

Global progress towards prohibiting all corporal punishment



End Corporal Punishment

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Also available online at www.endcorporalpunishment.org

The following table summarises the legal status of corporal punishment of children – and progress towards achieving prohibition – in all states and territories in all settings, the home, alternative care, day care, schools, penal institutions and as a sentence for crime. Governments are increasingly enacting laws to prohibit this form of violence against children. As at May 2023, 65 states and 16 territories have achieved prohibition in all settings; governments of at least 27 other states have expressed a commitment to enacting full prohibition. Draft legislation that would achieve prohibition in all or some settings is under discussion in some states. With the exception of alternative care and day care, which include those forms of care most closely linked with the legal duties and obligations of parents, the majority of states have prohibited corporal punishment of children outside the family home, but there is much still to be done. End Corporal Punishment offers technical support and advice on all aspects of law reform to achieve prohibition and publishes a number of useful resources free of charge – please see www.endcorporalpunishment.org or email vohitos@who.int

Assessing global progress towards prohibition is a complex task. When a state reforms the law to prohibit corporal punishment in the home, the legislation must be closely examined to ensure there are no legal defences for its use by parents/carers (such as a “right of correction” or a right to administer “reasonable” punishment), and that it prohibits all forms of corporal punishment, however light. The Global Initiative also seeks official confirmation from governments and other sources that the new law is unequivocally interpreted as prohibiting all corporal punishment in childrearing.

With regard to settings outside the home, in many states legislation explicitly prohibits corporal punishment in schools and other institutions. In some states, the illegality of corporal punishment is based on particular combinations of criminal laws on assault and the absence of a legal defence, together with other legislation protecting children in the setting and relevant case law, etc. Alternatively, there may be a high-level court judgment which makes corporal punishment unlawful but which has yet to be confirmed in legislation. Of states in which corporal punishment is lawful in schools or other institutions, some simply lack legislation prohibiting corporal punishment and some explicitly authorise its use in those settings. There are also states that have prohibited corporal punishment in some but not all aspects of a setting (e.g. prohibiting it only in primary schools). The table illustrates some of the complexities: for full details see the individual country reports at www.endcorporalpunishment.org; to provide us with further information please email vohitos@who.int

	Home	Alternative care settings*	Day care†	Schools	Penal institutions	Sentence for crime
Fully prohibited	66‡ states 16 territories	75 states 16 territories	72 states 16 territories	136 states 25 territories	146 states 36 territories	170 states 39 territories
Not fully prohibited	133 states 23 territories	124 states 23 territories	127 states 23 territories	63 states 14 territories	53 states 3 territories	29 states 0 territories

* “Alternative care” refers to formal foster care and to group care for children in a context other than a family home (institutions, orphanages, children’s homes, cluster foster care, “village” style care, baby homes, youth homes, safe homes/places of safety, emergency care, etc)

† “Day care” includes all forms of early childhood care (nurseries, kindergartens, preschools, crèches, children’s/family centres, etc) and all formal day care for older children (day centres, after-school childcare, childminding, etc).

‡ Includes Cuba which achieved prohibition in the home but not yet in other settings (i.e. day care and schools)

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
Afghanistan ⁴	NO	YES	SOME ⁵	YES	YES	NO ⁶
Albania	YES ⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Algeria ⁸	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
American Samoa	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Andorra	YES ⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Angola ¹⁰	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Anguilla	NO	NO	SOME ¹¹	YES	YES	YES
Antigua and Barbuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Argentina	YES ¹²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Armenia ¹³	NO	SOME ¹⁴	NO	YES	YES	YES
Aruba	YES ¹⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Australia	NO	SOME ¹⁶	SOME ¹⁷	SOME ¹⁸	SOME ¹⁹	YES
Austria	YES ²⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Azerbaijan ²¹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Bahamas	NO	SOME ²²	SOME ²³	NO	[YES] ²⁴	[NO] ²⁵
Bahrain ²⁶	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Bangladesh ²⁷	NO	NO	NO	YES ²⁸	NO	NO
Barbados	NO	NO	SOME ²⁹	NO	NO	NO
Belarus ³⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Belgium	NO ³¹	SOME ³²	NO	YES	YES	YES

⁴ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings at July 2006 meeting of South Asia Forum which followed 2005 UN Study on Violence against Children regional consultation, but no progress since

⁵ Prohibited in preschool provision

⁶ Lawful under Shari'a law

⁷ Prohibited in Law No. 18/2017 on the Rights and Protection of the Child, which replaced Law on the Protection of the Rights of the Child 2010

⁸ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings by accepting UPR recommendation to do so in 2012, but noted similar recommendations in 2017 and no progress since

⁹ Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Criminal Code 2005

¹⁰ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings by accepting UPR recommendation to do so in 2014, but no progress since

¹¹ Prohibited in early childhood education centres

¹² Prohibited in Civil and Commercial Code 2014, in force 2016

¹³ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015)

¹⁴ Unlawful in care institutions

¹⁵ Prohibited in 2016 amendments to Civil Code 2001

¹⁶ Prohibited in all residential centres and foster care in all states/territories except Northern Territory, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia

¹⁷ Prohibited in all states/territories except in Northern Territory and Tasmania; prohibition in childminding unconfirmed

