

# Progress towards prohibiting all corporal punishment in ASEAN member states

Prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children ([www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org)), April 2016



Global Initiative to  
End All Corporal Punishment  
of Children

The following table summarises the legal status of corporal punishment of children – and progress towards achieving prohibition – in all settings in all states in ASEAN member states. As at April 2016, no state has achieved prohibition in all settings, including the home, but governments of two have expressed a commitment to enacting full prohibition. One state has prohibited corporal punishment in all alternative care settings, one in day care, five in schools, six in penal institutions and six as a sentence for crime.

## States expressing commitment to law reform in UPR and other contexts

Governments in the following two states have expressed a commitment to prohibition of all corporal punishment of children through unequivocally accepting recommendations to prohibit made during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the state concerned.

<i>States committed to law reform ...</i>						
State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in alternative care settings	Prohibited in day care	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal institutions	Prohibited as sentence for crime
Philippines <sup>1</sup>	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Thailand <sup>2</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

## States without a clear commitment to law reform

The following eight states have yet to make a clear commitment to prohibiting all corporal punishment.

<i>States without a clear commitment to law reform ...</i>						
State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in alternative care settings	Prohibited in day care	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal institutions	Prohibited as sentence for crime
Brunei Darussalam <sup>3</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>4</sup>	NO	NO	NO
Cambodia	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Indonesia	NO	NO <sup>5</sup>	NO	NO	YES	SOME <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in the home and other settings (2012); bill which would prohibit under discussion (2016)

<sup>2</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2012)

<sup>3</sup> Government accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit but rejected others (2009)

<sup>4</sup> Prohibited in childcare centres

<i>States without a clear commitment to law reform ...</i>						
State	Prohibited in the home	Prohibited in alternative care settings	Prohibited in day care	Prohibited in schools	Prohibited in penal institutions	Prohibited as sentence for crime
Lao PDR	NO	NO	SOME <sup>7</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Malaysia	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>8</sup>
Myanmar	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>9</sup>	NO	YES <sup>10</sup>
Singapore	NO	NO	SOME <sup>11</sup>	NO	NO	NO
Viet Nam	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

### Note

The above information is based wherever possible on examination of national legislation; additional information is gathered from many sources, including reports to and by the United Nations human rights treaty bodies.

**Information in square brackets is unconfirmed.** We are very grateful to government officials, UNICEF and other UN agencies, NGOs and human rights institutions, and many individuals who have assisted us in our research. We welcome corrections and updates: email [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org). For further details on all states see the individual state reports at [www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org).

*Analysis prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children*  
[www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org); [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org)  
 April 2016

---

<sup>5</sup> National Standards of Care for Child Welfare Institutions state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>6</sup> Lawful under Shari'a law

<sup>7</sup> Unlawful in early childhood education settings

<sup>8</sup> Government committed to prohibition (2007); bill which would prohibit (but not under Islamic law) under discussion (2015)

<sup>9</sup> Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>10</sup> But some legislation still to be repealed

<sup>11</sup> Prohibited in childcare centres