder, 1992, p. 379). However, power distribution is not only to be apprehended through a state-centric model but, as noted by Clifford Bob, non-state actors such as NGOs also have significant power: “transnational NGOs have specialized agendas and limited resources making them highly selective in choosing local clients from numerous similar groups” (2001, pp. 327–328). Thus, there is competition between different civil society organizations that receive funding. In this case, transnational NGOs become the power-wielders. Moreover, thanks to the development of new technologies and social media, a new path to accountability is developing, where individuals are better interconnected, notably with state institutions (Bovens, 2007a, p. 457; Kriesi et al., 2013, p. 189).
- 40 After acknowledging the power of non-state actors, the question of their own accountability needs to be addressed as well. Actually, several mechanisms are taken into account by the literature. For instance, among the seven accountability mechanisms developed by Grant and Keohane (2005), mechanisms of peer-pressure are identified: they include, for example, the quality of information that NGOs collect from their counterparts or their readiness to cooperate with each other (Grant & Keohane, 2005, p. 37). Thus, thanks to these mechanisms, peer organizations hold other organizations and their boards accountable for their actions (Grant & Keohane, 2005, p. 35). Moreover, as I demonstrate later, the literature has also raised the importance of participatory mechanisms to improve accountability of non-state actors.
- 41 As states' institutions are a well-analyzed part of the literature, I focus on the involvement of non-state actors. Assessing the literature thus far, it is particularly useful to perform a comparative analysis among various actors.

1.2.3. Legitimacy of accountability holders

- 42 Legitimacy is central to understanding how any actor, from citizens to organizations, could claim to be or to be seen as able to hold another actor or institution accountable. That is why I briefly assess the literature on this core element of my research.

- 43 It is important to understand what elements provide non-state actors legitimacy to set up accountability mechanisms. Scholars distinguish between empirical and normative perspectives on legitimacy to better apprehend the concept (Jackson & Bradford, 2019, p. 268; Schmelzle, 2012, p. 11; Walter-Drop & Remmert, 2018, p. 546).
- 44 On one hand, normative legitimacy refers to a predetermined theoretical standard (Jackson & Bradford, 2019, p. 268; Schmelzle & Stollenwerk, 2018) such as norms developed through international agreements and conveyed throughout the world. This resonates with Weber (1978) explaining that legitimation stems from rational discourse, relying on a rational-legal approach. Thus, norms and principles are the core of legitimacy because they were adopted by the governing group and they bound various parties rationally (Weber, 1978, p. 217; Habermas, 1988, p. 105; Cole, 2009, p. 564; Saurugger, 2008, p. 176). Through the analysis of three prominent human rights treaties, Cole concludes that normative legitimacy depends on international covenants being ratified or not (Cole, 2009, p. 564). Yet, as seen in Goldstein's analysis of WTO functioning, states may well be liable to international law and its effects even when they are not part of an agreement (Goldstein et al., 2007, p. 37). Furthermore, international customary law has a significant role to play in legitimizing the accountability of states because it is universally applied. States are liable in regard to it, despite the fact that they have not formally ratified binding rules (Petersen, 2007, p. 296). Therefore, these examples highlight some limitations of normative legitimacy and show that it is highly subjective and often not related to the concrete world.
- 45 On the other hand, empirical legitimacy brings some enlightening responses to the question of legitimacy. This concept relates to a de facto social acceptance of the right to govern (Jackson & Bradford, 2019, p. 268) and it "increases the chances of the governed to voluntarily follow the rules established by the governors" (Walter-Drop & Remmert, 2018, p. 546). This resembles what Weber coins as legitimacy "through the habituation of long practice" (1964, p. 115 in Spencer, 1970, p. 126). Thus, if the governing group is representative empirically, the norms it creates should be empirically legitimate. In this process, participation is an important tool to gain legitimacy (Habermas, 1999, p. 7). In the same vein, the inclusion and the participation of the public in decision-making in the governing group enhances the policies and the legitimacy of the decisions stemming from this process (Dabrowska, 2007, p. 288). Many actors such as NGOs and Ios have an increasing empirical legitimacy to hold accountable states, other actors or their peers (Coicaud, 2001, p. 573). Yet, there is a need to build stronger mechanisms to include, among others, participation, representativeness and identification on a world stage and among non-state organizations (Coicaud, 2001, p. 583).
- 46 As a marker of the tension between normative and empirical legitimacy, the example of NGOs is enlightening. NGOs claim legitimacy for emphasizing states' responsibilities. Yet, their own accountability towards the populations they support is lacking (Fox, 2000, p. 11; Bob, 2007, p. 6). Therefore, the problem is the fact that they are often more accountable to donors than aid recipients (Barber & Bowie, 2008, p. 749; Fox, 2000, p. 12). Actually, "one of the most important sources of NGO accountability is the possible distance between the high standards they publicly set for themselves and their actual practices" (Fox, 2000, p. 12). It seems then salient to argue that if NGOs, and more generally non-state actors, emphasized their responsibility towards populations they support, their empirical legitimacy would increase. Therefore, there is a need to

provide a better understanding of the accountability mechanisms and the legitimacy of non-state actors such as Ios and NGOs.

- 47 Finally, Finnemore and Sikkink's (1998) study on norms and practices reconciles to some extent both dimensions of legitimacy: they explain that norms and practices are both providers of legitimacy to actors demanding accountability of states for their commitment to international norms and standards. On one hand, norms provide juridical legitimacy; on the other hand, practices supply empirical evidence of legitimacy which is either implicitly or explicitly granted by populations.
- 48 Even though NGOs and Ios are not democratically elected, they can gain legitimacy thanks to normative references in international and domestic laws, as well as through practices linked to societal actors, victims and impacted populations (Price 2003; Keck & Sikkink, 2014; Andonova, 2017, p. 39). Both norms and practices influence and enrich each other. According to the display of norms proposed by Finnemore and Sikkink, once they emerge, there is a *norm cascade* ensuring the movement from population to states and Ios (among others). Ultimately, there is the "internalization" of the norms by states, through their domestication in local contexts (Finnemore & Sikkink, 1998, p. 898; Price 2003). Thus, the role of local participation of populations and civil society is important since it can have a direct impact on the legitimacy of NGOs and Ios as accountability-holders.

1.2.4. Social accountability as a field of study

- 49 In this section, I focus on the concept of social accountability recently created mainly for the purpose of development agencies. It is relevant to examine what this concept contributes because it provides an interesting conception of accountability and is increasingly discussed in the literature.
- 50 First of all, the definition of the concept can be summarized as such:
- [It] refers to a form of accountability that emerges through actions by citizens and civil society organizations aimed at holding the State to account, as well as efforts by government and other actors [media, private sector, donors] to support and respond to these actions. The goal of social accountability is not to replace but to reinforce and complement existing [...] accountability mechanisms. (UNDP, 2014, p. 11)
- 51 The field of social accountability is a recent development in the literature on accountability, focusing on the key role of social actors such as civil society to hold power-wielders accountable. It would thus refer to a horizontal vision of accountability according to the classification discussed before. Social accountability has actually emerged as a core concept and provides citizens the possibility to access greater transparency and to exercise a better control of their rights (McNeil & Malena, 2010, p. xi; Bergh, 2019, p. 237). If implemented thoroughly, these mechanisms can contribute in many ways to citizens' participation and life-conditions. Thus, it fosters a more adequate responsiveness to populations' demands and enables more effective policy-making, governance, empowerment and policies (Danhouo et al., 2018, p. 6; Malena et al., 2004, p. 4). For instance, the World Bank has developed social accountability mechanisms, which enable citizens to be in contact with decision-makers of the organization and, conversely, staff to be aware of citizens' demands regarding the organization (World Bank, 2004, p. 275).

- 52 It is important to note that the approach to social accountability should not be taken in a unidirectional sense, for instance through the perspective of a state-based approach, but rather should be identified as the intersection of the involved partners (Gaventa, 2003, p. 2). Thus, the concerned actors analyzed can be both the power-wielders and the accountability holders (Brinkerhoff & Wetterberg, 1999, p. 275). This is a significant aspect, given that I aim to study accountability as seen in both directions: from NGOs and Ios to governments and from populations to NGOs and Ios.
- 53 Moreover, social accountability goes further than traditional vertical accountability. Indeed, social accountability mechanisms can be used at any moment in time and with respect to any specific actors (Peruzzoti & Smulovitz, 2006, p. 10), unlike fixed election dates and governmentally defined pathways of accountability. Actually, as noted by McNeil and Malena (2010), a social accountability mechanism is neither uniquely a bottom-up nor a top-down approach since it can be initiated by a broad range of actors such as individuals, civil societies, Ios, media, etc. It can also arise at various spatial levels (internationally, nationally, regionally or at the community level). However, the context, in which social accountability is exercised, is an important element in its functioning. The context involves various aspects such as political or cultural elements; the legal and policy frameworks that are in place; sociocultural and economic factors and institutional conditions (Grimes, 2013, p. 380; McNeil & Malena, 2010, p. 186; Kihongo & Lubuva, 2010, p. 68).
- 54 Several mechanisms of social accountability can be determined. Indeed, authors working on social accountability have identified civic education, media coverage, advocacy, coalition building, learning and capacity building as the main social accountability mechanisms (Ahmad, 2008, p. 13; McNeil & Malena, 2010, p. 6; Kohli, 2012, p. 14; Brinkerhoff & Wettenberg, 1999, p. 283). Participatory practices and pathways are essential since they enable non-state actors and, most importantly individuals, to voice their demands to power-wielders in various ways (McNeil & Malena, 2010, p. 6), such as *health facility committees*, *citizen report cards* and *score cards* (Danhoudo et al., 2018, p. 3; Humphrey & Weinstein, 2012, p. 47; Shanklin & Monga, 2018). Participation is about providing individuals agency by considering them as having the capacity to provide necessary knowledge and shape policies (Hickey & Mohan, 2004, p. 3): to express it differently, participatory mechanisms empower populations. Actually, Sirker and Cosic (2007) and Hertz (2016) emphasize the question of the empowerment of marginalized populations, arguing that it allows citizens to be heard, thus ensuring a more cohesive society.
- 55 Therefore, social accountability, by its functioning, can allow for positive outcomes for a population, non-state actors and governments. It can improve the effectiveness of programs and enhance policy-making by offering pathways for a wide range of actors to hold power-wielders accountable. In spite of all the advantages of social accountability referred to above, numerous shortcomings ought to be mentioned. Firstly, because social accountability is a concept created essentially by and for development agencies, the literature related to it might be overly optimistic about its results. As noted by Davies (2001, p. 7), the evidence of its effectiveness is often limited. Secondly, social accountability's success needs to be balanced with the fact that NGOs "focus principally on their responsibilities to their patrons, very often at the cost of their responsibility to their clients and to their own goals and vision" (Najam, 1996, p. 351). Thus, it is easily understandable that they have high incentives to develop reports

fostering the methods they use such as social accountability. Thirdly, local information is necessary for the effective implementation of social accountability at the local level. Because it is often inaccessible without contacting local populations, several NGOs avoid this step, thus jeopardizing the legitimacy of the project (Barnett & Walker, 2015, p. 134). Finally, while the literature affirms that it refers uniquely to vertical accountability, its theoretical position is not clear because many of the attributes of the concept coincide with horizontal accountability.

- 56 Assessing what has been brought up in this section, the concept of social accountability offers an interesting contribution to accountability in general. Its theoretical utility needs to be considered, yet due to the several shortcomings of the concept, I use it as a complement to my conceptualization of accountability rather than as it is.
- 57 I reach here the end of the literature survey which provided an overview of my specific research interests. As can be seen, much has been written on several aspects of my thesis question, yet they have never been brought together, focusing on both NGOs and Ios and on the multidimensional accountability patterns they are part of. Here is then a further elaborated formulation of my research question:

To what extent can NGOs and Ios hold states responsible regarding the UNCRC and are they themselves accountable to the populations they foster? Is there a network of actors surrounding the treaty and can NGOs and Ios indirectly hold governments accountable through the empowerment of populations they support?

2. Theoretical Framework

2.1 Conceptualization

- 1 In order to give my study a strong basis on which to build an analysis, a clear definition and conceptualization of the core concepts of the research is required. Thus, I identify the concepts here as ideal-types that I then confront with reality. I have created an “analysis sheet” (appendix 1) that enables me to carry out my research while referring accurately to the theoretical aspects as defined.

2.1.1. Accountability

- 2 I use the definition of accountability as given by Bovens (2007a):
A relationship between an actor and a forum, in which the actor has an obligation to explain and to justify his or her conduct, the forum can pose questions and pass judgement, and the actor may face consequences. (2007, p. 447a)
- 3 There are five basic questions that stem from Bovens’s work to assess the functioning concept of accountability: Who? To whom? For what? How? And with what outcome? (Bovens, 2007a, p. 451).
- 4 Thus, accountability represents a relation between power-wielders and those holding them accountable (Grant & Keohane, 2005, pp. 30–31). Therefore, it can be considered as a proactive process by which “public officials inform about and justify their plans of action, their behavior and results and are sanctioned accordingly” (Ackerman, 2005, p. 12). Moreover, accountability will not be seen as a retrospective process but rather as an ongoing one where participation of all actors leads to more effectivity and representativity (Burrall & Neligan, 2005, p. 7).
- 5 I conceptualize accountability in both its horizontal and vertical forms. Bovens explains that vertical accountability reflects a situation where “the forum formally wields power over the actor, [...] due to the hierarchical relationship between actor and forum” (2004, p. 460). Regarding the horizontal form of accountability, he describes it as “giving account to various stakeholders in society [...] on a voluntary basis with no intervention on the part of a principal” (Bovens, 2004, p. 460). Concerning social

accountability, I focus on civic engagement through several elements: the use by NGOs and Ios of media, public demonstrations, protests, advocacy campaigns, investigative journalism and participatory data gathering; and, on a governmental level, the inclusion of participatory public policy-making, participatory budgeting and citizen evaluation reports (Malena et al., 2004, p. 3; Kohli, 2012, p. 14; Brinkerhoff & Wetterberg, 1999, p. 283). As evidence, authors mention evidence-based advocacy, capacity-building training and monitoring (Kubalasa & Nsapato, 2010, p. 106).

- 6 Furthermore, Grant & Keohane provide an interesting framework to classify different types of accountability in world politics. Four of them are based on delegation: hierarchical, supervisory, fiscal and legal. Three other types pertain to diverse forms of participation: market, peer and reputational accountability (Grant & Keohane, 2005, p. 30).

Fig. 1: Grant & Keohane, 2005, p. 30

| Mechanism | Accountability Holder | Power-Wielder | Cost to Power-Wielder | Example |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Hierarchical | Leaders of organization | Subordinate official | Loss of career opportunities | Authority of UN Secretary-General |
| Supervisory | States | Multilateral organization and its executive head | Restraints on ability to act, loss of office | World Bank and IMF governance by their executive boards |
| Fiscal | Funding agencies | Funded agency | Budget restrictions | Withholding of UN dues |
| Legal | Courts | Individual official or agency | From restriction of authority to criminal penalties | International Criminal Court |
| Market | Equity- and bond-holders and consumers | Firm or government | Loss of access to, or higher cost of, capital | Refusal of capital markets to finance developing country governments during world financial crises |
| Peer | Peer organizations | Organizations and their leaders | Effects on network ties and therefore on others' support | Independent marine certification body's evaluation of the Greenpeace-Shell controversy |
| Public reputational ^a | Peers and diffuse public | Individual or agency | Diffuse effects on reputation, prestige, self-esteem | Effects on U.S. "soft power" of unilateralism |

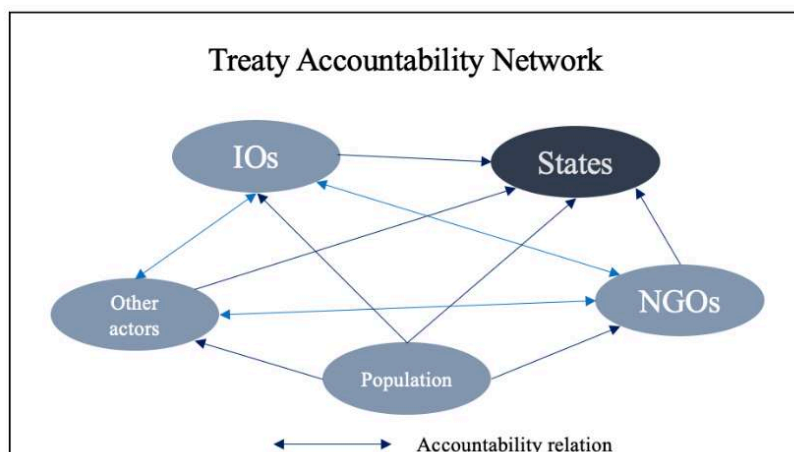
^a Reputational effects are involved in all issues of accountability, as mechanisms leading to punishment through hierarchy, supervision, fiscal measures, legal action, the market, and peer responses. The category of public reputational effects refers to situations where the other means of accountability are not available, but reputational effects are widely known and significant.

- 7 I use this framework and its definitions to analyze each actor in the synthesis. Yet, this classification does not allow for a flexible and dynamic analysis since it provides only unidirectional paths for accountability holders and power-wielders. To better represent reality, I assume that power-wielders' and accountability holders' roles as conceptualized by Grant and Keohane (2005) can be swapped depending on the situation. This is why I highlight the importance of multidirectional accountability that can be defined as a relation not going in only one direction and refers to power-wielders being subject to several accountability-holders. Moreover, I intend to develop further this framework as it focuses uniquely on accountability in world politics. Indeed, my goal is to work on policies of organizations surrounding treaties, on a micro-level, assessing the multidirectionality of the concept. Furthermore, this classification does not make it possible to grasp all of the mechanisms I want to analyze such as TRAN, direct and indirect accountability mechanisms. Thus, the need to create a new classification for the purpose of my research.

2.1.2. Treaty accountability network

- 8 The idea of a treaty accountability network (TRAN) emerges from an understanding of accountability in a multidirectional dimension, which is essential to a comprehensive overview. According to Harlow-Rawlings (2007), the creation of accountability networks is significant since it gathers various actors forming a collective identity. This enables them to formulate demands and be able to defend themselves (Harlow-Rawling, 2007, p. 560). My conceptualization of a TRAN differs from the definition of the network by Harlow-Rawlings, since it focuses on a looser tie between stakeholders. It maps relevant actors rather than the ones uniting formally to tackle an issue together. Thus, in my view, a TRAN embodies all the actors and mechanisms that pertain to holding states and other stakeholders accountable.
- 9 Peer accountability is another form of horizontal accountability mentioned in the literature that is “the result of mutual evaluation of organizations by their counterparts” (Grant & Keohane, 2005, p. 30). It is similar to the concept of “mutual accountability between bodies standing on equal footing” (Bovens, 2004, p. 460). Thus, this concept involves all the actors of a treaty accountability network.
- 10 It is important to emphasize that I am focusing on the role of states, NGOs, Ios and populations but, for the sake of the study’s length and coherence, I leave aside the roles of other actor such as donors.
- 11 As part of a TRAN, a non-governmental organization is defined as an “organization that tries to achieve social or political aims, but is not controlled by a government” (Cambridge Dictionary, 2020). Characteristically, NGOs embody four basic features: they are independent from states; they work for the common good; they are non-profit directed; and their mandates, functions, size and relationships with other actors can vary substantially (Baylis et al., 2017, p. 354). As the other main actor of a TRAN, an international organization is defined as an “autonomous site of authority, independent from the state *principals*” (Barnett & Finnemore, 1999, p. 707). The relative autonomy Ios acquire from states comes from a bureaucratization process (Weber, 2013, pp. 196–197) and from “specialized technical knowledge, training, and experience that is not immediately available to other actors” (Barnett & Finnemore, 1999, p. 707). These organizations’ main attributes originate from “their charters, voting procedures, committee structures, and the like, [which] account for what they do (Kratochwil & Ruggie, 1986, p. 755).
- 12 The graph below (figure 2) depicts the relations of accountability between actors of a TRAN. The main actor held accountable in the TRAN is the state. The relations among non-state actors are mainly peer accountability (double-arrows) and are otherwise either vertical (between population and states, for example) or horizontal (between population and NGOs or Ios and states). Moreover, the relations involve both direct and indirect forms of accountability. Thus, the graph offers an overview of relevant actors implied in a TRAN and the directionality of accountability relations.

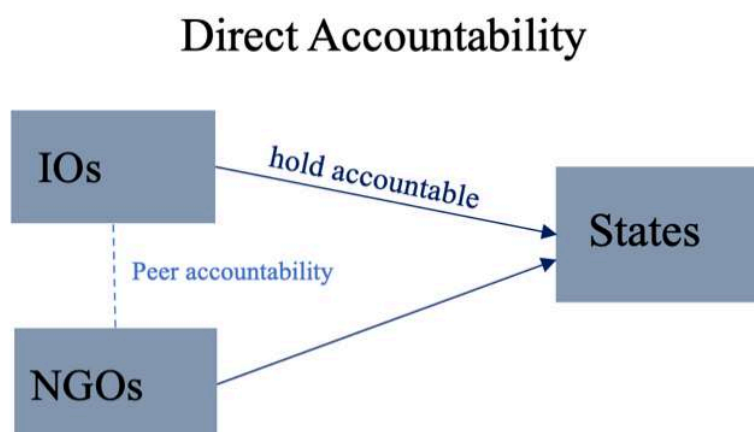
Fig. 2 : Treaty Accountability Network



2.1.3. Direct accountability and indirect accountability through empowerment

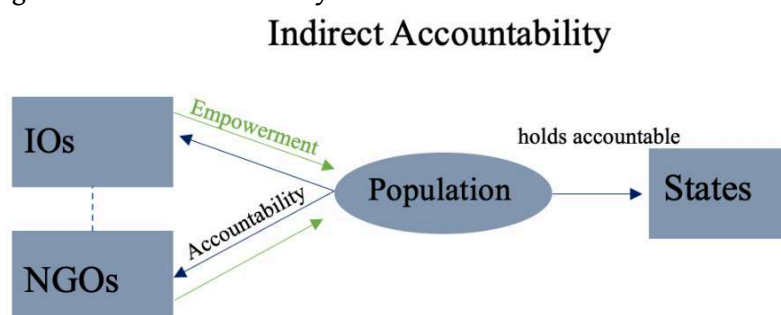
- 13 I intend to portray the TRAN by distinguishing direct and indirect accountability mechanisms. Since there are several mechanisms existing for its participants to hold states responsible, I need to go beyond Grant and Keohane's categories to better represent the empirical situation.
- 14 Direct mechanisms are based on a one-to-one relationship where an actor directly holds another actor accountable. There are different mechanisms for this, either horizontal or vertical. Direct procedures are set up to hold governments accountable in a direct and "linear" way: for instance, C is held accountable by A through the denunciation of certain of its practices with the help of reports or campaigns. The source of authority for IOs can be based in law: for instance, a convention itself could state the role of the organization as assuming monitoring or reporting functions. Regarding NGOs, their source of authority often originates from their moral authority but it could also be formally delegated by states or other non-state actors for specific purposes.
- 15 The graph below depicts the direct accountability mechanism:

Fig. 3 : Direct Accountability Mechanism



- 16 Indirect mechanisms imply a third-party in the relationship: for instance, A uses a third-party called B to hold C accountable. In my research I mainly focus on the empowerment of a population provided by NGOs and Ios to hold their governments responsible. Yet, I do not exclude the possibility of identifying other paths of indirect accountability, which would then simply mean the relation is not unique but is developed through other actors.
- 17 These mechanisms rely mainly on horizontal accountability and NGOs and Ios have an important role to increase power-wielders' accountability. For instance, they are able to impact the reputation of a state (through direct or indirect mechanisms) and, they can empower a population, which will then be more informed and exercise political pressure on governments.
- 18 Empowerment can be defined as a process through which people, groups or communities gain greater authority and power over their lives and situations (Ucar Martinez et al., 2017, p. 408). It improves relational, positional and societal power in general. Indeed, "empowered individuals can significantly advance a collective agenda, in some cases even spurring emboldened publics to action" (Brinkerhoff & Wetterberg, 2016, p. 276). It is especially relevant for minorities or categories of populations that do not have access to ways of expressing their demands: empowerment "creat[es] social structural change to benefit oppressed people" (Yeich & Levine, 1992, p. 1895). However, I do not rely uniquely on the notion of "oppressed people" which seems too paternalistic and exclusive since it is not only this category of population that can be empowered. Indicators of empowerment can be participation and education of populations (Danhoudo et al., 2018, p. 6). Moreover, of interest for this research, an insightful definition of the case of the empowerment of youth and children is provided by Lundy: they should have voice, space, people that hear their demands and genuine influence on policies (Lundy, 2007, p. 940).
- 19 The graph below depicts the relation between Ios/NGOs and the population. The arrows signify accountability of Ios/NGOs towards the population and from the population to states. Through the empowerment of the population thanks to Ios/NGOs' programs (green arrow), people will then be able to hold states responsible.

Fig. 4 : Indirect Accountability Mechanism



- 20 Finally, accountability pathways pertain to the analysis of states in this research. I intend to demonstrate that states can develop mechanisms to allow different actors such as NGOs, Ios and individuals to verify whether governments comply with their obligations. This term is the equivalent of "mechanism" as it is used in the research, so,

to avoid confusion, the word *pathway* is employed to refer to mechanisms created by states.

2.2 Independent variables, dependent variables and argument

- 21 On one hand, the outcome to be reached is for states to be held accountable for a specific treaty they ratified. On the other hand, the main explanatory factors considered are the role of the TRAN and, the direct or indirect accountability mechanisms that are set up by NGOs and Ios and pathways created by the state itself. The relation expected is that states that have ratified a convention are consequently held accountable by several actors through these different procedures.
- 22 My argument is therefore that NGOs and Ios are core actors of a treaty accountability network surrounding each international agreement. The treaty accountability network enables them to hold states responsible for their compliance with treaties, in the case I consider here, with the United Nations Child Rights Convention (UNCRC). Certain countries also develop pathways for the population to hold them accountable. Several mechanisms, conceptualized as direct or indirect accountability, make it possible to further develop an understanding of the concept. I argue that NGOs and Ios intend to increase empowerment of the population and improve their capacity to hold states accountable for their international commitments.

2.3 Hypotheses

- 23 The following three hypotheses formulated in the case of the UNCRC concern Terre des Hommes Suisse, UNICEF in the last 5 years and Switzerland in the last 15 years. These hypotheses draw on the conceptualization of accountability, TRAN and direct and indirect accountability mechanisms regarding treaties as elaborated above. The hypotheses are linked to each other, yet can be independently verified.
- 24 1. If a state ratifies an international treaty, it is constrained to be accountable to its population. Consequently, a TRAN develops, allowing actors such as NGOs and Ios to hold states accountable.
- 25 2. If states, Ios and NGOs are subject to accountability, this can be either direct or indirect. In the latter case, it involves accountability mechanisms that can be developed by Ios and NGOs to empower aid recipients to hold their governments accountable.
- 26 3. If peer accountability also exists among Ios and NGOs, it emphasizes power relations among them for their various actions undertaken regarding the UNCRC.

2.4 Alternative explanations

- 27 Numerous other explanations could explain the mechanisms I intend to identify in this research. First of all, one could argue that NGOs and Ios do not rely on the ratification of an international treaty to hold a state accountable. Actually, they could advocate for states to ratify a treaty. Thus, the hypothesis that a TRAN enables actors to hold states accountable might not be the only explanation for their influence.

- 28 Secondly, in many cases, even though empowerment mechanisms exist, this does not mean that they will be used by aid recipients or that they will be effective. Indeed, such use and effectiveness need a particular context such as functional infrastructures and tools that the population understands and values (Grimes, 2013, p. 380; McNeil & Malena, 2010, p. 186; Kihongo & Lubuva, 2010, p. 68).
- 29 Thirdly, actors do not necessarily cooperate or have a clear vision of what other actors' actions are, thereby limiting their capacity to hold peers accountable. Indeed, often actors support cooperation but cannot implement it (Hensell, 2015, p. 106). The reasons for this include, for instance, disagreements, threats to actors' autonomy and lack of resources. Another explanation could be what Carpenter describes as the role of gatekeepers, where certain organizations prevent the participation of certain actors in talks and cooperation schemes based, for instance, on the credibility or reputation of the actors (Carpenter, 2010, pp. 213–215).
- 30 Finally, the contexts in which non-state actors operate may have a significant influence on their ability to engage in direct and indirect accountability. Indeed, in some countries, the possibility to voice demands and concerns might be limited and could explain the presence of these mechanisms and the way they operate.
- 31 However, it seems that my explanation is the most relevant so far. Studies including these alternative explanations would be interesting in order to evaluate whether they are empirically relevant or whether my hypotheses would be disproved.

