



UN Sustainable Development Goal 16.2 to end all violence against children by 2030

Jan 16, 2019 21:39 GMT

Ranking of Countries' Response to Child Sex Trafficking Released

The results of a ground-breaking research and benchmarking tool measuring countries' response to child sexual exploitation was announced today by the World Childhood Foundation, a non-profit organization that invests in the development of solutions to prevent and address such abuses.

The [Out of the Shadows Index](#), undertaken by the Economist Intelligence Unit and supported by the Oak Foundation and the Carlson Family Foundation (CFF) covers 40 countries and 70% of the world's children.

“What makes the index different is that it examines *the responsiveness* of countries in addressing issues of child sexual abuse and exploitation as opposed to *the prevalence* of these issues in country,” said Lauren Aste, Carlson Wagonlit Travel’s general counsel and a board member of the World Childhood Foundation. “This is inspiring as a methodology, as it values *action* as a way to encourage countries to make positive change.”

The Carlson Family Foundation is one of the founders of the World Childhood Foundation, and this initiative is one of the latest that CFF has supported in its long-term fight against the trafficking of minors in the travel and tourism industry.

“Since my involvement with the World Childhood Foundation, one of the important things I’ve learned is the power of partnership when it comes to ensuring that that we find a solution for this global problem,” Aste said. “It is too big for one organization to solve alone. Stopping human trafficking requires effective partnership.”

The United Kingdom, Sweden, Canada, Australia and the United States ranked the highest out of a score of 100. The countries with the lowest overall scores, include Mongolia, Russia, Rwanda, China and Argentina.

The index looked across four categories, including environment, or the safety and stability of a country; legal framework, or the legal protections afforded to children from sexual abuse; government commitment and capacity, or whether governments are investing resources to respond to the problem; and the engagement of industry, civil society and media, or how much risks to children are being addressed at community levels.

The *Out of the Shadows Index* aims to raise global awareness of child sexual abuse and exploitation and to highlight areas for improvement if governments are to meet the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal 16.2—to end all forms of violence against children by 2030.

[CWT](#)

CWT is a Business-to-Business-for-Employees (B2B4E) travel management platform. Companies and governments rely on us to keep their people

connected – anywhere, anytime, anyhow – and across six continents, we provide their employees with innovative technology and an efficient, safe and secure travel experience. Every single day, we look after enough travelers to fill more than 100,000 hotel rooms, while our meetings and events division handles more than 100 events every 24 hours.

Contacts

CWT Solutions Group CWT Meetings & Events

CWT ERM **CWT** RoomIt
CWT SafeTravel

Media enquiries

Press Contact

CorePR@mycwt.com