

Africa newsletter 31  
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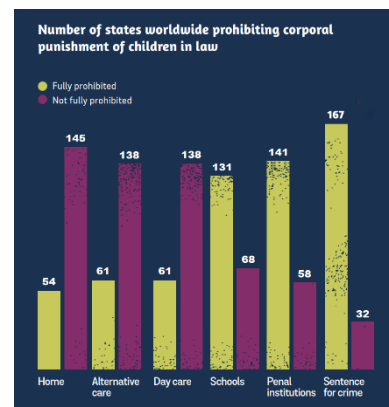
GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO  
End All Corporal  
Punishment of Children



Welcome to the latest edition of our Africa newsletter. In this video, our Africa Project Coordinator, Sonia Vohito discusses the Global Initiative's role in attending ACERWC sessions. [Watch here.](#)

### Zimbabwe Constitutional Court declares judicial corporal punishment unconstitutional

This decision follows a judgment by the Harare High Court in 2014 which found that judicial corporal punishment violated the provisions of the new 2013 Constitution prohibiting physical or psychological torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.... [Read more.](#)



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## Supporting moves to end violence against children in Côte d'Ivoire

The Ivorian Child Rights Coalition organised a workshop on the "harmonisation of national legislation with international and regional standards" which focused specifically on corporal punishment, child marriage and FGM... [Read the full update.](#)



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## Launch of our Global report 2018

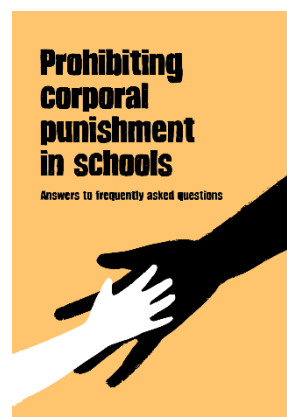
In January we launched our Global report 2018. Since the UN Secretary General's Study on Violence against Children recommended universal prohibition of corporal punishment as a matter of urgency in 2006, our annual global reports have tracked progress towards this vital goal for children. This latest report takes stock of the shifting global context and increasing movement to end corporal punishment... [Read more.](#)



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## Are you or your organisation working to end corporal punishment in schools?

We are interested in hearing about projects you are working on. As well as offering support and guidance we are always on the look-out for opportunities to share updates with our network and across our media platforms. We also have a range of frequently asked questions and materials specifically aimed at ending corporal punishment within schools. [Contact us](#)



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## Steps towards prohibition

**Guinea:** A draft new Children's Code would prohibit all corporal punishment of children, and expressly states that corporal punishment can never be justified as "reasonable". The draft Code is expected to be tabled in the National Assembly during its April session.

**Zimbabwe:** The Government has gazetted the Education Amendment Bill which aims to prohibit some forms of corporal punishment in schools. The Global Initiative submitted comments on the Bill with a view to effectively achieve prohibition of all forms of corporal punishment- however light- in schools.

### **Other positive news**

**Eswatini:** Deputy Prime Minister Senator Themba N Masuku issued a statement against the use of corporal punishment of children. Highlighting the harmful effects of corporal punishment, it called on parents and community members to use positive discipline measures.

**Ghana:** The National Association of Graduate Teachers (NAGRAT), has asked its members to comply with the Ghana Education Service's (GES) Directive which advises against the use of corporal punishment in schools. NAGRAT indicated that any violation of the Ghana Education Service Directive would lead to sanction. [Read more.](#)

In a separate statement, the Ghana National Education Campaign Coalition (GNECC) has expressed its support to the GES Directive banning corporal punishment of children in schools. [Read more.](#)

### **But...**

A Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey Six (MICS 6) conducted in Ghana in 2017/18 revealed a high prevalence of corporal punishment of children in the home. The survey involved 8,903 children under 5 years and 8,965 children aged 5 -17 years. Almost all children (94%) aged 1 to 14 years were reported to have experienced any form of violent discipline. There were no large differences in coverage or disparities in relation to violent discipline and residence, sex, wealth or education of mother or child. [View report.](#)

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### **News from the UN and regional human rights systems**

The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 33rd ordinary session, March 2019

The Committee raised the issue of corporal punishment in its examination of States Parties including Benin, Eswatini and Rwanda.

Committee on the Rights of the Child, 80th session, Jan/Feb 2019

The Committee recommended prohibition of corporal punishment in Guinea.

[Read our full update.](#)

Universal Periodic Review, 32nd session, Jan/Feb 2019

Comoros received recommendations on corporal punishment but Eritrea did not. [Read our full update.](#)

The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, 30th session recommendations have now been published

Angola and Sierra Leone received recommendations to prohibit all corporal punishment of children

[Read our full update.](#)

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*The Global Initiative briefs human rights treaty monitoring bodies and the UPR prior to examination of states. If you/your organisation is interested in submitting information on your state, please contact [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org).*

*Information on states' upcoming treaty body and UPR examinations, the deadlines for submitting briefings, and the text of the above and previous recommendations are available in our [country reports](#) and on the [treaty body pages](#) on our website.*

**Donate now to support our work to ensure  
all children receive the same, not less,  
protection from violence as adults.**