2.5 Operationalization

2.5.1. Case selection

- 32 In this paper, I focus on one NGO and one IO and select one state in order to explore empirically the development of accountability mechanisms and the treaty accountability network with respect to state compliance with specific international norms related to the rights of the child. My units of analysis are these three different actors and their policies in their context for the past 5 years for the NGO and IO and, in the last 15 years for the state. I chose this time frame because it is mostly during these periods of time that social forms of accountability and participatory methods have developed at the non-state and state levels (Marcel, 2015). It also makes it possible to do an up-to-date study.
- 33 Firstly, my case focuses on the application of the United Nations Child Rights Convention (UNCRC). The UNCRC, as one of the most ratified conventions in the world, is a salient case to demonstrate my hypotheses. Moreover, it fosters rights of children and youth who lack a voice to express their demands (Allard, 1996, p. 167; Johnson, 2017, p. 3). The literature raises the importance of providing tools for excluded or marginalized populations, such as children and youth (Nieuwenhuys, 1997; Feinstein et al., 2009; Day, 2009). For example, Muchabaiwa and Johnson (2010) provide an interesting case study on child rights. Their research emphasizes that if children are included in decision-making and are aware of their rights, they will not allow policies that ignore them (Muchabaiwa & Johnson, 2010, p. 109). Moreover, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (henceforth referred to as the Committee) is a significant mechanism developed by the UNCRC. It has the duty to monitor state parties' behaviors

regarding the treaty (Garbarino & Briggs, 2014, p. 1). It would then be interesting to identify how, via the Committee, the NGO and IO studied in my research assess the role and the actions of the concerned states.

- 34 The UNCRC thus provides a salient case study of an international agreement for human rights that implicates many different actors and, most prominently NGOs and Ios. For my analysis, I therefore focus on the UNCRC and its three related optional protocols.
- 35 Secondly, I consider the NGO Terre des Hommes Suisse (TDHS). TDHS is a prominent NGO working on child rights. It is considered to be of medium size with a budget of 8 million CHF per year and a staff consisting of approximately 25 people (TDHS, 2020a). Because TDHS delegates much of its advocacy to the International Terre des Hommes Federation (FITDH), which groups together 10 Terre des Hommes NGOs (Denmark, Italy, Germany, France, Netherlands, Spain, Terre des Hommes Foundation Lausanne, Terre des Hommes Schweiz and Terre des Hommes Suisse) (FITDH, 2020), it is necessary to analyze TDHS and the FITDH together. Actually, the FITDH constitutes one of the most influential and active NGO federations for children in the world (Child Rights Connect, 2010, p. 17). The fact that both Terre des Hommes Suisse and the FITDH have advocacy and participatory programs fosters my choice to focus on their case in my research since the literature acknowledges these tools as central for holding states accountable. Hickey and Mohan (2004, pp. 165–166) identify that advocacy of NGOs is a powerful resource for the causes they defend and ensures their effective participation in decision-making. The role NGOs play in holding governments accountable also has much to do with the growing presence they have among multilateral I. In these contexts, they have the possibility, for example, to *name and shame* states to draw backlash from other governments, civil society and public opinion and push for policy changes (Winston, 2002, p. 87). Moreover, NGOs have a significant role in relaying information and reaching out to particular populations that might often be excluded from discussions such as poorly represented segments of the population (Danhoudo et al., 2018, p. 6).
- 36 Thus, Terre des Hommes Suisse, including the FITDH, constitutes a relevant case because its profile is coherent with the goal of my research and it is a good example to test my hypotheses. I also focus on this NGO because I personally have contacts with its staff and prior knowledge of its work.
- 37 Thirdly, regarding the international organization, I focus on the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). UNICEF is the core UN organization working for child rights (UN, 2020a) and its structure is unique, notably in its functioning and relation to the UNCRC (Black, 1987, p. 16). It operates in a decentralized manner and since it works exclusively for children, it allows more autonomy than other UN agencies (Andonova, 2017, p. 147). It was also one of the first IOs to address the issue of accountability and social accountability, making it a relevant case study.
- 38 The role of IOs in holding states accountable is particularly interesting because it differs from that of NGOs since their relationship to states has different stakes and interests (Willetts, 2001, pp. 14–15). IOs have a different position regarding governments than NGOs and often have less agency (Willetts, 2001, pp. 14–15; Hawkins et al., 2006, p. 7; Carraro, 2019, p. 1079). IOs are the repository of some of the major international covenants, which gives them a particular importance in the eyes of states (Blokker, 2004, p. 144): for instance, UNICEF's role is clearly stated in the UNCRC. Furthermore, it is important to remember that IOs are the result of a principal-agent

model where states delegate power to IOs for specific tasks (Andonova, 2017, p. 37). Thus, IOs may to some extent reflect the opinion of the governments that fund them. However, this does not imply that they do not possess their own agency and are mere agents of states. Indeed, as Barnett and Finnemore put it, IOs are not solely empty shells, filled with states' interests as argued by Waltz (2010, p. 81), but rather are much more complex (Barnett & Finnemore, 1999, p. 704). Moreover, IOs are subject to diverse forms of accountability. Suzuki and Nanwani argue that "it is now clear that the legal personality of international organizations entails a responsibility for their conduct" (2005, p. 179). However, IOs' accountability is complex to grasp, which bolsters my ambition to analyze it.

- 39 Thus, the fact that UNICEF is a leading IO working for child rights and that it is explicitly referred to in the UNCRC confirms the choice to use it as a case for my research.
- 40 In addition, as part of the discourse on the democratic deficit IOs face, they have gradually opened up to NGOs and other actors (Kriesi et al., 2013, p. 121). Consequently, this has led NGOs to develop advocacy programs that confront IOs (Bendell & United Nations, 2006, p. 31). This is where the concept of peer accountability can be useful to assess relations among the different actors participating in a TRAN. Thus, it is essential to focus on them in this research. Furthermore, the literature does not provide a real comparative study, mapping and identifying the related mechanisms of NGOs and IOs, or the relations between them.
- 41 Finally, I focus on the case of Switzerland as an example of a state. Switzerland is one of the most democratic countries in the world (The Economist, 2020) and it has been proactive in the implementation of the UNCRC. Since it ratified the Convention in 1997, Switzerland has received four positive evaluations by the Committee, twice in the last decade. Nevertheless, it still has significant areas to improve its implementation of the UNCRC (Leybold-Johnson, 2017); therefore, I am able to assess the work that has been done and that is still in progress. Switzerland, due to its federal organization, provides useful evidence of accountability *pathways* developed at different administrative levels such as the municipal, cantonal and federal levels. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) stated that "federalism, while entirely compatible with Switzerland's international obligations, sometimes made it difficult to have an overview of efforts to uphold the rights of the child" (OHCHR, 2015). Therefore, it identifies the need to provide an analysis of this kind of overview of the country.
- 42 More generally, the relevance of focusing on the responsibility of a state is also demonstrated by the literature because it shows that there are multiple relations between non-state actors and governments. As a matter of fact, non-state actors' ability to work with and formulate demands to governments relies heavily on the form of their relationships with ruling authorities (Scholte, 2004, p. 226). There is a large scale of depth of cooperation which ultimately entails different policies. While in some cases it is not necessary or possible to work with states, in other cases, it is crucial in order to obtain information or help in managing or designing policies, as demonstrated in the case of *Médecins sans Frontières* in Biafra (Simeant, 2001, p. 4). Furthermore, pathways are also used by states to open up space for civil society to participate in different political decisions.
- 43 Thus, Switzerland's position regarding the UNCRC and the related pathways it has developed make it possible for its population and non-state actors to identify the

impact the Convention has on the country. Finally, my access to documentation and relevant regulations in Switzerland is facilitated by the fact that it is where I live and I speak the languages.

2.5.2. Methodology

- 44 My methodology relies on descriptive qualitative research based on content analysis. I detail a specific situation and sum up the data related to it. Quantitative analysis would not be relevant in this study because I aim to identify actors and the mechanisms they have created. Because this study offers a first framework of a treaty accountability network, it is difficult to imagine a large-N analysis. It is instead beneficial to focus on a small-N analysis to have accurate and precise identification of mechanisms related to my hypotheses.
- 45 Hereafter, I explain my method which can be divided into 6 main steps. At each step I confront the ideal-types of the core concepts previously defined with the empirical world. I use the analysis sheet in appendix 1 to correctly distinguish the concepts related to my three hypotheses.
- 46 1. Firstly, I define the treaty accountability network surrounding the UNCRC and its related protocols. In doing so, I look at what roles and procedural mechanisms exist according to these texts. I do not operate a network analysis per se since I carry out a content analysis of the legal document. This makes it possible to grasp the formal aspects of accountability developed by the Convention. I map actors participating in the TRAN and quote in annex key words and sentences as part of the content analysis. Secondly, I identify accountability mechanisms developed by Terre des Hommes Suisse and UNICEF using a content analysis. I present two sections according to the data gathered from each of the two actors studied. Tables summarizing the sources I use are available in the appendices 2, 3 and 4.
- 47 2. For each organization, I thoroughly identify the core concepts and their related mechanisms (TRAN, direct accountability mechanisms, indirect accountability mechanisms and peer accountability) and list them to provide a clear insight into what exists. I present information from interviews conducted with professionals from UNICEF and Terre des Hommes Suisse, which allowed me to grasp whether there are informal elements adding to the formal accountability mechanisms and to compare my content analysis with their point of view. I focus on relevant keywords, sentences and names of programs pertaining to the related mechanisms, explaining the most relevant ones in the text and listing the others in appendices 2, 3 and 4.
- 48 3. I focus on Switzerland for the analysis of a state and look for TRAN, accountability pathways and peer accountability. My aim is to analyze the avenues developed by the country to be held accountable by diverse actors. In order to achieve this goal, I identify the various pathways developed by using content analysis. At the end of the analysis of the IO, NGO and state, I provide a table synthesizing all mechanisms and pathways, classify these and count the number of mechanisms existing per category in order to make a comparison between the IO and the NGO.
- 49 4. I conclude with a general synthesis of the data presented, a map of the actors surrounding the UNCRC, and a proposal for a comparative analysis, focusing on each actor involved and based on the number of mechanisms developed. My aim is to test my hypotheses and assess whether IOs and NGOs are more inclined to developing one

mechanism rather than the other. I also furnish an overview with graphics showing which procedures are the most relevant for each actor. Based on Grant and Keohane's classification of accountability, I present a summary of the types of accountability the different actors develop and whether it matches their expectations. I compare these results with my concepts and hypotheses.

- 50 5. Finally, I provide a conclusion to the study and offer a reflection on its impact for the literature as well as ways to conduct further research in the field. The final section of the thesis is an epilogue where I propose an insight into the work of the Kofi Annan Foundation, an NGO working on peacebuilding with youth, yet not specifically working on the UNCRC. This makes it possible to assess the relevance of my research to related fields.

2.6. Sources

- 51 Firstly, thanks to a network of contacts and respondents that I established with Terre des Hommes Suisse, I was able to study the organization's internal documents and reports pertaining to my study. I also contacted staff members working on matters relevant to my topic to get further insight into the policies and strategies of this NGO and conducted interviews with people working in the organization. Secondly, regarding UNICEF, I rely on publicly available documents and on an interview I conducted with a senior employee of the organization to get a better understanding of their programs pertaining to my study. Finally, to analyze the case of the state's perspective on accountability and child rights, I rely on open-access documentation such as regulations, laws and programs.
- 52 The data I analyzed consist of reports, annual reports, strategic frameworks, statements, guidelines, strategic plans, toolkits, charters, program documents, procedures and interviews, as well as regulations and laws. Overall, I analyzed 44 sources: 17 regarding UNICEF, 19 for TDHS and 8 regarding Switzerland.
- 53 While I strived to conduct research that respects the highest scientific standards, it is important to underline that the sources used in this research might be partially unreliable, notably the annual reports on accountability that might be biased to ensure the organization a good image rather than portraying the empirical reality. Such open-access sources might be partial and not reflect reality. Furthermore, the three interviews engaged only the people speaking and their perceptions of the work certainly does not objectively reflect reality. This supports the necessity of crosschecking data in order to ensure a complete and truthful picture.
- 54 This empirical research contributes to the literature on accountability and non-state actors' role towards states and their commitments. It provides insight into the various direct and indirect mechanisms existing to achieve such goals. It also assesses the importance of a TRAN as an unavoidable theoretical tool. This study is also able to acknowledge peer accountability among various actors composing the TRAN. Moreover, it paves the way for further research on a larger scale and including non-democratic countries as well as other non-state actors such as businesses and religious groups.

3. Treaty Accountability Network: UNCRC Analysis

3.1. Accountability mechanisms stemming from the UNCRC and its related protocols

- 1 The UNCRC and its related protocol establish several legal provisions on how to hold state parties accountable to the Convention. I highlight the main dispositions that pertain to my research question and first hypothesis.
- 2 I first analyze the UNCRC itself, and then examine the three additional protocols.
- 3 In the UNCRC, articles before article 42 focus on the rights of the child strictly speaking, while in those following article 42 there are provisions concerning the procedures and obligations regarding the Convention's implementation.
- 4 The most important mechanism developed by the Convention is the creation of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (hereafter the Committee), composed of 18 child rights experts from different countries. These experts are elected by states but do not represent a specific state, instead acting as individuals (UNICEF, 2020b). Article 43 establishes the Committee and details its functioning, notably the election of its members. Article 44 explains the procedure of submission by states of their reports on the measures adopted regarding the UNCRC (UN, 1989, p. 12). According to this article, states have to submit a report within 2 years after the Convention has entered into force in the country and every 5 years after that (UN, 1989, p. 13). This constitutes an interesting example of direct accountability. In §2, the Convention states precisely what government reports must include:

[They] shall indicate factors and difficulties, if any, affecting the degree of fulfilment of the obligations under the present Convention. Reports shall also contain sufficient information to provide the Committee with a comprehensive understanding of the implementation of the Convention in the country concerned. (UN, 1989, p. 13)
- 5 Interestingly, article 43 §8 mentions:

The Committee warmly welcomes international, regional, national and local organizations to submit written reports on how the Convention is being implemented in a country. Information may be submitted by individual NGOs or coalitions of NGOs, as well as by NHRIs and Ombudspersons. Importantly, the Committee greatly welcomes submissions by children. It encourages civil society to coordinate and submit joint comprehensive reports to strengthen national-level cooperation and enhance the impact of the monitoring and reporting process. (OHCHR, 2020a)

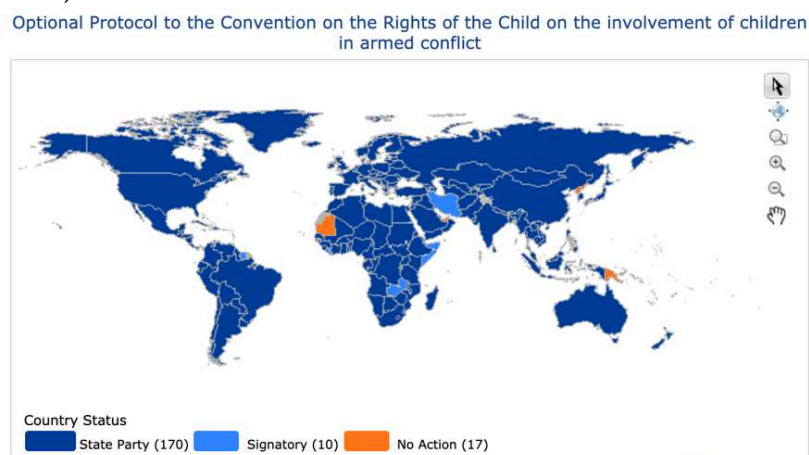
- 6 These are important mechanisms of social accountability that enable direct or indirect accountability towards states via the Committee.
- 7 The *guidelines* on the implementation of periodic reviews further codifies the scope of the intervention of third-party actors, notably by setting rules on how to apply to intervene to the Committee (OHCHR, 2020d, p. 1). This is a complementary mechanism to the redaction of quinquennial reports to states and it improves the network of actors able to address the Committee, which thus can be understood as part of the TRAN.
- 8 Article 44 §5 raises the point that the Committee reports to the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on its activities, through the Economic and Social Committee (ECOSOC) (UN, 1989, p. 13). Thus, the Committee is also accountable and cannot lie with impunity. Another important point is noted by the Convention in §6, as it states that “States Parties shall make their reports widely available to the public in their own countries” (UN, 1989, p. 13). This corresponds to the *community feedback* indicator which is included in the conceptualization of accountability.
- 9 An interesting part comes in article 45 as the Convention urges state parties to international cooperation in fields covered by the Convention. Interestingly, it assesses the need for states to engage in discussions with
specialized agencies, the United Nations Children’s Fund, and other United Nations organs [which] shall be entitled to be represented at the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the present Convention. (UN, 1989, p. 15)
- 10 This depicts well the TRAN created around the UNCRC and its protocols as well as the prominent role of UNICEF for the Convention. Furthermore, civic engagement, which is present here, is an indicator of accountability. The Convention also states that the
Committee may invite the specialized agencies, the United Nations Children’s Fund and other competent bodies as it may consider appropriate to provide expert advice on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their respective mandates. (UN, 1989, p. 15)
- 11 Here, *competent bodies* can be NGOs and other actors considered as part of my comprehension of the treaty accountability network. Therefore, it corresponds to my hypothesis of having a broad panel of actors surrounding the Convention. Article 45 also states that the Committee “may invite [them] [...] to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities” (UN, 1989, p. 15). This is a good illustration of a direct accountability mechanism created by the UNCRC because it permits stakeholders to provide their point of view on certain situations. Thereby, the special role of UNICEF supports my approach to analyze UNICEF as a case study.
- 12 Below is a map of the state of ratification of the UNCRC in the world. As can be seen, this Convention is ratified by all states but the United States of America which has only signed it. This adds to the relevance of my study to analyze a treaty accountability network related to one of the most ratified international covenants.

Fig. 5: Ratification status of UNCRC (2020) (Source: OHCHR, 2020 (C))



- 13 I now analyze the provisions on accountability to the **Optional Protocol (OP)** of the UNCRC on the involvement of **children in armed conflict** which was adopted in 2002.
- 14 The OP mentions that there is a need for cooperation on technical and financial issues between states and “relevant international organizations” (OHCHR, 2002a, p.239) in article 7 §1. States can also tackle issues raised by the O’ “through existing multilateral, bilateral or other programmes, or, inter alia, through a voluntary fund established in accordance with the rules of the General Assembly” (OHCHR, 2002a, p. 239), according to §2. This can also relate to asking the TRAN to tackle issues. Thus, it reflects the multidirectionality of accountability among TRAN actors because it refers to back and forth movements among them, notably to provide assistance. The OP is included in the state reports that need to be submitted for the UNCRC to the Committee. Governments therefore need to account also for the specific subjects relative to the involvement of children in armed conflicts in the same report, according to article 8 §1-2. In §3, the OP adds a mechanism such that the Committee has the power to request more information from state parties (OHCHR, 2002a, p. 240).
- 15 There are 170 states that have ratified the Optional Protocol while 10 are signatories.

Fig. 6: Ratification status of Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on the involvement of children in armed conflicts (in 2020) (Source: OHCHR, 2020c)



- 16 The **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (OP2)** entered into force in 2002. It aims to regulate and ban child prostitution, pornography and sale.
- 17 In article 8 of OP2, the need to inform is clearly stated,
[a]llowing the views, needs and concerns of child victims to be presented and considered in proceedings where their personal interests are affected, in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of national law. (OHCHR, 2002b, p. 251)
- 18 This opens up a door for children to be heard. OP2, as the earlier OP, reaffirms the need to promote awareness about the related topic in article 9 §2. Interestingly, it adds that
States Parties shall encourage the participation of the community and, in particular, children and child victims, in [...] information and education and training programmes, including at the international level. (OHCHR, 2002b, p. 252)
- 19 This element fosters the creation of mechanisms to link local to international levels, promoting the inclusion of children and communities' voices. Fostering participation resonates with accountability mechanisms and is also part of children's empowerment. OP2, in article 10 §1, raises the necessity for states parties to cooperate internationally with other states but also with NGOs and IOs (OHCHR, 2002b, p. 252). This goes in the direction of my second hypothesis that numerous actors, and, particularly IOs and NGOs, have an important role to play to enable cooperation in this case, and become vehicles of accountability.
- 20 Finally, OP2 also reaffirms, in article 12 §1-3, the need to submit, as part of the quinquennial report, the progresses and measures taken to implement OP2 (OHCHR, 2002b, p. 253).
- 21 Below is the ratification status of the second Optional Protocol at the global level. Only 12 states are not signatories and 9 are signatories but did not ratify it.

Fig. 7: Ratification status (in 2020) of Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, (Source: OHCHR, 2020c).



- 22 The last **Optional Protocol (OP3) on a Communication Procedure – (Raising Understanding among Children and Young People)** entered into force in 2014. This protocol provides the most salient mechanisms for my research because it establishes further pathways for groups and individuals to communicate with the Committee. This

mechanism is clearly stated in article 5 §1 and stipulates that *communications* can be submitted either directly or indirectly:

Communications may be submitted by or on behalf of an individual or group of individuals, within the jurisdiction of a State party, claiming to be victims of a violation by that State party of any of the rights set forth in any of the [...] instruments to which that State is a party. (OHCHR, 2014, p. 3)

- 23 This article demonstrates the aim to provide indirect accountability mechanisms by going through the Committee to hold states accountable regarding the UNCRC and the OPs. Moreover, it takes into account the possibility that individuals would need to gather into groups (supposedly with the help of NGOs or IOs) to reach the Committee. Furthermore, it adds that if the communication is sent on behalf of an individual or a group, it has to be with the consent of the individual(s) in cause (OHCHR, 2014, p. 3). Thus, article 5 provides a tool that completes the UNCRC and the two other protocols as it creates new mechanisms for individuals and groups to communicate with the Committee. This can be considered as an indirect mechanism of accountability as well since it is clearly stated in article 8 §1 that

[t]he Committee shall bring any communication submitted to it under the present Protocol confidentially to the attention of the State party concerned as soon as possible'. (OHCHR, 2014, p. 5)

- 24 At the same time, OP3 reaffirms in article 10 §5 that the Committee will, “without delay, transmit its views on the communication, together with its recommendations, if any, to the parties concerned” (OHCHR, 2014, p. 5). Once communicated, states have to submit an explanation regarding the specific situation within 6 months (OHCHR, 2014, p. 5).

- 25 Article 11 also adds provisions on follow-up measures for states parties. In case of systemic or grave violations, article 13 states that the Committee

shall invite the State party to cooperate in the examination of the information and, to this end, to submit observations without delay with regard to the information concerned. (OHCHR, 2014, p. 6)

- 26 Moreover, the Committee may visit the state in question to analyze the situation in the field (OHCHR, 2014, p. 6). This provision, even though it might appear to be soft, is still a mechanism of surveillance of states and can be used, for instance to blame and shame states when they do not comply with their obligations.

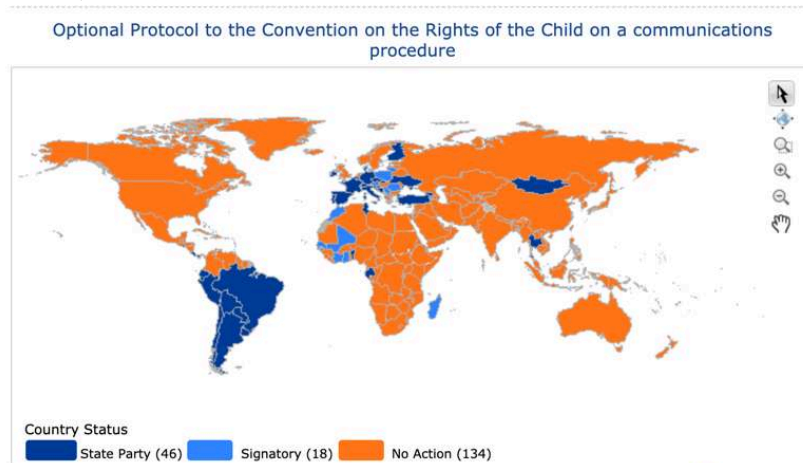
- 27 Article 15 also raises the need for international assistance and cooperation. It invites states to cooperate with UN agencies, funds and programs in §1. This is also an interesting example of how the TRAN is constituted. The Committee may transmit a situation, with the consent of the state party concerned, to cooperate and communicate with

United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes and other competent bodies its views or recommendations concerning communications and inquiries that indicate a need for technical advice or assistance, together with the State party's observations and suggestions, if any, on these views or recommendations. (OHCHR, 2014, p. 7)

- 28 As can be seen below, OP3 is not as widely ratified as the two others the UNCRC. This may result from several reasons such as the recency of it or, as Anne Grandjean from UNICEF argues, because most adults do not recognize children as full rightsholders since that would challenge their authority (UNICEF, 2021). Only 46 states have ratified

this protocol, mostly in Europe and South America, while 18 states have signed but not ratified it, notably in Eastern Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Fig. 8: Ratification status (in 2020) of Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Source: OHCHR, 2020c).



3.2. Actors surrounding the UNCRC

- 29 As seen in the analysis of the UNCRC and its related protocols, different actors are directly involved in holding states accountable for their commitments. The Convention and its OPs mention the role of international organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals, groups, communities, civil society actors and experts. International, national and local level organizations play a role as well. These actors have the possibility to engage with the Committee on the rights of the child and plead their cause or advocate for one. Moreover, Child Rights Connect, which is an association that federates several NGOs working on child rights, is able to foster any of the above-mentioned actors to engage with the Committee (OHCHR, 2020a). These actors specifically surround the Committee because it is the central organ to supervise the Convention. Regarding other actors' involvement surrounding the UNCRC and its protocols, I may find them while analyzing IOs, NGOs and states' policies and mechanisms.
- 30 To sum up this first part of the analysis, taking into account the indicators of each concept, it is salient to affirm that many of the concepts I hypothesized are present empirically. Firstly, the presence of a TRAN is ubiquitous in the UNCRC and its OPs. Indeed, the Convention states multiple times that states have to collaborate with other actors. It mentions the UN specialized agencies, such as UNICEF and other relevant actors, which obviously includes other actors such as NGOs. It is also stated that local, regional or international organizations have the opportunity to raise their voice to the Committee. Hence, these actors are given by the Convention and its OPs a role as members of a TRAN. Secondly, there are, in the UNCRC and the OPs, numerous references to the direct accountability of states regarding their obligations and the most relevant mechanism is that states have to submit a report every five years to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Another example of direct accountability is the

one from the Committee to the UNGA, which demonstrates that the Committee itself is not operating with impunity as well and reflects the multidirectional aspect of accountability. Thirdly, there are also examples of indirect accountability mechanisms, notably because the Committee welcomes different actors, such as international, local or regional organizations. Thus, these organizations have the opportunity to go through the Committee to hold states accountable. Fourthly, this indirect accountability opportunity for organizations and, also for individuals (namely in the OP3) to be heard by the Committee is also salient evidence of accountability which coincides with the indicator of civic engagement. In OP3, accountability mechanisms are even more developed as the protocol gives citizens and individuals access to hold their states accountable indirectly through the Committee. Moreover, the mention in OP2 that “states shall encourage the participation of the community and, in particular, children and child victims” (OHCHR, 2002, p.252 (B)) in different programs and decision-making is strong evidence of accountability mechanisms as I have theorized them. It also refers to the indicators of empowerment that aim to provide space, voice and influence on decision-making for children. Finally, it is possible to assume that peer accountability occurs when the Committee reviews a country’s submission. However, this is not mentioned clearly and it would be too assertive to affirm its presence here without proper evidence.

- 31 To conclude, this first analysis provides interesting insight into the TRAN of the UNCRC, the mechanisms developed by the Convention and its OPs. Furthermore, it provides a compelling look at the TRAN as a multi-directional path as actors may reinforce and work together in multiple ways and not only hold each other accountable. However, it does not assess the specific direct and indirect mechanisms created by these actors to hold each other accountable without going through the Committee.

