

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.



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## WORKING GROUP ON THE ISSUE OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN LAW AND IN PRACTICE

### Ms. ELIZABETH BRODERICK (Chair, AUSTRALIA)

Since October 2017 (until September 2023)

### Ms. MELISSA UPRETI (Vice-Chair, NEPAL/USA)

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#### FORMER MEMBERS:

- Ms. Alda FACIO (Costa Rica),  
2014–2020
- Ms. Frances RADAY (Israel/UK),  
2011–2017
- Ms. Emna AOUIJ (Tunisia),  
2011–2017
- Ms. Eleonora ZIELINSKA (Poland),  
2011–2017
- Ms. Kamala CHANDRAKIRANA (Indonesia),  
2011–2017
- Ms. Patricia OLAMENDI TORRES (Mexico),  
2012–2013
- Ms. Mercedes BARQUET (Mexico),  
2011–2012



EMAIL



WEBSITE

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## WORK SUMMARY

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### COUNTRIES VISITED

#### ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES:

- **Greece** – (April 2019) Report, paras. 9, 32, 41, 92a.
- **Poland** – (December 2018) Report, paras. 11, 14, 15, 38, 44, 57, 59, 85a.
- **Honduras** – (November 2018) Report, paras. 22, 24, 31, 36, 48, 53, 61, 66, 68, 79e.
  - **Chad** – (December 2017) Report, paras. 26, 61, 75o.
  - **Samoa** – (August 2017) Report, paras. 35, 70, 97d.
  - **Kuwait** – (December 2016) Report, paras. 35, 91.
- **Hungary** – (May 2016) Report, paras. 10, 12, 33, 68, 81, 95, 100d.
- **United States of America** – (November/December 2015) Report, paras. 18, 20, 63, 79, 87.
  - **Senegal** – (April 2015) Report, para. 83.
  - **Spain** – (December 2014) Report, paras. 21, 62.
- **Peru** – (September 2014) Report, paras. 14, 59, 80, 86d, 89l.
- **Chile** – (September 2014) Report, paras. 15, 69, 70.
- **China** – (December 2013) Report, paras. 77, 78, 110a.
  - **Iceland** – (May 2013) Report, paras. 24, 25.
- **Moldova** – (May 2012) Report, paras. 17, 21, 25, 58-60, 88, 89c.

#### DOES NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES:

- Tunisia (January 2013)
- Morocco (February 2012)

### ANNUAL THEMATIC REPORTS

**Women's human rights in the changing world of work**  
April 2020 (44th Session Human Rights Council (HRC))

Brief references to SOGI and transgender women.  
(In the context of employment discrimination.)  
Paras. 2, 4, 17, 43.

**Women deprived of liberty**  
June 2019 (41th Session HRC)

Good reference to SGE, SOGI, “sexual and gender non-conforming women”, “sexual and gender minorities”, transgender women, sexuality.  
(Higher risks due to intersectionality; institutionalization and “conversion therapies”; criminalisation and deprivation of liberty, police profiling and targeting of trans sex workers; a recommendation to ban laws and practices policing, targeting, punishing or confining women in relation to consensual sexual behaviour or decisions, including expressions of sexuality.)  
Paras. 23, 34, 35, 61, 78, 80c.

<p><b>Reasserting equality, countering rollbacks</b> June 2018 (38th Session HRC)</p>	<p>Brief reference to SOGII. (Mentioning participation of a WG member in the dialogue on SOGII between the IACHR, ACHPR and UN HR mechanisms.) Para. 5.</p>
<p><b>Compendium of good practices in the elimination of discrimination against women</b> June 2017 (35th Session HRC)</p>	<p>Brief references to SO. (Intersectional discrimination and violence/case studies.) Paras. 41, 90.</p>
<p><b>Eliminating discrimination against women in the area of health and safety, with a focus on the instrumentalization of women's bodies</b> June 2016 (32nd Session HRC)</p>	<p>Strong references to SOGI(E). (Criminalisation; humiliating treatment within the health-care system; intersectional discrimination; corrective rape; compulsory medical interventions; so-called "conversion therapy"). Paras. 17, 42, 58.</p>
<p><b>Eliminating discrimination against women in cultural and family life, with a focus on the family as a cultural space</b> June 2015 (29th Session HRC)</p>	<p>Good references to lesbian, LBT, LGBTI. (Discrimination, violence and stigmatization in the context of cultural diversity/stereotypes; diverse families and LGBTI families.) Paras. 21, 23, 25, 46.</p>
<p><b>Eliminating discrimination against women in economic and social life with a focus on economic crisis</b> June 2014 (26th Session HRC)</p>	<p>Brief reference to "sexual identity". (In the context of multiple discrimination.) Para. 24.</p>
<p><b>Eliminating discrimination against women in political and public life with a focus on political transition</b> June 2013 (23rd Session HRC)</p>	<p>Good references to SOGI, LBT women, SO, SOGI (CEDAW General Recommendation; LBT women human rights defenders' risks; ICTs as used by women attacked because of their SO; stereotypes.) Paras. 28, 47, 48, 70.</p>
<p><b>First annual report on historical overview, conceptual framework, thematic priorities for 2012-2013, methods of work and overview of activities</b> June 2012 (20th Session HRC)</p>	<p>Brief references to SO, SOGI. (Intersectional discrimination; vulnerability/violence.) Paras. 13, 28.</p>

## COMMUNICATIONS

COUNTRY/DATE	EXPERTS	SITUATION
<p><b>Honduras</b> 25 September 2020</p>	<p>Disappearances Executions Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women</p>	<p>Information received regarding the violent death and disappearance of several human rights defenders in Honduras, as well as threats and harassment against them, in what</p>

