

YCoalition International has a steadfast commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children and young people. It has a zero-tolerance policy for any kind of abuse, exploitation, neglect, or injury aimed at children and youth, including physical, emotional, sexual, and online. This policy places a high priority on including security measures in the design of all our programs in order to uphold the organization's responsibility to protect the young people engaging in YCoalition's projects. Here's a framework of the policy:

Child and Youth Protection: YCoalition International

1. Purpose:

YCoalition is committed to promoting the safety and welfare of youth and children participating in our programs and activities. This policy aims to protect them from all kinds of abuse and create a safe environment for uplifting their inner potential and growth.

2. Applicability:

This policy applies to all individuals associated with the organization both during and outside business hours.

3. Definitions:

Abuse is cruelty, violence, or demeaning or invasive behavior from one person to another person or animal, causing physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional harm. Anyone, of any age, gender, race, or background can be a victim of abuse.

The term "children and youth people" as used in this policy refers to people who are under the age of 18 for children and 18-29 for youth.

2.1 Physical abuse:

Physical abuse is deliberately aggressive or violent behavior by one person toward another that results in bodily injury. Physical abuse may involve such actions as punching, kicking, biting, choking, burning, shaking, and beating, which may at times be severe enough to result in permanent damage (e.g., [traumatic brain injury](#)) or death.

2.2 Emotional abuse:

Emotional abuse or nonphysical abuse is a pattern of behavior in which one person deliberately and repeatedly subjects another to nonphysical acts that are detrimental to behavioral and affective functioning and overall mental well-being. Researchers have yet to formulate a universally agreed-upon definition of the concept, but they have identified a variety of forms that emotional abuse may take, including verbal abuse; intimidation and terrorization; humiliation and degradation; exploitation; harassment; rejection and withholding of affection; isolation; and excessive control. Also called **psychological abuse**.

2.3 Sexual abuse:

Sexual abuse is a violation or exploitation by sexual means. Although the term typically is used with reference to any sexual contact between adults and children, sexual abuse can also occur in any relationship of trust.

2.4 Cyber abuse:

According to [UNODC](#), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, offenses typically cluster around the following categories: offenses that are computer-related and content-related, and offenses related to infringements of copyright, etc.

Broadly, cybercrime can be described as having cyber-dependent offenses, cyber-enabled offenses, and, as a specific crime type, online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

2.5 Economic abuse:

Any action that aims to exercise control over a child's or youth's financial resources, limit their ability to make decisions about their economic welfare, or misuse their financial gain is economic abuse.

2.6 Exploitation:

Any instances where someone takes advantage of a child or youth on the basis of unequal power, economic status, sexual gratification, financial gain, and inferiority.

4. Screening and Vetting:

All staff, volunteers, and employees working closely with the children and youth have to go through comprehensive background checking and screening procedures before engaging in any activities. If a child or youth is traveling with any individual associated with YCoalition, then the respective individual should obtain parental consent and it should be handled by the Child Protection officer of YCoalition International or anyone associated with the Child Protection officer.

5. Code of conduct:

YCoalition International will enforce a clear code of conduct for every employee and volunteer to work with children and youth. The Code of Conduct will place a focus on proper conduct, interactions, and authority use.

6. Reporting Procedure:

Anyone who suspects or witnesses any form of child and youth abuse or harm must immediately report the incident right away to the designated Child Protection Officer or any authorized individual within the organization.

7. Confidentiality:

All the reports will be handled with the utmost confidentiality. The organization forbids any kind of retaliation against the individual who reports the issue in good faith.

8. Policy Review:

The policy is reviewed periodically to ensure it is effective and complies with applicable laws and regulations.

