

The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association – ILGA World and the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) have compiled a series of factsheets highlighting the work that UN special procedures – independent human rights experts, appointed to monitor and report on human rights violations – have undertaken to defend the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons. The factsheets compile the references and recommendations made by these experts to LGBTI persons, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). They cover all thematic reports, country visit reports, and communications sent to States between January 2011 and November 2020.



MS. LEIGH TOOMEY (AUSTRALIA)
Since June 2015 ©: OHCHR



MS. ELINA STEINERTE (LATVIA)
Since September 2016 ©: OHCHR



MS. MIRIAM ESTRADA-CASTILLO (ECUADOR)
Since September 2020 ©: CUMIPAZ



MR. SEONG-PHIL HONG
(REPUBLIC OF KOREA)
Since June 2014 ©: UN Photo/Jean-Marc Ferré

WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON ARBITRARY DETENTION

Ms. LEIGH TOOMEY
(Chair-Rapporteur, AUSTRALIA)
Since June 2015 (until March 2022)

Ms. ELINA STEINERTE
(Vice-Chair, LATVIA)
Since September 2016 (until September 2022)

Ms. MIRIAM ESTRADA-CASTILLO
(ECUADOR)
Since September 2020 (until September 2026)

Mr. SEONG-PHIL HONG
(REPUBLIC OF KOREA),
Since June 2014 (until March 2021)

Mr. MUMBA MALILA (ZAMBIA)
Since September 2020 (until September 2026)

FORMER MEMBERS:

- Mr. Setondji ADJOVI (Benin),
May 2014 - September 2020
- Mr. José GUEVARA BERMÚDEZ (Mexico),
May 2014 - September 2020
- Mr. Vladimir TOCHILOVSKY (Ukraine),
March 2010 - October 2016
- Mr. Mads ANDENAS (Norway),
2009 - 2015
- Mr. Roberto GARRETÓN (Chile),
2008 - 2014; 1992 - 2002
- Ms. Shaheen Sardar ALI (Pakistan),
2008 - 2014



MR. MUMBA MALILA (ZAMBIA)
Since September 2020 ©: ACHPR



EMAIL



WEBSITE

- Mr. Malick El Hadji SOW (Senegal),
2008 - 2014
- Mr. Aslan ABASHIDZE (Russian Federation),
2008 - 2010
- Ms. Manuela Carmena CASTRILLO (Spain),
2004 - 2009
- Mr. Seyyed Mahammad HASHEMI (Islamic Republic of Iran),
2002 - 2008
- Ms. Soledad VILLAGRA DE BIEDERMANN (Paraguay),
2002 - 2008
- Mr. Tamas BAN (Hungary),
2001 - 2008
- Ms. Leila ZERROUGUI (Algeria),
2001 - 2008
- Mr. Louis JOINET (France),
1992 - 2003
- Mr. Laity KAMA (Senegal),
1992 - 2001
- Mr. Kapil SIBAL (India),
1992 - 2001
- Mr. Petr UHL (Czech Republic),
1992 - 2001

WORK SUMMARY

COUNTRIES VISITED

ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES:

- **Greece** – (December 2019) Report, para. 52.
- **Qatar** – (November 2019) Report, paras. 45, 92g, 100g.
- **Bhutan** – (January 2019) Report, paras. 51, 52, 90b.
- **Argentina** – (May 2017) Report, paras. 26, 54, 57, 71.
- **United States of America** – (October 2016) Report, para. 34.
- **New Zealand** – (March/April 2014) Report, paras. 32, 38, 95.
- **Hungary** – (September/October 2013) Report, para. 38.

DOES NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES:

- Sri Lanka (December 2017)
- Azerbaijan (May 2016)
- Malta (June 2015)
- Germany (November 2014)
- Italy (June 2014)
- Morocco (December 2013)
- Brazil (March 2013)
- Greece (January 2013)
- El Salvador (January/February 2013)
- Georgia (June 2011)
- Germany (September 2011)

ANNUAL THEMATIC REPORTS

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
September 2020 (45th Session Human Rights Council (HRC))

(Equality and non-discrimination when addressing public health emergencies.)
Paras. 26, 17.

Brief references.

Deprivation of liberty in the context of conscientious objection to military service; use of registers to avoid a/d; use of the Working Group's opinions in domestic proceedings; and comprehensive reparations to victims of a/d
July 2019 (42nd Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

The issue of consular assistance and diplomatic protection for persons deprived of liberty; the linkages between arbitrary detention and instances of torture and ill-treatment
September 2018 (39th Session HRC)

(SOGI and non-discrimination; detention of LGBTI migrants.)
Paras. 32, 41.