Fig. 9: Summary of TRAN and mechanisms developed by the UNCRC

| TRAN and mechanisms developed by the UNCRC | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| | UNCRC | OP1 | OP2 | OP3 |
| TRAN | Committee on the Rights of the Child State parties (196 UNCRC; 170 OP1; 176 OP2; 46 OP3) UN Agencies (for instance, UNICEF) , funds, programs NGOs Experts Individuals (children, youth, ...) | | | |
| Mechanisms | Creation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child | Cooperation on technical and financial issues | Access for victims to relevant proceedings | Direct communication mechanism with Committee: for individuals and groups |
| | Submission of reports on adopted measures | Development of multilateral, bilateral programs, funding for cooperation on the protocol | Awareness promotion | International cooperation and assistance with UN agencies, funds and programs |
| | Promotion of state cooperation | Seek advice for TRAN actors | Support from states for community participation, information, education and training programs at the international level | Awareness promotion |
| | Engagement with specialized UN agencies | Reports on adopted measures | Report on adopted measures | |
| | Provision of expert advice from specialized agencies and other competent bodies | Submission of specific questions from the Committee | | |
| | Reports from relevant actors | | | |
| | Community feedback : report to own country's public | | | |

4. Accountability Mechanisms: OI and NGO

4.1. IO: UNICEF

- 1 UNICEF fits with my conceptualization of an international organization because it is autonomous and independent from governments. UNICEF is present in 190 countries and executes programs in 151 of them. It is also composed of 34 UNICEF National Committees which are established as NGOs with regional offices in countries where it works. Moreover, it cooperates with governments and various NGOs (UNICEF, 2019d, pp. 2–3).
- 2 I have identified mechanisms and evidence corresponding to each of my core concepts (TRAN, direct and indirect accountability and peer accountability) through the study of documents and interviews (a detailed analysis is available in appendix 2). I collect representative pieces of evidence from each document analyzed, highlight them in this section and provide a succinct discussion at the end. I add a summary table for each concept to give the reader a better overview.

4.1.1. Treaty accountability network (TRAN)

- 3 UNICEF seems indeed to be part of a TRAN and develops tools and mechanisms that foster it.
- 4 Through its Global Programme Partnerships that include other UN agencies and multilateral organizations, it notably conducts advocacy, helps countries set their agendas on child rights and mobilizes resources (UNICEF, 2020f). The organization also partners with financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF to provide technical advice and strategic guidance (UNICEF, 2020f). UNICEF partners formally and informally with civil society organizations (CSOs) and UN agencies (UNICEF, 2020b; UNICEF, 2020g; UNICEF UK, 2014). The organization affirms the need to cooperate and build alliances “to achieve more results and save money” (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 28; Cohen

& Stewart, 2010, p. iv). Indeed, UNICEF works with approximately 3,000 national CSOs and 300 international CSOs (OHCHR, 2017, p. 1).

- 5 Through global dialogue, the IO aims to connect different actors such as “children, parents, education and social workers, communities and governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and the media” (UNICEF, 2019c). The relation with the Committee on the Rights of the Child is also clearly defined since UNICEF “is entitled to be present when the Committee reviews implementation of the Convention in a given country” (UNICEF, 2020e) and “can be invited to provide expert advice and submit reports [...]”. The Committee can also require the State to turn to UNICEF for technical advice or assistance” (UNICEF, 2020e). This relationship with the Committee demonstrates how the three actors work together and complement each other.
- 6 The UN Partner Portal is a shared database between the World Food Program (WFP), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UNICEF to map the civil society organizations in each country and allow a comprehensive screening of their results (OHCHR, 2017, p. 3).
- 7 UNICEF UK, as one of the organization’s National Committees, has created a “global community of practice and knowledge on child rights and social accountability” (GCPK) (UNICEF UK, 2014), which includes partners such as INGOs, NGOs, UN agencies, UN human rights officials, academic research organizations and national human rights institutions (UNICEF UK, 2014). These members are notably able to communicate and share knowledge through an online platform. The need for diverse platforms is mentioned in other documents such as in the Advocacy Toolkit created by UNICEF and the creation of a “global forum on social accountability” is also raised by the organization’s Communication for Development (C4D) program (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 4).
- 8 UNICEF takes part in the Global Alliance for Social and Behaviour Change, which brings together 20 organizations working on social and behavior change communication (SBCC) (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 37). Among the actors involved there are UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs, as well as academic and professional associations (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 37).
- 9 U-Report is a program developed in collaboration with NGOs, which aims at creating an open-source mobile messaging program at the country level (UNICEF, 2018b, p. 2). It provides a concrete example of the way TRAN actors work together.

| Summary of treaty accountability network mechanisms (TRAN) of UNICEF |
|--|
| Global Programme Partnerships Financial institutions partnerships Formal and informal partnerships with CSOs Global dialogue Committee on the Rights of the Child Global community of practice and knowledge on child rights and social accountability Global forum on social accountability Global alliance for social and behaviour change UN Partner Portal |

4.1.2. Accountability mechanisms

Direct accountability mechanisms

- 10 I have identified several mechanisms UNICEF uses that can be conceptualized as direct accountability mechanisms. I detail them below.
- 11 One of the easiest ways and maybe the most effective one that UNICEF uses to ensure direct accountability is through partnerships with states. Indeed this enables the organization to
[a]ddress policy and budget gaps so that children can grow up protected, healthy and educated. Our government partners provide vital regular resources and emergency funds for humanitarian response, while working with us to sharpen their focus on children's rights – the core of many development agendas and budgets. (UNICEF, 2020f)
- 12 It does so in a bilateral way and also in various fora such as through the UNGA, ECOSOC, African Union or EU (UNICEF, 2020f). The work of UNICEF is also strongly embedded in advocacy since the IO often asks and demands for states to renew their commitments to the UNCRC (UNICEF, 2019c). The organization tries to support governments in their implementation of the convention notably to legislate and by “providing institutional and professional capacity development” (UNICEF, 2020g). For instance, UNICEF proposes working with governments to better reflect the UNCRC in their legislation and to create state institutions in favor of child rights (UNICEF, 2021).
- 13 UNICEF works alongside the Committee on the Rights of the Child notably to review submitted state reports (UNICEF, 2020g). Moreover, the organization uses national and international fora to hold governments accountable. The role of advocacy is a central direct accountability mechanism for UNICEF as seen in its strategic plan of 2018–2021. Through campaigns and partnerships, the organization is able to hold states accountable and influence their policies (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 27). Moreover, petitions, statements of leaders, and periodic briefings with decision-makers are key aspects of accountability and advocacy for UNICEF (Cohen & Stewart, 2010, p. 53). Yet, as mentioned by Anne Grandjean, a human rights specialist at UNICEF, the organization is always working in a cooperative manner and does not intend to confront states (UNICEF, 2021).
- 14 UNICEF attaches great importance to partnerships because these promote an atmosphere of cooperation to build fruitful collaboration and thus enable actors to work on its demands more effectively (UNICEF, 2021). Research papers as well as awareness raising and lobbying are also identified as direct accountability mechanisms. Awareness raising can interestingly also be aimed at governments so they are better prepared to be held accountable:
Key decision-makers will also require sensitization to enhance their receptivity to young people's participation in decision making and minimise perceived affronts to organizational and hierarchies. (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 7)
- 15 The use of social media, as well as mainstream media covering humanitarian issues is also an important direct accountability mechanism: “UNICEF also generated over 125,000 online and over 6,500 pieces in top tier media outlets covering humanitarian issues, campaigns and regular development issues” (UNICEF, 2020a, p. 44).

| Summary of direct accountability (DAM) mechanisms of UNICEF |
|--|
| Partnerships with governments (bilateral or multilateral) Advocacy Global dialogue Monitoring of state policies and compliance Providing support in the implementation and in the comprehension of the UNCRC Participation in the Committee on the Rights of the Child report reviews Creation of fora Campaigns Partnerships with other TRAN actors Public opinion mobilization Awareness raising Research papers Petitions Statements of support by leaders Periodic briefings with decision-makers and their staff Sensitization of decision-makers to children and youth's participation Use of social, mainstream media to write articles |

Indirect accountability mechanisms

- 16 UNICEF has also developed several indirect accountability mechanisms. These do not only represent the relation between the IO and empowered aid recipients, as I first hypothesized, but include other actors as well.
- 17 Firstly, UNICEF's relationship with the Committee on the Rights of the Child corresponds to indirect accountability but in this case it is rather UNICEF that serves as the intermediary actor, at the Committee's request. Indeed, the Committee states that "UNICEF can be invited to provide expert advice and to submit reports. The Committee can also require the State to turn to UNICEF for technical advice or assistance" (UNICEF, 2020e).
- 18 The empowerment of youth and children is a central element of indirect accountability: it enables them to advocate for and demand the changes they want, as well as for the rigorous implementation of the UNCRC. Indeed, UNICEF clearly mentions the need to

[d]evelop innovative solutions and creative ideas that help to equip children, their communities and civil society to mobilize demand for accountability for the realization of children's rights. (UNICEF UK, 2014, p. 3)
- 19 For instance, UNICEF supports legal empowerment of children and youth through the creation of legal clinics and social legal defense centers (UNICEF, 2021). A concrete example is provided on the relationship between capacity-building, empowerment and accountability:

C4D interventions [are] focused on capacity-building for youth associations, with the aim of improving their knowledge and skills on better ways of promoting the demand for and use of social services. (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 26)
- 20 Other tools used by UNICEF for Irment include "participation, social mobilization and communication to bear on advocacy for and monitoring of the realization of children's rights" (UNICEF UK, 2014, p. 3) as well as the creation of

[s]paces for [a] plurality of voices and narratives of community [and to] encourage listening, dialogue, debate and consultation, ensure the active and meaningful participation of children and youth, [and] Promote gender equality and social inclusion. (Cohen & Stewart, 2010, p. 6)

- 21 The development of community-based programs is also underlined as an essential point to further empower aid recipients (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 24). Furthermore, digital engagement can dramatically improve aid recipients' power as agents of change (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 29). For instance, U-Report and other programs developed by UNICEF allow youths and children to gain crucial skills to advocate and influence their local government officials (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 10).
- 22 The development of platforms and opportunities to demand accountability also has a significant impact on states' compliance with international treaties and fosters the aim to help children and youths to become agents of change (UNICEF, 2017a, p. 27; UNICEF, 2017b) and their voices to "be heard and acted on by decision-makers and stakeholders" (Cohen & Stewart, 2010, p. 6). Thus, it makes it possible to "link community perspectives with subnational and national policy dialogue" (Cohen & Stewart, 2010, p. 6). Such dialogue can take the form of either face-to-face meetings or virtual platforms. For instance, U-Report enables aid recipients to communicate and voice their demands and issues to UNICEF as well as to their governments. Actually, "poll responses are analysed in real-time, mapped and displayed on a public dashboard at the local level, ensuring the feedback can be actioned by local and national governments" (UNICEF, 2018b, p. 3). This is a typical indirect accountability mechanism because it is "used to mobilize thousands of young people physically to take on-ground action and contribute to positive change in the communities" (UNICEF, 2018b, p. 3).
- 23 UNICEF has for a few years developed a program called Communication 4 Development (C4D), which especially fosters these social accountability mechanisms, giving voice to children, youth and aid recipients. It includes several indirect accountability mechanisms: for example, the "initiative for community review of school report cards" or the "the Back to Learning" initiative, which
 [r]eached 198,813 people through outreach and community mobilization activities through door-to-door visits, group awareness sessions and messages disseminated through TV, radio, billboards and social media. (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 4)
- 24 Twitter's "takeovers", YouTube or Snapchat videos are also the most recent tools through which UNICEF has enabled aid recipients to voice their concerns (UNICEF, 2016, p. 39). Also, the organization developed the program of social ambassadors, enabling aid recipients to advocate for their cause (UNICEF, 2016, p. 40). Social mobilization committees established by UNICEF are also an interesting tool to indirectly hold states accountable because they focus on defending "the most vulnerable nomadic communities in remote and marginalized areas" (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 19). Other instruments enabled by empowerment, for example,
 [i]nvolve actions that have a reach beyond the local-level to reach wider audiences to shape decisions and opinions, such as through making music and films, writing blogs, collecting opinions of peers and presenting them in national and international forums. (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 3)
- 25 The UPSHIFT program goes in the same direction, empowering "young people to identify and address challenges in their communities, encouraging them to become social entrepreneurs" (UNICEF, 2020a, p. 50). It clearly highlights the indirect procedure used by the organization to hold other actors accountable and implement its objectives in an effective manner. Partnerships with faith leaders to bolster community engagement are also an example of an innovative mechanism since they play a dramatic role in some communities (UNICEF, 2019b, p. 25).

- 26 Finally, the idea of ensuring indirect accountability through empowering aid recipients as well as through capacity-building is part of UNICEF's program, as stated several times in its core strategic documents. For instance, these detail programs that empower adolescent girls and boys as social change agents within their communities, including in schools, providing them with opportunities and platforms to influence and lead on solving problems in their communities as well as hold governments to account. (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 11)
- 27 This underlines the idea of a global approach that focuses on all dimensions, regionally, internationally or at the community level.
- 28 Yet, interestingly, indirect accountability mechanisms do not necessarily develop through the intermediary of only aid recipients but also other actors, such as faith leaders, INGOs or international human rights institutions (IHRIs) (OHCHR, 2017). Otherwise, UNICEF can be the intermediary actor as notably seen in the role the organization may have in its relation to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Moreover, UNICEF sometimes shares information with NGOs to help them adopt a confrontational approach towards states and to preserve the organization's image (UNICEF, 2021).

| Summary of indirect accountability mechanisms (IAM) of UNICEF |
|---|
| <p>UNICEF as an intermediary actor providing advice and technical assistance to states</p> <p>Youth and children empowerment (through citizen participation, social mobilization, communication for advocacy, platforms, campaigning to change perceptions, building support to influence decision-makers and stakeholders)</p> <p>Sharing information with NGOs to help them be confrontational to states</p> <p>School report cards</p> <p>Back to Learning campaign</p> <p>Making music and films</p> <p>Collecting opinions of peers and presenting them in regional and international fora</p> <p>Writing blogs</p> <p>Twitter "takeovers", YouTube and Snapchat videos</p> <p>Social ambassadors</p> <p>Social mobilization committees</p> <p>Strategic partnerships with faith leaders</p> <p>Virtual platforms: U-Report</p> <p>UPSHIFT program</p> |

Peer accountability

- 29 Some evidence of peer accountability and policies can be retrieved throughout the UNICEF documents analyzed. They support my assumption that such mechanisms exist with the TRAN. Peer accountability constitutes an important mechanism which stems naturally from the TRAN since actors are supposedly gravitating around the UNCRC.
- 30 Through the Global Programme Partnerships (with other UN agencies, multilateral organizations, etc.), UNICEF supports advocacy for and with children, helps countries set agendas that prioritize children's rights, and mobilizes resources (UNICEF, 2020f). It should also to be highlighted that
- UNICEF supports the work of IHRIs and sees them as key allies in the advancement of children's rights and as holding potential for increased contributions to social accountability for the SDGs [sustainable development goals]. Including civil society in national platforms via human rights institutions for example is one way that UNICEF is able to open up space for civil society in public platforms. (OHCHR, 2017, p. 4)

- 31 Thus, there is peer accountability with international financial institutions, other UN agencies, multilateral organizations as well as IHRIs to foster the implementation of UNICEF's goals and standards.
- 32 The creation of guiding principles for the organization's partnerships with civil society denotes the need to hold other organizations accountable and to be held accountable by them. For instance, the principles include
- [e]quity and equality among all partners, mutual commitment to the core values of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the principles of good governance, notably transparency, accountability and sound financial management. (UNICEF, 2020c)
- 33 Moreover, UNICEF clearly states that the policies it imposes on itself are transmitted to its partners, as can be seen, for instance, with its policy on adolescent participation: "UNICEF ourselves will model this engagement through systematizing adolescent participation in our structure and programming with partners" (UNICEF, 2017b, p. 11). Thus, the organization implies that if one actor does not comply with these criteria and policies, they will be held responsible by another.
- 34 Furthermore, the creation of the UN Partner Portal highlights the will to share information about peers working on the same issues among UN agencies such as the UNHCR and the WFP. The role of the portal is defined this way:
- The portal will be a shared database across UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF to map CSOs in each country and share CSO screening results. A major purpose of the portal is to share screening/vetting results across agencies so that we can collectively decrease the amount of time it takes to process partnership agreements, as well as to create a more fair and transparent vetting system across agencies. (OHCHR, 2017, p. 3)
- 35 All these elements, while quite a few compared to other concepts, demonstrate the salience of peer accountability as a tool of analysis and as an empirical reality.

| Summary of peer accountability mechanisms of UNICEF |
|---|
|---|

| |
|--|
| Global Programme Partnerships Partnerships with International Financial Institutions Opening spaces and platforms to CSOs Guiding principles for UNICEF's partnerships with CSOs. Systematization of UNICEF's policies to partners' programming UN Partnership Portal |
|--|

4.1.3. Synthesis: IO

- 36 To conclude this section on an international organization with the case study of UNICEF, it seems that all the concepts hypothesized are empirically present and tend to confirm my first, second and third hypotheses. The relationship between UNICEF and other actors as well as states does not seem to be confrontational but relies heavily on cooperative schemes. The organization would rather share confrontational information with other actors than use it itself. It is also interesting to note that UNICEF is part of the TRAN and is held accountable by its peers and other actors as much as it holds others responsible. Thus, the relationship is multidirectional. It should be raised that indirect accountability mechanisms are not solely related to the empowerment of populations supported by but also cover a wide range of other actors and indirect

mechanisms where, for instance, UNICEF is the intermediary of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and not the initiator of the indirect accountability mechanism.

37 Here is a summary table synthesizing the various mechanisms developed by UNICEF:

Fig. 10: Synthesis table mechanisms: UNICEF

| Synthesis table: Mechanism types: IO: UNICEF | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| Concepts | TRAN | Direct accountability | Indirect accountability (via empowerment) | Peer accountability |
| Mechanisms | Global Programme Partnerships | Partnerships with governments (bilateral or multilateral) | UNICEF as an intermediary actor to provide advice and technical assistance to states | Global Programme Partnerships |
| | Financial institutions partnerships | Advocacy | Youth and children empowerment (through citizen participation, social mobilization, communication for advocacy, platforms, campaigning to change perceptions, build support to influence decision-makers and stakeholders) | Partnerships with International Financial Institutions |
| | Formal and informal partnerships with CSOs | Global dialogue | School report cards | Opening spaces and platforms to CSOs |
| | Global dialogue | Monitoring of state policies and compliance | Back to Learning campaign | Guiding principles for UNICEF's partnerships with CSOs |
| | Committee on the Rights of the Child | Providing support in the implementation and in the comprehension of the UNCRC | Making music and films | Systematization of UNICEF's policies to partners' programming |
| | Global community of practice and knowledge on child rights and social accountability | Participation in the Committee on the Rights of the Child report reviews | Collecting opinions of peers and present them in regional and international fora | UN Partnership Portal |
| | Global forum on social accountability | Creation of fora | Writing blogs | |
| | Global alliance for social and behavior change | Campaigns | Twitter "takeovers", YouTube and Snapchat videos | |
| | UN Partner Portal | Partnerships with other TRAN actors | Social ambassadors | |
| | | Public opinion mobilization | Social mobilization committees | |
| | | Awareness raising | Strategic partnerships with faith leaders | |
| | | Research papers | Virtual platforms: U-Report | |
| | | Petitions | UPSHIFT program | |
| | | Statements of support by leaders | Share information with NGOs to let them be confrontational to states | |
| | | Periodic briefings with decision-makers and their staff | | |
| | | Sensitization of decision-makers to children and youth's participation | | |
| Total | 9 | 16 | 14 | 7 |

4.2. NGO: Terre des Hommes Suisse

38 Terre des Hommes Suisse (TDHS) is an association not affiliated with the government and working for the common good, more precisely the rights of the child. TDHS distinguishes itself as working on the participation, protection and education of children and youth. Furthermore, it works with local civil society organizations in 10 countries with a coordinating bureau in each of them, called *national /regional coordination*. TDHS has partnered with Terre des Hommes Schweiz to create the *Dachverband*, a binding partnership between the two associations that enables them to request funds from the Swiss Development Direction (DDC). Both associations are part of the Terre des Hommes International Federation (FITDH), which groups together all Terre des Hommes (TDH) associations in the world. The FITDH is a consultant to the UN and takes on most of the TDH associations' international advocacy. I add a summary table for each concept to provide a better overview to the reader.

4.2.1. Treaty accountability network (TRAN)

39 Analysis of TDHS demonstrates that it is a part of a TRAN. Both TDHS and the FITDH have woven links with other actors surrounding the UNCRC.

- 40 As seen above, the work of TDHS in developing countries is essentially based on working with CSOs. Thus, it mentions in every annual report the importance of supporting partner associations (TDHS, 2018b, p. 3; TDHS, 2020b, p. 6; TDHS, 2016, p. 19). These organizations work naturally on the same issues as TDHS and consequently rely on the UNCRC. As part of the FITDH, TDHS collaborates with the other TDH associations, notably with TDH Schweiz, TDH Germany and TDH Italy for several specific programs (TDHS, 2016, pp. 31–32).
- 41 Moreover, TDHS is member of the Fédération Genevoise de Coopération (FGC), which brings together around 60 Geneva-based NGOs. In its annual report of 2018, TDHS states that the FGC is an essential network that enables cooperation for development (TDHS, 2019c, p. 26). TDHS also created an association linking numerous actors in Geneva for the celebration marking 30 years of the rights of the child. This association, called Association 30 ans des droits de l'enfant is composed of NGOs (such as TDHS, Enfants du monde, Terragir), academic organizations (such as UNIGE) and governments (the city and the Canton of Geneva) (TDHS, 2019c, p. 26). TDHS is also part of several Swiss networks on the rights of the child and education such as the Réseau Suisse des droits de l'enfant, the Réseau Suisse Education et Coopération Internationale and Alliance Sud (TDHS, 2019c, p. 26). This demonstrates the importance of networks at the regional, national and international levels, which are key to the implementation of the NGO's objectives (TDHS, 2019c, p. 26). For instance, on the international level, TDHS, through the FITDH, is part of the Joining Forces coalition composed of NGOs such as Save the Children, World Vision, SOS Villages d'enfants and Plan International (TDHS, 2019c, p. 26; TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 9). Joining Forces enables all these NGOs to ally with local CSOs and relay messages to states and to the UN. TDHS is also part of Destination Unknown, an international campaign on the rights of migrant children (TDHS, 2016, p. 19). TDHS collaborates with local municipalities, public and private schools, companies and international organizations on several topics, notably on organizing awareness workshops (TDHS, 2016, p. 31). Furthermore, TDHS also works with governments either regionally or nationally (TDHS, 2020b, p. 6).
- 42 The will to develop these partnerships and deepen its presence within several networks is affirmed in the organization's Vision 2025. This document states that organization aims to be even more involved in local networks and to develop its presence in the international Geneva community as well as international for a (TDHS, 2017, p. 7). It is also committed to promoting exchanges with other NGOs working on the rights of the child and to developing its partnership with the Swiss Development Direction (DDC) (TDHS, 2017, p. 7).
- 43 Through the Dachverband, both TDHS and TDH Schweiz strive to "better align with international requirements of the Committee of the Rights of the Child" (TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 35) and TDHS, for instance, helps the Committee in the organization of events such as the Day of General Discussion (FITDH, 2016, p. 29). Another relevant example is the contribution of Professor Jaffé, who is a member of the Committee, to working with TDHS in the organization of the 30th anniversary celebration of the UNCRC (TDHS, 2019c, p. 19). Additionally, the FITDH has a
 [c]onsultative/observer status with UN Economic and Social Council, UNICEF, the ILO, the IOM, the Council of Europe and The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. It is registered as a recognized Civil Society Organization engaging in policy and programme work with European Union institutions. (FITDH, 2016, p. 11)

- 44 This demonstrates how embedded the FITDH is with other IOs international fora and governments such as the European Union. Moreover, the FITDH is part of the Sports and Rights Alliance, which gathers together NGOs, sport groups, trade unions and international experts to “formulate core requirements for both IOC and FIFA with regard to human and, especially children’s rights” (FITDH, 2016, p. 27). Furthermore, a partnership has been concluded with Save the Children to put children’s issues on the agenda of the Global Compacts (FITDH, 2018, p. 9).
- 45 Thereby, it is obvious that TDHS is involved in the TRAN surrounding the UNCRC. As expected, the TRAN comprises many different actors, including governments.

| Summary of Treaty accountability network mechanisms (TRAN) of TDHS |
|--|
| Supporting local CSOs in developing countries Collaboration among the FITDH members Membership in local federations Creation of an association grouping academia, government, CSOs (Association 30 ans) Membership in networks (regional, national, international) working on the same issues as the NGO (FGC, RSDE, RSECI) International coalitions and campaigns (Joining Forces, Destination Unknown) Collaboration with governments (local or national) Collaboration with private schools, companies, international organizations Deepening the involvement with networks and international fora Alignment and collaboration with the Committee on the Rights of the Child Consultative / observer status to several UN agencies (UNICEF, ILO, IOM, Council of Europe, European Union, ...) Alliances with NGOs, trade unions, sport groups, ... (Sports and Rights Alliance, Girls Advocacy Alliance, Initiative for Children in Migration) |

4.2.2. Accountability mechanisms

Direct accountability mechanisms

- 46 TDHS uses direct accountability mechanisms, notably through the FITDH, as identified in its reports and documents and in the interview I conducted.
- 47 Indeed, the FITDH possesses several tools to hold other actors accountable, notably states in the name of children and youth as well as the association that it federates. It voices its concerns on child rights to the EU organs or the UN (TDHS, 2019c, p. 26). It advocates for child rights in collaboration with other NGOs, namely with the Joining Forces alliance, directly to governments or to the UN, providing reports on the situation of the UNCRC in various countries (TDHS, 2020b, p. 16; p. 26).
- 48 TDHS relies on informing a large audience through publications, through the organization of events and participation in various campaigns on child rights and through the media. Moreover, thanks to sensitization and education on the development of children and youth, notably with the help of workshops, the NGO is able to hold different stakeholders accountable (TDHS, 2016, p. 14; FITDH, 2016, p. 8). In the same vein, TDHS positions itself on different topics relating to child rights notably against governments (TDHS, 2016, p. 20). Yet, it clearly states that, in some cases, it does not take the risk of confronting governments because this would endanger its own actions (TDHS, 2016, p. 20). The role of advocacy is thus fundamental, yet it can be perilous for the NGO. For instance, TDHS participated in the campaign on the Swiss

popular initiative on “responsible multinationals” and experienced a backlash from the Swiss Development Agency.