¹⁸ Prohibited in all states/territories except Queensland

¹⁹ Prohibited in all states/territories except Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia

²⁰ Prohibited in 1989 amendment to General Civil Code, reiterated in Federal Constitutional Act on the Rights of Children 2011

²¹ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit (2009, 2013, 2018), but prohibiting Bill drafted in 2011 has yet to be enacted

²² Prohibited in residential institutions

²³ Prohibited in preschools and day care centres under the Early Childhood Care (National Standards) Regulations 2015

²⁴ But some legislation possibly still to be repealed

²⁵ Prohibited in 1984 but reintroduced in 1991

²⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2017)

²⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings at July 2006 meeting of South Asia Forum which followed 2005 UN Study on Violence against Children regional consultation and Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2009, 2018), but no progress since

²⁸ Unlawful under 2011 Supreme Court ruling, not yet confirmed in legislation

²⁹ Prohibited in day nurseries

³⁰ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2010) but stated it had already been implemented and all corporal punishment unlawful

³¹ Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2016); Government gave a mixed response to UPR recommendations to prohibit (2016)

³² Prohibited in institutions in Flemish community

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
Belize ³³	NO	SOME ³⁴	SOME ³⁵	YES	SOME ³⁶	YES
Benin	YES ³⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bermuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Bhutan ³⁸	NO	NO	NO	NO ³⁹	[YES]	YES
Bolivia	YES ⁴⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁴¹	SOME ⁴²	SOME ⁴³	SOME ⁴⁴	YES	YES	YES
Botswana	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Brazil	YES ⁴⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
British Virgin Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Brunei Darussalam ⁴⁶	NO	NO	SOME ⁴⁷	NO	NO	NO
Bulgaria	YES ⁴⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Burkina Faso ⁴⁹	NO	NO	SOME ⁵⁰	SOME ⁵¹	[YES]	YES
Burundi	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Cabo Verde	YES ⁵²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cambodia ⁵³	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Cameroon	NO	NO	[SOME] ⁵⁴	YES	[YES]	YES
Canada	NO ⁵⁵	SOME ⁵⁶	SOME ⁵⁷	YES ⁵⁸	YES	YES

³³ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in 2009, but noted subsequent recommendations in 2013 and 2018 and no progress since

³⁴ Prohibited in residential care facilities

³⁵ Prohibited in day care centres

³⁶ Prohibited in "Youth Hostel" detention centre

³⁷ Prohibited in Children's Code 2015

³⁸ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings at July 2006 meeting of South Asia Forum which followed 2005 UN Study on Violence against Children regional consultation and Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2019), but no progress since 2006

³⁹ Code of Conduct and ministerial directives state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

⁴⁰ Prohibited in Children and Adolescents Code 2014

⁴¹ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

⁴² Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

⁴³ Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

⁴⁴ Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

⁴⁵ Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Children and Adolescents Code 1990

⁴⁶ Government accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit but rejected others (2009)

⁴⁷ Prohibited in childcare centres

⁴⁸ Prohibited in Child Protection Act 2000 (amended 2003) and Regulations on the Implementation of the Child Protection Act 2003

⁴⁹ Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2014); Government noted a UPR recommendation to prohibit in 2018

⁵⁰ Prohibited in preschool settings

⁵¹ Prohibited in primary schools

⁵² Prohibited in Law on Children and Adolescents 2013

⁵³ Government representative confirmed in 2019 that prohibition of all corporal punishment was a priority; law reform included in Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children 2017-2021

⁵⁴ Possibly prohibited in nursery education

⁵⁵ 2004 Supreme Court ruling limited but upheld parents' right to physically punish children

⁵⁶ Prohibited in state provided care in Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Yukon, and in foster care in Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario; in Ontario prohibited in provincially licensed childcare programmes and in foster homes for children receiving services from provincially licensed/approved child protection agency or other service provider

⁵⁷ Prohibited in all states/territories except Quebec

⁵⁸ Unlawful under 2004 Supreme Court ruling but this not yet confirmed in laws relating to private schools and to all schools in Alberta and Manitoba

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
Cayman Islands	NO	SOME ⁵⁹	SOME ⁶⁰	YES	NO	YES
Central African Republic	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Chad ⁶¹	NO	[SOME] ⁶²	[SOME] ⁶³	YES	[YES]	YES
Chile ⁶⁴	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
China ⁶⁵	NO ⁶⁶	[NO]	SOME ⁶⁷	YES	YES	YES
Colombia ⁶⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Comoros ⁶⁹	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	[YES]
Congo, Republic of	YES ⁷⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cook Islands	NO	NO	SOME ⁷¹	YES	NO	YES
Costa Rica	YES ⁷²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cote d'Ivoire	NO	NO	NO	NO ⁷³	YES	YES
Croatia	YES ⁷⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cuba ⁷⁵	YES ⁷⁶	YES ⁷⁷	[SOME] ⁷⁸	NO	YES	YES
Curacao	YES ⁷⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cyprus	YES ⁸⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Czech Republic	NO	SOME ⁸¹	SOME ⁸²	YES	YES	YES
Denmark	YES ⁸³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Djibouti	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Dominica	NO	NO	SOME ⁸⁴	NO	NO	NO

⁵⁹ Prohibited in community homes, registered children's homes and state-organised foster care

⁶⁰ Prohibited in early childhood care and education centres

⁶¹ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in 2009 but rejected recommendation to prohibit in 2013

⁶² Possibly prohibited in institutional care settings

⁶³ Possibly prohibited in institutions

⁶⁴ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2014); prohibiting legislation under discussion (2016)

⁶⁵ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2018)

⁶⁶ But corporal punishment of girls prohibited in Shenzhen Special Economic Zone

⁶⁷ Prohibited in nurseries and kindergartens

⁶⁸ Prohibited in the 2021 Law Prohibiting the use of physical punishment, cruel, humiliating, or degrading treatment and any type of violence against children and adolescents as a method of correction against children and adolescents (Law 2089 of 14 May 2021).

