

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

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We all strive for happiness in life. And although each of us understands it in his own way, it is difficult to disagree that a happy person is one who has the opportunity to meet their needs (food, dwelling, family, free and interesting communication, successful job, when dreams come true, etc.). The ability to realize one's needs is given to a person by the rights guaranteed by international and national legislative acts. However, to have rights is not enough because you also need to know your rights. Fundamental human rights and freedom recognized at the international level are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

In different countries, a certain age limit has been established, having passed which, a person begins adulthood. Adults can marry, dispose of their own property, travel freely, perform financial transactions, that is, fully enjoy their rights. By this age, the child has certain physical and psychological features that differ him from the world of adults, namely: physical insecurity, helplessness, dependence on the decisions of parents, other adults and so on. Until the end of the XIX century, the rights of the child were not legally protected. There were no organizations that would take care of the children's rights protection.

In some parts of the world, animal protection laws were passed earlier than child protection laws. For example, in 1874 in Baltimore, USA, the parents of eight-year-old Marie Ellen Wilson, who was systematically brutally beaten in the family, could be prosecuted for ill-treatment of her daughter only under current animal protection law. The girl was seriously ill due to constant beating and malnutrition. Members of the local branch of the Society for the Suppression of Cruelty to Animals came to the rescue. Due to the lack of legal protection in this situation, the only possible solution was to accuse the parents on the basis that the girl was recognized as a member of the animal world.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child became the first international document in the history of mankind concerning children and

contains a wide range of rights, including personal rights and freedoms of the child. It is often called the World Constitution for the Rights of the Child. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted on November 20, 1989 by the United Nations General Assembly. The Convention entered into force on September 2 in 1990. To date, it has been accepted by 192 countries, extending its effect to their territories. It is the only UN document that has been accepted by so many states. Ukraine signed the Convention on February 21, 1990, ratified it on February 27, 1991, and entered into force on September 27, 1991.

The list of children's rights contained in the Convention is based on the following principles:

1. The principle of child welfare. In all actions concerning children, the best interests of the child will be a primary consideration.
2. The principle of equality. All children, regardless of skin color, gender, ethnic origin, are equal in rights and before the law.
3. The principle of respect for the rights and responsibilities of both parents. The state respects the autonomy of the family and intervenes only in particularly justified cases.
4. The principle of assistance from the state. The state is obliged to support and provide social assistance to families, especially those in need.

What are the rights of the UN Convention on the rights of the child (short list):

1. Every human being is a child under the age of 18.
2. Protection against discrimination.
3. Best interests of the child.
4. Respect for parental rights.
5. The right to life, survival and free development.
6. Right to last name and first name.
7. The right to a name and to acquire citizenship.
8. The right to know their parents and enjoy parental care.
9. The right to maintain contact with both parents.
10. The right to education.
11. The right to rest and entertainment.
12. The right to use the services of the health care system.
13. The right to enjoy social security benefits
14. The right to freely express one's views on all matters.
15. Freedom of thought, conscience, religion.

The rights of the child, as well as human rights, should be discussed in

the context of the state-person relationship. If a child has a right, the state is obliged to guarantee him the opportunity to exercise that right. For example, the right to education means that the state guarantees everyone access to education, develops training programs, trains teachers and establishes rules governing its functioning, and so on.

It is also important that the state must guarantee and protect the rights of the child everywhere, even if the child is in private territory or outside the state. Like human rights, the rights of the child are subject to restrictions, but only those provided for by law in a democratic society, established in the interests of national security and public order to prevent crime, protect health and morals, or protect the rights and freedoms of others. Parents and guardians have the right and duty to take proper care of their children and to decide on their upbringing in accordance with the rights recognized by the UN Convention, to do so in accordance with the abilities of the developing child. The state cannot intervene until the parents begin to neglect their own responsibilities towards the child and abuse of power over him. The parents are the child's legal representatives and represent them before the state authorities in the same way as in cases of violation of their rights. If the parents are unable to take care of the child, the state is obliged to provide social care. The state, recognizing the autonomy of the family, intervenes in family relations only in special cases provided by law.

The rights of the child are in the general sense of human rights, with the only difference that some rights children begin to enjoy as they grow older and become more aware of their situation. Without the ability to take legal action, children are unable to pursue their rights on their own. Parents or legal guardians act on their behalf.