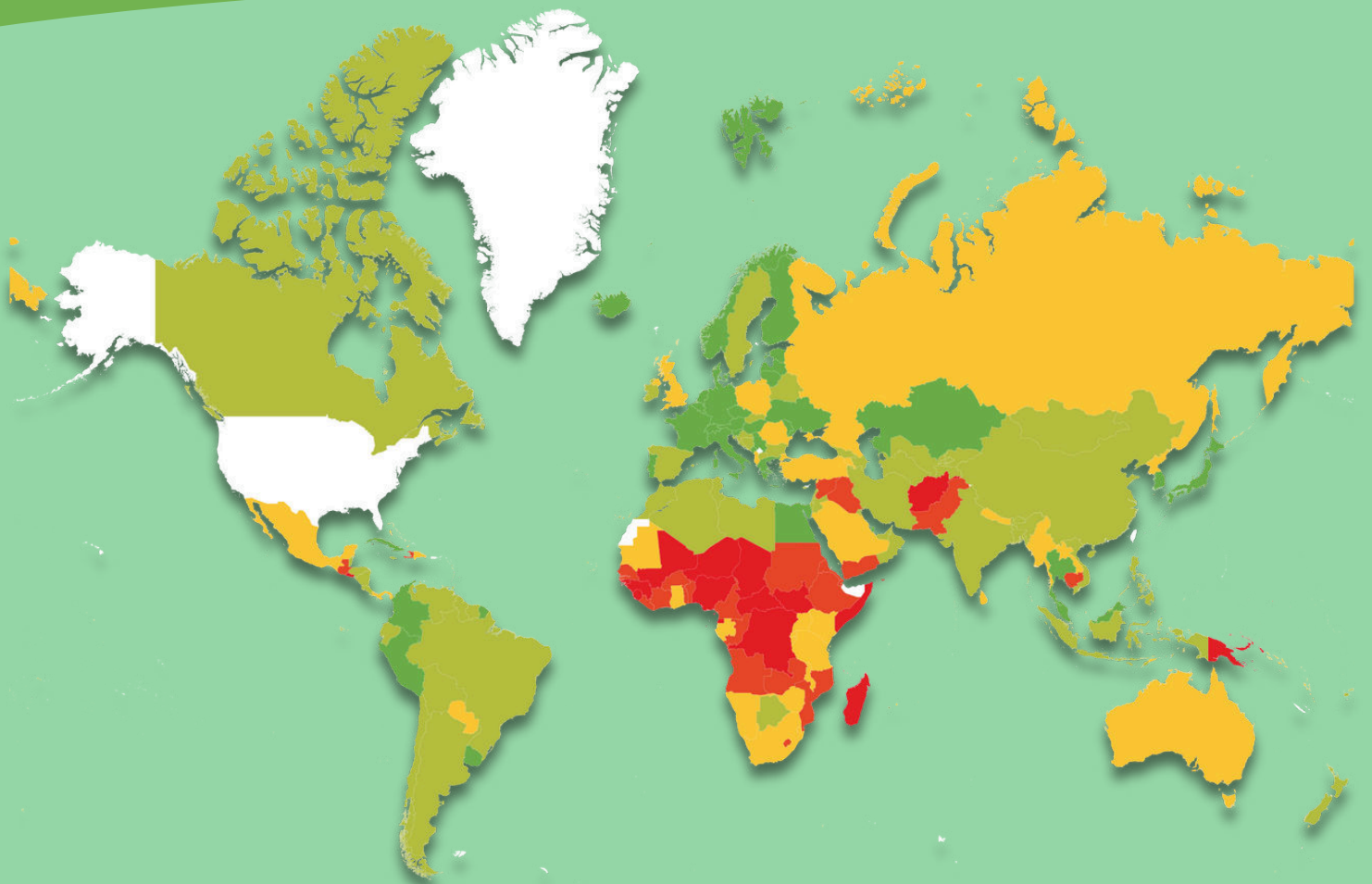


KidsRights Index 2025

Child-friendly Version



About



KidsRights Foundation is an international children's rights organisation dedicated to making sure every child around the world can enjoy their rights and reach their full potential. Our offices are in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Our State of Youth Chapters are active in over 70 countries. KidsRights supports and empowers children globally.



The International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) studies how to make the world fairer and better for everyone. It brings together people from all over the world to learn and work on big problems like poverty, health and climate change.



Erasmus School of Economics (ESE) helps people understand how money, businesses, and governments work. It studies how the world's economy works now and in the future. ESE is part of the Erasmus University in Rotterdam.

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This document is based on the [KidsRights Index Report 2025](#), written by Prof. Karin Arts from The International Institute of Social Studies, and Avinash Reddy Pichhili & Tolga Doğan from KidsRights Foundation. The data inputs are from Mirthe Hendriks & Philip Hans Franses from Erasmus School of Economics.

