

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 sent to States between January 2011 and December 2021.



MS. MELISSA UPRETI (NEPAL/USA)
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WORKING GROUP ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Ms. MELISSA UPRETI (Chair, NEPAL/USA)

Since October 2017 (until September 2023)

Ms. DOROTHY ESTRADA-TANCK (Vice-Chair, MEXICO)

Since October 2020 (until September 2026)

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Ms. MESKEREM GESET TECHANE (ETHIOPIA)

Since October 2017 (until September 2023)

FORMER MEMBERS:

- Ms. Alda FACIO (Costa Rica),
2014–2020
- 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



EMAIL



WEBSITE

WORK SUMMARY

COUNTRIES VISITED

ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES:

- **Romania**– (March 2020) Report, paras. 27, 54, 66, 67, 93c, 95a, 96a.
 - **Greece** – (April 2019) Report, paras. 9, 32, 41, 92a.
- **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, 75o.
 - **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’s and girl’s sexual and reproductive health rights in crisis
April 2021 (47th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

Women's human rights in the changing world of work
April 2020 (44th Session HRC)

Brief references to SOGI and transgender women.
(In the context of employment discrimination.)
Paras. 2, 4, 17, 43.

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

Good reference to SGE, SOGI, “sexual and gender non-conforming 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 health-care 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)

Brief reference to "sexual identity".
(In the context of multiple discrimination.)
Para. 24.

Eliminating discrimination against women in political and public life with a focus on political transition
June 2013 (23rd Session HRC)

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
Israel 27 December 2021	Business Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Occupied Palestinian territories	Information received that Pegasus spyware developed by NSO Group Technologies (the NSO Group) was identified in at least six devices belonging to staff members of Palestinian non-governmental organizations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Privacy Terrorism Trafficking in persons Violence against women Women and girls 	<p>only two weeks after the designation of these organizations as “terrorist associations by your Excellency’s Government.</p>
<p>Uganda 15 December 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOGI Arbitrary Detention Health Torture Violence against women Women and girls 	<p>Information received concerning the arbitrary arrest and detention of 29 persons in Uganda (16 in Kyengera and 13 in Nansana), followed by violations of their right to health and freedom from torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.</p>
<p>Brazil 29 October 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racism African Descent Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Violence against women Women and girls 	<p>Information received concerning allegations of incidents of political violence against Afro-Brazilian women, particularly transgender Afro-Brazilian women, in Brazil.</p>
<p>Japan 23 August 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOGI Violence against women Women and girls 	<p>Information received concerning the lack of necessary legislation to protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse (LGBT) persons from discrimination based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.</p>
<p>Ghana 9 August 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOGI Arbitrary Detention Education Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association Health Human rights defenders Torture Violence against women Women and girls 	<p>Information received concerning the tabling of a bill entitled “Promotion of Proper Human Sexual Rights and Ghanaian Family Values Bill, 2021” before the Parliament of Ghana. According to information at our disposal, the first reading of the bill took place on 2 August. The consideration of the bill is expected to resume in October, after Parliamentary recess and public engagement.</p>
<p>Kazakhstan 15 July 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human rights defenders Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association SOGI Women and girls 	<p>Information received concerning the harassment, intimidation and alleged arbitrary detention of human rights defenders Gulzada Serzhan and Zhanar Sekerbayeva.</p>
<p>Afghanistan 24 June 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and girls Cultural rights Violence against women 	<p>Information received concerning the lack of meaningful participation of women in the recent rounds of Afghanistan peace negotiations.</p>
<p>Ghana 2 June 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arbitrary Detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association Human rights defenders SOGI Women and girls 	<p>Information received concerning the alleged arrest and arbitrary detention of 21 persons defending the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse (LGBT) persons in Ho, Ghana.</p>

<p>Mexico 1 June 2021</p>	<p>Freedom of assembly and association Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Indigenous peoples Violence against women Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received regarding serious human rights violations committed during the electoral period, which constitute important limitations to the rights to life, non-discrimination, freedom of expression, freedom of association and freedom of political participation. In addition, the alleged attacks on electoral institutions represent a source of concern. We would also like to point out our concern about the worrisome situation of journalists, which is exacerbated by the electoral context.</p>
<p>China 28 April 2021</p>	<p>Human rights defenders Arbitrary detention Disappearances Freedom of opinion and expression Health Independence of judges and lawyers Torture Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received concerning the arbitrary detention of seventeen human rights defenders sentenced or under investigation or trial for the alleged commission of crimes against the State, that carry prison sentences of 10 years or more. Such crimes would have been perpetrated in connection to activities aimed to the promotion and defence of human rights and in the exercise of their public freedoms.</p>
<p>Tunisia 6 April 2021</p>	<p>Arbitrary Detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received regarding the arrest and arbitrary detention of Rania Amdouni, and the acts of harassment, intimidation, online defamation and incitement to violence, including death threats and rape, and physical and verbal assaults to which she was subjected</p>
<p>Hungary 22 March 2021</p>	<p>SOGI Disability Health Human rights defenders Older persons Religion or belief Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received concerning the abolition of the Equal Treatment Authority (“ETA”).</p>
<p>Malaysia 18 March 2021</p>	<p>SOGI Arbitrary Detention Religion or belief Violence against women Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received concerning threats, acts of intimidation and persecution against Ms Nur Sajat, a trans woman, and the ongoing harassment of her family members in Malaysia.</p>
<p>Poland 26 February 2021</p>	<p>Cultural rights Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Religion or belief SOGI Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received regarding the charges brought against woman human rights defenders in response to their distribution of posters displaying the Virgin Mary with a rainbow halo, symbolising the LGBT flag.</p>
<p>Venezuela 11 February 2021</p>	<p>Human rights defenders Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association</p>	<p>Information received regarding the alleged arbitrary detention of six members of the organization Azul Positivo, in Zulia, as well as the raid of the organization Convite</p>

