

UN CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	9 Dec 1996	<p>CRC/C/OMN/CO/3-4 14 March 2016</p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOMN%2fCO%2f3-4&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOMN%2fCO%2f3-4&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>D. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)</b></p> <p><b>Corporal punishment</b></p> <p>35. The Committee welcomes the information that the Child Act prohibits any form of violence against children by any person, and that penal legislation has been enacted to address violence against children. It also welcomes the awareness-raising initiatives of the Ministry of Education on positive methods to deal with student behaviour issues. However, the Committee is concerned that corporal punishment is not explicitly prohibited in the Child Act and is widely accepted in society as a way to discipline children in the home, in schools and in residential institutions.</p> <p><b>36. In line with its general comment No. 8 (2006) on the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment, and with its general comment No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence, the Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <p><b>(a) Amend the Child Act to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, repeal article 38 (2) of the Penal Code, which authorizes punishment within the limits of established customs, and implement policies to ensure that corporal punishment is prohibited in all settings, including in the family, in schools and in institutions;</b></p> <p><b>(b) Promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline as an alternative to corporal punishment, and expand parenting education programmes and training for principals, teachers, and other professionals working with and for children;</b></p> <p><b>(c) Strengthen and expand its efforts to inform the general public, through awareness-raising programmes, including campaigns, about the negative impact of corporal punishment on children, and actively involve children and the media in the process.</b></p>

		<p><b>E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9-11, 18 (1) and (2), 20, 21, 25 and 27 (4))</b></p> <p><b>Family environment</b></p> <p>43. The Committee welcomes the information on the many programmes aimed at providing guidance for parents and other caregivers on their child-rearing responsibilities and on child development. However, the Committee is concerned about unequal parenting responsibilities and about the fact that insufficient measures have been taken to change the prevalent gender stereotypes concerning the tasks and roles of women, especially in the family, and to address discriminatory laws relating to marriage, polygamy, divorce, property, inheritance, nationality, guardianship and custodial rights.</p> <p><b>44. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Adopt policies and measures for changing mind-sets and stereotypes regarding the roles of parents so as to encourage equal sharing of parental responsibilities towards children in the family;</b></li><li><b>(b) Consider introducing a reform of the Civil Status Act and other relevant legislation, specifically with respect to marriage, divorce, property, inheritance, nationality, guardianship and custodial rights, to ensure that men and women, and boys and girls, have equal rights and responsibilities;</b></li><li><b>(c) Abolish all provisions that discriminate against women and have a negative impact on their children, such as those that allow polygamy and repudiation;</b></li><li><b>(d) Consider acceding to the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance, the Protocol on the law applicable to maintenance obligations of 23 November 2007, and the Hague Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children.</b></li></ul> <p><b>Children deprived of a family environment</b></p> <p>45. The Committee commends the State party for the improvements it has made to its child protection system, which include legislative reforms, and welcomes the promulgation of the Statute regulating Family Care and Fostering, and the provision of integrated services by the Childhood Care Centre. It also welcomes the establishment of the Family Protection Centre and the Al Wifaq Centre, the creation of a database for</p>
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		<p>monitoring children placed in foster care and the provision of counselling services by the Department of Family Guidance to assist children in adapting to a foster family. However, the Committee is concerned about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The continued institutionalization of abandoned children, mostly children born out of wedlock;</li> <li>(b) The insufficient assistance given to children who age out of the foster care system;</li> <li>(c) The insufficient information concerning government oversight of the placement of children and concerning quality monitoring in respect of care given in foster families and residential care facilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>46. 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:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) Support and facilitate family-based care for children wherever possible, including for children in single-parent families, and strengthen the system of foster care for children who cannot stay with their families, with a view to reducing the institutionalization of children;</b></li> <li><b>(b) Ensure adequate safeguards and clear criteria, based on the needs and best interests of the child, for determining whether a child should be placed in alternative care;</b></li> <li><b>(c) Ensure periodic reviews of the placement of children in foster care and institutions, and monitor the quality of the care given, including by providing accessible channels for reporting, monitoring and remedying the maltreatment of children;</b></li> <li><b>(d) Ensure that adequate human, technical and financial resources are allocated to alternative care centres and relevant child protection services in order to facilitate the rehabilitation and social reintegration of resident children to the greatest extent possible;</b></li> <li><b>(e) Provide aftercare support for children ageing out of the alternative care system.</b></li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Country Report</b></p> <p><b>CRC/C/OMN/3-4</b></p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOMN%2f3-4&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOMN%2f3-4&amp;Lang=en</a></p>
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OPSC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	17 Sep 2004	
OPAC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	17 Sep 2004	
ICCPR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	
ICESCR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	
CEDAW	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	7 Feb 2006	
CRPD	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRPD/C/OMN/CO/1	6 Jan 2009	<p>17 April 2018</p> <p><a href="http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fOMN%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en">http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fOMN%2fCO%2f1&amp;Lang=en</a></p> <p><b>III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>B. Specific rights (arts. 5–30)</b></p>

