

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 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 June 2024, 66 states have achieved prohibition in all settings; governments of at least 26 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	67‡	76	73	136	147	170
Not fully prohibited	132	123	126	63	52	29

* “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)

States with full prohibition in legislation

The following 66 states have prohibited corporal punishment in all settings, including the home.

<i>States with full prohibition ...</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
Albania	YES ⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Andorra	YES ⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Argentina	YES ⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Austria	YES ⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Benin	YES ⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bolivia	YES ⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Brazil	YES ¹⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bulgaria	YES ¹¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cabo Verde	YES ¹²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Colombia	YES ¹³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Congo, Republic of	YES ¹⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Costa Rica	YES ¹⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Croatia	YES ¹⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cyprus	YES ¹⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Denmark	YES ¹⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Estonia	YES ¹⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Finland	YES ²⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
France	YES ²¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Georgia	YES ²²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Germany	YES ²³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Greece	YES ²⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Guinea	YES ²⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

⁴ 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

⁵ Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Criminal Code 2005

⁶ Prohibited in Civil and Commercial Code 2014, in force 2016

⁷ Prohibited in 1989 amendment to General Civil Code, reiterated in Federal Constitutional Act on the Rights of Children 2011

⁸ Prohibited in Children's Code 2015

⁹ Prohibited in Children and Adolescents Code 2014

¹⁰ Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Children and Adolescents Code 1990

¹¹ Prohibited in Child Protection Act 2000 (amended 2003) and Regulations on the Implementation of the Child Protection Act 2003

¹² Prohibited in Law on Children and Adolescents 2013

¹³ 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).

¹⁴ Prohibited in Law on the Protection of the Child 2010

¹⁵ Prohibited in 2008 amendments to Code on Children and Adolescents and Family Code

¹⁶ Prohibited in Family Act 1998, superseded by Family Act 2003; prohibition reiterated in Act on Protection against Violence in the Family 2017

¹⁷ 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

¹⁸ Prohibited in 1997 amendment to Parental Custody and Care Act 1995, reiterated in Danish Act on Parental Responsibility 2007

¹⁹ Prohibited in Child Protection Act 2014, in force January 2016

²⁰ Prohibited in Child Custody and Rights of Access Act 1983

²¹ Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

²² Prohibited in Code on the Rights of the Child 2019

²³ Prohibited in 2000 amendment to Civil Code

²⁴ Prohibited in Law 3500/2006 on the Combating of Intra-family Violence 2006

²⁵ Prohibited in Children's Code 2019

<i>States with full prohibition ...</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
Honduras	YES ²⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hungary	YES ²⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Iceland	YES ²⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Ireland	YES ²⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Israel	YES ³⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Japan	YES ³¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kenya	YES ³²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lao PDR	YES ³³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Latvia	YES ³⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Liechtenstein	YES ³⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lithuania	YES ³⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Luxembourg	YES ³⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Malta	YES ³⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mauritius	YES ³⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mongolia	YES ⁴⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Montenegro	YES ⁴¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nepal	YES ⁴²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Netherlands	YES ⁴³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
New Zealand	YES ⁴⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nicaragua	YES ⁴⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
North Macedonia	YES ⁴⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Norway	YES ⁴⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Paraguay	YES ⁴⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Peru	YES ⁴⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Poland	YES ⁵⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Portugal	YES ⁵¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

²⁶ Prohibited in 2013 amendments to Family Code and Civil Code

²⁷ Prohibited in 2004 amendment to Child Protection Act 1997

²⁸ Prohibited in Children's Act 2003

²⁹ Prohibited in 2015 amendment to Offences Against the Person (Non Fatal) Act 1997

³⁰ 2000 Supreme Court judgment ruled against all violence in childrearing; "reasonable chastisement" defence repealed same year

³¹ Prohibited in 2019 amendments to the Child Abuse Prevention Law 2000 and assorted guidelines

³² Prohibited in Constitution 2010 and in Children Act 2022

³³ Prohibited in Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children 2006 (Amended 2023)

³⁴ Prohibited in Children's Rights Protection Law 1998

³⁵ Prohibited in Children and Youth Act 2008

³⁶ Prohibited in 2017 amendments to Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child 1996