⁶⁹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in 2014 but noted similar recommendations in 2019

⁷⁰ Prohibited in Law on the Protection of the Child 2010

⁷¹ Prohibited in institutions providing early childhood education

⁷² Prohibited in 2008 amendments to Code on Children and Adolescents and Family Code

⁷³ Ministerial circular states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

⁷⁴ Prohibited in Family Act 1998, superseded by Family Act 2003; prohibition reiterated in Act on Protection against Violence in the Family 2017

⁷⁵ Committed to prohibition with the adoption of the Central American Regional Roadmap on Violence against Children (2011) which recommends full prohibition. Prohibited in the home in 2022.

⁷⁶ Prohibited in the Family Code 2022

⁷⁷ Prohibited in the Family Code 2022

⁷⁸ Possibly prohibited in preschool institutions

⁷⁹ Prohibited in Joint Custody Ordinance 2011

⁸⁰ Prohibited in Violence in the Family (Prevention and Protection of Victims) Law 1994, reiterated in Act on Violence in the Family 2000; right "to administer punishment" formally repealed from Children's Law 1956 in 2013

⁸¹ Unlawful in institutions

⁸² Prohibited in preschool provision

⁸³ Prohibited in 1997 amendment to Parental Custody and Care Act 1995, reiterated in Danish Act on Parental Responsibility 2007

⁸⁴ Prohibited in early childhood education facilities

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
Dominican Republic ⁸⁵	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
DPR Korea ⁸⁶	NO	NO	NO	[NO] ⁸⁷	[YES]	[YES]
DR Congo	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Ecuador ⁸⁸	NO	NO	SOME ⁸⁹	YES	YES	SOME ⁹⁰
Egypt	NO	NO	NO	[NO] ⁹¹	[YES] ⁹²	YES
El Salvador ⁹³	NO	NO	SOME ⁹⁴	YES	YES	YES
Equatorial Guinea	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Eritrea	NO	NO	NO	NO ⁹⁵	[NO]	YES
Estonia	YES ⁹⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Eswatini	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Ethiopia ⁹⁷	NO	SOME ⁹⁸	SOME ⁹⁹	YES	YES	YES
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES	YES
Faroe Islands	YES ¹⁰⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Fiji ¹⁰¹	NO	NO	NO	YES ¹⁰²	YES	YES
Finland	YES ¹⁰³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
France	YES ¹⁰⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
French Guiana	YES ¹⁰⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
French Polynesia	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Gabon	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁰⁶	YES	YES	YES
Gambia	NO	NO ¹⁰⁷	NO	NO ¹⁰⁸	NO	YES
Georgia	YES ¹⁰⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Germany	YES ¹¹⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

⁸⁵ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2009) and adopted Central American Regional Roadmap on Violence against Children (2011) which recommends full prohibition; prohibiting legislation being drafted (2015)

⁸⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2014)

⁸⁷ Policy states corporal punishment should not be used but possibly no prohibition in law

⁸⁸ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2012)

⁸⁹ Prohibited in preschool provision

⁹⁰ Lawful in indigenous communities

⁹¹ Ministerial directive states corporal punishment should not be used but possibly no prohibition in law

⁹² Possibly lawful in social welfare institutions

⁹³ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation in 2010; but Bills to prohibit were archived in 2017

⁹⁴ Prohibited in preschool provision

⁹⁵ Policy states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

⁹⁶ Prohibited in Child Protection Act 2014, in force January 2016

⁹⁷ Government accepted UPR recommendation to abolish corporal punishment but rejected recommendation to criminalise it (2014)

⁹⁸ Prohibited in institutions

⁹⁹ Prohibited in institutions

¹⁰⁰ Prohibited in 1997 amendment to Danish Parental Custody and Care Act 1995, in force in Faroe Islands from 2007

¹⁰¹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation in 2014; but no progress since

¹⁰² Unlawful under 2002 High Court ruling, not yet confirmed in legislation

¹⁰³ Prohibited in Child Custody and Rights of Access Act 1983

¹⁰⁴ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

¹⁰⁵ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

¹⁰⁶ Prohibited in preschool provision

¹⁰⁷ Minimum standards for residential childcare institutions state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁰⁸ Ministerial directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

