

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRC/C/CRI/CO/4	21 Aug 1990	CRC/C/CRI/CO/5-6
		7 February 2020
		https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/ layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fCRI%2
		fCO%2f5-6⟪=en
		III. Main areas of concern and recommendations
		5. The Committee reminds the State party of the indivisibility and interdependence of all the rights enshrined in the Convention and emphasizes the importance of all the recommendations contained in the present concluding observations. The Committee would like to draw the State party's attention to the recommendations concerning the following areas, in respect of which urgent measures must be taken: dissemination, awareness-raising and training (para. 15), non-discrimination (para. 17), right to life, survival and development (para. 20), violence against children, particularly abuse and neglect (para. 27), gender-based violence and sexual abuse (para. 29), and children deprived of a family environment (para. 33).
		D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)
		Torture and other cruel or degrading treatment or punishment
		24. Recalling the Committee's previous concluding observations (para. 44), the Committee recommends that the State party:
		 (b) Adopt measures to improve infrastructure and conditions of detention in Zurquí and Ofelia Vicenzi juvenile centers, and take measures to ensure effective reintegration of children back into the community; (c) Ensure enforcement of legislation prohibiting corporal punishment, collective sanctions and isolation, and prevent practices of prohibition of family visits to children deprived of



liberty; (d) Reinforce independent child-sensitive complaint mechanisms, as well as the availability of reparations and redress in cases of violence against children in detention centers; (e) Strengthen the monitoring and preventive mechanism of places of detention of children, ensuring periodicity of visits and safeguards to protect integrity of victims and witnesses of violence, taking into account the recommendations issued by the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture relating to the national preventive mechanism, during its visit to Costa Rica undertaken from 3 to 14 March 2019 (CAT/OP/CRI/RONPM/1).
Violence, abuse, and neglect
 26. The Committee is deeply concerned about: (a) The prevalence of different forms of violence against children, such as psychological, physical and sexual violence, including through the Internet, and the limited coverage of early intervention centers to address the rights of children facing all forms of violence; (b) Harassment and bullying experienced by children in schools and the community, on the basis of their sex orientation or gender identity; (c) The absence of a comprehensive data collection system on violence against children and uneven criteria in existing monitoring systems; (d) The limited information about the type of reparations, including compensation for children victims of all forms of violence, including psychological violence.
 27. With reference to its general comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, and taking note of target 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals on ending all forms of violence against children, the Committee urges the State party to: (a) Strengthen coordination among State party authorities to implement policies for the prevention of violence against children, and adopt indicators to monitor progress achieved in prevention of violence and in combating factors underpinning violence against children at home, in school and in society; (b) Revitalize and strengthen the Parenting Academy initiative concerning positive parenting and prevention of violence, and ensure that early intervention centers are locally accessible across all regions, and municipalities, and have capacity to implement and provide children with comprehensive support;



 (c) Launch nation-wide communication strategies to promote respect for children's rights, and their right to be free of violence; (d) Strengthen its efforts to combat cyberbullying and harassment against LGBTI children and ensuring child-friendly accessible complaint mechanisms in schools, or through electronic platforms safeguarding privacy of child victims; (e) Ensure unified data collection concerning violence against children, disaggregated by age, sex, disability, geographical location, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic and national origin and socioeconomic background, and use such data as the basis of public policies; (f) Ensure that children facing violence are provided with appropriate remedies and redress, responsive to their age, gender and cultural background, including psychosocial counselling. The State party should prevent institutionalization of children victims of violence, ensuring that shelters are of a temporary character and conducive to a prompt recovery and reintegration of children.
E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (1) and (2), 20, 21, 25 and 27 (4))
Children deprived of a family environment
 32. The Committee welcomes measures taken by the State party to support foster families. However, it is concerned about: (a) The high number of children institutionalized, and increasing number of children in institutions (from 7,542 children in 2016 to 10,588 children in 2018); (b) The persistence of institutionalization affecting children in situations of vulnerability, including children with disabilities, indigenous children, and those in situations of poverty; (c) Prejudices in society and among public authorities and service providers underpinning institutionalization, and limited technical resources and absence of transition programs, which prevent deinstitutionalization of children.
33. Recalling its previous concluding observations (para. 50), the Committee recommends that the State party:



