Uzbekistan

National Child Protection Legislation

National Legislation

- **Age of Child:** 18 years of age  
  [Civil Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan]  
  Art. 22. Capacity to act of the citizen  
  The citizen’s capability the actions to acquire and perform the civil laws, to create for itself civil obligations and to perform their (capacity) arises in full with occurrence of age of majority, that is on reaching eighteen-year age.

  The citizen legally married before attainment of majority acquires capacity to act in full since marriage.

  The capacity to act acquired as a result of marriage remains in full and in case of annulment of marriage before achievement of eighteen years.

  In case of scrap recognition invalid the court can make the decision on loss by the minor spouse of full legal capacity since the moment determined by court.

- **Age of Consent:** 16 years of age  
  [Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan]  
  Art. 128. Sexual Intercourse with Person under Sixteen Years of Age  
  Sexual intercourse in both natural and unnatural form with a person known to be under sixteen years of age – shall be punished with correctional labor up to two years or arrest up to six months, or imprisonment from three to five years.

- **Age of Marriage:** 18 years old  
  [Family Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan]  
  Art. 15. Age of Marriage  
  The marriageable age for men and women is set at eighteen years.

- **Age of Criminal Responsibility:** 16 years old  
  [Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan]  
  Art. 17. Liability of natural persons  
  The Responsible persons are natural, sane persons who turned sixteen years old before committing a crime.

*The information contained herein should not be construed as offering legal advice or guidance.*
Persons who turned thirteen years old before committing a crime shall be liable only for premeditated murder under aggravated circumstances (part two of Article 97).

Persons who, before committing a crime, turned fourteen years old, are liable for crimes provided for in the first part of Article 97, Articles 98, 104-106, 118, 119, 137, 164-166, 169, the second and third parts of Article 173, Articles 220, 222, 247, 252, 263, 267, 271, parts two and three of Article 277 of this Code.

Responsibility for crimes provided for in Articles 122, 123, 125, 127, 127 1, 128 1, 144, 146, 193 - 195, 205 - 210, 225, 226, 230 - 232, 234, 235, 279 - 302 of this Code are subject to persons who, prior to the commission of the crime, have reached the age of eighteen.

Responsibility of persons who have committed a crime under the age of eighteen comes in accordance with the general provisions and taking into account the specifics provided for in Section 6 of the General Part of this Code.

**Extraterritoriality**

*Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan*

**Art. 12. Operation of the Code in relation to persons who have committed crimes outside Uzbekistan**

Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as stateless persons permanently residing in Uzbekistan for crimes committed on the territory of another state, are subject to liability under this Code in the event that they have not been punished by the verdict of the court of the state on the territory of which the crime was committed.

A citizen of Uzbekistan cannot be extradited for a crime committed on the territory of a foreign state, unless otherwise provided by international treaties or agreements.

Foreign citizens, as well as stateless persons who do not permanently reside in Uzbekistan, for crimes committed outside its borders, are subject to liability under this Code only in cases provided for by international treaties or agreements.

**Dual Criminality**

*Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan*

**Art. 13. Validity of the law in time**

The criminality and punishability of an act is determined by the law in force at the time of its commission. The time of the commission of a crime shall be the time of the execution of a socially dangerous act, if the article of this Code determines the moment of the end of the crime as the moment of the commission of an action or inaction. The

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time of the commission of a crime is the time of the onset of the criminal consequences, if the article of this Code determines the end of the crime by the moment of the onset of such consequences.

A law that eliminates the criminality of an act, mitigates punishment or otherwise improves the situation of a person, has retroactive effect, that is, it applies to persons who committed the relevant act before the entry into force of such a law, including persons who are serving or have served a sentence, but with a criminal record.

A law that establishes the criminality of an act, increases the punishment or otherwise worsens the position of a person, has no retroactive effect.

● **Mandatory reporting requirements**

  *No legislation found.*

● **Statute of Limitations**

  [Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan](#)

  **Art. 64. Release from liability for crimes due to the expiration of the statute of limitations for bringing to responsibility.**

  A person is released from liability if the following terms have expired from the date of the crime:

  a) two years - when committing a crime that does not pose a great public danger;
  
  b) four years - if a less serious crime is committed;
  
  c) eight years - upon committing a grave crime;
  
  d) fourteen years - when committing an especially grave crime.