³⁷ Prohibited in Law on Children and the Family 2008

³⁸ Prohibited in 2014 amendment to Criminal Code but some legislation still to be formally repealed

³⁹ Prohibited in Children's Act 2020

⁴⁰ Prohibited in Law on the Rights of Children 2016 and Law on Child Protection 2016

⁴¹ Prohibited in 2016 amendments to Family Law 2007

⁴² Prohibited in Act relating to Children 2018

⁴³ Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Civil Code

⁴⁴ Prohibited in Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act 2007

⁴⁵ Prohibited in Family Code 2014, in force April 2015

⁴⁶ Prohibited in Law on Child Protection 2013

⁴⁷ Prohibited in 1987 amendment to Parent and Child Act 1981, confirmed in further amendments 2010 following 2005 Supreme Court decision supportive of "lighter smacks"

⁴⁸ 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

⁴⁹ Prohibited in Law prohibiting physical and other humiliating punishment against children and adolescents 2015

⁵⁰ Prohibited in 2010 amendment to Family and Guardianship Code 1964

⁵¹ Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Penal Code

<i>States with full prohibition ...</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
Republic of Korea	YES ⁵²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Republic of Kosovo	YES ⁵³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Republic of Moldova	YES ⁵⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Romania	YES ⁵⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
San Marino	YES ⁵⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Seychelles	YES ⁵⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Slovenia	YES ⁵⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
South Africa	YES ⁵⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
South Sudan	YES ⁶⁰	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Spain	YES ⁶¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sweden	YES ⁶²	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Togo	YES ⁶³	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Tunisia	YES ⁶⁴	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turkmenistan	YES ⁶⁵	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Ukraine	YES ⁶⁶	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Uruguay	YES ⁶⁷	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Venezuela	YES ⁶⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Zambia	YES ⁶⁹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ⁷⁰

Corporal punishment unlawful by Supreme Court ruling

In the following state, a Supreme Court ruling has declared corporal punishment to be unlawful in all settings including the home but prohibition has not yet been enacted in legislation. Italy is yet to make a public commitment to enacting 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
Italy	NO ⁷¹	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

⁵² 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

⁵³ Prohibited in Law on Child Protection 2019

⁵⁴ Prohibited in 2008 amendment to Family Code

⁵⁵ Prohibited in Law on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child 2004

⁵⁶ Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Penal Code and Law of 26 April 1986 No. 49 on Family Law Reform

⁵⁷ Prohibited in 2020 amendments to Children Act 1982

⁵⁸ Prohibited in Law Amending and Supplementing the Law on Prevention of Family Violence 2016

⁵⁹ 2019 Constitutional Court decision ruled the common law defence of "reasonable chastisement" to be unconstitutional

⁶⁰ Prohibited in Transitional Constitution 2011, confirming pre-independence prohibition in Interim Constitution 2005 and Child Act 2008

⁶¹ Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Civil Code

⁶² Prohibited in 1979 amendment to Parenthood and Guardianship Code

⁶³ Prohibited in Children's Code 2007

⁶⁴ Prohibited in 2010 amendment to Penal Code

⁶⁵ Prohibited in Law on Guarantees of the Rights of the Child 2002, reiterated in Family Code 2012

⁶⁶ Prohibited in Family Code 2003

⁶⁷ Prohibited in 2007 amendments to Civil Code and Children and Adolescents Code 2004

⁶⁸ Prohibited in 2007 amendments to Law for the Protection of Children and Adolescents 1998

⁶⁹ Prohibited in Children's Code Act 2022

⁷⁰ Unlawful under 1999 Supreme Court ruling and confirmed by Children's Code Act 2022

⁷¹ 1996 Supreme Court judgment ruled against all violence in childrearing but this not yet confirmed in legislation

States expressing commitment to law reform in UPR and other contexts

Governments in the following 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 and/or in another official context. For more information on how the Global Initiative assesses states' commitment, visit <https://endcorporalpunishment.org/committed-states/>.

