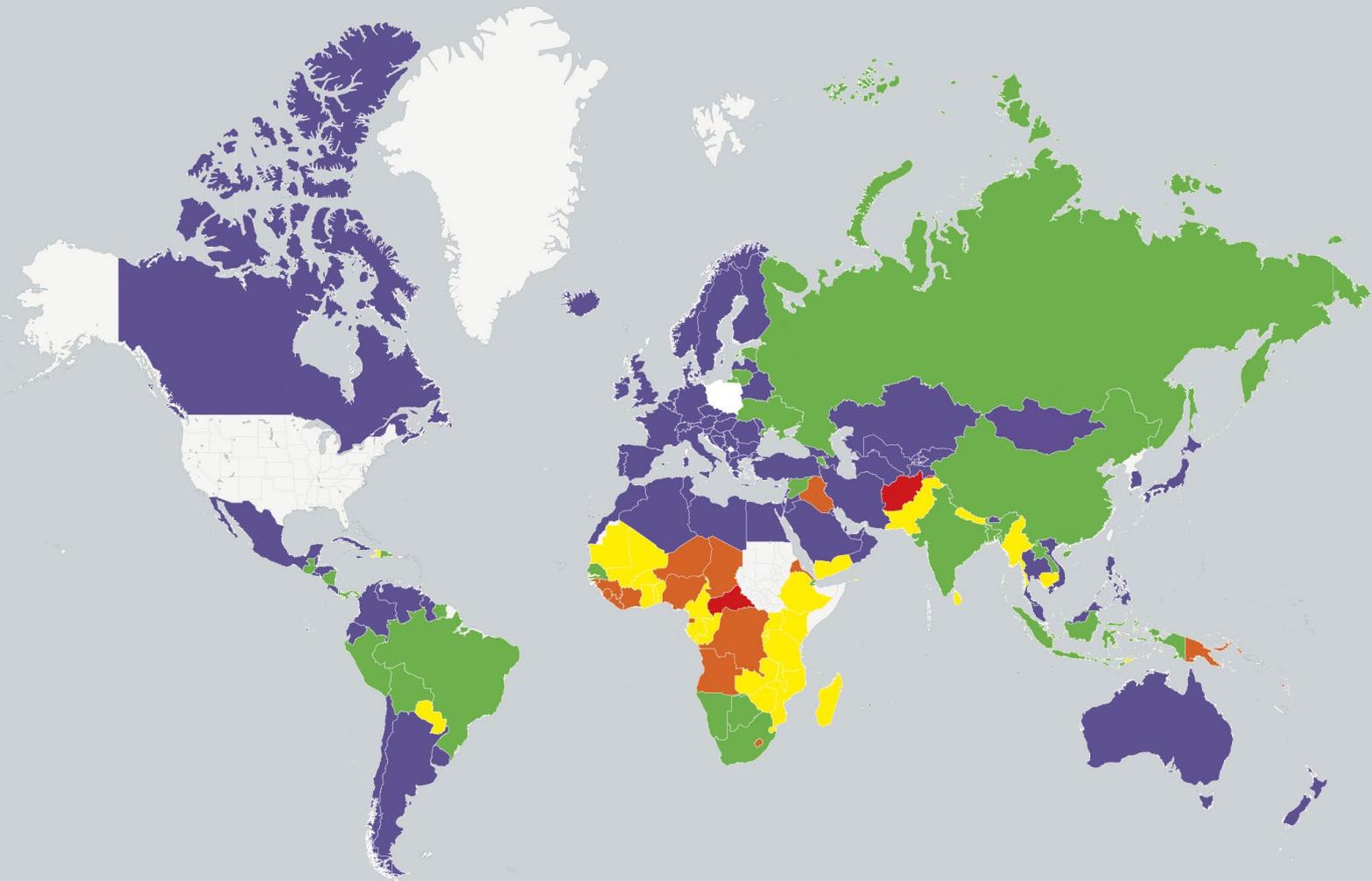


The KidsRights Index 2016



The KidsRights Index and its domains are accessible on www.kidsrightsindex.org 

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1. General information on the KidsRights Index

The KidsRights Index is the annual global index published by the KidsRights Foundation which ranks how countries adhere to and are equipped to improve children's rights. The KidsRights Index is an initiative of the KidsRights Foundation, in cooperation with Erasmus University Rotterdam: Erasmus School of Economics and the International Institute of Social Studies. The KidsRights Index comprises a ranking for all states that are parties to the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and for which sufficient data is available, a total of 163 countries. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) is ratified by all of the world's nations but one: the United States of America.

The first KidsRights Index was published on 19 November 2013. The KidsRights Index 2016 is the fourth KidsRights Index published. The KidsRights Index is accessible on www.kidsrightsindex.org.

There is still a considerable gap between the children's rights policies made at national and international levels and the local day-to-day realities of children and youth worldwide. The KidsRights Index provides crucial insight into what is being done and where countries need to do better to fully implement the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.

The KidsRights Index has been developed to stimulate attention for children's rights at large, and public debate and opinion concerning the state of respect for children's rights across the world. It is a tool for governments, civil society and other stakeholders that informs (potential) action to improve children's rights.

Sources

The KidsRights Index pools data from two reputable sources: 1. quantitative data published and regularly updated by UNICEF at www.data.unicef.org and 2. qualitative data published by the [UN Committee on the Rights of the Child](http://www.unhcr.org/refugees/148546931.html) in its detailed individual country reports (the so-called Concluding Observations) for all states that are parties to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The KidsRights Index makes these data more accessible to a broader audience, so as to encourage dialogue about children's rights.

