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CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN KYRGYZSTAN

UPR-Info Pre-sessions

ISSUES



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- **Issue I:** Free and compulsory school education
- **Factors:** Islamization, poverty and child labour
- **Issue II:** Violence against children
- **Factor:** Migration
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General context

- ❑ **Islamization**
- ❑ Growing interest to religious education and radical movements
- ❑ **Poverty/Child Labour**
- ❑ 800,000 children live in poverty and 60% no access to social care
- ❑ **Corruption**
- ❑ Corruption and impunity in law enforcement agencies

Legal framework-Issue I

- **Code of Children**
- **Constitution of Kyrgyz Republic/Article 45**
- **Law about Education of KR**
- Compulsory and free school education for 9 years
- Both state and parents are responsible
- High allocation from the state budget but still not efficient

Current situation – Issue 1

- **Religious parents** are depriving their children from civic education/Radical movements
- **Madrasah system/Under-age children**
- **Child labour**
- 60 per cent of children aged between 12 and 17;
- Every 3rd child combine work and study;

Recommendations – Issue 1

- To organize a full-scale information campaign involving media, civil society and community leaders to raise awareness about children's right to civic education;
- Ministry of Education and Science needs urgently set up an appropriate and effective mechanism to identify, register and monitor out-of-school children in every city and village of the country;
- Kyrgyz government should monitor all religious education institutions to subject of studying under-age-children and warn constantly their administrations not to violate legal norms about children's right to civic education;
- To create a social programme for children living in poverty. An appropriate allowance and social care programme can return these children to school or stop them from combining work and study.

Previous recommendations

- ❑ **Elimination of child labour/Not implemented**
- ❑ HUNGARY: Completely eliminate the practice of child labour and ensure that all children have access to free and compulsory education/ 2nd cycle
- ❑ DENMARK: Ensure that measures are in place to fight and eradicate child labour / 1st cycle
- ❑ LITHUANIA: Further protect children's rights - in particular, fully implement the prohibition of child labour and adopt legislation providing for responsibility for the use of child labour / 1st cycle
- ❑ SRI LANKA: Expedite efforts towards prohibition of all forms of child labour /2nd cycle

Current situation – Issue 2



- Growing number of children of labour migrants left behind of migrants;
- 300,000 children are left behind;
- School performance is declining;
- Violence from relatives;
- No actions and policies.

Recommendations – Issue 2

- To build a system of guardianship for children of migrants;
- To establish early warning mechanisms to prevent violence against children. Local authorities should identify families with high level risk of violence, register children whose parents are absent and observe them and work with them;
- Special social care programs should be built in order to protect a child and help parents to avoid violence and should visit frequently homes, schools of these children and any sign of maltreatment, which includes all forms of abuse and neglect, should be registered and to become a starting point to prevent violence and to work for further assistance;
- Set up foster care program to rehabilitate victim of violence and foster families for children in an urgent need for rehabilitation.

General



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- **We urge Kyrgyz government to establish:**
- Ombudsman for children's rights
- **We urge RSs:**
- Raise the children's rights with special focus on the above raised issues
- Previous recommendations/Please repeat!!

Contacts



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