

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

GCPEA collected over 600 reported incidents of attacks on schools in 2020 and 2021, with Ituri and Tanganyika provinces particularly affected. In addition, armed groups reportedly recruited or used students at or near schools. GCPEA also collected reports of sexual violence by armed groups at schools. Reports of targeted killings and threats against teachers increased in North Kivu. Attacks on higher education students and staff continued at a similar rate to earlier years.

Context

Armed conflict continued in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) during the 2020-2021 reporting period. In 2020, fighting involving non-state armed groups, which numbered over 130, and the Congolese national armed forces (Forces armées de la République Démocratique du Congo – FARDC), along with intercommunal violence, remained high in parts of the eastern provinces of Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu, and Tanganyika.⁶²⁹ In May 2021, authorities declared a state of siege in Ituri and North Kivu provinces, allowing military and police to take over civilian administration in the two provinces.⁶³⁰

Civilians continued to bear the brunt of hostilities throughout the reporting period. In 2021 and 2020, the UN reported that fighting in Ituri, North Kivu, and South Kivu provinces killed over 2,000 civilians each year.⁶³¹ The Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) armed group, which operated in North Kivu and Ituri provinces, was responsible for one-third of all civilian deaths in DRC in 2020.⁶³² Attacks on civilians continued at high rates in 2021, despite martial law in North Kivu and Ituri provinces, according to Human Rights Watch.⁶³³

In November 2021, the UN reported that 5.6 million people were displaced in DRC, nearly half of whom had been displaced since January 2021.⁶³⁴ Ituri province was particularly affected, with over 1.7 million people displaced between January and November 2020, according to the UN.⁶³⁵ At the end of 2021, the UN estimated that over 27 million people needed humanitarian assistance.⁶³⁶ However, armed groups frequently prevented humanitarian actors from delivering assistance to people in need during the reporting period.⁶³⁷

In addition, the public health crises of both Ebola and Covid-19 severely strained an already fragile healthcare system and compounded humanitarian needs.⁶³⁸ Along with conflict, Covid-19 contributed to a 40 percent increase in the number of people experiencing food insecurity in 2020, according to analyses by the non-governmental organization CARE.⁶³⁹

Access to education was severely constrained in DRC due to conflict and Covid-19 during the 2020-2021 reporting period. Over 26 million students did not attend school from April 19 to October 12, 2020 due to Covid-19-related school closures,⁶⁴⁰ and again between December 2020 and late February 2021.⁶⁴¹ However, insecurity kept some schools closed; for example, in North Kivu, even when health measures permitted reopening in both October 2020 and February 2021, dozens of schools remained closed due to conflict, affecting thousands of students.⁶⁴² Furthermore, in areas where schools reopened in October 2020, attendance rates declined, with many families reporting that they were unable to pay school fees.⁶⁴³ In addition, damage to schools from both conflict and flooding prevented thousands of students from returning to school in Eastern provinces of DRC in 2020 and 2021.⁶⁴⁴ The eruption of Mount Nyiragongo volcano on May 22, 2021, also damaged seven schools and temporarily halted classes at all schools in Goma⁶⁴⁵ and 40 universities.⁶⁴⁶

Attacks on schools

During the 2020-2021 reporting period, GCPEA identified over 600 reported attacks on schools from both verified and unverified data sources. Attacks on schools occurred at similarly high rates as in the previous reporting period. In 2018 and 2019, GCPEA identified hundreds of reported incidents annually.⁶⁴⁷ Between 2018 and early 2020, the UN reported that most attacks on schools occurred in Ituri province and were perpetrated by non-state armed groups including the Cooperative for the Development of Congo (CODECO).⁶⁴⁸

In 2020, the UN verified 101 incidents of attacks on schools that affected 24,900 students, representing a five-fold increase from 2019, when the UN verified 20 attacks on schools.⁶⁴⁹ Of these, the UN verified that Twigwaneho armed

groups lead by a former FARDC colonel destroyed 15 schools in the Kamombo area of South Kivu province between mid-June and mid-September 2020.⁶⁵⁰ GCPEA also identified unverified reports of attacks on schools throughout the year, some of which were higher than verified counts. For instance, in the whole of Tanganyika province in 2020, the UN reported that 342 schools had been destroyed due to hostilities.⁶⁵¹ Tanganyika province's Nyunzu territory was particularly affected, with armed violence causing the destruction of 69 schools between January and October 2020, according to the UN.⁶⁵² Also in Tanganyika province, schools were reportedly damaged during fighting between Zambian armed forces and the FARDC in 2020, according to the DRC Protection Cluster.⁶⁵³ In Ituri province, the UN reported that 163 schools were attacked in 2020.⁶⁵⁴

GCPEA identified ten reported incidents of attacks on schools from media, conflict monitors, and the UN.⁶⁵⁵ GCPEA could not determine whether these incidents were counted in the above totals reported by the UN. For example:

