

SUMMARY

Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice (2011–2016)



Chairperson
Ms. Alda FACIO
 (Costa Rica)
Since May 2014
(probably until Oct 2020)



Vice-Chair
Ms. Kamala CHANDRAKIRANA
 (Indonesia)
Since May 2011
(probably until Oct 2017)



Ms. Emna AOUIJ
 (Tunisia)
Since May 2011
(probably until Oct 2017)



Ms. Frances RADAY
 (Israel/UK)
Since May 2011
(probably until Oct 2017)



Ms. Eleonora ZIELINSKA
 (Poland)
Since May 2011
(probably until Oct 2017)

Contact details:

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
 CH-1211 Geneva 10, SWITZERLAND
 Tel: +41 (0) 22 917 9302
 Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 90 06
 E-mail: wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org

Former Members:

- Ms. Patricia OLAMENDI TORRES (Mexico) 2012–2013
- Ms. Mercedes BARQUET (Mexico), 2011–2012

SUMMARY OF WORK

Countries Visited

Where SOGIESC mentioned in the report	Where SOGIESC not mentioned in the report
USA (Nov–Dec 2015) Senegal (Apr 2015) Spain (Dec 2014) Peru (Sep 2014) Chile (Sep 2014) China (Dec 2013) Iceland (May 2013) Moldova (May 2012)	Tunisia (Jan 2013) Morocco (Feb 2012)

Annual Thematic Reports	
April 2016 (32rd session HRC) <i>"Eliminating discrimination against women in the area of health and safety, with a focus on the instrumentalization of women's bodies"</i>	Brief reference to SOGIESC only
April 2015 (29th session HRC) <i>"Eliminating discrimination against women in cultural and family life, with a focus on the family as a cultural space"</i>	Brief reference to SOGIESC only (families comprising LGBTI persons as an example of forms of "diverse families"; recognition of same-sex couples as a good practice example)
April 2014 (26th session HRC) <i>"Eliminating discrimination against women in economic and social life with a focus on economic crisis"</i>	Brief reference to SOGIESC only
April 2013 (23rd session HRC) <i>"Eliminating discrimination against women in political and public life with a focus on political transition"</i>	SO/GI mentioned several times (stereotypes; intersectional discrimination; vulnerability to attacks etc)
April 2012 (20th session HRC) <i>Annual Report</i>	Brief reference to SOGIESC only

Individual Complaints		
Country/Date/IC type	SPs	Problem
Ireland JLA, 17 Apr 2015	Discrimination against women; Health	Allegations regarding the discriminatory effects of certain provisions contained in the Gender Recognition Bill (Number 116 of 2014).
Egypt JUA, 17 Apr 2014	Discrimination against women; Freedom of expression; Freedom of religion; Minority issues; Summary executions; Torture; Violence against women	Alleged arrest, detention, conviction and sentencing of four individuals on the sole basis of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
Kuwait JUA, 5 Feb 2014	Arbitrary detention; Discrimination against women in law and in practice; Violence against women	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 JLA, 29 July 2013	Discrimination against women in law and in practice; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Adequate housing	Alleged risk of restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.
Iran JLA, 28 June 2013	Discrimination against women in law and in practice; Freedom of religion; Iran; Summary executions; Torture; Violence against women	The revised Islamic Penal Code: death penalty for some non-violent acts, including "for sodomy for the non-Muslim party in same-sex relations."

JLA – Joint letter of allegation

JUA – Joint urgent appeal