

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	05 Sep 1991	CRC/C/ITA/CO/5-6 28 February 2019
		https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fITA%2fCO%2f5-6⟪=en
		III. Main areas of concern and recommendations
		C. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12)
		Best interests of the child
		16. Recognizing the State party's efforts to integrate the principle of the best interests of the child into its legislation, and with reference to the Committee's general comment No. 14 (2013) on the right of the child to have his or her best interests taken as a primary consideration, the Committee recommends that the State party:
		(a) Strengthen its efforts to ensure that the principle of the best interests of the child is appropriately integrated and consistently interpreted and applied in all regions across the country in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and decisions and in all policies, programmes and projects that are relevant to and have an impact on children, in particular in relation to unaccompanied or separated children;
		(b) Develop procedures and criteria to provide guidance to all relevant professionals for determining the best interests of the child in every area and for giving the best interests of the child due weight as a primary consideration, in particular in relation to unaccompanied or separated children having arrived in the State party;
		(c) Disseminate to professionals working with and for children and the public at large, in particular children in a child-friendly manner, the Committee's general comment No. 14.



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Respect for the views of the child

- 17. While welcoming the introduction into legislation of the right of the child to be heard in selected settings, and reiterating its previous recommendations (CRC/C/ITA/CO/3-4, para. 27), with reference to its general comment No. 12 (2009) on the right of the child to be heard, the Committee recommends that the State party:
 - (a) Introduce a comprehensive legal provision establishing the right of the child to be heard without any discrimination due to age, disability or any other circumstance, both in the family environment and in any administrative, judicial or mediation procedure in which the child is affected, and ensure that the child's opinion is taken into account in accordance with the child's age and maturity, and adopt national uniform standard implementing regulations and guidelines accordingly, in particular in relation to all decisions concerning unaccompanied or separated children having arrived in the State party;

F. 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

- 24. The Committee welcomes the adoption of Law No. 173/2015, amending Law No. 184/1983 on the right of the child to a family and relating to the right of the child in foster care to maintain an affective relationship with the foster parent even after the end of foster care, and of various national guidelines in this area and the surveys conducted on children deprived of a family environment. Recalling its previous recommendations (CRC/C/ITA/CO/3-4, para. 40) and drawing the State party's attention to the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children (General Assembly resolution 64/142, annex), the Committee recommends that the State party:
 - (a) Continue to review its policies on alternative care for children deprived of a family environment to reduce reliability on civil society organizations, including faith-based organizations, with a view to developing a more integrated, child rightsbased and accountable system that integrates the



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traditional care provided by the extended family, with a particular focus on the best interests of the child;

- (b) Ensure that the national guidelines are effectively and appropriately applied on an equal basis and to the same extent in different regions across the country, taking into account that there are different family-type forms of placement of children in different regions;
- (c) Ensure that the removal of children, including those with disabilities, from a family is permitted only after a careful assessment of best interests in each individual case, and is effectively monitored;
- (d) Take measures to expand the system of foster care for children who cannot stay with their families with a view to go beyond the institutionalization of children;
- (e) Establish a national register of children deprived of a family environment, based on uniform and clear criteria across the entire territory of the State party.

Adoption

- 25. With reference to its previous recommendations (CRC/C/ITA/CO/3-4, para. 42), the Committee recommends that the State party:
 - (a) Collect, in a systematic and ongoing manner, disaggregated statistical data and relevant information on domestic and intercountry adoptions in order to achieve a better understanding and to address the phenomenon;
 - (b) Make the national database of children, including children with disabilities, eligible for adoption and families declared suitable for adoption fully operational;
 - (c) Ensure in practice that the child's views are heard in adoption processes in accordance with the child's evolving capacities.

Illicit transfer and non-return

26. The Committee recommends that the State party, in order to ensure the right of the child to maintain personal relations with both parents and in the light of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction to the State party, consider revising the provisions of the Penal Code criminalizing international child abduction in order to make it easier for an abducting parent to return to the State party together with the abducted child.



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I. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32–33, 35–36, 37 (b)–(d) and 38–40)

Asylum-seeking and refugee children

33. The Committee welcomes the adoption of Law No. 47/2017 on protection measures for unaccompanied foreign children, strengthening the protection of unaccompanied children in the fields of access to services, safeguards against expulsion, prohibition against the return of unaccompanied children at the border, more appropriate social and medical age assessment procedures, and accelerated access to asylum procedures. The Committee deeply regrets, however, the delay in adopting the implementing decrees for its effective application. The Committee is also concerned about:

...

