

http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/111540.htm
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³⁹¹¹ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication, December 18, 2008.

³⁹¹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ukraine," section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Ukraine," 253.

³⁹¹³ U.S. Embassy- Kyiv, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 11.

Uruguay

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*³⁹¹⁴

Population children, 5-14 years:	-
Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	15
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	115.0
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	99.7
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2005:	93.1
ILO Convention 138:	6/2/1977
ILO Convention 182:	8/3/2001
CRC:	11/20/1990
CRCOPAC:	9/9/2003
CRCOPSC:	7/3/2003
Palermo:	3/4/2005
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Uruguay work in domestic service, as street vendors, and in construction. They also work cleaning cars, begging, minding parked cars, running errands, preparing foods for sale, and sorting garbage.³⁹¹⁵ In rural areas, children are found working in agriculture, forestry, beekeeping and fishing activities.³⁹¹⁶

The Government found that many minors who resorted to prostitution did so to assist their families.³⁹¹⁷ Children are trafficked internally to border areas and tourist locations for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. Prostitution rings are reported to exploit children in border areas near Argentina and Brazil, as well as within the capital of Montevideo.³⁹¹⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 15 years. The Adolescent Labor Division of the Institute for Children and Adolescents (INAU) may grant permission to minors 13 to 15 years to engage in light work. However, Uruguay has not yet legally defined "light labor."³⁹¹⁹ Adolescents between 15 and 18 years require Government permission to work.³⁹²⁰ Adolescents must undergo physical exams prior to beginning work and must renew these exams yearly. The Government only grants work permission to minors who either have finished 9 years of compulsory education or who are enrolled in school and are completing compulsory education.³⁹²¹ Work permits are not granted for hazardous, fatiguing, or night work.³⁹²²

The Government of Uruguay's National Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor compiled and maintains a list of the 50 hazardous jobs prohibited for children.³⁹²³ The types of hazardous jobs by their condition include work with machines, at heights, with hot or toxic substances, handling animals, or with sharp tools. Jobs that are hazardous by their nature include work involving long workdays, isolation, mistreatment or abuse, or exposure to immoral, illegal, or socially unacceptable situations.³⁹²⁴ Minors are not allowed to work for more than 6

hours per day within a 36-hour work week. Further, minors must rest 1 day per week, preferably Sunday, and cannot work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Minors between the ages of 16 and 18 years may work up to 8 hours per day with permission from authorities.³⁹²⁵ Violations of child labor laws are punishable by fines.³⁹²⁶ Parents or adults responsible for working children may be subject to imprisonment of 3 months to 4 years.³⁹²⁷

Forced or compulsory labor is prohibited by law.³⁹²⁸ The law prohibits child pornography, imposing prison terms of 2 to 6 years for its production; 1 to 4 years for its commercialization; and 6 months to 2 years for its distribution.³⁹²⁹ The penalty for using or facilitating the prostitution of a minor is 2 to 12 years in prison. This penalty is increased for those who are in a position of authority.³⁹³⁰ Trafficking of children into or out of the country for the purpose of sexual exploitation is penalized with 2 to 12 years in prison.³⁹³¹

The minimum age for voluntary military conscription is 18 years.³⁹³²

The Ministry of Labor and Social Security has primary responsibility for enforcing child labor laws and works with INAU to investigate child labor complaints. INAU has five inspectors who specialize in child labor.³⁹³³ However, USDOS reports that a lack of resources and the concentration of child work in the informal sector make enforcement difficult.³⁹³⁴ The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for investigating trafficking in persons.³⁹³⁵

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Interdepartmental Commission for the Prevention and Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation, in conjunction with INAU, has a national plan of action against commercial sexual exploitation of children. The goals of this plan are to strengthen victims' rights, to reinsert children back into school, to develop alternative means of income for families, and to improve protection measures for victims and witnesses.³⁹³⁶ However, according to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Government needs to

dedicate more resources to understanding the nature of the problem of child labor and sexual exploitation of children, and its prevention.³⁹³⁷

The Government of Uruguay provides some assistance to trafficking victims through NGOs.³⁹³⁸ The Government worked to raise awareness and cooperated with the IOM to combat trafficking in border and tourist areas. The Ministry of Education has produced anti-trafficking public service announcements on national television.³⁹³⁹

