

# SUMMARY

## Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences (2011–2017)<sup>1</sup>



### Current Special Rapporteur:

**Dr. Dubravka SIMONOVIC** (Croatia)  
since Aug 2015 (probably until July 2021)

### Contact details:

Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women  
OHCHR-UNOG,  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
1211 Geneva 10,  
Switzerland  
Fax: + 41 22 917 9006

Email: [vaw@ohchr.org](mailto:vaw@ohchr.org)

### Former Special Rapporteurs:

- Ms. Rashida MANJOO (South Africa), Aug 2009 – July 2015
- Dr. Yakin ERTÜRK (Turkey), Aug 2003 – July 2009
- Ms. Radhika COOMARASWAMY (Sri Lanka), 1994 – July 2003

## SUMMARY OF WORK

Countries Visited	
Where SOGIESC mentioned in the report	Where SOGIESC not mentioned in the report
Argentina (Nov 2016) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 12, 17, 18, 34-38, 49 & 82b Georgia (Feb 2016) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 42 & 52 South Africa (Dec 2015) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 11, 33, 34, 41-43, 48, 72, 82 (1c, 2k & 4a) Honduras (July 2014) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 17 & 38 UK (March–Apr 2014) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 13, 66, 93, 106, 107b(ii) Azerbaijan (Dec 2013) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 79 & 87c India (April 2013) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 7, 19, 50 & 78c Croatia (Nov 2012) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 22-24 & 31 Bosnia & Herzegovina (Oct–Nov 2012) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 31 & 32 Italy (Jan 2012) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 1 & 35	Palestine (Sep 2016) Israel (Sep 2016) Sudan (May 2015) Afghanistan (Nov 2014) Bangladesh (May 2013) Papua New Guinea (March 2012) Solomon Islands (March 2012) Somalia (Dec 2011) Jordan (Nov 2011) USA (Jan–Feb 2011)

Annual Thematic Reports	
July 2017 (72 <sup>nd</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Adequacy of the international legal framework on violence against women</a>	Para. 34 A brief reference to LGBT only (violence against LGBT persons)
June 2017 (35 <sup>th</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">A human rights-based approach to integrated services and protection measures on violence against women, with a focus on shelters and protection orders</a>	No SOGIESC references
September 2016 (71 <sup>st</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Modalities for the establishment of femicides/gender-related killings watch</a>	Paras. 57 & 59 Brief references to LBT women and SO (in the context of violence)
April 2016 (32 <sup>nd</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">Vision-setting report</a>	No SOGIESC references
July 2015 (70 <sup>th</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Closing the gap in international human rights law: lessons from three regional human rights systems on legal standards and practices regarding violence against women</a>	Para. 12 A brief reference to SO only (a protected ground/African HR system)
June 2015 (29 <sup>th</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">Closing the gap in international human rights law: lessons from three regional human rights systems on legal standards and practices regarding violence against women</a>	Para. 13 A brief reference to SO only (a protected ground/African HR system)
September 2014 (69 <sup>th</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Violence against women as a barrier to the effective realization of all human rights</a>	No SOGIESC references

June 2014 (26 <sup>th</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">Violence against women: 20 years of developments within the UN</a>	Paras. 18, 28, 60 Brief references to SOGI only (CSW discussions; HRC resolution; violence and intersecting factors)
August 2013 (68 <sup>th</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Pathways to, conditions and consequences of incarceration for women</a>	Para. 28, 58-63 A separate chapter on LGBTI persons in prison; examples of LGBT persons/defenders arrests in Iran
June 2013 (23 <sup>rd</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">State responsibility for eliminating violence against women</a>	No SOGIESC references
August 2012 (67 <sup>th</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Violence against women with disabilities</a>	Paras. 13 & 27 Brief references to “lesbians and other sexual minorities” with disabilities
June 2012 (20 <sup>th</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">Gender-related killings of women</a>	Paras. 16, 18, 26, 53, 55, 71-76 & 93 A separate section on “Killings as a result of SO and GI”; other references to SOGI/LGBTIQ in the context of violence
August 2011 (66 <sup>th</sup> session GA) <a href="#">Continuum of violence against women from the home to the transnational sphere: the challenges of effective redress</a>	Paras 33, 36 & 84 Some references to SOGI (discrimination, stalking and violence against LBT people – including statistics and case examples)
June 2011 (17 <sup>th</sup> session HRC) <a href="#">Multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence against women</a>	Paras. 22, 47, 51, 58, 67, 73, 76, 104 Several mentions of sexuality, SO and GI among protected grounds; risk of violence; risk of long-term health consequences

Individual Complaints		
Country/Date	SPs	Problem
El Salvador <a href="#">JLA</a> , 26 May 2017	Discrimination against women in law and in practice; Human rights defenders; Violence against women; SOGI; Executions; Freedom of opinion and expression; Freedom of assembly and association	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.
Brunei Darussalam <a href="#">JLA</a> , 25 Sep 2014	Arbitrary detention; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture; Violence against women	The 2013 Shariah Penal Code Order: mandatory death penalty for some non-violent acts, including same-sex relations.
Egypt <a href="#">JUA</a> , 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.
Bosnia & Herzegovina <a href="#">JUA</a> , 7 Feb 2014	Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Violence against women	Alleged violent disruption of the Queer Festival Merlinka in Sarajevo.
Kuwait <a href="#">JUA</a> , 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 the Kuwaiti Penal Code.
Iran <a href="#">JLA</a> , 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.”
Nepal <a href="#">JUA</a> , 14 Sep 2012	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Violence against women	Alleged undue delays in registration proceedings of a non-governmental organization, and alleged instances of harassment and arbitrary arrest on the part of the authorities against LGBT individuals.
Nepal <a href="#">JUA</a> , 28 March 2013	Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Violence against women	Alleged intimidation of and threats against women and LGBTI human rights defenders, reportedly as a result of their support of a victim of domestic violence, following her self-identification as a lesbian.
Turkey <a href="#">JLA</a> , 30 Nov 2011	Human rights defenders; Violence against women	Alleged arbitrary arrest and sentencing of three women human rights defenders and members of the Pink Life Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transvestite and Transsexual Solidarity Association.
USA <a href="#">JUA</a> , 19 Aug 2011	Health; Migrants; Torture; Violence against women	Alleged torture and ill-treatment towards 16 gay and transgender individuals in immigration facilities.
Honduras AL, 18 May 2011	Summary executions; Violence against women	Alleged murders of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transvestite people during the course of 18 months in the country.
South Africa AL, 18 May 2011	Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Torture; Violence against women	Alleged “corrective” rape of a lesbian woman.

JLA – Joint letter of allegation

JUA – Joint urgent appeal

AL – Allegation letter

<sup>1</sup> Although the mandate was established in 1994, this summary does not cover work reported before 2011.