



47 HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SESSION
ITEM 3 - ID WITH THE INDEPENDENT EXPERT ON SOGI
**Joint Statement by the European Region Of The Lesbian And Gay Federation and
International Lesbian and Gay Association**

Madam President,

Ten years have passed since this Human Rights Council adopted its first resolution condemning violence and discrimination against persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

Following this historic resolution proposed by South Africa in 2011, in 2016 Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay proposed the creation of the mandate of the Independent Expert on Protection Against Violence and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

This mandate is a beacon of hope for LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual trans) persons around the world that for so long had their human rights neglected in international human rights fora. That is why in 2019, 1,312 organisations from 174 states and territories called upon this Council to renew it.

In each report, the mandate holders made something clear: protecting LGBT persons from any kind of violence and discrimination is nothing so-called controversial, these are obligations enshrined in international human rights law.

Today, the mandate holder highlights how gender as an analytical framework is crucial to advance on the protection of human rights of persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, including to unveil multiple and intersectional discrimination.

Today, after 10 years, we also see member states coming together and launching the Group of Friends of this SOGI Mandate. We strongly welcome this initiative and we look forward to working together with the group and all other member states and stakeholders for a world free of violence and discrimination of any kind, including those based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

This statement is delivered together with the International Lesbian and Gay Federation.

I thank you Madam President.