¹⁰⁹ Prohibited in Code on the Rights of the Child 2019

¹¹⁰ Prohibited in 2000 amendment to Civil Code

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
Ghana ¹¹¹	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹¹²	SOME ¹¹³	YES
Gibraltar	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ¹¹⁴	YES
Greece	YES ¹¹⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Greenland	YES ¹¹⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Grenada	NO	SOME ¹¹⁷	NO	NO	NO	YES ¹¹⁸
Guadeloupe	YES ¹¹⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Guam	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES
Guatemala ¹²⁰	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Guernsey	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹²¹	[SOME] ¹²²	YES
Guinea	YES ¹²³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Guinea-Bissau ¹²⁴	NO	YES	[NO]	YES	YES	YES
Guyana	NO	SOME ¹²⁵	SOME ¹²⁶	NO	[YES]	YES
Haiti	NO ¹²⁷	[YES] ¹²⁸	[YES] ¹²⁹	YES	YES	YES
Honduras	YES ¹³⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hong Kong	NO	NO	SOME ¹³¹	YES	YES	YES
Hungary	YES ¹³²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Iceland	YES ¹³³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
India ¹³⁴	NO	SOME ¹³⁵	NO ¹³⁶	SOME ¹³⁷	YES ¹³⁸	SOME ¹³⁹
Indonesia ¹⁴⁰	NO	NO ¹⁴¹	NO	NO	YES	SOME ¹⁴²

¹¹¹ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2008, 2012, 2017) and reportedly made a commitment to prohibit by 2019 to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2015)

¹¹² Ministerial directive possibly advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

¹¹³ Prohibited in prisons

¹¹⁴ Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

¹¹⁵ Prohibited in Law 3500/2006 on the Combating of Intra-family Violence 2006

¹¹⁶ Prohibited in Danish Act on Parental Responsibility 2007, in force in Greenland April 2016

¹¹⁷ Prohibited in child care services

¹¹⁸ Some provisions still to be formally repealed

¹¹⁹ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

¹²⁰ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in the home (2008) and in all settings (2012) but has also said existing law prohibits

¹²¹ Government directive reportedly states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹²² Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

¹²³ Prohibited in Children's Code 2019

¹²⁴ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation in 2015; but no progress since

¹²⁵ Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

¹²⁶ Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

¹²⁷ Bill which would prohibit under discussion (2015)

¹²⁸ Prohibition in foster care unconfirmed

¹²⁹ Prohibition in crèches and childminding unconfirmed

¹³⁰ Prohibited in 2013 amendments to Family Code and Civil Code

¹³¹ Prohibited in childcare centres, mutual help childcare centres and possibly in preschool settings

¹³² Prohibited in 2004 amendment to Child Protection Act 1997

¹³³ Prohibited in Children's Act 2003

¹³⁴ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings in report to UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (2011) and Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2012), but no progress since

¹³⁵ Prohibited in care institutions except in Jammu and Kashmir; bill which would prohibit in all childcare institutions under discussion (2014)

¹³⁶ Bill which would prohibit in anganwadi centres and playschools under discussion (2014)

¹³⁷ Prohibited for 6-14 year olds except in Jammu and Kashmir; not prohibited in religious schools

¹³⁸ But prohibiting law not applicable in Jammu and Kashmir

¹³⁹ Permitted in traditional justice systems

¹⁴⁰ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2017)

¹⁴¹ National Standards of Care for Child Welfare Institutions state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁴² Lawful under Shari'a law

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
Iran	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁴³	NO ¹⁴⁴	YES	NO
Iraq	NO ¹⁴⁵	NO	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁴⁶	YES
Ireland	YES ¹⁴⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Isle of Man	NO	SOME ¹⁴⁸	SOME ¹⁴⁹	YES	YES	YES
Israel	YES ¹⁵⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Italy	NO ¹⁵¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jamaica ¹⁵²	NO	YES	SOME ¹⁵³	NO ¹⁵⁴	YES	YES
Japan	YES ¹⁵⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jersey	YES ¹⁵⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jordan ¹⁵⁷	NO	[SOME] ¹⁵⁸	[NO]	YES	[YES]	YES
Kazakhstan	NO	[SOME] ¹⁵⁹	SOME ¹⁶⁰	YES	YES	YES
Kenya	YES ¹⁶¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kiribati ¹⁶²	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁶³	YES	NO	SOME ¹⁶⁴
Kuwait ¹⁶⁵	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	[YES]
Kyrgyzstan ¹⁶⁶	NO	SOME ¹⁶⁷	NO	YES	[YES]	YES
Lao PDR	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁶⁸	YES	YES	YES
Latvia	YES ¹⁶⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lebanon	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁷⁰	[YES]	YES
Lesotho ¹⁷¹	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES

¹⁴³ Prohibited in day care centres (kindergartens)

¹⁴⁴ Government directive states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁴⁵ But possibly prohibited in Kurdistan

¹⁴⁶ Prohibited in prisons and detention centres

¹⁴⁷ Prohibited in 2015 amendment to Offences Against the Person (Non Fatal) Act 1997

¹⁴⁸ Prohibited in children's homes and for registered providers of foster care

¹⁴⁹ Prohibited in registered day care centres and for registered childminders; possibly prohibited in preschools

¹⁵⁰ 2000 Supreme Court judgment ruled against all violence in childrearing; "reasonable chastisement" defence repealed same year

¹⁵¹ 1996 Supreme Court judgment ruled against all violence in childrearing but this not yet confirmed in legislation

¹⁵² The Government of Jamaica expressed its commitment to prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings through several public statements, including a statement made by the Prime Minister before the House of Representatives in July 2021

¹⁵³ Prohibited in early childhood centres ("basic schools")