<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
Armenia ⁷²	NO	SOME ⁷³	NO	YES	YES	YES
Bahrain ⁷⁴	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁷⁵	SOME ⁷⁶	SOME ⁷⁷	SOME ⁷⁸	YES	YES	YES
Cambodia ⁷⁹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
China ⁸⁰	NO ⁸¹	[NO]	SOME ⁸²	YES	YES	YES
Cuba ⁸³	YES ⁸⁴	YES ⁸⁵	[SOME] ⁸⁶	NO	YES	YES
Czech Republic ⁸⁷	NO	SOME ⁸⁸	SOME ⁸⁹	YES	YES	YES
Dominican Republic ⁹⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Ecuador ⁹¹	NO	NO	SOME ⁹²	YES	YES	SOME ⁹³
Indonesia ⁹⁴	NO	NO ⁹⁵	NO	NO	YES	SOME ⁹⁶
Jamaica ⁹⁷	NO	YES	SOME ⁹⁸	NO ⁹⁹	YES	YES
Kyrgyzstan ¹⁰⁰	NO	SOME ¹⁰¹	NO	YES	[YES]	YES

⁷² Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015)

⁷³ Unlawful in care institutions

⁷⁴ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2017)

⁷⁵ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

⁷⁶ Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

⁷⁷ Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

⁷⁸ Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

⁷⁹ 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

⁸⁰ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2018)

⁸¹ But corporal punishment of girls prohibited in Shenzhen Special Economic Zone

⁸² Prohibited in nurseries and kindergartens

⁸³ 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.

⁸⁴ Prohibited in the Family Code 2022

⁸⁵ Prohibited in the Family Code 2022

⁸⁶ Possibly prohibited in preschool institutions

⁸⁷ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2023). Bill to achieve full prohibition was under discussion (2023)

⁸⁸ Unlawful in institutions

⁸⁹ Prohibited in preschool provision

⁹⁰ 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)

⁹¹ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2012)

⁹² Prohibited in preschool provision

⁹³ Lawful in indigenous communities

⁹⁴ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2017)

⁹⁵ National Standards of Care for Child Welfare Institutions state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

⁹⁶ Lawful under Shari'a law

⁹⁷ 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

⁹⁸ Prohibited in early childhood centres ("basic schools")

⁹⁹ Prohibition under discussion (2015); see also note on day care

¹⁰⁰ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2015)

¹⁰¹ Prohibited in residential institutions

<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
Mexico ¹⁰²	SOME ¹⁰³	SOME ¹⁰⁴	SOME ¹⁰⁵	YES	YES	YES
Mozambique ¹⁰⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁰⁷	YES	YES
Namibia ¹⁰⁸	NO	YES	SOME ¹⁰⁹	YES	YES	YES
Niger ¹¹⁰	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹¹¹	NO	YES
Panama ¹¹²	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Philippines ¹¹³	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Serbia ¹¹⁴	NO	NO	SOME ¹¹⁵	YES	YES	YES
Sierra Leone ¹¹⁶	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Somalia ¹¹⁷	NO	SOME ¹¹⁸	SOME ¹¹⁹	[SOME] ¹²⁰	SOME ¹²¹	SOME ¹²²
Sri Lanka ¹²³	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹²⁴	SOME ¹²⁵	YES
Switzerland ¹²⁶	NO ¹²⁷	[SOME] ¹²⁸	YES	YES	YES	YES
Timor-Leste ¹²⁹	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
United Arab Emirates ¹³⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	[YES]	NO
Uzbekistan ¹³¹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

States without a clear commitment to law reform

The following states are not currently committed to prohibiting all corporal punishment. Some have yet to make a clear commitment to law reform. Some have accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit but have also indicated that they consider existing legislation

¹⁰² 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); prohibition included in General Law on the Rights of Children and Adolescents 2014 but further reform needed

¹⁰³ Prohibited in the state of Guanajuato

¹⁰⁴ Prohibited in institutions

¹⁰⁵ Prohibited in institutions

¹⁰⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2016)

¹⁰⁷ Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

¹⁰⁸ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2016)

¹⁰⁹ Prohibited in early childhood centres and in places of care; unlawful in all state-run childcare under 1991 Supreme Court ruling

¹¹⁰ Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2014)

¹¹¹ Ministerial Order states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹¹² Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015)

¹¹³ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in the home and other settings (2012)