	Health Women and girls	A.C. in Caracas and the criminalization of the defender Vanessa Rosales, in Mérida.
Poland 20 January 2021	SOGI Cultural rights Education Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association Health Human rights defenders Religion or belief Torture Violence against women Women and girls	Information received concerning (i) the increased use of hate speech and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse (“LGBT”) persons, including the creation of so-called “LGBT Free” zones by municipalities, (ii) restrictions on and attacks against Pride marches, (iii) a proposed bill to criminalize sexuality education, and (iv) restrictions on Polish schools’ initiative “Rainbow Friday”; (v) possible withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention, and (vi) the Polish Episcopal Conference’s calling for the creation of “conversion therapy” clinics.
Pakistan 12 January 2021	Executions Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women and girls	Information received concerning attacks on transgender rights defenders in Pakistan Ms Nayyab Ali and Ms Heera Malik.
Hungary 15 December 2020	Health Privacy Religion or belief SOGI Women and girls	Information received concerning proposed bills restricting the notion of family to opposite-sex couples; excluding same-sex couples, single persons and non-married opposite-sex couples from adoption; and restricting children’s identity to their sex assigned at birth and ensuring an upbringing that “reflects the values based on Hungary’s constitutional identity and Christian culture.
Colombia 20 November 2020	Women and girls Arbitrary Detention Migrants SOGI Torture Violence against women	Information received regarding the situation of four trans women from Venezuela who were allegedly arbitrarily detained and beaten by police officers in the municipality of Maicao, Colombia.
Honduras 25 September 2020	Disappearances Executions Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received regarding the violent death and disappearance of several human rights defenders in Honduras, as well as threats and harassment against them, in what appears to be a high-risk situation for human rights defenders.
Nepal 21 September 2020	SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning amendments to the Citizenship Act currently under debate in Parliament, which proposes positive changes to the legislation now in force in the country.
Romania 11 September 2020	Education Freedom of opinion and expression Health SOGI Violence against women	Information received concerning proposed bills that reportedly (i) prohibit sexual education unless there is parental written consent, and (ii) impose a blanket ban on a discussion regarding “gender theory or

	Women in law and in practice	opinion” in Romanian educational establishments.
Republic of Korea 29 July 2020	SOGI Health Privacy Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the dismissal of a soldier, Staff Sergeant Byun Hui-Su, following surgery to affirm her gender identity.
Netherlands 28 July 2020	Racism African Descent SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND)’s intention to deport Mrs. Anita Mavita, her husband Mr. Jude Kasangaki, an LGBT activist, and their youngest child to Uganda, while keeping their other seven children who had been forcibly removed from their parents and placed in foster homes in the Netherlands.
Cambodia 1 May 2020	Violence against women Cambodia Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human Rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of Ms. Ven Rachana, an online clothes seller, and Ms. Morn Eva, a transgender woman. We also refer to the comments made by Government officials targeting human rights NGOs that issued a statement in defence of women’s rights following their detention.
Uganda 23 April 2020	SOGI Arbitrary detention Health Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest of 23 people and detention of 19 of them, including gay, bisexual, and trans women in Kyengera, Uganda.
Egypt 17 December 2019	SOGI Arbitrary detention Human Rights defenders Privacy Torture Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of Eman Al-Helw, woman human rights defender and Hossam Ahmad, a trans man.
Kazakhstan 25 October 2019	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 concerning the discriminatory restrictions on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association and freedom of expression of LGBTIQ human rights defenders, which may relate to their engagement in advocacy on human rights related to sexual orientation, gender identity and gender equality.

<p>Honduras 7 October 2019</p>	<p>Executions Freedom of opinion and expression Human Rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received on the murder of Ms. Bessy Ferrero Sánchez and the attempted murder of Ms. Vicky Carvajal, both trans women human rights defenders working with LGBTI people and members of the Colectivo de Mujeres Trans Muñecas of the Asociación ARCOIRIS.</p>
<p>Kazakhstan 22 July 2019</p>	<p>Independence of judges and lawyers Privacy SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Malaysia 10 May 2019</p>	<p>Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Brunei Darussalam 1 April 2019</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Freedom of religion SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Egypt 20 March 2019</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender, Ms. Malak Al-Kashif.</p>
<p>Russian Federation 11 February 2019</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Honduras 9 January 2019</p>	<p>Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received in relation to threats directed against the human rights defender, Ms. Indyra Mendoza.</p>

<p>Ukraine 7 January 2019</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders International order Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Allegations received concerning the adverse environment for human rights defenders in Ukraine, most recently illustrated by the killing of Ms. Kateryna Handziuk.</p>
<p>Brazil 31 December 2018</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Follow-up to the communication on the murders of Ms. Marielle Franco and her driver.</p>
<p>Canada 19 December 2018</p>	<p>Cultural Rights Disability Education Freedom of opinion and expression Health SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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.</p>

<p>Malaysia 16 November 2018</p>	<p>SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Honduras 12 October 2018</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Human rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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").</p>
<p>Other actors 18 September 2018</p>	<p>Health Torture Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>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).</p>
<p>Hungary 12 September 2018</p>	<p>Cultural rights Education Freedom of opinion and expression Women in law and practice</p>	<p>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".</p>
<p>Guatemala 31 August 2018</p>	<p>Health SOGI Women in law and practice</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Peru 15 August 2018</p>	<p>Education Women in law and practice</p>	<p>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.</p>

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 Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and practice	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 populations from 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.”