¹⁵⁴ Prohibition under discussion (2015); see also note on day care

¹⁵⁵ Prohibited in 2019 amendments to the Child Abuse Prevention Law 2000 and assorted guidelines

¹⁵⁶ Prohibited in the Children and Education (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 2019

¹⁵⁷ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2009) but stated current laws do not prescribe corporal punishment and subsequently limited but did not repeal right to discipline according to "general custom"

¹⁵⁸ Possibly prohibited in institutions

¹⁵⁹ Possibly prohibited in children's villages

¹⁶⁰ Prohibited in preschool education and training

¹⁶¹ Prohibited in Constitution 2010 but some legislation still to be formally repealed

¹⁶² Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings and repeal "reasonable punishment" defence (2015); but later implied corporal punishment was already prohibited (2018)

¹⁶³ Prohibited in early childhood care and education for children between 3 and 6 years old

¹⁶⁴ But used in traditional justice

¹⁶⁵ Government accepted 2010 UPR recommendation to prohibit but subsequently stated existing law adequate; Government accepted 2015 recommendation to prohibit but appeared to defend "simple discipline"

¹⁶⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2015)

¹⁶⁷ Prohibited in residential institutions

¹⁶⁸ Unlawful in early childhood education settings

¹⁶⁹ Prohibited in Children's Rights Protection Law 1998

¹⁷⁰ Ministerial directive states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁷¹ Government accepted UPR recommendation to abolish corporal punishment, stating it was being implemented (2010), but subsequent law reform prohibited only as sentence for crime

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
Liberia	NO	SOME ¹⁷²	SOME ¹⁷³	NO	YES	YES
Libya	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁷⁴	YES	NO	NO
Liechtenstein	YES ¹⁷⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lithuania	YES ¹⁷⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Luxembourg	YES ¹⁷⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Macau	NO	[SOME] ¹⁷⁸	NO	YES	YES	YES
Madagascar	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Malawi	NO	SOME ¹⁷⁹	SOME ¹⁸⁰	[YES] ¹⁸¹	YES	YES
Malaysia	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁸²
Maldives ¹⁸³	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁸⁴	NO	NO
Mali	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁸⁵	YES	YES	YES
Malta	YES ¹⁸⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Marshall Islands ¹⁸⁷	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ¹⁸⁸	YES	YES
Martinique	YES ¹⁸⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mauritania	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁹⁰	[SOME] ¹⁹¹	NO
Mauritius ¹⁹²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mayotte	YES ¹⁹³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mexico ¹⁹⁴	SOME ¹⁹⁵	SOME ¹⁹⁶	SOME ¹⁹⁷	YES	YES	YES

¹⁷² Corporal punishment by child protection practitioners prohibited

¹⁷³ Corporal punishment by child protection practitioners prohibited

¹⁷⁴ Unlawful in preschool provision

¹⁷⁵ Prohibited in Children and Youth Act 2008

¹⁷⁶ Prohibited in 2017 amendments to Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child 1996

¹⁷⁷ Prohibited in Law on Children and the Family 2008

¹⁷⁸ Possibly prohibited in residential centres

¹⁷⁹ Prohibited in state-run institutions

¹⁸⁰ Prohibited in state-run day care

¹⁸¹ Prohibition in private schools unconfirmed

¹⁸² Government committed to prohibition (2007); bill which would prohibit (but not under Islamic law) under discussion (2015)

¹⁸³ Government expressed commitment to prohibition in all settings, including the home, at July 2006 meeting of South Asia Forum, following 2005 UN Study on Violence against Children regional consultation, but law reform in 2014/2015 re-authorised corporal punishment in all settings and Government rejected UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

¹⁸⁴ Ministry of Education advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

¹⁸⁵ Prohibited in preschools and kindergartens

¹⁸⁶ Prohibited in 2014 amendment to Criminal Code but some legislation still to be formally repealed

¹⁸⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015); but no progress since

¹⁸⁸ But some legislation still to be formally repealed

¹⁸⁹ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

¹⁹⁰ Ministerial Order states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁹¹ Child Protection Code prohibits corporal punishment of children in the penitentiary system but possibly not all institutions, and we have been unable to confirm whether the Code has been gazetted

¹⁹² Prohibited in Children's Act 2020

¹⁹³ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

¹⁹⁴ Government adopted Central American Regional Roadmap on Violence against Children (2011) and End Violence National Action Plan 2017-2018, which both recommend full prohibition, and accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018); Full prohibition was adopted in December 2020 through amendments of General Law on the Rights of Children and Adolescents 2014. But the amended Law needs to be domesticated by states that have not prohibited locally, in order to come into force across the country.

