

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 December 2021.



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SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF

Mr. AHMED SHAHEED (MALDIVES)

Since November 2016 (until June 2022)

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FORMER SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS:

- Mr. Heiner BIELEFELDT (GERMANY),
August 2010 - October 2016
- Ms. Asma JAHANGIR (PAKISTAN),
August 2004 - July 2010
- Mr. Abdelfattah AMOR (TUNISIA),
April 1993 - July 2004
- Mr. Angelo D'ALMEIDA RIBEIRO (PORTUGAL),
March 1986 - March 1993



EMAIL



WEBSITE

WORK SUMMARY

COUNTRIES VISITED

ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES

- **Sri Lanka** – (August 2019) Report, paras. 52, 76, 91.
- **Netherlands** – (March-April 2019) Report, paras. 22, 51.
- **Tunisia** – (April 2018) Report, paras. 29, 72, 73, 85, 89b.
- **Uzbekistan** – (October 2017) Report, paras. 91, 101f.
- **Albania** – (May 2017) Report, paras. 69, 71, 72, 73, 76b.
- **Denmark** – (March 2016) Report, paras. 3, 17, 48, 57, 58, 59, 60, 67.
- **Bangladesh** – (September 2015) Report, paras. 92, 93, 94, 95.
 - **Lebanon** – (March-April 2015) Report, para. 62.
 - **Moldova** – (September 2011) Report, para. 48.
 - **Paraguay** – (March 2011) Report, paras. 21, 22, 42, 43

DOES NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES:

- Viet Nam (July 2014)
- Kazakhstan (March-April 2014)
- Jordan (September 2013)
- Sierra Leone (June-July 2013)
- Cyprus (March-April 2012)

ANNUAL THEMATIC REPORTS

Freedom of thought October 2021 (76th Session General Assembly (GA))	Brief references to LGBTI (related to conversion practices). Paras. 69, 83.
Countering Islamophobia/anti-Muslim hatred to eliminate discrimination and intolerance based on religion or belief April 2021 (46th Session Human Rights Council (HRC))	No SOGIESC references.
Safeguarding freedom of religion or belief for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development October 2020 (75th Session GA)	Brief reference to LGBTI (related to bias within religion and policy recommendations). Paras. 6, 45, 60, 80a.
Freedom of religion or belief and Gender Equality August 2020 (43th Session HRC)	Very strong reference to SOGI based violence and discrimination in the name of religion or belief. Paras. 3-4, 7, 12, 14-16, 19-23, 28, 32-47, 49-50, 55-57, 62-63, 68-69, 72-74, 76d-76i, 76m, 76n, 77a.
Combatting Antisemitism to Eliminate Discrimination and Intolerance Based on Religion or Belief September 2019 (74th Session GA)	Brief reference to LGBTI. Para. 39
Restrictions imposed on expression on account of religion or belief March 2019 (40th Session HRC)	Brief reference to SO. Paras. 26, 78.
Relationship between freedom of religion or belief and national security September 2018 (73nd Session GA)	Brief reference to SOGI and LGBT. Para. 37, 78.
State-religion relationships and their impact on freedom of religion or belief March 2018 (37th Session HRC)	Good references to LGBTI, SOGI (restrictions to LGBTI rights on religious grounds, invoking “religious liberty” to justify discrimination, risk for secular governance models to intervene in manifestation of

religion alleging attempt to protect other rights, such as SOGI-based rights).
Paras. 38, 39, 40, 47, 77.

The increase in religious intolerance worldwide and the gap between international commitments to combat intolerant acts and national practices
August 2017 (72nd Session GA)

Good references to LGBTI, homosexuality, “sexual or gender identity”
(Religious intolerance by non-State actors: “structural violence” and vigilante mobs attacking in the name of religion in cases involving homosexuality, LGBTI targeted by religious extremist or terrorist groups, violations carried out by family members, and by business entities).
Paras. 33, 34, 36, 37, 46, 74.

Perspective and vision for the mandate by the new Special Rapporteur
March 2017 (34th session HRC)

Brief references to LGBTI.
Paras. 31, 45, 47, 49.

The broad range of violations of freedom of religion or belief, their root causes and variables
August 2016 (71st Session GA)

Brief references to LGBTI and SOGI.
Paras. 7, 64, 77.

Two closely interrelated rights: freedom of religion or belief and freedom of opinion and expression
March 2016 (31st Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

The rights of the child and his or her parents in the area of freedom of religion or belief
August 2015 (70th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

Preventing violence committed in the name of religion
March 2015 (28th session HRC)

Good references to LGBT, SOGI, homosexuality, cross-dressing (homophobic and transphobic violence perpetrated in the name of religion, hostile public statements, using school textbooks without stereotypes and prejudices towards LGBT, patriarchal interpretation of religions).
Paras. 11, 34, 42, 67.

Tackling religious intolerance and discrimination in the workplace
August 2014 (69th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

Tackling manifestations of collective religious hatred

No SOGIESC references.

March 2014 (25th Session HRC)

Freedom of religion or belief and equality between men and women
August 2013 (68th Session GA)

Brief reference to LGBTI.
Para. 35 (footnote 6).

