

CHILDREN HAVE RIGHTS

Human rights of children is an international standard, which is articulated in the **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**.

Serbia and Montenegro has ratified the convention, which means all children, by birth without discrimination, have the right: to survival; to develop their full potential; to protection from harmful influences, abuse and exploitation; and to participate in family, cultural and social life.

That means children have the right to go to school, to get enough food and water, to use health services, to learn how to live healthy lives, and nobody is allowed to hit children.

In an effort to realize a world fit for children, the governments of Serbia and of Montenegro developed National Plans of Action for Children



(NPA) within the frame of the Poverty Reduction Strategy, with goals and targets to reach by the year 2010/2015.

Join us in creating a world fit for children, where all children grow in a safe, enabling environment, and enjoy health and education.

SCHOOL WITHOUT VIOLENCE



Violence in school is a concern worldwide. Recent tragic incidents have only reminded us that school is no longer a "second home."

Violence among children appears in different forms: threatening classmates, destruction of property, humiliation in front of others, and beating. It begins at early age. The consequences are well known. Victims of violence lose their self-esteem, have a fear of school, avoid classes, get grades that are far below their capacity and suffer from various forms of psychosomatic illnesses.

We need to act now for children to live their full potential – for victims and perpetrators, and all children.

UNICEF is working with Government and an expert team on a programme to combat violence in school.

"School without Violence" is an integrated program for and with pupils, teachers, parents and their community.

"As UNICEF's National Ambassador, but first of all as a father, I dedicate this game to children.

I don't like to think of this as my farewell game. Most importantly it is my message to children and all those who care for them: in sport as in life, choose fair play. Without violence!"

Sasa Djordjevic

UNICEF Serbia&Montenegro

<http://www.unicef.org/scg>

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UNICEF SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

OUR WORK IN 2005-2009

For every child
Health, Education, Equality, Protection
ADVANCE HUMANITY



SOCIAL POLICY REFORM

BRINGING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TO THE CENTRE OF PUBLIC POLICY

Policy development and advocacy are essential aspects of UNICEF's work with governments, law-makers, the media, civil society and international organizations on behalf of, and together with children and women.

UNICEF is supporting governments with policy reform so that children in poverty and exclusion can also get their chance to develop their potentials, and have their rights respected.

One example is introducing new methods to guide children in conflict with law. UNICEF advocates



mediation as a new solution to conflict, and assists reform in every component of the juvenile justice system: from the legislation, judiciary, police, social services to improving the care and protection of children in custody. Children will also have a chance to learn vital life skills that will assist

them in more successful reintegration into society. There is still a need for an Ombudsperson and defenders of children's rights system that work for the protection of children from violence and abuse.

As part of the UN family, UNICEF promotes the Millennium Development Goals and the achievement of European standards.

SYSTEM AND INSTITUTION BUILDING

HIGH QUALITY AND CHILD-CENTERED SOCIAL SERVICES FOR ALL CHILDREN

UNICEF works in various scenes to strengthen social services at the local level. As part of the decentralization efforts, UNICEF supports the primary health care system, such as management of childhood illness, mother and child-friendly services and hospitals, breastfeeding, good parenting for the critical period of the first three years of life. The education system is supported as early as pre-school, targeting especially poor and excluded children. Methodologies for participatory and inclusive quality education are



strengthened to create a child-friendly teaching and learning environment in schools and to enhance service and professional standards.

UNICEF assists the country in the development and implementation of inclusive policies, which will ensure access to basic social services for excluded children.

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN, IN THE SPIRIT OF TEAM – Together Everyone Achieves More!

As the closest environment for children, families and the community play an important role for the survival, growth, and development of the child. They are the ones to ensure that children have access to good quality services. A priority for UNICEF is to help empower these people to identify issues of concern, find solutions and strengthen their ability to act on their decisions.

National Plans of Action for Children were developed by the Council in Serbia and the Commission on Child Rights in Montenegro, with support by UNICEF. As a next step, three municipalities in Serbia (Kragujevac, Sjenica and Piroć) and two in Montenegro (Bijelo Polje and Bar) developed Local Plans of Action for Children (LPA). Through these processes, each municipality improved their capacities to identify and recognise issues which are affecting children and women, such as exclusion and poverty, and took action for more inclusive policies.

UNICEF works to promote a community where people are aware of child rights, parents know how to support children, the social system cares and reaches out to all children, and most importantly, children themselves participate in decision making on matters that affect them.