The Index covers five domains with a total of 23 indicators. It consolidates the most crucial general children's rights areas and implementation requirements of the CRC for which sufficient data is available. The five domains are:

1. Right to Life
2. Right to Health
3. Right to Education
4. Right to Protection
5. Enabling Environment for Child Rights

The KidsRights Index provides an overview of the countries' performance on each of the five domains and is a basis for concrete recommendations to countries on how to improve. The KidsRights Index includes a total of 16 quantitative and 7 qualitative indicators which, when available, are systematically and similarly rated for all countries. An overview of all indicators can be found in Annex 1.

Domain 5, the 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights' - or Child Rights Environment in short - is an important and unique domain within the child rights-based KidsRights Index. It reveals the extent to which countries have operationalized the general principles of the CRC (*non-discrimination; best interests of the child; respect for the views of the child/participation*) and the extent to which there is a basic 'infrastructure' for child rights policy, in the form of *enabling national legislation; mobilization of the 'best available' budget; collection and analysis of disaggregated data; and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*).

The scores on domain 5 are derived from the Concluding Observations adopted by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. These Concluding Observations finish off the state reporting procedure under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and represent the Committee's views on the level of realization of children's rights in a particular country.

¹ The data for the KidsRights Index 2016 was downloaded from www.data.unicef.org in March 2016

Methodology

The scores for each domain are calculated as the mean of the scores on the underlying indicators. If scores of indicators are missing then the domain score is calculated over the score of the remaining indicators. The total Index score is calculated as the geometric mean of the scores on the domains.

As of 2016 the KidsRights Index has taken an improved approach when dealing with missing values. The score for a domain is no longer calculated when more than half of the indicators of that domain have a missing value. A country is not included in the overall Index if the score on domain 5 'Child Rights Environment' is missing. A country is also not included if more than half of the domain scores are missing (e.g. when three or more domains are missing).

The advantage of this new approach is that the scores for the domains and the total Index are now completely based on the most recent available data (no imputations of missing values based on historical data). Moreover, the restrictions on calculating the domain scores and the overall score make sure that these scores are based on a substantial number of indicators. In the previous versions of the KidsRights Index, the score of countries with many missing values could be based on just a small number of indicators, and therefore be sensitive for very high or low scoring based on a few indicators.

The information for domain 5 'Child Rights Environment' derived from the qualitative Concluding Observations is scored on a scale between 1 and 3. The actual score assigned to each indicator is exclusively based on the language used by the CRC Committee in the Concluding Observations. The resulting final scores have also been standardized.

KidsRights Index Scoring System:

- Score 1 'low' = only negative remarks
- Score 2 'average' = negative and positive remarks
- Score 3 'high' = only positive remarks
- NA = not addressed

The index is a ranked country list, with colour-coding indicating relevant clusters of rankings. There are five different clusters which display a more or less similar performance level, as each cluster concerns countries for which the scores belong to the same distribution. Within a cluster the scores of countries are thus more similar than across clusters. The clusters are expressed in coloured world maps on www.kidsrightsindex.org.



163 countries are included in the KidsRights Index 2016

In addition to providing a global ranking on how countries are performing in terms of the realization of children's rights, the KidsRights Index draws attention to the fact that many data about the situation of children are still lacking. The KidsRights Index covers all state parties to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child for which sufficient data are available. A list of countries that are not included in the Index can be found in Annex 2 to this document.

Because of the improved approach on missing values, Poland and Liechtenstein are not included in the overall KidsRights Index 2016 for the lack of data on domain 5 'Child Rights Environment', contrary to previous versions of the Index. Poland and Liechtenstein are included in the ranking of domains 1 to 4 of the KidsRights Index 2016.

The United States of America have not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and have therefore not been included in the KidsRights Index. As they have not ratified the Convention they do not present themselves to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and no data is available for domain 5 'Child Rights Environment'. Data is however available on the first four domains of the Index: Right to Life, Health, Education and Protection. When calculating the Index only based on those four domains the US would rank 32nd. However, because the USA are not legally bound by the CRC they do not feature in the KidsRights Index.

Countries that have presented themselves to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2015

In the KidsRights Index 2016, the domain 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights' has been updated to include all Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child about states that presented data to the Committee in 2015. The following 23 states that appear in the KidsRights Index 2016 were subject to the CRC state reporting procedure in 2015 and thus received a new score for domain 5 'Child Rights Environment': Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Gambia, Iraq, Jamaica, Mauritius, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Tanzania, Uruguay, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Mexico, the Netherlands, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Kazakhstan, Timor-Leste, United Arab Emirates.

As indicated above, Poland is not included in the overall KidsRights Index 2016, despite the fact that it did present itself to the CRC Committee in 2015. However, insufficient data could be derived from the Concluding Observations for Poland to score the country on at least half of the indicators in domain 5. Poland, therefore, has no score on domain 5 and thus cannot be included. Based on publicly available information, it seems that in the CRC session of Poland much was discussed on the Concluding Observations of 2002 and that there was limited discussion on the 2015 representation. Thus, the Concluding Observations of 2015 for Poland did not contain sufficient information to be scored on for the KidsRights Index 2016.

The KidsRights Index 2016 also provides insight into the gap between the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of children's rights

The UN General Assembly adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015. The scale and ambition of the SDG agenda presents an unprecedented opportunity to truly improve the daily lives of children and youth. However, there is still a considerable gap between the Goals decided at the international level and the local day-to-day realities of children and youth worldwide. Although the Index is not a direct tool for monitoring the performance of countries regarding the SDGs, it does provide crucial insights into what is being done and where countries need to do better in terms of children's rights. KidsRights concludes that in order to achieve the SDGs that affect children, all countries should at the very least fully implement the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Furthermore, KidsRights hopes that the monitoring of the SDGs will provide more aggregative data on children's issues and rights on a structural basis in the future.