What to expect?

KidsRights Index

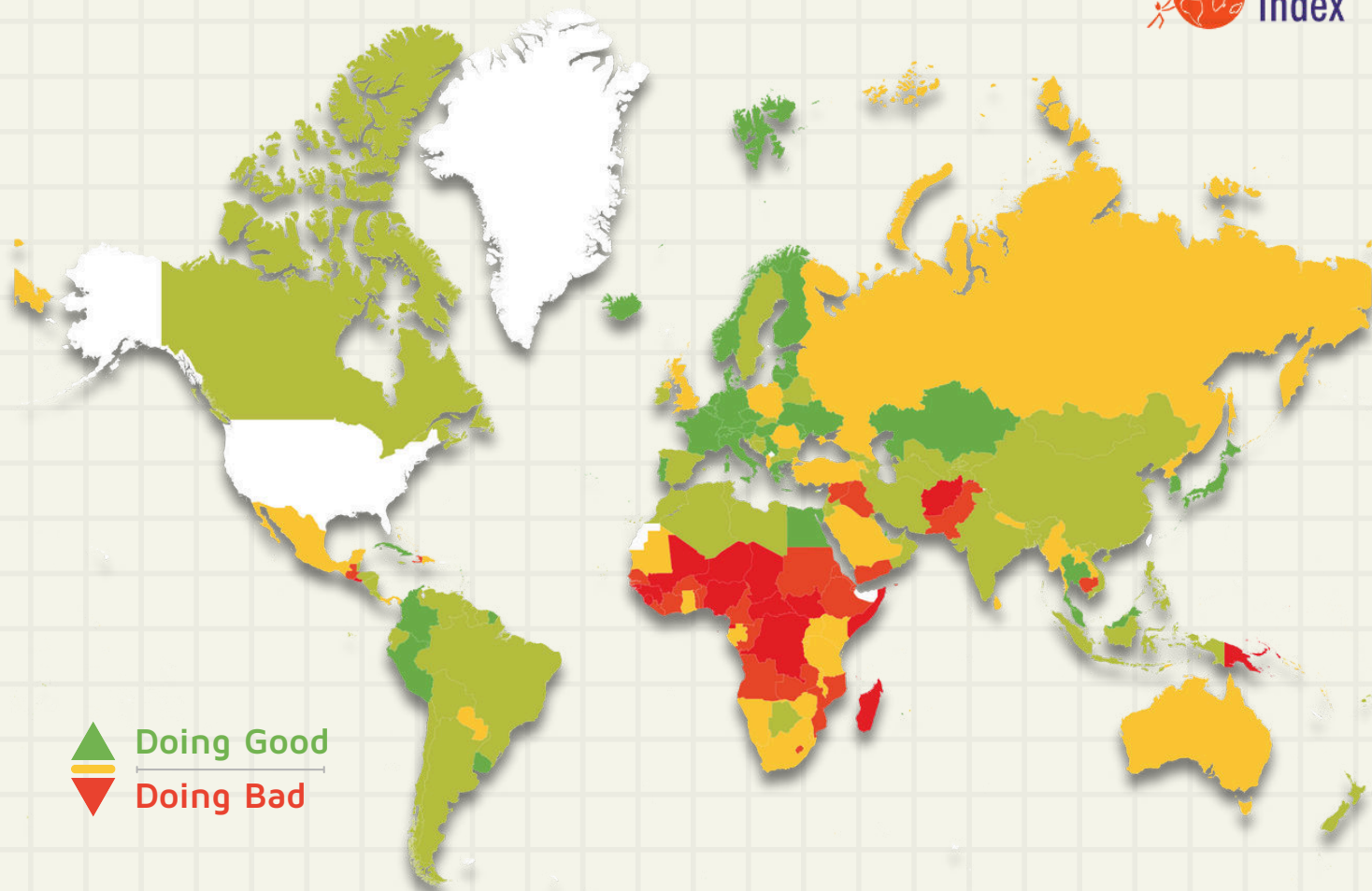
The KidsRights Index, launched in 2013, is the first and the only global ranking that annually measures how children's rights are respected worldwide and to what extent countries are committed to improving the rights of children. The KidsRights Index is an initiative of the KidsRights Foundation, in cooperation with Erasmus University Rotterdam: Erasmus School of Economics and the International Institute of Social Studies

The KidsRights Index 2025 is the 13th annual report and ranks 194 countries. It is widely used by various stakeholders, including policymakers, researchers, civil society organisations, governments, businesses and financial institutions to advance children's rights globally. In 2025, KidsRights Index had a reach of 1.19 billion – covered by over 305 media articles in 55 countries.

