

SUMMARY

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (2014–2016)¹



Current Special Rapporteur:

Mr. Michel FORST (France)
Since May 2014 (Probably until March 2020)

Contact details:

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
OHCHR-UNOG,
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva 10,
Switzerland
Fax: + 41 22 917 9006
Email: defenders@ohchr.org

Former Special Rapporteurs:

- Mrs. Margaret Sekaggya (Uganda) May 2008- April 2014
- Mrs Hina Jilani (Pakistan), 2000- April 2008

SUMMARY OF WORK

Countries Visited

Where SOGIESC mentioned in the report	Where SOGIESC not mentioned in the report
Hungary (February 2016) Burundi (November 2014) Togo (February 2014)	Azerbaijan (September 2016)

Annual Thematic Reports

February 2016 (31st session HRC) <i>“Good practices in the protection of human rights defenders”</i>	Strong reference to SOGIESC (focus on the stigmatization of HRDs on the basis of sexual orientation)
December 2014 (28th session HRC) <i>“Workplan and Future Activities of the Special Rapporteur”</i>	Good reference to SOGIESC (identified defenders of ESC rights who are LGBTI as a particular group at risk requiring protection)

Individual Complaints

Country/Date/IC type	SPs	Problem
Zimbabwe JLA, 11 January 2016	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged undue delays and arrests of civil society and defenders in registration of LGBTI NGOs on grounds of “soliciting for immoral purposes”.
Kyrgyz Republic JLA, 30 July 2015	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged targeting and harassment of defenders and attack on an NGO promoting LGBTI rights.
Ukraine JLA, 16 October 2015	Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;	Alleged physical assault of and threats against a human rights defender advocating for the rights of LGBTI persons

Honduras JLA, 11 November 2015	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;	Allegations of violent deaths and attacks against defenders of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) rights.
Ecuador JUA, 2 December 2015	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Allegations of abduction, threats and a smear campaign against an LGBTI rights defender.
Honduras JLA, 9 December 2014	Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Allegations of theft in the offices of an LGBTI rights organization.
Venezuela JUA, 26 June 2014	Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged criminalization and detention of a human rights activist working against discrimination and the rights of LGBTI persons.
Russia JUA, 12 August 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Signs bearing the names of organizations with offices in HRHV were removed and vandalized and a banner was placed in Voronezh with the phrase "The fifth column in Voronezh. These are traitors, scum and simply freaks! Know their faces!" showing pictures of members of the HRHV, as well as other human rights defenders of the city, allegedly resulting in attacks against defenders.
Zimbabwe JLA, 7 February 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged acts of harassment against leaders of two associations promoting and defending human rights.
Georgia JLA, 13 June 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged lack of effective protection provided to demonstrators during the International Day against Homophobia and subsequent threats made against members of an LGBT organization.
Côte d'Ivoire JUA, 11 March 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;	Allegations of physical attacks and death threats against the staff of an NGO that advocates for the rights of people living with HIV / AIDS and the rights of lesbian, gay, Bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI).

JLA – Joint letter of allegation

JUA – Joint urgent appeal

AL – Allegation letter

¹ Although the mandate was established in 2000, this summary does not cover work reported before 2014.