

You are considered a child if you are under the age of 18



UNACCOMPANIED MIGRANT CHILDREN IN FRANCE:

# WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

A large, semi-circular graphic at the bottom of the page contains an illustration of four hands reaching upwards. The hands are rendered in a light green and yellow color, set against a background that transitions from green on the left to orange on the right. A dashed white line separates this graphic from the yellow background above.

SOME  
USEFUL  
ADVICE AND  
CONTACTS TO  
HELP YOU



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The role of professionals: police officers, lawyers, guardians, educators, judges, doctors etc **is to protect you**

Tell your story to these professionals so they can help you

You have the right to receive assistance for food, accommodation, school, health... and **everything is free** for children!

Do not hesitate to ask questions about things you do not understand or if you disagree



If you are not accompanied by your parents or a member of your family in France, the judge can appoint a **guardian** or an **ad hoc administrator** to support you during your processes and legal proceedings. They are reliable people who will act like a parent would. They are here to **help you having your rights respected**.



Depending on the situation, you will be appointed a **guardian** who will be with you until you turn 18, or an **ad hoc administrator** who will be there for a shorter period, for the duration of a procedure such as an **asylum request**.

ABOUT YOUR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE





Police  
**17**  
 or **112**  
 (free call)

The police are here to help you if you are victim of violence or forced to do something you do not want and that is bad for you. It is important for you to know that you should not be punished for something you were forced to do, even if it is wrong or illegal.

If you are questioned by the police, **you have the right:** to be accompanied by a reliable adult, an association, a lawyer and to have access to a free interpreter. **Do not hesitate to claim any of these!**

➤ In France, it is often difficult to be recognized as an isolated foreign minor. When it happens, it is the **ASE (child welfare service)** who is responsible for your support for food, accommodation, school...

➤ At any moment, **you can be helped by associations** in order to be supported by the ASE and to benefit from free assistance.

➤ Within these structures, you could, for example: **meet** other children, **play** and having fun, **talk** to reliable adults, **see doctors** (psychologists, gynaecologists, dentists...) or **learn** French.

## WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

You or one of your friends may be a victim of trafficking, without realizing it.

Have you been in a situation in which you had to:

- **have sex or perform sexual acts?**
- work (for example, in someone's house doing housework or childcare, a factory or a restaurant)?
- **beg, steal or commit crime?**
- **grow, carry or deal drugs?**
- **remove your organs to sell?**
- Repay a '**debt**' by working or providing some other service?

Have you/your family been threatened?

If you answer «yes» to one of these questions, your friend or yourself may be victim of trafficking. Talk to a professional you trust if you are concerned so they can help stop the abuse, and protect other young people.

**HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING IS  
A SERIOUS CRIME  
AND AN ABUSE OF  
YOUR RIGHTS.**

**LIST OF THE  
ASSOCIATIONS  
MEMBERS OF THE  
COLLECTIVE "TOGETHER  
AGAINST TRAFFICKING  
IN HUMAN BEINGS":**

<http://contrelatraite.org/>





## IN FRANCE, YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM FREE LEGAL ADVICE THANKS TO A LAWYER OR ASSOCIATIONS.

Several cities in France offer **committee room of lawyers for minors**.

There are also access **points to law and law and justice houses** throughout France: [www.annuaire.justice.gouv.fr](http://www.annuaire.justice.gouv.fr)

## AGE ASSESSMENT

If you do not have documents to prove your age or if some adults have doubts about your documents, they may want to check your age:

**By checking your documents**

**By organizing an interview with a professional (questions about your school, your family environment etc)**

**By doing a bone test (an X-ray or a dental exam)**

# DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT A LAWYER!

Example :

**in Paris**

**Palais de justice**

10 bd du Palais

**01.42.36.34.87**

**in Lyon**

42 rue de Bonnel

**04.72.60.60.00**

**SO GET INFORMED!**

ABOUT LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

You always have the right to accept or refuse to submit to the test. Nevertheless, it is more prudent that you get closer to reliable professionals so they can help make your choice regarding your situation.





Do not hesitate to ask professionals around you where you can receive free medical and psychological assistance.

➤ In France, **if you are under 18**, you can stay on the territory and benefit from child protection services **without any official documents** such as a passport or a birth certificate. Ask professionals for advice in order to obtain a residence permit (for example, if you want to work from 16 years old or if you are getting closer to majority).



➤ Finally, you should know that if you have risks of persecution in your country of origin, **you have the right to file an asylum request**. This is possible regardless of your age but you should do it as soon as possible. An ad hoc administrator or a guardian will be appointed to be with you during this process.



In France,  
schooling is free  
and mandatory  
until the age of 16.  
Sometimes, it can take  
a long time to find a  
place but you must  
not give up!