- The Kivu Security Tracker reported that on January 26, 2020, at least two schools were burned as a result of clashes between two armed groups in Uvira territory, South Kivu province.⁶⁵⁶
- In March 2020, Bantu militia members burned two schools in Nyunzu town and territory, Tanganyika province, according to the UN.⁶⁵⁷
- Between August 5 and 8, 2020, during fighting between Zambian armed forces and the FARDC, the primary school in Kalubmaba, Moba territory, Tanganyika province, was destroyed, according to the DRC Protection Cluster. During the same month, the DRC Protection Cluster documented two attacks on schools in Muliro, Moba territory, Tanganyika province.⁶⁵⁸
- On August 18, 2020, unknown attackers allegedly burned part of a school in Lengwe, Nyunzu territory, Tanganyika province, according to *Radio Okapi*.⁶⁵⁹ A report from ACLED indicated that other school buildings may have also been set alight in the area.⁶⁶⁰
- On August 27, 2020, in Katanga village, Masisi Territory, North Kivu province, an armed group and FARDC battled each other near an exam center while students were taking the national exams for the completion of primary school. Two students were killed in the attack, according to the UN.⁶⁶¹ *Radio Okapi* reported that the attack prevented over 300 school students from finishing their exams.⁶⁶²
- The DRC Protection Cluster reported that during an attack on Irumu town, Ituri province, on October 21, 2020, an armed group burned down the Primary and Professional Education administrative building.⁶⁶³

In 2021, the DRC Education Cluster received reports that at least 250 schools were looted, destroyed, or burned in eastern DRC between January and September.⁶⁶⁴ In 2021, the UN verified the UN verified 69 attacks on schools.⁶⁶⁵ GCPEA also identified reports during the same period which may have been included in either the DRC Education Cluster or UN reports. For example, in March 2021, the DRC Protection Cluster reported that 36 schools had allegedly been attacked in Bijombo-Moranvia during fighting between armed groups.⁶⁶⁶ In Walikale, Masisi, Rutshuru, and Beni territories of North Kivu province, 43 schools were reportedly destroyed between January and March 2021, according to the Education Cluster.⁶⁶⁷ These attacks often caused interruptions to learning. In April 2021, the UN reported that attacks on schools had affected approximately 400,000 school-aged children in Ituri province.⁶⁶⁸

In addition, GCPEA identified at least six reported incidents of attacks on schools from media sources, UN, and NGOs, in North Kivu, Ituri, and Kasai Central provinces,⁶⁶⁹ including:

- In January 2021, armed conflict damaged one school and destroyed two others in Batua Kadimba, Kasai Central province, according to an Inter-Cluster evaluation report.⁶⁷⁰
- In June 2021, the UN and media reported that two schools in Mutanga village, Dimbelenge territory, Kasai Central province, were burned down during conflict in the area.⁶⁷¹
- On November 22, 2021, an explosive device was allegedly found in the yard of Bonaventure school in Mungwalu, Djugu territory, Ituri province, following clashes between FARDC and the CODECO armed group in the area. As a result, the school director reported to *Radio Okapi* that the school closed for three days, affecting 495 students.⁶⁷²

Attacks on school students, teachers, and other education personnel

In 2020 and 2021, GCPEA identified at least 20 reported incidents of attacks on school students, teachers, and other education personnel. Incidents involved the abduction, robbery, threatening, or killing of teachers and students by both military, non-state armed groups, or unknown perpetrators. In addition, state security forces used excessive force against student or teacher protestors. The number of attacks on school students, teachers, and other education personnel increased as compared to prior years; GCPEA identified five incidents in 2019 and three in 2018.⁶⁷³

In 2020, GCPEA identified at least 13 incidents of attacks on school students and teachers,⁶⁷⁴ eight of which involved the killing or robbing of teachers or students by armed groups, and four of which involved the use of force by police against, or arrest of, students or teachers protesting education related issues. Armed groups threatened displaced teachers in North Kivu in October 2020, forcing them to return to work in their places of origin instead of in the community where they were displaced.⁶⁷⁵ Other examples of attacks on school students and educators included:

- On August 10, 2020, a group of teachers in Bukavu, South Kivu province, gathered in a protest about salaries and pay rises, according to *Voice of America* and local media. Police allegedly used teargas and batons to disperse the demonstrators, injuring 20 teachers; teachers accused police of stealing cell phones. The report stated that the protest took place on the first day of classes since schools closed due to Covid-19.⁶⁷⁶
- On October 22, 2020, a girl who was on her way home from school was shot in the leg by a soldier at an FARDC checkpoint who had been aiming at passing vehicle, according to the DRC Protection Cluster.⁶⁷⁷
- On November 27, 2020, primary and secondary school students in Lusambo, Sankuru province, protested against the provincial governor's raising of school fees, according to local media. The police dispersed the students using tear gas, after which some student reportedly threw stones. One student was allegedly injured.⁶⁷⁸
- The DRC Protection Cluster reported that on December 10, 2020, an administrator of Institut Rwankeri voiced his opposition to the recent occupation of a nearby school courtyard. An armed group abducted the teacher for one day until a ransom was paid.⁶⁷⁹

