

# Global progress towards prohibiting all corporal punishment



## End Corporal Punishment

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Also available online at [www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://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 April 2024, 66 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](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org) or email [vohitos@who.int](mailto: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](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org); to provide us with further information please email [vohitos@who.int](mailto:vohitos@who.int)

	Home	Alternative care settings*	Day care†	Schools	Penal institutions	Sentence for crime
Fully prohibited	67‡ states 16 territories	76 states 16 territories	73 states 16 territories	136 states 25 territories	147 states 36 territories	169 states 39 territories
Not fully prohibited	133 states 23 territories	123 states 23 territories	126 states 23 territories	63 states 14 territories	52 states 3 territories	30 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 <sup>4</sup>	NO	YES	SOME <sup>5</sup>	YES	YES	NO <sup>6</sup>
Albania	YES <sup>7</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Algeria <sup>8</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
American Samoa	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Andorra	YES <sup>9</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Angola <sup>10</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Anguilla	NO	NO	SOME <sup>11</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Antigua and Barbuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Argentina	YES <sup>12</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Armenia <sup>13</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>14</sup>	NO	YES	YES	YES
Aruba	YES <sup>15</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Australia	NO	SOME <sup>16</sup>	SOME <sup>17</sup>	SOME <sup>18</sup>	SOME <sup>19</sup>	YES
Austria	YES <sup>20</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Azerbaijan <sup>21</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Bahamas	NO	SOME <sup>22</sup>	SOME <sup>23</sup>	NO	[YES] <sup>24</sup>	[NO] <sup>25</sup>
Bahrain <sup>26</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Bangladesh <sup>27</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES <sup>28</sup>	NO	NO
Barbados	NO	NO	SOME <sup>29</sup>	NO	NO	NO
Belarus <sup>30</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Belgium	NO <sup>31</sup>	SOME <sup>32</sup>	NO	YES	YES	YES

<sup>4</sup> 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

<sup>5</sup> Prohibited in preschool provision

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

<sup>7</sup> 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

<sup>8</sup> 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

<sup>9</sup> Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Criminal Code 2005

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

<sup>11</sup> Prohibited in early childhood education centres

<sup>12</sup> Prohibited in Civil and Commercial Code 2014, in force 2016

<sup>13</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015)

<sup>14</sup> Unlawful in care institutions

<sup>15</sup> Prohibited in 2016 amendments to Civil Code 2001

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

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

<sup>18</sup> Prohibited in all states/territories except Queensland

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

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

<sup>21</sup> 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

<sup>22</sup> Prohibited in residential institutions

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

<sup>24</sup> But some legislation possibly still to be repealed

<sup>25</sup> Prohibited in 1984 but reintroduced in 1991

<sup>26</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2017)

<sup>27</sup> 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

<sup>28</sup> Unlawful under 2011 Supreme Court ruling, not yet confirmed in legislation

<sup>29</sup> Prohibited in day nurseries

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

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

<sup>32</sup> 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 <sup>33</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>34</sup>	SOME <sup>35</sup>	YES	SOME <sup>36</sup>	YES
Benin	YES <sup>37</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bermuda	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Bhutan <sup>38</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>39</sup>	[YES]	YES
Bolivia	YES <sup>40</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bonaire, St Eustatius and Saba	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>41</sup>	SOME <sup>42</sup>	SOME <sup>43</sup>	SOME <sup>44</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Botswana	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Brazil	YES <sup>45</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
British Virgin Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Brunei Darussalam <sup>46</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>47</sup>	NO	NO	NO
Bulgaria	YES <sup>48</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Burkina Faso <sup>49</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>50</sup>	SOME <sup>51</sup>	[YES]	YES
Burundi	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Cabo Verde	YES <sup>52</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cambodia <sup>53</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Cameroon	NO	NO	[SOME] <sup>54</sup>	YES	[YES]	YES
Canada	NO <sup>55</sup>	SOME <sup>56</sup>	SOME <sup>57</sup>	YES <sup>58</sup>	YES	YES

<sup>33</sup> 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

<sup>34</sup> Prohibited in residential care facilities

<sup>35</sup> Prohibited in day care centres

<sup>36</sup> Prohibited in “Youth Hostel” detention centre

<sup>37</sup> Prohibited in Children’s Code 2015

<sup>38</sup> 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

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

<sup>40</sup> Prohibited in Children and Adolescents Code 2014

<sup>41</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

<sup>42</sup> Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

<sup>43</sup> Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

<sup>44</sup> Prohibited in Republic of Srpska

<sup>45</sup> Prohibited in 2014 amendments to Children and Adolescents Code 1990