About KidsRights

KidsRights is an international non-governmental organization that promotes the wellbeing of very vulnerable children across the world and advocates the realisation of their rights. KidsRights strives for a world where all children have access to their rights and are empowered to realise the great potential they carry within them. KidsRights sees children as *changemakers* who have the power to move the world, and facilitates them in voicing their opinions and taking action in order to bring about change.

KidsRights supports children by commanding global attention for the realisation of children's rights and acting as a catalyst to ignite change, together with children and youth. This advocacy is supported with research and action. The foundation also finances local projects aimed at directly improving the rights of vulnerable children and stimulating child participation and *changemaking* by youths.

About Erasmus School of Economics

Erasmus School of Economics (ESE) is a leading centre for scientific research and education. As an internationally acclaimed institute, Erasmus School of Economics contributes to future economic developments and to answering issues related to government and business policy.

About International Institute of Social Studies

The International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) is an international graduate school of critical policy-oriented social science. ISS staff does research, teaching and public service in the field of development studies and international cooperation.

2. The results of the KidsRights Index 2016

2.1. Overall ranking

Norway ranks number one in the KidsRights Index 2016. Runners up in the top ten are Portugal, Iceland, Spain, Switzerland, Slovakia, Ireland, France, Finland and Tunisia. Switzerland and Finland have replaced the Netherlands (now 13th) and Sweden (now 14th) in the top ten this year.

Overall Rank	Country	Overall score
1	Norway	0,981
2	Portugal	0,960
3	Iceland	0,958
4	Spain	0,951
5	Switzerland	0,944
6	Slovakia	0,938
7	Ireland	0,938
8	France	0,936
9	Finland	0,923
10	Tunisia	0,921

This year's overall worst performing countries are Vanuatu, the Central African Republic, Afghanistan, Chad, Papua New Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Lesotho, Angola and Guinea.

Overall Rank	Country	Overall score
154	Guinea	0,411
155	Angola	0,400
156	Lesotho	0,392
157	Equatorial Guinea	0,343
158	Guinea-Bissau	0,331
159	Papua New Guinea	0,326
160	Chad	0,298
161-163	Afghanistan	0,000
161-163	Central African Republic	0,000
161-163	Vanuatu	0,000

2.2. Striking differences

Compared to the KidsRights Index 2015, the KidsRights Index 2016 leads to striking differences for 11 countries. These 11 countries moved 25 positions or more in the overall ranking. Out of these 11 countries seven were subject to the CRC state reporting procedure in 2015 and thus received a new score for domain 5 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights'. These countries are: Brazil (-64), Colombia (+61), Dominican Republic (-28), Iraq (-29), Jamaica (+52), Mexico (+65) and United Arab Emirates (-39) and will be discussed further in section three of this document.

The remaining four countries with striking differences between the 2016 and the 2015 results are Libya (-28), New Zealand (+43), Singapore (-56) and South Africa (-25). For these countries the (non-)availability of data and the adapted way of dealing with missing data by the KidsRights Index plays a key role. The data for each individual country has not changed significantly.

In the KidsRights Index 2016 Libya and Singapore lack data on two domains 'Education' and 'Protection'. As such, their overall score is calculated on three domains instead of five domains. New Zealand's 2016 score is higher as the ranking in the Index is calculated based on and relative to the maximum scores of other countries. In the KidsRights Index 2016, two of the indicators in domain 5 the maximum attained score worldwide went down from 3 to 2. This explains the striking difference in the 2016 ranking of New Zealand.

South Africa scores very low on domain 2 'Health'. South Africa has the lowest score of all 163 countries on the indicator *immunization of one year old children*. In the KidsRights Index 2015 the figures on this particular indicator were not included, as up till 2015 the KidsRights Index examined for each domain the correlation between the indicators and set a threshold of +/- 0.8 (globally) as the minimum level for dropping redundant indicators. As of 2016 the KidsRights Index includes all indicators regardless of correlation to be able to provide a more comprehensive insight within the domains. Considering South Africa's very low score on *immunization of one year old children*, the total scoring of South Africa went down significantly.

2.3. Overall conclusions

When taking a closer look at domain 5 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights', the KidsRights Index draws some notable conclusions.

a) The ability to realise children's rights is not only determined by income, or by level of economic or human development

Even though the correlation between the KidsRights Index 2016 and the Human Development Index is high (0.81 correlation), there are significant differences in country rankings between the two Indices. The KidsRights Index includes four domains that are relatively more related to the economic situation of a country. However, through its unique domain 5 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights', the Index highlights that economically better performing countries do not always perform well in honouring children's rights in practice. Italy (81st), Canada (72nd) and Luxembourg (56th), for example, could do more to improve the enabling environment they have built for children's rights. These wealthy countries should be able to invest more in children's rights, but fail to do so sufficiently.

Thailand (21th) and Tunisia (10th) on the other hand receive honourable mentions. These countries rank relatively high, compared to their economic status, as they do exceptionally well in cultivating an enabling environment for child rights. Thailand for example scores 'high' on the enabling legislation for children's rights. Tunisia scores 'average' on all indicators of domain 5. Tunisia also scores relatively high on domain 4 'Protection' (rank 23), This can be attributed largely to a low *adolescent births rate*.

Comparing regions:

The Latin American and Caribbean region ranks the best on domain 5 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights', followed by Africa. However, African countries still score poorly on the overall Index as they fail to meet acceptable standards in other domains, including protection of children's rights and access to education and health. With seven out of ten of the countries that score the lowest overall in the Index, the continent still has a long way to go.