- 49 According to TDHS, advocacy should not be only about states’ actions but also about multilateral institutions or private companies. This does not necessarily mean confronting them, but rather informing them and improving their knowledge about child rights (TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 52). Indeed, as mentioned in the FITDH 2015 annual report,

Terre des Hommes plays an active role within the SRA [Sport and Rights Alliance] and also coordinates a task force of international experts who formulate core requirements for both IOC and FIFA with regard to human and especially children’s rights. (FITDH, 2016, p. 27)

- 50 The formation of key actors to the thematic of child rights is also a direct accountability mechanism that works in a cooperative manner with them. For example, the formation of the FIFA board on human rights makes it possible to raise its members’ awareness on the topic and thus improve their knowledge on the matter.
- 51 Through the consultative status of the FITDH, the organization is able to voice its concerns|key international fora (FITDH, 2019d).

| Summary of direct accountability (DAM) mechanisms of TDHS |
|---|
| Advocacy to EU, UN (with alliances or alone), states |
| Reports on states |
| Public information |
| Positioning itself on different topics |
| Campaigns |
| Formulation of core requirements (with the help of international experts) |
| Platforms to voice concerns |
| Consultative status enabler of advocacy and accountability |

Indirect accountability mechanisms

- 52 Indirect accountability mechanisms are also part of TDHS’s strategy to hold states accountable and push for improvement on their compliance with the UNCRC.
- 53 The most salient indirect accountability mechanism used by TDHS matches my second hypothesis and is based on aid recipients’ empowerment. TDHS focuses massively on participation as a tool for the empowerment of youth (TDHS, 2018b, p. 3; TDHS, 2016, p. 21; TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 5). Through the promotion of an active local citizenship, the NGO aims to empower children as well as youth (TDHS, 2018b, p. 4). This is mainly achieved with the help of sensitization through workshops and diverse activities (TDHS, 2018b, p. 14; TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 34). This awareness is raised on three principal thematics: defense of child rights, solidarity and sustainable development (TDHS, 2019c, p. 3). Indeed, the organization clearly mentions the importance of giving tools to children and youth so they can analyze their situations and make concrete initiatives in their families, schools and communities, as well as to various authorities with the end goal of promoting a better respect of their rights (TDHS, 2018b, p. 3). Actually, through the creation of participatory spaces, TDHS has enabled 17,800 children and youth to formulate 395 demands about their rights from which many concrete changes have stemmed such as infrastructure amelioration and preventive actions against violence towards children and youth (TDHS, 2018b, p. 12). Through education on specific matters, such as risk management and peace

agreements, actors of change have been able to advocate for their rights (TDHS, 2019c, p. 9). The creation of youth councils throughout the regions as well as an international one is also an interesting indirect accountability mechanism. Indeed, these councils empower youth and give them a voice both at the institutional level and the international level. Through experience sharing and common project creation, youth are able to develop skills and actions to foster their rights (TDHS, 2019c, p. 17). For instance, the members of the international youth council were able to join the 30 years celebration of the UNCRC in Geneva and make demands before major child rights actors and governments in the UN, as well as submitting recommendations to the Committee (TDHS, 2020b, pp. 12–13).

- 54 TDHS highlights that children and youth are not merely passive beneficiaries of aid but rather full actors and through their empowerment should be able to defend and promote the rights of the child (TDHS, 2017, p. 4). Through their actions, they will therefore be able to hold their governments accountable regarding the states' compliance to the UNCRC and other treaties pertaining to children and youth. This goal is clearly affirmed in the program document of the alliance of TDHS and TDH Schweiz:

As children and youths are more and more engaged into citizenship and transformation processes, empowering them so that they can stand up for their rights to public institutions and governments and transform the society is crucial. (TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 10)

- 55 Interestingly, TDHS counts not only on the empowerment of aid recipients to hold states accountable but also on their partner organizations, mainly the CSOs that they fund:

Partner organizations, children and youth as agents of change will be further strengthened in their role as advocates for the rights of young people in the new strategy 2021–2024 to reach more advocacy and networking components to ensure sustainable changes with and in public institutions and local/nation governances. (TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 24)

- 56 Besides, the development of international campaigns is also a mechanism enabling children to voice their concerns. For instance, the FITDH takes part in the Children Win campaign that aims to give voice to children that suffered from the consequences of large sport events such as the Olympic Games (FITDH, 2017, p. 6). Furthermore, activities developed by TDHS such as Children Reporter permitted 1,200 children and youth from around the world to create their own reports on

[t]heir vision of the right of the child in 2019, alone or with the support of adults. [...] The children's reports were picked by the media on the occasion of the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In Switzerland, four exhibitions were seen by more than 20,000 people. (FITDH, 2020)

- 57 This demonstrates the crucial role given to aid recipients by TDHS and its partners.

| Summary of indirect accountability (IAM) mechanisms of TDHS |
|---|
| Empower aid recipients so they can formulate demands and advocate at different levels |
| Education to empower actors of change |
| Creation of youth councils |
| Strengthen partners and aid recipients to reach more advocacy and networking components |
| Development of campaigns and activities enabling aid recipients to speak out (Children Win, Children Reporter, ...) |

Peer accountability

- 58 Several elements of peer accountability can be identified in the TDHS documents analyzed. Firstly, this can be seen through its work with partner organizations, which are essential for the NGO's work in developing countries (TDHS, 2019c, p. 6). TDHS works jointly and closely with 75 partners to implement its policies in the way it thinks is the most adapted to children and youth (TDHS, 2020b, p. 6), notably by assessing each four years what has been achieved and whether the programs match TDHS's standards and commitments (TDHS, 2016, p. 18). Thanks to their alliance, TDH Schweiz and TDHS hold each other as well as partner organizations accountable in a cooperative manner (TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 24). TDHS learns from other partner organizations, for instance thanks to the Joining Forces alliance, and strengthens their skills as well as policies (FITDH, 2019c, p. 1). Moreover, it shares knowledge with the UN as well as bilateral and multilateral stakeholders (FITDH, 2019c, p. 1).
- 59 Furthermore, TDHS uses long-term financial and technical support with partner actors (TDHS & TDH Schweiz, 2019, p. 28). The consultative status of the FITDH to several UN agencies and to the Council of Europe and other organizations (FITDH, 2016, p. 11) is an example of peer accountability where the FITDH is able to voice its concerns on matters relating to its mandate as well as potentially about the behavior of its peers. Yet, NGOs do not have much incentive to publicly criticize each other; therefore, it is more likely that criticism is voiced informally between peers. These individuals and organizations prefer to strengthen each other through their alliances rather than condemn each other publicly (FITDH, 2021).

| Summary of peer accountability mechanisms of TDHS |
|---|
| Cooperation and follow-up with partner organizations Long-term financial and technical support Learning from the alliances and networks it participates in Sharing of knowledge with the UN, bilateral and multilateral stakeholders Consultative and observer status to UN agencies and other organizations Informal and non-public MPA between peers |

4.3 Synthesis: NGO

- 60 To conclude this section on the NGO's mechanisms, it is interesting to raise the importance of the cooperative nature of the organization's relationships with other actors. Through all the mechanisms it possesses, the NGO is able to reach out not only to governments but also to other key stakeholders such as multinational companies, private companies, the general public and other multilateral organizations and NGOs. These mechanisms are part of a scheme to hold states accountable for the application of their international obligations related to the UNCRC, but they have a broader prospect of creating a more just society. The analysis permits me to validate the three hypotheses of my research in the case of an NGO.
- 61 Here is a summary table synthesizing the various mechanisms developed by TDHS:

Fig. 11: Synthesis table mechanisms: TDHS

| Synthesis table : Mechanism types NGO: TDHS | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| Concepts | TRAN | Direct accountability | Indirect accountability (via empowerment) | Peer accountability |
| Mechanisms | Supporting local CSOs in developing countries | Advocacy to the EU, UN (with alliances or alone), states | Empower aid recipients so they can formulate demands and advocate at different levels | Cooperation and follow-up with partner organizations |
| | Collaboration among the FITDH members | Reports on states | Education to empower actors of change | Long-term financial and technical support |
| | Membership in local federations | Public information | Creation of youth councils | Learning from alliances and networks it takes part in |
| | Creation of an association grouping academia, government, CSOs (Association 30 ans) | Positioning itself on different topics | Strengthen partners and aid recipients to reach more advocacy and networking components | Sharing of knowledge with the UN, bilateral and multilateral stakeholders |
| | Membership in networks (regional, national, international) working on the same issues as the NGO (FGC, RSDE, RSECI) | Campaigns | Development of campaigns and activities enabling aid recipients to speak out (Children Win, Children Reporter, ...) | Consultative and observer status to UN agencies and other organizations |
| | International coalitions and campaigns (Joining Forces, Destination Unknown) | Formulation of core requirements (with the help of international experts) | | Informal and non-public Peer Accountability between peers |
| | Collaboration with governments (local or national) | Platforms to voice concerns | | |
| | Collaboration with private schools, companies, international organizations | Consultative status enabler of advocacy and accountability | | |
| | Deepen involvement with networks and international fora | | | |
| | Alignment and collaboration with the Committee on the Rights of the child | | | |
| | Consultative / observer status to several UN agencies (UNICEF, ILO, IOM, Council of Europe, European Union, ...) | | | |
| | Alliances with NGOs, trade unions, sport groups, ... (Sports and Rights Alliance, Girls Advocacy Alliance, Initiative for Children in Migration) | | | |
| Total | 13 | 8 | 5 | 6 |

5. The State's Perspective

5.1. State: Switzerland

- 1 This chapter aims to demonstrate the role of the state and how it can develop avenues for diverse actors to improve its own accountability and compliance to its commitments. Switzerland represents a typical case study, yet it is able to demonstrate the relationship between a democratic country and non-state actors pertaining to child rights. This section assesses the pathways provided by the federal state to allow for accountability to be demanded by organizations and citizens. It is important to note the federal structure where the state functions on different levels such as federal, cantonal and municipal. Actually, some of these competencies are shared among the various levels. For instance, education and social security are a shared matter (Linder & Vatter, 2001, pp. 96–98). Therefore, it is likely that some cantonal or municipal legislation differs from others'. I identify the most salient mechanisms while examining reports made by the national government on the state of child rights in the country.

5.1.1. Treaty accountability network (TRAN)

- 2 As the central actor of treaty ratification, it seems obvious that a state will engage with various actors gravitating around it. Thus, Switzerland is one of the actors in the TRAN surrounding the UNCRC and works alongside different organizations. The examination of Switzerland's case confirms this assumption.
- 3 As mentioned in the *law on the encouragement of extracurricular activities for children and youth* (Loi fédérale sur l'encouragement des activités extrascolaires des enfants et des jeunes, LEEJ), the Swiss Confederation can participate and create organizations pertaining to this matter in order to achieve the implementation of the law (SFA, 2017, p. 6). Moreover, through these measures, the Federal Council¹ aims to bolster networking between private and public actors (SFC, 2010, p. 1). Furthermore, the Federal Council can create national programs, pilot projects to test new strategies and methods, reach out to public or private organizations and collaborate with cantons and other major public and private actors (SFC, 2010, p. 2).

- 4 The government affirms its commitment to international treaties such as the UNCRC (Swiss Confederation, 2008, p. 15), which confirms its willingness to work alongside the various actors related to the Convention. Moreover, the country has acknowledged several reports on the state of the rights of the child in the country submitted by the Committee. Switzerland responded to the remarks made by the Committee and related civil society organizations and NGOs. The state proposed improvements which demonstrate its willingness to engage with the UNCRC as the central actor.
- 5 In the Confederation's document *Pour une politique Suisse de l'enfance et de la jeunesse*, the government confirms its willingness to bolster international institutions and the processes of ratification and implementation of and compliance to international treaties such as the UNCRC among other states (Swiss Confederation, 2008, pp. 21–22). Furthermore, it aims to participate in European programs for children and youth and acknowledges the role it can have as a member of the Council of Europe (Swiss Confederation, 2008, pp. 21–22).
- 6 Certain organs of the Confederation, such as the Commission Fédérale pour l'Enfance et la Jeunesse (Federal Commission for Childhood and Youth, CFEJ), which is an emanation of the Department of Home Affairs (SFDHA), are mandated to coordinate and maintain contacts with various groups and organizations working on child rights (SFDHA, 2011, p. 3). The Confederation also recognizes the core role of some actors as providers of information and specific knowledge on child rights (SFDHA, 2014, p. 14).
- 7 The Swiss Federal Council, in replying to the recommendations of the Committee, points out that the government aims to encourage experience sharing and networking between all persons working with and for children (SFC, 2018, p. 31). This is clear evidence of its commitment to and its acknowledgment of the TRAN surrounding the UNCRC.
- 8 Finally, the SFDHA also acknowledges the core role of NGOs and civil society organizations working on child and youth matters and confirms its will to foster and encourage them as well as child rights (SFDHA, 2020a).

| Summary of Treaty accountability network mechanisms (TRAN) of Switzerland |
|---|
| Participation in organizations and institutions related to child rights Creation of specific institutions Develop programs, pilot projects Reach out to public or private organizations Collaborate with cantons and other major public and private actors Commitment to the UNCRC and actors related to it Use its membership in several international organizations to promote the ratification, implementation and compliance with international covenants Creation of organs to coordinate various organizations working on the rights of the child Engage with organizations able to provide information and specific knowledge on the topic Foster and encourage CSOs and NGOs working on child rights |

5.1.2. Accountability pathways

- 9 The Swiss Confederation has developed several pathways for accountability.
- 10 According to the LEEJ, the Confederation encourages information and exchange of experiences on the topic of child rights policies (SFA, 2017, p. 1; SFA, 2017, p. 6). Moreover, it fosters programs that promote child and youth participation in federal

politics (SFA, 2017, p. 4) such as the Session des jeunes which is a federal parliament session where youth can participate (Swiss Confederation, 2008, p. iii).

- 11 An important tool instituted by the Confederation is the CFEJ (article 22 of the LEEJ): the Federal Commission for Childhood and Youth. At least a third of this commission's members should be under 30 years old. The main duties of this commission are to advise and propose policies to the Federal Council on its policies relating to children and youth; to observe the current situation and propose measures if needed; to verify whether the LEEJ is adapted to the current situation; to examine all related laws and ordinances related to children and youth and mention their consequences; to sensitize public opinion on children and youth and their needs; and, finally, to always accomplish its tasks keeping an equilibrium between protection, encouragement and the participation of children and youth (SFA, 2017, p. 7).
- 12 As mentioned earlier, competency on child and youth rights is shared with the cantons. A federal report commanded by the government identifies good practices from cantons: for instance, the canton of Wallis implemented a cantonal law fostering protection and encouragement of child and youth participation. This law creates a specific commission on the matter and, most interestingly, a youth parliament able to submit demands to the cantonal government and parliament (Swiss Confederation, 2008, p. 3). Another example identified in the document is Fribourg. This canton has also legislated to foster child rights, in this case through the creation of a specific commission working on this topic able to submit proposals to the canton and municipalities (Swiss Confederation, 2008, p. 3). Furthermore, it establishes a youth council able to bring proposals of youth and children to the cantonal authorities (Swiss Confederation, 2008, p. 3).
- 13 Some programs are developed to foster children's and youths' participation, to let them speak out about issues they encounter in their lives. For instance, the Easyvote and Speak Out programs go in this direction. Easyvote is a project helping youth to understand voting and politics while the Speak Out project intends to give voice to unaccompanied migrant minors (SFDHA, 2014, p. 29).
- 14 Interestingly, in order to enable fruitful participation and accountability, Switzerland fosters the empowerment of children and youth. In the LEEJ, it mentions clearly that the law aims to encourage extracurricular activities to enable children and youth to become responsible and conscious adults as well as identifying their responsibilities to society and promoting their social, cultural and political involvement (SFA, 2017, p. 1). The role of participation as a tool of empowerment is clearly stated as a key element of empowerment (SFDHA, 2014, p. 12).
- 15 In a broader way, the mention that children's and youths' voices should be heard in all cases, either in juridical issues or political issues, is a commitment to accountability to the children and youth population on the part of the authorities (Swiss Confederation, 2008, p. 5).
- 16 Finally, Switzerland recognizes its commitment to the UNCRC and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The Committee has already submitted several reports on the situation of children in the country, accompanied by recommendations and Switzerland has already applied some of these and replied to the questions raised by the Committee (SFC, 2018, p. 17). It also should be noted that Switzerland has ratified

the UNCRC as well as its three optional protocols, notably the one enabling children and youth to report directly to the Committee (OP3: Communication Procedure).

| Summary of accountability pathways of Switzerland |
|--|
| <p>Exchange of information and experience</p> <p>Child and youth participation in federal politics (Session des jeunes)</p> <p>Institution of a federal / cantonal commission working on all matters relating to children and youth</p> <p>Youth parliament / council able to submit demands to government and parliament</p> <p>Specific programs developed : Easyvote, Speak Out, ...</p> <p>Implementation of recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child</p> <p>Ratification of three optional protocols of the UNCRC (including the OP3 on communication procedures)</p> |

5.1.3. Peer accountability

- 17 There is some form of peer accountability in the Swiss case, yet it does not operate in the same manner as for the organizations analyzed above because of the nature of the state. Indeed, the Swiss Confederation promotes exchanges between cantons, municipalities, experts and organizations working for child rights and more generally with children and youth (SFA, 2017, p. 6). It also encourages regional exchanges and networking with people working for and with children (SFA, 2018, p. 31).
- 18 In this case, peer accountability is more about cooperation and discussion and less about blaming others. However, it is possible to understand that, behind this language, peer accountability also means holding each other accountable in a soft manner if an actor is not using acceptable policies.

| Summary of mutual peer accountability (MPA) mechanisms of Switzerland |
|---|
| <p>Promotion of exchanges among all government levels (cantonal, municipal, federal) and experts, organizations</p> <p>Encouragement of regional exchanges and networking</p> |

5.1.4. Synthesis: State

- 19 Switzerland seems to work diligently in order to fulfill its commitments to the UNCRC and its OPs. It fosters all aspects of accountability to the population and organizations, notably through empowerment and participation of children and youth in policy-making at the different federal levels. It seems though that some cantons are more forthcoming than others and offer more possibilities to children and youth to voice their concerns than the Confederation itself. Finally, peer accountability seems to be working in a much more cooperative manner than I first conceptualized.
- 20 Here is a summary table for the main concepts in the case of Switzerland:

Fig. 12: Synthesis table mechanisms: Switzerland

| Synthesis table : Mechanism types : State: Switzerland | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Concepts | TRAN | Accountability pathways | Peer accountability |
| Mechanisms | Participation in organizations and institutions related to child rights | Exchanges of information and experience | Promotion of exchanges between all government levels (cantonal, municipal, federal) and experts, organizations |
| | Creation of specific institutions Development of programs, pilot projects | Child and youth participation in federal politics (Session des jeunes) | Encourage regional exchanges and networking |
| | Reach out to public or private organizations | Institution of a federal / cantonal commission working on all matters relating to children and youth | |
| | Collaborate with cantons and other major public and private actors | Youth parliament / council able to submit demands to government and parliament | |
| | Commitment to the UNCRC and actors related to it | Specific program development : Easyvote, Speak Out, ... | |
| | Use its membership in several international organizations to promote the ratification, implementation and compliance with international covenants | Committee on the Rights of the Child reports, implementation of recommendations | |
| | Creation of organs to coordinate various organizations working on the rights of the child | Ratification of three optional protocols of the UNCRC (including the OP3 on a communication procedure) | |
| | Engage with organizations able to provide information and specific knowledge on the topic | | |
| | Foster and encourage CSOs and NGOs working on child rights | | |

FOOTNOTES

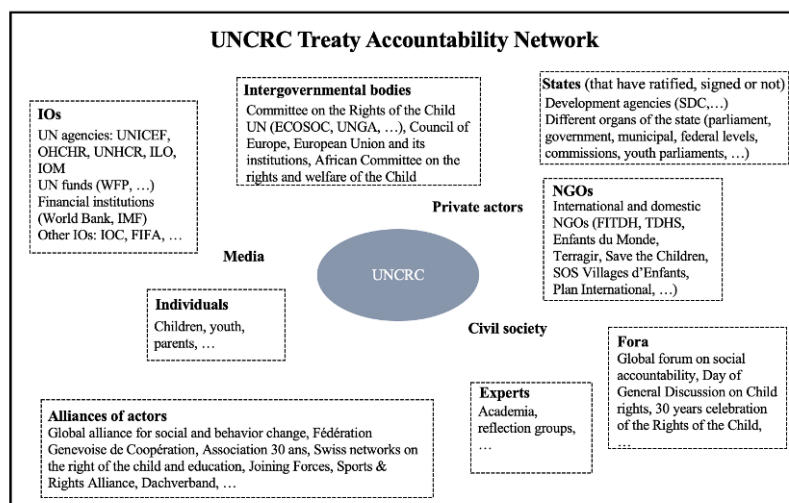
1. The Federal Council is the executive branch of Switzerland

6. Conclusion

6.1. General synthesis

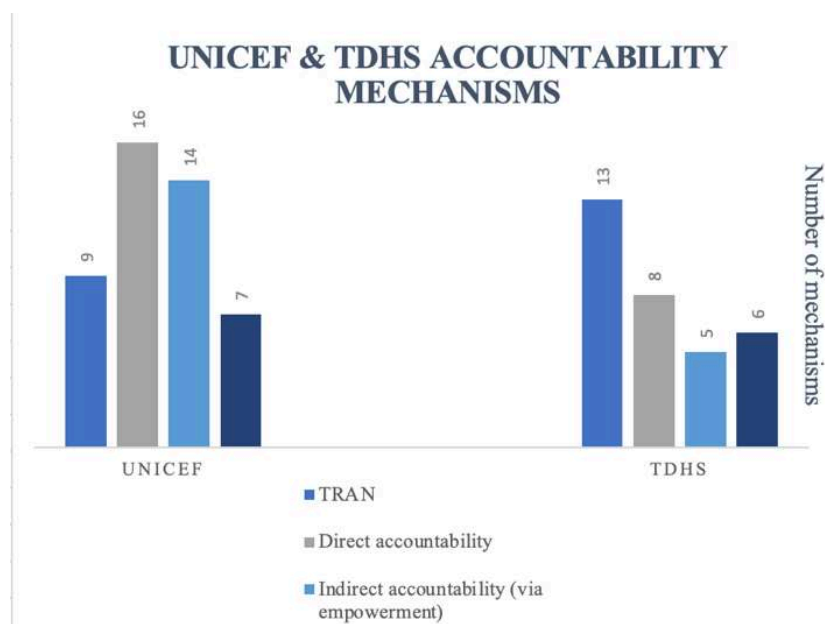
- 1 In this section I synthesize all the data analyzed in my research and provide a general reflection on my hypotheses with regard to my empirical results.
- 2 A) Thanks to my analysis, I have been able to identify the TRAN surrounding the UNCRC. The principal actors emerging from the research are states (whether they have ratified the Convention or not), intergovernmental bodies (such as the Committee on the Rights of the Child established by the Convention), IOs (such as UN agencies, funds and programs and financial institutions), NGOs (either international or domestic), experts (for instance, academics) and individuals (notably, children and youth). The role of fora and alliances should be included in the mapping of this network because they have an important role in ensuring states' and other actors' accountability to the Convention. Private actors, media and civil society have also been identified, yet due to the scope of my research, I did not focus specifically on their role. The graphic mapping of the TRAN (figure 13) reflects the actors identified in my research. This representation of the TRAN stems from my analysis and it is an indicative scheme, which is not supposed to be complete.

Fig. 13: UNCRC Treaty Accountability Network



- 3 Elements pertaining to the TRAN were identified for each actor analyzed. Interestingly, the role of peer accountability between TRAN actors is important. Participants in the TRAN engage to a large extent with each other, and often not publicly. The multidirectional relationships between members of the TRAN is confirmed by the analysis. Actually, they often provide mutual assistance and cooperate with each other in several respects. These relationships imply accountability relations among each actor within the TRAN. The periodical review by the Committee on the Rights of the Child consists of one of the most prominent tools developed.
- 4 Thus, my analysis confirms the existence of a TRAN following the establishment of the UNCRC. It also verifies the major role that this network has regarding accountability of the different actors composing it.
- 5 The various accountability concepts developed in the study are identified in the analysis.
- 6 The Convention and its protocols establish several accountability mechanisms (see. figure 9). The UNCRC and its related protocols establish their own direct accountability mechanisms such as the periodic reports submitted to the Committee by states. Interestingly, holding states accountable via the Committee can be understood as an indirect accountability mechanism used by NGOs and IOs. Moreover, it should be highlighted that strong importance is given to the voice of children, the encouragement for state parties to include communities and to foster the creation of links between the local and the international levels. The third Optional Protocol on communication develops this principle even further than the UNCRC and other protocols.
- 7 Concerning UNICEF and TDHS, the concepts assumed in the first, second and third hypotheses of my study can be retrieved throughout the inspection of the data. The following graph summarizes the number of accountability mechanisms by concept.

Fig. 14: UNICEF & TDHS Accountability Mechanisms



- 8 The first hypothesis of my research is conclusive both for TDHS and UNICEF because they are involved in a TRAN regarding the UNCRC. These organizations have developed several joint programs such as fora, campaigns and partnerships. Interestingly, TRAN participants constitute alliances and participate in networks with other actors to enhance their power and influence to hold states accountable.
- 9 My second and third hypotheses can also be confirmed by the empirical results of this research. I was able to identify both direct and indirect accountability mechanisms in the analysis of both UNICEF and TDHS. The importance of certain mechanisms found in both organizations does not demonstrate large differences between them (see figures 15 and 16). The ratio of peer accountability is respectively 42% and 43% for TDHS and UNICEF. Moreover, the proportion of direct accountability mechanisms appears more important for the NGO (42%) than for the IO (19%). Finally, the data demonstrate that UNICEF has proportionally developed more mechanisms of indirect accountability (38% of its mechanisms) than TDHS (26% of its mechanisms). This divergence might be explained by the nature of UNICEF, known to be less confrontational with states than an NGO.
- 10 Both actors emphasize the role of empowerment as a key element for creating actors of change and to indirectly hold states accountable. Interestingly, indirect accountability mechanisms are not uniquely used through the empowerment of aid recipients of IOs and NGOs: for instance, UNICEF and TDHS are used as intermediary actors of the Committee to provide advice to states on the implementation of the Convention. Both actors also foster other organizations (for instance, local NGOs) to hold states accountable. Another intriguing process is that UNICEF utilizes NGOs to convey messages it would rather not promote itself in order to dodge states' reprisals. Thus, indirect accountability does not necessarily imply empowerment of aid recipients but can be applied to a vast array of other complex and non-direct relationships.

Fig. 15: Synthesis UNICEF Fig. 16: Synthesis TDHS

Synthesis IO: UNICEF



Synthesis NGO: Terre des Hommes Suisse



- 11 While the proportions of each concept for both actors do not show strong differences between UNICEF and TDHS, the qualitative approach followed in this study makes it possible to add several elements to the analysis.
- 12 TDHS has a more militant and micro-level approach to holding states accountable. In fact, this seems logical due to the nature and size of the organization and its programs compared to those of UNICEF. Both organizations have developed mechanisms to hold states accountable and, at the same time, mechanisms to be held accountable themselves by their aid recipients. TDHS, by the specificity of its governance and structure, offers a more inclusive approach to aid recipients. In the case of UNICEF, the organization provides access through several specific programs, but this is less clear-cut than in the case of TDHS. UNICEF seems, by its nature, to be closer to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Although TDHS also engages with this body to some extent, it does so from a further standpoint. Moreover, the direct accountability mechanisms implemented by TDHS are more focused on public information and raising awareness about the UNCRC with a minimal presence in multilateral fora thanks to the FITDH. Regarding UNICEF, it has larger advocacy power going through multilateral institutions and directly to states to hold them accountable. Nevertheless, both actors use advocacy on multiple actors and promote positive child and youth development.

The differences between these types of actors might stem, as indicated by the literature, from the distribution of power among them.

- 13 A result that IOs and NGOs have in common is that the peer and direct accountability concepts have been designed with a vision that seems to be too oppositional. Indeed, from empirical results, both mechanisms seem to be shaped in a less confrontational manner than I expected, relying almost exclusively on cooperation.
- 14 Peer accountability refers more substantially than expected to the TRAN as a means of assisting community and keeping an eye on each other. Further studies should confirm this assessment. Nevertheless, in the case of UNICEF, the organization has established the UN Partner Portal, which monitors all the partners with whom UN agencies work. UNICEF has also developed guiding principles, thereby holding partners with whom it works accountable. TDHS applies the same mechanism with NGOs it works with. Thus, it might be useful in further studies to bring peer accountability and TRAN closer together in conceptualization. Furthermore, it seems that organizations aim to support each other and to progress together. The creation of joint programs and alliances underlines this. Thus, IOs and NGOs hold each other accountable on some topics but do this through mutual improvement and alliances, rather than publicly, in order to avoid deteriorating their image which is often contested by political forces (FITDH, 2021).
- 15 C) The state engages with the actors composing the TRAN. Several accountability pathways have been developed by Switzerland, notably for children and youth to voice their demands formally. There is a form of peer accountability existing in Switzerland because the government encourages all levels of the federal state (federal, cantonal and municipal) to engage with experts on child rights and related organizations, either non-profit or private. The Swiss government emphasizes as well the need for the empowerment of children and youth as a means to encourage citizens to participate actively, notably on the subject of child rights. Thus, it is interesting to see that the government of Switzerland favors all actions that can push its accountability by children and youth regarding their rights. The role of the UNCRC and of the TRAN in developing these pathways could be further analyzed in a subsequent study. Actually, one could assume experts and non-state actors have been able to lobby the government on the creation of laws related to this theme.
- 16 The following graph summarizes the number of different accountability pathways, peer accountability and TRAN references. The purpose of the graph is to provide a synthesis, yet without drawing inferences from it.