The Government is participating in an IDB-financed program that includes initiatives to address child labor, reduce school attrition, and improve children's performance in school. The program aims to assist 800 children working in the streets.³⁹⁴⁰ UNICEF is implementing a project to raise awareness of children's and adolescents' rights that includes a component on child labor.³⁹⁴¹ The Government of Uruguay participated in a four-year Phase III USD 3 million regional project to eradicate child labor in Latin America, funded by the Government of Spain.³⁹⁴² The IDB is also funding a regional project to combat the trafficking and sexual exploitation of children in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. The project aims to strengthen local organizations that work in prevention, detection, and victim assistance.³⁹⁴³

The Government of Uruguay and other associates and member governments of MERCOSUR are carrying out the *Niño Sur* (Southern Child) initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative aims to raise awareness of commercial sexual exploitation, improve country legal frameworks, and exchange best practices to tackle issues related to victim protection and assistance.³⁹⁴⁴ Uruguay's Ministry of Tourism and Sports is part of the Joint Group for the Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism, which conducts prevention and awareness-raising campaigns to combat the commercial exploitation of children in Latin America. It was created in 2005 and includes the Ministries of Tourism from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.³⁹⁴⁵

³⁹¹⁴ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For minimum age for admission to work, see U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/wha/119176.htm>. For age to which education is compulsory, see Pan American Health Organization, *Uruguay*, [online] [cited February 10, 2009]; available from <http://www.paho.org/spanish/sha/prfluru.htm>. See also Government of Uruguay, *Constitución de la República*, (2004), article 70; available from <http://www.parlamento.gub.uy/constituciones/const004.htm>. For free public education, see Government of Uruguay, *Constitución de la Republica*, article 71.

³⁹¹⁵ ILO-IPEC, Comité Nacional para la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil, Centro de Informaciones y Estudios del Uruguay, and Adolescencia y Familia Programa Infancia, *Estudio de las Características de los Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Trabajadores y sus Familias: Modalidades de Trabajo Infantil y sus Peores Formas, Perfil Socioeconómico y Cultural de las Familias*, 2005, 79-81; available from http://white.oit.org.pe/ippec/documentos/ti_uruguay_ciesu.pdf. See also Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas, UN Development Program, UN Population Fund, Rodrigo Arim, and Gonzalo Salas, *Encuesta Nacional de Hogares Ampliada 2006, Módulo de trabajo infantil y adolescente*, 2006, 13; available from http://www.ine.gub.uy/enha2006/INFORME_Trabajo_infantil.pdf.

³⁹¹⁶ ILO-IPEC, Comité Nacional para la Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil, Centro de Informaciones y Estudios del Uruguay, and Programa Infancia, *Estudio de las Características de los Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Trabajadores y sus Familias*, 80-81. See also Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas, UN Development Program, UN Population Fund, Arim, and Salas, *Módulo de trabajo infantil y adolescente*, 13. See also Anti-Slavery International, *Contemporary forms of slavery in Uruguay*, 2006, 8; available from <http://www.anti-slavery.org/homepage/resources/PDF/Contemporar y%20Forms%20of%20Slavery%20in%20Uruguay.pdf>.

³⁹¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/105501.pdf>.

³⁹¹⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹¹⁹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Uruguay (ratification: 1977)*, [online] 2006 [cited February 4, 2009]; available from <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/appl-displaycomment.cfm?hdroff=1&ctry=0620&year=2006&type=R&conv=C138&lang=ES>.

³⁹²⁰ Government of Uruguay, *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia*, (August 2, 2004), article 162; available from www.parlamento.gub.uy/leyes/ Acceso TextoLey.asp?Ley=17823&Anchor=.

³⁹²¹ *Ibid.*, articles 167 and 168.

³⁹²² *Ibid.*, articles 163 and 172.

³⁹²³ U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, December 6, 2008.

³⁹²⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁹²⁵ Government of Uruguay, *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia*, article 169.

³⁹²⁶ *Ibid.*, article 173.

³⁹²⁷ *Ibid.*, article 176. See also Government of Uruguay, *Código penal de la República oriental del Uruguay*, (1986), article 279B; available from http://www.unifr.ch/derechopenal/legislacion/uy/cp_uruguay.htm.

³⁹²⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Uruguay," section 6c. See also Government of Uruguay, *Código penal de la República oriental del Uruguay*, article 280.

³⁹²⁹ Government of Uruguay, *Poder Legislativo, República Oriental del Uruguay: Violencia Sexual Comercial o No Comercial Cometida Contra Niños, Adolescentes o Incapaces, Ley No. 17.815*, (August 18, 2004), articles 1-3; available from <http://www.parlamento.gub.uy/Leyes/Ley17815.htm>.