The Asia and the Pacific region, on the other hand, ranks quite poorly when it comes to domain 5 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights'. It is the worst performing region in this domain.

b) Worst scores on 'non-discrimination'

All over the world groups of children are suffering from discrimination. They lack access to education and basic health care and they are not given the same opportunities as other children to develop themselves. Unfortunately there are no exceptions; none of the countries in the KidsRights Index receive 'high' scores on the *non-discrimination* indicator in domain 5. And even more worrisome, of all indicators in this domain, on average countries score worst on the principle of *non-discrimination* and 60 (out of 163) countries score 'low' on *non-discrimination*. Vulnerable and marginalised children such as refugee children, migrant children, disabled children, street children or indigenous children especially continue to face discrimination in the societies they live in.

In order for all children to fully enjoy their rights, it is absolutely crucial that countries ban discrimination of marginalised groups of children. Countries need to grant equal opportunities for all children to develop, go to school and have access to health care. Sustainable development can only happen with educated, safe and healthy children, who are able to grow up in inclusive, supportive and peaceful societies.

c) The principle of the 'best interests of the child' is nowhere fully implemented

The best interests of the child should be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, so that when decisions are taken about the child they reflect what will serve the child best. On taking the best interests of the child at heart, there is not a country in the world that scores 'high', while 48 countries score 'low', including Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom.

Of all regions, the Middle Eastern and North African region scores the worst on *the best interests of the child*. Thus, all over the world decisions are taken about the child without considering the best interests of the child adequately, especially in cases where children are being separated from their parents or for migrant and refugee children.

Judges and other professionals working for and with children should be trained on how the principle of the best interest of the child should be implemented in judicial and administrative decisions.

d) Legislation should be improved

Of all indicators in domain 5, countries on average score best on *enabling legislation*. This shows that countries in general do have fairly appropriate legal frameworks that recognise and guarantee the rights of all children. This is a major achievement that has been stimulated by the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Unfortunately, for a lot of countries the level of implementation is low and gaps can still be identified where the rights of children are not sufficiently protected in legislation.

States should enact enabling legislation for child rights and implement this legislation in all procedures. Laws and procedures should be in conformity with the CRC. According to the data of the 2016 KidsRights Index, only 21 out of 163 countries obtained the maximum score 'high' on *enabling legislation*. 15 countries score 'low' on *enabling legislation*, including New Zealand. The Middle Eastern and North African region scores best on having *enabling legislation* for child rights.

e) Countries allocate insufficient budget

Governments should allocate their best available budget to realize the rights of children. In 2016 none of the countries in the KidsRights Index scores 'high' on *best available budget*. 55 (out of 163) countries score 'low' on *best available budget*. The latter include wealthy countries such as Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden. Even more so, it is striking that, of all regions, the industrialised countries score relatively worst on *best available budget*. The Latin American and Caribbean region scores relatively the best.

These outcomes are partly explained by the fact that, according to the CRC (art. 4), states have to mobilize 'the maximum extent of their available resources'. This may have different actual implications for some states as compared to others. For example, a highly developed country can be expected to mobilize more resources than a less developed country. Accordingly, in situations in which relatively limited means are available to implement the CRC, political will to genuinely prioritize children's rights by allocating the maxim/best available budget can make a significant difference.

f) Participation of children is lacking behind

There is still a lot to achieve on the aspect of *respecting the views of the child*. At present, none of the countries in the KidsRights Index score 'high'. This means that none of the world's 2.2 billion children have their views fully heard on matters that affect them directly. 31 (out of 163) countries score 'low' on *child participation*, including New Zealand. Of all regions, the Asia and the Pacific region and the African region score worst on *child participation*.

Structurally engaging children and youth in decision-making processes affecting their lives is an important children's right and should be implemented worldwide. Children are not mere beneficiaries of support, they can be agents of change. We need to get the views and ideas of children and youth and make them count. Only then shall they be able to hold their governments accountable. Countries therefore should take measures to implement legislation recognising the rights of the child to be heard in relevant legal and administrative proceedings and meaningful and empowered participation of all children should be promoted and implemented.

g) More data collection is crucial

In order to become more effective in developing initiatives for the improvement of children's rights, actions should be based on sound information about problems, gaps and achievements. Worldwide, countries should do more to collect and analyse disaggregated data. Disaggregated data shows the position of vulnerable and marginalised children in society and highlights specific children's rights violations in a country. This data should be systematically collected, made publicly available and discussed and used for the development of policies and plans on children's rights.

Of all regions, the region of Industrialised countries scores worst on the *collection and analysis of data*. The Middle Eastern and North African regions score best.

h) Cooperation between the state and civil society should improve

For effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states are encouraged to work together with civil society organisations. Unfortunately, cooperation between the state and NGOs is in some countries far from a reality. Alarming is the growing concern for safety of children's rights defenders, journalists and civil society activists, working to protect the rights of all children in societies. The KidsRights Index 2015 showed 10 countries where they are harassed, under threat, abused and jailed. The KidsRights Index 2016 makes notice of at least 18 countries where children's rights defenders are not safe. Countries should ensure that abuses against children's rights defenders, journalists and civil society activists are prevented and otherwise independently investigated and that the people responsible are prosecuted, held accountable and punished.

34 (out of 163) countries score 'low' on *state - civil society cooperation*. A lot of data is missing for this indicator in the KidsRights Index, as for 43 (out of 163) countries no information is available on *state - civil society cooperation*.

3. Results CRC reporting - Striking results

Specific explanations for selected 'striking results' and presentation of the CRC Committee Policy Recommendations (Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Iraq, Jamaica, Mexico, and United Arab Emirates)

3.1. The 'Striking Differences' with the KidsRights Index 2015

As explained earlier, in the KidsRights Index 2016, domain 5 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights' has been updated with all Concluding Observations (COs) adopted by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2015. The following twenty-four states that appear in the KidsRights Index 2016 were subject to the CRC state reporting procedure in 2015 and thus received a new score for the domain 'Child Rights Environment': Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Honduras, Iraq, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay.

