الجمهورية اللبنانية
وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية

unicef
for every child

Call to Action from Adolescent Girls in Lebanon to Decision Makers

Listen to us. Believe in our capabilities. Involve us in decisions.

POWER
4 Girls



We are 110 adolescent girls living in Lebanon.

We come from different communities and backgrounds with different experiences.

Yet, we share one vision: to learn, be safe, be healthy, have opportunities, make decisions about our lives, and have our voices heard.

We have come together to say clearly what matters to us.

We are asking decision-makers and the Government of Lebanon to listen to girls, involve us in decisions that affect our lives, and turn our priorities into concrete, funded actions. On the International Day of the Girl Child in October 2026, we call on the government to act on our priorities and report back to us on the progress made.

These are our priorities:

1 We demand our right to have the chance to learn

Education is important to our future, but many girls face barriers that make it difficult to stay in school and succeed. Even if public school is free, additional costs remain a barrier, and access to education is not equal for all girls because of their nationality, legal and social status or disability.

We want every girl to have the opportunity to discover what she is good at, learn new skills and prepare for her future, so she can achieve her dreams.

We ask you to remove barriers that prevent girls from accessing education such as poverty, legal documentation, residency status and disability.

We ask you to ensure girls learn in safe, clean and inclusive environments, with adequate bathrooms, water and affordable transportation, and with teachers who treat girls with respect and provide support when they face learning difficulties.

We ask you to create clear pathways between non-formal and formal education, ensure certificates are recognized, provide girls with accessible career guidance, and expand university campuses outside the capital.

We ask you to provide life skills, digital skills and vocational skills programmes that build confidence, decision-making and problem-solving.

We also ask you to create opportunities for girls to gain professional experience, generate income, participate in sports, and access safe, girl-friendly spaces to meet, learn and connect, while supporting girls' initiatives and networks.

We ask you to reduce the financial burden of education on families through support for additional costs of learning, so no girl has to stop her education because of money.

No girl should have to give up her education because of her legal documentation or because she cannot afford it, cannot reach school, or does not have the support she needs.

We want to learn. We want to stay in school. We want the opportunity to build our future.



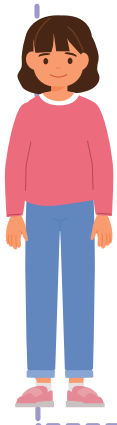
2 We demand our right to feel safe, everywhere and at all times

We should be able to walk to school or go to a community center without fear.

We should be safe at home, in our communities, in public spaces, in private spaces and online.

We ask you to make streets safer for girls, through better lighting and effective protection from harassment and violence.

We ask you to protect girls from child marriage and work towards ending marriage before the age of 18.



We ask you to invest in prevention and awareness programmes addressing violence, including online violence, involve parents, boys and young men in building safer environments, and provide girls with opportunities to learn self-defense and practical safety skills.

We ask you to provide effective response to harassment and violence, ensure girls can access trusted case management services and have clear information about where to seek help and how to claim their rights.

We deserve to feel safe wherever we go — on the street, at school, at home and online.

3 We demand our right to live without fear of wars

We ask you to ensure that girls affected by war and displacement can access safe places to stay, continue their education, and receive the support they need to recover and rebuild their lives.

We want to play, spend time with our friends, and enjoy the simple things every child deserves.

We are not only victims of war. We are young people with voices, dreams, skills and ideas, and we have the right to learn, look forward to the future, and help shape it.

4 We demand our right to access health care and to live with dignity

Our health matters. We need services and information that respond to our physical and mental health needs. Services for mental health are an urgent priority!

We ask you to ensure all girls can access affordable, girl-friendly primary health care, regardless of nationality, social conditions or legal documentation.

We ask you to provide girls with clear, age-appropriate information about physical, mental and reproductive health, including menstruation, and ensure access to menstrual hygiene products and school nurses.

We ask you to make affordable mental health and psychosocial support available to girls, especially those affected by conflict, displacement and violence, and provide girls with disabilities with free and appropriate assistive devices and equipment.

Every girl should be able to take care of her health & mental health without having to worry about whether she can afford it.

Our health is not a luxury. It is a right.



5 We demand our right to hear our voices and to take them into account

We are not only recipients of services. We have ideas, opinions and solutions.

Decisions about girls should include girls.

We ask you to create regular and meaningful opportunities for girls to share their priorities and influence decisions that affect their education, health, safety and future, including through girls' committees and networks.

We ask you to ensure that girls who are often left out, such as girls with disabilities, displaced girls, migrant girls, refugee girls and girls from vulnerable communities, can participate meaningfully, and establish feedback mechanisms that show girls how their views have been heard and acted upon.



Listening to girls should not be a one-time consultation. Our participation should be ongoing, voluntary, safe and meaningful.

Ask us. Listen to us. And show us that our voices made a difference.

6 We demand our rights to families and communities that support girls

Girls cannot thrive alone. Parents, families, boys, young men and communities all have a role to play.

We ask you to help parents better understand adolescence and the physical and psychological changes girls experience and raise awareness of the importance of girls' education and protection from violence.

We ask you to strengthen parent-daughter relationships and create safe opportunities for girls and parents to communicate openly, while promoting girls' right to participate in decisions that affect their lives.

We ask you to engage boys and young men in promoting respect, gender equality and the prevention of violence against girls.

We want families and communities to challenge gender stereotypes and treat girls as equal to boys, with the same rights, opportunities and freedom to shape their futures.

Support us, trust us and respect our choices. Give us equal opportunities and the space to make decisions about our lives and contribute to our communities.



Our final message to decision makers

In October 2026, we ask you to commit publicly to action on these priorities.

Turn your commitments into decisions that affect girls' lives in Lebanon.

We are ready to contribute and lead.

Our future is being shaped today.

Make sure girls have a voice in shaping it.

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Involve us in decisions.