

# Immediate opportunities for law reform in the Middle East and North Africa



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

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Also available online at [www.endcorporalpunishment.org](http://www.endcorporalpunishment.org)

**Note:** The dates given in brackets indicate the most recent information held by the Global Initiative, but to our knowledge all bills, draft laws, etc referred to below are currently still “live” and still present opportunities for enacting prohibition of corporal punishment. Information in square brackets is unconfirmed. If you believe any of the information to be incorrect or out of date, please email [info@endcorporalpunishment.org](mailto:info@endcorporalpunishment.org).

State	Opportunities for enacting prohibition	Prohibition included
Algeria	Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, and Code on the organisation of penal institutions under review (2017)	[NO]
Bahrain	Law on Civil Society, Law on Personal Status and amendments to Constitution under discussion (2014); Correctional Justice Bill (2018)	[NO]
Djibouti	Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure under review (2018)	?
Egypt	No known opportunities	-
Iran	Children and Adolescent Protection Bill, draft Bill on The Provision of Women's Security against Violence, draft Bills on Juvenile Justice and Child Protection and draft Charter of Citizens' Rights under discussion (2014)	NO
Iraq	Draft new Personal Status Law under discussion (2014); law on children and law to prohibit corporal punishment possibly being drafted (2014); law for child protection within the family being drafted in Kurdistan (2015); draft Child Protection Act, draft Juveniles Act and draft law on domestic abuse under discussion (2015)	?
Jordan	Children's Rights Bill (2014)	?
Kuwait	Bill on Domestic Violence under discussion (2020)	[NO]
Lebanon	Penal Code and Law 422 on Juvenile Justice under review (2015); Child Protection Bill under discussion (2010)	NO
Libya	Draft Juvenile Justice Law under discussion (2014); new Constitution being drafted (2015); laws allowing flogging under review (2015)	?
Morocco	Code of Criminal Procedure and Criminal Code being revised (2017)	?
Oman	Bill for Persons with Disabilities being drafted (2018)	?

Qatar	Amendments to Law on Persons with Special Needs under discussion (2015); Children's Bill under discussion (2016)	?
Saudi Arabia	Draft Alternative Penalties Act under discussion (2013); review of the Code of Criminal Procedure (2018)	[NO]
State of Palestine	Draft Constitution, draft Social Affairs law and draft Penal Code under discussion (2009); draft family violence prevention law under discussion (2014); Personal Status Code being reviewed (2018)	?
Sudan	Rules under the Child Act 2010 being drafted (2012); state child bills under discussion in Blue Nile, North Darfur and Gezira (2010); Permanent Constitution and Criminal Code being drafted (2017)	?
Syrian Arab Republic	Child Rights Bill under discussion (2011); review of laws relating to juvenile justice planned (2011); review of Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure (2016)	?
United Arab Emirates	Draft Federal Act on Domestic Violence and draft Federal Act on Juvenile Delinquents under discussion (2018)	[NO]
Western Sahara	No known opportunities	-
Yemen	Draft Child Rights Act under discussion (2015); new Constitution being drafted (2015)	SOME