

(formerly called Saint Helena)

In 2013, Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan de Cunha made no advancement in efforts to prevent the worst forms of child labor. Although no information suggests that the worst forms of child labor are a problem, gaps exist in the legal framework to prevent children from involvement in the worst forms of child labor. The Government lacks legislation prescribing a minimum age for work, and it is unclear whether a list of hazardous occupations exists for children. It also is unclear whether laws exist regarding the use of children for drug trafficking or other illicit activities. These gaps may make children vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR




Research found no evidence that child labor exists in Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha.(1)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

British Overseas Territories (OTs) are territories under the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United Kingdom (UK), but they do not form part of the UK. They are self-governing, except in the areas of foreign affairs and defense. Domestic UK Law does not generally apply to OTs, unless explicitly extended.(2)

The following conventions have been extended to Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha (Table 1).

Table 1. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

Convention		Ratification
	ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	
	ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
	UN CRC	✓
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	
	Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	

The Government has established a few relevant laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 2).

Table 2. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor

Standard	Yes/No	Age	Related Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	No		
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Welfare of Children Ordinance (1, 3)
List of Hazardous Occupations Prohibited for Children	No		
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Constitution Order 2009 (4)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	No		
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	No		
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	No		
Minimum Age for Compulsory Military Recruitment	N/A*		
Minimum Age for Voluntary Military Service	Combat:	18	UK Armed Forces Act 2006 (2, 5-7)
	No		
	Non-Combat:	16	
	Yes		

Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha

NO ADVANCEMENT

NON-INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

(formerly called Saint Helena)

Table 2. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor (cont)

Standard	Yes/No	Age	Related Legislation
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	15 16	Saint Helena, Tristan da Cunha (8) Ascension (9)
Free Public Education	Yes		Constitution Order 2009 (4, 8, 9)

* No conscription or no standing military.

The Government has no legal framework establishing a minimum age for work.(10) The Education Ordinance prohibits children of compulsory school age from working during school hours.(8) No information was found on whether the Government has developed a list of hazardous occupations prohibited to children.

No information was found on whether laws exist regarding the use of children for drug trafficking or other illicit activities.

The UK Government has introduced systems to track ages and locations of individual soldiers, with the aim of preventing under 18s from being deployed into hostilities. Deployment of members of the armed forces who have not yet reached 18 years is permitted when there is a genuine need and the situation is urgent.(2, 6, 7, 11)

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for enforcement actions to address child labor, including its worst forms, in Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for coordinating mechanisms to address child labor, including its worst forms, in Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha.

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for policies to address the worst forms of child labor, in Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha.

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

As there is no evidence of a problem, there appears to be no need for social programs to address child labor, including its worst forms, in Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha.

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO PREVENT THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the continued prevention of child labor, including its worst forms, in Saint Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha (Table 3).

Table 3. Suggested Government Actions to Prevent Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Laws	Establish a legal minimum age for work.	2012 – 2013
	Clarify whether laws exist regarding the use of children for drug trafficking or other illicit activities.	2013
	Clarify whether the Government has developed a list of hazardous occupations prohibited to children.	2013

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REFERENCES

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