

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	25 September 1990	<p style="text-align: center;">Country Report</p> <p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=856&Lang=en</p>
OPSC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
<p>CRC/C/OPSC/PRY/CO/1</p> <p>Concluding observations on the initial report of Paraguay submitted under article 12 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, adopted by the Committee at its sixty-fourth session (16 September–4 October 2013)</p>	18 August 2003	<p>http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx</p> <p>V. Prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (art. 9, paras. 1 and 2)</p> <p>...</p> <p>Adoption</p> <p>26. The Committee notes that the National Secretariat for Children and Adolescents and the National Council for Children and Adolescents have initiated an integral review of Act No. 1136/97 on adoption. However, the Committee is concerned that more than 90 per cent of adoptions are granted without the established procedure having been used and that, in most cases of adoption, parents who intend to adopt do not follow the established procedure and instead select a child and request legal custody (guarda provisoria) before the courts, even before the child has been declared eligible for adoption. The Committee is also concerned at the persistence of this practice, which is mainly due to judges misunderstanding the legal adoption procedures and which may enable the sale of children.</p> <p>27. In the light of article 3, paragraph 5, of the Optional Protocol and its previous</p>

		<p>recommendations (CRC/C/PRY/CO/3, para. 45), the Committee urges the State party to:</p> <p>(a) Expedite the review and amendment of Act No. 1136/97 in order to eliminate the practice of pre-adoptive custody in cases of adoption and to harmonize the law with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;</p> <p>(b) Adopt all necessary measures to prevent illegal adoption through relevant policies, programmes and awareness-raising activities in order to prevent cases of the sale of children; and</p> <p>(c) Take all legal and administrative measures to ensure that all persons involved in the adoption of a child act in conformity with applicable international legal instruments.</p> <p>Programmes targeting particular groups</p> <p>30. Despite the existence of programmes for children in street situations, the Committee notes the insufficient information provided by the State party on measures that it has undertaken to pay particular attention to children in vulnerable situations, in particular girls, children in situations of poverty, indigenous children and children in residential care.</p> <p>31. The Committee urges the State party to pay increased attention and strengthen efforts to protect children particularly at risk of becoming victims of any of the offences under the Optional Protocol, especially girls, children in situations of poverty – particularly those in extreme poverty, children in street situations, children in residential care, indigenous children and unaccompanied and separated children.</p>
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OPAC to CRC	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRC/C/OPAC/PRY/CO/1 Concluding observations on the initial report of Paraguay submitted under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, adopted by the Committee at its sixty-fourth session (16 September–4 October 2013)	27 September 2002	http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx
ICCPR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	10 June 1992	
ICESCR	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	10 June 1992	
CEDAW	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	6 April 1987	
CRPD	Accession Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRPD/C/PRY/CO/1 Concluding observations	3 September 2008	15 May 2013 http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/paraguay