		<p><b>Children with disabilities (art. 7)</b></p> <p>15. The Committee is concerned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Both de jure and de facto discrimination of children with disabilities, especially with respect to access to social and health services and equal education opportunities, continues to be problematic in the State party;</li><li>(b) Boys and girls with disabilities in the State party reportedly experience high levels of abuse and violence, including corporal punishment, in the home, in schools, in institutions and in alternative and day-care settings;</li><li>(c) There is a lack of effective representation of children with disabilities in national discourse, in particular in the Child First Association and the Children’s Parliament, and they are denied the opportunity to express their views, especially regarding matters that concern them.</li></ul> <p><b>16. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Ensure that all children with disabilities enjoy their rights under the Convention and, in line with the principle of the best interests of the child, both de jure and de facto, including through the amendment of the Children’s Act of 2014, explicitly prohibit the corporal punishment of children in all settings and intensify efforts to ensure the effective elimination of any form of discrimination against children with disabilities, through awareness-raising programmes, including campaigns and education, especially in the schools and at the community level;</b></li><li><b>(b) In line with the Convention and target 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, adopt legislation and specific measures to ensure that children with disabilities are adequately protected from abuse and violence and that perpetrators are sanctioned;</b></li><li><b>(c) Mainstream disability rights in national strategies and action plans for children, including the adoption and implementation of a national plan for the care of children with disabilities, including in cooperation with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF);</b></li><li><b>(d) In line with the Convention and target 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals, adopt a mechanism for conducting effective consultation with children with disabilities, through their representative organizations, and promoting their full inclusion in the Child First Association and the Children’s Parliament and ensuring that full weight is given to the views of such children, on an equal basis with other children.</b></li></ul>
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		<p>that the corporal punishment of children is widespread in the State party and that there is insufficient awareness of complaint mechanisms and support services for victims.</p> <p><b>32. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Adopt and implement legislation, policies and programmes to protect all persons with disabilities, in particular women with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities, and children with disabilities from all forms of abuse and violence, including corporal punishment, in particular by stepping up the implementation of the national strategy for protecting children from all types of abuses, and adopting the draft regulations on female genital mutilation under the Children’s Act;</b></li><li><b>(b) Raise awareness about the telephone hotline to report cases of abuse, neglect and violence, ensure that the e-service complaint mechanism is accessible and inclusive, raise awareness of the complaint mechanism among persons with disabilities and their families, and provide accessible information and victim support services in all parts of the State party, in particular for women and children with disabilities;</b></li><li><b>(c) Ensure that all cases in which persons with disabilities, in particular children, are exposed to abuse and violence are reported and fully investigated, that perpetrators are prosecuted and appropriately punished and that victims are provided with effective redress, including compensation and rehabilitation;</b></li><li><b>(d) Ensure regular training on preventing and addressing violence against persons with disabilities for all relevant authorities and other stakeholders, including law enforcement officials, judges, social workers, health professionals and teachers, promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline as an alternative to corporal punishment, and expand parenting education programmes and support for families with children with disabilities.</b></li></ul> <p><b>Living independently and being included in the community (art. 19)</b></p> <p>35.The Committee is concerned about the low level of awareness among persons with disabilities of available independent-living support services and ways in which to claim such assistance within their local community and the inaccessibility of such services to persons with mobility impairments, persons with</p>
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		<p>disabilities in rural areas and migrant workers. The Committee is also concerned about the lack of home-based and community-based care for children with disabilities, especially in rural areas.</p> <p><b>36. The Committee recommends that the State party strengthen measures to promote the rights of persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the family and community, and systematically provide all persons with disabilities, including migrant workers and their families, with information on how to obtain access to support services and assistance that would enable them to live independently in accordance with their own choice, in particular in rural areas. The Committee also recommends that the State party undertake all necessary measures to ensure access to community services and facilities by all persons with disabilities, in all areas of life, and ensure home and community-based care for children with disabilities, including in rural areas.</b></p> <p><b>Respect for home and the family (art. 23)</b></p> <p>41. The Committee is concerned about:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(c) The lack of support services to protect the parental rights of persons with disabilities.</p> <p><b>42. The Committee recommends that the State party:</b></p> <p>...</p> <p><b>(c) Adopt measures to protect the parental rights of persons with disabilities and to ensure that parents of children with disabilities are provided with adequate support and training to allow them to raise their children in the family home.</b></p>
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	5 Nov 2015	<a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/OMSession23.aspx">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/OMSession23.aspx</a>



Hague Intercountry Adoption	Ratification Date	Link to Country Profile
	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