

NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child  
**Database of NGO Reports presented to the UN Committee on  
the Rights of the Child.**

---

**Document Title:**

**Comments on Finland's first report to the UN Committee on the Rights of  
the Child - comments from DCI Finland**

**Region:**

Western Europe, Europe

**Country:**

**Finland**

**Issued by:**

Defence for Children International, Finnish Section

**Date of publication of NGO Report:**

11/95

**Date of presentation to preessional working group:**

11/95

**CRC Session**

(at which related national state party report was submitted):

11th Session : Jan 96

**Language:**

English

---

**Document Text**

[Link to related state party report at UNHCHR](#)

Defence for Children International  
Défense des Enfants - International  
Defensa de los Niños - Internacional  
Suomen osasto - Finlands sektion - Finnish Section

Committee of the Rights of the Child  
United Nations Centre for the Human Rights  
palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Comments on Finland's first report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

Dear Sirs,

We have been informed that the first periodic report by Finland to the Committee on the Rights

of the Child is on the agenda of the pre-sessional working group in October 1995. The Finnish government submitted its report on December 12, 1994, with a delay of eighteen months. The report was prepared by a group of government officials; NGOs were not represented in the working group.

The Finnish Section of the Defence for Children International (DCI) would like to submit the following comments on the report concerning the issue of sexual exploitation of children. The Section finds the information given in the report regarding this issue inaccurate at some points.

The chapter on sexual offences of the Finnish Penal Code is undergoing a reform. The committee of the Ministry of Justice charged with the task submitted a proposal on December 13, 1993. The proposal was then circulated for comments, and several child welfare organisations submitted their statements by the end of April 1994. In the statements it was demanded that the punishments for sexual crimes against children should no way be mitigated, which seemed to be the danger in interpreting the law proposal. For example, in some cases, sexual intercourse with one's own child might be punished only with a sentence imposing a fine.

In its statement of March 1994, the DCI Finnish section has also demanded that the possession of child pornography as well as purchasing services from child prostitutes be made a criminal act. Despite the statement of the government (included in the Finnish report, page 6), admitting the necessity of these measures, the government has not taken the necessary legislative actions.

## [Home](#)

---

The NGO Reports Database on Children's Rights includes all existing and public reports submitted to the Committee on the Convention of the Rights of the Child by NGOs and NGO Coalitions. The copyright of the reports are retained by the authors and use thereof must be duly acknowledged.

The database is the property of the Liaison Unit of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child and is managed by that unit. For further information or other enquiries please contact the Liaison Unit at [dcj-ngo.group@pingnet.ch](mailto:dcj-ngo.group@pingnet.ch).

---