<sup>46</sup> Government accepted some UPR recommendations to prohibit but rejected others (2009)

<sup>47</sup> Prohibited in childcare centres

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

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

<sup>50</sup> Prohibited in preschool settings

<sup>51</sup> Prohibited in primary schools

<sup>52</sup> Prohibited in Law on Children and Adolescents 2013

<sup>53</sup> 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

<sup>54</sup> Possibly prohibited in nursery education

<sup>55</sup> 2004 Supreme Court ruling limited but upheld parents’ right to physically punish children

<sup>56</sup> 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

<sup>57</sup> Prohibited in all states/territories except Quebec

<sup>58</sup> 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 <sup>59</sup>	SOME <sup>60</sup>	YES	NO	YES
Central African Republic	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Chad <sup>61</sup>	NO	[SOME] <sup>62</sup>	[SOME] <sup>63</sup>	YES	[YES]	YES
Chile <sup>64</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
China <sup>65</sup>	NO <sup>66</sup>	[NO]	SOME <sup>67</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Colombia <sup>68</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Comoros <sup>69</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	[YES]
Congo, Republic of	YES <sup>70</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cook Islands	NO	NO	SOME <sup>71</sup>	YES	NO	YES
Costa Rica	YES <sup>72</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cote d'Ivoire	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>73</sup>	YES	YES
Croatia	YES <sup>74</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cuba <sup>75</sup>	YES <sup>76</sup>	YES <sup>77</sup>	[SOME] <sup>78</sup>	NO	YES	YES
Curacao	YES <sup>79</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cyprus	YES <sup>80</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Czech Republic	NO	SOME <sup>81</sup>	SOME <sup>82</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Denmark	YES <sup>83</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Djibouti	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Dominica	NO	NO	SOME <sup>84</sup>	NO	NO	NO

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

<sup>60</sup> Prohibited in early childhood care and education centres

<sup>61</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in 2009 but rejected recommendation to prohibit in 2013

<sup>62</sup> Possibly prohibited in institutional care settings

<sup>63</sup> Possibly prohibited in institutions

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

<sup>65</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2018)

<sup>66</sup> But corporal punishment of girls prohibited in Shenzhen Special Economic Zone

<sup>67</sup> Prohibited in nurseries and kindergartens

<sup>68</sup> 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).

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

<sup>70</sup> Prohibited in Law on the Protection of the Child 2010

<sup>71</sup> Prohibited in institutions providing early childhood education

<sup>72</sup> Prohibited in 2008 amendments to Code on Children and Adolescents and Family Code

<sup>73</sup> Ministerial circular states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

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

<sup>75</sup> 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.

<sup>76</sup> Prohibited in the Family Code 2022

<sup>77</sup> Prohibited in the Family Code 2022

<sup>78</sup> Possibly prohibited in preschool institutions

<sup>79</sup> Prohibited in Joint Custody Ordinance 2011

<sup>80</sup> 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

<sup>81</sup> Unlawful in institutions

<sup>82</sup> Prohibited in preschool provision

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

<sup>84</sup> 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 <sup>85</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
DPR Korea <sup>86</sup>	NO	NO	NO	[NO] <sup>87</sup>	[YES]	[YES]
DR Congo	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Ecuador <sup>88</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>89</sup>	YES	YES	SOME <sup>90</sup>
Egypt	NO	NO	NO	[NO] <sup>91</sup>	[YES] <sup>92</sup>	YES
El Salvador <sup>93</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>94</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Equatorial Guinea	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Eritrea	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>95</sup>	[NO]	NO
Estonia	YES <sup>96</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Eswatini	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Ethiopia <sup>97</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>98</sup>	SOME <sup>99</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES	YES
Faroe Islands	YES <sup>100</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Fiji <sup>101</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES <sup>102</sup>	YES	YES
Finland	YES <sup>103</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
France	YES <sup>104</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
French Guiana	YES <sup>105</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
French Polynesia	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Gabon	NO	NO	SOME <sup>106</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Gambia	NO	NO <sup>107</sup>	NO	NO <sup>108</sup>	NO	YES
Georgia	YES <sup>109</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Germany	YES <sup>110</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