³⁹³⁰ *Ibid.*, articles 4, 5.

³⁹³¹ *Ibid.*, article 6.

³⁹³² Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Uruguay," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf.

³⁹³³ U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, January 26, 2009. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Uruguay," section 6d.

³⁹³⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Uruguay," section 6d.

³⁹³⁵ *Ibid.*, section 5.

³⁹³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, December 7, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, January 26, 2009.

³⁹³⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2007: Uruguay*, July 5, 2007, paras 62 and 66; available from <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?page=country&docid=469b351d2&skip=&coi=URY>.

³⁹³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Uruguay."

³⁹³⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁹⁴⁰ IDB, *Uruguay: Comprehensive Program for At-risk Children, Adolescents and Families*, UR-134, 2002, 2 and 45; available from <http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=423035>.

³⁹⁴¹ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Uruguay*, [online] [cited February 5, 2009]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/uruguay.html>.

³⁹⁴² ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008.

³⁹⁴³ IDB, *La Trata y el Tráfico de Niños y Adolescentes para fines Explotación Sexual*, [online] [cited February 5, 2009]; available from <http://www.iadb.org/projects/Project.cfm?language=Spanish&PROJECT=R G%2DT1266>.

³⁹⁴⁴ Argentine Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights, *XII Reunión de Altas Autoridades Competentes en Derechos Humanos y Cancillerías del MERCOSUR y Estados Asociados*, [cited April 7, 2009]; available from <http://www.derhuman.jus.gov.ar/>

mercotur/. See also Comité Argentino de Seguimiento y Aplicación de la Convención Internacional de los Derechos del Niño, *La Iniciativa Niñosur, una Instancia Regional que se Afirma* [online] April 2008 [cited April 7, 2009]; available from http://www.casacidn.org.ar/news_abril/nota1.html.

³⁹⁴⁵ Brazilian Ministry of Tourism, *Ecuador Assume Dirección de Grupo Latino-Americano para a Proteção Infante-Juvenil*, November 26, 2008; available from <http://www.turismo.gov.br/>. See also Ministry of Tourism, *Ecuador Asume Liderazgo en Suramérica para la Protección de Menores Jóvenes*, 2008; available from http://www.turismo.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=885&Itemid=43.

Uzbekistan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Numerous credible sources report the widespread, compulsory mobilization of children in Uzbekistan to work during the annual cotton harvest. There are no reliable figures on the number of children involved in the cotton harvest, which is thought to vary considerably by region and year and is a practice that dates from the early Soviet period.³⁹⁴⁶ During past harvests, schools closed for months in some rural regions to allow children to pick cotton.³⁹⁴⁷ There have been reports indicating that some children have had to endure poor living conditions during the harvest.³⁹⁴⁸ While most children involved in the cotton harvest are older than 15 years and the vast majority are over 11 years, children as young as 9 years were seen picking cotton in 2008.³⁹⁴⁹ Some children from Uzbekistan migrate to Kazakhstan with their families during the harvest season to work in the cotton industry.³⁹⁵⁰

Children in Uzbekistan also work in street vending, services, construction, building material manufacturing, and transportation.³⁹⁵¹ In urban areas, children as young as 7 or 8 years routinely work in family businesses during school holidays.³⁹⁵² There are also reports that children grow silkworm cocoons in rural areas.³⁹⁵³

There are reports that girls are engaged in forced prostitution in Uzbekistan.³⁹⁵⁴ In the first 9 months of 2008, Uzbek girls were trafficked internally as well as to the United Arab Emirates, India, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Turkey. Boys were trafficked to Kazakhstan and Russia.³⁹⁵⁵

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years, provided it does not interfere with the children's studies.³⁹⁵⁶ At 14 years, children may work part time up to 24 hours per week, with parental permission when school is not in session and 12 hours per week when school is in session.³⁹⁵⁷ Children 16 to 18 years may work up to 36 hours per week while school is not in session and 18 hours per week when school is in session.³⁹⁵⁸ Children must receive an annual medical examination at their employer's expense to be eligible for work.³⁹⁵⁹ A Government decree bans children from working in unhealthy conditions, and specifically lists manual harvesting of cotton as having unhealthy conditions for children.³⁹⁶⁰

The law prohibits forced labor, except when fulfilling a court sentence or as specified by law.³⁹⁶¹ The law prohibits attaining profit from