## The CIMADE

is an association that  
helps foreigners. They are  
present in several cities  
in France.

[www.lacimade.org/](http://www.lacimade.org/)



**The OFPRA**  
(Office français de  
protection des réfugiés et  
apatrides) will examine your  
asylum request after you tell your  
story to an officer.

[www.ofpra.gouv.fr/](http://www.ofpra.gouv.fr/)

9h-15h  
201 rue Carnot,  
94136

Fontenay-sous-bois Cedex

**01.58.68.10.10**

You can also consult this  
document to know what is going  
to happen:

[https://ofpra.gouv.fr/  
sites/default/files/atoms/  
files/ofpra\\_guide\\_de\\_  
lasile\\_mie\\_en\\_france.pdf](https://ofpra.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/atoms/files/ofpra_guide_de_lasile_mie_en_france.pdf)





## THE DEFENDER OF RIGHTS

He can be seized when the rights of a child are not respected.

He can be seized directly by a child, for free.

**09.69.39.00.00**  
(cost of a local call)

[www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/fr/saisir-le-defenseur-des-droits](http://www.defenseurdesdroits.fr/fr/saisir-le-defenseur-des-droits)

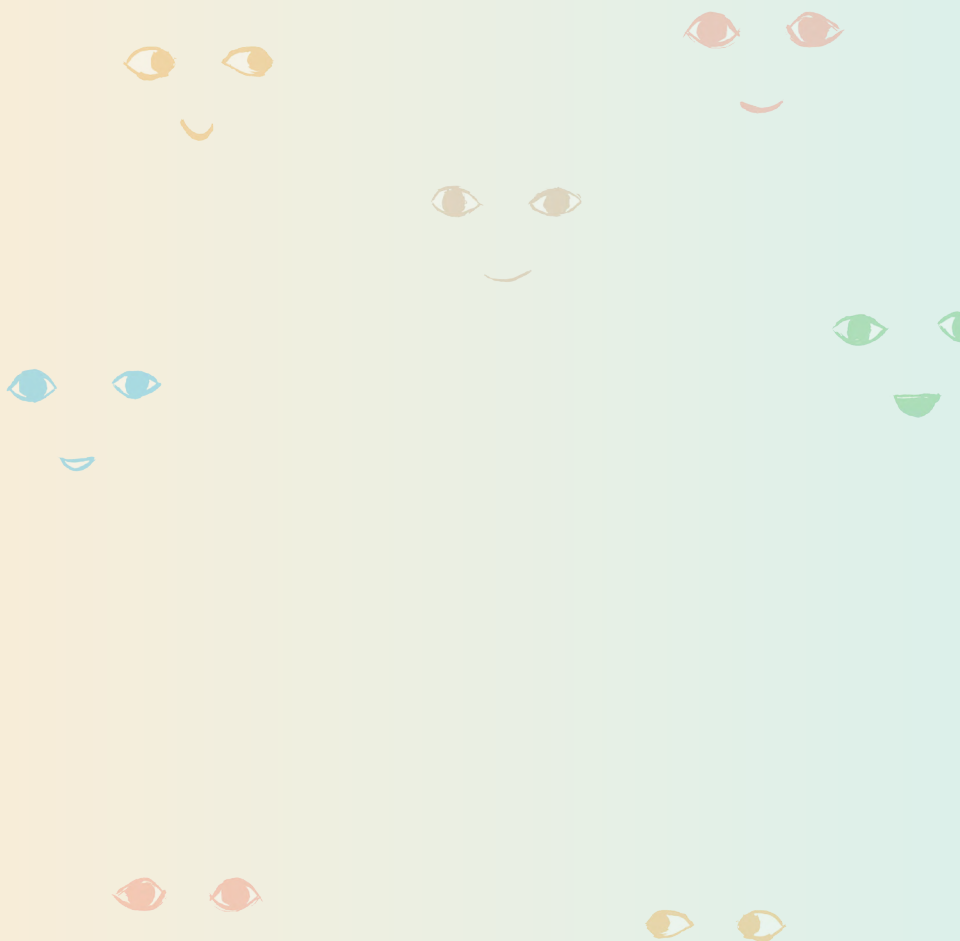
## DIRECTORY OF COURTS FOR CHILDREN

because you can directly write to a judge for children so he can protect you:

[www.annuaires.justice.gouv.fr/annuaires-12162/annuaire-des-points-dacces-au-droit-21772.html#cmq\\_path=liste&cmq\\_page=4](http://www.annuaires.justice.gouv.fr/annuaires-12162/annuaire-des-points-dacces-au-droit-21772.html#cmq_path=liste&cmq_page=4)







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