  The limitation period is calculated from the day the crime was committed and until the entry into force of the sentence.

  The limitation period is suspended if the person who committed the crime and who was brought to criminal responsibility escapes from the investigation or the court. The limitation period is resumed from the moment the person is detained or surrendered.

  The limitation period shall be interrupted if, before the expiration of the periods specified in this Article, the person who committed a grave or especially grave crime commits a new deliberate crime. In such cases, the calculation of limitation begins anew from the day a new crime was committed. In other cases, if a person commits a new crime before the expiration of the limitation period, this period for each crime shall be calculated independently.

  A person cannot be held liable if ten years have passed since the commission of a crime that does not pose a great public danger, or a less serious crime, and twenty-five years have passed since the commission of a grave or especially grave crime.
The question of the application of limitation to a person who has committed a crime for which an article of the Special Part of this Code allows the appointment of life imprisonment shall be decided by the court. If the court does not consider it possible to apply limitation, then instead of life imprisonment, imprisonment is imposed.

The limitation periods provided for by this article shall not apply to persons who have committed crimes provided for in Articles 150-157, part one of Article 158, parts three and four of Article 159, Articles 160, 161 and 2442 of this Code.

- **Obligations of Educational Institutions**

  **[Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan - About Education](#)**

  **Art. 46. Duties of teaching staff**

  Pedagogical workers are obliged to:

  - respect the honor, dignity and business reputation of the participants in the educational process;
  - conduct training sessions in a quality manner;
  - use information and communication technologies, advanced and innovative forms and methods of teaching and education;
  - take into account psychological and individual characteristics, the state of physical and mental health, physiological development of students, pay attention to the creation of conditions for training people with physical, mental, sensory (sensory) or mental disorders;
  - conduct educational work with minor students in cooperation with their parents or other legal representatives;
  - comply with the requirements of the charter and (or) other constituent documents, the rules of the internal labor regulations of the educational organization;
  - systematically improve their qualifications, undergo periodic certification for compliance with the position held;
  - pass a medical examination in a timely manner.

  Pedagogical workers can also bear other duties in accordance with the legislation, as well as the agreement concluded between the student and the educational organization.

  When carrying out pedagogical activities, pedagogical workers are prohibited from committing actions that contradict the norms of morality and ethics.

  The requirements for the uniform of teachers are determined by educational organizations.

- **Prohibition to hold certain positions**

  **[Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan](#)**

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Art. 43. Punishment system
The following basic punishments may be applied to persons found guilty of committing crimes:
  b) deprivation of a certain right;
  d) restrictions on service;

Art. 45. Deprivation of a certain right
The deprivation of a certain right of a person consists in prohibiting the perpetrator from occupying certain positions in enterprises, institutions or organizations, or engaging in one or another activity, during the term appointed by the court. The type of such position or activity is determined by the court when the conviction is passed.

Deprivation of a certain right is established for crimes directly related to the position held by the guilty person or his activities, for a period of one to five years as the main punishment and for a period of one to three years as an additional punishment.

If deprivation of a certain right has not been assigned to the guilty person as the main punishment, it may be imposed by the court as an additional punishment to any type of punishment provided for by the relevant article of the Special Part of this Code.

When imposing deprivation of a certain right as an additional punishment to imprisonment, referral to the disciplinary unit, it applies to the entire time the convicted person is serving the main punishment and, moreover, to the period established by the sentence. When this punishment is imposed as an additional one to other main punishments and in case of a conditional conviction, its term is calculated from the moment the sentence enters into legal force.

No punishment is imposed in the form of deprivation of the right to engage in entrepreneurial activity in relation to persons engaged in entrepreneurial activity, with the exception of cases that entailed the death of a person or other grave consequences.

- Employment Law

  Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan
  Art. 148-1. Violation of requirements on the inadmissibility of using the labor of minors
  The use of the labor of a minor in work that may harm his health, safety or morality, committed after the application of an administrative penalty for the same act, -

shall be punished with a fine of up to twenty-five basic calculation values, or deprivation of a certain right for up to three years, or correctional labor for up to three years.