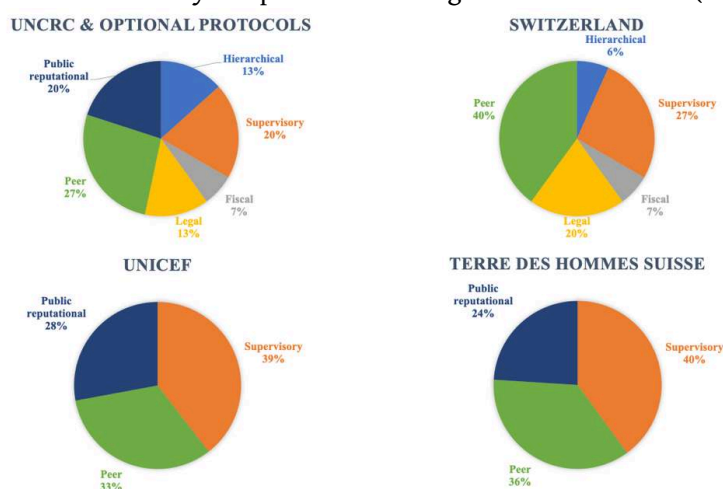
Fig. 17: Synthesis Switzerland

Switzerland Accountability Mechanisms



- 17 D) The graphs below (figure 18) depict the assessment of the accountability mechanisms developed by the UNCRC and its protocols, Switzerland, UNICEF and TDHS, according to Grant and Keohane's classification.

Fig. 18: Accountability comparison according to Grant & Keohane (2005)



- 18 Accountability mechanisms developed by the UNCRC and its related protocols are mainly peer (between actors surrounding the Convention) and supervisory (such as the Committee's universal report on countries). Public reputational instruments are also particularly present. Yet, these are, as mentioned by the authors, present in all forms of accountability. Legal accountability mechanisms are also present, as one could expect with the creation of an international treaty (mainly through recommendations to states by the Committee), and fiscal accountability also has a certain weight (where states provide funds to the agencies surrounding the UNCRC as well as its bodies).
- 19 Switzerland is subject to hierarchical accountability mainly because of the superior role of international law in its constitution and the need to respect its ratification of the UNCRC. There are also supervisory accountability mechanisms because the federal and cantonal governments have created commissions working on matters related to children and youth and also, for instance, because of the power youth parliaments throughout the country have to make demands on their governments regarding their

rights. There is also obviously fiscal accountability since Switzerland funds the implementation of the Convention on a regular basis. Legal accountability can also be retrieved because the country has ratified the UNCRC and all of the three OPs. Peer accountability is also present because Switzerland promotes exchanges between all institutional levels, from the Confederation to the municipalities, experts and organizations related to child rights. These results correspond to the expectations of the authors (see Grant & Keohane, 2005, p. 39, annex 9.8).

- 20 Regarding UNICEF and TDHS, mechanisms are mainly supervisory with peer accountability while public reputation instruments are used in both types. There are no clear discrepancies between UNICEF and TDHS/FITDH according to this classification. When compared to the expected results of Grant and Keohane, some of the mechanisms are found in the analysis, yet not all of them. Moreover, the discrepancies between IOs and NGOs are not salient.

6.2. Limitations

- 21 It is necessary to assess the limitations of this research. Firstly, the cases studied here are certainly not representative of the huge number of NGOs, IOs and states, which possess all their own specificities. For instance, Switzerland is obviously not an example of all democratic states. Thus, it would be interesting to conduct a large-N analysis since the theoretical and empirical relevance of the subject has been demonstrated here. Secondly, I have used the sources available and it is likely that other documents, not released publicly, may slightly change the evidence found in this analysis. Moreover, the definition of my core concepts could differ and I proposed ways to improve them such as merging TRAN and peer accountability or developing further the conceptualization of indirect accountability since the empirical evidence demonstrated the complexity lying behind this concept. Finally, while Grant and Keohane's classification provides interesting insights on the distribution of types of accountability amongst the different actors considered in this research, it was challenging to classify the different mechanisms raised in the analysis within the categories these authors developed. This supports my first assumption that their framework was not the most pertinent to my analysis.

6.3. Conclusion

- 22 To conclude, this research has provided an empirical answer to the question of the extent to which non-state actors are able to hold states accountable regarding an international treaty. It has also made it possible to identify whether NGOs and IOs hold governments accountable directly or indirectly through the empowerment of the populations they support. Thus, thanks to this study, I was able to confirm the central role of NGOs and IOs as accountability-holders in the context of the UNCRC and demonstrate the different means they use to increase states' accountability to their commitments. I identified and analyzed direct and indirect accountability mechanisms and these concepts have been proven to be relevant in this context. Moreover, the importance of a TRAN as a theoretical tool for other treaty analyses should be highlighted since it offers new insight into how, by whom and with what roles treaties are surrounded.

- 23 Thus, I can confirm that NGOs and IOs have a substantial role to play in holding states accountable. This accountability focuses on citizens' empowerment. Notably, participation is a strong transformative factor in this direction. States' responses to their commitments may vary, but the case of Switzerland shows that the country has created specific accountability pathways for the population to voice its concerns.
- 24 Moreover, the relationship between members of the TRAN and states appears to be more cooperative than I thought before. It is also possible to note that IOs are more inclined to work together with states without confronting them while NGOs are more inclined to opt for a more confrontational posture.
- 25 This research establishes new dimensions for research and practical policy. Firstly, it identifies accountability as a core concept to understand relationships between different actors gravitating around an international treaty. Secondly, it demonstrates the salience of new concepts such as TRAN, as well as direct, indirect and peer accountability, which enable a better comprehension of existing mechanisms when addressing international treaties. Thirdly, it provides the academic literature with ideas for further research, notably to replicate the study on a larger-N basis; focusing on non-democratic states; and analyzing other actors than IOs and NGOs, such as multinational companies or religious groups. Finally, it raises the question of the accountability of non-state actors with respect to international treaties. Regarding practical policy implications, NGOs and IOs are playing a more significant role in the way states comply with international treaties. The importance of accountability as a key tool for policy-making and to empower marginalized groups is also emphasized throughout this research. Therefore, this study implies that these are effective tools to create changes and push for the compliance of states in a non-confrontational manner. It also confirms that there are pathways through which actors can proceed and demand that their states comply with specific treaties.
- 26 This study raises numerous other research questions: for example, do these accountability mechanisms operate in the same manner in other states, democratic or not? To what extent are these mechanisms applied when the state is not part of a treaty and can they be used to push states to ratify a treaty? To what extent do NGOs and IOs hold accountable actors other than the state?
- 27 Finally, when De Tocqueville writes that "they [the people] are the cause and end of all things: everything proceeds from them, and to them everything returns" (2003, p. 65), one could argue that this is even more significant today. The organizations studied here are always trying to implement more socially inclusive policies, improving their inclusion of aid recipients in their governance. The reasons behind this are certainly a direct answer to the critiques of their lack of accountability, and the will to secure funding for their survival. It is yet to be seen if this will bring better policies. On a positive note, this study demonstrates that a more human-centered vision of policy-making is emerging and it can bring more effective and socially coherent outcomes.

6.4. Post-Scriptum

- 28 I had the opportunity to conduct an extra interview with Maud Roure, head of the *transition to peace* and *promotion of youth leadership* programs at the Kofi Annan Foundation (KAF). KAF does not work specifically on the UNCRC, but its work coincides

well with the theme I delved into for this thesis. This interview was highly relevant to my topic because it gave me the opportunity to test my concepts with another NGO, operating in a related field. Through its programs, notably Extremely Together, KAF fosters 10 youths, scattered around the world, to mobilize their peers in their communities to fight against extremism. It does so through diverse approaches such as theatre plays, community radio shows, workshops and social media campaigns (KAF, 2021). Through the empowerment of these youth, KAF aims at ameliorating their situation. The inclusion of these engaged youths in some of the Foundation's decisions matches precisely my conceptualization of accountability (KAF, 2021). The Foundation writes position papers as well as recommendations, for instance to the UNGA or to the EU (KAF, 2021). These examples match with my concept of direct accountability mechanisms. Furthermore, KAF is also part of a network of actors with whom it cooperates, notably gathering together academics, local NGOs and political parties. Through these partnerships, KAF is able to strengthen its role and its ambitions. It surely enables the Foundation to hold other actors accountable to remain faithful to their commitments, namely regarding the UN Security Council resolution on Youth, Peace and Security. In this resolution, the role of youth is acknowledged as a key element in peacebuilding (KAF, 2021). Thus, this reinforces my concept of TRAN, yet with regard to another commitment than the UNCRC analyzed in this work.

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Appendices

1. Analysis sheet

| Concept | Definition | Indicators |
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| NGO | Non-governmental organization. An organization that tries to achieve social or political aims, but is not controlled by a government. | Independent from the state; works for common good; non-profit directed. Empowerment, effectiveness, distinctive values, representativeness. |
| IO | International organization. Based on an international agreement or is the emanation of working organization. | Autonomous, independent from governments. Main attributes stem from a charter; voting procedures; committee structure and, accountability. |
| State | A country or its government. | Territory, population and government. Sovereign and independent. Population is subject to an organized power, which constitutes the government |
| Accountability | <i>"A relationship between an actor and a forum, in which the actor has an obligation to explain and to justify his or her conduct, the forum can pose questions and pass judgement, and the actor may face consequences"</i> (Bovens, 2007, p.447). | Lasting positive change; people-driven work; responsive decision-making; information provision; meaningful participation; community feedback. Civic engagement (media, demonstrations, protests, advocacy campaigns, investigation journalism), give voice to population, evidence-based advocacy, monitoring, capacity-building. Level of institutionalization, depth of involvement, inclusiveness of participation. |

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| TRAN | Treaty accountability network. All the actors and mechanisms related to holding accountable a state, or other actors such as NGOs, or IOs regarding a specific treaty. | Mention of accountability in reports and documents related to the treaty and the different actors. |
| Peer-accountability | Speaking up when other actors do not practice according to the acceptable and settled standards. | Mention and critics of other actors in various documents (such as reports) and in front of media, audiences, etc. either publicly or privately |
| Direct & Indirect accountability mechanisms | <u>Direct</u> : linear path between two actors to hold the other accountable. <u>Indirect</u> : non-linear path to hold the other accountable. Notably, going through another actor and empowerment mechanisms. | <i>To be analyzed according to the definition.</i> |
| Empowerment | People, groups, communities have greater authority and power on their lives and their situations, in general. | Focus on education, power, participation of population. Leadership, self-efficacy, personal well-being, participation. For children: space, voice, people that hear their demands and imply genuine influence on decision-making. |

2. IO: UNICEF content analysis table

| Sources | Concepts and their related mechanisms | | | | |
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| | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer accountability | Empowerment |
| UNICEF. UNICEF public partnerships 2020. | "Global Programme Partnerships (with other UN agencies, multilateral org.) : Advocacy for and with children, help countries set agendas that prioritize their rights, and | "Partnerships with states to address policy and budget gaps so that children can grow up protected, healthy and educated. Provides vital regular resources and emergency funds for humanitarian response, while working with us to sharpen their focus on children's rights – the core of many | | "Global Programme Partnerships (with other UN agencies, multilateral org.) : Advocacy for and with children, help countries set agendas that prioritize their rights, and | |

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| | <p>mobilize resources "</p> <p>"Partnerships with International Financial Institutions (assistance , flexible funding, technical advice and strategic guidance)"</p> | <p>development agendas and budgets"</p> <p>"Partnerships with governments in various international fora" (UNGA, ECOSOC,AU, EU, ...)</p> <p>"Advocacy for and with children"</p> | | <p>mobilize resources "</p> <p>"Partnerships with International Financial Institutions (assistance , flexible funding, technical advice and strategic guidance)"</p> | |
| <p>UNICEF. Civil society and partnerships: Framework for partnerships. 2020</p> | <p>"Formal and informal partnerships with CSOs "</p> | | | <p>"Key guiding principles for UNICEF partnerships with civil society and other actors" : Equity and equality among all partners, Mutual commitment to the core values of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the principles of good governance, notably transparency, accountability and sound financial management"</p> | |
| <p>UNICEF. UNICEF welcomes renewed commitment to child rights, urges all Member States to leave no child behind: Statement by</p> | <p>"Global dialogue with the participation of children and young people, parents and caregivers, education and social workers, communities and governments,</p> | <p>"Ask all Member States to renew their commitment to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and implement child rights fit for the 21st century. Ask that The 104 States that have aligned to the Pledge so far are showing</p> | | | |

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| UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore. 2019 | civil society, academia, the private sector and the media. " | bold commitment and leadership" --- "Global dialogue with the participation of children and young people, parents and caregivers, education and social workers, communities and governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and the media. " | | | |
| UNICEF. UNICEF's role in promoting and supporting the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Child rights are at the heart of everything UNICEF does. 2020 | | "Strengthening the monitoring and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child " --- "Promoting the ratification and supporting the implementation of the Convention and its Optional Protocols, UNICEF helps strengthen laws and policies and improves understanding of the Convention at all levels of society" "Supporting governments to implement the Convention through laws and policies, including providing institutional and professional capacity development." "Participating in different stages of the monitoring process. For example, UNICEF country offices assist governments in organizing major consultations prior to drafting their reports. " "Supporting the Committee on the | "Helping to ensure that voices that too often go unheard are reflected in the information presented to the Committee. For example, by facilitating wide- reaching consultations at all levels of society, submitting written reports on the situation of women and children, and encouraging non- governmental organizations to submit their own reports to the Committee as a supplement to government reports" | | |

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| | | <p>Rights of the Child. For example, by participating in the Committee's review of submitted reports.</p> <p>Working with governments to identify implementation strategies in response to the Committee's recommendations."</p> | | | |
| Sources: | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| <p>UNICEF. Implementing and monitoring the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Turning child rights principles into action and results for children. 2020</p> | <p>"UNICEF is entitled to be present when the Committee reviews implementation of the Convention in a given country. UNICEF can be invited to provide expert advice and to submit reports. The Committee can also require the State to turn to UNICEF for technical advice or assistance"</p> | | <p>"UNICEF is entitled to be present when the Committee reviews implementation of the Convention in a given country. UNICEF can be invited to provide expert advice and to submit reports. The Committee can also require the State to turn to UNICEF for technical advice or assistance"</p> | | |
| <p>UNICEF UK. Child Rights and Social Accountability in the Post-2015 World. 2014</p> | <p>"Social (or citizen-led) accountability initiatives that engage citizens, including children themselves, and/or civil society organizations, that are demand-driven and operate from the bottom-up, are of particular relevance in this respect " (p.3)</p> <p>"Creation of a global community</p> | <p>"Convene a forum with government officials to discuss and demonstrate the benefits of social accountability, as well as launch a public debate with youth on social accountability" (p.7)</p> | <p>"Develop innovative solutions and creative ideas that help to equip children, their communities and civil society to mobilize demand for accountability for the realization of children's rights" (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Bringing innovations in citizen participation,</p> | | <p>"Develop innovative solutions and creative ideas that help to equip children, their communities and civil society to mobilize demand for accountability for the realization of children's rights" (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Bringing innovations in citizen participation,</p> |

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| | <p>of practice and knowledge on child rights and social accountability (GCPK), consisting of likeminded partners " (p.4)</p> <p>"Virtual platform for knowledge exchange. Through this platform Community members will be encouraged to share information and experiences on a wide range of issues: on what works and what doesn't, cost, unintended consequences/ impacts, child participation (particularly of marginalized groups), the linkages between formal (government) and informal (CSO) accountability mechanisms, etc" (p.3)</p> <p>"Membership to GCPK ranges from INGOs and NGOs to UN agencies, UN human rights officials, academic research organizations, national human rights institutions and others. GCPK should consist of a diverse membership and include non-</p> | | <p>social mobilization and communication to bear on advocacy for and monitoring of the realization of children's rights. Social (or citizen-led) accountability initiatives that engage citizens, including children themselves, and/ or civil society organizations, that are demand-driven and operate from the bottom-up, are of particular relevance in this respect " (p.3)</p> | | <p>social mobilization and communication to bear on advocacy for and monitoring of the realization of children's rights. Social (or citizen-led) accountability initiatives that engage citizens, including children themselves, and/ or civil society organizations, that are demand-driven and operate from the bottom-up, are of particular relevance in this respect " (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Connect child rights advocates and social accountability practitioners" (p.6)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Children should be empowered to participate in social accountability initiatives, and that building their citizenship." (p.5)</p> |
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| | traditional partners. Children will need to be represented as well as particularly marginalized and excluded groups." (p.7) | | | | |
| UNICEF. UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018-2021. 2017 | <p>"Working with our partners to build alliances and movements for change" (p.28)</p> <p>"Work collaboratively with United Nations partners globally and nationally to achieve more results and save money." (p.28)</p> | <p>"Become an even stronger advocacy, campaigning, fundraising and communications force for children, working across our organization on specific campaigns, and working with our partners to build alliances and movements for change." (p.27)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"More than double our base of supporters to 100 million people willing to volunteer, advocate and donate resources" (p.27)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Leverage resources and partnerships for children, including by influencing domestic planning, financing and the delivery of services for children". (p.27)</p> | <p>"Support children and young people as agents of change, creating platforms and opportunities for them to demand accountability and drive progress for children" (p.27)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Enhance the use of new technologies to strengthen systems, improve service delivery and engage communities, citizens and civil society organizations in public decision-making." (p.29)</p> | | <p>"FOCUS more systematically on community engagement and accountability to affected people and communities, including through communication for development and platforms for adolescent participation" (p. 22)</p> |
| COHEN & STEWART. Advocacy toolkit: a guide to influencing decisions that improve children's lives, UNICEF. 2010 | <p>"Developing partnerships/ coalitions/ alliances" (p.iv)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Strong communications platforms at the global, regional, country and national committee levels" (p.iv)</p> | <p>"Pursue advocacy that challenges prejudice or changes incentives. It will do so, for example, by mobilizing public opinion to attach a higher cost to governmental inaction" (p.49)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Awareness raising: communications and media work" (p.49)</p> | <p>"Support rights holders to demand their rights" (p.6)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Link community perspectives with subnational and national policy dialogue" (p.6)</p> <p>"Campaigning by mobilizing public around advocacy issues, change perceptions and</p> | | <p>"C4D is not public relations or corporate communications; it involves children, their families and communities in dialogue, consultation and participation – based on understanding</p> |

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| | | <p>---</p> <p>"Lobbying and negotiating with decision-makers" (p.49)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Research and publications: draw recommendations that can be addressed by decision-makers and stakeholders" (p.49)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Conferences and events" (p.50)</p> <p>--</p> <p>"Showing power behind the demands may include petitions with many (possibly thousands) of names of supporters, statements of support from opinion leaders or a large turnout at an event. These focused efforts are essential to building sources of power that bolster the advocate-decision maker relationship. Good relationships are the foundation of lobbying and negotiating. Periodic briefings with decision-makers and their staff are one way to strengthen the relationship.¹³ Briefings usually feature experts talking about the newest information on the issue" (p.53)</p> <p>--</p> <p>"Involving stakeholders in advocacy efforts is essential to align advocacy with UNICEF's human rights-based approach and because the target audience is</p> | <p>build support to influence decision-makers and stakeholders" (p.6)</p> <p>"Facilitate the creation of a platform for children and young people's voices to be heard and acted on by decision-makers and stakeholders" (p.6)</p> <p>"Social mobilization" (p.6)</p> | | <p>their local context" (p.6)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Create spaces for plurality of voices and narratives of community : Encourage listening, dialogue, debate and consultation, Ensure the active and meaningful participation of children and youth, Promote gender equality and social inclusion, Reflect the principles of inclusion, selfdetermination, participation and respect by ensuring that marginalized groups (including indigenous populations and people with disabilities) are prioritized and given high visibility and voice, Link community perspectives with subnational and national policy dialogue, Build the self-esteem and confidence of care providers and children" (p.6)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"When supporting children's and young people's participation in advocacy, it is important to work</p> |
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| | | often accountable to stakeholders. Children are stakeholders in all of UNICEF's advocacy efforts. Advocacy must ensure the concerns of children, as well as parents, caregivers, community members and marginalized groups, are reflected in policy dialogue and decision-making" (p.12) | | | with them to understand the impact they want to achieve, and help them design the steps to get there, the methodologies to use and the roles of all the key actors involved – those they need as allies, those they need to convince and those they can counterbalance if necessary. Children's involvement in advocacy must be based on their ethical and meaningful participation." (p. 12) |
| Sources: | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| UNICEF. Communication for Development (C4D) : Advancing positive social and behaviour change. 2019 | "C4D collaborated with the Human Rights, Public Finance and Local Governance units in the UNICEF Programme Division to organize a global forum on social accountability" (p. 4) -- "Within the United Nations family, C4D serves as lead/ co-lead for the RCCE pillar in any humanitarian action" (p.15) --- | | "Increased support was provided for communities to hold governments accountable for the quality of education in a new initiative for community review of school 'report cards" (p.4) --- "The Back to Learning campaign in the Syrian Arab Republic, informed by an in-depth analysis of education-seeking behaviours in terms of drivers and barriers for | | "Engagement and empowerment of communities in both development and humanitarian contexts" --- "Establishment of an inclusive cross-sectoral coordination committee, empowering children with disabilities and their families through community-based programmes, and addressing stigma and discrimination through behaviour |

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| | <p>"Global Alliance for Social and Behaviour Change, comprising approximately 20 organizations leading global work in SBCC [Social and behavior change communication] and providing important leadership and a community of practice together to advance the social and behaviour change agenda. The Alliance includes United Nations agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and professional associations" (p. 37)</p> | <p>out-of-school children and their caregivers. The campaign reached 198,813 people through outreach and community mobilization activities through door-to-door visits, group awareness sessions and messages disseminated through TV, radio, billboards and social media" (p.4)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"UNICEF established six social mobilization committees, with particular focus on the most vulnerable nomadic communities in remote and marginalized areas." (p.19)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Strategic partnerships with faith leaders to facilitate community engagement" (p. 25)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Adolescents empowered as community change agents" (p.25)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"C4D interventions focused on capacity-building for youth associations, with the aim of</p> | <p>change communication programmes in schools and communities" (p. 24)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Development of standards : "inter-agency Minimum Quality Standards and Indicators for Community Engagement" (p.3)</p> <p>"Adolescents empowered as community change agents" (p.3)</p> <p>"Engaging young people as advocates for their own rights" (p.3)</p> <p>"Digital engagement offers important opportunities to empower adolescents as agents of change" (p.29)</p> |
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improving their knowledge and skills on better ways of promoting the demand for and use of social services. After mapping 28 youth associations and the platforms that provide opportunities for their engagement, 80 young volunteers were engaged and empowered to promote community health" (p.26)

"Engaging young people as advocates for their own rights" (p.26)

"Digital engagement offers important opportunities to empower adolescents as agents of change" (p.26)

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"U-Report and the Internet of Good Things (IoGT). U-Report engages users via alerts, surveys and one-on-one chats on either phone or computer. It is a two-way tool, collecting data directly from children or their caregivers, and providing crucial and reliable

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| | | | <p>information in a timely way" (p.16)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"UNICEF established six social mobilization committees, with particular focus on the most vulnerable nomadic communities in remote and marginalized areas" (p.19).</p> | | |
| UNICEF. U-Report. 2018 | <p>"U-Report is an open-source mobile messaging programme managed at the country level by UNICEF alongside youth and NGO partners" (p.2)</p> | | <p>"Participation through the very social media channels young people already use, plus SMS, in the safest way. It gives young people and their communities a voice on issues that matter to them. Collected as 'data' these voices are analysed in real-time and applied to informing development work and amplified to advocate and inform positive change though decision making" (p.2)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Poll responses are analysed in real-time, mapped and displayed on a public dashboard at the local level, ensuring the feedback can be actioned by local and national</p> | | <p>"Live chats offer U-Reporters one-on-one advice and services, and can act as a complaints mechanism. This is typically used for counseling, advice seeking or grievance reporting" (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"U-Report bots allow young people to navigate content and information on specific issues to self-educate" (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"U-Report is being used to mobilize thousands of young people physically to take on-ground action and contribute to positive change in the communities" (p.3)</p> |

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| | | | governments" (p. 3) --- "U-Report is being used to mobilize thousands of young people physically to take on-ground action and contribute to positive change in the communities" (p.3) | | |
| UNICEF. Adolescent and Youth Engagement Strategic Framework – 2017. 2017 | | "Key decision-makers will also require sensitisation to enhance their receptivity to young people's participation in decision making, and minimise perceived affronts to cultural and organisational hierarchies" (p.7) | "Change strategy: supporting young people and children as agents of change" (p.2) --- "Young people are facilitated to engage in actions such as community mobilisation, social change, public advocacy, programming and digital engagement. At the local-level, this can help build community cohesion and a sense of belonging for adolescents, from seats in local government and student councils to one-off campaigns and sporting events." (p.2) --- "Involve actions that have a reach beyond the local-level to reach wider audiences to shape decisions and opinions, such | "UNICEF ourselves will model this engagement through systematizing adolescent participation in our structure and programming with partners" (p.11) | "Effort will also be required to influence the “enabling environment” in which young people live their daily lives through actions such as sensitization of parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, community and religious leaders, civil society organisations, the media, and local Government officials" (p.10) --- "Focus on young people's engagement in three areas: raising their voices, adopting positive practices and norms, and integrating with formal processes of decision-making" (p.10) --- "Work with young people across |

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| | | | <p>as through making music and films, writing blogs, collecting opinions of peers and presenting them in national and international forums" (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Effort will also be required to influence the "enabling environment" in which young people live their daily lives through actions such as sensitization of parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, community and religious leaders, civil society organisations, the media, and local Government officials" (p.10)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Focus on young people's engagement in three areas: raising their voices, adopting positive practices and norms, and integrating with formal processes of decision-making" (p.10)</p> <p>"Programmes that empower adolescent girls and boys as social change agents within their communities,</p> | <p>multiple platforms, helping especially the most disadvantaged to generate evidence through participatory action research, tell their stories better, influence decisions and policies and more effectively build understanding" (p. 11)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Programmes that empower adolescent girls and boys as social change agents within their communities, including in schools, providing them with opportunities and platforms to influence and lead on solving problems in their communities as well as hold governments to account." (p.11)</p> |
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including in schools, providing them with opportunities and platforms to influence and lead on solving problems in their communities as well as hold governments to account." (p.11)

"Young people will take the lead in telling their personal stories in every context, (building research skills to assess and understand key issues and the critical factors that need to be addressed to ensure change), not only in least developed countries and emergencies, but also in middle- and high-income countries where young people are eager to advocate for marginalised and vulnerable children and adolescents in all parts of the world, including their own countries." (p. 10)

"Dynamic platforms can be built upon to further engage young people: social media channels, U-Report, Voices of

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| | | | <p>Youth, Internet of Good Things, as well as youth and adolescent-led organizations and networks. These give young people constructive ways to access and contribute to improving the quality of education, health care, protection services and essential information" (p. 11)</p> <p>Adolescents are systematically engaged in the decision-making bodies of UNICEF, their schools and communities, and influencing services, policy, legislation and financing at subnational, national, regional and global levels (p.11)</p> | | |
| Sources: | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| OHCHR. UNICEF contribution. 2017 | <p>"UNICEF is fully committed to creating spaces and opportunities for the full participation of a broad range of civil society actors in its programming, advocacy, and partnerships. " (p. 1)</p> <p>"A recent analysis of UNICEF's expenditures vis-</p> | | <p>"At the country level, any number of social accountability mechanisms are supported by UNICEF. Independent human rights institutions (IHRIs) are recognized as an important part of the accountability landscape. UNICEF supports the work</p> | <p>"The UN Partner Portal". The portal will be a shared database across UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF to map CSOs in each country and share CSO screening results. A major purpose of the portal is to share screening/</p> | |