<p>on the initial report of Paraguay, adopted by the Committee at its ninth session, 15–19 April 2013</p>		<p>III. Principal areas of concern and recommendations</p> <p>A. General principles and obligations (arts. 1–4)</p> <p>7. The Committee is concerned at the State party’s use of derogatory terminology and definitions of persons with disabilities in various pieces of legislation and data-gathering instruments, including in the initial report and the replies to the list of issues. The use of such terms is a reminder of the prevalence of the charity and medical models of disability.</p> <p>8. The Committee recommends that the State party modify the terminology it uses to refer to persons with disabilities and bring its legislation into line with the content of the Convention, in accordance with its obligations. It also recommends that the State party promote human rights-based plans and programmes on disability in line with the fundamental principles of the Convention.</p> <p>9. The Committee is concerned that the State party has not established mechanisms for consultation with disabled persons’ organizations, when adopting legislation and policies on persons with disabilities or in decision-making forums such as the National Commission on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CONADIS).</p> <p>10. The Committee recommends that the State party establish a mechanism for ongoing consultation with disabled persons’ organizations, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention, taking into account the range of disabilities represented, in accordance with article 1 of the Convention, and including children with disabilities, women with disabilities and Paraguay’s indigenous population.</p>
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	<p>B. Specific rights (arts. 5–30)</p> <p>Children with disabilities (art. 7)</p> <p>19. The Committee notes with concern that the National Programme of Comprehensive Care for Children and Adolescents with Disabilities is limited solely to the prevention and early detection of disability characteristic of the medical model, and does not take account of the full range of rights recognized to children with disabilities. The Committee is also concerned that the resources for implementation of a public policy on inclusion of children with disabilities are inadequate. The Committee regrets the lack of information on children with disabilities who are at risk of ill-treatment and abuse, including indigenous children with disabilities.</p> <p>20. The Committee urges the State party to allocate sufficient resources as required to implement a broad policy on inclusion of children with disabilities in all areas of life, including family life and community life, by developing inclusive community-based rehabilitation programmes for children with disabilities as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its concluding observations on the third periodic report of Paraguay (CRC/C/PRY/CO/3, para. 49). The Committee also asks the State party to investigate and document the situation of children with disabilities in rural areas and indigenous communities, with a view to providing protection from abuse and ill-treatment.</p> <p>Liberty and security of the person (art. 14)</p> <p>33. The Committee regrets the lack of information on persons with disabilities who have been committed to institutions against their will, or on the procedures that make involuntary committal possible.</p> <p>34. The Committee urges the State party to have an independent human rights mechanism gather information on persons with disabilities in institutions, oversee and monitor the situation of persons with disabilities who have been placed in institutions</p>
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	<p>and launch a procedure for their reintegration into society and the community.</p> <p>35. The Committee notes with concern that the State party is adopting measures on the deprivation of liberty on grounds of disability, such as committal of children, women and men with disabilities to homes or psychiatric hospitals without free and informed consent and for lengthy periods of time. Specifically, the Committee is concerned at the measures the State party is adopting to reinforce the model of deprivation of liberty on grounds of disability, as in the Albino Luis and Pequeño Cotolengo homes.</p> <p>36. The Committee urges the State party to revise its procedures on committal on grounds of disability in order to ensure that persons with disabilities who are subject to those procedures are able to fully exercise their legal capacity as provided in the Convention. It also urges the State party to institute a broad strategy, including a programme to provide support in decision-making, for the inclusion of homeless persons with disabilities in the community, particularly those with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.</p> <p>Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse (art. 16)</p> <p>39. The Committee regrets that offences of exploitation, violence and abuse against persons with disabilities are still not visible because judicial bodies do not keep systematic records of cases.</p> <p>40. The Committee urges the State party to institute a comprehensive strategy, incorporating the gender perspective and in consultation with disabled persons' organizations, to prevent and punish exploitation, violence and abuse against persons with disabilities, and social rehabilitation and reintegration programmes aiming at the full enjoyment and exercise of their human rights; it also urges judicial bodies to become involved in that strategy. The Committee asks the State party to include in its next periodic report information on complaints and decisions on behalf of persons with disabilities who are victims of offences of this kind.</p>
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	<p>41. The Committee is concerned that the State party has not provided information on the number of persons with disabilities who are neglected, and whether they are victims of exploitation, human trafficking or abuse.</p> <p>42. The Committee recommends that the State party look closely at the situation of persons with disabilities who are neglected or the victims of trafficking and take the necessary steps to protect them, including alternative housing for those who have been neglected or are making a living by begging. It also urges the creation of reception centres where victims of trafficking in persons can obtain psychosocial care and legal assistance.</p> <p>Living independently and being included in the community (art. 19)</p> <p>47. The Committee regrets that the State party has still made no significant progress on a mental health policy that includes measures to deinstitutionalize persons with disabilities who are currently housed in psychiatric hospitals, institutions for children with disabilities and shelters for homeless persons, particularly children, with disabilities.</p> <p>48. The Committee asks the State party to implement a policy to gradually deinstitutionalize persons with disabilities, with clear time frames and benchmarks, and which includes the setting up of community services, including rights-based mental health services.</p> <p>Respect for home and the family (art. 23)</p> <p>55. The Committee is concerned at the State party's expansion of its schemes for homes for children with disabilities, undermining their right to live in a family.</p> <p>56. The Committee urges the State party to adopt measures to encourage foster families and to provide financial support to low-income families with children with disabilities to enable the children to live with their families and be active members of the community. The Committee also urges the State party to guarantee equality of</p>
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	<p>treatment for children with disabilities in the Family Placement Programme for Children and Adolescents requiring Protection and Support, and to revise the draft rules on subsidies to foster families and residential care institutions and bring them into line with the provisions of article 23 of the Convention.</p> <p>Education (art. 24)</p> <p>57. The Committee is concerned at the low numbers of children with disabilities enrolled in school (less than 1 per cent) and at the fact that most of those schools are special schools, and at the persistent use of terminology drawn from the medical model of disability when assessing educational standards. It also regrets the lack of information on enrolment rates in urban and rural areas and on whether education is ethnically and linguistically relevant.</p> <p>58. The Committee recommends that the State party implement a strategy to give all children and adolescents with disabilities access to the national education system and that education should be inclusive at all levels and throughout the country and incorporate the gender perspective and be ethnically and linguistically relevant. The Committee urges the State party to modify educational terminology drawn from the medical model and to reorient segregated special education towards the inclusive model and encourage it to move in that direction.</p> <p>Adequate standard of living and social protection (art. 28)</p> <p>67. The Committee notes the introduction of a disability voucher. It is nevertheless concerned at the fact that, though it is non-contributory, the amount of the voucher is not consistent with the right to an adequate standard of living for persons with disabilities. The Committee is also concerned at the inadequacy of measures to compensate persons with disabilities and their families, whose income is reduced because of their disability; it is also concerned at the lack of policies on access to housing and development.</p>
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		68. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt a public policy on development that includes gender-sensitive strategies specifically aimed at reducing poverty and providing access to development for persons with disabilities and their families, including guarantees of decent housing on an equal footing with others, and paying particular attention to persons living in rural areas.
UPR	Date of Consideration	Link to Page
	2 February 2011	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/PYSession10.aspx
Hague Intercountry Adoption	Accession Date	Link to Country Profile
	13 May 1998	http://www.hcch.net/index_en.php?act=states.details&sid=120

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