  Law No. ZRU-239
  Amends article 77 of the Labour Code regulating conditions under which children in general and vocational schools can be employed, namely providing that children should
be fifteen years old and one of the parents or person having legal right, to give his/her approval. Introduces minor changes in articles 80, 103, 107, 143, 149, 242, 252, 254, 255, 257 of the Labour Code and repeals article 253.

Labour code: Ordinance No. 30-31 of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan approving the list of hazardous jobs mentioned in Article 355, for which the employment of persons under the age of eighteen years is prohibited.

- **Criminal Law - Defamation**

Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Art. 139. Defamation

Slander, that is, the spread of deliberately false fabrications that dishonor another person, committed after the application of an administrative penalty for the same actions, -

shall be punished with a fine of up to two hundred basic calculated values or compulsory community service up to three hundred hours, or correctional labor up to two years.

Slander in print or otherwise reproduced, including posted in the media, telecommunication networks or the worldwide information network Internet –

shall be punished with a fine from two hundred to four hundred basic calculation units, or compulsory community service from three hundred to three hundred and sixty hours, or correctional labor from two to three years, or restraint of liberty up to one year.

Slander:

a) combined with an accusation of committing a grave or especially grave crime;
b) entailing grave consequences;
c) committed by a dangerous recidivist;
d) from mercenary or other base motives –

shall be punished with a fine from three hundred to five hundred basic calculation units, or compulsory community service from three hundred sixty to four hundred hours, or restraint of liberty from one to three years.

- **Private Fostering**

Family Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Art. 194. Children placed in foster care (patronage)

Minor children left without parental care, including those in educational and medical institutions, as well as institutions of social protection of the population, are transferred to a foster family for upbringing.
The preliminary selection of children for transfer to a foster family is carried out by persons wishing to accept children into a family, in agreement with the guardianship and guardianship authorities.

The transfer of children to a foster family is carried out taking into account their wishes. Children who have reached the age of ten can be transferred to a foster family only with their consent.

The procedure and conditions for the transfer of children to foster care are determined by legislation.

**Sexual Offences Against Children**

**Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

**Art. 118. Rape**

Rape, that is, sexual intercourse with the use of violence, threats or using the helpless state of the victim, -

is punished with imprisonment from three to seven years.

Rape:

a) two or more persons;

b) committed repeatedly, by a dangerous recidivist or by a person who has previously committed a crime provided for in Article 119 of this Code;

c) committed by a group of persons;

d) associated with a threat of murder, -

is punished with imprisonment from seven to ten years.

Rape:

a) a person, knowingly for the guilty person under eighteen years of age;

b) a close relative;

c) committed by a participant in mass riots;

d) committed by a particularly dangerous recidivist;

e) entailed grave consequences, -

is punished with imprisonment from ten to fifteen years.

Rape of a person, knowingly for a guilty person under the age of fourteen, -

is punished with imprisonment from fifteen to twenty years.

**Art. 119. Forced satisfaction of sexual desire in an unnatural form**

Satisfaction of a sexual need in an unnatural form with the use of violence, threats or with the use of the helpless state of the victim -

is punished with imprisonment from three to seven years.

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The same steps:
(a) in relation to two or more persons;
(b) committed repeatedly, by a dangerous recidivist or by a person who has previously committed a crime under Article 118 of this Code;
(c) committed by a group of persons;
(d) associated with a threat of murder - are punished with imprisonment from seven to ten years.

Actions provided for by part one or two of this article:
(a) committed against a person, knowingly for the guilty person under eighteen years of age;
(b) committed against a close relative;
(c) committed by a participant in mass riots;
(d) committed by a particularly dangerous recidivist;
(e) entailing grave consequences, - are punished with imprisonment from ten to fifteen years.

The actions provided for by this Article, committed against a person, knowingly for a guilty person under fourteen years of age, - are punished with imprisonment from fifteen to twenty years.

Art.120. Besakalbazlyk (sodomy)
Besakalbazlyk, that is, satisfying the sexual needs of a man with a man without violence, - is punishable by restraint of liberty from one to three years, or imprisonment up to three years.

Art. 121. Forcing a woman to have sexual intercourse
Forcing a woman to have sexual intercourse or to satisfy a sexual need in an unnatural form by a person in relation to whom the woman was in service, material or other dependence, - is punished with compulsory community service up to three hundred hours or correctional labor up to two years.