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| | <p>à-vis partnerships with civil society organizations (CSOs) showed that on an annual basis, UNICEF partners with approximately 3,000 national CSOs and 300 international CSOs" (p.1)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Enhancing multi-stakeholder partnerships, [...] support innovative platforms that strengthen collaboration with Governments as well as with civil society and the private sector" (p. 3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"The UN Partner Portal". The portal will be a shared database across UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF to map CSOs in each country and share CSO screening results. A major purpose of the portal is to share screening/ vetting results across agencies so that we can collectively decrease the amount of time it takes to process partnership agreements, as well as to create a more fair and</p> | | <p>of IHRIs and sees them as key allies in the advancement of children's rights and as holding potential for increased contributions to social accountability for the SDGs. Including civil society in national platforms via human rights institutions for example is one way that UNICEF is able to open up space for civil society in public platforms." (p.3)</p> | <p>vetting results across agencies so that we can collectively decrease the amount of time it takes to process partnership agreements, as well as to create a more fair and transparent vetting system across agencies" (p.3)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"At the country level, any number of social accountability mechanisms are supported by UNICEF. Independent human rights institutions (IHRIs) are recognized as an important part of the accountability landscape. UNICEF supports the work of IHRIs and sees them as key allies in the advancement of children's rights and as holding potential for increased contributions to social accountability for the SDGs. Including civil</p> | |
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| | transparent vetting system across agencies " (p.3) | | | society in national platforms via human rights institutions for example is one way that UNICEF is able to open up space for civil society in public platforms." (p. 4) | |
| UNICEF. Annual Report 2015. 2016 | "Open, inclusive and crossregional membership of United Nations Member States, the Group of Friends: NGO representatives, academic experts and children themselves are also regularly invited to attend meetings about children's issues convened by this platform for advocacy and communication we also worked closely with a variety of allies in the public and private sectors, civil society, foundations and the United Nations – as well as UNICEF National Committees engaged in child-centred advocacy" (p.38) | | "Introduce a platform for youth voices in the form of Twitter 'takeovers' in which young people made use of UNICEF's Twitter account for a day to raise awareness on the issues they care about the most. And we invited prominent young digital influencers – such as Christine Mi, aka Miologie, on Snapchat, and Maya Washington, on YouTube – to join us at the 2015 United Nations General Assembly session in New York and share the experience with their vast online audiences" (p.39) --- "UNICEF Goodwill Ambassadors once again reached wide audiences in 2015, raising global awareness and issuing calls to action on the | | "Help strengthen women's and children's participation in public decision-making, UNICEF's groundbreaking communication platform, U-Report, reached at least 1 million active users in 2015" (p.40) --- "Introduce a platform for youth voices in the form of Twitter 'takeovers' in which young people made use of UNICEF's Twitter account for a day to raise awareness on the issues they care about the most. And we invited prominent young digital influencers – such as Christine Mi, aka Miologie, on Snapchat, and Maya Washington, on YouTube – to join us at the 2015 United Nations General Assembly |

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| | | | biggest challenges facing children" (p.40) | | session in New York and share the experience with their vast online audiences" (p.40) |
| UNICEF. Annual Report 2016. 2017 | | | <p>"Enormous presence on social media amplifies the organization's work to a growing global audience. In addition, UNICEF has launched a new framework to bring together advocacy, communications, fundraising and public engagement efforts on critical issues affecting children – including refugee and migration issues, child survival, early childhood development and violence against children" (p.5)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Focuses on decentralization and local governance to strengthen participatory mechanisms benefitting children at the local level. In 2016, 108 programme countries reported that they had participatory mechanisms in place, engaging the most disadvantaged households and influencing local</p> | | |

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| | | | and national development agendas" (p.12) | | |
| Sources: | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| UNICEF. Annual Report 2017. 2018 | | "At a global level, UNICEF works closely with partner governments to strengthen national child protection systems and, in particular, the role of the social service workforce" (p.3) | "U-Report is a free social messaging tool – created by UNICEF – enabling young people to help improve their communities and speak out on the issues that shape their lives" (p.23) --- "Increase the use of communication platforms, including U-Report and social media, and further incorporate human-centred design, behavioural economics and behavioural insights into its approaches in 2019. In addition, UNICEF will continue to strengthen community engagement in cross-sectoral and life cycle programming, with a special focus on parenting and social norms." (p.23) | | "Strengthening accountability to – and engagement with – affected populations, and promoting their preparedness, resilience, empowerment and participation" (p. 23) --- "U-Report is a free social messaging tool – created by UNICEF – enabling young people to help improve their communities and speak out on the issues that shape their lives" (p.23) |
| UNICEF. Annual Report 2019. 2020 | "Providing foundational funding resources, public and private sector partners are critical to | "UNICEF also generated over 125,000 online and over 6,500 pieces in top tier media outlets covering humanitarian issues, campaigns and | "UNICEF used its communication and advocacy prowess to reach, engage and drive change – to engage individuals and | | "Pioneered scalable innovation including UPSHIFT, a programme underway in 21 |

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| | UNICEF's efforts to innovate, break down market barriers, explore new areas of growth and advocate for the rights of every child, playing a key role in influencing policy to leverage resources for children beyond UNICEF" (p.32) | regular development issues" (p.44) | <p>become the leading voice, the leading advocate and the leading brand for children and young people" (p.44)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Pioneered scalable innovation including UPSHIFT, a programme underway in 21 countries that empowers young people to identify and address challenges in their communities, encouraging them to become social entrepreneurs." (p. 50)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"U-Report, a free social messaging tool that empowers young people to engage with and speak out on issues that matter to them. In 2019, U-Report: - Launched in 15 new countries - Added nearly 2.5 million new users - a 56 per cent increase from 2018 - Reached a milestone of 9 million active users in 67 countries" (p.50)</p> | | <p>countries that empowers young people to identify and address challenges in their communities, encouraging them to become social entrepreneurs." (p. 50)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"U-Report, a free social messaging tool that empowers young people to engage with and speak out on issues that matter to them. In 2019, U-Report: - Launched in 15 new countries - Added nearly 2.5 million new users - a 56 per cent increase from 2018 - Reached a milestone of 9 million active users in 67 countries" (p.50)</p> |
| UNICEF. Interview with A. Grandjean, 2021 | Travail avec divers acteurs, notamment ONGs, entreprises. | Plaidoyer au niveau des comités nationaux --- | Soutien à l'empowerment legal des enfants et jeunes (à travers | | |

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| | | <p>Encouragement d'établissement au niveau des institutions étatiques de mandate pour les droits de l'enfant.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Travail legal au niveau national pour s'assurer que la legislation des Etats reflète l'UNCRC</p> <p>---</p> <p>Coopération et démarche instructive avec les Etats. Essayer d'aller le plus loin dans les recommandations sans mettre en danger les populations. Pas de démarche confrontative.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Soutien de l'UNICEF à trouver (role des bureau de terrain) pour aider l'Etat à faciliter la libert d'expression</p> <p>--</p> <p>Bon accueil de la part des Etats en ce qui concerne la santé et l'éducation. Constitue un point d'entrée pour aborder des sujets plus sensibles.</p> <p>---</p> <p>Examen périodique universe est pris très au sérieux par les Etats, notamment parce que les recommandations sont faites par leurs pairs.</p> | | | |
| | | | <p>des legal clinics, social legal defense centers, ...)</p> <p>---</p> <p>Fourniture d'informations aux ONGs pour qu'elles puissent parler (à la place d'UNICEF).</p> <p>---</p> <p>Feedback intégré dans la manière de travailler. Approche consultative auprès des enfants dans les programmes</p> <p>--</p> | | |

3. NGO: TDHS content analysis table

| Sources | Concepts and their related mechanisms | | | | |
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| | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer accountability | Empowerment |

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| <p>TDHS. Rapport annuel 2017. 2018</p> | <p>"Au coeur de l'action de Terre des Hommes Suisse se trouve le soutien aux acteurs de changement que sont les enfants et les jeunes, ainsi que les associations partenaires membres de la société civile au Sud." (p.3)</p> | <p>"Les enfants et les jeunes sont outillés pour analyser leur situation et mettre en oeuvre des initiatives très concrètes, non seulement au sein de leur famille, école et communauté, mais également auprès des autorités afin de promouvoir un meilleur respect de leurs droits" (p.3)</p> <p>"Menés en partenariat avec des organisations locales, ces projets permettent aux populations défavorisées de mieux défendre leurs droits et de couvrir leurs besoins essentiels, plus particulièrement ceux des enfants" (p.4)</p> <p>"Dans l'ensemble des pays d'intervention de Terre des Hommes Suisse, les associations partenaires locales ont favorisé 300 espaces de participation qui ont permis à 17'800 enfants et jeunes actifs de formuler 395 demandes de revendication de leurs droits, que ce soit auprès de leur communauté, de la société civile ou des autorités. En ont</p> | <p>"les enfants et les jeunes sont outillés pour analyser leur situation et mettre en oeuvre des initiatives très concrètes, non seulement au sein de leur famille, école et communauté, mais également auprès des autorités afin de promouvoir un meilleur respect de leurs droits" (p.3)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>"Elle accorde une attention particulière à six aspects transversaux : la participation des jeunes, la promotion de la citoyenneté locale" (p.4)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>"La sensibilisation des jeunes est indispensable pour former de futures générations de citoyens responsables. Elle s'accompagne de propositions concrètes d'engagement qui permettent aux jeunes de devenir acteurs de changement, ici et maintenant" (p.14)</p> |
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| | | | découlé des changements concrets telles des améliorations dans les infrastructures scolaires (points d'eau, toilettes), des activités récréatives ou des actions de prévention des violences. Les enfants s'exercent ainsi à une citoyenneté active" (p.12) | | |
| TDHS. Rapport annuel 2018. 2019 | <p>"Pour promouvoir efficacement les droits de l'enfant, un travail en réseau est primordial, que ce soit au niveau local, national et international ainsi que thématique" (p. 26)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse est un membre de la Fédération Genevoise de Coopération, un réseau essentiel de la coopération au développement, regroupant 63 associations. Cette année a également été marquée par l'intégration à l'Association genevoise « 30 ans des Droits de l'Enfant » avec Jean Zermatten et Philip Jaffé regroupant des associations, le milieu académique et les représentants de la ville et du</p> | <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse est membre de la Fédération Internationale Terre des Hommes qui regroupe les organisations membres de 8 pays. La Fédération porte la voix commune au sein des organes de l'Union européenne et des Nations Unies, et y agit en faveur des droits des enfants marginalisés et des adolescents" (p.26)</p> | <p>"L'éducation va au-delà de l'accès et de sa qualité. Elle englobe la protection des enfants contre les violences et risques d'exploitation, la promotion d'une citoyenneté active et la participation des enfants, des jeunes et des communautés" (p. 8)</p> <p>"L'acquisition de connaissances sur les Accords de paix et la gestion des risques sécuritaires a permis de réaliser des actions de plaidoyer en faveur des droits de l'enfant en tant qu'acteurs de changement locaux" (p.9)</p> <p>"La formulation de propositions par les enfants et jeunes auprès de la société civile et des autorités pour la défense de leurs</p> | <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse se fixe d'améliorer constamment la qualité des projets et la manière de travailler des organisations partenaires sur le terrain, dans une optique de renforcement de la société civile locale. Cela se matérialise par un accompagnement transversal pour garantir une meilleure intégration dans les réseaux locaux, la promotion de l'équité du genre, la promotion de la participation infanto-juvénile au cœur de toutes les actions entreprises" (p.6)</p> | <p>"Le soutien des acteurs de changement que sont les enfants et les jeunes est au cœur de l'action de Terre des Hommes Suisse. Cela se concrétise de deux manières, toujours plus intégrées. D'une part, un travail continu de sensibilisation du jeune public à la défense des droits de l'enfant, à la solidarité et au développement durable. D'autre part, un engagement de tous les instants pour garantir les droits à l'éducation, à la protection contre l'exploitation et la violence et à la participation des enfants et des jeunes aux questions qui les concernent" (p.3)</p> <p>"De fait, Terre des Hommes Suisse a</p> |

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| <p>canton de Genève. Plus largement, d'excellentes collaborations avec la ville et le canton de Genève, comme avec la Direction de l'instruction publique ou la Délégation Genève Ville Solidaire sont assurées. Enfin, des échanges continus ont lieu avec les acteurs genevois de la promotion des droits de l'enfant, comme Enfants du Monde ou de sensibilisation avec Terragir-énergie solidaire dans le cadre du projet Robin des Watts." (p.26)</p> <p>----</p> <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse et ses partenaires sont également présents dans les réseaux de défense des droits de l'enfant. Par exemple au Pérou, Terre des Hommes Suisse et les associations partenaires sont très engagées dans les réseaux de lutte contre la traite, regroupant la société civile, le gouvernement et l'OIM. En Suisse, ce travail se concrétise au travers du Dachverband (organisation faîtière) terre des hommes suisse-</p> | <p>droits s'est fortement accentuée en 2018 avec 575 demandes déposées par 66 930 enfants et jeunes, intégrés dans 610 espaces de participation dans les 9 pays : amélioration d'infrastructures scolaires, adoption de politiques publiques liées à la protection des enfants, à la prévention des violences sexuelles ou à la participation des jeunes dans les instances locales, fermeture de points de vente d'alcool, arrêt de mariages forcés, entre autres." (p.16)</p> <p>"Le Conseil international des jeunes de Terre des Hommes Suisse a vu le jour pour mettre en lien les jeunes leaders, acteurs de la promotion et la défense des droits des enfants et des jeunes dans différentes régions du monde. Issus de l'Amérique Latine, l'Inde, l'Afrique et la Suisse, des jeunes âgés de 18 à 25 ans, ont été élus par leurs pairs afin de les représenter au sein du Conseil. Les principaux buts du Conseil sont de favoriser le partage</p> | <p>développé au fil des 60 dernières années un savoir-faire et une expertise dans quatre domaines d'actions qu'elle considère comme prioritaires dans la défense des droits de l'enfant : [...] - Droit à la Participation des enfants et des jeunes aux décisions qui les concernent." (p.4)</p> <p>"Le but est de favoriser l'émergence des enfants et des jeunes comme acteurs de changement, par la promotion d'une approche intégrée centrée sur le droit à l'éducation, le droit à la protection et le droit à la participation." (p.6)</p> <p>"La création d'un environnement protecteur ainsi qu'une pédagogie participative font également partie des mesures mises en place. Une éducation aux droits de l'enfant et le renforcement des enfants et des jeunes en tant qu'acteurs de changement leur permettent de développer une capacité à s'exprimer, une pensée critique et</p> |
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| <p>schweiz intégrant la section alémanique basée à Bâle. Ainsi, le Dachverband est membre d'Alliance Sud, réseau de promotion de la coopération au développement. De même, avec la Fondation Terre des hommes-Aide à l'enfance de Lausanne, le Dachverband a rédigé l'état des lieux sur les droits de l'enfant concernant la mise en oeuvre des Objectifs de Développement Durable dans le cadre de la Plateforme Agenda 2030. La collaboration avec la Fondation Terre des hommes à Lausanne permet également une représentation efficace au sein du Réseau Suisse des Droits de l'Enfant. Une participation active au sein du RECI (Réseau Suisse Éducation et Coopération Internationale) a été assurée et, de manière générale, en tant que partenaires de la DDC (Direction du Développement et de la Coopération) et de la Chaîne du Bonheur, Terre des Hommes Suisse s'implique dans les</p> | <p>d'expériences et d'expertise en vue de la création de projets par les enfants et les jeunes (localement et régionalement) apportant des réponses à des problèmes locaux, ainsi que de renforcer leur pouvoir d'agir. Le Conseil aura la possibilité de partager internationalement ses activités au grand public afin de donner envie à d'autres de s'engager. Terre des Hommes Suisse souhaite également collaborer avec le Conseil en vue de lui attribuer une place et un rôle important au sein de ses organes décisionnels." (p. 17)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Le but est de favoriser l'émergence des enfants et des jeunes comme acteurs de changement, par la promotion d'une approche intégrée centrée sur le droit à l'éducation, le droit à la protection et le droit à la participation." (p.6)</p> | <p>une confiance en soi accrue." (p.8)</p> <p>"Le Conseil international des jeunes de Terre des Hommes Suisse a vu le jour pour mettre en lien les jeunes leaders, acteurs de la promotion et la défense des droits des enfants et des jeunes dans différentes régions du monde. Issus de l'Amérique Latine, l'Inde, l'Afrique et la Suisse, des jeunes âgés de 18 à 25 ans, ont été élus par leurs pairs afin de les représenter au sein du Conseil. Les principaux buts du Conseil sont de favoriser le partage d'expériences et d'expertise en vue de la création de projets par les enfants et les jeunes (localement et régionalement) apportant des réponses à des problèmes locaux, ainsi que de renforcer leur pouvoir d'agir. Le Conseil aura la possibilité de partager internationalement ses activités au grand public afin de donner envie à d'autres de s'engager. Terre des Hommes Suisse souhaite également collaborer avec le Conseil en vue de</p> |
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| | échanges thématiques favorisant les partages de savoirs entre les associations suisses" (p.26) | | | | lui attribuer une place et un rôle important au sein de ses organes décisionnels." (p.17) |
| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| TDHS. Rapport annuel 2019. 2020 | <p>" Pour garantir une amélioration durable des conditions de vie des enfants, il est essentiel d'agir dans la globalité du contexte de vie des enfants, à savoir au sein de leur famille, de leur quartier, de leur communauté, de leur école, avec leurs autorités locales et nationales." (p.6)</p> <p>"Ce programme de Terre des Hommes Suisse est mis en oeuvre dans 9 pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest, d'Amérique Latine, d'Asie et des Caraïbes, en partenariat avec 58 associations locales de défense des droits de l'enfant. Ces partenariats locaux sont essentiels, car ils permettent d'assurer la pertinence des actions menées sur le terrain, réalisées par des organisations locales reconnues" (p.6)</p> <p>"Collaborer au sein des réseaux locaux,</p> | <p>"A l'international, la commémoration des 30 ans de la Convention a permis de renforcer le plaidoyer mené par les organisations partenaires et par les enfants et les jeunes en tant que défenseurs des droits. Dans le cadre de la coalition internationale Joining Forces regroupant plusieurs ONGs internationales dont la Fédération internationale Terre des Hommes, des rapports ont été présentés aux autorités et aux Nations Unies afin de faire le bilan de l'application de la Convention dans la vingtaine de pays concernés." (p.16)</p> <p>"Dans le cadre de la coalition internationale Joining Forces regroupant Save the Children, World Vision, SOS Villages d'enfants, Plan International, Child Fund et la Fédération Internationale Terre</p> | <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse intègre de manière systématique la sensibilisation et l'éducation aux droits de l'enfant dans toutes ses actions, avec les enfants, les jeunes et les adultes (parents, enseignants, communautés et autorités). L'éducation pour les enfants intègre la promotion de l'équité de genre, la non-discrimination et la non-violence, comme des connaissances essentielles pour leur permettre de devenir des acteurs de changement en faveur d'un développement durable et solidaire" (p.9)</p> <p>"Les enfants et jeunes revendiquent leurs droits</p> <p>Au-delà du cercle familial et scolaire, les enfants et jeunes se sont mobilisés pour défendre leurs droits notamment à</p> | <p>"Grâce au soutien de Terre des Hommes Suisse, les partenaires locaux sont renforcés : leur action dans les réseaux leur permet de faire évoluer les législations nationales et la reconnaissance de leur action leur permet d'accéder à de nouveaux financements complémentaire" (p. 6)</p> | <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse accompagne les enfants et les jeunes dans le développement de leurs capacités à être acteurs de changement, en participant activement à la construction, dès aujourd'hui, d'un monde plus respectueux des droits de l'enfant et plus durable" (p.4)</p> <p>"En plus des aspects liés aux apprentissages scolaires, les enfants se sont sentis mieux protégés dans le milieu scolaire. Les enfants connaissent désormais leurs droits, savent mieux se protéger et savent où s'adresser en cas de violences à leur égard. Les enseignants ont changé leur comportement vis-à-vis de leurs élèves : ils sont désormais plus à l'écoute et les respectent" (p.8)</p> |

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| <p>nationaux et internationaux est essentiel afin de mobiliser les compétences et énergies nécessaires à une promotion efficace des droits de l'enfant." (p.26)</p> <p>"Dans le cadre de la coalition internationale Joining Forces regroupant Save the Children, World Vision, SOS Villages d'enfants, Plan International, Child Fund et la Fédération Internationale Terre des Hommes, l'analyse de la réalité du terrain a été présentée aux Etats et aux Nations-Unies pour attirer l'attention des pays sur les nombreux manquements encore existants pour garantir le respect des droits de l'enfant dans le monde. Dans un contexte global de réduction de l'espace accordé aux organisations de la société civile et aux risques accrus auxquels sont confrontés les défenseurs des droits, le travail dans cette coalition internationale a permis de relayer les messages des organisations</p> | <p>des Hommes, l'analyse de la réalité du terrain a été présentée aux Etats et aux Nations-Unies pour attirer l'attention des pays sur les nombreux manquements encore existants pour garantir le respect des droits de l'enfant dans le monde. Dans un contexte global de réduction de l'espace accordé aux organisations de la société civile et aux risques accrus auxquels sont confrontés les défenseurs des droits, le travail dans cette coalition internationale a permis de relayer les messages des organisations locales, sans les mettre directement en danger" (p.26)</p> | <p>l'occasion de la célébration des 30 ans de la Convention internationale relative aux droits de l'enfant, le 20 novembre 2019. Concrètement, les jeunes ont été soutenus dans l'exercice de leur citoyenneté engagée en faveur d'un développement durable et solidaire et ont présenté aux établissements scolaires, autorités locales et nationales 545 demandes et propositions." (p. 12)</p> <p>"Lancé en 2018, le Conseil rassemble 16 jeunes de 15 à 25 ans élus par leurs pairs en Amérique latine, en Inde, en Afrique et en Suisse. Ce sont tous des acteurs engagés sur le terrain pour la défense des droits de l'enfant. Intégrés dans la gouvernance de Terre des Hommes Suisse au niveau local et international, les jeunes du Conseil partagent leurs expériences, se forment et portent la voix des enfants et des jeunes dans leurs pays et devant les instances</p> |
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| | <p>locales, sans les mettre directement en danger" (p.26)</p> <p>"Terre des Hommes Suisse s'est impliquée dans les réseaux d'Alliance Sud, les espaces de la DDC et de la Chaîne du Bonheur, la Plateforme Agenda 2030 ou encore dans le Réseau Suisse des Droits de l'Enfant" (p.26)</p> <p>"A Genève, Terre des Hommes Suisse est un membre de la Fédération Genevoise de Coopération, un réseau essentiel de la coopération cantonale au développement, regroupant une soixantaine d'associations. D'excellentes collaborations avec la ville et le canton de Genève, comme avec la Direction de l'Instruction publique ou la Délégation Genève Ville Solidaire ont encore marqué l'année 2019" (p.26)</p> | | <p>internationales." (p. 13)</p> <p>"La voix des enfants et des jeunes a ainsi pu être portée au plus haut niveau avec la présence de 7 jeunes du Conseil international lors de la Conférence à l'ONU devant les acteurs internationaux des droits de l'enfant. Ils ont pu partager leurs recommandations aux Etats concernant l'environnement, la participation, la protection, la migration et les droits des filles." (p. 16)</p> <p>--</p> <p>"L'accès à une éducation adaptée et de qualité est assuré tout en renforçant le droit à la participation des enfants et des jeunes aux décisions qui les concernent" (p.5)</p> | | |
| TDHS. Conseil consultatif des jeunes : cahier des charges. 2018 | | | | | <p>"Permettre aux enfants et aux jeunes d'exprimer leurs idées et leurs propositions sur la planification et le suivis des différentes activités 30 ans. Ces derniers deviennent ainsi les référents des</p> |

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| | | | | | coordinatrices du projet 30 ans" (p.1) |
| TDHS. Structure of TdH International Youth Council Strategy. 2019 | | | "International Youth Council (IYC) collects ideas and opinions from National Youth Councils to make sure children can have a say across its work using a standardised information gathering process [...]Special focus will be put on influencing TdH's activities and strategic organisation at the levels of decisions taken by National Coordinators. The IYC feeds back to National Youth Councils about any outcomes." (p.2) | | "The IYC promotes and encourages social and civic children and youth engagement for children's rights and more generally international solidarity. They share experiences and good practices between them and to a wider audience. (p.2) |
| TDHS. Charter of the International Youth Council of Terre des Hommes Suisse. 2019 | | | " Promote and encourage the engagement of young people in projects and actions that promote the rights of the child, youth, international solidarity and sustainable development. Promote exchanges, sharing and expertise through the implementation of children and youth projects (locally and regionally) that provide answers to local problems." (p. 1) | | " To help young people develop through learning to debate, analyse situations, define solutions, negotiate, work in teams and enable them to gain self-confidence, responsibility and autonomy. To put young people in favourable conditions so that they can propose projects to improve the living conditions of children and young people. It makes it possible to strengthen the skills of members |

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| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| TDHS. Programme 2017-2020. 2016 | <p>"Concernant les interactions citoyennes, TdH Suisse a défini avec ses partenaires locaux deux priorités dans le cadre de ce Plan d'Action : tout d'abord la participation à des réseaux locaux, régionaux ou nationaux pertinents, de promotion de droits de l'enfant et ensuite la réalisation d'un plaidoyer dont l'objectif est l'amélioration concrète de situations pour les populations bénéficiaires à travers la formulation de demandes auprès des autorités." (p. 19)</p> <p>"L'enjeu identifié dans la région n'est plus la participation</p> | <p>"L'information du grand public, qui passe par l'édition de publications, l'organisation de manifestations grand public, la participation à des campagnes et les relations avec les médias. - La sensibilisation et l'éducation au développement des enfants et des jeunes, notamment dans le cadre scolaire, au travers d'un catalogue d'animations variées." (p.14)</p> <p>"Concernant les interactions citoyennes, TdH Suisse a défini avec ses partenaires locaux deux priorités dans le cadre de ce Plan d'Action : tout d'abord la participation à des réseaux locaux, régionaux ou</p> | <p>"Pour TdH Suisse, les acteurs de changement sont les enfants et les jeunes, ainsi que les associations partenaires membres de la société civile. C'est pourquoi, au travers d'un ancrage fort sur l'éducation et la participation infanto-juvénile, les enfants et les jeunes sont outillés pour analyser leur situation et mettre en oeuvre des initiatives très concrètes non seulement au sein de leurs familles, écoles et communautés mais également auprès des autorités afin de promouvoir un meilleur respect des droits de l'enfant. Cette focalisation sur la prochaine</p> | <p>"Pour les 4 ans, le suivi de sa réalisation se fait sur la base de 2 indicateurs communs à tous les pays :</p> <p>Les pratiques de plus de 75 organisations partenaires et de TdH Suisse s'améliorent au niveau institutionnel et opérationnel (renforcement des interactions citoyennes, intégration de la participation infanto-juvénile, renforcement de l'équité de genre, systématisation de procédures de sauvegarde de l'enfant, solidarité institutionnelle, intégration de la gestion des risques, amélioration de la gestion stratégique,</p> | <p>"L'accompagnement de l'éveil aux questions des droits de l'enfant, de la solidarité et la compréhension des défis globaux sont à la base du travail de sensibilisation réalisé par TdH Suisse depuis des décennies. Finalité ultime de ce travail, la mobilisation du public, et plus particulièrement des enfants et des jeunes, est essentielle, étant l'une des conditions à remplir pour promouvoir l'évolution vers un monde plus juste et solidaire. Cette focalisation sur les enfants et les jeunes relève d'une stratégie d'investissement dans la promotion de comportements plus solidaires de la nouvelle</p> |

