

The Red Hand Day Campaign

ONE MILLION RED HANDS AGAINST THE USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS

Today, child soldiers are fighting in at least 17 countries around the world. Boys and girls alike are forced into combat, exploited for their labor, and subjected to unspeakable violence. A UN treaty prohibits the participation of children under the age of 18 in hostilities. But too often, it is not enforced.

Join the Red Hand Day Campaign to urge the United Nations to take stronger action to end the use of child soldiers.

The aim of the Red Hand Day campaign is to gather one million “red hands”—the symbol of the global campaign against the use of child soldiers—and present them to UN officials in New York on February 12, 2009, the anniversary of the day the treaty banning the use of child soldiers took effect.

Participating in the campaign is easy

- 1) Use red paint to make a handprint on a sheet of paper, and add a personal message about your desire to end the use of child soldiers; organize others at your school or in your community to do the same;
- 2) Upload photos or videos of your event to www.redhandday.org;
- 3) Send your red hands by February 2009 to: Human Right Watch, 350 Fifth Avenue, 34th Floor, New York, NY 10118

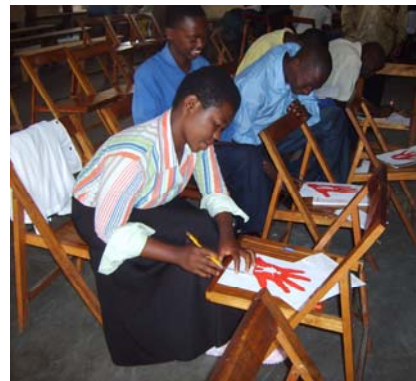
For more information about child soldiers, visit the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers at www.child-soldiers.org.



Students in California made 531 red hands to send to their congressional representative.



Red hands on display in Germany.



On 12 February 2008, hundreds of children in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo participated in the launch of the Red Hand Day Campaign.



Students in Kleve, Germany display their banner of Red Hands.