¹¹⁴ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2008, 2013)

¹¹⁵ Prohibited in day care which forms part of education system

¹¹⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all circumstances (2016)

¹¹⁷ 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

¹¹⁸ Prohibited in Somaliland

¹¹⁹ Prohibited in Somaliland

¹²⁰ Possibly prohibited in Somaliland

¹²¹ Prohibited in Somaliland

¹²² Prohibited in Somaliland

¹²³ 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

¹²⁴ Ministerial circular states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹²⁵ Prohibited in prisons

¹²⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2023). Bill to achieve full prohibition was under discussion (2023)

¹²⁷ 2003 Federal Court ruling stated repeated and habitual corporal punishment unacceptable but did not rule out all corporal punishment in childrearing

¹²⁸ Possibly lawful in family placements

¹²⁹ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2011)

¹³⁰ Government supported UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018)

¹³¹ Government supported UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018)

adequately protects children from corporal punishment, in conflict with information collected by End Corporal Punishment. Some have accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit corporal punishment but rejected other similar recommendations. Others had previously committed but have since either backtracked on that commitment or have failed to take action on it.

<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
Afghanistan ¹³²	NO	YES	SOME ¹³³	YES	YES	NO ¹³⁴
Algeria ¹³⁵	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Angola ¹³⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Antigua and Barbuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Australia	NO	SOME ¹³⁷	SOME ¹³⁸	SOME ¹³⁹	SOME ¹⁴⁰	YES
Azerbaijan ¹⁴¹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Bahamas	NO	SOME ¹⁴²	SOME ¹⁴³	NO	[YES] ¹⁴⁴	[NO] ¹⁴⁵
Bangladesh ¹⁴⁶	NO	NO	NO	YES ¹⁴⁷	NO	NO
Barbados	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁴⁸	NO	NO	NO
Belarus ¹⁴⁹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Belgium	NO ¹⁵⁰	SOME ¹⁵¹	NO	YES	YES	YES
Belize ¹⁵²	NO	SOME ¹⁵³	SOME ¹⁵⁴	YES	SOME ¹⁵⁵	YES
Bhutan ¹⁵⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁵⁷	[YES]	YES
Botswana	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

¹³² 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

¹³³ Prohibited in preschool provision

¹³⁴ Lawful under Shari'a law

¹³⁵ 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

¹³⁶ Had initially committed to prohibition in all settings by accepting UPR recommendation to do so in 2014, but no progress since

¹³⁷ Prohibited in all residential centres and foster care in all states/territories except Northern Territory, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia

¹³⁸ Prohibited in all states/territories except in Northern Territory and Tasmania; prohibition in childminding unconfirmed

¹³⁹ Prohibited in all states/territories except Queensland

¹⁴⁰ Prohibited in all states/territories except Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia

¹⁴¹ 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

¹⁴² Prohibited in residential institutions

¹⁴³ Prohibited in preschools and day care centres under the Early Childhood Care (National Standards) Regulations 2015

¹⁴⁴ But some legislation possibly still to be repealed

¹⁴⁵ Prohibited in 1984 but reintroduced in 1991

¹⁴⁶ 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

¹⁴⁷ Unlawful under 2011 Supreme Court ruling, not yet confirmed in legislation

¹⁴⁸ Prohibited in day nurseries

¹⁴⁹ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2010) but stated it had already been implemented and all corporal punishment unlawful

¹⁵⁰ Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2016); Government gave a mixed response to UPR recommendations to prohibit (2016)