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| <p>à des plateformes mais le développement de synergies dans le travail de plaidoyer entre les associations partenaires. En Afrique de l'Ouest et Haïti, de manière générale, les organisations partenaires ont intégré les réseaux de la société civile en lien avec les thématiques d'enfance. Si, les effets quant à leur participation et implication dans ces espaces restent encore à mesurer, la majorité d'entre elles a joué un rôle important pour placer différents sujets liés aux droits des enfants dans l'agenda des autorités locales. L'intégration de TdH Suisse dans les réseaux en Suisse s'est encore renforcée en 2017, avec à titre d'illustration, l'intégration de la plateforme de la société civile sur les Objectifs de Développement Durable pour porter la voix des droits des enfants ainsi que la coalition pour la préparation des 30 ans de la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant. TdH Suisse</p> | <p>nationaux pertinents, de promotion de droits de l'enfant et ensuite la réalisation d'un plaidoyer dont l'objectif est l'amélioration concrète de situations pour les populations bénéficiaires à travers la formulation de demandes auprès des autorités." (p.19)</p> <p>"TdH Suisse, dans le cadre notamment de sa participation à des réseaux, peut prendre part à des interpellations pour attirer l'attention de la communauté internationale, de la Suisse, ou de certains gouvernements, sur des violations des droits de l'enfant et l'inaction ou l'inadéquation des réponses apportées par les pouvoirs publics. Ainsi, en Colombie ou au Pérou, ces prises de position ont été fréquentes pour TdH Suisse en 2017 (dénonciation des meurtres de leaders sociaux en février 2017 avec la Plateforme Suisse-Colombie et ASK, publications au Pérou présentées au Congreso de la República, participation au shadow report). A</p> | <p>génération de citoyens actifs est essentielle. Lorsque les jeunes se mobilisent sur les enjeux locaux ou globaux, les conditions d'un impact sur le développement durable sont réunies. Leur volonté de changement et leurs ambitions sont impressionnantes et porteuses de tous les espoirs." (p.2)</p> <p>"Des propositions sont formulées par les enfants auprès de leurs communautés, de la société civile et des autorités qui permettent un plus grand respect des droits de l'enfant et de leur promotion" (p.18)</p> <p>"[...] Après la mise en place d'un environnement propice à la participation des enfants (sensibilisation et formation sur la participation, des enfants comme de leur entourage) qui a occupé fortement le Plan d'Action précédent, la priorité a été donnée à l'accompagnement à la formulation de demandes de promotion des</p> | <p>génération, citoyens en devenir, acteurs économiques, politiques et culturels de demain." (p.17)</p> <p>"Ainsi, pour TdH Suisse, l'accompagnement du développement des jeunes et des enfants doit également toucher leurs capacités à défendre leurs droits, faire respecter leurs devoirs et à promouvoir leur participation aux décisions qui les concernent. Dans ce Plan d'Action, l'accent est mis sur deux aspects : tout d'abord la consolidation de l'intégration systématique de la participation des enfants et des jeunes dans le cycle programmatique de TdH Suisse et de ses partenaires. Ensuite, après la mise en place d'un environnement propice à la participation des enfants (sensibilisation et formation sur la participation, des enfants comme de leur entourage) qui a occupé fortement le Plan d'Action précédent, la priorité a été donnée à l'accompagnement</p> |
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suivi des effets). " (p.18)

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| <p>est un membre actif de la coalition Destination Unknown, campagne internationale sur les droits des enfants migrants. Dans les pays d'actions, TdH Suisse continue de renforcer son positionnement dans les réseaux stratégiques notamment en Amérique latine où une participation aux plateformes de la DDC, et réseaux d'organisations des droits de l'enfant en charge" (p.19)</p> <p>"En 2017, le travail de participation active dans les réseaux s'est maintenu, à plusieurs niveaux : local, national et international ainsi que thématique. Ainsi, au niveau local, TdH Suisse est un membre actif de la Fédération genevoise de coopération, avec une implication forte dans la promotion du partage des savoirs sur la Souveraineté alimentaire, aboutissant à la publication d'un ouvrage de capitalisation et à une exposition itinérante en Suisse romande. TdH Suisse est</p> | <p>contrario, en Inde ou en Bolivie, dans un contexte de contrôle grandissant des organisations de la société civile nationales et internationales qui s'est encore dégradé en 2017, de telles prises de position pourraient mettre en péril la pérennité de TdH Suisse et de son soutien aux partenaires locaux. En Suisse les interpellations des autorités se sont faites notamment au travers de l'initiative pour des Multinationales Responsables, au travers des récoltes de signatures et d'un travail engagé au sein du Comité de soutien ou encore dans la campagne contre les coupes budgétaires de la coopération Internationale à Genève." (p.20)</p> | <p>droits par les enfants et les jeunes" (p.21)</p> <p>"La formulation de propositions par les enfants et jeunes auprès de la société civile et des autorités pour la défense de leurs droits s'est fortement accentuée en 2017." (p.22)</p> <p>---</p> <p>L'accent est mis sur la capacité des acteurs de changement à s'engager, à interagir et à réaliser la promotion de leurs droits, en collaboration avec les acteurs levier pour arriver à des améliorations concrètes et durables dans la promotion et la défense des droits de l'enfant et l'éducation au développement durable." (p.4)</p> <p>Dans ce Plan d'Action, l'accent est mis sur deux aspects : tout d'abord la consolidation de l'intégration systématique de la participation des enfants et des jeunes dans le cycle programmatique de TdH Suisse et de ses partenaires." (p.21)</p> | <p>à la formulation de demandes de promotion des droits par les enfants et les jeunes" (p.21)</p> |
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| <p>également membre de la Coordination Textiles Usagés contribuant à une collaboration entre plusieurs associations genevoises (Emmaüs, Croix-Rouge Genevoise, Centre Social protestant, Caritas notamment). Dans le cadre du RECI (Réseau Suisse Education et Coopération Internationale) TdH Suisse a activement participé à la journée consacrée à l'éducation dans les interventions d'urgence. Ainsi, l'expérience sur la Gestion des Risques de Désastres dans les écoles, développée en Haïti en collaboration avec un professeur de l'Université de Genève et une pédagogue a été partagée et aura permis d'enrichir les échanges avec les participants. Les contacts sont continus avec les différents acteurs genevois, au niveau de la Ville et du Canton, actifs tant au niveau de la solidarité (Service de Solidarité Internationale, Délégation Genève Ville Solidaire notamment) qu'au niveau de</p> | | | | |
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| <p>l'éducation à la solidarité, avec le Département de l'instruction publique et l'UNIGE, notamment sur la mesure d'impact. Dans le cadre du programme Education à la solidarité, de nombreuses collaborations ont lieu avec les communes genevoises, l'Ecole Hôtelière de Genève et la Ferme de Budé, les entreprises locales et les organisations internationales." (p. 31)</p> <p>"Au niveau international, TdH Suisse s'est fortement impliquée au sein de la Fédération Internationale Terre des Hommes (TDHIF), notamment pour la réalisation de la campagne Destination Inconnue de protection des enfants et jeunes contre les migrations à risque, active dans deux pays (Inde et Pérou) et dont le lead a été assumé pour l'Inde depuis Janvier 2017. 4 ans après le démarrage de la campagne, pour la 1ère fois en 2017 des objectifs concertés entre</p> | | | | |
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| <p>tous les organisations membres de la Fédération Internationale TdH et les partenaires locaux ont été élaborés dans 4 Etats dans le but de mettre les gouvernements devant leur responsabilité dans la protection des enfants et jeunes migrants. Ainsi des demandes de protection ont été présentées par des enfants et jeunes migrants auprès des autorités gouvernementales pour demander la construction d'écoles dans les sites de travail saisonnier temporaires ainsi que des lieux d'hébergements, points d'eau et toilettes. Au Pérou la participation à la campagne Destination Inconnue a été plus limitée en 2017, et s'est centrée sur le programme global de TdH Suisse Droits de l'enfant en zone minière, mise en oeuvre conjointement avec TdH Allemagne et Italie sur la prévention et la prise en charge de 7'455 victimes ou enfants et jeunes à risques de traite</p> | | | | |
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| | (exploitation sexuelle). [...]En Amérique latine, TdH Suisse est très actif dans les réseaux de protection des droits des enfants aux côtés des autorités nationales et des organisations des sociétés civiles nationales et ONG internationales. " (pp.31-32) | | | | |
| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| TDHS. Vision 2025. 2019 | | | "Soutenir des acteurs de changement pour plus d'impact dans la promotion des droits de l'enfant et des actions des partenaires, la participation des enfants et des jeunes comme coeur de la construction d'un monde meilleur" (p. 1) | | |
| TDHS. Vision 2025 et objectifs institutionnels (version de travail octobre 2017). 2017 | "Promouvoir le développement de partenariats stratégiques pour la réalisation de la mission de TdH et mieux valoriser la qualité spécifique du partenariat opérationnel au Sud. En accord avec l'approche globale, TdH ne doit pas travailler de manière isolée mais en lien avec les autres acteurs, afin de pouvoir donner | | "TdH ne considère pas les enfants et les jeunes que comme des bénéficiaires passifs, mais promeut, chaque fois que cela est possible, leur participation et soutien le développement de leurs capacité d'action, comme acteurs de changement. La participation des enfants et des | | "TDH cherche à promouvoir les capacités des enfants et jeunes, ainsi que des associations locales, à être agents d'amélioration des conditions de vie des enfants et des jeunes et promoteurs de solidarité" (p.2) |

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| | <p>plus d'amplitude à son action" (p.3)</p> <p>"Etre présent dans les réseaux afin de promouvoir plus d'implications sur les questions touchant la solidarité et les questions de droits de l'enfant sur Genève" (p.7)</p> <p>"Développer une présence renforcée lorsque cela est pertinent, au niveau de la Genève Internationale, construite sur les liens entre le terrain et les fora internationaux, en collaboration avec la FGC. " (p.7)</p> <p>"Promotion des échanges avec les ONG de défense des droits de l'enfant et des partenaires de la DDC " (p.7)</p> | | | | |
| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| TDHS & TDH Schweiz. Programme document 2021-2024 - Alliance terre des hommes schweiz / Terre des Hommes Suisse. 2019 | <p>"TdH Suisse actively promotes networking at local, national and international levels as well as on a thematic basis" (p. 8)</p> <p>"At the national level, the construction of a strong alliance mobilizes energies to ensure that it results in real added value for the promotion of child rights.</p> | <p>"Through more coordinated advocacy and awareness-raising efforts in the French and German speaking parts of Switzerland and in countries of intervention the Alliance will have a stronger voice for child and human rights. By sharing standards and services in risk management improved quality as</p> | <p>"As children and youths are more and more engaged into citizenship and transformation processes, empowering them so that they can stand up for their rights to public institutions and governments and transform the society is crucial." (p.10)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Partner organisations,</p> | <p>"TdH Suisse core methodical expertise includes CSO strengthening" (p.22)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Partner organisations, children and youth as agents of change will be further strengthened in their role as advocates for the rights of young people in the new strategy 2021-2024 to reach more</p> | <p>"The two members of the Alliance commit to the same Vision: All children and young people are fully able of being agents of change for their rights and sustainable development. [...] The Alliance's systemic approach enhances synergies among key stakeholders to strengthen child and youth's</p> |

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| <p>Strengthened advocacy capacity, exchange of expertise and sharing of services are thus promoted. Together, the two organisations are members of Alliance Sud – a Swiss Alliance of Development Organisations striving to influence Switzerland's policies to the benefit of the poor countries and their people – and the Swiss Network for the Rights of the Child as well as the Civil Society Platform Agenda 2030. At the international level, the Alliance is strongly involved in the Terre des Hommes International Federation, particularly in the implementation of the Destination Unknown/Children on the Move campaign to protect children and young people in the context of migration. Terre des Hommes International Federation is also very active in the international coalition Joining Forces, which includes Save the Children, World</p> | <p>well gains in efficiency are expected" (p.5)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Increased advocacy for child rights protective policies and actions from the institutions, interactions in local civil society organisations and a watchdog role with authorities on child rights issues in countries." (p.23)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Through advocacy, states, private companies as well as multilateral institutions must be challenged and also strengthened to fulfil their obligations, based on the priorities and demands of marginalized and impoverished social groups. Under the Agenda2030 premise of "leave on one behind", young people's voices must especially be amplified and given more visibility. They are strengthened in their capacities to influence decision-makers and opinion-formers for changes to policies and practices that will benefit children and youth. The processes of influencing actors or holding duty-bearers accountable</p> | <p>children and youth as agents of change will be further strengthened in their role as advocates for the rights of young people in the new strategy 2021-2024 to reach more advocacy and networking components to ensure sustainable changes with and in public institutions and local/national governances." (p. 24)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"The Alliance seeks to foster the agency of children and young people in favor of sustainability both in Switzerland and abroad. Education for sustainable development will be a catalyst for change to enable people to address global challenges, enhance their resilience, foster a culture of peace and contribute to poverty reduction. The Alliance will support children, youth and local CSOs as agents of change to acquire knowledge and skills to enable them to stand up for their rights and to promote sustainable</p> | <p>advocacy and networking components to ensure sustainable changes with and in public institutions and local/national governances." (p.24)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"To this end, the Alliance collaborates with local civil society organisations involved in the promotion of children rights. This endogenous commitment of civil societies in each country is promoted through long-term technical and financial support. (p.28)</p> | <p>participation and transform vulnerability factors for sustainable change." (p.5)</p> <p>"As children and youths are more and more engaged into citizenship and transformation processes, empowering them so that they can stand up for their rights to public institutions and governments and transform the society is crucial." (p.10)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>"Education on active citizenship and the promotion of the right to participation of children and young people through rights education; strengthening the capacities of children and young people to be actors of change through the promotion and claiming of their rights to local or national authorities; and the use of participatory pedagogies by teachers." (p.20)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"All programme components have a strong focus on the individual level, working directly with children and youths individually and in groups to</p> |
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| | <p>Vision, SOS Children's Village, Plan International, Child Fund with its aim to End Violence Against Children and to generally promote Child Rights in International Agendas" (p.9)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"the Alliance will strive to better align with the international requirements of the Committee of the Right of the Child according to which an effective and ethic participation must be relevant, inclusive, safe, voluntary, provided with information, respectful, child-friendly, accountable, with trained adult" (p. 35)</p> | <p>takes place at different levels, from the community or municipality levels up to the international level. Ideally coordinated efforts on several levels simultaneously in a multi-level approach are most effective." (p.52)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"the Alliance fosters coordinated advocacy efforts among its partner organisations and country programmes. It aims at jointly supporting networks and advocacy initiatives in its programme countries" (p.52)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"On the international level the Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF) is a member of the high-level civil society alliance Joining Forces. This unprecedented alliance building composed of the world-wide leading child rights organisations represents a huge opportunity to leverage impact on the international level with regards to ending violence against children." (pp.52-53)</p> | <p>development" (p. 32)</p> | | <p>increase their knowledge and skills and enable behavioural changes. Vulnerable and marginalized children aged 6-18 years and youths aged 18-30 years at risk of or affected by HIV, STIs, pregnancies, violence and exploitation in remote rural areas or urban settings characterized by very low socioeconomic indicators, are therefore the primary target group of the programme. A supportive environment is needed to empower children and youth and therefore parents/caretakers, educators/teachers, community members as well as institutions and law enforcement agencies (that have the overall responsibility for meeting human right standards) are considered as a secondary target group of the programme" (pp. 29-30)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"First, trainings on individual and social skills enable children and youth to develop self-</p> |
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| | | | | | understanding and self-worth, whereas the interpersonal and communicational skills will enable them to intervene as actors of positive change" (p.34) |
| FITDH. Joining Forces for Child Rights Now! & Ending Violence Against Children. 2019 | <p>" In 2017, the six largest child-focused agencies – ChildFund Alliance; Plan International; Save the Children International; SOS Children’s Villages International; Terre des Hommes International Federation and World Vision International – joined forces to push for renewed political commitments to and accountability for children’s rights and an end to violence against children. As Joining Forces our approach is to put children and young people under the age of 18 at the centre of what we do; working with and for them in an inclusive, gender and age responsive way. Joining Forces agencies are committed to supporting children to raise their voices, to take action as agents of change and to hold us to account, ensuring</p> | | | <p>" We will learn and build on each other’s strengths to create a more complete picture of the violence, rights violations and discrimination children face, based on age, gender, disability or minority status. Through our integration we will achieve a level of coverage and influence, which we could never attain as individual agencies. And we will operate more effectively by identifying and eliminating duplication of efforts. Working together, we will increase our impact through coordinated action, mutual learning and a focus on innovation. This learning we will share with the UN, bilateral and multi-lateral stakeholders, and others who share are vision, who see Joining Forces as a golden opportunity for</p> | |

children's experiences and views shape the solutions for the problems they face" (p.1)

" it responds to external criticism – that civil society has failed to work together efficiently and effectively to address the most stubborn problems facing children. Our decision to come together on these issues was taken because no one of us can do it alone, only together will it be possible for us deliver concrete progress towards the fulfilment of child rights and the end to all violence against them." (p.1)

"Together, we continue in our long-standing individual and collective commitments at national and international level to work with, and add value, to our respected partners, including national and international civil society, governments, UN agencies, and national and global networks. We recognise that in the fields of child rights and ending

substantive learning and for increased impact for children. We will utilise our growing influence to advocate for more funding, not just for Joining Forces, but rather increase overall resources for all engaged in ending violence against children and promoting child rights. Displaying the type of global leadership needed from civil society, partnering to place egos and logos aside to achieve better outcomes for all children around the globe" (p.1)

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| | violence against children there is still much left to do. By joining forces, we create a stronger partnership, one which will support greater and faster change; by joining together, we demonstrate our commitment to empowering children and safeguarding their rights." (p.2) | | | | |
| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| FITDH. Way of working. 2019 | | <p>"mobilise political will and advocate appropriate public policies on child rights and development from a human rights perspective"</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Terre des Hommes' campaigning and advocacy work stems from the life of children and communities we work with, from the field projects and the expertise we produce. Terre des Hommes pursues changes through advocacy on focused issues both at local, national and international level. The Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF) ensures coordination among the Terre des</p> | | | |

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| | | Hommes organisations, and representation at international and European level. Terre des Hommes holds a consultative status with the United Nations, UNICEF, the ILO and the Council of Europe. " | | | |
| FITDH. Complaints procedure. 2019 | | <p>"What you can give your opinion or complain about:</p> <p>A specific project of a TDH member organization of TDH International Federation, A specific conduct of a TDH staff or a partners' staff, About behaviours of staff towards people affected by TDH projects, About practices related to the use of TDH funds and material."</p> | | | |
| FITDH. Annual report 2015. 2016 | "The DU [Destination Unknown] Campaign works in partnership with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and insists on the urgent need to fully implement the rights of the children concerned by having them express their views on the immigration and asylum proceedings. The DU Campaign is also part of networks | "In an effort to promote its messages, the DU Campaign organised 11 international and regional events in 2015. See www.destination-unknown.org for the related agendas and outcomes. This website is also a leading resource about the children on the move theme which provides essential information about the DU Campaign, its projects, related | | "TDHIF has consultative/ observer status with the UN Economic and Social Council, UNICEF, the ILO, the IOM, the Council of Europe and The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. It is registered as a recognised Civil Society Organisation engaging in policy and programme work with European | |

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| <p>such as the Inter-Agency Group on Children on the Move and the Inter-Agency Working Group to End Child Immigration Detention." (p.6)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"TDHIF has consultative/observer status with the UN Economic and Social Council, UNICEF, the ILO, the IOM, the Council of Europe and The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. It is registered as a recognised Civil Society Organisation engaging in policy and programme work with European Union institutions" (p.11)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"The most influential alliance for Terre des Hommes in terms of the Children Win campaign is the 'Sport and Rights Alliance' (SRA) created in January 2015. SRA is an international group of NGOs, sport groups, and trade unions working together to call on major sport-governing bodies to ensure that human rights, labour</p> | <p>data, publications, reports, and field research carried out by experts." (p.8)</p> <p>---</p> <p>Terre des Hommes plays an active role within the SRA and also coordinates a task force of international experts who formulate core requirements for both IOC and FIFA with regard to human and especially children's rights." (p.27)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"In a globalised world, Terre des Hommes advocates for the implementation of children and youth rights from a local to a global level and aims to ensure that international decisions affecting children are rooted in field reality. Terre des Hommes also brings the views and opinions of children into these forums. It works with UN agencies and with other global forums in order to improve the standards of children's rights, place them firmly on the international agenda and build ground for their implementation." (p. 29)</p> <p>---</p> | | | |
| | | Union institutions" (p.11) | | |

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| | <p>standards, the environment, transparency and accountability are at the heart of decision-making in sport, especially with regard to MSEs. Terre des Hommes plays an active role within the SRA and also coordinates a task force of international experts who formulate core requirements for both IOC and FIFA with regard to human and especially children's rights." (p.27)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"For example, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child approved the proposal submitted by Terre des Hommes on Children's Rights and the Environment for its 2016 Day of General Discussion (DGD). Terre des Hommes is now supporting the Committee for the planning of this Day." (p.29)</p> | <p>"Terre des Hommes organisations are accountable to several different bodies and entities: children for delivering quality work and monitoring its impact; donors for ensuring that funds are spent in an efficient way in accordance with human rights standards; and stakeholders for implementing ethical principles and endeavouring to provide accurate information and messages. Terre des Hommes organisations are legally registered in their own countries and abide by binding national codes of conduct and accountability mechanisms. In 2013, the TDHIF International Secretariat adhered to the INGO Accountability Charter. It submitted its first report under the Charter in 2015 and, following its approval by the Independent Review Panel, has now become a full member of the Charter" (p.12)</p> | | | |
| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
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| FITDH. Annual report 2016. 2017 | "Terre des Hommes teamed up with Save the Children to form the Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts – to ensure child protection and care are at the heart of these still developing agreements" (p.5) | <p>"These steps include: The formation of the FIFA Independent Human Rights Advisory Board – with Terre des Hommes being represented on the panel . The IOC including a provision on the respect of human rights in the contract to host the 2024 Olympic Games. UEFA including human rights and anti-corruption provisions in the bidding documents for Euro 2024" (p.6)</p> <p>Terre des Hommes is accountable to children, donors and other stakeholders for delivering quality work and monitoring its impact, for ensuring that funds are spent in an efficient ways in line with human rights standards, and for providing accurate information on situations on the ground. In 2013, the International Secretariat signed up to the Accountable Now global standard for CSO accountability, which is monitored by a high-level panel of independent experts."(p.4)</p> | <p>"The Children Win campaign gave a voice to children whose rights were jeopardized by mega sporting events in 2016, such as by enabling children in Rio to show how the Olympic Games had caused them to suffer, and documenting human and child rights violations committed around such competitions"(p.6)</p> | | |
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| FITDH. Annual report 2017. 2018 | <p>"Working with the Initiative for Child Rights in the Global Compacts – cochaired by Terre des Hommes and Save the Children – Destination Unknown led and participated in consultations and review meetings feeding into the Global Compacts, bringing our experience of working with children to the discussions. This collective work placed children's rights on the agenda when governments began to negotiate the content of both compacts." (p.9)</p> | | <p>"Founded in 1966, the Terre des Hommes International Federation strives to empower children to shape the future they want to live in, and to guarantee their rights are respected in their entirety. We work to make this vision a reality by supporting children anywhere where decisions are made or actions are taken which affect them. [...] From helping them in the communities they live in to voicing their concerns to the world leaders, governments and international institutions who can improve their situations, Terre des Hommes places children at the heart of any debate affecting them" (p. 4)</p> | | <p>"Founded in 1966, the Terre des Hommes International Federation strives to empower children to shape the future they want to live in, and to guarantee their rights are respected in their entirety. We work to make this vision a reality by supporting children anywhere where decisions are made or actions are taken which affect them. [...] From helping them in the communities they live in to voicing their concerns to the world leaders, governments and international institutions who can improve their situations, Terre des Hommes places children at the heart of any debate affecting them" (p. 4)</p> |
| FITDH. Annual report 2018. 2019 | <p>"Solidarity is key if we are to guarantee children worldwide have their rights respected in their entirety. For this reason, Terre des Hommes has united with the five other largest child-focused agencies worldwide – ChildFund Alliance, Plan International, Save the Children, SOS Children's</p> | <p>"The Initiative for Children in Migration is a broad and informal coalition of international, European and national non-governmental and intergovernmental organisations, involved in coordinated advocacy on European Union (EU) law and policy</p> | <p>"We empower children and young people to actively shape the societies they live in, and to inspire sustainable, systemic change which puts their needs first." (p.8)</p> | | <p>"We empower children and young people to actively shape the societies they live in, and to inspire sustainable, systemic change which puts their needs first. We involve all the relevant actors in the solutions we seek – from parents and carers to the UN Secretary General. By</p> |

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| | <p>Villages International and World Vision to form Joining Forces. In 2018 and 2019, Joining Forces produced and released the A Second Revolution report to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). The report called for a second revolution in children's rights worldwide to build on the gains initially inspired by the CRC, and do more to address areas where the CRC has failed to have a long-lasting impact." (p.9)</p> <p>"The Girls Advocacy Alliance (GAA), of which Terre des Hommes is a member, has been working to protect girls and young women from violence, and to economically empower them since 2016. We have teamed up with Plan International Nederland and Defence for Children – ECPAT Netherlands, in a strategic partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to fight for the rights of girls and</p> | <p>which affects children in migration across Europe. Terre des Hommes, together with Missing Children Europe, the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants and Child Circle, co-coordinates the coalition to make sure that policies are aligned and all opportunities to advocate for children are taken. We aim to implement a comprehensive EU-wide policy for children in migration, making certain that their rights are respected and ensuring that child protection and child and youth participation are central to the EU's policies on asylum and migration." (p. 23)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"In 2018, Destination Unknown campaigned with partners for better protection of children on the move, to raise awareness of their situation and advocate for policy changes to benefit them. Destination Unknown has</p> | | | <p>mobilising partners, expertise and resources we create environments where children thrive, and we are constantly increasing our capacity to protect children and defend their rights everywhere." (p.8)</p> <p>The Girls Advocacy Alliance (GAA), of which Terre des Hommes is a member, has been working to protect girls and young women from violence, and to economically empower them since 2016. We have teamed up with Plan International Nederland and Defence for Children – ECPAT Netherlands, in a strategic partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to fight for the rights of girls and young women worldwide." (p.20)</p> |
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| <p>young women worldwide." (p.20)</p> <p>"The Initiative for Children in Migration is a broad and informal coalition of international, European and national non-governmental and intergovernmental organisations, involved in coordinated advocacy on European Union (EU) law and policy which affects children in migration across Europe. Terre des Hommes, together with Missing Children Europe, the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants and Child Circle, co-coordinates the coalition to make sure that policies are aligned and all opportunities to advocate for children are taken. We aim to implement a comprehensive EU-wide policy for children in migration, making certain that their rights are respected and ensuring that child protection and child and youth participation are central to the EU's policies on asylum</p> | <p>continued to empower young people to participate in decision-making processes at local, regional, national and international levels" (p.30)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"In 2013, Terre des Hommes signed up to the civil society organisation accountability charter Accountable Now. We submitted our fourth accountability report in 2018." (p.9)</p> | | | | |
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| | and migration." (p. 23) | | | | |
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| Sources | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| FITDH. Annual report 2019. 2020 | | | <p>"For the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Terre des Hommes invited children and adolescents, from around the world to become Child Reporters.</p> <p>Camera on the shoulder, lens or microphone in hand, pen, pencil or keyboard at the ready... more than 1200 Child Reporters aged between 2 and 25, from Switzerland but also from Europe, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Mali, Colombia, India, Peru and Senegal have created 165 reports on their vision of the rights of the child in 2019, alone or with the support of adults.</p> <p>Children and young people were enthusiastically mobilized around this project, which gave them a voice. The children's reports were picked by the media on the occasion of the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the</p> | | |

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| | | | Child. In Switzerland, four exhibitions were seen by more than 20,000 people." | | |
| FITDH. Interview with E.Kadjar. 2021 | Stratégie d'alliance avec d'autres ONGs (pour droits de l'enfant, migration, etc.). Importance du plaidoyer au sein des instances multilatérales pour influencer les décisions qui ont un impact sur notre agenda | Plaidoyer: monitoring au niveau national des engagements des Etats (appuyer à travers niveau international) ou thématique: à travers ONU (par exemple: enfants migrants). Instruments de plaidoyer: discours, études / recherches, déclarations, contacts directs avec délégations , webinars... | | Il existe une sorte de redevabilité entre pairs, mais elle n'est pas publiquement évoquée. À travers les alliances, les ONGs se tiennent responsables et tentent de s'entraider et amener des outils pour progresser ensemble. Dans un monde où les ONGs sont remises en cause, il ne serait pas judicieux de se critiquer ouvertement parmis. | Inclusion de la société civile et des enfants, des jeunes et receveurs d'aide dans la gouvernance de la Fédération TDH et au sein de la plupart des membres de la Fédération. |

