

**48<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Item 3: Interactive dialogue on the analytical report of the High Commissioner on the current state of play of the mainstreaming of the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations**

**Statement by the International Lesbian and Gay Association**

Madam President,

This statement is drafted in consultation with Edge Effect. We thank the High Commissioner for her report. We note however, that the report falls short in acknowledging human rights violations against women and girls with diverse SOGIESC.

Violations and abuses have been documented in many conflict and post-conflict situations. These include Rohingya refugees fleeing Myanmar. Amongst Syrian and Iraqi women, including those who fled to Lebanon. In Colombia and of course in Afghanistan, where people live in fear of the Taliban's death sentences.

Armed actors have whipped up public sentiment, perpetrated rapes, and targeted killings.

When fleeing conflict, dangers exist when thrust together with strangers in camps. Relationships between women with diverse SOGIESC may not be recognised; or they may be targeted because of those relationships. Many countries do not allow trans women to change their identification documents, increasing risk of violations and abuse. Much violence is not reported, limiting access to justice and emboldening perpetrators.

People with diverse SOGIESC are rarely involved in peace initiatives. And violations and abuses extend into post-conflict situations.

The lack of explicit references to SOGIESC in the report reveals that actions under the women, peace and security agenda routinely overlook women and girls who are lesbians, or bisexual, or trans, or intersex or queer.

We urge the High Commissioner, the Council, its member states and all relevant stakeholders to ensure that women, peace and security resolutions, national plans, and funding are inclusive of women and girls with diverse SOGIESC and that their human rights are respected, protected and fulfilled in conflict and post-conflict situations.