In the KidsRights Index 2016, the updated results of the domain 'Child Rights Environment' led to striking differences compared to the KidsRights Index 2015, that is to a difference of 25 positions or more, in seven out of the twenty-four countries reviewed by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. These countries are: Brazil (-64), Colombia (+63), Dominican Republic (-28), Iraq (-29), Jamaica (+52), Mexico (+65) and United Arab Emirates (-39). They will be presented below as 'striking results'. Four of the countries score lower in the KidsRights Index 2016 as compared to the KidsRights Index 2015, and three score significantly higher. The comparative scores of these countries on the domain 'Child Rights Environment' are presented in the table below. Then a short analysis follows of the Index 2016 results for the selected countries.

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Brazil 2004	2	2	2	3	2	1	2
Brazil 2015	1	NA	2	2	1	1	2
Colombia 2006	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Colombia 2015	2	2	2	2	2	1	2
Dominican Republic 2008	2	2	2	3	2	2	3
Dominican Republic 2015	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
Iraq 1998	2	1	1	2	1	2	1
Iraq 2015	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Jamaica 2003	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
Jamaica 2015	1	2	2	2	2	2	NA
Mexico 2006	1	1	2	2	1	2	1
Mexico 2015	2	2	2	2	2	1	NA
United Arab Emirates 2002	1	1	2	2	2	3	2
United Arab Emirates 2015	1	1	2	2	2	2	1

Scoring System:

- Score 1 'low' = only negative remarks
- Score 2 'average' = negative and positive remarks
- Score 3 'high' = only positive remarks
- NA = not addressed

3.2. Selected States that obtained a lower rank in the KidsRights Index 2016: A comparison of scores

- Brazil: KRI 2015: 107; KRI 2016: 43 (= minus 64).
- Dominican Republic: KRI 2015: 68; KRI 2016: 96 (= minus 28).
- Iraq: KRI 2015: 120; KRI 2016: 149 (= minus 29).
- United Arab Emirates: KRI 2015: 39; KRI 2016: 78 (= minus 39).

Color	Meaning
Red	Negative change
Orange	Stayed the same
Green	Positive change

Brazil (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Brazil 2004	2	2	2	3	2	1	2
Brazil 2015	1	NA	2	2	1	1	2

Brazil's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows thrice the lowest score (*on non-discrimination, budget and data*) and thrice a middle score (*on respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). No maximum scores are on record. No changes occurred in the scores for *respect for the views of the child, data and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*. On *enabling legislation* Brazil's score dropped from the best possible to the middle score. On *non-discrimination* and *budget matters* Brazil's score dropped from the middle to the lowest score. The score on *best interests* dropped from the middle level to non-availability. With no score available on the *best interests of the child* (which was present as a middle score in 2004), the completeness of scores on Brazil went down.

Dominican Republic (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Dominican Republic 2008	2	2	2	3	2	2	3
Dominican Republic 2015	2	2	1	2	2	1	1

The Dominican Republic's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows thrice the lowest score (*on respect for the views of the child, data and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*) and four times a middle score (*on non-discrimination, best interests of the child, enabling legislation and budget*). No changes occurred in the scores on *non-discrimination, best interests of the child and budget*. On two indicators (respectively *legislation* and *state-civil society cooperation*), the Dominican Republic's score dropped from the highest level to one middle and one low score. On two indicators (*respect for the views of the child and data*) the scores dropped from the middle to the lowest score. No improvements of scores occurred.

Iraq (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Iraq 1998	2	1	1	2	1	2	1
Iraq 2015	1	1	1	2	1	1	1

Iraq's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows six times the lowest score (*on non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, budget, data and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). The lowest score appears once (*on enabling legislation*). On five indicators no changes occurred in the scores of 2015 compared to those of 1998 (respectively *best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, legislation, budget and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). Iraq's score dropped from the middle to the lowest score in relation to *non-discrimination and data*.

United Arab Emirates (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
United Arab Emirates 2002	1	1	2	2	2	3	2
United Arab Emirates 2015	1	1	2	2	2	2	1

The United Arab Emirates' record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows thrice the lowest score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests*, and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*) and four times a middle score (on *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *state-civil society cooperation*). On five indicators, the scores stayed the same in 2015 as they were in 2002 (*non-discrimination*, *best interests*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *budget*). On one indicator the United Arab Emirates' score dropped from the maximum to a middle score (on *data*), and on other indicator it dropped from a middle score to the lowest score (*state-civil society cooperation*).

3.3. Selected States that obtained a higher rank in the KidsRights Index 2016: A comparison of scores

- Colombia: KRI 2015: 123; KRI 2016: 60 (= plus 63).
- Jamaica: KRI 2015: 103; KRI 2016: 51 (= plus 52).
- Mexico: KRI 2015: 102; KRI 2016: 37 (= plus 65).

Colombia (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Colombia 2006	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Colombia 2015	2	2	2	2	2	1	2

Colombia's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows only one lowest score (on *data*) and six times the middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). No maximum scores are on record. On one indicator the scores of 2015 stayed the same as it was in 2006 (*legislation*). On five indicators (*non-discrimination*, *best interests*, *respect for the views of the child*, *budget* and *state-civil society cooperation*) Colombia's scores improved from the lowest to the middle score. The score on *data* went down from the middle to the lowest level score.