Brief references.

Deprivation of liberty on discriminatory grounds; new regimes of deprivation of liberty
September 2017 (36th Session HRC)

(LGBTI persons as a group facing deprivation of liberty on discriminatory grounds; criminalisation of same-sex relations.)
Paras. 46, 48e.

Brief references.

Methods of work of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
September 2017 (36th Session HRC)

(Deprivation of liberty based on SO in the context of the Working Group's mandate and methods of work.)
Para. 8e.

Brief reference.

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
September 2016 (33rd Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

Methods of work of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
September 2016 (33rd Session HRC)

(Deprivation of liberty based on SO in the context of the Working Group's mandate and methods of work.)
Para. 8e.

Brief reference.

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

(Preventive mechanism and arrests based on SO.)
Brief reference to SO.

September 2015 (30th Session HRC)

Para. 54.

United Nations Basic Principles and Guidelines on Remedies and Procedures on the Right of Anyone Deprived of Their Liberty to Bring Proceedings Before a Court
September 2015 (30th Session HRC)

Good references to SO/SOGI, LGBTI persons and LGBTI children.
(Mainly in the context of non-discrimination.)
Paras. 8, 10e, 8 (principle 5), 33 (principle 17), 98 (guideline 18).

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
September 2014 (27th Session HRC)

Brief reference to SO.
(Deprivation of liberty based on SO in the context of the Working Group’s mandate and methods of work.)
Para. 63.

A compilation of national, regional and international laws, regulations and practices on the right to challenge the lawfulness of detention before court
September 2014 (27th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
March 2013 (22nd Session HRC)

Brief references to SO.
(Malta’s cases; non-discrimination.)
Paras. 35, 38e.

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
March 2012 (19th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
March 2011 (16th Session HRC)

Brief reference to SO.
(Deprivation of liberty based on SO in the context of the Working Group’s mandate and methods of work.)
Para. 8e.

COMMUNICATIONS

COUNTRY/DATE	EXPERTS	SITUATION
Saudi Arabia 1 July 2020	SOGI Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Human Rights defenders Torture	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of a Yemeni blogger and human rights activist. The arrest is believed to have taken place after he posted a video saying “Everyone has rights and should be able to practice them freely, including gay people”.

<p>United States of America 8 June 2020</p>	<p>African descent Arbitrary detention Disability Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Hazardous substances Health Housing Independent of judges and lawyers Mercenaries Minority issues Older persons Poverty Racism SOGI Torture</p>	<p>Information received concerning several recent killings of people of African descent in apparently State-endorsed operations in the United States.</p>
<p>Uganda 23 April 2020</p>	<p>SOGI Arbitrary detention Health Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest of 23 people and detention of 19 of them, including gay, bisexual, and trans women in Kyengera, Uganda.</p>
<p>Zambia 12 March 2020</p>	<p>SOGI Arbitrary detention Independence of judges and lawyers Privacy Torture</p>	<p>Information received concerning the conviction and sentencing of Mr. Japhet Chataba and Mr. Steven Sambo to 15 years' imprisonment for allegedly engaging in consensual same-sex relations, in violation of their right to privacy and non-discrimination, and their right to health and freedom from torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment.</p>
<p>Egypt 17 December 2019</p>	<p>SOGI Arbitrary detention Human Rights defenders Privacy Torture Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of Eman Al-Helw, woman human rights defender and Hossam Ahmad, a trans man.</p>
<p>Egypt 20 March 2019</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender, Ms. Malak Al-Kashif.</p>
<p>Russian Federation 11 February 2019</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received in connection with allegations of new acts of persecution against people who are or are perceived to be gay, bisexual or lesbian in Chechnya.</p>