In 2021, GCPEA identified at least 11 reported incidents of attacks on school students, teachers, and other education personnel.⁶⁸⁰ GCPEA observed an increase in reporting on incidents of teachers being threatened or abducted, for payment of "security fees" in 2021. Examples of attacks included:

- Local media reported that on January 14, 2021, armed militiamen allegedly robbed four teachers in Lombana, Djugu territory, Ituri province. The teachers were returning home from the town where they lived after schools had closed again due to Covid-19 prevention measures, according to one report.⁶⁸¹
- SOS Medias reported that on February 11, 2021, approximately 50 primary and secondary school teachers in a refugee camp in Lusenda, Fizi, South Kivu province, held a demonstration about salary payments. Police forces, along with the camp's security, allegedly used force to disperse the protest, and injured several teachers.⁶⁸²
- On March 3, 2021, an armed group blocked the entrances of multiple schools in Mweso district, Masisi territory, North Kivu province, and demanded that teachers pay a "security fee" before entering. The armed group abducted two teachers on March 4, 2021, releasing them the next day after receiving a ransom payment. Some schools shut down due to the presence of the armed groups, according to the DRC Protection Cluster.⁶⁸³
- On July 30, 2021, media sources reported that an FARDC soldier shot and killed a 16-year-old female student who was crossing a checkpoint on her way home from school in Laoshi, Masisi territory, North Kivu province. *Radio Okapi* reported that the FARDC had erected a checkpoint at 20 meters distance from the school. Six soldiers were allegedly arrested in relation to the incident.⁶⁸⁴

Military use of schools and universities

GCPEA identified reports of at least 25 schools used for military purposes during the 2020-2021 reporting period. Reported incidents of military use increased in comparison to earlier years. GCPEA identified around three reported incidents of military use in 2018 and five UN-verified incidents of military use in 2019.⁶⁸⁵

In October 2020, the UN reported that armed actors had occupied 12 schools in the north of Nyunzu territory, Tanganyika

province.⁶⁸⁶ Over the course of the year, the UN also verified that armed forces had used four schools in North Kivu and one school in Tanganyika for as long as four months before vacating them.⁶⁸⁷ In addition, local media reported that on October 6, 2020, members of an armed group had set up a camp inside a school building in Ndjapanda village, Lubero territory, North Kivu province.⁶⁸⁸ The Protection Cluster also identified one case of military use of a primary school in Masisi territory, North Kivu Province, in December 2020 which led to the recruitment of children from a neighboring school, detailed below.⁶⁸⁹

In 2021, GCPEA identified at least 13 reports of military use in the provinces of North Kivu (5)⁶⁹⁰, Ituri (5),⁶⁹¹ South Kivu (1),⁶⁹² and Tanganyika (2).⁶⁹³ The UN verified four such cases in 2021.⁶⁹⁴ These included:

- The DRC Protection Cluster reported that on March 21, 2021, an armed group had occupied four primary schools and one secondary school in Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. The armed group denied teachers and students entry to the schools. As a result, those schools, as well as nearby schools, suspended their activities.⁶⁹⁵
- The UN reported that between January and June 2021, armed groups occupied five schools in Ituri province.⁶⁹⁶
- As of August 9, 2021, unidentified armed groups were using at least two schools in Mukimbo and Ngombe-Mwana, Nyunzu territory, Tanganyika province, according to the UN. The report did not specify the duration of the use of the school.⁶⁹⁷
- In October 2021, the Protection Cluster verified that FARDC soldiers used a primary school for three days in Kirungu, Uvira territory, South Kivu province. The soldiers used desks for firewood and turned the classrooms into a dormitory.⁶⁹⁸ The Protection Cluster also verified that sexual violence against children by FARDC occurred in the same village, although GCPEA could not determine whether the cases occurred at or near the school.

Sexual violence at, or on the way to or from, school or university

During the 2020-2021 reporting period, GCPEA identified occasional reports of sexual violence by parties to conflict at, or on the way to or from, school. Such incidents appeared to have decreased since their peak during the Greater Kasai crisis in 2016-2017.⁶⁹⁹

In 2020, GCPEA identified one incident of sexual violence by armed groups at a school. On August 30, 2020, *AFP, Reuters*, and local media reported that unidentified armed men attacked the dormitory of Institut Rungu, in Rungu, Isirio territory, Haut Uélé province. Around 30 students were lodged at the school to undertake their final primary school exam. In the night, armed attackers entered the building and allegedly raped at least one female student, according to a local government official.⁷⁰⁰

Child recruitment at, or on the way to or from, school

GCPEA received reports of child recruitment at, or on the way to or from, school, affecting over 40 students during the 2020-2021 reporting period. In *Education under Attack 2020*, GCPEA had not received any reports of this violation, though such occurrences may have not been reported.

