CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
Every child has the right to be alive.
 Governments must make sure that children survive and develop in the best possible way.
 Governments should let families and communities guide their children so that, as they grow up, they learn to use their rights in the best way. The more children grow, the less guidance they will need.
 Governments must do all they can to make sure that every child in their countries can enjoy all the rights in this Convention.
 When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children. All adults should do what is best for children. Governments should make sure children are protected and looked after by their parents, or by other people when this is needed. Governments should make sure that people and places responsible for looking after children are doing a good job.
 All children have all these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what language they speak, what their religion is, what they think, what they look like, if they are a boy or a girl, if they have a disability, if they are rich or poor, and no matter who their parents or families are or what their parents or families believe or do. No child should be treated unfairly for any reason.
 A child is any person under the age of 18.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child explains who children are, all their rights, and the responsibilities of Governments. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is an important agreement by countries who have promised to protect children’s rights.


The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is a treaty adopted by the United Nations in 1989. It sets out the basic rights of children and the duties of States parties to respect, protect and fulfill these rights. The Convention is the most comprehensive set of human rights principles in the world. It applies to all children, regardless of nationality, race, gender, religion, language, or any other characteristic.

The Convention has been ratified by 193 countries, and is a key part of the international legal framework for children. It has been widely hailed as a milestone in the protection of children’s rights.

The Convention calls for States parties to ensure that children have the right to life, survival, and development, and to protect them from violence, abuse, and neglect. It also guarantees children the right to participate in decisions affecting them, and to express their views.

The Convention has been endorsed by the United Nations and many other international organizations as a key tool for promoting children’s rights. It has been translated into hundreds of languages and is widely used as a benchmark for assessing children’s rights.

The Convention has had a profound impact on children’s rights, and has helped to raise awareness of the importance of protecting children’s rights. It has also helped to ensure that children’s rights are respected in law and practice.

The Convention is a powerful tool for promoting children’s rights, and has the potential to transform the lives of children around the world. It is an essential part of the global effort to protect children’s rights and ensure that they have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

These articles explain how governments, the United Nations, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child and UNICEF — and other organizations work to make sure all children enjoy all their rights.