Jamaica (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Jamaica 2003	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
Jamaica 2015	1	2	2	2	2	2	NA

Jamaica's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *non-discrimination*) and five times the middle score (*best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget*, *data* and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). No maximum scores are on record. On three indicators the scores of 2015 stayed the same as they were in 2003 (*non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child*, and *data*). On three indicators (*best interests*, *legislation* and *budget*) Jamaica's scores improved from the lowest to the middle score. The score on *state-civil society cooperation* went down from the middle level to non-availability. With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2003, the completeness of the Jamaica's scores deteriorated.

Mexico (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Mexico 2006	1	1	2	2	1	2	1
Mexico 2015	2	2	2	2	2	1	NA

Mexico's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *data*), and five times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *budget*). No maximum scores are on record. On two indicators Mexico's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2006 (*respect for the views of the child* and *enabling legislation*). On 3 indicators (*non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child* and *budget*) Mexico's score improved, from the lowest to a middle score. On two indicators the scores went down, respectively from the middle level to the lowest level (*data*) or from the lowest level to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation*). With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2006, the completeness of the scores of Mexico deteriorated.

3.4. General Remarks
a) The scope for realising the full spectrum of children's rights (as laid down in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child) is not only determined by income, or by level of economic or human development

As touched upon earlier, in line with CRC, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child considers the implementation record of states parties to the Convention with a certain level of consideration for the development level and/or implementation capacity of those states parties. For example, according to article 4 of the CRC, states have to mobilize 'the maximum extent of their available resources'. This may have different actual implications for some states as compared to others. For example, a highly developed country can be expected to mobilize more resources than a least developed country. Accordingly, in situations in which relatively limited means are available to implement the CRC, political will to genuinely prioritize children's rights by allocating the maximum/best available budget can make a significant difference. Likewise, certain well-resourced countries might nevertheless have failed to adequately address discrimination of children or may not have been active on gathering disaggregated data on the situation of (particular groups of) children in that country. This explains why in certain situations perhaps rather unexpected scores may be obtained on the KidsRights Index. While in previous Concluding Observations three states managed to obtain the highest possible score on certain indicators (Brazil 2004, and Dominican Republic 2008, both on *enabling legislation*; and United Arab Emirates 2002 on *data*), none of the countries that were assessed by the CRC Committee in 2015 managed to obtain the maximum score of 3 (indicating the presentation of positive remarks only in the CRC CO) on any KidsRights Index indicator according the 2015 Concluding Observations. This might be caused by the fact that the CRC Committee assesses a state more strictly over time (for example because previous Concluding Observations were not acted upon).

b) Availability of data

The (non-)availability of data remains influential. Of the seven states featured in sections 3.2 and 3.3 of this document, five (Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Iraq and Mexico) realized the lowest possible score on the indicator *collection and analysis of disaggregated data* (indicating that the CO contains only negative remarks on this aspect). The remaining 2 countries (Jamaica and United Arab Emirates) realized an 'average' score (indicating a combination of positive and negative remarks in the latest Concluding Observations). For five countries (Colombia, Dominican Republic, Iraq, Mexico and United Arab Emirates) the scores on data based on the 2015 Concluding Observations were lower than the scores based on the previous Concluding Observations. While for all seven states covered in sections 3.2. and 3.3 of this document scores could be compiled on all seven KidsRights Index indicators on the basis of the previous Concluding Observations, in three cases the 2015 Concluding Observations lacked material for compiling a 2016 KidsRights Index score on one of the seven indicators (respectively on *best interests of the child* in Brazil, and on *state - civil society cooperation* in Jamaica and Mexico). The overall availability of scores thus slightly deteriorated compared to the KidsRights Index 2015.

4. Results CRC reporting - Explanations for remaining countries

In the previous section the updated results of the domain 'Child Rights Environment' for the seven countries with striking differences with the KidsRights Index 2015, were presented with a short analysis. In this section the remaining 16 countries in the KidsRights Index 2016 that were subject to the CRC state reporting procedure in 2015 and thus received a new score for the domain 'Child Rights Environment' are presented: Bangladesh, Chile, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan and Uruguay.

Bangladesh (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Bangladesh 2009	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Bangladesh 2015	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Bangladesh's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows in all seven indicators a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget*, *data*, and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). No maximum scores are on record. On the seven indicators no changes occurred in the scores of 2015 compared to those of 2009.

Chile (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Chile 2007	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Chile 2015	2	2	2	2	1	2	NA

Chile's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *budget*) and five times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *data*). No maximum scores are on record. No changes occurred in the scores for *non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *data*. On *best interests of the child*, Chile's score improved from the lowest to the middle score. On two indicators Chile's scores went down respectively, from the middle to the lowest level score (*budget*) or from the middle level score to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation for child rights* (which was present as a middle score in 2007), the completeness of scores on Chile went down.

Eritrea (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Eritrea 2008	2	2	2	1	2	2	1
Eritrea 2015	2	2	1	2	1	2	1

Eritrea's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows thrice the lowest score (on *respect for the views of the child*, *budget* and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*), and four times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *data*). No maximum scores are on record. On four indicators Eritrea's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2008 (*non-discrimination*, *best interests*, *data* and *state-civil society cooperation*). On one indicator (*legislation*) Eritrea's score improved, from the lowest level to a middle level score. On two indicators the scores went down, from the middle level to the lowest level score (*respect for the views of the child* and *budget*).

Results CRC reporting - remaining countries
Ethiopia (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Ethiopia 2006	2	NA	2	2	2	1	2
Ethiopia 2015	2	2	2	1	2	2	1

Ethiopia's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows twice the lowest score (on *enabling legislation* and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*), and five times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *budget* and *data*). No maximum scores are on record. On three indicators Ethiopia's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2006 (*non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child* and *budget*). On two indicators the scores went down, from the middle level to the lowest level (*enabling legislation* and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). On two indicators Ethiopia's score improved respectively, from no available data to a middle level score (*best interests*) or from the lowest to a middle score (*data*). With the score available on *best interests of the child* (which was not present in 2006), the completeness of scores on Ethiopia improved.

