



**5** GENDER  
EQUALITY



# Combatting Child Marriage Through the UPR

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a mechanism of the Human Rights Council that reviews the human rights situation in all UN Member States. States provide recommendations for improving their practices in this area.

Although it is a state-led process, the UPR offers significant opportunities for civil society actors to engage and advocate for enhanced human rights in their countries.

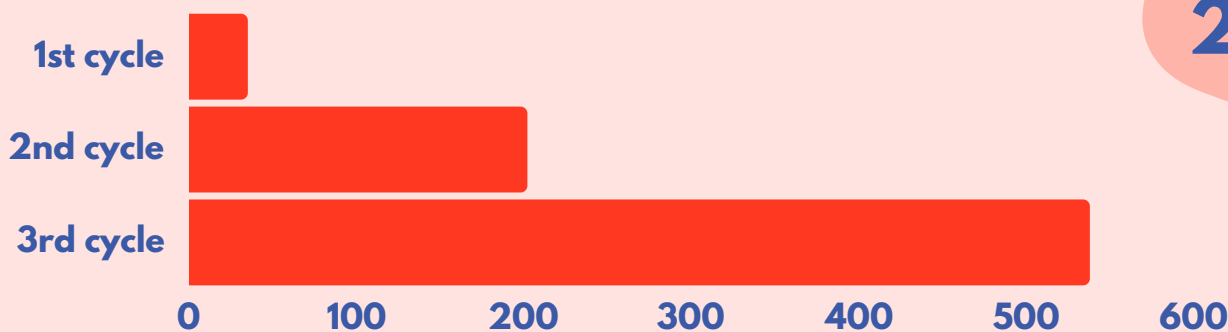
Since its establishment, **994** recommendations addressing child marriage have been made in the UPR.

Overall  
recommendations  
supported

**758**

**215** noted

## Number of recommendations addressing child marriage per UPR cycle



So far, in the 4th UPR cycle (2022-2027) there have been **219** recommendations on the topic, out of which **162** were supported and **57** noted.

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Child marriage disrupts education and health, undermining gender equality and broader sustainable development goals (SDGs 3 and 5). This practice not only perpetuates inequality but also limits economic progress and social justice, challenging the foundation of equitable societies.

States can either support or note UPR recommendations. By supporting them, States commit to implementing those measures.

UPR recommendations can be utilised by civil society actors in their advocacy efforts at the national level in fighting child marriage.

## Examples of UPR recommendations addressing child marriage

Germany



Togo



*140.135 Organize awareness-raising campaigns aimed at religious communities that organize child marriages and put an end to these acts.*

*116.100 Amend the relevant law by raising the legal age of marriage, even with parental consent, in order to prevent child marriage.*



Sierra Leone



Colombia

The UPR can reinforce recommendations from the The Committee on the Rights of the Child.

To find out how you can engage in the UPR to support your human rights cause, visit our website at [upr-info.org](http://upr-info.org) or contact us at [info@upr-info.org](mailto:info@upr-info.org).