In October 2020, the DRC Protection Cluster reported that six children were forcibly recruited from a primary school in Bweru, North Kivu province, and used to transport military items. The children were released the next day.⁷⁰¹

On December 10, 2020, members of an armed group set up camp in the yard of a primary school in Lwama, Masisi territory, North Kivu province. While using the school, they abducted around 33 students from a neighboring secondary school and used them to transport their belongings.⁷⁰² Their headmaster was later abducted for condemning the military use of the primary school, as detailed above.⁷⁰³

The actual total number of children recruited at, or on the way to or from school, may be higher. For example, the UN reported that between 2018 and early 2020, 35 percent of the 980 children recruited to armed groups or forces were abducted from their home, schools, or from roads or fields.⁷⁰⁴ Also in 2020, the United States State Department reported that some parents kept their children home from school due to fears of armed groups forcibly recruiting them.⁷⁰⁵

Attacks on higher education

For the 2020-2021 reporting period, GCPEA identified at least 12 incidents of attacks on higher education people. While attacks declined in 2020, likely due to university closures, in 2021 they rose again to rates similar to earlier years. For example, during the period covered by *Education under Attack 2020*, GCPEA collected between six and 11 events annually; many of those events involved arrest or use of force against university students and staff during protests.⁷⁰⁶

In 2020, GCPEA identified three reported incidents of attacks on higher education students in North Kivu province:

- On March 17, 2020, local media reported that a university student was hit and killed by a stray bullet during confrontations between security forces and an armed group in Butembo city, North Kivu province.⁷⁰⁷
- The Kivu Security Tracker and local media reported that police used tear gas and gun fire to disperse student protesters in Butembo city and territory, North Kivu province, on March 17, 2020. The police reportedly shot and killed one student. The students were allegedly carrying the body of the student killed on March 17, 2020 (see above).⁷⁰⁸
- The Kivu Security Tracker reported that on July 2, 2020, students from Semuliki University marched in Beni city, North Kivu province, marched to demand reopening of classes and an end to Covid-19 related closures. The police dispersed the protest and allegedly arrested 12 students.⁷⁰⁹

In 2021, GCPEA identified nine reported incidents of attacks on university students and personnel.⁷¹⁰ In September 2021, the Minister of Higher Education barred over 70 universities from teaching medicine, due to failure to meet established standards, which provoked student protests across the country, some of which were met with excessive force by police.⁷¹¹ Examples of attacks on higher education students and personnel included:

- Local media reported that a group of students from a number of higher education institutions demonstrated in Bukavu town, South Kivu province, on January 12, 2021. Police allegedly used teargas and live ammunition to disperse the students, who were demanding an end to Covid-19 related closures of universities.⁷¹²
- On July 24, 2021, police shot dead a theatre student who was filming a school project with a teaching assistant and classmates in Kinshasa, according to local media. While some reports claimed that the police arrested the teaching assistant for not having a permit for filming, others claimed that the dispute was over a Covid-19 mask mandate.⁷¹³
- In response to the incident of the killing of a student on July 24, 2021, students at the University of Kinshasa protested on July 26; police allegedly used excessive force against the students, injuring several, and arrested eight. The students reportedly damaged the campus and clashed with police.⁷¹⁴
- On September 24, 2021, students at the Official University of Rwenzori in Butembo, North Kivu province, protested against the Higher Education Ministry's suspension of the institutions' medical school. Police allegedly used teargas to disperse the demonstrators.⁷¹⁵

⁶²⁹ Human Rights Watch, *World Report 2021: Events of 2020*, Democratic Republic of Congo chapter, <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2021/country-chapters/democratic-republic-congo#36e273>.

⁶³⁰ "Authorities extend State of Siege and related measures through Sept. 2 in Ituri and North Kivu provinces, DRC," GardaWorld security alert, August 18, 2021.

⁶³¹ UNHCR, "UNHCR alarmed at armed atrocities in eastern DR Congo," UNHCR Briefing Note, February 16, 2021. Human Rights Watch, *World Report 2022: Events of 2021*, Democratic Republic of Congo chapter. "Democratic Republic of Congo," Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, March 1, 2022.

⁶³² United Nations Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO), "Report on violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Allied Democratic Forces armed group and by members of the defense and security forces in Beni (North Kivu), Irumu and Mambasa (Ituri) (Atteintes et violations des droits de l'homme et du droit international humanitaire commises par des combattants des Forces alliées démocratiques (ADF) et des membres des forces de défense et de sécurité congolaises dans les territoires de Beni (Nord-Kivu), d'Irumu et de Mambasa (Ituri))," UNJHRO, January 2021, p. 9.

⁶³³ "DR Congo: Massacres Persist Despite Martial Law," Human Rights Watch news release, September 15, 2021.

