

The KidsRights Index 2026

COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS

SLOVAKIA



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OVERALL

RANK: 59

SCORE: 0,731

LIFE

RANK: 46

SCORE: 0,901

HEALTH

RANK: 18

SCORE: 0,918

EDUCATION

RANK: 72

SCORE: 0,763

PROTECTION

RANK: 70

SCORE: 0,926

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

RANK: 121

SCORE: 0,357

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: INDONESIA

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
SLOVAKIA 2016	1	2	1	3	1	1	1
SLOVAKIA 2025	2	2	2	1	1	1	1

COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS - SLOVAKIA

1. Implement the Anti-Discrimination Act effectively to eliminate all forms of discrimination against Roma children, children from migrant backgrounds, LGBTQ+ children, and children with disabilities.² (Non-Discrimination)
2. Ensure that the principle of the best interests of the child is treated as a primary consideration in all administrative and judicial proceedings and in all decisions affecting children.³ (Best Interest of the Child)
3. Expand youth parliaments and strengthen awareness-raising programmes to empower children and increase their participation in national and local decision-making processes.⁴ (Respect for the Views of the Child)
4. Explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including at home.⁵ While corporal punishment is prohibited in schools and daycare settings under Education Act No. 245/2008,⁶ there is no explicit prohibition of corporal punishment by parents at home. Furthermore, the Family Law of 2016, through the broad provision allowing parents to use “adequate measures for upbringing children,” increases the risk of corporal punishment being used as a disciplinary measure.⁷ (Enabling Legislation)
5. Establish a comprehensive budgeting system for assessing children's needs, allocating resources, and tracking expenditures to maximize the impact of public investment on children's lives.⁸ (Best Available Budget)
6. Expand investment in inclusive and quality education for Roma children and adopt effective measures to eliminate school segregation.⁹ This remains particularly important as Slovakia has the highest rate of school segregation of Roma children among European Union member states, with 65 per cent of Roma children aged 6–15 attending schools where the majority of students are Roma.¹⁰ (Best Available Budget & Non-Discrimination)
7. Improve the collection and analysis of disaggregated data on children by sex, age, ethnicity, and geographical location, and ensure that such data is systematically used by all ministries in policymaking and in the effective implementation of the Convention.¹¹ (Collection and Analysis of Disaggregated Data)

² Committee on the Rights of the Child, ‘Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report of Slovakia’, *UN Doc. CRC/C/SVK/CO/6*, 26 February 2025, para 15.

³ Ibid., para 16.

⁴ Ibid., para 17.

⁵ Ibid., para 21.

⁶ End corporal punishment, Country Report for Slovakia, Corporal punishment of children in Slovakia, November 2024, <https://www.endcorporalpunishment.org/wp-content/uploads/country-reports/Slovakia.pdf>, p. 3.

⁷ Ibid., p. 2.

⁸ Committee on the Rights of the Child, ‘Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report of Slovakia’, *UN Doc. CRC/C/SVK/CO/6*, 26 February 2025, para 9.

⁹ Ibid., para 38(e).

¹⁰ Unicef, ‘Technical Support for Education Desegregation of Roma Children in Slovakia’, April 2026, <https://www.unicef.org/eca/reports/technical-support-education-desegregation-roma-children-slovakia>, p.1.

¹¹ Committee on the Rights of the Child, ‘Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report of Slovakia’, *UN Doc. CRC/C/SVK/CO/6*, 26 February 2025, para 10.

8. Guarantee the freedom and safety of civil society organizations and facilitate cooperation between the State and civil society organizations in the implementation and monitoring of legal frameworks.¹² This requires urgent attention, as civil society organizations continue to face challenges including defamatory political narratives portraying them as “mercenaries of foreign powers,” violations of privacy, and funding restrictions ¹³ (State-civil society cooperation for child rights)

¹² Committee on the Rights of the Child, ‘Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report of Slovakia’, *UN Doc. CRC/C/SVK/CO/6*, 26 February 2025, para. 14.

¹³ Nicke, S., ‘Civil Society in Slovakia 2024-2025: Resisting an authoritarian turn *Maecenata Stiftung*.’ <https://www.maecenata.eu/en/2025/11/19/observatorium-86-civil-society-in-slovakia/>, 19 November 2025, p. 4.