<p>Kenya 21 September 2018</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Health Migrants SOGI Torture Water and sanitation</p>	<p>Information received concerning allegations of acts of violence, harassment and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) refugees living in Kenya and their arbitrary arrests, detention, and ill-treatment. Allegations received also pertain to the lack of access to food and other basic necessities by the refugees while in detention and in Kakuma camp, as well as to the lack of appropriate access to HIV/AIDS-related prevention and care.</p>
<p>Other actors 21 September 2018</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Health Migrants SOGI Torture Water and sanitation</p>	<p>Information received concerning allegations of acts of violence, harassment and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) refugees living in Kenya and their arbitrary arrests, detention, and ill-treatment. Allegations received also pertain to the lack of access to food and other basic necessities by the refugees while in detention and in Kakuma camp, as well as to the lack of appropriate access to HIV/AIDS-related prevention and care.</p>
<p>Tanzania 9 July 2018</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI</p>	<p>Allegations of infringements on the right to life, the right to freedom of expression, as well as the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in Tanzania, indicating a pattern of restrictions to civic space.</p>
<p>Indonesia 12 February 2018</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Internally displaced persons SOGI Torture</p>	<p>Alleged arbitrary arrests, detention and ill-treatment of twelve waria, or transgender women, in Aceh province</p>
<p>Egypt 31 October 2017</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Health Human rights defenders Privacy SOGI</p>	<p>Alleged unlawful arrests and detention, as well as incrimination of persons based on their actual or perceived SOGIE, and/or their actual or perceived expression and advocacy for protection of the human rights of LGBT people, including of two human rights defenders, Mr. Ahmed Alaa and Ms. Sarah Hegazy.</p>
<p>Azerbaijan 9 October 2017</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Health SOGI Torture</p>	<p>Alleged unlawful arrests and detention, torture and ill-treatment of persons perceived to be gay, transgender persons or persons involved in sex work</p>
<p>Haiti 22 September 2017</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Privacy SOGI</p>	<p>Adoption of the bill on the reputation and certificate of good life and morals (on 28 June 2017) and the draft law on the strengthening of provisions of the Civil Code relating to marriage and the protection of the family (on 1 August 2017) by the Senate.</p>

<p>Russian Federation 31 August 2017</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Human rights defenders Migrants SOGI Torture</p>	<p>Alleged imminent deportation of Uzbek national, Mr. Khudoberdi Turgunaliyevich Nurmatov (also known by his pseudonym Ali Feruz) from the Russian Federation to Uzbekistan.</p>
<p>Republic of Korea 16 August 2017</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI</p>	<p>Arrests, interrogations, detentions and prosecutions of soldiers and military personnel perceived to be gay, under the Republic of Korea's Military Criminal Act.</p>
<p>Russian Federation 13 April 2017</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture</p>	<p>Alleged unlawful detentions, torture and extrajudicial killings of men perceived to be gay or bisexual in Chechnya in the past weeks.</p>
<p>Uganda 29 August 2016</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Torture</p>	<p>Allegations concerning police raids during "Uganda Pride 2016" events between 2 August to 7 August 2016, including the arrest of several human rights defenders and activists, and the assault, torture, and mistreatment of many participants in the context of an increasingly hostile environment towards LGBTI persons.</p>
<p>Senegal 14 December 2015</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Health Independence of judges and lawyers</p>	<p>Allegations concerning the arrest and arbitrary detention of seven individuals and their conviction for sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex.</p>
<p>Tunisia 2 November 2015</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Health Independence of judges and lawyers Torture</p>	<p>Allegations of physical abuse, degrading medical examination, irregular legal proceedings and criminal conviction of a 22-year-old man apparently based solely on his perceived SO.</p>
<p>Egypt 8 January 2015</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Health Independence of judges and lawyers Torture</p>	<p>Alleged arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and public stigmatization of 26 men who were tried on charges related to their alleged SO.</p>
<p>Brunei Darussalam 25 September 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Independence of judges and lawyers Torture Violence against women</p>	<p>The 2013 Shariah Penal Code Order: mandatory death penalty for some non-violent acts, including same-sex relations.</p>
<p>Venezuela 27 June 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders</p>	<p>Alleged criminalization and detention of a human rights activist working against discrimination and the rights of LGBTI persons.</p>
<p>Egypt 17 April 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Independence of judges and lawyers Torture Violence against women</p>	<p>Alleged arrest, detention, conviction and sentencing of four individuals on the sole basis of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, and alleged physical and sexual harm inflicted on them.</p>

<p>Kuwait 5 February 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Violence against women Women in law and practice</p>	<p>Allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention of a Kuwaiti national on the basis of her GIE. She was reportedly charged with “imitation of the opposite sex”, which is a criminal offence under Amendment 198 of the Kuwaiti Penal Code.</p>
<p>Uganda 4 February 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Human rights defenders</p>	<p>Alleged passing by Parliament of a revised version of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill, 2009, now referred to as the Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2013, on 20 December 2013.</p>
<p>Nigeria 13 January 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Human rights defenders</p>	<p>Alleged upcoming signature of the Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Bill, 2011, by the Senate on 18 December 2013.</p>
<p>Nigeria 13 June 2013</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Human rights defenders</p>	<p>Alleged restrictions on the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly of groups defending the rights of LGBT (The Same Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Bill).</p>
<p>Uganda 29 March 2012</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Human rights defenders</p>	<p>Alleged re-tabling of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill, which would violate fundamental principles and norms of international human rights law if enacted.</p>