

37th Session of the HRC  
Geneva, 2018  
Item 6 – Argentina UPR outcomes  
Speaker: Giuditta GUALANDI

37th SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
ITEM 6 UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW  
**ARGENTINA**

Oral statement submitted by

**IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice**

And co-signed by

**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development**

Thank you, Mister President.

IIMA and VIDES welcome Argentina's acceptance of all the recommendations regarding the right to education<sup>1</sup>. Considering that 48% of people living in poverty are children, we particularly appreciate the recommendation 107.115<sup>2</sup> intending to increase educational infrastructure in the poorest areas and 107.113<sup>3</sup> pertaining to intercultural education. Nevertheless, we note that bilingual education for indigenous children is still lacking, especially in Gran Norte and Patagonia.

Moreover, we regret the reduction of the minimum age of criminal responsibility and the exacerbation of penalties in the reformed juvenile penal system.

Finally, we report the use of force by police against children and young people of the Wichi and Mapuche Communities during recent operations to close access to their lands.

**IIMA and VIDES call on Argentina to:**

- **Strengthen Action Plan 2016-2018, especially regarding bilingual teaching.**
- **Increase the minimum age for criminal liability according to the CRC.**
- **Improve alternative punishment measures and ensure the fair trial of children.**
- **Punish police officers responsible of violence against children and young people and provide police with specific training on child-friendly attitudes.**

Thank you, Mr. President.

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<sup>1</sup> Recommendations 107.113-116

<sup>2</sup> Enhance the efforts to increase the educational infrastructure in the poorest provinces (Qatar)

<sup>3</sup> Continue its positive practice of incorporating intercultural education into the education system as part of the recognition of ethnic diversity (Azerbaijan)