- (b) Shortcomings in emergency, first- and second-level reception centres for unaccompanied children concerning the age assessment procedure, the lack of adequate information and social activities for children, the length of stay of children in emergency or first-level reception centres, and delays in the appointment of guardians;
- (c) The lack of permanent and suitable resettlement options for refugees, particularly children and their families.
- 34. With reference to general comment No. 6 (2005) on the treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin, the Committee urges the State party:
 - (a) To implement specific safeguards so that children are exempted from the measures foreseen in Law No. 132/2018;
 - (b) To facilitate access to the asylum system for children in need of international protection;
 - (c) To establish appropriate reception and protection mechanisms for unaccompanied and separated children, including those who may be in need of international protection, by ensuring adequate reception capacities for them throughout the State party on a needs-based approach, and ensuring that reception systems are tailored to respond to the changing trends of arrivals, especially by sea;

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- (e) To effectively implement the provision of voluntary guardians for unaccompanied and separated children by ensuring the timely appointment of a competent guardian who has the necessary expertise and availability and is free from any potential conflict of interest;
- (f) To process cases involving unaccompanied and separated children in a positive, humane and expeditious manner in order to identify durable solutions;
- (g) To prioritize the immediate transfer of asylum-seeking children and their families out of regional processing centres, and to adopt permanent and sustainable resettlement options for refugees, particularly children and their families, to ensure that they are given lawful stay and reasonable access to employment and other opportunities;
- (h) To improve the current data system for unaccompanied or separated children by harmonizing the currently existing databases and ensuring that all relevant information pertinent to each child is included.
- 36. 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 urges the State party:
 - (a) To uphold the best interests of the child at all times as a primary consideration in all situations concerning children in the context of international migration, including unaccompanied and separated children;

...

(e) To facilitate access to procedures for reunification of migrant children with their families;

...

(h) To ensure that child protection authorities are promptly informed and assigned to participate in procedures for the determination of the best interests of the child once an unaccompanied or separated child crosses an international border, in accordance with international law, including by training border officials on the rights of the child and child-sensitive procedures, such as those that prevent family separation, and to reunite families in the event of family separation;

...

(j) To ensure that migrant children are promptly identified at places of first arrival in the State party and, if unaccompanied or separated, are promptly referred to child protection authorities and other



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		relevant services, and appointed a competent and impartial legal guardian, that family unity is protected, and that anyone legitimately claiming to be a child is treated as such unless otherwise determined through a comprehensive and child-friendly age assessment; (I) To consider signing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.
		Country Report CRC/C/ITA/5-6 16 March 2018
		https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC% 2fITA%2f5-6⟪=en
OPSC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
OPAC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
ICCPR	Ratification Date 15 Sep 1978	Care-Related Concluding Observations
ICESCR	Ratification Date 15 Sep 1978	Care-Related Concluding Observations



CEDAW	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	10 Jun 1985	
CRPD	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	15 May 2009	CRPD/C/ITA/CO/1
		6 October 2016
		http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fITA%2 fCO%2f1⟪=en
		III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations
		B. Specific rights (arts. 5-30)
		Living independently and being included in the community (art. 19)
		47. The Committee is deeply concerned about the trend to re-institutionalize persons with disabilities and that funds are not being reallocated from institutions to promoting and ensuring independent living for all persons with disabilities within their community. Furthermore, it notes with concern the gendered consequences of the current policies where women are "forced" to remain within the family as caregivers of their peers with disabilities instead of being employed in the labour market.
		48. The Committee recommends that the State party implement safeguards to retain the right to autonomous independent living across all regions, and redirect resources from institutionalization to community-based services and increase budget support to enable persons with disabilities to live independently across the country and have equal access to services, including personal assistance.
		Respect for home and family (art. 23)



		51. The Committee is concerned at the lack of specific measures to support families of children with disabilities or adults with high levels of support, including financial support. 52. The Committee recommends that the State party allocate specific financial, social and other resources across all regions to ensure all families with members with disabilities, including those members with high support needs, can gain access to all the support they require, beyond the list of tax exemptions listed by the State party (see CRPD/C/ITA/Q/1/Add.1, para. 52), to ensure the right to home and family and to inclusion and participation in their local communities, and to eliminate resorting to institutionalization. 53. The Committee is deeply concerned that administrative barriers, including inaccessible procedures, still exist to parents with disabilities to adopt children with or without disabilities. 54. The Committee recommends that the State party review current laws, policies and practices relating to adoption, and provide support to parents with disabilities to retain full parental responsibility for their children.
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	27 Oct 2014	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/ITIndex.aspx
Hague Intercountry	Ratification	Link to Country Profile
Adoption	Date	
	18 Jan 2000	https://www.hcch.net/en/states/hcch-members/details1/?sid=46

Acronyms and Abbreviations:

Better Care Network www.bettercarenetwork.org



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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