

Nodirbek Sultonov

*A graduate of the International Law Faculty of the
University of World Economy and Diplomacy*

Email: nodir.sultonov.99@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: *The protection of children's rights is a pressing issue globally, with international mechanisms playing a pivotal role in setting standards and ensuring compliance. However, these mechanisms must work in collaboration with national institutions to guarantee effective implementation. This paper explores the key international mechanisms for the protection of children's rights, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and analyzes their cooperation with national institutions like children's ombudsmen and human rights bodies. The paper concludes that such cooperation is crucial to bridging the gap between international standards and national practices, thereby ensuring the full protection of children's rights.*

Keywords: *children's rights, international mechanisms, national institutions, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF, cooperation.*

АННОТАЦИЯ: *Защита прав детей является актуальной проблемой во всем мире, и международные механизмы играют ключевую роль в установлении стандартов и обеспечении их соблюдения. Однако эти механизмы должны работать в сотрудничестве с национальными институтами, чтобы гарантировать эффективную реализацию. В данной статье рассматриваются основные международные механизмы защиты прав детей, такие как Конвенция ООН о правах ребенка (КПР) и Комитет по правам ребенка, а также анализируется их сотрудничество с национальными институтами, такими как детские омбудсмены и органы*

по правам человека. В статье делается вывод о том, что такое сотрудничество имеет решающее значение для преодоления разрыва между международными стандартами и национальной практикой, обеспечивая тем самым полную защиту прав детей.

Ключевые слова: права ребенка, международные механизмы, национальные институты, Конвенция ООН о правах ребенка, ЮНИСЕФ, сотрудничество.

ANNOTATSIYA: Bolalar huquqlarini himoya qilish butun dunyoda dolzarb masala bo'lib, standartlarni belgilash va ularning amalga oshirilishini ta'minlashda xalqaro mexanizmlar muhim o'rin tutadi. Biroq, ushbu mexanizmlar samarali amalga oshirilishini ta'minlash uchun milliy institutlar bilan hamkorlikda ishlashi kerak. Ushbu maqolada BMTning Bola huquqlari to'g'risidagi konvensiyasi (CRC) va Bola huquqlari bo'yicha qo'mita kabi bolalar huquqlarini himoya qilishning asosiy xalqaro mexanizmlari va ularning bolalar ombudsmanlari va inson huquqlari bo'yicha milliy institutlar bilan hamkorligi ko'rib chiqiladi. Maqolada bunday hamkorlik xalqaro standartlar va milliy amaliyot o'rtasidagi tafovutni bartaraf etish va shu orqali bolalar huquqlarini to'liq himoya qilishni ta'minlashda muhim ahamiyatga ega, degan xulosaga keladi.

Kalit so'zlar: bolalar huquqlari, xalqaro mexanizmlar, milliy institutlar, BMTning Bola huquqlari to'g'risidagi konvensiyasi, UNICEF, hamkorlik.

Introduction

The protection and promotion of children's rights remain crucial for all nations. International mechanisms and national institutions must cooperate to safeguard children's welfare effectively. This paper discusses the role of international mechanisms, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and examines their collaboration with national institutions in implementing and upholding children's rights. Such cooperation is essential to align global standards with national legislation and practices.

At the core of international efforts to protect children's rights lies the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted in 1989.

The CRC sets out the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of children. All member states that ratify the convention are obligated to adopt the necessary measures to ensure these rights are upheld at the national level. The CRC is groundbreaking because it recognizes children as holders of their own rights, emphasizing their right to education, health, protection, and development.

One of the key actors in overseeing the implementation of the CRC is the Committee on the Rights of the Child. This body reviews periodic reports from states on how they are implementing the CRC, offering recommendations to bridge gaps between national policies and international standards.¹

Several international organizations play a critical role in promoting and enforcing children's rights. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works across the globe to ensure children's survival, development, and protection. UNICEF collaborates with national governments to provide resources, expertise, and technical support to implement policies that safeguard children's rights. Its role in humanitarian aid and policy formulation is integral to enhancing the quality of life for children worldwide.²

Additionally, the International Labour Organization (ILO) addresses child labor issues by implementing international labor standards aimed at eliminating hazardous work conditions for children. The ILO's conventions on the minimum age for employment and the worst forms of child labor are vital international tools that national governments must implement to protect children from exploitation.³

UNICEF was established in 1946 to provide emergency food and healthcare to children affected by World War II. Today, its mission has expanded to include a wide range of issues related to children's welfare, including education, health, child protection, and emergency relief. UNICEF works with national governments to implement policies that protect children's rights and promote their development, often focusing on the most vulnerable populations,

¹ United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989.

² UNICEF, "Child Protection and Social Inclusion," available at <https://www.unicef.org/protection>.

