

# The Republic of Montenegro

## *Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*

Percent of children 5-14 estimated as working:	Unavailable
Minimum age for admission to work:	15 <sup>2874</sup>
Age to which education is compulsory:	15 <sup>2875</sup>
Free public education:	Yes <sup>2876*</sup>
Gross primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Net primary enrollment rate:	Unavailable
Percent of children 5-14 attending school:	Unavailable
Percent of primary school entrants likely to reach grade 5:	Unavailable
Ratified Convention 138:	No <sup>2877</sup>
Ratified Convention 182:	No <sup>2878</sup>
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No <sup>2879</sup>
*Must pay for school supplies and related items. <sup>2880</sup>	

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in the Republic of Montenegro can be found working on family farms. Roma children also work in the informal sector, selling small items or washing car windows.<sup>2881</sup>

Children are involved in prostitution. An estimated 15-25 percent of children in prostitution are trafficking victims.<sup>2882</sup> Internal trafficking is reportedly on the rise.<sup>2883</sup> Roma children are often forced to beg or to perform manual labor by their families, and are trafficked abroad for forced begging and theft rings.<sup>2884</sup> Montenegro is also a transit country for trafficked children.<sup>2885</sup>

<sup>2874</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006.

<sup>2875</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Thematic Review of National Policies for Education: Montenegro*, CCNM/DEELSA/ED(2001)9, September 10, 2001, 6; available from [http://www.oecd.org/OLIS/2001DOC.NSF/43bb6130e5e86e5fc12569fa005d004c/c1256985004c66e3c1256ac300518441/\\$FILE/JT00112297.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/OLIS/2001DOC.NSF/43bb6130e5e86e5fc12569fa005d004c/c1256985004c66e3c1256ac300518441/$FILE/JT00112297.PDF).

<sup>2876</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Montenegro," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, Section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006>. See also Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Thematic Review of National Policies for Education: Montenegro*.

<sup>2877</sup> ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed April 12, 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newratframeE.htm>.

<sup>2878</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2879</sup> ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour: Highlights 2006*

Geneva, February 2007; available from <http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/public/english/standards/ipec/doc-view.cfm?id=3159>.

<sup>2880</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006.

<sup>2881</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 6d.

<sup>2882</sup> Ibid., Section 5.

<sup>2883</sup> Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe 2004 - Focus on Prevention in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, the UN Administered Province of Kosovo* UNDP, New York, March 2005, 63, 119; available from <http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/Trafficking.Report.2005.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Serbia and Montenegro (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006*, Washington, DC, June 5, 2006; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006/65987.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006.

<sup>2884</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting*, November 30, 2006. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro." See also Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in South Eastern Europe 2004*, 64.

## Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age of employment is 15 years.<sup>2886</sup> Children under 18 years are not permitted to work in jobs that involve particularly difficult physical work, overtime and night work, underground or underwater work, or in jobs that “may have a harmful effect on or involve increased risk for their health and lives.”<sup>2887</sup> The law provides for monetary penalties for violation of these provisions.<sup>2888</sup>

Forced labor is prohibited.<sup>2889</sup> Montenegro abolished conscription into the military on August 30, 2006.<sup>2891</sup> The minimum age to volunteer for the Montenegro military is 18 years.<sup>2892</sup> The Labor Inspectorate of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare is responsible for the enforcement of labor laws, including those protecting children from exploitation in the workplace. The Ministry has 40 inspectors covering labor issues. No evidence of child labor violations were discovered through labor investigations through November 2006.<sup>2893</sup> The government’s enforcement efforts were generally effective according to the U.S. Department of State.<sup>2894</sup>

Trafficking in persons is prohibited in Montenegro, with a maximum prison penalty of 10 years.<sup>2895</sup> In 2006, there were eight trafficking convictions with prison sentences ranging from 2.5 to 3 years.<sup>2896</sup> Police, prosecutors, judges and other officials were trained specifically on trafficking. However, according to the U.S. Department of State there have been reports of corruption among some police and customs officials complicit in trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The government has not taken action against such officials.<sup>2897</sup>

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

The Government of Montenegro continued to sponsor public awareness campaigns on trafficking in 2006<sup>2898</sup> and assumed funding for a trafficking shelter in January 2006.<sup>2899</sup>

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<sup>2885</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 5.

<sup>2886</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting, November 30, 2006*.

<sup>2887</sup> ILO, *Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations: Individual Direct Request concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Serbia and Montenegro (ratification: 2000) Submitted: 2006 092006SCG138*, Geneva, 2006; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

<sup>2888</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2889</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 6c.

<sup>2891</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 02, 2007.

<sup>2892</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 07, 2007.

<sup>2893</sup> U.S. Embassy- Podgorica, *reporting, November 30, 2006*.

<sup>2894</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 6d.

<sup>2895</sup> Ibid., Section 5.

<sup>2896</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2897</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."

<sup>2898</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2006: Montenegro," Section 5.

<sup>2899</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2006: Serbia and Montenegro."