The same action, coupled with sexual intercourse or the satisfaction of a sexual need in an unnatural form, - shall be punished with compulsory community service from three hundred to four hundred and eighty hours, or correctional labor from two to three years, or restraint of liberty from three to five years, or imprisonment from three to five years.

Art. 128. Having sexual intercourse with a person under the age of sixteen
Sexual intercourse or the satisfaction of a sexual need in an unnatural form with a person, knowingly for the guilty person who has not reached the age of sixteen, -
shall be punishable by compulsory community service up to three hundred and sixty hours, or correctional labor up to two years, or restraint of liberty from one to three years, or imprisonment up to three years.

The same actions performed:
a) repeated or dangerous recidivist;
b) by a person who has previously committed crimes provided for in Articles 118 or 119 of this Code -
are punished with restraint of liberty from three to five years or imprisonment from three to five years.

Art. 128 1. Having sexual intercourse with a person aged sixteen to eighteen years by providing him with material values or property benefits
Sexual intercourse or satisfaction of a sexual need in an unnatural form with a person between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years, knowingly for the guilty person under eighteen years of age, by providing him with material values or property benefits, -

shall be punishable by compulsory community service for up to three hundred hours, or correctional labor for up to two years, or restraint of liberty for up to two years, or imprisonment for up to two years.
(Article 128 1 was introduced by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 12, 2021 No. ZRU-673 - National database of legislation, February 13, 2021, No. 03/21/673/0112)

Art. 29. Lecherous actions in relation to a person under sixteen years of age
Committing lecherous acts without the use of violence against a person, knowingly for a guilty person under sixteen years of age, -

shall be punishable by compulsory community service for up to three hundred hours, or correctional labor for up to two years, or restraint of liberty for up to one year, or imprisonment for up to one year.

The same actions involving the use of violence or threats -

are punished with correctional labor from two to three years, or restraint of liberty from two to five years, or imprisonment up to five years.

Art. 130. Manufacturing, import, distribution, advertising, demonstration of pornographic products
Production or import into the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the purpose of distribution, advertising, demonstration, as well as advertising, demonstration, distribution of pornographic products, including in the media, telecommunication networks or the worldwide information network Internet, committed after the application of an administrative penalty for the same actions , -
shall be punished with a fine from four hundred to six hundred base calculated values, or compulsory community service up to three hundred and sixty hours, or correctional labor up to three years.

The same actions performed:
- repeated or dangerous recidivist;
- by prior conspiracy by a group of persons -

shall be punished with compulsory community service from three hundred and sixty to four hundred and eighty hours, or restraint of liberty from one to three years, or imprisonment up to three years.

Manufacturing or importing into the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the purpose of distribution, advertising, demonstration, as well as distribution, advertising, demonstration of pornographic products with a description or image of a minor, or involving a minor as a performer in actions of a pornographic nature -

is punished by restraint of liberty from three to five years or imprisonment from three to five years.

Art. 130 ¹. Manufacturing, import, distribution, advertising, demonstration of products that promote the cult of violence or cruelty
Manufacturing or importing into the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the purpose of distribution, advertising, demonstration, as well as distribution, advertising, demonstration of products that promote the cult of violence or cruelty, including in the media, telecommunication networks or the global information network Internet, committed after the use of administrative penalties for the same actions, -

shall be punished with a fine from four hundred to six hundred base calculated values, or compulsory community service up to three hundred and sixty hours, or correctional labor up to three years.

The same actions performed:
- repeated or dangerous recidivist;
b) by prior conspiracy by a group of persons –

shall be punished with compulsory community service from three hundred and sixty to four
hundred and eighty hours, or restraint of liberty from one to three years, or imprisonment up
to three years.

Art. 135. Trafficking in persons
Trafficking in human beings, that is, the purchase and sale of a person, or his recruitment,
transportation, transfer, harboring or receiving for the purpose of exploiting him, -

is punished by restraint of liberty from three to five years or imprisonment from three to five
years.