¹⁹⁵ 21 of 32 states have local civil or family laws that prohibit the use of punishment against children and adolescents

¹⁹⁶ Prohibited in institutions

¹⁹⁷ Prohibited in institutions

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
Micronesia ¹⁹⁸	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Monaco	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Mongolia	YES ¹⁹⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Montenegro	YES ²⁰⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Montserrat	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²⁰¹	YES
Morocco ²⁰²	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁰³	YES	YES
Mozambique ²⁰⁴	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁰⁵	YES	YES
Myanmar ²⁰⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁰⁷	NO	YES ²⁰⁸
Namibia ²⁰⁹	NO	YES	SOME ²¹⁰	YES	YES	YES
Nauru	NO	NO	[SOME] ²¹¹	YES	YES	[YES]
Nepal	YES ²¹²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Netherlands	YES ²¹³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
New Caledonia	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
New Zealand	YES ²¹⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nicaragua	YES ²¹⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Niger ²¹⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO ²¹⁷	NO	YES
Nigeria	NO	NO	NO	NO ²¹⁸	SOME ²¹⁹	SOME ²²⁰
Niue	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES
North Macedonia	YES ²²¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Northern Mariana Islands	NO	NO	[NO]	NO	[YES]	YES
Norway	YES ²²²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Oman ²²³	NO	NO	[SOME] ²²⁴	YES	NO	[YES]

¹⁹⁸ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2015); but no progress since

¹⁹⁹ Prohibited in Law on the Rights of Children 2016 and Law on Child Protection 2016

²⁰⁰ Prohibited in 2016 amendments to Family Law 2007

²⁰¹ Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

²⁰² Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2012); but later stated that prohibition was already achieved (2017)

²⁰³ Ministerial direction advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁰⁴ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2016)

²⁰⁵ Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁰⁶ Child Rights Law 2019 included provisions that were reportedly intended to prohibit all corporal punishment of children (full analysis ongoing)

²⁰⁷ Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁰⁸ But some legislation still to be repealed

²⁰⁹ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2016)

²¹⁰ Prohibited in early childhood centres and in places of care; unlawful in all state-run childcare under 1991 Supreme Court ruling

²¹¹ Possibly prohibited in preschool education settings

²¹² Prohibited in Act relating to Children 2018

²¹³ Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Civil Code

²¹⁴ Prohibited in Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act 2007

²¹⁵ Prohibited in Family Code 2014, in force April 2015

²¹⁶ Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2014)

²¹⁷ Ministerial Order states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²¹⁸ But possibly prohibited in Lagos State

²¹⁹ Prohibited in Child Rights Act 2003, not enacted in all states

²²⁰ Prohibited in Child Rights Act 2003, not enacted in all states; lawful in some states under Shari'a law

²²¹ Prohibited in Law on Child Protection 2013

²²² Prohibited in 1987 amendment to Parent and Child Act 1981, confirmed in further amendments 2010 following 2005 Supreme Court decision supportive of "lighter smacks"

²²³ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2015); but no progress since

²²⁴ Possibly prohibited in preschool provision

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
Pakistan ²²⁵	SOME ²²⁶	SOME ²²⁷	SOME ²²⁸	SOME ²²⁹	SOME ²³⁰	SOME ²³¹
Palau ²³²	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Panama ²³³	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Papua New Guinea ²³⁴	NO	SOME ²³⁵	NO	NO	YES	YES
Paraguay	YES ²³⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Peru	YES ²³⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Philippines ²³⁸	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pitcairn Islands	YES ²³⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Poland	YES ²⁴⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Portugal	YES ²⁴¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Puerto Rico	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Qatar ²⁴²	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁴³	YES	NO
Republic of Korea	YES ²⁴⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Republic of Kosovo	YES ²⁴⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Republic of Moldova	YES ²⁴⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Reunion	YES ²⁴⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Romania	YES ²⁴⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Russian Federation	NO	NO	SOME ²⁴⁹	YES	YES	YES
Rwanda ²⁵⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

²²⁵ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings at July 2006 meeting of South Asia Forum which followed 2005 UN Study on Violence against Children regional consultation; but no Pakistan-wide progress since

²²⁶ Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan

²²⁷ Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, in Islamabad Capital Territory and in Sindh

²²⁸ Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, in Islamabad Capital Territory and in Sindh

²²⁹ Prohibited for 5-16 year olds in Punjab; prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, Islamabad Capital Territory and Sindh

²³⁰ Prohibited in Juvenile Justice System Act 2018, unclear whether applicable in all areas and other laws not amended/repealed; prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, Islamabad Capital Territory and Sindh

²³¹ Lawful under Shari'a law; prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, Islamabad Capital Territory and Sindh

²³² Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit (2011, 2016); but Penal Code 2013 authorised the use of force in disciplining children

²³³ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015)

²³⁴ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011); but later claimed prohibition was already achieved (2016)

²³⁵ Corporal punishment of children "in the care of the Director" prohibited

²³⁶ Prohibited in Law on promotion of good treatment, positive parenting and protection of children and adolescents against corporal punishment or any type of violence as a method of correction or discipline 2016

²³⁷ Prohibited in Law prohibiting physical and other humiliating punishment against children and adolescents 2015

²³⁸ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in the home and other settings (2012)

²³⁹ Prohibited in Children Ordinance 2003, amended 2009

²⁴⁰ Prohibited in 2010 amendment to Family and Guardianship Code 1964

²⁴¹ Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Penal Code

²⁴² Government accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit but rejected another similar one, stating corporal punishment already prohibited (2010)

²⁴³ Code of Conduct for schools states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²⁴⁴ Prohibited in March 2021 with the repeal of article 915 of the Civil Act and de facto application of article 5(2) of the Child Welfare Act

²⁴⁵ Prohibited in Law on Child Protection 2019

²⁴⁶ Prohibited in 2008 amendment to Family Code

²⁴⁷ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

²⁴⁸ Prohibited in Law on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child 2004

