



Protection of child soldiers – ICC perspective

Lucija Žužić
Faculty of law
Zagreb

- Frontline combatants or support functions
- More than 30 countries (Sierra Leone, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka, Central African Republic, Sudan, Chad, Afghanistan, Pakistan...)
- **Forced or voluntary** recruitment
- World starts to care

NO CHILD SOLDIERS



Alpha Blondy
Lokua Kanza
Rokia Traoré
Angélique Kidjo
Aïcha Koné
Madéka
Tété
Salif Keita
Youssou N'Dour
Geoffrey Oryema
Extra Bokaya
Ben Okafor
Bibie
Corneille
Mama Keita

Démobilisons les **enfants soldats**



Rome Statute

- **War crime**
- **International armed conflict** - Conscripting or enlisting children under the age of fifteen years into the national **armed forces** or using them to participate actively in hostilities.
- **Internal armed conflict** - Conscripting or enlisting children under the age of fifteen years into **armed forces or groups** or using them to participate actively in hostilities

Incrimination

- **Conscripting** or **enlisting** children or **using** them to participate **actively** in hostilities

Lubanga case

- Enlistment – voluntary
- Conscription – compulsion
- Use – active participation

Active participation

Cases

- **Uganda**

- The Prosecutor v. Joseph Kony, Vincent Otti, Okot Odhiambo and Dominic Ongwen

- **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

- The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo
- The Prosecutor v. Germain Katanga and Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui
- The Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda

First verdict

- The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo
- 14.03.2012.
- guilty of conscripting and enlisting children under the age of 15 and using them to participate in hostilities



- **The Rome Statute has given hope to many children around the world who have become victims of atrocities. Even if we cannot bring justice to every victim, we must try to bring the benefits of an international justice system to those we can.**

Radhika Coomaraswamy

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**