4. State: Switzerland content analysis table

| Sources | Concepts and their related mechanisms | | | |
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| | TRAN | Accountability pathways | Peer accountability | Empowerment |
| SWISS FEDERAL ASSEMBLY (SFA). Loi fédérale sur l'encouragement des activités extrascolaires des enfants et des jeunes (Loi sur l'encouragement de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, LEEJ) | Art.19 "Participation à des organisations et institution d'organisations La Confédération peut, pour accomplir les tâches prévues par la présente loi, participer à des organisations privées ou publiques ou | Art.10 "Participation politique au niveau fédéral 1 La Confédération peut allouer des aides financières à des organismes privés pour la réalisation de projets visant à encourager la participation politique des jeunes au niveau fédéral. | Art. 18 "Échange d'informations et d'expériences 1 La Confédération et les cantons collaborent en matière de politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse et s'informent mutuellement des activités et | "Par la présente loi, la Confédération entend encourager les activités extrascolaires de manière à: a. favoriser le bien-être physique et intellectuel des |

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| <p>du 30 septembre 2011. (Etat le 1er janvier 2017)</p> | <p>instituer des organisations spécifiques."(p.6)</p> | <p>2 Les organismes considérés veillent à ce que les enfants et les jeunes ayant particulièrement besoin d'encouragement soient associés de manière appropriée à la préparation et à la réalisation de tels projets." (p.4)</p> <p>---</p> <p>Art. 18 "Échange d'informations et d'expériences</p> <p>1 La Confédération et les cantons collaborent en matière de politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse et s'informent mutuellement des activités et des développements dans ce domaine. Les communes y sont associées si nécessaire.</p> <p>2 La Confédération encourage l'échange d'informations et d'expériences entre spécialistes de la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse.</p> <p>3 Elle diffuse des informations sur les types d'activités extrascolaires qui ont fait leurs preuves." (p.6)</p> <p>---</p> <p>Art.22 "Le Conseil fédéral institue une Commission fédérale</p> | <p>des développements dans ce domaine. Les communes y sont associées si nécessaire.</p> <p>2 La Confédération encourage l'échange d'informations et d'expériences entre spécialistes de la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse.</p> <p>3 Elle diffuse des informations sur les types d'activités extrascolaires qui ont fait leurs preuves." (p.6)</p> | <p>enfants et des jeunes;</p> <p>b. aider les enfants et les jeunes à devenir des adultes conscients de leurs responsabilités envers la société;</p> <p>c. promouvoir l'intégration sociale, culturelle et politique des enfants et des jeunes." (p.1)</p> |
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| | | <p>pour l'enfance et la jeunesse (CFEJ).</p> <p>2 Lors du renouvellement intégral de la commission, un tiers au moins de ses membres doivent, dans la mesure du possible, être âgés de moins de 30 ans. Si un membre âgé de moins de 30 ans lors de sa nomination se retire en cours de mandat, son remplaçant devra, dans la mesure du possible, être âgé de moins de 30 ans.</p> <p>3 La CFEJ est chargée des tâches suivantes:</p> <p>a. conseiller le Conseil fédéral en matière de politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse;</p> <p>b. observer la situation des enfants et des jeunes en Suisse, en suivre l'évolution et, au besoin, proposer des mesures;</p> <p>c. vérifier régulièrement si la présente loi tient suffisamment compte de la situation de vie des enfants et des jeunes;</p> <p>d. examiner, avant l'édiction des lois et des ordonnances</p> | | |
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| | | <p>importantes touchant la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, les conséquences de ces actes pour les enfants et les jeunes;</p> <p>e. sensibiliser l'opinion publique aux attentes et aux besoins des enfants et des jeunes.</p> <p>4 Elle veille, dans l'accomplissement de ses tâches, à maintenir un équilibre entre les aspects de la protection, de l'encouragement et de la participation des enfants et des jeunes." (p.7)</p> | | |
| <p>SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL (SFC). Ordonnance sur des mesures de protection des enfants et des jeunes et sur le renforcement des droits de l'enfant du 11 juin 2010. (Etat le 1er août 2010)</p> | <p>Art.1 al.1 "Les mesures contribuent à:[...] Elles favorisent la mise en réseau et la collaboration entre les acteurs privés et publics."(p.1)</p> <p>---</p> <p>Art. 4"La Confédération peut mettre en oeuvre les mesures suivantes:</p> <p>a. des programmes nationaux;</p> <p>b. des projets modèles permettant de tester de nouvelles stratégies et méthodes.</p> | | | |

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| | <p>2 Elle peut faire appel à des organisations de droit privé ou public pour mettre en oeuvre ou soutenir les mesures.</p> <p>3 Elle collabore avec les cantons et d'autres acteurs publics ou privés importants.</p> <p>Elle consulte préalablement les cantons lorsque leurs intérêts sont directement concernés." (p.2)</p> | | | |
| <p>SWISS FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (SFDHA). Pour une politique suisse de l'enfance et de la jeunesse. 2008</p> | <p>"la Confédération, comme les cantons, est tenue par diverses dispositions internationales et constitutionnelles, dans le cadre des compétences qui lui sont octroyées par ailleurs, d'accorder une protection particulière aux enfants et aux jeunes. Si elle souhaite de plus intervenir au niveau législatif dans la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, il faut inscrire cette compétence dans la Constitution. Dans le sens du présent rapport, il s'agit de trouver une base de compétence valable pour la protection, l'encouragement et</p> | <p>"L'encouragement de l'animation jeunesse en milieu ouvert et des formes novatrices d'activités de jeunesse; la promotion de la Session des jeunes, ce qui encourageait la participation des enfants et des jeunes à la vie politique à l'échelon fédéral; la possibilité d'aider les cantons à élaborer et à organiser leurs politiques de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, et partager leurs expériences" (p.iii)</p> <p>Suite à la révision de la Constitution fédérale, plusieurs cantons ont édicté de nouvelles lois sur la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, qui s'inspirent parfois explicitement. C'est</p> | | |

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| <p>la participation des enfants et des jeunes. " (p.15)</p> <p>"Le Comité recommande à la Suisse de créer un mécanisme national permanent qui permette de coordonner la mise en œuvre de la convention au niveau fédéral, entre les niveaux fédéral et cantonal, et entre les cantons. Il recommande également d'établir un plan d'action national global pour l'application de la CDE, dans le cadre d'un processus ouvert de consultation et de participation. Ce plan d'action devrait suivre une approche fondée sur les droits et ne pas être axé uniquement sur la protection et le bien-être. " (p.19)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Pour les affaires internationales, la Confédération joue encore un rôle de charnière entre les institutions internationales⁷⁶ et cela tant pour la négociation, la ratification et l'application d'accords internationaux que pour la coopération pratique en matière de promotion de</p> | <p>le cas par exemple du canton du Valais, dont la loi en faveur de la jeunesse, du 11 mai 2000, traite ds trois aspects majeurs que sont la protection, l'encouragement et la participation. Cette loi prévoit également la création d'un service chargé de la coordination générale au niveau cantonal et d'un poste de délégué à la jeunesse ayant pour tâche de coordonner les activités des organisation privées. De même, la loi sur la politique de la jeunesse du canton du Jura, du 22 novembre 2006, comprend les trois bases citées – protection, encouragement et participation et prévoit un poste de délégué à la jeunesse, doté d'attributions identiques. Elle crée en outre un Parlement de la jeunesse pouvant soumettre des sollicitations au Gouverneent et au Parlement cantonal. La loi sur l'enfance et la jeunesse du canton de Fribourg, du 13 mai 2006, définit en détail les aspects protection, encouragement et participation, ainsi que les compétences</p> | |
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| <p>l'enfance et de la jeunesse⁷⁷. S'agissant de la coopération internationale dans le domaine des activités de jeunesse, la Suisse a jusqu'ici pris part indirectement⁷⁸ au programme européen « Jeunesse en action », mais elle vise une participation à part entière⁷⁹. Le programme européen encourage, suivant cinq actions opérationnelles, les échanges entre jeunes, le service volontaire européen, la participation sociale et politique des jeunes, le dialogue et la coopération entre les organisations de jeunesse, les professionnels de l'animation jeunesse et les acteurs étatiques. L'un des points essentiels du programme est d'encourager un dialogue structuré entre les jeunes et les responsables politiques. La participation des jeunes, des organisations de jeunesse et des professionnels de l'animation jeunesse aux actions du programme</p> | <p>en matière de politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, ainsi que la coordination. Elle prévoit la création d'une Commission de l'enfance et de la jeunesse pouvant soumettre des propositions au canton et aux communes, d'un Conseil des jeunes représentant les demandes des jeunes auprès des autorités cantonales, et un poste de délégué à l'enfance et à la jeunesse (un par communauté linguistique) chargé de coordonner et de soutenir les projets en faveur de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, ainsi que de représenter le canton au sein des organismes intercantonaux" (p. 3)</p> <p>"les enfants et les jeunes doivent être considérés et traités comme des individus et des sujets de droit à part entière pour tout ce qui touche à leur vie personnelle. Cela signifie leur donner le droit de s'exprimer individuellement (d'être entendus durant une procédure de divorce, par exemple) ou collectivement (en</p> | | |
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| <p>européen, ainsi que la possibilité pour les autorités locales de partager leurs expériences avec d'autres pays, peut représenter un enrichissement en vue de concrétiser la promotion de l'enfance et de la jeunesse, surtout aux niveaux local et cantonal. L'agence nationale se chargera de lancer le programme en Suisse à partir de 2009 ou de 2010⁸⁰. Elle jouera à l'avenir un rôle capital pour encourager la coopération professionnelle dans le domaine de la jeunesse entre la Suisse et les autres pays d'Europe.</p> <p>En tant que membre du Conseil de l'Europe, la Suisse a la possibilité de participer à un échange entre administrations des Etats membres sur les questions relatives à la jeunesse dans le cadre du <i>Comité directeur européen pour la jeunesse (CDEJ)</i> " (pp.21-22)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Le Conseil fédéral reconnaît l'importance du rôle que jouent la coopération et la mise en réseau au plan international dans le</p> | <p>particulier lorsque les décisions politiques les touchent directement). Cette approche implique que l'on considère la jeunesse comme une res- source, capable d'amener des idées et des solutions créatives en réponse aux problèmes sociétaux et politiques. Les enfants et les jeunes ont en effet une vision des choses différente de celle des adultes, directe et souvent novatrice, qui peut constituer un enrichissement. " (p.5)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"En la Session fédérale des jeunes, la Confédération soutient un forum annuel qui permet aux jeunes de débattre des thèmes politiques et d'exprimer leurs opinions. Une base légale explicite fait défaut à ce jour⁹⁸. Cette session, qui se réunit chaque année depuis 1993, offre aux jeunes 14 à 21 ans une occasion de participation bien connue au niveau national. Au départ, en 1991, c'était un projet unique à l'occasion des 700 ans de la Confédération. Les jeunes qui y avaient</p> | | |
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| | | <p>pris part se sont alors mobili- sés pour que l'expérience soit répétée, ce qui fut fait deux ans plus tard, et chaque année depuis lors. Organisée par le Conseil suisse des activités de jeunesse (CSAJ), parrainée par la Commission fédérale pour l'enfance et la jeunesse et soutenue financièrement par la Confédération, la Session des jeunes est depuis 1991 l'hôte du Palais du Parlement." (p.25)</p> <p>domaine de la promotion de la jeunesse ; en entamant des négociations pour une participation à part entière de la Suisse au programme européen « Jeunesse en action », il vise précisément à intensifier cette coopération." (p.24)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Au niveau fédéral, la Session des jeunes a fait ses preuves en tant que forme de participation des jeunes à la vie politique. Le Conseil fédéral estime donc qu'il est justifié de soutenir et d'encourager financièrement les différents travaux qui ont lieu avant et pendant la session. Mais il faut aussi déployer des efforts et mettre des instruments à disposition – mesures d'information, de préparation, d'accompagnement, etc. – pour y intégrer également des jeunes issus de milieux défavorisés ou peu instruits et des</p> | | |
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| | | <p>jeunes d'origine étrangère. En complément, il importe de prévoir aussi d'autres moyens de recueillir le point de vue des enfants et des jeunes sur des thèmes qui les concernent directement (p. ex. sommet des enfants, conférence des jeunes, représentation des jeunes dans les groupes de suivi...). Pour le Conseil fédéral, garantir une participation appropriée des enfants et des jeunes est une tâche qui revient aux associations faîtières et aux plateformes de coordination nationales. Ces mesures de soutien et d'encouragement de la Session des jeunes devraient être pris en compte lors d'une prochaine révision de la LAJ. " (p.27)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Inscrire dans la loi la Session fédérale des jeunes et créer des instruments permettant la participation des couches peu instruites et des jeunes issus de milieux défavorisés " (p.30)</p> <p>---</p> <p>"Aider les cantons à élaborer et à mettre</p> | | |
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| | | en place la protection, l'encouragement et la participation des enfants et des jeunes, par la conclusion de conventions-cadre et en favorisant le partage d'expériences et le réseautage " (p.30) | | |
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| Sources | TRAN | Accountability pathways | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| <p>SWISS FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (SFDHA). A l'écoute de l'enfant</p> <p>Le droit de l'enfant d'exprimer son opinion et d'être entendu . 2011</p> | <p>"[la CFEJ] cherche à entretenir des contacts avec les groupes, les organisations et les institutions qui s'intéressent aux questions touchant aux enfants et aux jeunes, ce qui lui permet de disposer d'un éventail d'avis aussi large que possible." (p.3)</p> | <p>"En tant que commission extra-parlementaire et organe consultatif du Conseil fédéral et des autorités de la Confédération, la CFEJ a la possibilité de se faire le porte-parole des enfants et des jeunes et de leurs aspirations et revendications dans les divers processus décisionnels. Elle est également souvent appelée à donner son avis dans le cadre de consultations portant sur des thèmes relatifs aux enfants et aux jeunes. " (p.3)</p> <p>"Guidée par le souci de donner aux enfants et aux jeunes la possibilité de formuler eux-mêmes leurs aspirations et leurs revendications, la CFEJ les a toujours associés à l'élaboration des différents rapports décrivant la situation de la jeunesse en Suisse. " (p.)</p> | | |

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| | | La CFEJ mène également une politique d'information indépendante complétée par la tenue du Séminaire de Bienne qui réunit, tous les ans, plus de deux cents personnes. " (p.3) | | |
| SWISS FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (SFDHA). État actuel de la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse en Suisse. 2014 | <p>"Le fédéralisme coopératif pratiqué en Suisse comprend toutes les formes de collaboration entre cantons et entre Confédération et cantons. Cette collaboration peut se dérouler sur une base volontaire ou s'insérer dans une norme du droit fédéral " (p.10)</p> <p>"Des organismes privés de la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse – notamment ceux qui ont un contrat de prestations avec la Confédération – sont aussi des utilisateurs, et parfois des fournisseurs, d'informations et de connaissances spécialisées. " (p.14)</p> | <p>"La Confédération apporte son soutien à plusieurs douzaines de projets pilotes d'organismes privés ou publics, dans le but de pouvoir étendre dans d'autres régions des approches novatrices en matière d'encouragement de l'enfance et de la jeunesse. En outre, la Confédération a conclu des contrats de prestations avec sept organisations faitières des activités de jeunesse, qui doivent aussi être actives à l'échelle du pays (CSAJ, AFAJ, FSPJ, Intermundo et Petzi, ainsi que, dès 2015, Fancoaching Suisse et LIFT). " (p. 15)</p> <p>"Selon un arrêt du Tribunal fédéral, l'audition des enfants doit être la règle dans toutes les procédures judiciaires concernant des enfants. Le Tribunal fédéral prévoit, à titre indicatif, que tout enfant d'au</p> | | <p>"La possibilité de s'impliquer activement, c'est-à-dire de participer, renforce les enfants et les jeunes et, par là même, les protège aussi. En outre, le fait de participer renforce l'acceptation de mesures, notamment dans le domaine de la protection de l'enfant. " (p. 12)</p> |

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| | | <p>moins 6 ans peut être entendu " (p.27)</p> <p>"En vertu de l'art. 8 LEEJ, la Confédération peut désormais apporter un soutien financier à des projets qui encouragent particulièrement la participation des enfants et des jeunes à leur élaboration et à leur mise en œuvre⁹⁷. Les projets concernés peuvent avoir une dimension politique, mais ce n'est pas indispensable" (p.28)</p> <p>"Le Conseil fédéral accorde une grande importance à la participation politique des enfants et des jeunes, notamment du fait que, dans un système politique fondé sur la démocratie directe, l'apprentissage des règles du jeu de la démocratie et la motivation à participer à la vie politique sont tout spécialement importants. L'art. 10 LEEJ permet à la Confédération d'encourager différentes formes de participation politique au niveau fédéral, en fournissant aux jeunes qui s'engagent dans la vie de la cité davantage de possibilités de participer de</p> | | |
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manière permanente à la formation de la volonté politique du pays. Dans le même temps, ces projets participatifs visent également à toucher les jeunes qui sont moins engagés dans la vie politique. " (p. 29)

"Easyvote : en Suisse, la participation des adolescents et des jeunes adultes aux élections et aux votations reste inférieure à celle de leurs aînés. Ce phénomène s'explique notamment par le fait que le mode de scrutin et de votation, de même que les documents qui s'y rapportent sont peu adaptés aux jeunes. La Fédération suisse des parlements des jeunes (FSPJ) souhaite modifier cette situation au moyen du projet easyvote, qui comprend l'élaboration et la diffusion d'aides au vote et des mesures de sensibilisation. " (p.29)

" Speak out! : chaque année, des centaines d'enfants et de jeunes arrivent en Suisse sans être accompagnés d'un représentant juridique et déposent une demande d'asile.

| | | Le projet Speak out ! vise à donner une voix aux demandeurs d'asile mineurs, afin d'attirer l'attention sur leur vie et sur leurs conditions de séjour en Suisse, d'enrichir leurs connaissances sur le fonctionnement du système politique suisse et leur droit à participer à ce fonctionnement, afin qu'ils puissent en faire usage. " (p.29) | | |
|---|--|---|--|-------------|
| Sources | TRAN | Accountability pathways | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
| SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL (SFC). Mesures visant à combler les lacunes dans la mise en œuvre de la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant. Rapport du Conseil fédéral en réponse aux recommandations faites à la Suisse par le Comité des droits de l'enfant de l'ONU le 4 février 2015 . 2018 | "En Suisse, du fait de cette structure fédéraliste, une multitude d'acteurs participent à la mise en œuvre de la CDE à tous les niveaux étatiques ; les mentionner tous excéderait le cadre du présent rapport " (p.4) "Encourager au niveau régional l'échange d'expériences et la mise en réseau des personnes qui travaillent avec et pour des enfants. " (p.31) | "En ratifiant la CDE, la Suisse s'est engagée à mettre en œuvre les normes qu'elle contient. Le Comité des droits de l'enfant de l'ONU lui a adressé 40 recommandations pour qu'elle améliore cette mise en œuvre (cf. chap. 3). Ces recommandations ont été subdivisées en près de 120 recommandations spécifiques, qui ont été examinées sous l'angle des mesures à prendre (cf. chap. 4). L'analyse a montré que neuf recommandations spécifiques, dans six champs d'action, sont particulièrement susceptibles de faire avancer la mise en œuvre de la CDE en Suisse " (p.17) | "Encourager au niveau régional l'échange d'expériences et la mise en réseau des personnes qui travaillent avec et pour des enfants. " (p.31) | |

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| | | <p>---</p> <p>"Encourager de façon ciblée la participation des enfants dans le cadre des aides financières de la Confédération fondées sur la loi sur l'encouragement de l'enfance et de la jeunesse (LEEJ). " (p. 31)</p> | | |
| <p>SWISS FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (SFDHA). Droits de l'enfant. 2020</p> | | <p>"En application de l'article 44 de la Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant, le gouvernement suisse doit rédiger tous les cinq ans un rapport sur la mise en œuvre de la convention en Suisse."</p> <p>"Outre le gouvernement suisse, les organisations non gouvernementales peuvent présenter leur propre rapport (art. 45) [au comité des droits de l'enfant]. "</p> <p>"Le comité des droits de l'enfant invite les ONG et une délégation du gouvernement à un dialogue constructif, avant de leur soumettre ses remarques finales et recommandations visant à promouvoir l'application effective de la convention. Une nouvelle série de recommandations est</p> | | |

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| | | attendue pour 2021, invitant la Suisse à combler les lacunes dans la mise en oeuvre de la CDE." | | |
| SWISS FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS (SFDHA). Quels services s'occupent de questions ayant trait à l'enfance et à la jeunesse ? 2020. | "Enfin, les ONG de jeunesse sont des acteurs importants de la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse au niveau national, et des partenaires actifs de la Confédération. Celle-ci soutient des associations nationales de jeunesse, des cours de formation pour monitrices et moniteurs de jeunesse, ainsi que des projets d'intérêt national relevant de la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse. Elle accorde en outre son soutien à des projets relatifs à la prévention de la maltraitance infantile et à la promotion des droits de l'enfant." | | "La loi sur l'encouragement de l'enfance et de la jeunesse (LEEJ) prévoit une intensification de la collaboration et des échanges d'information entre la Confédération et les cantons." | |

5. Synthesis table: UNICEF; TDHS; SWITZERLAND

| Synthesis table : Number of Mechanisms by actor | | | | |
|---|------|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| | TRAN | Direct accountability | Indirect accountability (via empowerment) | Peer accountability |
| UNICEF | 9 | 16 | 13 | 7 |
| TDHS | 13 | 8 | 5 | 6 |
| Switzerland | 9 | Accountability pathways | | 2 |

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6. Analysis according to Grant & Keohane's classification

| Accountability type | Treaty and actors | | | |
|---------------------|--|--|---|---|
| | UNCRC & OPs | UNICEF | Terre Des Hommes Suisse & FITDH | Switzerland |
| Hierarchical | Development of multilateral, bilateral programs Support from states to community participation, education and training programs | | | Committee on the rights of the child reports, implementation of recommendations |
| Supervisory | Committee on the rights of the child Reports on adopted measures Specific questions from the Committee | Monitoring of state policies and compliance Participation in the Committee on the rights of the child report reviews Virtual platforms: U-Report Periodic briefings with decision-makers and their staff Statement of support by leaders Advocacy Creation of fora Campaigns Public opinion mobilization Awareness raising Petitions | Consultative / observer status to several UN agencies (UNICEF, ILO, IOM, Council of Europe, European Union, ...) Advocacy to the EU, UN (with alliances or alone), states Reports on states Formulation of core requirements (with the help of international experts) Sharing of knowledge with the UN, bilateral and multilateral stakeholders | Institution of a Federal / Cantonal commission working on all matters relating to child and youth Youth parliament / Council able to submit demands to government and parliament Creation of specific institutions, develop programs, pilot projects Creation of organs to coordinate various organizations working on the rights of the child |

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| | | <p>School report cards</p> <p>Collecting opinions of peers and present them in regional and international fora</p> <p>Writing blogs</p> <p>Twitter "takeovers", YouTube and Snapchat videos</p> <p>Social ambassadors</p> <p>Social mobilization committees</p> | <p>Public information</p> <p>Campaigns</p> <p>Empower aid recipients so they can formulate demands and advocate at different levels</p> <p>Strengthen partners and aid recipients to reach more advocacy and networking components</p> <p>Creation of youth councils</p> | |
| Fiscal | Funding for cooperation | | | Allocate funding to the implementation of the Convention |
| Legal | <p>Reports on adopted measures</p> <p>Specific questions from the Committee</p> | | | <p>Child and youth participation into federal politics (Session des jeunes)</p> <p>Ratification of three optional protocols of the UNCRC (including the OP3 on a communication procedure)</p> <p>Commitment to the UNCRC and actors related to it</p> |
| Market | | | | |
| Peer | <p>Engagement with UN specialized agencies, relevant actors</p> <p>Expert and other actors advice</p> <p>Community feedback</p> <p>Communication mechanism with the Committee</p> | <p>Partnerships with financial institutions</p> <p>Global Programme partnership</p> <p>Formal and informal partnerships with CSOs</p> <p>Global Dialogue</p> | <p>Collaboration among the FITDH members</p> <p>Membership to local federations</p> <p>Creation of association grouping academia, government,</p> | <p>Promotion of exchanges between all government levels (cantonal, municipal, federal) and experts, organizations</p> <p>Encourage regional exchanges and networking</p> <p>Participation to organizations and</p> |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | <p>GCPK (Global community of practice and knowledge on child rights and social accountability)</p> <p>Global forum on social accountability</p> <p>Partnerships with governments (bilateral or multilateral)</p> <p>Providing support in the implementation and in the comprehension of the UNCRC</p> <p>Sensitization of decision-makers to children and youth's participation</p> <p>UNICEF as an intermediary actor to provide advice and technical assistance to states</p> <p>Strategic partnerships with faith leaders</p> <p>Opening spaces and platforms to CSOs</p> <p>Guiding principles for UNICEF's partnerships with CSOs</p> <p>Systematization of UNICEF's policies to partners' programming</p> | <p>NGOs (Association 30 ans)</p> <p>Membership to networks (regional, national, international) working on the same issues as the NGO (FGC, RSDE, RSECI)</p> <p>International coalitions and campaigns (Joining Forces, Destination Unknown)</p> <p>Collaboration with governments (local or national)</p> <p>Collaboration with private schools, companies, international organizations</p> <p>Alignment and collaboration with the Committee on the rights of the child</p> <p>Informal and non-public Peer Accountability between peers</p> | <p>institutions related to child rights</p> <p>Reach out to public or private organizations</p> <p>Collaborate with cantons and other major public and private actors</p> <p>Use its membership in several international organization to promote the ratification, implementation and compliance to international covenants</p> |
| Public relational | Promotion of state cooperation | <p>Advocacy</p> <p>Creation of fora</p> | <p>Public information</p> <p>Campaigns</p> | |

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|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | Campaigns Public opinion mobilization Awareness raising School report cards Collecting opinions of peers and present them in regional and international fora Writing blogs Twitter "takeovers", YouTube and Snapchat videos Social ambassadors Social mobilization committees | Empower aid recipients so they can formulate demands and advocate at different levels Strengthen partners and aid recipients to reach more advocacy and networking components Creation of youth councils | |
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7. Synthesis table of the analysis according to Grant & Keohane's classification

| Synthesis table : Number of Mechanisms by actor and classification according to G&K | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------|-------|--------|------|---------------------|
| | Hierarchical | Supervisory | Fiscal | Legal | Market | Peer | Public reputational |
| UNCRC & OPs | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | | 4 | 3 |
| UNICEF | | 17 | | | | 14 | 12 |
| TDHS & FITDH | | 10 | | | | 9 | 6 |
| SWITZERLAND | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | | 6 | |

8. Grant & Keohane: Power Wielders and Constraints

| Power-Wielder | Relevant International and Transnational Accountability Mechanisms | Strength of Constraints |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Multilateral organization | Delegated and participatory: Supervisory, fiscal, hierarchical, reputational | Strong |
| NGOs | Mostly participatory: Peer, reputational, market | Strong when NGO is weak; weaker when NGO is strong |
| Transgovernmental networks | Mostly participatory: Peer | Quite weak; more a matter of negotiation constraints |
| Firms | Mostly participatory: Market, reputational | Stronger for brand-name firms in consumer markets and media firms than for more anonymous firms |
| States | External accountability mostly participatory: Peer, reputational Delegated accountability (supervisory and fiscal) only for weak, dependent states who have accepted supervision as a condition for support | Varies with state power and degree of interdependence. For relatively powerful states, negotiation constraints are more important than accountability mechanisms. |

(Grant & Keohane, 2005, p.39)

9. NGO (2): Kofi Annan Foundation content analysis table

| Source | TRAN | DAM | IAM | Peer acc. | Empowerment |
|-----------|---|--|--|-----------|---|
| KAF. 2021 | Partenariats avec monde académique, ONGs locales, partis politiques | Position papers, recommandations partagées dans diverses instances multilaterals | Inclusion des jeunes d'Extremely Together dans certaines prises de décisions de KAF et prise en compte de leur point de vue. Remontée d'informations par les ONG locales | | Empowerment par ateliers de formation et sensibilization, espace à disposition sur les reseaux sociaux et instance internationales pour partager leurs témoignages, demandes auprès de leurs gouvernements. |