<sup>85</sup> 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)

<sup>86</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2014)

<sup>87</sup> Policy states corporal punishment should not be used but possibly no prohibition in law

<sup>88</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2012)

<sup>89</sup> Prohibited in preschool provision

<sup>90</sup> Lawful in indigenous communities

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

<sup>92</sup> Possibly lawful in social welfare institutions

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

<sup>94</sup> Prohibited in preschool provision

<sup>95</sup> Policy states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>96</sup> Prohibited in Child Protection Act 2014, in force January 2016

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

<sup>98</sup> Prohibited in institutions

<sup>99</sup> Prohibited in institutions

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

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

<sup>102</sup> Unlawful under 2002 High Court ruling, not yet confirmed in legislation

<sup>103</sup> Prohibited in Child Custody and Rights of Access Act 1983

<sup>104</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>105</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>106</sup> Prohibited in preschool provision

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

<sup>108</sup> Ministerial directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>109</sup> Prohibited in Code on the Rights of the Child 2019

<sup>110</sup> 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 <sup>111</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>112</sup>	SOME <sup>113</sup>	YES
Gibraltar	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] <sup>114</sup>	YES
Greece	YES <sup>115</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Greenland	YES <sup>116</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Grenada	NO	SOME <sup>117</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES <sup>118</sup>
Guadeloupe	YES <sup>119</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Guam	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES
Guatemala <sup>120</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Guernsey	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>121</sup>	[SOME] <sup>122</sup>	YES
Guinea	YES <sup>123</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Guinea-Bissau <sup>124</sup>	NO	YES	[NO]	YES	YES	YES
Guyana	NO	SOME <sup>125</sup>	SOME <sup>126</sup>	NO	[YES]	YES
Haiti	NO <sup>127</sup>	[YES] <sup>128</sup>	[YES] <sup>129</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Honduras	YES <sup>130</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hong Kong	NO	NO	SOME <sup>131</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Hungary	YES <sup>132</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Iceland	YES <sup>133</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
India <sup>134</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>135</sup>	NO <sup>136</sup>	SOME <sup>137</sup>	YES <sup>138</sup>	SOME <sup>139</sup>
Indonesia <sup>140</sup>	NO	NO <sup>141</sup>	NO	NO	YES	SOME <sup>142</sup>

<sup>111</sup> 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)

<sup>112</sup> Ministerial directive possibly advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>113</sup> Prohibited in prisons

<sup>114</sup> Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

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

<sup>116</sup> Prohibited in Danish Act on Parental Responsibility 2007, in force in Greenland April 2016

<sup>117</sup> Prohibited in child care services

<sup>118</sup> Some provisions still to be formally repealed

<sup>119</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

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

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

<sup>122</sup> Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

<sup>123</sup> Prohibited in Children's Code 2019

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

<sup>125</sup> Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

<sup>126</sup> Prohibited in some but not all settings in Child Care and Services Development Act 2011

<sup>127</sup> Bill which would prohibit under discussion (2015)

<sup>128</sup> Prohibition in foster care unconfirmed

<sup>129</sup> Prohibition in crèches and childminding unconfirmed

<sup>130</sup> Prohibited in 2013 amendments to Family Code and Civil Code

<sup>131</sup> Prohibited in childcare centres, mutual help childcare centres and possibly in preschool settings

<sup>132</sup> Prohibited in 2004 amendment to Child Protection Act 1997

<sup>133</sup> Prohibited in Children's Act 2003

<sup>134</sup> 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

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

<sup>136</sup> Bill which would prohibit in anganwadi centres and playschools under discussion (2014)

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

<sup>138</sup> But prohibiting law not applicable in Jammu and Kashmir

<sup>139</sup> Permitted in traditional justice systems

<sup>140</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2017)