²⁴⁹ Unlawful in preschool provision

²⁵⁰ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings and to repeal the "right of correction" (2011, 2015); but law reform since did not achieve prohibition

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
Samoa ²⁵¹	NO	NO	SOME ²⁵²	SOME ²⁵³	YES	YES
San Marino	YES ²⁵⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sao Tome and Principe ²⁵⁵	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	[YES]	[YES]
Saudi Arabia ²⁵⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁵⁷	NO	NO
Senegal ²⁵⁸	NO	NO	NO	SOME ²⁵⁹	[YES]	YES
Serbia ²⁶⁰	NO	NO	SOME ²⁶¹	YES	YES	YES
Seychelles	YES ²⁶²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sierra Leone ²⁶³	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Singapore	NO	NO	SOME ²⁶⁴	NO	NO	NO
Slovakia ²⁶⁵	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Slovenia	YES ²⁶⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Solomon Islands ²⁶⁷	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES ²⁶⁸
Somalia ²⁶⁹	NO	SOME ²⁷⁰	SOME ²⁷¹	[SOME] ²⁷²	SOME ²⁷³	SOME ²⁷⁴
South Africa	YES ²⁷⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
South Sudan	YES ²⁷⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Spain	YES ²⁷⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

²⁵¹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in the home (2011); but in 2019 reintroduced “reasonable force” against students in government secondary schools

²⁵² Prohibited in early childhood centres

²⁵³ Prohibited in government primary schools

²⁵⁴ Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Penal Code and Law of 26 April 1986 No. 49 on Family Law Reform

²⁵⁵ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011, 2015); but no progress since

²⁵⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit corporal punishment in schools and penal system but stated already prohibited in schools and care settings (2009); recommendations to prohibit in 2013 UPR rejected

²⁵⁷ Ministerial circulars advise against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁵⁸ Draft legislation to prohibit under discussion (2016)

²⁵⁹ Prohibited for 6-14 year olds

²⁶⁰ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2008, 2013)

²⁶¹ Prohibited in day care which forms part of education system

²⁶² Prohibited in 2020 amendments to Children Act 1982

²⁶³ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all circumstances (2016)

²⁶⁴ Early Childhood Development Centres Regulations 2018 prohibit corporal punishment in early childhood development centres

²⁶⁵ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit (2009); but no progress since despite prohibiting legislation having been drafted in 2014

²⁶⁶ Prohibited in Law Amending and Supplementing the Law on Prevention of Family Violence 2016

²⁶⁷ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011) but stated review of Penal Code included assessing need for clarification on lawful corporal punishment

²⁶⁸ But used in traditional justice

²⁶⁹ Somalia expressed its commitment to prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings while reporting to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, in May 2022

²⁷⁰ Prohibited in Somaliland

²⁷¹ Prohibited in Somaliland

²⁷² Possibly prohibited in Somaliland

²⁷³ Prohibited in Somaliland

²⁷⁴ Prohibited in Somaliland

²⁷⁵ 2019 Constitutional Court decision ruled the common law defence of “reasonable chastisement” to be unconstitutional

²⁷⁶ Prohibited in Transitional Constitution 2011, confirming pre-independence prohibition in Interim Constitution 2005 and Child Act 2008

²⁷⁷ Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Civil Code

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
Sri Lanka ²⁷⁸	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁷⁹	SOME ²⁸⁰	YES
St Barthelemy	YES ²⁸¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	NO	SOME ²⁸²	SOME ²⁸³	YES	YES	YES
St Kitts and Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²⁸⁴
St Lucia ²⁸⁵	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
St Maarten	YES ²⁸⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Martin	YES ²⁸⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Pierre et Miquelon	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
St Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
State of Palestine	NO	NO	NO	SOME ²⁸⁸	[SOME] ²⁸⁹	[SOME] ²⁹⁰
Sudan	NO	NO	[YES] ²⁹¹	YES	YES	YES
Suriname	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁹²	YES	YES
Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands	YES ²⁹³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sweden	YES ²⁹⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Switzerland	NO ²⁹⁵	[SOME] ²⁹⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES
Syrian Arab Republic	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁹⁷	NO	YES
Taiwan	NO	NO	SOME ²⁹⁸	YES	YES	YES
Tajikistan ²⁹⁹	NO	NO	SOME ³⁰⁰	YES	NO	YES
Thailand ³⁰¹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Timor-Leste ³⁰²	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES

²⁷⁸ Commitment to prohibition in all settings, including the home, made at July 2006 meeting of South Asia Forum, following UN Study on Violence against Children regional consultation and reiterated in 2017 when the Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit

²⁷⁹ Ministerial circular states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²⁸⁰ Prohibited in prisons

²⁸¹ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

²⁸² Prohibited in children's homes

²⁸³ Prohibited in preschool education

²⁸⁴ But some legislation still to be formally repealed

²⁸⁵ Government accepted some but not all UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

²⁸⁶ Prohibited in Joint Custody Ordinance 2013

²⁸⁷ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

²⁸⁸ Prohibited in UNRWA schools and in East Jerusalem; elsewhere Ministerial direction advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁸⁹ Possibly unlawful in East Jerusalem

²⁹⁰ Possibly unlawful in Gaza

²⁹¹ The Regulation on behaviour control in educational institutions 2020 prohibit corporal punishment in preschool

²⁹² Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in schools (2011)

