#9 – UN SPECIAL PROCEDURES & LGBTI ISSUES



The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association – ILGA World and the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) have compiled a series of factsheets highlighting the work that UN special procedures – independent human rights experts, appointed to monitor and report on human rights violations – have undertaken to defend the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons. The factsheets compile the references and recommendations made by these experts to LGBTI persons, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). They cover all thematic reports, country visit reports, and communications published between January 2011 and November 2019.



MS. MESKEREM GESET TECHANE (ETHIOPIA) Since October 2017 ©: OHCHR



MS. ELIZABETH BRODERICK (AUSTRALIA) Since October 2017 ©: OHCHR



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WORKING GROUP ON THE ISSUE OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN LAW AND IN PRACTICE

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FORMER MEMBERS:

- Ms. Frances RADAY (Israel/UK), 2011–2017

- Ms. Emna AOUIJ (Tunisia), 2011–2017

- Ms. Eleonora ZIELINSKA (Poland), 2011–2017

- Ms. Kamala CHANDRAKIRANA (Indonesia), 2011–2017

- Ms. Patricia OLAMENDI TORRES (Mexico), 2012–2013

- Ms. Mercedes BARQUET (Mexico), 2011–2012

WORK SUMMARY

COUNTRIES VISITED

ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES:

- **Poland –** (December 2018) Report, paras. 11, 14, 15, 38, 44, 57, 59, 85a.
- Honduras (November 2018) Report, paras. 22, 24, 31, 36, 48, 53, 61, 66, 68, 79e.
 - **Chad –** (December 2017) Report, paras. 26, 61, 750.
 - **Samoa –** (August 2017) Report, paras. 35, 70, 97d.
 - Kuwait (December 2016) Report, paras. 35, 91.
 - Hungary (May 2016) Report, paras. 10, 12, 33, 68, 81, 95, 100d.
- United States of America (November/December 2015) Report, paras. 18, 20, 63, 79, 87.
 - Senegal (April 2015) Report, para. 83.
 - Spain (December 2014) Report, paras. 21, 62.
 - Peru (September 2014) Report, paras. 14, 59, 80, 86d, 89l.
 - **Chile –** (September 2014) Report, paras. 15, 69, 70.
 - China (December 2013) Report, paras. 77, 78, 110a.
 - Iceland (May 2013) Report, paras. 24, 25.
 - Moldova (May 2012) Report, paras. 17, 21, 25, 58-60, 88, 89c.

DOES NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES:

- Tunisia (January 2013)
- Morocco (February 2012)

ANNUAL THEMATIC REPORTS

Women deprived of liberty June 2019 (41th Session Human Rights Council (HRC))

Good reference to SGE, SOGI, "sexual and gender nonconforming women", "sexual and gender minorities", transgender women, sexuality. (Higher risks due to intersectionality; institutionalization and "conversion therapies"; criminalisation and deprivation of liberty, police profiling and targeting of trans sex workers; a recommendation to ban laws and practices policing, targeting, punishing or confining women in relation to consensual sexual behaviour or decisions, including expressions of sexuality.) Paras. 23, 34, 35, 61, 78, 80c.

Reasserting equality, countering rollbacks June 2018 (38th Session HRC) Brief reference to SOGII. (Mentioning participation of a WG member in the dialogue on SOGII between the IACHR, ACHPR and UN HR mechanisms.) Para. 5.

Compendium of good practices in the elimination
of discrimination against women
June 2017 (35th Session HRC)

Brief references to SO. (Intersectional discrimination and violence/case studies.) Paras. 41, 90.

Eliminating discrimination against women in the area of health and safety, with a focus on the instrumentalization of women's bodies June 2016 (32nd Session HRC) Strong references to SOGI(E). (Criminalisation; humiliating treatment within the healthcare system; intersectional discrimination; corrective rape; compulsory medical interventions; so-called "conversion therapy".) Paras. 17, 42, 58.

Eliminating discrimination against women in cultural and family life, with a focus on the family as a cultural space June 2015 (29th Session HRC) Good references to lesbian, LBT, LGBTI. (Discrimination, violence and stigmatization in the context of cultural diversity/stereotypes; diverse families and LGBTI families.) Paras. 21, 23, 25, 46.

Eliminating discrimination against women in economic and social life with a focus on economic crisis June 2014 (26th Session HRC)

Eliminating discrimination against women in political and public life with a focus on political transition June 2013 (23rd Session HRC) Brief reference to "sexual identity". (In the context of multiple discrimination.) Para. 24.

Good references to SOGI, LBT women, SO, SOGI (CEDAW General Recommendation; LBT women human rights defenders' risks; ICTs as used by women attacked because of their SO; stereotypes.) Paras. 28, 47, 48, 70.

First annual report on historical overview, conceptual framework, thematic priorities for 2012-2013, methods of work and overview of activities June 2012 (20th Session HRC) Brief references to SO, SOGI. (Intersectional discrimination; vulnerability/violence.) Paras. 13, 28.

COMMUNICATIONS

COUNTRY/DATE	EXPERTS	SITUATION
Kazakhstan 22 July 2019	Independence of judges and lawyers Privacy SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning acts of harassment and discrimination directed towards a young lesbian couple and the unauthorized filming and posting of a video in social media, affecting their right to privacy.