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

<sup>142</sup> 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 <sup>143</sup>	NO <sup>144</sup>	YES	NO
Iraq	NO <sup>145</sup>	NO	NO	NO	SOME <sup>146</sup>	YES
Ireland	YES <sup>147</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Isle of Man	NO	SOME <sup>148</sup>	SOME <sup>149</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Israel	YES <sup>150</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Italy	NO <sup>151</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jamaica <sup>152</sup>	NO	YES	SOME <sup>153</sup>	NO <sup>154</sup>	YES	YES
Japan	YES <sup>155</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jersey	YES <sup>156</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jordan <sup>157</sup>	NO	[SOME] <sup>158</sup>	[NO]	YES	[YES]	YES
Kazakhstan	NO	[SOME] <sup>159</sup>	SOME <sup>160</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Kenya	YES <sup>161</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kiribati <sup>162</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>163</sup>	YES	NO	SOME <sup>164</sup>
Kuwait <sup>165</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	[YES]
Kyrgyzstan <sup>166</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>167</sup>	NO	YES	[YES]	YES
Lao PDR	YES <sup>168</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Latvia	YES <sup>169</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lebanon	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>170</sup>	[YES]	YES
Lesotho <sup>171</sup>	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES

<sup>143</sup> Prohibited in day care centres (kindergartens)

<sup>144</sup> Government directive states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>145</sup> But possibly prohibited in Kurdistan

<sup>146</sup> Prohibited in prisons and detention centres

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

<sup>148</sup> Prohibited in children's homes and for registered providers of foster care

<sup>149</sup> Prohibited in registered day care centres and for registered childminders; possibly prohibited in preschools

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

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

<sup>152</sup> 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

<sup>153</sup> Prohibited in early childhood centres ("basic schools")

<sup>154</sup> Prohibition under discussion (2015); see also note on day care

<sup>155</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendments to the Child Abuse Prevention Law 2000 and assorted guidelines

<sup>156</sup> Prohibited in the Children and Education (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 2019

<sup>157</sup> 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"

<sup>158</sup> Possibly prohibited in institutions

<sup>159</sup> Possibly prohibited in children's villages

<sup>160</sup> Prohibited in preschool education and training

<sup>161</sup> Prohibited in Constitution 2010 and in Children Act 2022

<sup>162</sup> 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)

<sup>163</sup> Prohibited in early childhood care and education for children between 3 and 6 years old

<sup>164</sup> But used in traditional justice

<sup>165</sup> 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"

<sup>166</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2015)

<sup>167</sup> Prohibited in residential institutions

<sup>168</sup> Prohibited in Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Children 2006 (Amended 2023)

<sup>169</sup> Prohibited in Children's Rights Protection Law 1998

<sup>170</sup> Ministerial directive states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>171</sup> 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 <sup>172</sup>	SOME <sup>173</sup>	NO	YES	YES
Libya	NO	NO	SOME <sup>174</sup>	YES	NO	NO
Liechtenstein	YES <sup>175</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lithuania	YES <sup>176</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Luxembourg	YES <sup>177</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Macau	NO	[SOME] <sup>178</sup>	NO	YES	YES	YES
Madagascar	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Malawi	NO	SOME <sup>179</sup>	SOME <sup>180</sup>	[YES] <sup>181</sup>	YES	YES
Malaysia	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>182</sup>
Maldives <sup>183</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>184</sup>	NO	NO
Mali	NO	NO	SOME <sup>185</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Malta	YES <sup>186</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Marshall Islands <sup>187</sup>	NO	NO	NO	[YES] <sup>188</sup>	YES	YES
Martinique	YES <sup>189</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mauritania	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>190</sup>	[SOME] <sup>191</sup>	NO
Mauritius <sup>192</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mayotte	YES <sup>193</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mexico <sup>194</sup>	SOME <sup>195</sup>	SOME <sup>196</sup>	SOME <sup>197</sup>	YES	YES	YES

<sup>172</sup> Corporal punishment by child protection practitioners prohibited

<sup>173</sup> Corporal punishment by child protection practitioners prohibited

<sup>174</sup> Unlawful in preschool provision

<sup>175</sup> Prohibited in Children and Youth Act 2008

<sup>176</sup> Prohibited in 2017 amendments to Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child 1996

<sup>177</sup> Prohibited in Law on Children and the Family 2008

<sup>178</sup> Possibly prohibited in residential centres

<sup>179</sup> Prohibited in state-run institutions

<sup>180</sup> Prohibited in state-run day care

<sup>181</sup> Prohibition in private schools unconfirmed

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

<sup>183</sup> 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)

<sup>184</sup> Ministry of Education advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>185</sup> Prohibited in preschools and kindergartens

<sup>186</sup> Prohibited in 2014 amendment to Criminal Code but some legislation still to be formally repealed

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

<sup>188</sup> But some legislation still to be formally repealed

<sup>189</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>190</sup> Ministerial Order states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>191</sup> 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

<sup>192</sup> Prohibited in Children's Act 2020

<sup>193</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>194</sup> 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.

