

Children's rights

All children have the same rights. These rights are established in the Convention on the Rights of the Child of the United Nations. The United Nations is an organisation including virtually all the countries in the world. This means children's rights apply **to all children** worldwide.

On **20 November 1989**, the member states of the United Nations ratified a convention on the rights of children. To date, **196 countries** have agreed to enforce these children's rights. Only the USA is not a party to the convention. On 5 April, 1992, the **German government** adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Since then, children's rights are also officially protected in Germany.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child consists of a total of 54 articles. 41 of these name individual rights for children. The other 13 articles explain what states have to do to enforce these rights. Children's rights can be divided into the categories **protection, fostering and involvement**.

We have put together some very important rights for you here.



Why don't you take a look?

For more great information on the topic of children's rights, go to www.kindersache.de.

Here, you will find out what's going on in the world. You can get involved and discuss topics of interest to you with others.



On kindersache, you can also:

- Learn lots about children's rights,
- Write your own articles and stories,
- Participate in awesome contests,
- Read the latest movie, book and DIY tips.

And the best thing of all: kindersache is made just for kids, is free-of-charge and doesn't have any bothersome advertising.



Deutsches Kinderhilfswerk e.V.

Leipziger Straße 116-118
10117 Berlin, Germany
Telephone: +49 30 308693-0
Fax: +49 30 308693-93
Email: dkhw@dkhw.de
www.dkhw.de

Gefördert vom:



Bundesministerium
für Familie, Senioren, Frauen
und Jugend



Deutsches
Zentralinstitut
für soziale
Fragen (DZI)
Geprüft +
Empfohlen

Last updated: 2023 / printed on recycled paper



All children
have rights!



Selected children's rights
from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child



ARTICLE 2+4
 Children's rights apply to all children, no matter the colour of their skin, their religion or language - regardless of whether they are boys or girls. Children's rights must be enforced and made public.
 Respect for and enforcement of children's rights



ARTICLE 28
 Children have the right to go to school and learn everything they need in their lives.
 Right to education, school, professional training

Children have the right to rest and leisure, play and recreational activities. This includes free play and leisure activities they have selected themselves.
 Participation in leisure activities, cultural life and the arts

ARTICLE 31



ARTICLE 13+17
 Children may learn about everything and form their own opinions. They can use the television, radio, newspapers, Internet etc. to do so.
 Freedom of expression and information and access to media

All children have the same rights and should be treated equally. Children with disabilities should receive special support.
 Support for children with disabilities

ARTICLE 23



Parents and the state are responsible for children doing well and that their interests and needs are taken into consideration.
 Priority and responsibility for children's wellbeing

ARTICLE 3+18



Children that have to flee from their homes shall receive protection and help in exercising their rights in other countries.
 Refugee children

ARTICLE 22



Children must be asked their opinions in every decision concerning them. Children must be able to state their opinions openly and their opinions must be taken into consideration.
 Consideration of children's choice

ARTICLE 12



Children have the right to privacy. No one may read their mail or SMS messages or enter their room when they want to be alone.
 Protection of privacy and honour

ARTICLE 16



ARTICLE 19
 No one may hit children or force them to do things they do not want to or that hurt them!
 Protection against violence, abuse, neglect

ARTICLE 27
 All children should be able to live such that they can develop physically, mentally and emotionally. They should have sufficient food, clothing and living space.
 Suitable living conditions