¹⁵¹ Prohibited in institutions in Flemish community

¹⁵² 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

¹⁵³ Prohibited in residential care facilities

¹⁵⁴ Prohibited in day care centres

¹⁵⁵ Prohibited in "Youth Hostel" detention centre

¹⁵⁶ 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

¹⁵⁷ Code of Conduct and ministerial directives state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<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 ¹⁵⁸	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁵⁹	NO	NO	NO
Burkina Faso ¹⁶⁰	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁶¹	SOME ¹⁶²	[YES]	YES
Burundi	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Cameroon	NO	NO	[SOME] ¹⁶³	YES	[YES]	YES
Canada	NO ¹⁶⁴	SOME ¹⁶⁵	SOME ¹⁶⁶	YES ¹⁶⁷	YES	YES
Central African Republic	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Chad ¹⁶⁸	NO	[SOME] ¹⁶⁹	[SOME] ¹⁷⁰	YES	[YES]	YES
Chile ¹⁷¹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Comoros ¹⁷²	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	[YES]
Cook Islands	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁷³	YES	NO	YES
Cote d'Ivoire	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁷⁴	YES	YES
Djibouti	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Dominica	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁷⁵	NO	NO	NO
DPR Korea ¹⁷⁶	NO	NO	NO	[NO] ¹⁷⁷	[YES]	[YES]
DR Congo	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Egypt	NO	NO	NO	[NO] ¹⁷⁸	[YES] ¹⁷⁹	YES
El Salvador ¹⁸⁰	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁸¹	YES	YES	YES
Equatorial Guinea	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Eritrea	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁸²	[NO]	NO
Eswatini	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Ethiopia ¹⁸³	NO	SOME ¹⁸⁴	SOME ¹⁸⁵	YES	YES	YES

¹⁵⁸ Government accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit but rejected others (2009)

¹⁵⁹ Prohibited in childcare centres

¹⁶⁰ Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2014); Government noted a UPR recommendation to prohibit in 2018

¹⁶¹ Prohibited in preschool settings

¹⁶² Prohibited in primary schools

¹⁶³ Possibly prohibited in nursery education

¹⁶⁴ 2004 Supreme Court ruling limited but upheld parents' right to physically punish children

¹⁶⁵ 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

¹⁶⁶ Prohibited in all states/territories except Quebec

¹⁶⁷ 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

¹⁶⁸ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in 2009 but rejected recommendation to prohibit in 2013

¹⁶⁹ Possibly prohibited in institutional care settings

¹⁷⁰ Possibly prohibited in institutions

¹⁷¹ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2014); prohibiting legislation under was discussion (2016) but provisions to fully prohibit were eventually removed (2023)

¹⁷² Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in 2014 but noted similar recommendations in 2019

¹⁷³ Prohibited in institutions providing early childhood education

¹⁷⁴ Ministerial circular states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁷⁵ Prohibited in early childhood education facilities

¹⁷⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2014)

¹⁷⁷ Policy states corporal punishment should not be used but possibly no prohibition in law

¹⁷⁸ Ministerial directive states corporal punishment should not be used but possibly no prohibition in law

¹⁷⁹ Possibly lawful in social welfare institutions

¹⁸⁰ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation in 2010; but Bills to prohibit were archived in 2017

¹⁸¹ Prohibited in preschool provision

¹⁸² Policy states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁸³ Government accepted UPR recommendation to abolish corporal punishment but rejected recommendation to criminalise it (2014)

¹⁸⁴ Prohibited in institutions

¹⁸⁵ Prohibited in institutions

<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
Fiji ¹⁸⁶	NO	NO	NO	YES ¹⁸⁷	YES	YES
Gabon	NO	NO	SOME ¹⁸⁸	YES	YES	YES
Gambia	NO	NO ¹⁸⁹	NO	NO ¹⁹⁰	NO	YES
Ghana ¹⁹¹	NO	NO	NO	NO ¹⁹²	SOME ¹⁹³	YES
Grenada	NO	SOME ¹⁹⁴	NO	NO	NO	YES ¹⁹⁵
Guatemala ¹⁹⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Guinea-Bissau ¹⁹⁷	NO	YES	[NO]	YES	YES	YES
Guyana	NO	SOME ¹⁹⁸	SOME ¹⁹⁹	NO	[YES]	YES
Haiti	NO ²⁰⁰	[YES] ²⁰¹	[YES] ²⁰²	YES	YES	YES
India ²⁰³	NO	SOME ²⁰⁴	NO ²⁰⁵	SOME ²⁰⁶	YES ²⁰⁷	SOME ²⁰⁸
Iran	NO	NO	SOME ²⁰⁹	NO ²¹⁰	YES	NO
Iraq	NO ²¹¹	NO	NO	NO	SOME ²¹²	YES
Jordan ²¹³	NO	[SOME] ²¹⁴	[NO]	YES	[YES]	YES
Kazakhstan	NO	[SOME] ²¹⁵	SOME ²¹⁶	YES	YES	YES
Kiribati ²¹⁷	NO	NO	SOME ²¹⁸	YES	NO	SOME ²¹⁹
Kuwait ²²⁰	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	[YES]