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

<sup>196</sup> Prohibited in institutions

<sup>197</sup> 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 <sup>198</sup>	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	NO	YES
Monaco	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Mongolia	YES <sup>199</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Montenegro	YES <sup>200</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Montserrat	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] <sup>201</sup>	YES
Morocco <sup>202</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>203</sup>	YES	YES
Mozambique <sup>204</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>205</sup>	YES	YES
Myanmar <sup>206</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>207</sup>	NO	YES <sup>208</sup>
Namibia <sup>209</sup>	NO	YES	SOME <sup>210</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Nauru	NO	NO	[SOME] <sup>211</sup>	YES	YES	[YES]
Nepal	YES <sup>212</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Netherlands	YES <sup>213</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
New Caledonia	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
New Zealand	YES <sup>214</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nicaragua	YES <sup>215</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Niger <sup>216</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>217</sup>	NO	YES
Nigeria	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>218</sup>	SOME <sup>219</sup>	SOME <sup>220</sup>
Niue	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	YES
North Macedonia	YES <sup>221</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Northern Mariana Islands	NO	NO	[NO]	NO	[YES]	YES
Norway	YES <sup>222</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Oman <sup>223</sup>	NO	NO	[SOME] <sup>224</sup>	YES	NO	[YES]

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

<sup>199</sup> Prohibited in Law on the Rights of Children 2016 and Law on Child Protection 2016

<sup>200</sup> Prohibited in 2016 amendments to Family Law 2007

<sup>201</sup> Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

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

<sup>203</sup> Ministerial direction advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>204</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all settings (2016)

<sup>205</sup> Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

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

<sup>207</sup> Government directive advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>208</sup> But some legislation still to be repealed

<sup>209</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit in all settings (2016)

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

<sup>211</sup> Possibly prohibited in preschool education settings

<sup>212</sup> Prohibited in Act relating to Children 2018

<sup>213</sup> Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>214</sup> Prohibited in Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act 2007

<sup>215</sup> Prohibited in Family Code 2014, in force April 2015

<sup>216</sup> Draft legislation which would prohibit under discussion (2014)

<sup>217</sup> Ministerial Order states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>218</sup> But possibly prohibited in Lagos State

<sup>219</sup> Prohibited in Child Rights Act 2003, not enacted in all states

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

<sup>221</sup> Prohibited in Law on Child Protection 2013

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

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

<sup>224</sup> 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 <sup>225</sup>	SOME <sup>226</sup>	SOME <sup>227</sup>	SOME <sup>228</sup>	SOME <sup>229</sup>	SOME <sup>230</sup>	SOME <sup>231</sup>
Palau <sup>232</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Panama <sup>233</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Papua New Guinea <sup>234</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>235</sup>	NO	NO	YES	YES
Paraguay	YES <sup>236</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Peru	YES <sup>237</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Philippines <sup>238</sup>	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pitcairn Islands	YES <sup>239</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Poland	YES <sup>240</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Portugal	YES <sup>241</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Puerto Rico	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Qatar <sup>242</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>243</sup>	YES	NO
Republic of Korea	YES <sup>244</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Republic of Kosovo	YES <sup>245</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Republic of Moldova	YES <sup>246</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Reunion	YES <sup>247</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Romania	YES <sup>248</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Russian Federation	NO	NO	SOME <sup>249</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Rwanda <sup>250</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

<sup>225</sup> 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

<sup>226</sup> Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan

<sup>227</sup> Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, in Islamabad Capital Territory and in Sindh

<sup>228</sup> Prohibited in Pakistan administered Gilgit-Baltistan, in Islamabad Capital Territory and in Sindh

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

<sup>230</sup> 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

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

<sup>232</sup> 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

<sup>233</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2010, 2015)

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

<sup>235</sup> Corporal punishment of children "in the care of the Director" prohibited

<sup>236</sup> 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

<sup>237</sup> Prohibited in Law prohibiting physical and other humiliating punishment against children and adolescents 2015