²⁹³ Prohibited in 1987 amendment to Parent and Child Act 1981, further amended to confirm prohibition in 2010

²⁹⁴ Prohibited in 1979 amendment to Parenthood and Guardianship Code

²⁹⁵ 2003 Federal Court ruling stated repeated and habitual corporal punishment unacceptable but did not rule out all corporal punishment in childrearing

²⁹⁶ Possibly lawful in family placements

²⁹⁷ Ministry of Education advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁹⁸ Prohibited in preschools and community, tribal and workplace cooperative early childhood care institutions for children between two and six

²⁹⁹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011); but no progress since

³⁰⁰ Prohibited in preschool education settings

³⁰¹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2012, 2016); but no progress since

³⁰² Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2011)

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
Togo	YES ³⁰³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Tokelau	NO	[NO]	[NO]	[YES]	[YES]	YES
Tonga	NO	NO	SOME ³⁰⁴	YES	[YES]	NO ³⁰⁵
Trinidad and Tobago	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Tunisia	YES ³⁰⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turkey ³⁰⁷	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Turkmenistan	YES ³⁰⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turks and Caicos Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ³⁰⁹	YES
Tuvalu ³¹⁰	NO	SOME ³¹¹	NO	NO	SOME ³¹²	SOME ³¹³
Uganda ³¹⁴	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
UK	SOME ³¹⁵	SOME ³¹⁶	SOME ³¹⁷	YES ³¹⁸	YES	YES
Ukraine	YES ³¹⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
United Arab Emirates ³²⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	[YES]	NO
UR Tanzania	NO	SOME ³²¹	NO	NO ³²²	SOME ³²³	SOME ³²⁴
Uruguay	YES ³²⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
USA	NO	SOME ³²⁶	SOME ³²⁷	SOME ³²⁸	SOME ³²⁹	YES
US Virgin Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Uzbekistan ³³⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

³⁰³ Prohibited in Children's Code 2007

³⁰⁴ Prohibited in preschool institutions

³⁰⁵ 2010 Court of Appeal ruling stated "it might be argued" whipping is unconstitutional but did not declare it such

³⁰⁶ Prohibited in 2010 amendment to Penal Code

³⁰⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015); but no progress since

³⁰⁸ Prohibited in Law on Guarantees of the Rights of the Child 2002, reiterated in Family Code 2012

³⁰⁹ Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

³¹⁰ Government accepted 2008 UPR recommendation to prohibit but in 2013 accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit and rejected others

³¹¹ Prohibited in hospital mental health wing

³¹² Corporal punishment by police officers prohibited

³¹³ Island courts may order corporal punishment

³¹⁴ Government had originally expressed commitment by tabling in 2015 a Bill which would have prohibited in all settings but Bill failed to progress through parliament; and no further progress since

³¹⁵ Prohibited in Scotland under the 2019 Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act and in Wales under the 2020 Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act

³¹⁶ Prohibited in residential institutions and foster care arranged by local authorities and voluntary organisations; fully prohibited in Scotland and Wales

³¹⁷ Prohibited in day care and childminding in England, Wales and Scotland; in Northern Ireland, guidance states physical punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

³¹⁸ But in 2014 Government confirmed no prohibition in "unregistered independent settings providing part-time education"; fully prohibited in Scotland and Wales

³¹⁹ Prohibited in Family Code 2003

³²⁰ Government supported UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018)

³²¹ Prohibited in residential institutions in Zanzibar

³²² Directive prohibits corporal punishment in classrooms from pre-primary to third grade, in mainland Tanzania

³²³ Prohibited in approved schools and remand homes in Zanzibar

³²⁴ Prohibited in Zanzibar

³²⁵ Prohibited in 2007 amendments to Civil Code and Children and Adolescents Code 2004

³²⁶ Prohibited in all care settings in 31 states, and in some settings in other states and District of Columbia

³²⁷ Prohibited in all care settings in 31 states, and in some settings in other states and District of Columbia

³²⁸ Prohibited in public schools in 29 states and District of Columbia, and in public and private schools in Iowa and New Jersey; federal bill which would prohibit under discussion (2019)

³²⁹ Prohibited in 32 states

³³⁰ Government supported UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018)

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
Vanuatu	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	SOME ³³¹
Venezuela	YES ³³²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Viet Nam	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Wallis and Futuna Islands	YES ³³³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Western Sahara	NO	[NO]	[NO]	[NO]	[YES]	[YES]
Yemen	NO	NO	[SOME] ³³⁴	YES	YES	NO
Zambia	YES ³³⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ³³⁶
Zimbabwe ³³⁷	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES ³³⁸

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 vohitos@who.int. For further details on all states see the individual state reports at www.endcorporalpunishment.org.

³³¹ Permitted in rural areas under customary justice systems

³³² Prohibited in 2007 amendments to Law for the Protection of Children and Adolescents 1998

³³³ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

³³⁴ Possibly prohibited in preschool provision

³³⁵ Prohibited in Children's Code Act 2022

³³⁶ Unlawful under 1999 Supreme Court ruling and confirmed by Children's Code Act 2022

³³⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011); but later noted similar UPR recommendations (2016)

³³⁸ 2014 High Court ruling declaring judicial corporal punishment unconstitutional confirmed by 2019 Constitutional Court decision but some legislation still to be repealed