

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	15 June 1994	<p>CRC/C/IRQ/CO/2-4 4 February 2015</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fIRQ%2fCO%2f2-4&Lang=en</p> <p>IV. Main areas of concern and recommendations</p> <p>A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44, para. 6, of the Convention)</p> <p>The Committee's previous recommendations</p> <p>7. The Committee urges the State party to take all necessary measures to address its previous recommendations (CRC/C/15/Add.94 of 1998) that have not been implemented or sufficiently implemented and, in particular, reiterates its recommendations to the State party to:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(d) Review the system of data collection with a view to incorporating all the areas covered by the Convention. Such a system should include all children, with specific emphasis on those in vulnerable situations, including those who are victims of abuse or ill-treatment, child workers, children involved with the administration of juvenile justice, the girl child, children of single-parent families and children born out of wedlock, abandoned and/or institutionalized children, and children with disabilities (para. 12);</p> <p>...</p>

		<p>D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24, para.3, 28, para. 2, 34, 37 (a) and 39)</p> <p>Corporal punishment</p> <p>38. The Committee is concerned that children are routinely subjected to corporal punishment in the State party and that corporal punishment remains lawful in schools, in alternative care settings, and that while it is prohibited in detention and prison facilities, it is not explicitly prohibited in other institutions accommodating children in conflict with the law, including the Surveillance Centre, the Rehabilitation School for Preadolescents, the Rehabilitation Centre for Adolescents and the Juvenile Rehabilitation Centre. The Committee furthermore notes with concern that corporal punishment remains lawful in the home and that a husband has the legal right to discipline his wife by beating according to article 41 of the Penal Code (Act No. 111 (1969)).</p> <p>39. With reference to general comment No. 8 (2006) on protection from corporal punishment, the Committee urges the State party to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings and to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Ensure that laws prohibiting corporal punishment are effectively implemented and that legal proceedings are promptly initiated and systematically conducted against those responsible of mistreating children; and (b) Introduce sustained public education, awareness-raising and social mobilization programmes, involving children, families, communities and religious leaders, on both the physical and psychological harmful effects of corporal punishment with a view to changing the attitude towards this practice and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline. <p>E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (paras. 1 and 2), 20-21, 25 and 27 (para. 4))</p> <p>Family environment</p> <p>50. The Committee is concerned that polygamy and repudiation remain legal in the State party, which is contrary to the dignity of women and girls and which negatively affects their children. The Committee is particularly concerned that:</p>
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		<p>(a) Negative gender stereotypes persist concerning the tasks and roles of women and girls, especially in the family and that widowed and divorced women face severe discrimination, impacting on their children, including discrimination in obtaining official documents and accessing government aid; and</p> <p>(b) Mothers are considered as the “physical” but not the legal custodian of their children and that women are granted custody only until the child is 10 years of age with rare exceptions.</p> <p>51. The Committee urges the State party to ensure that all provisions that discriminate against women and hence negatively impact on their children, such as those which authorize polygamy and repudiation, be repealed without delay. The Committee furthermore calls upon the State party to:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that mothers and fathers equally share the legal responsibility for their children in accordance with article 18, paragraph 1, of the Convention; and</p> <p>(b) Eliminate all forms of discrimination against single women, including widows and divorced women, and provide them and their children with increased protection. The Committee also urges the State party to provide female heads of households with sufficient financial support, and ensure their access to health and social security.</p> <p>Children deprived of a family environment</p> <p>52. The Committee is extremely concerned about the significant number of children, who have been forcibly separated from their parents during displacement, or because their parents have been forced to leave them with the so-called ISIL under threat of death of the child. The Committee is also concerned about the high number of children who have lost their families during the many years of conflict and the lack of measures and strategies to provide these children with protection and alternative care, in particular foster care.</p> <p>53. The Committee recommends that the State party as a matter of urgency:</p> <p>(a) take all necessary measures to free children who have been captured by the so-called ISIL, reunite them with their family and provide them with all necessary physical and psychological health care;</p> <p>(b) Strengthen its alternative care programme, particularly foster care, and ensure that adequate human, technical and financial resources are allocated to alternative care centres and</p>
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		<p>relevant child protection services, in order to facilitate the rehabilitation and social reintegration of children resident therein to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p>54. The Committee is concerned about the consequences of the criminalization of sexual relations outside of marriage by article 377 of the Penal Code (Act No. 111 (1969)), which bears the danger of abandonment or killing of babies born out of these relations. The Committee is also deeply concerned at the social rejection and stigmatization of single mothers in the State party, and at the serious consequences of their social rejection on their children.</p> <p>55. The Committee urges the State party to repeal article 377 of the Penal Code and to prevent abandonment or killing of children born out of wedlock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Provide unmarried mothers with the necessary support to enable them to take care of their children; (b) Develop and implement a policy to protect the rights of pregnant teenagers, adolescent mothers and their children; (c) Combat and eliminate the stigma attached to out-of-wedlock pregnancy; and (d) Foster responsible parenthood and sexual behaviour, with particular attention to awareness-raising among boys and men. <p>H. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 (b)-(d), 38, 39 and 40)</p> <p>Children in street situations</p> <p>82. The Committee is very concerned about the high number of children, including a high rate of internally displaced children, living and/or working in the streets, where they are exposed to various crimes, including sexual violence and abuse, drugs as well as used by criminal gangs.</p> <p>83. The Committee recommends that the State party develop a national strategy to support children in street situations and ensure their access to adequate nutrition, clothing, housing and educational opportunities, including vocational and life-skill training. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the State party:</p>
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		<p>(a) Promote and implement programmes aimed at the physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of children in street situations, and facilitate, whenever possible, reunification with their families;</p> <p>(b) Ensure the access of children in street situations to drug dependence treatment, and place particular focus on the protection of children in street situations from sexual exploitation and abuse; and</p> <p>(c) Collaborate with NGOs working with children in street situations and children themselves and seek technical assistance from, among others, UNICEF.</p> <p>Sale, trafficking and abduction</p> <p>84. The Committee is deeply concerned that internal displacement and sectarian violence have also led to a significant increase of trafficking, with many children being trafficked, in particular for the purpose of sexual exploitation and domestic servitude, but also for the purpose of forced labour or services, slavery or similar practices and servitude, both within the country as well as to Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Iran, Yemen, and Saudi Arabia. The Committee is also particularly concerned about reports of children being trafficked from orphanages by employees for the purpose of forced prostitution.</p> <p>85. The Committee urges the State party to combat trafficking in children for sexual and other exploitative purpose, and to:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that perpetrators are systematically prosecuted and punished and that children who have become victims of trafficking are never treated as criminals;</p> <p>(b) Implement appropriate policies and programmes for the physical and mental recovery of child victims as well as for their social reintegration;</p> <p>(c) Carry out awareness-raising activities in order to make both children and families aware of the dangers of both internal and external trafficking and on protection measures, and encourage victims and witnesses to report;</p> <p>(d) Continue and strengthen international cooperation in order to address the root causes of sale and trafficking of children.</p>
Country Report		

