

Global Newsletter  
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Issue 43



GLOBAL INITIATIVE TO  
**End All Corporal  
Punishment of Children**



Welcome to the latest edition of our global newsletter. We recently launched a series of interviews asking how laws banning corporal punishment can become a reality for children.

The first in the series feature our Director, Anna Henry, and Turid Heiberg, Head of the Children at Risk Unit at the Council of the Baltic Sea States. [Watch here](#)



### **Defining our strategy for 2019-20**

This month, our team met for a week of brainstorming and strategy planning near our London office. As a small, efficient team that includes regional and remote working and various travel commitments throughout the year, this week together is an important time... [Read the full article.](#)

## New global group looks at data and evidence to end violence

We joined representatives from UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children and more at the *Multi-stakeholder Forum on Data and...* [Read more](#)



## 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.](#)

## 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](#)

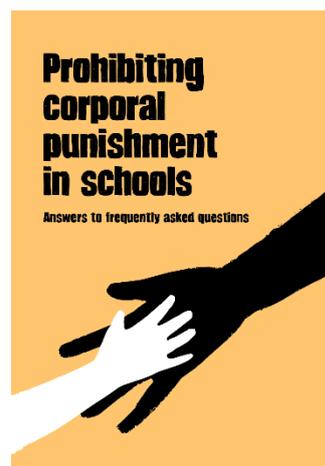


## Series of FAQs out now in Vietnamese

The Global Initiative and Save the Children Sweden are delighted to present our series of booklets answering common questions about prohibiting corporal punishment of children in Vietnamese, produced in partnership with Save the Children Vietnam and MSD Vietnam. The first booklet answers the most frequently asked questions and dispels common misconceptions about the reasons... [Read more](#)

## 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

**France** - A Senate Bill was adopted unanimously in the Senate on 6 March, which inserts to the Civil Code (unofficial translation): "Parental authority is exercised without any physical or psychological violence"; the text mirrors a Bill adopted by the National Assembly in November 2018. Both Bills must still be adopted by the opposite chamber.

**Georgia** - A draft Code on the Rights of the Child, which explicitly prohibits corporal punishment of children in all settings, was introduced to Parliament by the Government in early March 2019. It is expected to be adopted by summer 2019.

**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". It is yet to be presented to the National Assembly.

**Japan** - the Cabinet has endorsed revised laws against corporal punishment which will be submitted to the Diet (Parliament) for discussion in the coming months. The Global Initiative is investigating whether the current draft would achieve prohibition.

**UK (Jersey)** - A proposition to repeal legal defences for corporal punishment was adopted on 15 January (38 votes for, 3 against); the Government must now bring forward a Bill to give it effect. Jersey's Children's Minister has expressed support for the change.

**UK (Scotland)** - The Parliament's Equalities and Human Rights Committee has been hearing evidence on a Bill that would achieve equal protection from assault for children. [Watch the Committee sessions.](#)

**UK (Wales)** - The Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill,

which abolishes the common law defence of reasonable punishment in Wales and amends the Children Act 2004 accordingly, was introduced to the Welsh National Assembly by the Government on 25 March.

## **Other positive news**

**Jamaica** - A Parliamentary Joint Select Committee report in December recommended prohibition of corporal punishment in “all schools, public institutions for the care, instruction or guidance of children who were in the care of the State, and in all public places”. The report said although some members of the Committee advocated for a full ban, “a policy position would have to be developed on that issue before that approach could be taken”.

**Spain** - Corporal punishment was prohibited in 2007 but a draft comprehensive law on the protection of children from violence, approved by Government in December, should strengthen implementation. It should be introduced to Parliament soon.

**USA** - The American Psychological Association (APA) [adopted a policy](#) against physical punishment, promoting positive forms of discipline to foster a supportive family environment. The APA is the country's leading scientific and professional organisation for psychology, with more than 118,000 members.

## **But...**

**Philippines** - The Positive Discipline Bill passed third reading in both houses in December and was expected to be signed into law early this year, but was [vetoed](#) by the President on 23 February. The Bill had been introduced and debated every year since 2012. Campaigners and Parliamentarians are considering next steps.

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

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

The Committee recommended prohibition of corporal punishment to all states examined: Bahrain, Belgium, Guinea, Italy, Japan and Syrian Arab Republic. [Read our full update.](#)

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

Afghanistan, Chile, Comoros, Slovakia, Uruguay and Vanuatu received recommendations on corporal punishment; Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Viet Nam and Yemen did

not. Cyprus, New Zealand and North Macedonia (achieved prohibition in 1994, 2007 and 2013 respectively) did not. [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.



**Our mailing address is:**

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