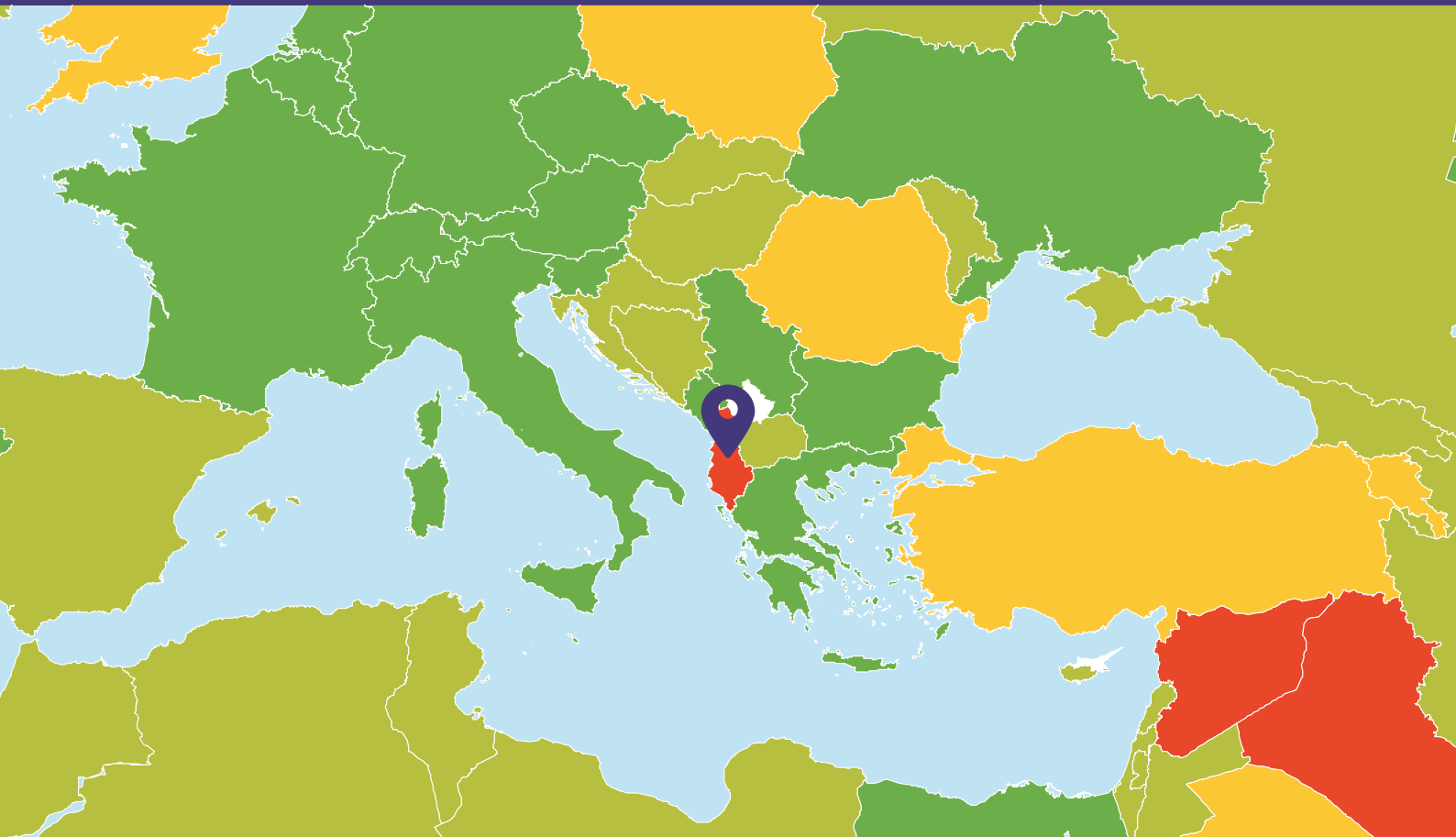


# The KidsRights Index 2024

Albania scores 154<sup>th</sup>  
on global ranking for Children's Rights.



## ALBANIA

OVERALL SCORE	LIFE	HEALTH	EDUCATION	PROTECTION	CHILD RIGHTS ENVIRONMENT
RANK: 154	RANK: 49	RANK: 65	RANK: 95	RANK: 50	RANK: 184
SCORE: 0,523	SCORE: 0,881	SCORE: 0,939	SCORE: 0,694	SCORE: 0,951	SCORE: 0,071

THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX AND INFORMATION ABOUT ITS DOMAINS, INDICATORS AND METHODOLOGY  
ARE ACCESSIBLE ON [WWW.KIDSRIGHTSINDEX.ORG](http://WWW.KIDSRIGHTSINDEX.ORG)

## 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 the performance records of states on the most crucial aspects of children's lives for which comparable data is available. In addition, the Index charts how states are faring in mobilizing the enabling environment for children's rights that the CRC requires them to have. 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 Child Rights**

The KidsRights Index ranks countries on each of these five domains which in turn generate a comprehensive overall ranking. The content of the Index is a sound basis for making concrete recommendations on how the children's rights record of specific countries could be improved.

