

# Gdynia Operations Centre: World Day Against Child Labour

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Posted by [Ewa Gajewska](#) Jun 12, 2017

Today we think about all those caught up in global conflicts and disasters, in particular children who are at the biggest risk at times of war.

In areas affected by conflict and disaster, family and social protection often fail. The livelihoods are being destroyed. Families lose their means to earn the living and children are often separated from them. Whereas, child refugees can easily prey to trafficking and child labour, those who stay are often forced into worst forms of child labour including hazardous jobs like mining or scavenging for metal and minerals in war-torn areas. In most extreme cases children become adult soldiers or are used by armed groups as spies or victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Besides the dangers of combat and doing the jobs they are forced into, children almost always suffer psychological and physical abuse which leaves deep scars in their minds, something that cannot easily be reversed. Burdened with such experiences and trauma they still need to grow up and create a life for themselves, life where education and secured work place is an ultimate goal yet very often so unrealistic to achieve on their own.

There is therefore a clear link between Child Labour and **SDG 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all**. A continued lack of decent work opportunities, insufficient investments and unstable environments all makes it extra hard for children from conflict areas to sustain their living, the one of dignity, equal chances and happiness.

All children have the right to be protected from child labour. Under Target 8.7 of the UN's [2030 Sustainable Development Goals](#), all countries have committed to eliminating all form of child labour by 2025. With the greatest migration crisis we are facing today, a lot more has to be done than providing sanctuary and support to children and their families by neighboring host countries and international organizations. Solutions need to be formed working closely with governments, employers as well as civil society to withdraw children from child labour and provide quality education to all.

If you are interested to learn more about the subject please visit:

[International Labour Organization](#)

In conflicts and disasters, protect children from child labour

[Thomson Reuters Foundation](#)

[Blood Mica](#) Deaths of child workers in India's mica "ghost" mine covered up to keep industry alive.

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And/or download the fact sheet below.

- [WDAACL2017\\_Brochure\\_EN\\_FINAL\\_Web \(1\).pdf](#) 3.5 MB Preview

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