



INTERNATIONAL BUREAU FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Promoting and Protecting
Children's Rights Worldwide

WHO ARE WE AND WHAT DO WE DO?

The International Bureau for Children's Rights is a non-governmental organisation that has been upholding the rights of the child for more than 25 years in 45 countries across Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Middle East. Using an approach that is both participative and sustainable, we work with our partners in the field to promote and protect the rights of children, including those who are in contact with the legal system or affected by a humanitarian crisis caused by armed conflict or natural disaster. We also aim to prevent child exploitation, violence, abuse and neglect in all forms, particularly those involving sexual mistreatment.

In all our initiatives, we ensure that children are protected and given the chance to participate and have their voices heard.

OUR FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

The best interest of the child as a top priority in all decisions concerning children

Non-discrimination

The right to life, survival and development

The child's right to participate and share personal opinions



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ISSUES

- Nearly 535 million children are affected by armed conflicts and crises around the world
- Nearly 50 million children have been displaced, including 28 million who have been forced to move or cross borders to escape violence
- Approximately 150 million girls and 73 million boys under 18 years old are victims of violence and sexual exploitation
- 12 million girls under the age of 18 are married each year
- About 4.3 million children are victims of forced labour

Sources: UNICEF, International Labour Organisation, The Code, Girls Not Brides



REINFORCEMENT of CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Children grow up in environments where various stakeholders play a role in their protection. These include girls and boys themselves, who, as subjects of the law, have certain freedoms, as well as their families, the community, the state and its institutions, and the international community. By working with our partners to offer these stakeholders training on children's rights and to build their capacity to address issues affecting children, we help create safer environments in which children can enjoy their rights.



INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

The IBCR also helps governments meet their commitments to children's rights. Our priorities include promoting the adoption and application of appropriate legislation, supporting legal reform and the implementation of national action plans, assessing the child justice system, and providing access to child protection mechanisms during humanitarian interventions.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

More than **390** employees of Global Affairs Canada and Canadian police officers deployed abroad, trained on child protection

4,330

children consulted during discussion and data collection workshops

132

civil society organisations reinforced in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Middle East

Participated in **CAMPAIGNS AND WORKING GROUPS** promoting and protecting children's rights at the global level

Over **2,550,000**

children stand to benefit from our work in Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Honduras

Provided training on children's rights to more than

57,700

members of defence and security forces, legal personnel and social workers in **36 COUNTRIES** across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle east

Supported **LEGISLATIVE REFORMS** to improve children's rights in Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Peru

In 2005, the United Nations adopted the **GUIDELINES on Justice in Matters involving CHILD VICTIMS AND WITNESSES OF CRIME**, which were developed by the IBCR

OUR RECOMMENDATIONS



EVALUATE, RAISE AWARENESS and MOBILISE

We believe that before we can see a significant improvement in children's rights, we must first raise awareness among individuals, communities and nations about the issues affecting children. By performing exhaustive contextual analyses and holding discussion workshops at the national and regional levels, we aim, above all else, to generate reactions and motivate each individual, community or institution to mobilise and become an agent of change.

“A WORLD IN WHICH
EVERY CHILD, BOY OR GIRL,
ENJOYS RIGHTS EQUALLY
AND IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES”



BUREAU
INTERNATIONAL
DES DROITS DES ENFANTS

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INTERNACIONAL DE
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