

## Pledge by Austria

Ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 6 August 1992

Ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict on 1st February 2002

Ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children child prostitution and child pornography on 6 May 2004

### Pledges

1. Austria will together with other like-minded states increase its efforts to establish a “Violence-free Zone Europe”, where children can grow up safe from violent punishment.
2. The Austrian Federal Chancellery invited young musicians to participate in the International composition contest “Sounds of Children’s Rights”.

**1) In light of the commitments we have made under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, as applicable, we have undertaken the following to highlight our commitment to the promotion, protection and realization of the rights of the child in celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention:**

*Austria will together with other like-minded states increase its efforts to establish a “Violence-free Zone Europe”, where children can grow up safe from violent punishment. In this context Austria will promote further research aimed at achieving the objective of ensuring an environment for children that is characterised by mutual respect for personal rights and in particular an effective right to be protected from all forms of violence, especially corporal punishment. Furthermore, Austria will regularly update a study on the right to a childhood free from violence in order to assess societal changes in attitudes to violence against children and will cooperate with other Governments interested in conducting similar studies.*

**2) We have made the following plans to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Convention:**

*International contest “Sounds of Children’s Rights”:*

*Young musicians born after July 15, 2001 were invited by the Austrian Federal Chancellery, Department for Families and Youth, to participate in the International Composition Contest “Sounds of Children’s Rights”.*