

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	N/A	Country Report
OPSC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
CRC/C/OPSC/USA/CO/2 Concluding Observation on the second period report of the United States of America adopted by the Committee at sixty-second session (14 January-1 February 2013)		http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fOPSC%2fUSA%2fCO%2f2⟪=en V. Prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (art. 9, paras. 1 and 2) Measures adopted to prevent offenses prohibited under the Protocol 26. The Committee urges the State party to take active measures to prevent the sale of children for the purpose of child labour by inter alia applying the TVPA to define modern forms of servitude related to shild labour and answer that the burden of proof is on the government and not on the overleited shildren.
		child labour and ensure that the burden of proof is on the government and not on the exploited children who do not have the capacity nor maturity to consent to being sold for this purpose. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the State party: (c) Review policies and improve standards regarding USA industries and business that hire children both in and outside of the country in order to prevent egregious forms of child labour, including in agriculture, some manufacturing industries, child care and the service sectors; Adoption



29. The Committee appreciates the adoption of the 2012 Inter-country Adoption Universal Accreditation Act, S. 3331 (UAA), expanding the accreditation standards in the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to cover all intercountry adoptions. However, the Committee notes with concern that the 2012 UAA establishes a period of 180 days after entering into force for presentation of petitions for cases outside of the Convention or orphan petitions without having to comply with the 2000 Intercountry Adoption Act. Furthermore, the Committee is particularly concerned that:
(a) Ambiguous definitions and legal loopholes persist despite the new accreditation act, such as for example the fact that payments before birth and other expenses to birth mothers, including surrogate mothers, continue to be allowed, thus impeding effective elimination of the sale of children for adoption;
(b) The absencece of federal legislation with regard to surrogacy, which if not clearly regulated amounts to sale of children;
(c) The 2000 IAA requires that the other country involved in intercountry adoption be a signatory to the Hague Convention in order for it to be applied, thus restricting the effective application of the law in all international adoption cases;
(d) The requirement of a "knowing and wilful disregard of the law" as provided for in the 2000 IAA as a ground for prosecution which can result in persons or agencies, involved in illegal acts avoiding culpability and escaping legal proceedings;
(e) The concurrent jurisdiction of state and federal courts which may lead to misuse of the legal system;
(f) The lack of information on the measures taken to ensure that adopted children are not subjected to any form of abuse and neglect; and
(g) The lack of information on the case of Anyelí Liseth Hernández Rodríguez.



- (a) Be especially vigilant with respect to petitions for adoption presented during the 180 days period after signature by the President of UAA 2012 with the purpose of ensuring they do not amount to sale or infringe any other norm contained in the Hague Convention on International Adoptions and monitor how requests for adoption have been processed;
- (b) Define, regulate, monitor and criminalize the sale of children at federal level and in all states in accordance with the Optional Protocol, and in particular the sale of children for the purpose of illegal adoption, in conformity with article 3, paragraphs 1(a)(ii) and 5 of the Optional Protocol; including issues such as, surrogacy and payments before birth and the definition of what amounts to "reasonable costs";
- (c) Adequately and effectively implement the Hague Convention on Inter-Country Adoption in order to curb the instances of sale of children for international adoption purposes;
- (d) Modify the IAA 2000 to better define "knowledge" so that it does not necessarily require actual knowledge of transgressions, but rather allow suspicions as grounds for investigation of abuse or sale or other;
- (e) Take all necessary measures to prevent agencies or individuals from the State party from entering foreign countries to pursue adoption, disregarding legal procedures of the countries involved;
- (f) Ensure effective and systematic accreditation and monitoring of all individual and entities dealing with adoptions directly or as intermediaries, consider limiting their number, and ensure that adoption processes do not result in financial gains to any party;
- (g) Ensure the provision of adequate social support and counselling for adoptive parents in preparation for the adoption and to help the integration of the adopted child into the adoptive family, and adequately follow-up and monitor adoption, including provisions for establishing liability of adoptive parents in cases of abuse, neglect or exploitation;



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		(h) Train and monitor social workers and case managers on adoption laws, regulations and issues; and
		(i) Ensure that the best interests of the child is the paramount consideration during the entire adoption procedure, in addition to having the child's view taken into account to the greatest extent possible, having due regard to the child's age and maturity.
		VII. Protection of the rights of child victims (arts. 8 and 9, paras. 3 and 4)
		Criminal justice system protection measures
		49. The Committee urges the State party to:
		(a) Establish clear procedures and standards for the care and protection of child victims and or witnesses of crimes and that their application is monitored for quality;
OPAC to CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	23 Dec 2002	
ICCPR	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	8 June 1992	
ICESCR	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	N/A	
CEDAW	Ratification	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	N/A	



CRPD	Accession	Care-Related Concluding Observations
	Date	
	N/A	
UPR	Date of	Link to Page
	Consideration	
	5 Nov 2010	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/USSession9.aspx
Hague Intercountry	Ratification	Link to Country Profile
Adoption	Date	
	12 Dec 2007	http://www.hcch.net/index_en.php?act=conventions.status&cid=69

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