¹⁸⁶ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation in 2014; but no progress since

¹⁸⁷ Unlawful under 2002 High Court ruling, not yet confirmed in legislation

¹⁸⁸ Prohibited in preschool provision

¹⁸⁹ Minimum standards for residential childcare institutions state corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

¹⁹⁰ Ministerial directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

¹⁹¹ Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2008, 2012, 2017) then rejected UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings in 2023

¹⁹² Ministerial directive possibly advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

¹⁹³ Prohibited in prisons

¹⁹⁴ Prohibited in child care services

¹⁹⁵ Some provisions still to be formally repealed

¹⁹⁶ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in the home (2008) and in all settings (2012) but has also said existing law prohibits

¹⁹⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation in 2015; but no progress since

¹⁹⁸ Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

¹⁹⁹ Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

²⁰⁰ Bill which would prohibit under discussion (2015)

²⁰¹ Prohibition in foster care unconfirmed

²⁰² Prohibition in crèches and childminding unconfirmed

²⁰³ 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

²⁰⁴ Prohibited in care institutions except in Jammu and Kashmir; bill which would prohibit in all childcare institutions under discussion (2014)

²⁰⁵ Bill which would prohibit in anganwadi centres and playschools under discussion (2014)

²⁰⁶ Prohibited for 6-14 year olds except in Jammu and Kashmir; not prohibited in religious schools

²⁰⁷ But prohibiting law not applicable in Jammu and Kashmir

²⁰⁸ Permitted in traditional justice systems

²⁰⁹ Prohibited in day care centres (kindergartens)

²¹⁰ Government directive states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²¹¹ But possibly prohibited in Kurdistan

²¹² Prohibited in prisons and detention centres

²¹³ 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"

²¹⁴ Possibly prohibited in institutions

²¹⁵ Possibly prohibited in children's villages

²¹⁶ Prohibited in preschool education and training

²¹⁷ 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)

²¹⁸ Prohibited in early childhood care and education for children between 3 and 6 years old

²¹⁹ But used in traditional justice

²²⁰ 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"

<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
Lebanon	NO	NO	NO	NO ²²¹	[YES]	YES
Lesotho ²²²	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Liberia	NO	SOME ²²³	SOME ²²⁴	NO	YES	YES
Libya	NO	NO	SOME ²²⁵	YES	NO	NO
Madagascar	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Malawi	NO	SOME ²²⁶	SOME ²²⁷	[YES] ²²⁸	YES	YES
Malaysia	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO ²²⁹
Maldives ²³⁰	NO	NO	NO	NO ²³¹	NO	NO
Mali	NO	NO	SOME ²³²	YES	YES	YES
Marshall Islands ²³³	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²³⁴	YES	YES
Mauritania	NO	NO	NO	NO ²³⁵	[SOME] ²³⁶	NO
Micronesia ²³⁷	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Monaco	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Morocco ²³⁸	NO	NO	NO	NO ²³⁹	YES	YES
Myanmar ²⁴⁰	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁴¹	NO	YES ²⁴²
Nauru	NO	NO	[SOME] ²⁴³	YES	YES	[YES]
Nigeria	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁴⁴	SOME ²⁴⁵	SOME ²⁴⁶
Niue	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES
Oman ²⁴⁷	NO	NO	[SOME] ²⁴⁸	YES	NO	[YES]

²²¹ Ministerial directive states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²²² Government accepted UPR recommendation to abolish corporal punishment, stating it was being implemented (2010), but subsequent law reform prohibited only as sentence for crime

²²³ Corporal punishment by child protection practitioners prohibited

²²⁴ Corporal punishment by child protection practitioners prohibited

²²⁵ Unlawful in preschool provision

²²⁶ Prohibited in state-run institutions

²²⁷ Prohibited in state-run day care

²²⁸ Prohibition in private schools unconfirmed

²²⁹ Government committed to prohibition (2007); bill which would prohibit (but not under Islamic law) under discussion (2015)