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

<sup>239</sup> Prohibited in Children Ordinance 2003, amended 2009

<sup>240</sup> Prohibited in 2010 amendment to Family and Guardianship Code 1964

<sup>241</sup> Prohibited in 2007 amendment to Penal Code

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

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

<sup>244</sup> 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

<sup>245</sup> Prohibited in Law on Child Protection 2019

<sup>246</sup> Prohibited in 2008 amendment to Family Code

<sup>247</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>248</sup> Prohibited in Law on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of the Child 2004

<sup>249</sup> Unlawful in preschool provision

<sup>250</sup> 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 <sup>251</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>252</sup>	SOME <sup>253</sup>	YES	YES
San Marino	YES <sup>254</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sao Tome and Principe <sup>255</sup>	NO	NO	NO	[YES]	[YES]	[YES]
Saudi Arabia <sup>256</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>257</sup>	NO	NO
Senegal <sup>258</sup>	NO	NO	NO	SOME <sup>259</sup>	[YES]	YES
Serbia <sup>260</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>261</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Seychelles	YES <sup>262</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sierra Leone <sup>263</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Singapore	NO	NO	SOME <sup>264</sup>	NO	NO	NO
Slovakia <sup>265</sup>	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Slovenia	YES <sup>266</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Solomon Islands <sup>267</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES <sup>268</sup>
Somalia <sup>269</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>270</sup>	SOME <sup>271</sup>	[SOME] <sup>272</sup>	SOME <sup>273</sup>	SOME <sup>274</sup>
South Africa	YES <sup>275</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
South Sudan	YES <sup>276</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Spain	YES <sup>277</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

<sup>251</sup> 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

<sup>252</sup> Prohibited in early childhood centres

<sup>253</sup> Prohibited in government primary schools

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

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

<sup>256</sup> 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

<sup>257</sup> Ministerial circulars advise against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

<sup>258</sup> Draft legislation to prohibit under discussion (2016)

<sup>259</sup> Prohibited for 6-14 year olds

<sup>260</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendations to prohibit (2008, 2013)

<sup>261</sup> Prohibited in day care which forms part of education system

<sup>262</sup> Prohibited in 2020 amendments to Children Act 1982

<sup>263</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in all circumstances (2016)

<sup>264</sup> Early Childhood Development Centres Regulations 2018 prohibit corporal punishment in early childhood development centres

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

<sup>266</sup> Prohibited in Law Amending and Supplementing the Law on Prevention of Family Violence 2016

<sup>267</sup> 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

<sup>268</sup> But used in traditional justice

<sup>269</sup> 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

<sup>270</sup> Prohibited in Somaliland

<sup>271</sup> Prohibited in Somaliland

<sup>272</sup> Possibly prohibited in Somaliland

<sup>273</sup> Prohibited in Somaliland

<sup>274</sup> Prohibited in Somaliland

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

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

<sup>277</sup> 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 <sup>278</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>279</sup>	SOME <sup>280</sup>	YES
St Barthelemy	YES <sup>281</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	NO	SOME <sup>282</sup>	SOME <sup>283</sup>	YES	YES	YES
St Kitts and Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] <sup>284</sup>
St Lucia <sup>285</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
St Maarten	YES <sup>286</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Martin	YES <sup>287</sup>	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	YES
State of Palestine	NO	NO	NO	SOME <sup>288</sup>	[SOME] <sup>289</sup>	[SOME] <sup>290</sup>
Sudan	NO	NO	[YES] <sup>291</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Suriname	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>292</sup>	YES	YES
Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands	YES <sup>293</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sweden	YES <sup>294</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Switzerland	NO <sup>295</sup>	[SOME] <sup>296</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES
Syrian Arab Republic	NO	NO	NO	NO <sup>297</sup>	NO	YES
Taiwan	NO	NO	SOME <sup>298</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Tajikistan <sup>299</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>300</sup>	YES	YES	YES
Thailand <sup>301</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES

<sup>278</sup> 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

<sup>279</sup> Ministerial circular states corporal punishment should not be used but no prohibition in law

<sup>280</sup> Prohibited in prisons

<sup>281</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>282</sup> Prohibited in children's homes

<sup>283</sup> Prohibited in preschool education

<sup>284</sup> But some legislation still to be formally repealed

<sup>285</sup> Government accepted some but not all UPR recommendations to prohibit (2015)

<sup>286</sup> Prohibited in Joint Custody Ordinance 2013

<sup>287</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

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

<sup>289</sup> Possibly unlawful in East Jerusalem

<sup>290</sup> Possibly unlawful in Gaza

<sup>291</sup> The Regulation on behaviour control in educational institutions 2020 prohibit corporal punishment in preschool

<sup>292</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit in schools (2011)

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

<sup>294</sup> Prohibited in 1979 amendment to Parenthood and Guardianship Code

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

<sup>296</sup> Possibly lawful in family placements

<sup>297</sup> Ministry of Education advises against corporal punishment but no prohibition in law

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

<sup>299</sup> 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".