Child-friendly KidsRights Index 2025

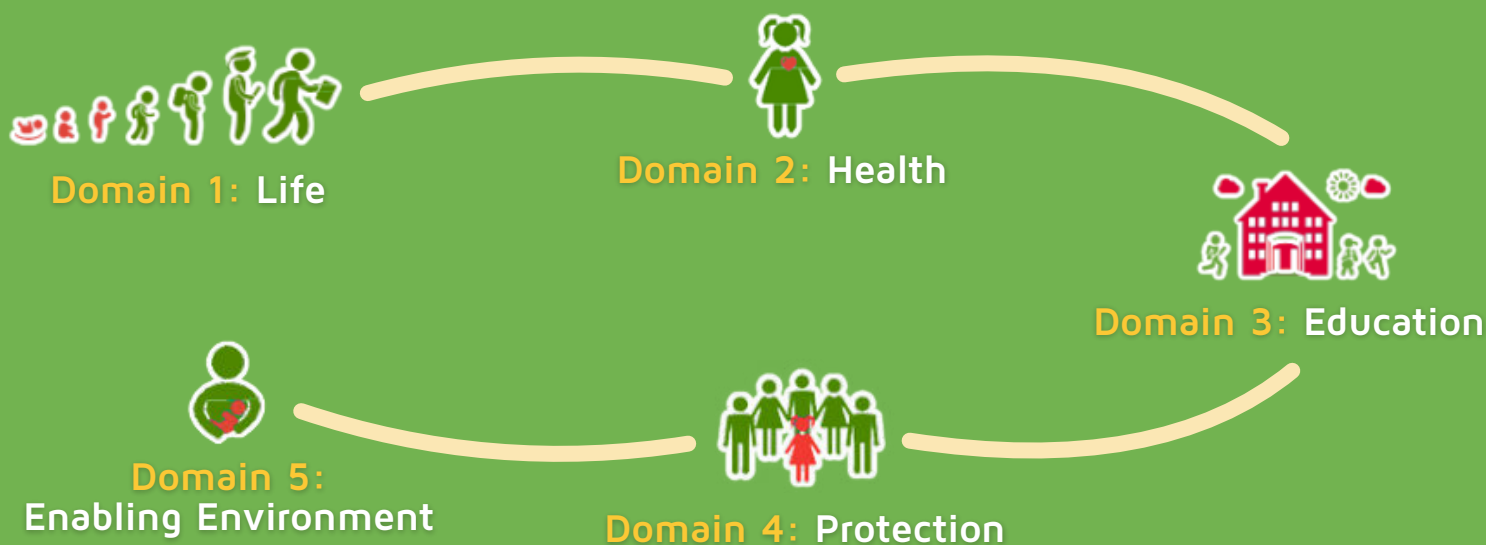
The child-friendly KidsRights Index is developed to make sure that children can understand important information about their rights. This document is an effort of KidsRights Foundation in line with children's right to access information as provided in Articles 13 and 17 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) – to provide information to children in an understandable way. It also aims to support stakeholders engaging with children to raise awareness on the status children's rights around the world.

This document highlights the developments in the five Domains of the KidsRights Index: **Life**, **Health**, **Education**, **Protection**, and **Enabling Environment**. Children's mental health concerns due to digital environment, and the impact of climate change on children's rights are also discussed.



What is the KidsRights Index?

The KidsRights Index is based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) – the most important international law on children’s rights. The KidsRights Index helps us understand which countries are doing well and which countries need to improve. It looks into the following key areas (also called Domains) of children's rights:



Did you know?

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) was adopted in 1989 and every country in the world, except the USA, has agreed to follow it. For more information, you can read the child-friendly version of the CRC by clicking [here](#)!

There is also a UN Committee on the Rights of the Child which includes child rights experts from around the world. This Committee gives suggestions to countries to better protect children's rights.

So, why should you read this document?



Learn about children's rights



Know how countries around the world are protecting the rights of children



Think about what you can do to improve children's lives in your own country



And finally, take action. **Let's start!**

Children’s mental health in a Digital World

You are probably reading this on a digital screen. New technology, such as using social media is causing serious problems for children’s mental health. What are countries doing to protect children then? Many countries are trying to stop children from using social media & digital platforms.

KidsRights asks countries to recognize the child safety risks in the digital world and protect children from the mental health problems caused by digital platforms. KidsRights recommends countries to prioritize the safety of children by ensuring that children can only access safe and age-appropriate content on the digital platforms.

KidsRights also highlights that children use digital platforms to speak to their friends, play with them, learn about what’s happening around the world, and to access educational and well-being content.

Why banning children from internet isn’t the answer:



Miss out on learning:

No access to fun and educational videos, games, homework and classroom apps to increase productivity and engagement.



Feel alone and isolated:

Less time with friends and like-minded community.



