



Tell Burkina Faso to Protect Girls from Forced Marriage

The widespread practice of early and forced marriage in Burkina Faso, particularly in the Sahel region, is deeply concerning. Early and forced marriage is banned under the country’s laws, as well as under international and regional human rights treaties to which Burkina Faso is party.

But in practice, studies have shown that at least one third of girls in Burkina Faso are married before the age of 18, with far-reaching consequences for their health, safety and human rights.

We urge the Minister of Justice to:

- Enforce and ensure the application of national laws and international obligations banning forced and early marriage.
- Guarantee protection as well as shelter and support services for victims of early and forced marriages.
- Raise awareness in the population about the ban on forced and early marriage, and also about where girls can find assistance if they are at risk.

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