

Supporting materials number one: The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child



NB. The full UN Convention Articles can be found on www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/k2crc.htm

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- Article 1** Everyone under 18 has all these rights.
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- Article 2** The right to protection against discrimination. This means that no child can be treated badly or differently because of their colour, sex or religion, if they speak another language, have a disability or are poor.
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- Article 3** The right for adults to do what is best for children.
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- Article 4** The right for these rights to be protected by government.
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- Article 5** The right for children to be given guidance by the parents and families.
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- Article 6** The right to life.
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- Article 7** The right to have a name and a nationality.
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- Article 8** The right of children to know their origins and identity.
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- Article 9** The right of children to live with their parents, unless it is bad for them to do so.
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- Article 10** The right of children to be re-united with their parents if they are living in a separate country.
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- Article 11** The right not to be kidnapped or abducted or removed from the country by one parent.
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- Article 12** The right of children to express their opinion and for it to be listened to and taken seriously, in any matter or procedure affecting the child.
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- Article 13** The right to find out about things and to freely express views in any way, unless this infringes the rights of others.
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- Article 14** The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
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- Article 15** The right of children to meet with others and join or set up associations, unless this violates the rights of others.
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- Article 16** The right to protection from interference with privacy, family, home and correspondence, and from libel and slander.

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- Article 17** The right to have access to information from the media but to be protected from information that could be harmful.
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- Article 18** The right of a child to be brought up by their parents, and for the state to support parents to do this.
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- Article 19** The right to be protected from all forms of harm and ill treatment.
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- Article 20** The right to special protection and help if a child cannot live with their parents.
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- Article 21** The right to the best care if a child is adopted or fostered.
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- Article 22** The right to special protection if the child is a refugee.
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- Article 23** The right to special care, education and treatment to enable disabled children to develop and lead a full life.
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- Article 24** The right to the best health possible and to medical care and information that will help children stay healthy.
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- Article 25** The right of children living away from home to have their placement regularly reviewed and evaluated.
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- Article 26** The right to help from the Government if a child is poor or in need.
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- Article 27** The right of children to have an adequate standard of living.
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- Article 28** The right to education.
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- Article 29** The right of children to education that helps them develop their personality and abilities.
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- Article 30** The right of children from minority groups – race, religion, culture etc – to enjoy their own culture, practice their own religion and use their own language.
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- Article 31** The right of children to play, recreation and leisure.
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- Article 32** The right to protection from any work that is harmful to the child's health, education or development.
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- Article 33** The right to be protected from dangerous drugs.
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- Article 34** The right to be protected from sexual abuse or exploitation.

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- Article 35** The right to be protected from trafficking.
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- Article 36** The right to be protected from any other sort of exploitation.
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- Article 37** The right not to be tortured or given cruel treatment or punishment and the right not to be unlawfully arrested or deprived of liberty.
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- Article 38** The right of children to protection during times of war, and not to have to be in the armed forces or take part in battles.
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- Article 39** The right of children to receive help and rehabilitation if they have been harmed, neglected or abused in any way.
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- Article 40** The right of children in conflict with the law to have all their other rights respected, to be dealt with in line with the law, to have privacy throughout any proceeding, and to be deprived of their liberty only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest time possible.