Not good for mental health:

Being isolated makes children feel bad about themselves and restricts development.



Safety online: Every child deserves to explore the internet without fear or harm. Children should only be able to see safe and age-appropriate content online.



Mental health concerns:

Unregulated content and overuse of internet affects children’s mental health.



Child-Friendly internet!

All digital platforms should ensure safety of children!



... safe and responsible browsing for children!

Overall KidsRights Index 2025 Highlights

Greece, Iceland, Luxembourg, and Germany are the top performers of the KidsRights Index in 2025. Afghanistan, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic are at the bottom of the rankings.

Countries that have changed their rankings the most as compared to the KidsRights Index 2024 -

- ▲ Lithuania up by 92 ranks
- ▼ Mexico down by 87 ranks



Know how your country is doing on the KidsRights Index 2025!
 Click [HERE](#) and find your country on the KidsRights Index interactive map.

How are countries doing in their parts of the world?

Region	Highest ranked	Lowest ranked
Western Europe	Greece	United Kingdom
West and Central Africa	Cabo Verde	Central African Republic
Eastern and Southern Africa	Botswana	South Sudan
Middle East and North Africa	Qatar	Iraq
South Asia	Bangladesh	Afghanistan
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	Kazakhstan	Albania
Latin America and Caribbean	Uruguay	El Salvador

Domain Highlights



- The Life Domain is based on Article 6 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - Right to Life, Survival, and Development. All countries should do their best to make sure children can live and grow up.

Monaco has been the best in domain Life for the 3rd year in a row.

The State of Palestine fell by 49 ranks in this domain.

LEBANON EXPERIENCED THE MOST DRAMATIC RISE IN UNDER-5 MORTALITY RATE



Did you know?

Under-5 Mortality Rate is based on the number of children who die before their 5th birthday

Immunization Rate is based on the number of 1-year old children who received their vaccines to fight dangerous diseases

- The Health Domain is based on Article 24 of the CRC. Every child has the right to receive the best healthcare. They should also have access to information on how to be healthy.

El Salvador improved the most in Domain Health (+57 ranks) as it achieved almost 100 per cent immunization rate.

War-affected countries like Yemen & Sudan recorded lower immunization rates.

- The Education Domain is based on Article 28 of the CRC which says that every child has the right to go to school and learn.

The Marshall Islands improved by 115 ranks, - by its investments in early childhood education, teacher training and technology-based learning.

Did you know?

In Afghanistan, the expected years of schooling for girls is 5.2 years lower than that for the boys. The current government's ban on girls attending secondary school (i.e., after grade 6) has affected the right to education of 1.5 million girls.

The Protection Domain focuses on how safe children are in their countries. It is measured based on the rate of birth registrations, child labour & adolescent births.



Birth registrations increased in the United Republic of Tanzania, Rwanda, Côte d'Ivoire & Cambodia. These registrations are important because they are linked to children's Right to Identity & Nationality.



Child Labour reduced in Comoros and Brazil, and increased in countries such as Eswatini and Mali.

★ If mandatory schooling ends before the minimum working age, children risk entering child labour illegally in many countries.

Ask and find out:

1. What is the age for mandatory schooling in your county?
2. What is the minimum age for work in your country?

The Enabling Environment Domain looks at how well a country creates conditions where children's rights are supported and protected and respected. The scores for this domain are based on what the Committee on the Rights of the Child has said to each country in their latest review.

Lithuania, Armenia, and Argentina received some positive comments from the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Senegal, Mali, and Paraguay are some of the countries that received negative comments from the Committee for not doing enough to protect the rights of the children.

Note for stakeholders engaging with children:



Use this document to anchor discussions on children's rights.



Use the [interactive KidsRights Index dashboard](#) to show how different countries and regions are performing in 2025.



Help children in using the interactive dashboard to find out which countries are at the top and bottom of the 5 domains of the KidsRights Index.



Ask children to think about the challenges faced by children in their community.



Encourage children to discuss solutions. They can join [State of Youth](#), our global youth-led movement for changemaking!

What is Climate Change and how does it impact children?

Climate change is caused by human activities which are making our planet warmer than it should be. This leads to problems like extreme weather and rising sea levels. Such events affect children and their rights in many ways.

For example: Children cannot go to school when there are floods or when it is too hot outside. They are also forced to leave their homes because of floods or droughts.

The KidsRights Index looks at how well countries are working on “climate change mitigation”.

What is climate change mitigation?

Taking action to prevent our planet from heating up any further! It reduces the negative impact of future climate change.

The results of the KidsRights Index show that most countries are not doing enough to fight climate change. Children’s rights are at high risk due to climate change.

In the end, the planet needs more helpers like you to stand up for a happier, healthier and sustainable world!

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