

This letter is the result of a global consultation with **50,000 children and adolescents from 60 countries**, led by Plan International and Save the Children. The document reflects the voices of children and adolescents and lists priorities such as **climate change**, **fair economies**, **combating hunger and poverty**, **global governance reform**, **and gender and racial equality**.

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# To the Honorable Leaders of State and Government of the G20,

We, children and adolescents from various parts of the world, present this letter to the leaders of the G20 to demand the recognition of the rights of children and adolescents in situations of social and economic vulnerability within this process. Your decisions shape the present and the future that we inherit, and we cannot accept that our needs and aspirations are ignored.

This letter reflects the perspectives of thousands of children and adolescents around the world. Diverse realities, yet with common challenges. Climate change, hunger, poverty, and social and economic inequalities are not only adult concerns — it has devastating impacts on our lives, our health, well-being, and our ability to grow and learn. We can no longer wait for empty promises. We are living with the consequences of inaction, and the urgency for change can no longer be underestimated.

### Our recommendations to the G20 leaders are clear:

## **1. IMMEDIATE CLIMATE ACTION:**

The impact of climate change is severe and happening now. Droughts, wildfires, floods, and pollution destroy our physical and mental health, threaten our access to clean water, and jeopardize our food supply, especially in vulnerable communities. We demand that the G20 prioritize reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting forests, and involving us in climate decisions at local, national, regional, and global levels. We feel the urgency to act – you should, too.

### 2. COMBATING HUNGER AND POVERTY:

Food insecurity is not a distant statistic for us; it is a harsh reality. Black, Indigenous, rural children, and girls disproportionately suffer from a lack of food and educational opportunities. We demand policies that ensure food and support for children who are homeless or displaced. We want a childhood where fighting for survival is not our first life lesson.

# **3. EFFECTIVE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION:**

We will no longer tolerate being ignored. We participate in meetings and discussions, but our proposals are often disregarded. We demand real opportunities for political training and participation, access to technology, and involvement in all political decisions that directly impact us, including at a global level.

#### 4. ECONOMIC EQUITY AND FAIR INVESTMENTS:

Poverty and inequality prevent us from growing with dignity and equal opportunities. We demand strong investments in education and support for our families so that we can build a dignified future.

## **5. GENDER EQUALITY AND RACIAL JUSTICE:**

Girls, Black and Indigenous children and adolescents, and those from traditional communities face daily violence and exclusion. Education must fight stereotypes, and public policies must economically support these groups. We will not tolerate inequality.

We hope this letter instills in each of you the responsibility to act. We demand real transformation in the educational system, equity, the eradication of hunger and poverty, climate justice, and funding programs that prioritize the well-being of every child and adolescent. We want childhood and adolescence to be preserved in their fullness and peace. This is the minimum needed to build a fairer present and future, and a more sustainable planet where we can grow up healthy and safe.

With the strength of our voices and the firmness of our hope,

# Children and Adolescents of Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and Europe