²³⁰ 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)

²³¹ Ministry of Education advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²³² Prohibited in preschools and kindergartens

²³³ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015); but no progress since

²³⁴ But some legislation still to be formally repealed

²³⁵ Ministerial Order states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²³⁶ 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

²³⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2015); but no progress since

²³⁸ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2012); but later stated that prohibition was already achieved (2017)

²³⁹ Ministerial direction advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁴⁰ Child Rights Law 2019 included provisions that were reportedly intended to prohibit all corporal punishment of children. Development of the Child Rights Law 2019 Implementing Rules (which would provide clarification) was suspended in 2021

²⁴¹ Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁴² But some legislation still to be repealed

²⁴³ Possibly prohibited in preschool education settings

²⁴⁴ But possibly prohibited in Lagos State

²⁴⁵ Prohibited in Child Rights Act 2003, not enacted in all states

²⁴⁶ Prohibited in Child Rights Act 2003, not enacted in all states; lawful in some states under Shari'a law

²⁴⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2015); but no progress since

²⁴⁸ Possibly prohibited in preschool provision

<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
Pakistan ²⁴⁹	SOME ²⁵⁰	SOME ²⁵¹	SOME ²⁵²	SOME ²⁵³	SOME ²⁵⁴	SOME ²⁵⁵
Palau ²⁵⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Papua New Guinea ²⁵⁷	NO	SOME ²⁵⁸	NO	NO	YES	YES
Qatar ²⁵⁹	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁶⁰	YES	NO
Russian Federation	NO	NO	SOME ²⁶¹	YES	YES	YES
Rwanda ²⁶²	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Samoa ²⁶³	NO	NO	SOME ²⁶⁴	SOME ²⁶⁵	YES	YES
Sao Tome and Principe ²⁶⁶	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	[YES]	[YES]
Saudi Arabia ²⁶⁷	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁶⁸	NO	NO
Senegal ²⁶⁹	NO	NO	NO	SOME ²⁷⁰	[YES]	YES
Singapore	NO	NO	SOME ²⁷¹	NO	NO	NO
Slovakia ²⁷²	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Solomon Islands ²⁷³	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES ²⁷⁴
St Kitts and Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] ²⁷⁵
St Lucia ²⁷⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
St Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES

²⁴⁹ 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

²⁵⁰ Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan

²⁵¹ Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, in Islamabad Capital Territory and in Sindh

²⁵² Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, in Islamabad Capital Territory and in Sindh

²⁵³ Prohibited for 5-16 year olds in Punjab; prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, Islamabad Capital Territory and Sindh

²⁵⁴ 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

²⁵⁵ Lawful under Shari'a law; prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, Islamabad Capital Territory and Sindh

²⁵⁶ 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

²⁵⁷ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011); but later claimed prohibition was already achieved (2016)

²⁵⁸ Corporal punishment of children "in the care of the Director" prohibited

²⁵⁹ Government accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit but rejected another similar one, stating corporal punishment already prohibited (2010)

²⁶⁰ Code of Conduct for schools states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

²⁶¹ Unlawful in preschool provision

²⁶² 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

²⁶³ 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

²⁶⁴ Prohibited in early childhood centres

²⁶⁵ Prohibited in government primary schools

²⁶⁶ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011, 2015); but no progress since

²⁶⁷ 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

²⁶⁸ Ministerial circulars advise against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁶⁹ Draft legislation to prohibit under discussion (2016)

²⁷⁰ Prohibited for 6-14 year olds

²⁷¹ Early Childhood Development Centres Regulations 2018 prohibit corporal punishment in early childhood development centres

²⁷² Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit (2009); but no progress since despite prohibiting legislation having been drafted in 2014

²⁷³ 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

²⁷⁴ But used in traditional justice

²⁷⁵ But some legislation still to be formally repealed

²⁷⁶ Government accepted some but not all UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