- ⁶³⁴ Boris Cheshirkov, “UNHCR alarmed by rising violence against displaced civilians in eastern DR Congo,” UNHCR statement, February 18, 2022.
- ⁶³⁵ UNICEF, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Humanitarian Situation Report No. 11, December 2020.
- ⁶³⁶ OCHA, Democratic Republic of Congo, accessed December 14, 2021.
- ⁶³⁷ For example: “Recent surge in violence in DRC’s Ituri province worsening already desperate situation for children,” UNICEF news release, April 26, 2021. “UN chief condemns deadly attacks targeting displaced people in DR Congo,” UN news release, June 2, 2021.
- ⁶³⁸ Jean B. Nachega et al., “Responding to the Challenge of the Dual COVID-19 and Ebola Epidemics in the Democratic Republic of Congo—Priorities for Achieving Control,” *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, August 2020, 103(2), pp. 597-602.
- ⁶³⁹ Rebeka Koch and Sarah Furhman, “*Sometimes We Don’t Even Eat*”: *How Conflict and COVID-19 Are Pushing Millions of People to the Brink* (Atlanta: Care, November 2020, p. 3.
- ⁶⁴⁰ “Democratic Republic of the Congo Humanitarian Situation Report No. 12,” UNICEF, December 2020, p. 1.
- ⁶⁴¹ United Nations Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,” S/2020/1274, March 18, 2021, para. 32.
- ⁶⁴² “République Démocratique du Congo Note d’informations humanitaires pour la province du Nord-Kivu,” OCHA, March 16, 2021, p. 2. “Nord-Kivu : une trentaine d’écoles de Beni ne fonctionne pas à cause de l’insécurité,” *Radio Okapi*, November 11, 2020. As cited in “Insecurity Insight Monthly News Brief - November 2020,” page 2.
- ⁶⁴³ Social Science Analytics Cell, *COVID-19 School closures in the DRC: Impact on the health, protection and education of children and youth* (Kinshasa: UNICEF, May 2021), p.4.
- ⁶⁴⁴ OCHA, “Democratic Republic of Congo - Humanitarian situation in the territory of Nyunzu - 8 October 2020 (République Démocratique du Congo - Situation humanitaire dans le territoire de Nyunzu - 8 Octobre 2020),” pp. 1,3. OCHA, “West and Central Africa: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (17 - 24 Nov 2020),” November 24, 2020.
- ⁶⁴⁵ “Volcano Eruption (Goma) Humanitarian Situation Report #5 (Volcano Eruption Goma) ,” UNICEF, June 7, 2021, p.1.
- ⁶⁴⁶ Augustin Sadiki, “Volcano adds to pandemic woes for DRC students,” *University World News*, June 22, 2021.
- ⁶⁴⁷ GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2020*, DRC chapter.
- ⁶⁴⁸ UN Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General on Children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,” S/2020/1030, October 19, 2020, para. 43.
- ⁶⁴⁹ MONUSCO / OHCHR, *UNJHRO Analysis of the human rights situation in 2020*, para. 64
- ⁶⁵⁰ UN Security Council, “United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Report of the Secretary-General,” S/2020/919, September 21, 2020, para. 14.
- ⁶⁵¹ “Democratic Republic of the Congo Humanitarian Situation Report No. 12,” UNICEF, December 2020, p. 2.
- ⁶⁵² OCHA, “Democratic Republic of Congo - Humanitarian situation in the territory of Nyunzu - 8 October 2020 (République Démocratique du Congo - Situation humanitaire dans le territoire de Nyunzu - 8 Octobre 2020),” p.3.
- ⁶⁵³ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Tanganyika and Haut Katanga – August 2020 (rapport mensuel de monitoring de protection Tanganyika et Haut Katanga - Août 2020), DRC Protection Cluster, September 2020, p. 3.
- ⁶⁵⁴ “Humanitarian bulletin for Bas-Uélé, Haut-Uélé, Ituri, and Tshopo provinces (Note d’informations humanitaire pour les provinces du Bas-Uélé, du Haut-Uélé, de l’Ituri et de la Tshopo),” OCHA, October 6, 2021, p. 8.
- ⁶⁵⁵ A full list of references can be found on GCPEA’s website, https://protectingeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/eua_2022_references.pdf
- ⁶⁵⁶ Kivu Security Tracker, Biloze Bishambuke Clash, Incident #6454 January 26, 2020.
- ⁶⁵⁷ UNICEF, “Fear and Flight: An uprooted generation of children at risk in Democratic Republic of Congo,” February 17, 2021, p. 44.
- ⁶⁵⁸ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Tanganyika and Haut Katanga – August 2020 (Rapport mensuel de monitoring de protection Tanganyika et Haut Katanga - Août 2020), DRC Protection Cluster, September 2020, p. 6.
- ⁶⁵⁹ Radio Okapi, “Tanganyika: phase of fires at schools in Lengwe (Tanganyika: cycle d’incendie des écoles dans la localité de Lengwe),” *Radio Okapi*, August 18, 2020.
- ⁶⁶⁰ 7 sur 7, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC18500 (data downloaded January 12, 2021).
- ⁶⁶¹ UNICEF, “UNICEF condemns the tragic deaths of finals students in North Kivu province,” UNICEF press release, August 28, 2020. AFP/VOA, “Armed men attack exam centre and kill two students in North-Kivu (Des hommes armés attaquent un centre d’examens et tuent deux écoliers au Nord-Kivu), VOA, August 28, 2020. Patrick Maki, “DRC: Bahati Kapasi, head of the militia that killed two students in Masisi is already being held by the FARDC (RDC : Bahati Kapasi, chef de la milice qui a tué des écoliers à Masisi s’était déjà rendu aux FARDC),” *Actualite.cd*, September 1, 2020.
- ⁶⁶² “North Kivu: three people, including one student, killed during an attack near an exam center in Masisi (Nord-Kivu : trois personnes tuées dont un écolier lors d’une attaque près d’un centre de passation du TENAFEP à Masisi),” *Radio Okapi*, August 28, 2020.
- ⁶⁶³ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Ituri October 2021 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Ituri Octobre 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR, November 2020, p. 9.
- ⁶⁶⁴ OCHA, Humanitarian Needs Overview: Democratic Republic of Congo 2022 (Aperçu des besoins humanitaires: République Démocratique du Congo 2022), OCHA, December 2021, p. 97.
- ⁶⁶⁵ Information received from a UN respondent via email on April 21, 2022.
- ⁶⁶⁶ “Child Protection Sub-Cluster Information Brief March-May 2021 (Bulletin d’information sous cluster protection de l’enfance RDC (GTPE) Mars – Mai 2021),” DRC Protection Cluster, June 2021, p. 4.