The same actions performed:
a) by kidnapping, the use of violence or the threat of its use or other forms of coercion;
b) in relation to two or more persons;
c) in relation to a person, knowingly for the guilty person, who was in a helpless state;
d) in relation to a person who is financially or otherwise dependent on the perpetrator;
e) repeated or dangerous recidivist;
f) by prior conspiracy by a group of persons;
g) using the official position;
h) with the movement of the victim across the State border of the Republic of Uzbekistan or
with illegal retention abroad;
i) using forged documents, as well as with the seizure, concealment or destruction of
documents proving the identity of the victim;
j) in order to obtain a transplant, -
are punished with imprisonment from five to eight years.

The same steps:
a) committed against a person, knowingly for the guilty person under eighteen years of age;
b) entailing the death of the victim or other grave consequences;
c) committed by a particularly dangerous recidivist;
d) committed by an organized group or in its interests -
are punished with imprisonment from eight to twelve years.

**Related legislation**

**Child/Early/Forced Marriage**

*Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan*

**Art. 125** ¹. **Violation of the legislation on the age of marriage**

Entry into de facto marital relations with a person who has not reached marriageable
age, committed after the application of an administrative penalty for the same act, -
shall be punished with a fine from twenty to thirty base calculated values or compulsory community service up to two hundred and forty hours, or correctional labor up to one year.

Marriage or marriage of a person who has not reached marriageable age, by parents or persons replacing them, committed after the application of an administrative penalty for the same act, -

shall be punished with a fine from thirty to fifty base calculated values or compulsory community service from two hundred and forty to three hundred hours, or correctional labor up to two years.

Performing a religious ceremony for the conclusion of a marriage with a person who has not reached the marriageable age, committed after the application of an administrative penalty for the same act, -

shall be punished with a fine from fifty to one hundred basic calculation units or compulsory community service from three hundred to three hundred and sixty hours, or correctional labor up to three years.

Criminal Procedure Code

Art. 54. Victim
If there is evidence that gives reason to believe that a crime, as well as a socially dangerous act of an insane person, caused moral, physical or property harm to a person, he is recognized as a victim. An inquiry officer, investigator, prosecutor shall issue a resolution on recognition of a victim as a victim, and a court shall issue a determination.

If the victim is a minor or is recognized as legally incompetent in accordance with the established procedure, then along with him or instead of him, his legal representative participates in the case.

Art. 55. Rights and obligations of the victim
The victim has the right to: give evidence; present evidence; submit motions and challenges; use the native language and the services of an interpreter; have a representative to defend their interests; to participate with the permission of the inquiry officer or investigator in investigative actions; to get acquainted at the end of the inquiry or preliminary investigation with all the materials of the case and write out the necessary information from it, make copies of materials and documents at their own expense or record the information contained in them in another form using technical means; to submit an application for conciliation in cases stipulated by law and to participate in the preliminary hearing of the case by the court and in the sessions of the court in cases of conciliation, of the first, appeal, cassation instances; lodge complaints about the actions
and decisions of the inquiry officer, investigator, the prosecutor and the court; to support the prosecution in court personally or through his representative; get acquainted with the protocol of the court session and submit comments on it; know about the complaints, protests brought in the case and submit objections to them.

The victim is obliged: to appear when summoned by the inquiry officer, investigator, prosecutor and court; give truthful testimony; not to interfere with the establishment of the truth by destroying, falsifying evidence, persuading witnesses and other illegal actions; present evidence at the request of the inquiry officer, investigator, prosecutor and court; observe order during the investigation of the case and during the court session.

If the victim fails to appear without a valid reason, he may be brought under the procedure provided for in Articles 261 - 264 of this Code.

For refusal to testify and for giving deliberately false testimony, the victim bears the responsibility established by law.

In cases of crimes that entailed the death of the victim, the rights and obligations provided for by this article are exercised by his close relatives or other persons recognized by the preliminary investigation authorities or by the court as legal representatives of the interests of the deceased.

Art. 56. Civil claimant
If there is evidence that gives reason to believe that a crime, as well as a socially dangerous act of an insane person, has caused property damage to a person, enterprise, institution or organization, they are recognized as civil plaintiffs. An inquiry officer, investigator, or prosecutor shall issue a resolution on recognition of a civil plaintiff, and a court shall issue a determination.

In defense of the interests of minors, as well as of persons recognized as incapacitated, a civil claim may be brought by their legal representatives and the prosecutor.