

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Preamble: The States Parties to the present Convention, ... [in] recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world, ... Recognizing that the United Nations has, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenants on Human Rights, proclaimed and agreed that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, ... Recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding, Considering that the child should be fully prepared to live an individual life in society, and brought up in the spirit of the ideals proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, and in particular in the spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity, ... Taking due account of the importance of the traditions and cultural values of each people for the protection and harmonious development of the child, Recognizing the importance of international co-operation for improving the living conditions of children in every country, in particular in the developing countries, Have agreed as follows:

Article 1: Definition of a Child

Article 2: Freedom from Discrimination

Article 3: Protection of Best Interests

Article 4: State Implementation of Rights

Article 5: Respect for Parental Guidance and Evolving Capacities

Article 6: Right to Survival and Development

Article 7: Right to Name and Nationality

Article 8: Right to Preservation of Identity

Article 9: Freedom from Separation from Parents

Article 10: Obligation for Family Reunification

Article 11: Freedom from Illegal Transfer Abroad

Articles 12 and 13: Freedom of Opinion and Expression

Article 14: Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion

Article 15: Freedom of Association

Article 16: Freedom of Privacy

Article 17: Freedom of Information

Article 18: Recognition of Parental Responsibilities

Article 19: Protection from Abuse and Neglect

Article 20: Protection of Children Without Family

Article 21: Adoption

Article 22: Rights of Refugee Children

Article 23: Rights of Disabled Children

Article 24: Right to Health and Health Services

Article 25: Right to Periodic Review of Placement

Article 26: Right to Social Security

Article 27: Right to an Adequate Standard of Living

Articles 28 and 29: Right to Education

Article 30: Right to Cultural Identity

Article 31: Right to Rest, Leisure, Recreation and Cultural Activities

Article 32: Protection from Economic Exploitation and Dangerous Labor

Article 33: Protection from Drug Abuse

Article 34: Protection from Sexual Exploitation

Articles 35 and 36: Freedom from Slavery and Other Forms of Exploitation

Article 37: Freedom from Torture and Deprivation of Liberty

Article 38: Protection from Armed Conflicts

Article 39: Right to Rehabilitative Care

Article 40: Protection Within the Juvenile Justice System

Article 41: Respect for Higher Standards

Articles 42-54: Implementation of Above Articles

Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict

Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

Optional Protocol on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure