Universal Ratification of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child*

193 States have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child


157 States have ratified or acceded
17 States have signed but not ratified
19 States have neither signed nor ratified

Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict

147 States have ratified or acceded
23 States have signed but not ratified
23 States have neither signed nor ratified

* Numbers reflect status as of 1 June 2012

For more Information and Resources:

Links to the Optional Protocols to the CRC
http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc-sale.htm
http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc-conflict.htm

Actions outlined in the Handbook on the OPSC

Actions outlined in the Guide to the OPAC
http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_19025.html

Links to relevant UN agencies and offices
http://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org
http://twitter.com/childreninwar
http://srsg.violenceagainstchildren.org
http://twitter.com/srsgvac
http://www.unicef.org
http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What you can do for the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (OPSC)</th>
<th>WHAT YOU CAN DO DURING THE CAMPAIGN</th>
<th>What you can do for the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Promote…</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>→ Protection of children, particularly the most vulnerable, from all forms of sexual exploitation</td>
<td>→ Promote the universal ratification of the Optional Protocols by 2012, mobilizing political and social support, including through Facebook, twitter and blogs</td>
<td>→ Ratification of the OPAC, including by countries that are not involved in armed conflict</td>
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<tr>
<td>→ Initiatives to strengthen the capacity of professionals working with and for children to prevent and address all forms of sexual exploitation</td>
<td>→ Promote the adoption and effective implementation of national legislation in accordance with the Optional Protocols</td>
<td>→ Protection of children, particularly the most vulnerable, from recruitment and the impact of armed conflicts</td>
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<td>→ International cooperation and mutual assistance for the implementation of the OPSC</td>
<td>→ Raise awareness among the public at large, including children, through information and education on the harmful effects of all forms of violence against children</td>
<td>→ Awareness that children are associated with armed forces and groups in many capacities depriving them of their rights and childhood</td>
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<td><strong>Ensure…</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>→ Legal prohibition of sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and criminalization of all forms of sexual exploitation of persons below the age of 18</td>
<td>→ Ensure a holistic approach to all forms of violence against children, promoting prevention strategies and the protection, recovery and reintegration of child victims</td>
<td>→ No child under the age of 18 takes direct part in hostilities</td>
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<td>→ Safeguard the rights of child victims and witnesses who should be exempted from prosecution and arrest</td>
<td>→ Ensure the adoption of decisions that are guided by the best interests of the child and informed by children’s views</td>
<td>→ Criminalization of the recruitment and use of children by armed forces and groups in hostilities, promoting 18 years of age as the minimum standard</td>
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<td>→ Establishment of extra-territorial jurisdiction over the offences addressed by the OPSC</td>
<td></td>
<td>→ Safeguard the rights of child victims and witnesses associated with armed forces and groups</td>
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