

UN CRC	Ratification Date	Care-Related Concluding Observations
<p><b>CRC/C/MLT/CO/2</b></p> <p>Concluding observations on the second periodic report of Malta, adopted by the Committee at its sixty-second session (14 January–1 February 2013)</p>	<p>30 Sep 1990</p>	<p>18 June 2013</p> <p><a href="http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs62.htm">http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs62.htm</a></p> <p><b>E.Violence against children (articles 19, 37(a) and 39 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Corporal punishment</b></p> <p>36. The Committee notes as positive the Foundation for Social Welfare Services “Blue Ribbon” campaign to promote positive parenting that was launched in 2010. However, the Committee regrets that notwithstanding its previous recommendation (CRC/C/15/Add.129, para. 30, 2000) to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment, the State party continues to lack legislation explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings. The Committee is particularly concerned that corporal punishment is permitted and prevalent in the home and alternative care contexts as so-called “reasonable chastisement” under articles 229 and 339 of the State party’s Criminal Code and article 154 of its Civil Code.</p> <p><b>37. The Committee recommends that the State party take all appropriate measures to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings and ensure that the prohibition is adequately monitored and enforced. Furthermore, it recommends that the State party strengthen and expand awareness-raising and education campaigns, in order to promote positive and alternative forms of discipline and respect for children’s rights, with the involvement of children, while raising awareness about the adverse consequences of corporal punishment on children.</b></p> <p><b>E. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 18 (paras. 1-2), 9-11, 19-21, 25, 27 (para. 4) and 39 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Family environment</b></p>

		<p>43. The Committee welcomes the State party's efforts to better support families through, inter alia, provision of early childhood care for children under the age of three years and subsidies in cases where it is not affordable. However, the Committee is concerned that the availability of such child care remains inadequate and the support services for families are still insufficient.</p> <p><b>44. The Committee recommends that the State party intensify its efforts to render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities with timely responses at the local level, including increasing the availability of early childhood care and support facilities to parents.</b></p> <p><b>Children deprived of a family environment</b></p> <p>45. The Committee welcomes the increased availability of foster care service and placements in lieu of institutional care in the State. However, the Committee is concerned that the availability of alternatives to institutional care remains insufficient, with continuing placements of children in institutions, which are not in the best interests of the child, due to insufficient foster care capacity. Furthermore, while noting that there are some examples of measures for supporting children in their transition to independent living as adults after they leave institutional care, the provision of such support is not an integral and standard feature of all residential homes for children in the State party.</p> <p><b>46. The Committee calls upon the State party to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>(a) Facilitate and support family-based care for children and give priority to alternative care which is in the best interests of the child wherever possible;</b></li><li><b>(b) Increase the number of social workers to ensure that the individual needs of each child can be effectively addressed;</b></li><li><b>(c) In addition to the above, further strengthen its national system for foster care and ensure the provision of adequate funding and support for foster families;</b></li><li><b>(d) Adequately prepare and support young people prior to their leaving care by providing for their early involvement in the planning of transition as well as by making assistance available to</b></li></ul>
--	--	--

		<p>them following their departure;</p> <p>(e) Provide all the necessary human, technical and financial resources required for improving the situation of children in alternative care placements; and,</p> <p>(f) In doing so, take into full account the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children annexed to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/142 of 20 December 2009.</p> <p><b>F.Disability, basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (para.3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (paras. 1-3) of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Mental health</b></p> <p>47. The Committee notes that the State party has only one special unit providing residential psychiatric care to children up to the age of 17. The Committee is concerned that the capacity for meeting the needs of children with mental health needs remains limited, with additional support from non-governmental organisations being required for meeting existing needs for mental health services.</p> <p>48. <b>The Committee recommends that the State party further develop and expand its mental health care system for children and young people to ensure adequate and accessible prevention, treatment of common mental health problems in a primary health care framework as well as specialized care for more serious disorders, with particular attention to children most at risk, including children deprived of parental care.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Country Report</b></p> <p>CRC/C/MLT/2</p> <p>5 March 2012</p> <p><a href="http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/CRC.C.MLT.2.pdf">http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/CRC.C.MLT.2.pdf</a></p>
<b>OPSC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>

	<b>Date</b>	
	28 Sep 2010	
<b>OPAC to CRC</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	9 May 2002	
<b>ICCPR</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	13 Sep 1990	
<b>ICESCR</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	27 May 1971	
<b>CEDAW</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	8 Mar 1991	
<b>CRPD</b>	<b>Ratification Date</b>	<b>Care-Related Concluding Observations</b>
	10 Oct 2012	
<b>UPR</b>	<b>Date of Consideration</b>	<b>Link to Page</b>
	6 May 2009	<a href="http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/PAGES/MTSession5.aspx">http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/PAGES/MTSession5.aspx</a>
<b>Hague Intercountry Adoption</b>	<b>Accession Date</b>	<b>Link to Country Profile</b>
	13 Oct 2004	<a href="http://www.hcch.net/index_en.php?act=states.details&amp;sid=53">http://www.hcch.net/index_en.php?act=states.details&amp;sid=53</a>

**Acronyms and Abbreviations:**

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child/Committee on the Rights of the Child
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OPAC to CRC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
OPSC to CRC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
UN	United Nations
UPR	Universal Periodic Review