<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
State of Palestine	NO	NO	NO	SOME ²⁷⁷	[SOME] ²⁷⁸	[SOME] ²⁷⁹
Sudan	NO	NO	[YES] ²⁸⁰	YES	YES	YES
Suriname	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁸¹	YES	YES
Syrian Arab Republic	NO	NO	NO	NO ²⁸²	NO	YES
Taiwan	NO	NO	SOME ²⁸³	YES	YES	YES
Tajikistan ²⁸⁴	NO	NO	SOME ²⁸⁵	YES	YES	YES
Thailand ²⁸⁶	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Tonga	NO	NO	SOME ²⁸⁷	YES	[YES]	NO ²⁸⁸
Trinidad and Tobago	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turkey ²⁸⁹	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Tuvalu ²⁹⁰	NO	SOME ²⁹¹	NO	NO	SOME ²⁹²	SOME ²⁹³
Uganda ²⁹⁴	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
UK	SOME ²⁹⁵	SOME ²⁹⁶	SOME ²⁹⁷	YES ²⁹⁸	YES	YES
UR Tanzania	NO	SOME ²⁹⁹	NO	NO ³⁰⁰	SOME ³⁰¹	SOME ³⁰²
USA	NO	SOME ³⁰³	SOME ³⁰⁴	SOME ³⁰⁵	SOME ³⁰⁶	YES
Vanuatu	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	SOME ³⁰⁷
Viet Nam	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

²⁷⁷ Prohibited in UNRWA schools and in East Jerusalem; elsewhere Ministerial direction advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁷⁸ Possibly unlawful in East Jerusalem

²⁷⁹ Possibly unlawful in Gaza

²⁸⁰ The Regulation on behaviour control in educational institutions 2020 prohibit corporal punishment in preschool

²⁸¹ Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in schools (2011)

²⁸² Ministry of Education advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

²⁸³ Prohibited in preschools and community, tribal and workplace cooperative early childhood care institutions for children between two and six

²⁸⁴ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011); but no progress since. Following law reform in 2023, the law on the protection of a child's rights only prohibits "a use or threat of violence against a child".

²⁸⁵ Prohibited in preschool education settings

²⁸⁶ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2012, 2016); but no progress since

²⁸⁷ Prohibited in preschool institutions

²⁸⁸ 2010 Court of Appeal ruling stated "it might be argued" whipping is unconstitutional but did not declare it such

²⁸⁹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015); but no progress since

²⁹⁰ Government accepted 2008 UPR recommendation to prohibit but in 2013 accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit and rejected others

²⁹¹ Prohibited in hospital mental health wing

²⁹² Corporal punishment by police officers prohibited

²⁹³ Island courts may order corporal punishment

²⁹⁴ 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

²⁹⁵ 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

²⁹⁶ Prohibited in residential institutions and foster care arranged by local authorities and voluntary organisations; fully prohibited in Scotland and Wales

²⁹⁷ 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

²⁹⁸ But in 2014 Government confirmed no prohibition in "unregistered independent settings providing part-time education"; fully prohibited in Scotland and Wales

²⁹⁹ Prohibited in residential institutions in Zanzibar

³⁰⁰ Directive prohibits corporal punishment in classrooms from pre-primary to third grade, in mainland Tanzania

³⁰¹ Prohibited in approved schools and remand homes in Zanzibar

³⁰² Prohibited in Zanzibar

³⁰³ Prohibited in all care settings in 31 states, and in some settings in other states and District of Columbia

³⁰⁴ Prohibited in all care settings in 31 states, and in some settings in other states and District of Columbia

³⁰⁵ 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)

³⁰⁶ Prohibited in 32 states

³⁰⁷ Permitted in rural areas under customary justice systems

<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
Western Sahara	NO	[NO]	[NO]	[NO]	[YES]	[YES]
Yemen	NO	NO	[SOME] ³⁰⁸	YES	YES	NO
Zimbabwe ³⁰⁹	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES ³¹⁰

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.

³⁰⁸ Possibly prohibited in preschool provision

³⁰⁹ Had initially committed to prohibition by accepting UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2011); but later noted similar UPR recommendations (2016)

³¹⁰ 2014 High Court ruling declaring judicial corporal punishment unconstitutional confirmed by 2019 Constitutional Court decision but some legislation still to be repealed