- ⁶⁶⁷ “Quarterly Bulletin 2021: Factsheet/Q1 2021 - January 1 to March 31 2021 (Bulletin Trimestriel 2021: Factsheet/Premier Trimstre 2021 - du 1er Janvier au 31 Mars 2021),” DRC Education Cluster.
- ⁶⁶⁸ UN, “DR Congo: ‘Relentless’ violence worsening plight of children in Ituri province,” UN News, April 26, 2021.
- ⁶⁶⁹ A full list of references can be found on GCPEA’s website, https://protectingeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/eua_2022_references.pdf
- ⁶⁷⁰ “Multisectoral Rapid Evaluation Report (Rapport de l’Evaluation Rapide Multisectorielle),” Kasai Regional Intercluster, February 22, 2021, pp. 18-20.
- ⁶⁷¹ “Democratic Republic of the Congo: Humanitarian Situation Report for the Kasai Region (République Démocratique du Congo: Note d’informations humanitaires pour la Région du Kasai),” OCHA, August 10, 2021, p. 1. *Radio Okapi*; *BBC News*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC21570 (data downloaded June 23, 2021). Sosthène Kambidi, “DRC: several injured and over 300 homes burned in communal clashes in Dimbelenge (Kasai Central) (RDC : plusieurs blessés et plus de 300 maisons incendiées dans les affrontements communautaires à Dimbelenge (Kasai Central)),” *Actualite*, June 11, 2021.
- ⁶⁷² “Ituri: suspension of classes in a school in Mungwalu after a shell was found (Ituri : suspension des cours dans une école de Mungwalu à la suite de la présence d’un obus),” *Radio Okapi*, November 26, 2021. *Radio Okapi*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC22584.
- ⁶⁷³ GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2020*, DRC chapter.
- ⁶⁷⁴ A full list of references can be found on GCPEA’s website, https://protectingeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/eua_2022_references.pdf
- ⁶⁷⁵ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Nord Kivu October 2021 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu Octobre 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR, November 2020, p. 3.
- ⁶⁷⁶ *La Actualité*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC18420 (data downloaded January 12, 2021). Justin Mwmba, “Sud-Kivu: police use teargas to disperse teachers’ march in Bukavu (Sud-Kivu : la police a dispersé à coups de gaz lacrymogène une marche des enseignants à Bukavu),” *Actualite.cd*, August 10, 2020. Ernest Muhero, “Back to school in Bukavu despite discontent of some teachers (Rentrée scolaire à Bukavu malgré la grogne de certains enseignants),” *VOA*, August 11, 2020.
- ⁶⁷⁷ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Ituri October 2021 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Ituri Octobre 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR, November 2020, p. 13.
- ⁶⁷⁸ *7 sur 7*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC19475. Alain Saveur Makoba, “Sankuru: Teargas to disperse students who were protesting against school fee increase (Sankuru : Gaz lacrymogènes pour disperser des élèves qui manifestent contre la majoration des frais scolaires),” *7 Sur 7*, November 27, 2020. Junior Merveille Mpandanjila, “Sankuru: police use teargas to disperse primary and secondary school children who were protesting against fee increase (Sankuru : la police disperse les élèves du primaire et secondaire qui manifestaient contre la hausse des frais à coups de gaz lacrymogène),” *Media Congo*, November 28, 2020.
- ⁶⁷⁹ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu December 2020 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu December 2020),” Intersos and UNHCR, January 2021, p. 3.
- ⁶⁸⁰ A full list of references can be found on GCPEA’s website, https://protectingeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/eua_2022_references.pdf
- ⁶⁸¹ *Bunia Actualite*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC20012 (data downloaded February 15, 2021). Marcus Jean Loika, “Djugu: 4 teachers from the Bandi school escape from an attack by Zaire militiamen in Lombana (Djugu: 4 enseignants de l’école Bandi échappent à une attaque des miliciens Zaire à Lombana),” *Bunia Actualite*, January 15, 2021.
- ⁶⁸² *SOS Medias*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC20283. Joelle Kamikazi, “Lusenda (DRC): teacher strike suppressed (Lusenda (RDC) : une manifestation des enseignants étouffée),” *SOS Medias*, February 11, 2021.
- ⁶⁸³ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu March 2021 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu Mars 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR, March 2021, p. 4.
- ⁶⁸⁴ “Masisi: a student killed by a soldier for not having paid 0.25 USD at the barrier (Masisi : un élève tué par un militaire pour n’avoir pas payé 0.25 USD à la barrière),” *Radio Okapi*, July 31, 2021. *Actu30*; *Actualite*; *Radio Okapi*; *7 Sur 7*; *La Libre Afrique*; *Mediacongo.net*; *La Prunelle*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC22087. « Eastern DRC: schoolgirl killed at army roadblock, six soldiers arrested (Est de la RDC: une écolière tuée à un barrage de l’armée, six militaires arrêtés),” *Actualite.CD*, August 1, 2021.
- ⁶⁸⁵ GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2020*, DRC chapter. See also: UN General Assembly and Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict,” A/74/845-S/2020/525, June 9, 2020, para. 61.
- ⁶⁸⁶ OCHA, “Democratic Republic of Congo - Humanitarian situation in Nyunzu - 8 October 2020 (République Démocratique du Congo - Situation humanitaire dans le territoire de Nyunzu - 8 Octobre 2020),” p. 3.
- ⁶⁸⁷ UN Security Council, “Children and armed conflict: Report of the Secretary-General,” A/75/873-S/2021/437, May 6, 2021, para. 54.
- ⁶⁸⁸ *Radio Okapi*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC18997 (data downloaded January 12, 2021). *Radio Okapi*, “Lubero: ‘Congo Ebebi’ rebels at large after failed stationing (Lubero : des rebelles ‘Congo Ebebi’ en errance après un cantonnement raté),” *Radio Okapi*, October 7, 2020.
- ⁶⁸⁹ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu December 2020 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu December 2020),” Intersos and UNHCR, January 2021, p. 3.
- ⁶⁹⁰ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu March 2021 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu Mars 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR, March 2021, p. 2.
- ⁶⁹¹ “Democratic Republic of Congo - Ituri: Humanitarian snapshot January-June 2021 (Republique Democratique du Congo Aperçu de la situation humanitaire - janvier à juin 2021),” OCHA, July 2021.
- ⁶⁹² “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Sud-Kivu/Maniema October 2021 (Rapport mensuel de protection Sud Kivu/Maniema Octobre 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR - Protection Cluster, December 1, 2021, p. 2.