Gambia (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Gambia 2001	2	NA	1	2	2	1	NA
Gambia 2015	2	2	1	2	2	1	1

Gambia's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows thrice the lowest score (on *respect for the views of the child*, *data* and *state-civil society cooperation for child rights*), and four times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *budget*). No maximum scores are on record. On five indicators Gambia's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2001 (*non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child*, *legislation*, *budget* and *data*). On two indicators the availability of scores improved respectively, from non-available data in 2001 to the lowest level (*state-civil society cooperation*) or from non-available data to a middle score (*best interests of the child*). With scores available on the *best interests of the child* and *state-civil society cooperation* (which were not available in 2001), the completeness of scores on Gambia improved.

Ghana (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Ghana 2006	2	2	2	3	1	2	2
Ghana 2015	2	1	2	2	2	1	NA

Ghana's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows twice the lowest score (on *best interests of the child* and *data*) and four times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation* and *budget*). No changes occurred in the scores for *non-discrimination* and *respect for the views of the child*. On *budget* matters, Ghana's score improved from the lowest to the middle level score. On four indicators Ghana's scores went down respectively, from a middle level to the lowest score (*best interests of the child* and *data*), or from the highest possible score to the middle level score (*legislation*) or from the middle level score to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation*). With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation for child rights* (which was present as a middle score in 2006), the completeness of scores on Ghana went down.

Honduras (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Honduras 2007	2	2	2	1	1	2	3
Honduras 2015	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Honduras's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows in all seven indicators a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best*

Results CRC reporting - remaining countries

interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation, budget, data and state-civil society cooperation for child rights). No changes occurred in the scores for *non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child and data*. On *enabling legislation and budget*, Honduras's score improved from the lowest to the middle score. On one indicator the Honduras's score dropped from the maximum to the middle level score (*state-civil society cooperation for child rights*).

Kazakhstan (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Kazakhstan 2007	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Kazakhstan 2015	2	2	2	2	1	2	NA

Kazakhstan's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *budget*), and five times a middle score (on *non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation and data*). No maximum scores are on record. On five indicators Kazakhstan's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2007 (*non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation and data*). On two indicators the scores went down, respectively from the middle level to the lowest level (*budget*) or from the lowest level to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation*). With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2007, the completeness of the scores of Kazakhstan deteriorated.

Mauritius (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Mauritius 2006	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
Mauritius 2015	2	2	2	2	2	1	2

The Mauritius' record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *data*) and six times a middle score (on *non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation, budget and state-civil society cooperation*). On five indicators, the scores stayed the same in 2015 as they were in 2006 (*non-discrimination, best interests, respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation and state-civil society cooperation*). On one indicator the Mauritius' score improved from the lowest to a middle score (on *budget*). The score on *data* went down from the middle level to the lowest score.

Netherlands (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Netherlands 2009	2	2	2	3	3	2	2
Netherlands 2015	2	2	2	2	1	2	NA

The Netherlands' record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *budget*), and five times a middle score (on *non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child, enabling legislation and data*). On four indicators the Netherlands' 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2009 (*non-discrimination, best interests of the child, respect for the views of the child and data*). On three indicators the scores went down, respectively from the highest to a middle score (*legislation*), or from the highest to the lowest score (*budget*), or from the middle score to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation*). With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2009, the completeness of the scores of the Netherlands deteriorated.

Sweden (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Sweden 2009	1	2	2	2	2	2	3
Sweden 2015	2	2	2	3	1	1	NA

Sweden's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows twice the lowest score (on *budget* and *data*), three times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, and *respect for the views of the child*), and once the highest score (*enabling legislation*). On two indicators Sweden's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2009 (*best interests of the child* and *respect for the views of the child*). On 2 indicators Sweden's scores improved, respectively from the lowest to the middle score (*non-discrimination*) and from the middle to the highest score (*legislation*). On three indicators the scores went down, respectively from the middle to the lowest score (*budget* and *data*) or from the highest score to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation*). With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2009, the completeness of the scores of Sweden deteriorated.

Switzerland (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Switzerland 2002	2	1	2	3	NA	2	3
Switzerland 2015	2	2	2	2	2	2	NA

Switzerland's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows six times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *data*). On three indicators Switzerland's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2002 (*non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child* and *data*). On 2 indicators Switzerland's scores improved, respectively from the lowest to the middle score (*best interests of the child*) and from non-availability to the middle score (*budget*). On two indicators the scores went down, respectively from the highest to the middle score (*legislation*) or from the highest to non-availability (*state-civil society cooperation*). With scores available on *budget* in 2015 as opposed to 2002 but no scores available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2009, the scores of Switzerland remain incomplete.

Tanzania (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Tanzania 2006	2	NA	2	2	2	2	2
Tanzania 2015	2	2	2	2	2	2	NA

Tanzania's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows six times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, and *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *data*). No maximum scores are on record. On five indicators Tanzania's 2015 scores stayed the same as in 2006 (*non-discrimination*, *respect for the views of the child*, *legislation*, *budget* and *data*). On *best interests of the child* Tanzania's score improved from non-available to the middle score. On *state-civil society cooperation* Tanzania's score went down from a middle score to non-availability. With the score available on the *best interests of the child* (as opposed to 2006), but no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2006, the scores of Tanzania remain incomplete.