 (a) Prioritize measures to strengthen support and facilitate family-based care for children, and its system of foster care for children who cannot stay with their families; (b) Phase out institutionalization and adopt a strategy and a concrete plan of action for deinstitutionalization, including systemic transformation of the child care, welfare and protection systems. Budgets should be redirected to prevent the separation of children from their parents and to support care for children in family environments; (c) Allocate adequate human, technical and financial resources for deinstitutionalization; set up a time frame, benchmarks, targets and monitoring indicators; and seek the involvement of children's organizations and technical assistance from the United Nations and other international cooperation agencies when required; (d) Undertake public campaigns, train and build the capacity of public authorities and civil society, including service providers, with the aim to address prejudices, and attitudinal barriers preventing deinstitutionalization, and promote the right of children to grow-up in a family environment.
Adoption
34. The Committee, recalling its previous concluding observations (para. 52) recommends that the State party eradicate direct adoptions, and implement effectively legislation regulating adoptions and monitoring mechanisms by the judiciary. The State party should strengthen reviews of procedures of adoption, and mechanisms to monitor and restrict international adoptions, in line with article 21 of the Convention.
F. Children with disabilities (art. 23) 35.
Noting the measures taken by the State party to implement inclusive education, including the development of resource centers and universal design in education teaching methods, and with reference to its general comment No. 9 (2006) on the rights of children with disabilities, the Committee recommends that the State party: (a) Ensure that legislation on children's rights and gender equality legislation and public policies are responsive to and include the rights of children with disabilities, and promote participation of children with disabilities in public decision-making;



(b) Reinforce measures to identify instances of violence, abuse and neglect of children with disabilities, including those in care centers and psychiatric hospitals, and establish accessible and child-friendly reporting channels for affected children;
(c) Ensure that that all cases of violence, including sexual violence, against children with
disabilities, are systematically registered by the authorities, and provide children with adequate
access to redress, including psychosocial counselling, and support services;
(d) Continue to phase out institutionalization of children with disabilities in psychiatric institutions;
(e) Strengthen measures to promote inclusion of children with disabilities in the community,
including through personal assistance, and ensure their equal access to all services in the
community, including education, health, cultural places, leisure and recreation, and tourism;
(f) Take measures to improve accessible health care services for children with disabilities, including
sexual and reproductive health, allocate financial resources to reinforce accessibility to medical
infrastructure, and require private service providers to implement universal design of equipment
and accessible information to children with disabilities in the health system.
I. Special Protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37 (b)-(d) and 38-40)
Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children
43. The Committee commends the State party's adoption of the Comprehensive Migration Policy for the
period 2020-2023 and its protocols providing for identification and protection of migrant children. With
reference to joint general comments No. 3 and No. 4 (2017) of the Committee on the Protection of the
Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families / No. 22 and No. 23 (2017) of the Committee
on the Rights of the Child on the human rights of children in the context of international migration, the
Committee recommends that the State party:
(a) Ensure that public authorities in charge of asylum procedures comply with the right of the child
to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration in all decisions related to the
transfer of any asylum-seeking or refugee children from the State party;
(b) Ensure comprehensive referral and case management frameworks for services to children,
including in the field of education, health, the police and justice sector, including the provision of
free legal aid, for unaccompanied and separated children, and appropriate conditions in referral



		centers, including CATEM centers; (c) Ensure that the private and public schools and universities facilitate access to education of asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children, in line with legislation and that lack of documents is not an obstacle or cause of rejection at school; (d) Expedite all procedures involving unaccompanied, asylum seeking and refugee children and ensure that these fully comply with the Convention. Country Report
		CRC/C/CRI/5-6
		28 March 2019
		https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fCRI%2 f5-6⟪=en
OPSC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRC/C/OPSC/CRI/CO/1	9 April 2002	2 May 2007
		Concluding Observations
OPAC to CRC	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
CRC/C/OPAC/CRI/CO/1	24 Jan 2003	1 May 2007
		Concluding Observations
ICCPR	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	



CCPR/C/CRI/CO/5	29 Nov 1968	16 November 2007
		Concluding Observations
		Concluding Observations
ICESCR	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
CESCR/CRI/CO/4	29 Nov 1968	4 January 208
		Concluding Observations
CEDAW	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
CEDAW/C/CRI/CO/5-6	4 April 1986	
CRPD	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
CRPD/C/CRI/CO/1	1 Oct 2008	11 May 2014
		http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G14/026/80/PDF/G1402680.pdf?OpenElement
UPR	Date of	Link to Page
	Consideration	
	13 May 2019	https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/CRIndex.aspx
Hague Intercountry	Ratification	Link to Country Profile
Adoption	Date	
	30 Oct 1995	https://www.hcch.net/en/states/hcch-members/details1/?sid=91



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
ICCRP	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
ICESCR OPAC to CRC OPSC to CRC UN	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography United Nations