- ⁶⁹³ “Note d’information humanitaire pour les provinces du Haut-Katanga, du Haut Lomami, du Lualaba et du Tanganyika,” OCHA, August 9, 2021, p. 1.
- ⁶⁹⁴ Information received from a UN respondent via email on April 21, 2022.
- ⁶⁹⁵ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu March 2021 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu Mars 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR, March 2021, p. 3.
- ⁶⁹⁶ “Democratic Republic of Congo - Ituri: Humanitarian snapshot January-June 2021 (Republique Democratique du Congo Aperçu de la situation humanitaire - janvier à juin 2021),” OCHA, July 2021.
- ⁶⁹⁷ “Note d’information humanitaire pour les provinces du Haut-Katanga, du Haut Lomami, du Lualaba et du Tanganyika,” OCHA, August 9, 2021, p. 1.
- ⁶⁹⁸ “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report Sud-Kivu/Maniema October 2021 (Rapport mensuel de protection Sud Kivu/Maniema Octobre 2021),” Intersos and UNHCR - Protection Cluster, December 1, 2021, p. 2.
- ⁶⁹⁹ GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2020*, DRC chapter.
- ⁷⁰⁰ AFP; *Actualite*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC18597. AFP, “DR Congo attackers disrupt school final exams, rape students,” *Macau Business News*, September 1, 2020.
- ⁷⁰¹ INTERSOS, UNHCR, “Monthly monitoring report on protection in North Kivu | October 2020 (Rapport mensuel de monitoring de protection Nord Kivu | Octobre 2020),” October 31, 2020, p. 3.
- ⁷⁰² “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu December 2020 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu December 2020),” Intersos and UNHCR, January 2021, p. 3.
- ⁷⁰³ Intersos and UNHCR, “Monthly Protection Monitoring Report North Kivu December 2020 (Rapport mensuel du monitoring de protection Nord Kivu December 2020),” January 2021, p. 3.
- ⁷⁰⁴ UN Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General on Children and armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,” S/2020/1030, October 19, 2020, para. 25.
- ⁷⁰⁵ “2020 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Democratic Republic of Congo,” United States Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, March 30, 2021.
- ⁷⁰⁶ GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2020*, DRC chapter.
- ⁷⁰⁷ *7 Sur 7; Actualite*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC16753. *Actualite*, “North Kivu: A soldier sentenced to death for the killing of a student in Butembo (Nord-Kivu : Un militaire condamné à mort pour meurtre d’un étudiant à Butembo),” *Actualite*, March 18, 2020. Claude Sengenya, “Nord-Kivu : vives tensions à Butembo après l’assassinat d’un étudiant,” *Actualité.cd*, March 17, 2020.
- ⁷⁰⁸ Kivu Security Tracker, PNC (Gov. Police) Violent Death, Incident #13441 March 17, 2020.. Cedrick Sadiki Mbala “North-Kivu/Butembo: a student killed, activities paralysed (Nord-Kivu/Butembo : un étudiant tué, les activités paralysées),” *Congo Profond*, March 17, 2020. Radio Okapi, “Butembo: tension after student shot and killed (Butembo : tension après la mort par balle d’un étudiant),” *Radio Okapi*, March 17, 2020.
- ⁷⁰⁹ Kivu Security Tracker, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC17728. Kivu Security Tracker, PNC (Gov. Police), Incident #14188 July 2, 2020.