³ International Labour Organization, "Conventions on Child Labour," available at <https://www.ilo.org>.

such as children in conflict zones, impoverished areas, or those affected by natural disasters.

UNICEF's contributions are multifaceted. It provides both technical assistance and financial support to governments, ensuring that national policies are aligned with international standards. For instance, UNICEF assists governments in drafting child protection laws, developing national child welfare strategies, and improving healthcare and educational access for children. The organization also plays a significant role in advocacy, raising awareness about children's rights and mobilizing public and political support for reforms aimed at protecting these rights.

In crisis situations, UNICEF often takes the lead in humanitarian response efforts to ensure that children's immediate needs are met. This includes providing access to clean water, food, shelter, and psychosocial support. Moreover, UNICEF helps to rebuild educational and health infrastructures in post-conflict or disaster-stricken regions. Through its focus on long-term development, UNICEF aims to build resilient systems that can better protect children's rights in the future.

Another critical player in the international framework for protecting children's rights is the International Labour Organization (ILO). The ILO, founded in 1919, focuses on promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labor rights. The organization's work on child labor is central to its mission, particularly through its conventions that aim to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and set minimum age requirements for employment.

The ILO's Convention No. 138, adopted in 1973, sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years (or 14 in developing countries), while Convention No. 182 (1999) focuses on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor, such as slavery, trafficking, and hazardous work. These conventions are essential legal tools that require national governments to create and enforce laws that protect children from exploitation in the workforce. The ILO also provides technical assistance to countries in developing and implementing national action plans to

combat child labor, often in collaboration with other international organizations and NGOs.

Through its International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), the ILO works with governments, employers, and workers to combat child labor through advocacy, research, and direct interventions. This program helps to establish child labor monitoring systems, supports educational initiatives to keep children in school, and raises awareness about the dangers of child labor.

By fostering such cooperation, these organizations help to create a more coordinated response to the complex issues facing children worldwide.

UNICEF often leads global campaigns on specific issues affecting children, such as early childhood education, vaccination programs, and protection from violence and abuse. These campaigns are designed to mobilize public opinion and political will, which is essential for driving legislative changes at the national level. The ILO, meanwhile, focuses on fostering international cooperation to combat child labor by encouraging countries to adopt and enforce international labor standards.

International organizations like UNICEF and the ILO are key players in ensuring that children's rights are protected globally. Their work spans direct intervention, advocacy, policy development, and capacity-building initiatives. By collaborating with national institutions, these organizations help to implement international legal frameworks such as the CRC, turning them into actionable policies that make a real difference in the lives of children.

At the national level, various institutions are responsible for translating international commitments into practice. These include national human rights institutions, children's ombudsmen, and other governmental bodies focused on child welfare. National human rights institutions (NHRIs) play a key role in ensuring that international children's rights standards are incorporated into domestic laws and policies.

The ombudsman for children, for example, acts as an advocate for children's rights within the legal and policy framework of a state, often mediating between children and public authorities.

Collaboration between international mechanisms and national institutions is essential. One critical aspect of this collaboration is the reporting process to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. States must submit regular reports on the measures they have taken to implement the CRC. National institutions are often involved in gathering data, formulating policies, and making recommendations to strengthen child protection systems in line with international standards.⁴

In practice, national governments often work closely with organizations such as UNICEF to design and implement projects that address children's needs. For instance, UNICEF provides technical and financial support to national institutions, helping them establish comprehensive frameworks for child protection, education, and healthcare.

The cooperation between international mechanisms and national institutions is crucial in ensuring the protection of children's rights. The international legal framework, including the CRC and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, provides the foundation for these rights. However, national institutions are essential in implementing and enforcing these standards. Effective collaboration helps bridge the gap between international obligations and local realities, ensuring that children's rights are respected and promoted at all levels.

References:

1. United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989. Available at https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments_mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child
2. UNICEF. "Child Protection and Social Inclusion." Available at <https://www.unicef.org/protection>
3. UNICEF. "About UNICEF." Available at <https://www.unicef.org/about-unicef>
4. International Labour Organization (ILO). "ILO Conventions on Child Labour." Available at <https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international-labour-standards/conventions-and-recommendations/lang--en/index.htm>

⁴ Committee on the Rights of the Child, "Reporting to the Committee," available at <https://www.ohchr.org>.

5. International Labour Organization (ILO). “International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC).” Available at <https://www.ilo.org/ipec/lang-en/index.htm>
6. Committee on the Rights of the Child. “Reporting to the Committee.” Available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/crc/reporting-committee>
7. International Labour Organization (ILO). “Convention No. 138: Minimum Age Convention, 1973.” Available at https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C138
8. International Labour Organization (ILO). “Convention No. 182: Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999.” Available at https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C182