

# Immediate opportunities for law reform in East Asia and the Pacific



Global Initiative to  
End All Corporal Punishment  
of Children

Prepared by the Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children  
([www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org)) Last updated: February 2018

**Note:** The dates given in brackets indicate the most recent information held by the Global Initiative, but to our knowledge all bills, draft laws, etc referred to below are currently still “live” and still present opportunities for enacting prohibition of corporal punishment. Information in square brackets is unconfirmed. If you believe any of the information to be incorrect or out of date, please email [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

State	Opportunities for enacting prohibition	Prohibition included
Australia	Family Law Act 1975 under review (2017)	?
Brunei Darussalam	No known opportunities	-
Cambodia	Law on Child Protection being drafted (2014)	?
China	New child protection laws being drafted (2014); legislation on preschool education being considered (2017)	?
Cook Islands	Crimes Act Amendment Bill under discussion (2015)	?
DPR Korea	No known opportunities	-
Fiji	Draft Disability Decree under discussion (2014)	?
Indonesia	Draft Criminal Code under discussion (2013)	NO
Japan	Civil Code being revised (2012)	?
Kiribati	Juvenile Justice Bill under discussion (2015)	[SOME]
Lao PDR	Penal Code being amended (2017)	?
Malaysia	Bills which would allow implementation of Islamic (hudud) punishments at state level under discussion in Kota Baru and Kelantan (2014)	NO
Marshall Islands	Review of child protection legislation being consulted upon (2017)	?
Micronesia	Criminal Code under review (2014); Pohnpei Family Violence Bill under discussion (2015); Family Protection Bills being drafted in Yap, Pohnpei and Chuuk (2016)	?

Myanmar	Child Law being revised (2015); amendments to Constitution under discussion (2015); Bill on Violence against Women being drafted (2015)	YES
Nauru	Constitution under review (2013)	?
Niue	Family Law Bill under discussion (2015)	[YES]
Palau	No known opportunities	-
Papua New Guinea	Regulations under the Family Protection Act 2013 being drafted (2014); Education Act being revised (2015)	?
Philippines	Anti-Corporal Punishment Bill and other Bills which would prohibit corporal punishment under discussion (2015)	YES
Republic of Korea	Laws being drafted for day care centres (2010)	?
Samoa	Child Care and Protection Bill, Infants Amendment Bill and Teachers Bill under discussion (2015)	NO
Singapore	No known opportunities	-
Solomon Islands	Police Bill and draft Federal Constitution under discussion (2015); Education Bill under review (2016); Youth Justice Bill being drafted (2018)	SOME
Taiwan	Amendments to Constitution under discussion (2015)	NO
Thailand	Child Protection Act under review (2015)	?
Timor-Leste	Draft Child Code, draft Tutelary and Education Law for Minors aged 12-16 and draft Law on a Special Penal Regime for Minors aged 16-21 under discussion (2015); Draft Law on Punitive-Educational Measures for Minors aged 12 to 16 (2016)	[SOME]
Tonga	Amendments to the Constitution, the Criminal Offences Act 1926, the Police Act 2010, and the Prison Act 2010 under discussion (2018)	?
Tuvalu	Education Act under review (2013)	?
Vanuatu	Comprehensive law on children being drafted (2014); Family Protection Act under review (2016); Young Offenders Bill possibly under discussion (2013); Child Protection Bill being discussed (2017)	[YES]
Viet Nam	Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Law being reviewed (2017)	[NO]

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