		CRC/C/IRQ/2-4 http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fIRQ%2f2-4&Lang=en
OPSC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRC/C/OPSC/IRQ/CO/1	24 June 2008	4 February 2015 http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOPSC%2fIRQ%2fCO%2f1&Lang=en
OPAC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRC/C/OPAC/IRQ/CO/1	24 June 2008	4 February 2015 http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOPAC%2fIRQ%2fCO%2f1&Lang=en V. Prohibition and related matters Recruitment and use of children by non-State armed groups 31. The Committee is seriously concerned about the large number of children recruited by non-State armed groups, in particular by the so-called ISIL and Al Qaida in Iraq, especially children in vulnerable situations such as refugee children, children with disabilities, children who have lost their parents, children in street situations, and children from Syria and Turkey, as well as from other States, who enter the State party via the Turkish border. The Committee expresses its deepest concern about: ...

		<p>32. The Committee strongly urges the State party to take all necessary measures to eliminate all forms of recruitment and use of children and in particular to:</p> <p>(a) Ensure that all forms of child recruitment or use of children in armed conflict, and any form of aiding and abetting recruitment and use, including by kidnapping or sale, be thoroughly investigated, prosecuted and punished;</p> <p>Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration</p> <p>35. The Committee notes with gravest concern that a significant number of children remain under the control of armed groups, where they are furthermore subjected to a variety of violations and the Convention and the Optional Protocols.</p> <p>36. The Committee urges the State party to secure the release and demobilization of all child abductees and combatants. The Committee calls upon the State party to develop as quickly as possible a long-term and comprehensive programme of assistance, rehabilitation, reintegration and reconciliation, that takes into account, in particular, specific needs of children in vulnerable situations;</p>
ICCPR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	25 Jan 1971	
ICESCR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	25 Jan 1971	
CEDAW	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	13 Aug 1986	
CRPD	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	20 March 2013	

UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	3 Nov 2014	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/IQSession20.aspx
Hague Intercountry Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile
	N/A	N/A

Acronyms and Abbreviations:

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child/Committee on the Rights of the Child
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OPAC to CRC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
OPSC to CRC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
UN	United Nations
UPR	Universal Periodic Review