- ⁷¹⁰ A full list of references can be found on GCPEA’s website, https://protectingeducation.org/wp-content/uploads/eua_2022_references.pdf
- ⁷¹¹ Augustin Sadiki, “Dozens of universities have to stop their medical training,” *University World News*, September 30, 2021. “Butembo: police disperse the march of UOR students opposed to the closure of the faculty of medicine (Butembo : la police disperse la marche des étudiants de l’UOR, opposés à la fermeture de la faculté de médecine),” *Radio Okapi*, September 24, 2021.
- ⁷¹² Bertin Bulonza, “South Kivu: student march dispersed by police in Bukavu (Sud-Kivu: la marche des étudiants dispersée par la police à Bukavu),” *La Prunelle*, January 12, 2021. *La Prunelle; Radio Okapi; Actualite*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC19981.
- ⁷¹³ Honoré Shama Kwete, “DRC: Anger and emotion after the death of a student in the cinema, mistakenly shot by the police (RDC : Colère et émotion après le meurtre d’un étudiant en cinéma, abattu par erreur par la police),” *Koaci*, July 26, 2021. “DRC: student protest following the death of fellow student killed by a police officer (RDC : manifestation des étudiants après la mort de leur camarade tué par un policier),” *Actualite.cd*, July 26, 2021. Scholars at Risk, Academic Freedom Monitor, University of Kinshasa, July 24, 2021. RFI, Sonia Rolley, “DRC: tension in Kinshasa after the death of a student killed by a police officer (RDC: tension à Kinshasa après la mort d’un étudiant tué par un policier),” *RFI*, July 26, 2021. *Actualite.cd* and AFP, “DRC: student protest after the death of a student killed by a police officer (RDC : manifestation des étudiants après la mort de leur camarade tué par un policier),” *Actualite.cd*, July 26, 2021. *Twitter; 7 Sur 7; La Libre Afrique; Actualite; RFI; Politico (DRC)*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC21982.
- ⁷¹⁴ Honoré Shama Kwete, “DRC: Anger and emotion after the death of a student in the cinema, mistakenly shot by the police (RDC : Colère et émotion après le meurtre d’un étudiant en cinéma, abattu par erreur par la police),” *Koaci*, July 26, 2021. “DRC: student protest following the death of fellow student killed by a police officer (RDC : manifestation des étudiants après la mort de leur camarade tué par un policier),” *Actualite.cd*, July 26, 2021. Scholars at Risk, Academic Freedom Monitor, University of Kinshasa, July 24, 2021. RFI, Sonia Rolley, “DRC: tension in Kinshasa after the death of a student killed by a police officer (RDC: tension à Kinshasa après la mort d’un étudiant tué par un policier),” *RFI*, July 26, 2021. *Actualite.cd* and AFP, “DRC: student protest after the death of a student killed by a police officer (RDC : manifestation des étudiants après la mort de leur camarade tué par un policier),” *Actualite.cd*, July 26, 2021. *Twitter; 7 Sur 7; La Libre Afrique; Actualite; RFI; Politico (DRC)*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC21982.
- ⁷¹⁵ *Radio Okapi*, as cited in ACLED, Event ID DRC23382 (data downloaded December 7, 2021). “Butembo: police disperse the UOR student protest, opposed to the closure of the faculty of medicine (Butembo : la police disperse la marche des étudiants de l’UOR, opposés à la fermeture de la faculté de médecine),” *Radio Okapi*, September 24, 2021.