Malaysia 10 May 2019	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning investigations into the organisers of a women's day march in Kuala Lumpur under the Sedition Act, and the summoning of LGBT+ human rights defender Mr. Numan Afifi.
Brunei Darussalam I April 2019	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of religion SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the criminalisation of adultery and consensual same-sex relations and the imposition of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments for such acts, including stoning, whipping and amputation.
Egypt 20 March 2019	Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender, Ms. Malak Al-Kashif.
Russian Federation 11 February 2019	Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received in connection with allegations of new acts of persecution against people who are or are perceived to be gay, bisexual or lesbian in Chechnya.
Honduras 9 January 2019	Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received in relation to threats directed against the human rights defender, Ms. Indyra Mendoza.

Brazil 31 December 2018	African descent Extrajudicial executions Foreign debt Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Follow-up to the communication on the murders of Ms. Marielle Franco and her driver.
Canada 19 December 2018	Cultural Rights Disability Education Freedom of opinion and expression Health SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	 Information received concerning changes to the sexuality education curriculum of the Province of Ontario. The Ontario Minister of Education announced that in September 2018 the Province's schools would be returning to teaching a sexuality education curriculum first promulgated in 1998, replacing the one adopted in 2015. The Premier of Ontario declared that any teachers who continued teaching the curriculum of 2015 would be sanctioned. The differences between the two curriculum include, in particular: discussion in the curriculum of 2015 of differences among people such as sexual orientation and gender identity and the need for acceptance and appreciation of diversity along with further discussion around sexual orientation and gender identity in the curriculum for grades 6-8; and the inclusion of the words "gay", "lesbian", "transgender", and "cyberbullying" that are lacking in the 1998 curriculum.
Malaysia 16 November 2018	SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the criminalization of consensual sexual relations between adults and the application of punishments for such acts that are contrary to the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Honduras 12 October 2018	Extrajudicial executions Human rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received regarding recent cases of attempted murder; harassment, assault and death threats; theft of security cameras; rape and intimidation and persecution of the leader of the trans women's group Las Muñecas de Arcoíris, and members of the Center for Development and LGBTI Cooperation ("Somos CDC").
Other actors 18 September 2018	Health Torture Women in law and in practice	Concerns of discrimination against intersex persons related to the Eligibility regulations for the female classification (athletes with differences of sex development) recently published by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).
Hungary 12 September 2018	Cultural rights Education Freedom of opinion and expression Women in law and practice	Information received concerning a government directive decertifying and defunding the teaching of gender studies at all Hungarian institutions of higher education on 9 August 2018. Opponents allegedly claim the subject "serves the gay lobby" and is concerned only with the study of "LGBTI communities".
Guatemala 31 August 2018	Health SOGI Women in law and practice	Upcoming approval of draft 'Law for the protection of life and family', which would, inter alia, further restrict the concepts of marriage and family and prohibit public and private educational institutions from teaching "gender ideology", sexual diversity, or presenting as normal any sexual behaviour other than heterosexuality.
Peru 15 August 2018	Education Women in law and practice	Anticipated Supreme Court decision to remove the principle of gender equality from the national curriculum for primary education (CNEB), being implemented since January 2017. Civil society emphasizes the importance of the curriculum in reducing discrimination against women and LGBTI people.
Russian Federation 9 May 2018	Disability Freedom of opinion and expression Health Women in law and practice	Information received concerning the removal of two foster children from the home of Yulia Savinovskih.
Brazil 22 March 2018	African descent Extrajudicial executions Foreign debt Housing Human rights defenders	Killing of Marielle Franco (and her driver) an Afro-Brazilian human rights defender working for the rights of women, people of African descent, LGBT people, and

	Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and practice	populations form the favelas, also elected member of City Council of Rio de Janeiro.
Honduras 10 July 2017	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received in connection with the recent murder, in the vicinity of the capital, Tegucigalpa, of a transsexual woman, who was also an LGBTI rights activist, Ms. Sherlyn Montoya.
El Salvador 26 May 2017	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received regarding 3 murders of trans women in San Luis Talpa, as well as allegations of acts of intimidation and threats, including acts of extortion against a human rights defender.
Ireland 17 April 2015	Health Women in law and practice	Allegations regarding the discriminatory effects of certain provisions contained in the Gender Recognition Bill, with concern raised at provisions about mandatory medical certification, and disproportionate safeguards applied to children.
Egypt 17 April 2014	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of religion Minority issues Torture Violence against women Women in law and practice	Alleged arrest, detention, conviction and sentencing of four individuals on the sole basis of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
Kuwait 5 February 2014	Arbitrary detention Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention of a Kuwaiti national on the basis of her gender identity and expression. She was reportedly charged with "imitation of the opposite sex", which is a criminal offence under Amendment 198 of the Kuwaiti Penal Code.
Republic of Moldova 29 July 2013	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Housing Human rights defenders Women in law and in practice	Alleged risk of restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.
Iran 28 June 2013	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of religion Iran Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	The revised Islamic Penal Code: death penalty for some non-violent acts, including "for sodomy for the non-Muslim party in same-sex relations."