



I wish to thank The Special Rapporteur Mr de Varennes and the Tom Lantos institute for giving me the opportunity to attend this forum.

I am an American citizen that is currently living in the Free Territory of Trieste.

In 2017 at the Geneva Youth Minority Forum, I had the honour and privilege to take thirteen year old Elia Prelaz, who lives in the free Territory of Trieste, to the United Nations Youth Forum where he gave a speech about the problems facing a young boy that had recently immigrated to Trieste, and how this boy was having difficulty integrating due to his inability to speak the language that is taught in the school, to make matters worse the school itself did not take steps to help him. This is sad, and that a thirteen year old boy would have the courage to speak out means that it is time we adults should start doing a little less talking and a little more listening to the voices of the future.

The 1947 Peace Treaty of Paris, Section 3 article 21 ..constituted the Free Territory of Trieste. It's integrity and independence should be assured by the United Nations Security Council. This created a United Nations territory, unique and with great possibilities. At this time we are under Italian Administration,, but the time has come for the United Nations to step in and reinstate what they created so many years ago, by doing this the UN could make an example for the world to see by creating an integrative teaching and learning processes in their own territory. There is a need for concrete work to be done, talk and discussions are wonderful, but I was taught that it is better to lead by example. Trieste could be the launching point for the Un to create a scholastic system that could be multi linguistic as well as technological. Where participation could be open to everyone and not as I heard mentioned yesterday, just an international school only for the children of wealthy families. With the use of technology the Un could possibly create a multilingual learning database, where the worlds multitude of languages could become a part of everyday teachings and where no one, or more importantly, no child would ever be made to feel left out again.

Thank you,

Michelle Laura Kling