### SOURCES OF THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX

The KidsRights Index pools data from three reputable sources: quantitative data published and regularly updated by **UNICEF** (<https://data.unicef.org>) and **UNDP** ([www.hdr.undp.org/data](http://www.hdr.undp.org/data))<sup>1</sup>, and qualitative data published by the **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** ([www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/crc/pages/crcindex.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/crc/pages/crcindex.aspx)) in the detailed individual country reports (the so-called Concluding Observations) that it adopts for all states that are parties to the CRC. The KidsRights Index aims to make the data more accessible to a broader audience, in an effort to stimulate dialogue about children's rights. Since the United States of America is the only state in the world that is not yet a party to the CRC, there is no material for scoring the country on domain 5 and thus it cannot be included in the KidsRights Index.

### DOMAIN 5: ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILD RIGHTS

Domain 5, the 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights', is an important and unique domain of the KidsRights Index. 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 scores on domain 5 are derived from the Concluding Observations adopted by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. These Concluding Observations (COs) finish off the state reporting procedure under the CRC and represent the Committee's views on the level of realization of children's rights in a particular country.

<sup>1</sup> The data for the KidsRights Index 2023 was downloaded from the listed UNICEF and UNDP sources in January 2023. In addition, the latest available Concluding Observations for each country were used.

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 domain 5 is used to generate scores on a scale between 1 and 3. The actual score assigned to each sub-indicator is exclusively based on the language used by the Committee in the document. The resulting final scores are standardized.

#### KidsRights Index Scoring System:

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

Color	Meaning
Red	Negative change
Orange	Stayed the same
Green	Positive change

## DOMAIN 5: ALBANIA

	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
<b>Albania 2012</b>	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Albania 2023</b>	1	1	1	2	1	1	1

Albania has experienced a significant decline in the enabling environment domain, as it dropped by 101 ranks and its currently at 184<sup>th</sup> place with a score of 0,071. The indicators such as Best Interests of the child and Enabling legislation are the only ones that remained the same. The other five enabling environment indicators have declined.

## COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS 2023 - ALBANIA

### ON NON-DISCRIMINATION (SCORE 1):

#### Recommendations

- Address the persistent discrimination against children in disadvantaged situations, including those from Roma, Egyptian, and other minority groups, children with disabilities, girls, children living in rural areas, and LGBTI+ children.
- Implement urgent and systematic efforts to combat the persistence of traditional attitudes and norms that drive discriminatory practices, particularly towards girls.

### ON BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD (SCORE 1):

#### Recommendations

- Ensure that the best interests of the child are central in all legislative, administrative, and judicial proceedings and decisions.
- Consistently apply the principle of the child's best interests in policies, programs, and projects impacting children.
- Provide comprehensive training and capacity-building opportunities for professionals involved in assessing and determining the best interests of the child.

### ON RESPECT FOR THE VIEWS OF THE CHILD (SCORE 1):

To address concerns that children's views are not consistently considered in decisions affecting them, KidsRights recommends the following actions.

#### Recommendations

- Take measures to ensure the effective implementation of legislation recognizing the right of the child to be heard in relevant legal proceedings, including establishing systems and procedures for social workers and courts to respect that right.
- Ensure that all professionals involved in legal proceedings involving children systematically receive appropriate training.

### ON ENABLING LEGISLATION (SCORE 2):

KidsRights welcomes the positive developments in Albania's legislation and policies to protect children's rights.

#### Recommendations

- Strengthen legal frameworks, policies and institutional arrangements for the effective implementation of its legislation relating to children.
- Ensure that the human, technical and financial resources for the implementation of legislation providing for children's rights are adequate.

## ON BEST AVAILABLE BUDGET (SCORE 1):

### Recommendations:

- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of budget needs to ensure adequate allocation of resources for implementing children’s rights, aligning with target 16.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Allocate adequate budgetary resources to ensure the implementation of children’s rights, with a particular focus on increasing funding for education, healthcare (especially primary healthcare), and social protection programs.

## ON COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF DISAGGREGATED DATA (SCORE 1):

To enhance the collection and analysis of disaggregated data in Albania, KidsRights makes the following recommendations:

### Recommendations:

- Improve the data-collection and data-sharing system managed by the Institute of Statistics, ensuring it covers all areas of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its Optional Protocols (OPs).
- Ensure that the collected data is disaggregated by various demographic factors such as age, sex, disability, geographical location, ethnic and national origin, religious affiliation, and socio-economic background.
- Pay attention to privacy laws while collecting and sharing disaggregated data to protect individuals’ rights and privacy.

## ON STATE-CIVIL SOCIETY COOPERATION FOR CHILD RIGHTS (1):

### Recommendations:

- Strengthen the participation of civil society organizations (CSOs), children’s organizations, and child human rights defenders in matters concerning children’s rights. This involvement should extend to the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies, programs, and legislation related to children’s rights.
- Provide training and capacity-building opportunities for CSOs, children’s organizations, and child human rights defenders to effectively engage in policy advocacy and monitoring activities.



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