Freedom of religion or belief of persons belonging to religious minorities
March 2013 (22nd Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

Right of conversion as part of freedom of religion or belief
August 2012 (67th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

Freedom of religion or belief and recognition issues
March 2012 (19th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

Role of the State in promoting interreligious communication
July 2011 (66th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

Freedom of religion or belief and school education
March 2011 (16th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

COMMUNICATIONS

COUNTRY/DATE

EXPERTS

SITUATION

France
26 May 2021

Freedom of opinion and expression
Freedom of assembly and association
Freedom of religion

Information received regarding the revised version of the bill "strengthening respect for the principles of the Republic and the fight against separatism" sent to the National Assembly on 14 May 2021.

Hungary
22 March 2021

SOGI
Disability
Health
Human rights defenders
Older persons
Freedom of religion
Women and girls

Information received concerning the abolition of the Equal Treatment Authority ("ETA").

<p>Malaysia 18 March 2021</p>	<p>SOGI Arbitrary detention Freedom of religion 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>France 1 March 2021</p>	<p>Freedom of assembly and association Freedom of opinion and expression Minority issues Freedom of religion Terrorism</p>	<p>Information received concerning the dissolution of the Association for the Defense of Human Rights-Collective Against Islamophobia in France. The dissolution of this organization follows the Minister of the Interior's announcement on October 19, 2020 that he would propose to the Council of Ministers the dissolution of several associations considered "separatist".</p>
<p>Poland 26 February 2021</p>	<p>Cultural rights Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Freedom of religion 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>Poland 20 January 2021</p>	<p>SOGI Cultural rights Education Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Human rights defenders Freedom of religion Torture Violence against women Women and girls</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Other actors 20 January 2021</p>	<p>SOGI Health Freedom of religion Torture</p>	<p>Information received concerning the Polish Episcopal Conference's calling for the creation of "clinics," which purportedly would offer services for people who want to regain what is perceived as their sexual health and "natural sexual orientation".</p>

<p>Other actors 20 January 2021</p>	<p>SOGI Health Freedom of religion Torture</p>	<p>Information received concerning the Polish Episcopal Conference’s calling for the creation of “clinics,” which purportedly would offer services for people who want to regain what is perceived as their sexual health and “natural sexual orientation”.</p>
<p>Hungary 15 December 2020</p>	<p>Health Privacy Freedom of religion SOGI Women and girls</p>	<p>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”.</p>
<p>Bangladesh 1 September 2020</p>	<p>Freedom of religion Disappearances Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Minority issues SOGI</p>	<p>Information received concerning threats, acts of intimidation and legal prosecution of Mr. Asaduzzaman Noor, and the ongoing harassment of his family members in Bangladesh.</p>
<p>Somalia 1 September 2020</p>	<p>Somalia Health Freedom of religion Sale of children Slavery Torture Trafficking in persons Violence against women Women and girls</p>	<p>Information received concerning the draft bill on “Sexual Intercourse Related Crimes”.</p>
<p>Turkey 22 July 2020</p>	<p>SOGI Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Health Human rights defenders Freedom of religion</p>	<p>Information received concerning the use of hate speech against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (“LGBT”) persons by religious leaders and public officials in Turkey.</p>
<p>Tunisia 20 December 2019</p>	<p>SOGI Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Freedom of religion Terrorism Torture</p>	<p>Information received regarding the harassment and threats against Mr. Mounir Baatour, including death threats, disseminated on social media in relation to his legitimate activities as a human rights defender.</p>

<p>Philippines 25 November 2019</p>	<p>SOGI Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Freedom of religion</p>	<p>Information received concerning hatred, verbal harassment and threats against Rhadem Camlian Morados, including death threats and threats of kidnapping, disseminated on social media on account of his work on sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics and his advocacy as a gay Muslim claiming that his religion is inclusive and affirmative of his sexuality.</p>
<p>Sri Lanka 27 May 2019</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Cultural rights Health Housing Internally displaced persons Migrants Minority Issues Racism Freedom of religion Terrorism</p>	<p>Information received concerning the increasing communal violence targeting the religious minorities in Sri Lanka, and in particular Muslims, as well as the reported acts of violence and intimidation threatening the living and security conditions of refugees and asylum seekers belonging to persecuted minorities.</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>United States of America 12 October 2018</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Business Disability Food Health Mercenaries Migrants Racism Freedom of religion Slavery Torture</p>	<p>Information received concerning the increased use of immigration detention and the human rights violations committed at the Stewart Immigration Detention Center and the Irwin County Immigration Detention Center, which are privately run by for-profit prison companies “CoreCivic Inc.” and “LaSalle Southwest Corrections”, respectively.</p>
<p>Brazil 13 April 2017</p>	<p>Education Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of religion</p>	<p>Two Projects of Law, called the “School Without Party Programme” bills, containing provisions that restrict the right to freedom of expression of students and teachers, to allegedly prevent “ideological and political indoctrination”, with confirmations that “gender ideologies” would not be included in the school curriculum, and the term “sexual orientation” taken out of the curriculum’s text on 6 April 2017.</p>

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.”