

4th OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON FREE PUBLIC PRE-PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION



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The states that signed the Optional Protocol change their laws, policies and practices to provide at least one year of free pre-primary education and free secondary education.



2027-
2028

The UN General Assembly adopts the new Optional Protocol and opens it for signature for all states around the world.

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The UN Human Rights Council in Geneva approves the text of the Optional Protocol and send it to the UN General Assembly in New York.

In 2027



2025 -
2026

The Working Group meets to discuss whether the Optional Protocol is needed. When there is an agreement about having the Protocol, they will work on a draft text.

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The UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution about establishing a working group to discuss & draft the Optional Protocol.

July 2024



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted in 1989. Since then, three additional documents were added to the Convention called 'Optional Protocols'. All these documents strengthen a specific children's right or introduce a new rule for states. If a country agrees to it, it will have the duty to follow these commitments.