Timor-Leste (CO data from 2015, 6 scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Timor Leste 2008	2	2	2	2	1	1	2
Timor Leste 2015	2	2	2	2	2	2	NA

Timor-Leste's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows six times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, and *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *data*). No maximum scores are on record. No changes occurred in the scores for *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *respect for the views of the child*, and *legislation*. On *budget* and *data* Timor-Leste's scores improved from the lowest to the middle score. On *state-civil society cooperation* Timor-Leste's score went down from a middle score to non-availability. With no score available on *state-civil society cooperation*, which was present in 2006, the completeness of the scores of Timor-Leste's deteriorated.

Turkmenistan (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Turkmenistan 2006	1	2	2	2	1	2	2
Turkmenistan 2015	2	2	1	3	2	2	2

Turkmenistan's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (on *respect for the views of the child*), five times a middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests of the child*, *budget, data* and *state-civil society cooperation*), and once the highest score (*enabling legislation*). On three indicators, the scores stayed the same in 2015 as they were in 2006 (*best interests*, *data* and *state-civil society cooperation*). On three indicators Turkmenistan's scores improved respectively, from the lowest to a middle score (on *non-discrimination* and *budget*) or from the middle to the highest score (*legislation*). The score on *respect for the views of the child* went down from the middle to the lowest score.

Uruguay (CO data from 2015, all scores available)

Country	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
Uruguay 2007	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Uruguay 2015	2	2	2	2	2	2	1

Uruguay's record in the 2015 Concluding Observations shows once the lowest score (*state-civil society cooperation for child rights*) and six times the middle score (on *non-discrimination*, *best interests*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *data*). No maximum scores are on record. On six indicators, the scores stayed the same in 2015 as they were in 2007 (*non-discrimination*, *best interests*, *respect for the views of the child*, *enabling legislation*, *budget* and *data*). On one indicator Uruguay's score dropped from the middle to the lowest score (*state-civil society cooperation for child rights*).

Annex 1 - Domains & Indicators

	Domains:	Indicators:
1	Right to Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 5 mortality • Life expectancy at birth • Maternal mortality ratio
2	Right to Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of under five year olds suffering from underweight • Immunization of 1 year old children • % of population using improved sanitation facilities (urban and rural) • % of population using improved drinking water sources (urban and rural)
3	Right to Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary school participation • Secondary school participation • Primary school enrolment ratios (female as % of male) • Secondary school enrolment ratios (female as % of male) • Survival rate to last grade of primary (female as % of male) • Primary school net attendance ratio (urban and rural)
4	Right to Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child labour • Adolescent birth rate • Birth registration
5	Enabling Environment for Child Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-discrimination • Best interests of the child • Respect for the views of the child/child participation • Enabling legislation • Best available budget • Collection and analysis of disaggregate data • State-civil society cooperation for child rights

Annex 2 - Regions

Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS) – 20 countries

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia (the former Yugoslav Republic of), Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Asia and the Pacific – 21 countries

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu, Vietnam

Africa – 43 countries

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Congo Democratic Republic of the, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Industrialized countries – 36 countries

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea Republic of, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

Latin America and Caribbean – 25 countries

Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

Middle East and North Africa (MENA) – 18 countries

Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

Countries partly in the Index – 2 countries²

Liechtenstein, Poland

Countries not in the Index – 36 countries

Asia and the Pacific: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Korea Democratic People's Republic of, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu

Africa: Cape Verde, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan

Industrialised countries: Andorra, Hong Kong, USA

Latin America and Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Turks and Caicos Islands

Middle East and North Africa (MENA): State of Palestine, Sudan

² As of 2016 the KidsRights Index took an improved approach when dealing with missing values. The score for a domain is not calculated if more than half of the indicators of that domain have a missing value. A country is not included in the overall Index if the score on domain 5 'Child Rights Environment' is missing. A country is also not included if more than half of the domain scores are missing. As a result, Poland and domain 5 'Child Rights Environment, contrary to previous versions of the Index. Poland and Liechtenstein are included in the ranking of domains 1 to 4 of the KidsRights Index 2016.

The KidsRights Index is the only annual global ranking on how countries worldwide are adhering to children's rights.

163
COUNTRIES

Unique: domain Child Rights Environment provides insight into the extent to which a country is equipped to carry out the UN CRC.

Online: the KidsRights Index is accessible for everybody on kidsrightsindex.org



The goal of the KidsRights Index

is to stimulate compliance with children's rights worldwide.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is the global framework for children's rights.



1989

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



The KidsRights Index uses existing data from two reputable sources: quantitative data published and regularly updated by UNICEF at www.data.unicef.org and the *Concluding Observations* by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The KidsRights Index: **23 indicators: 16 quantitative and 7 qualitative indicators**

1. Life

- Under 5 mortality rate
- Life expectancy at birth
- Maternal mortality ratio



2. Health

- % of under five year olds suffering from underweight
- Immunization of 1 year old children
- % of population using improved sanitation facilities (urban and rural)
- % of population using improved drinking water sources (urban and rural)



3. Education

- Primary school participation
- Secondary school participation
- Primary school enrolment ratios (female as % of male)
- Secondary school enrolment ratios (female as % of male)
- Survival rate to last grade of primary (female as % of male)
- Primary school net attendance ratio (rural)



4. Protection

- Child labour
- Adolescent birth rate
- Birth registration



5. Child Rights Environment

- Non-discrimination
- Best interests of the child
- Enabling legislation
- Best available budget
- Respect for the views of the child/child participation
- Collection and analysis of disaggregate data
- State-civil society cooperation for child rights



The KidsRights Index is an initiative of the KidsRights Foundation, in cooperation with Erasmus University Rotterdam; Erasmus School of Economics and the International Institute of Social Studies.



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