Germany has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its optional protocols, committing itself to protecting and implementing children’s rights. The German Institute for Human Rights has been entrusted with the task of monitoring the implementation of the UN Convention. It has established the CRC Monitoring Mechanism for this purpose.

Raising awareness of children’s rights
The Monitoring Mechanism helps promote awareness of children’s rights. When necessary, it reminds individuals and institutions that work with children to comply with the terms of the Convention.

Advising on CRC interpretation
The Monitoring Mechanism provides advice on interpreting the CRC and its child-oriented implementation to policy-makers at the federal, Länder and local level, as well as the courts, the legal profession and civil society. The Monitoring Mechanism is also an advocate for children’s rights-based research.
Reporting to the United Nations
The Monitoring Mechanism exchanges information and experience with the National Human Rights Institutions of other countries and informs the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child about the implementation of children’s rights in Germany.

Working with others
The Monitoring Mechanism works closely with civil society organisations, government bodies and research institutions. It also, of course, works with children and young people themselves, since their participation, in line with Article 12 of the CRC, is the basis for the Monitoring Mechanism’s work.

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