<sup>300</sup> Prohibited in preschool education settings

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

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
Timor-Leste <sup>302</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Togo	YES <sup>303</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Tokelau	NO	[NO]	[NO]	[YES]	[YES]	YES
Tonga	NO	NO	SOME <sup>304</sup>	YES	[YES]	NO <sup>305</sup>
Trinidad and Tobago	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Tunisia	YES <sup>306</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turkey <sup>307</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Turkmenistan	YES <sup>308</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turks and Caicos Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	[YES] <sup>309</sup>	YES
Tuvalu <sup>310</sup>	NO	SOME <sup>311</sup>	NO	NO	SOME <sup>312</sup>	SOME <sup>313</sup>
Uganda <sup>314</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
UK	SOME <sup>315</sup>	SOME <sup>316</sup>	SOME <sup>317</sup>	YES <sup>318</sup>	YES	YES
Ukraine	YES <sup>319</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
United Arab Emirates <sup>320</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	[YES]	NO
UR Tanzania	NO	SOME <sup>321</sup>	NO	NO <sup>322</sup>	SOME <sup>323</sup>	SOME <sup>324</sup>
Uruguay	YES <sup>325</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
USA	NO	SOME <sup>326</sup>	SOME <sup>327</sup>	SOME <sup>328</sup>	SOME <sup>329</sup>	YES
US Virgin Islands	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES

<sup>302</sup> Government accepted UPR recommendation to prohibit (2011)

<sup>303</sup> Prohibited in Children's Code 2007

<sup>304</sup> Prohibited in preschool institutions

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

<sup>306</sup> Prohibited in 2010 amendment to Penal Code

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

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

<sup>309</sup> Unlawful in prisons; prohibition in other penal institutions unconfirmed

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

<sup>311</sup> Prohibited in hospital mental health wing

<sup>312</sup> Corporal punishment by police officers prohibited

<sup>313</sup> Island courts may order corporal punishment

<sup>314</sup> 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

<sup>315</sup> 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

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

<sup>317</sup> 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

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

<sup>319</sup> Prohibited in Family Code 2003

<sup>320</sup> Government supported UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018)

<sup>321</sup> Prohibited in residential institutions in Zanzibar

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

<sup>323</sup> Prohibited in approved schools and remand homes in Zanzibar

<sup>324</sup> Prohibited in Zanzibar

<sup>325</sup> Prohibited in 2007 amendments to Civil Code and Children and Adolescents Code 2004

<sup>326</sup> Prohibited in all care settings in 31 states, and in some settings in other states and District of Columbia

<sup>327</sup> Prohibited in all care settings in 31 states, and in some settings in other states and District of Columbia

<sup>328</sup> 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)

<sup>329</sup> Prohibited in 32 states

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
Uzbekistan <sup>330</sup>	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Vanuatu	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	SOME <sup>331</sup>
Venezuela	YES <sup>332</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Viet Nam	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Wallis and Futuna Islands	YES <sup>333</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Western Sahara	NO	[NO]	[NO]	[NO]	[YES]	[YES]
Yemen	NO	NO	[SOME] <sup>334</sup>	YES	YES	NO
Zambia	YES <sup>335</sup>	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES <sup>336</sup>
Zimbabwe <sup>337</sup>	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES <sup>338</sup>

### 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](mailto:vohitos@who.int). For further details on all states see the individual state reports at [www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org).

<sup>330</sup> Government supported UPR recommendations to prohibit (2018)

<sup>331</sup> Permitted in rural areas under customary justice systems

<sup>332</sup> Prohibited in 2007 amendments to Law for the Protection of Children and Adolescents 1998

<sup>333</sup> Prohibited in 2019 amendment to Civil Code

<sup>334</sup> Possibly prohibited in preschool provision

<sup>335</sup> Prohibited in Children's Code Act 2022

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

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

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