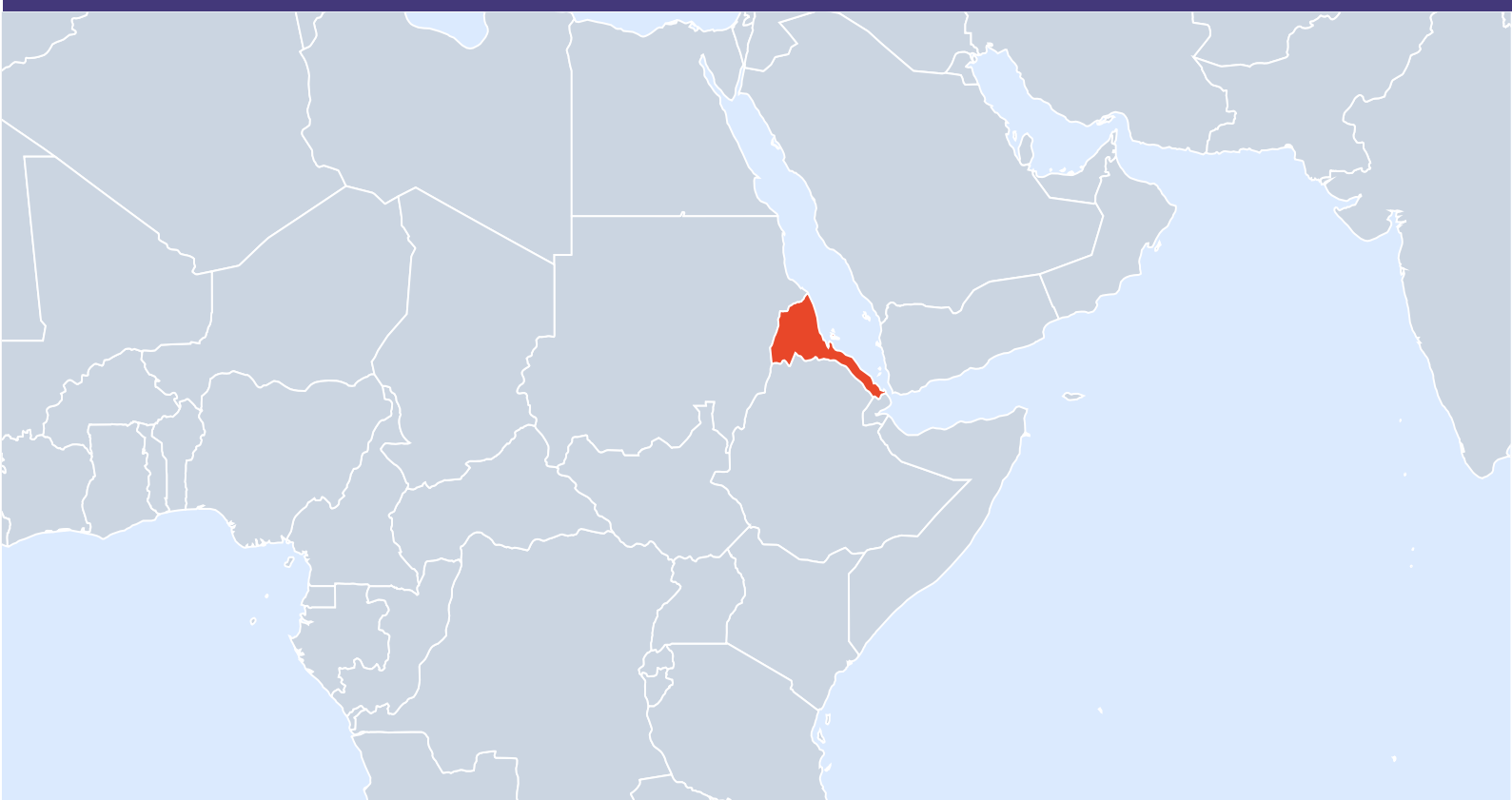


The KidsRights Index 2026

COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS

ERITREA



ERITREA

OVERALL

RANK: **173**
SCORE: **0,448**

LIFE

RANK: **152**
SCORE: **0,617**

HEALTH

RANK: **176**
SCORE: **0,608**

EDUCATION

RANK: **185**
SCORE: **0,376**

PROTECTION

RANK: **NA**
SCORE: **NA**

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

RANK: **136**
SCORE: **0,286**

INTRODUCTION TO THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX

The KidsRights Index is the only annual global ranking on how countries worldwide are adhering to children's rights. Based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Index synthesizes and ranks the children's rights performance records of state parties to the CRC in relation to the most crucial aspects of children's lives for which global and comparable data is available. Overall, the KidsRights Index presents an accessible, general, and comparative overview of state performance on selected children's rights. It also creates a basis for making concrete and evidence-based recommendations on how governments might improve on various children's rights matters. The five domains that jointly make up the Index are:

