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CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

O n 20 November 1959, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, and on the same day, in 1989, the Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted and ratified by Portugal on 21 September 1990.

Both the Declaration and the Convention are based on the global awareness that "the child, by reason of his physical and intellectual immaturity, needs special protection and care, including appropriate legal protection, both before and after birth".

Thus, several fundamental principles and rights are established, which aim to protect all children, namely through/of:

- non-discrimination;
- defence of the best interests of the child;
- protection of the survival and development of the child;
- protection of identity, including nationality, name and family relations;
- respect for the views of the child and the child's freedom of expression, thought, conscience and religion; and
- protection from abuse and neglect.

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In the month in which we celebrate the anniversary of both documents and in the light of the news we see every day, namely the war in Ukraine, the child refugees and the conflict between parents at the moment of breaking up the couple, we

cannot fail to mention how urgent the defence of children still is today and the road we still have to travel.

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