- 1. Right to Life**
- 2. Right to Health**
- 3. Right to Education**
- 4. Right to Protection**
- 5. Enabling Environment for Children's Rights**

DATA SOURCES OF THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX

The KidsRights Index rankings are the outcome of an integrated analysis of existing, high-quality data published by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The Index also incorporates the 'Concluding Observations' published by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child at the end of the periodic state reporting procedure for all states that have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.¹

DOMAIN 5: ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Domain 5, the 'Enabling Environment for Children's Rights', is an important and unique domain of the KidsRights Index. This Domain charts how states are faring in creating the conditions that need to be in place for realizing children's rights and/or for making children's rights policies and putting them into effect. 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 making and implementing 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 Domain 5 scores for the respective countries are derived from the latest Concluding Observations adopted by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

¹ These data are drawn from <https://data.unicef.org/>, www.hdr.undp.org/data, and the 'Concluding Observations' published by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child at the end of the periodic state reporting procedure for all states that are legally bound by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Domain 5 - 'Child Rights Environment' - is based on the Concluding Observations adopted by the CRC Committee. The Committee's assessment of the country performance on the earlier mentioned 7 indicators that make up the Domain 5 is used to generate scores on a scale between 1 and 3. The actual score assigned to each indicator is exclusively based on the language used by the Committee in the Concluding Observation. The resulting final scores are standardized.

KidsRights Index scoring system for the Domain 5 indicators:

Score 1 'bad'	= only negative remarks
Score 2 'average'	= negative and positive remarks
Score 3 'good'	= only positive remarks
NA	= not addressed

DOMAIN 5: ERITREA

Country (Year in which CO was issued)	Non- discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget / Resources	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
ERITREA 2015	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
ERITREA 2025	1	2	2	1	2	1	1

COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS - ERITREA

1. Decriminalize homosexual conduct and recognize the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children.² (Non-Discrimination)
2. Eliminate discrimination against children in certain ethnic groups and children of asylum seekers,³ particularly considering the fact that children who seek asylum and are returned to Eritrea may face detention and torture.⁴ (Non-Discrimination)
3. Facilitate the meaningful participation of children in the assessment of policies and action plans related to children's rights⁵ and ensure that their views are duly considered in all judicial and administrative proceedings affecting their lives.⁶ (Respect for the Views of the Child)
4. Ensure the implementation of the new Constitution, Penal Code, Civil Code, Criminal Procedure Code, and Civil Procedure Code enacted in 2015, and align all the provisions of the national legislations with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.⁷ (Enabling Legislation)
5. Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment across all settings, without age limitations or exceptions.⁸ While corporal punishment is prohibited for children under the age of 15, it is concerning that the practice remains widely considered to be acceptable within families, schools, and by police officers.⁹ (Enabling Legislation)
6. Expand investment in social services for children, particularly education, while paying special attention to children in disadvantaged situations who may require affirmative social measures, and ensure that such investment continues during periods of economic crisis, natural disasters, or other emergencies.¹⁰ (Best Available Budget)
7. Undertake adequate measures to improve the infrastructure for birth registration, particularly for children belonging to minority groups.¹¹ (Best Interest of the Child, Collection and Analysis of Disaggregated Data)

² Committee on the Rights of the Child, 'Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Eritrea', *UN Doc. CRC/C/ERI/CO/5-6*, 5 March 2025, para 15(b).

³ Ibid., para 15(a).

⁴ Human Rights Watch, Event of 2025, Eritrea, <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/eritrea>.

⁵ Committee on the Rights of the Child, 'Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Eritrea', *UN Doc. CRC/C/ERI/CO/5-6*, 5 March 2025, para 8.

⁶ Ibid., para 18(c).

⁷ Ibid., para 7.

⁸ Committee on the Rights of the Child, 'Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Eritrea', *UN Doc. CRC/C/ERI/CO/5-6*, 5 March 2025, para 24(a).

⁹ Elizka Relief Foundation, Report on Child Rights in Eritrea, https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCRC%2FNGO%2FERI%2F61688&Lang=en p.5.

¹⁰ Committee on the Rights of the Child Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Eritrea, *CRC/C/ERI/CO/5-6*, 5 March 2025, para 10(b).

¹¹ Elizka Relief Foundation, 'Report on Child Rights in Eritrea', 15 December 2024, https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCRC%2FNGO%2FERI%2F61688&Lang=en, p.1.

8. Strengthen the collection of disaggregated data on children in order to address persistent gaps in critical areas affecting children's rights.¹² (Collection and Analysis of Disaggregated Data)
9. Ensure that civil society organizations, including those working on children's rights, can operate freely and independently without excessive restrictions or censorship.¹³ Amend Proclamation No. 145/2005 to address the undue restrictions and regulatory overload on civil society organizations. (State-civil society cooperation for child rights)

¹² Committee on the Rights of the Child, 'Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of Eritrea', *U/V Doc*, CRC/C/ERI/CO/5-6, 5 March 2025, para 11(b).

¹³ *Ibid.*, para 14(a).