	Women in law and in practice	appears to be a high-risk situation for human rights defenders.
<b>Nepal</b> 21 September 2020	SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning amendments to the Citizenship Act currently under debate in Parliament, which proposes positive changes to the legislation now in force in the country.
<b>Romania</b> 11 September 2020	Education Freedom of opinion and expression Health SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning proposed bills that reportedly (i) prohibit sexual education unless there is parental written consent, and (ii) impose a blanket ban on a discussion regarding “gender theory or opinion” in Romanian educational establishments.
<b>Republic of Korea</b> 29 July 2020	SOGI Health Privacy Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the dismissal of a soldier, Staff Sergeant Byun Hui-Su, following surgery to affirm her gender identity.
<b>Netherlands</b> 28 July 2020	Racism African Descent SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND)’s intention to deport Mrs. Anita Mavita, her husband Mr. Jude Kasangaki, an LGBT activist, and their youngest child to Uganda, while keeping their other seven children who had been forcibly removed from their parents and place in foster homes in the Netherlands.
<b>Cambodia</b> 1 May 2020	Violence against women Cambodia Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human Rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of Ms. Ven Rachana, an online clothes seller, and Ms. Morn Eva, a transgender woman. We also refer to the comments made by Government officials targeting human rights NGOs that issued a statement in defence of women’s rights following their detention.
<b>Uganda</b> 23 April 2020	SOGI Arbitrary detention Health Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	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.
<b>Egypt</b> 17 December 2019	SOGI Arbitrary detention Human Rights defenders Privacy Torture Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of Eman Al-Helw, woman human rights defender and Hossam Ahmad, a trans man.
<b>Kazakhstan</b> 25 October 2019	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human Rights defenders SOGI Violence against women	Information received concerning the discriminatory restrictions on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association and freedom of expression of LGBTIQ human rights defenders, which may

	Women in law and in practice	relate to their engagement in advocacy on human rights related to sexual orientation, gender identity and gender equality.
<b>Honduras</b> 7 October 2019	Executions Freedom of opinion and expression Human Rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received on the murder of Ms. Bessy Ferrero Sánchez and the attempted murder of Ms. Vicky Carvajal, both trans women human rights defenders working with LGBTI people and members of the Colectivo de Mujeres Trans Muñecas of the Asociación ARCOIRIS.
<b>Kazakhstan</b> 22 July 2019	Independence of judges and lawyers Privacy SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning acts of harassment and discrimination directed towards a young lesbian couple and the unauthorized filming and posting of a video in social media, affecting their right to privacy.
<b>Malaysia</b> 10 May 2019	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning investigations into the organisers of a women's day march in Kuala Lumpur under the Sedition Act, and the summoning of LGBT+ human rights defender Mr. Numan Afifi.
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b> 1 April 2019	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of religion SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the criminalisation of adultery and consensual same-sex relations and the imposition of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments for such acts, including stoning, whipping and amputation.
<b>Egypt</b> 20 March 2019	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	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender, Ms. Malak Al-Kashif.
<b>Russian Federation</b> 11 February 2019	Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	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><b>Honduras</b> 9 January 2019</p>	<p>Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received in relation to threats directed against the human rights defender, Ms. Indyra Mendoza.</p>
<p><b>Brazil</b> 31 December 2018</p>	<p>African descent Extrajudicial executions Foreign debt Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Follow-up to the communication on the murders of Ms. Marielle Franco and her driver.</p>
<p><b>Canada</b> 19 December 2018</p>	<p>Cultural Rights Disability Education Freedom of opinion and expression Health SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning changes to the sexuality education curriculum of the Province of Ontario. The Ontario Minister of Education announced that in September 2018 the Province's schools would be returning to teaching a sexuality education curriculum first promulgated in 1998, replacing the one adopted in 2015. The Premier of Ontario declared that any teachers who continued teaching the curriculum of 2015 would be sanctioned. The differences between the two curriculum include, in particular: discussion in the curriculum of 2015 of differences among people such as sexual orientation and gender identity and the need for acceptance and appreciation of diversity along with further discussion around sexual orientation and gender identity in the curriculum for grades 6-8; and the inclusion of the words "gay", "lesbian", "transgender", and "cyberbullying" that are lacking in the 1998 curriculum.</p>

<p><b>Malaysia</b> 16 November 2018</p>	<p>SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning the criminalization of consensual sexual relations between adults and the application of punishments for such acts that are contrary to the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.</p>
<p><b>Honduras</b> 12 October 2018</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Human rights defenders SOGI Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received regarding recent cases of attempted murder; harassment, assault and death threats; theft of security cameras; rape and intimidation and persecution of the leader of the trans women's group Las Muñecas de Arcoíris, and members of the Center for Development and LGBTI Cooperation ("Somos CDC").</p>
<p><b>Other actors</b> 18 September 2018</p>	<p>Health Torture Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Concerns of discrimination against intersex persons related to the Eligibility regulations for the female classification (athletes with differences of sex development) recently published by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).</p>
<p><b>Hungary</b> 12 September 2018</p>	<p>Cultural rights Education Freedom of opinion and expression Women in law and practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning a government directive decertifying and defunding the teaching of gender studies at all Hungarian institutions of higher education on 9 August 2018. Opponents allegedly claim the subject "serves the gay lobby" and is concerned only with the study of "LGBTI communities".</p>
<p><b>Guatemala</b> 31 August 2018</p>	<p>Health SOGI Women in law and practice</p>	<p>Upcoming approval of draft 'Law for the protection of life and family', which would, inter alia, further restrict the concepts of marriage and family and prohibit public and private educational institutions from teaching "gender ideology", sexual diversity, or presenting as normal any sexual behaviour other than heterosexuality.</p>
<p><b>Peru</b> 15 August 2018</p>	<p>Education Women in law and practice</p>	<p>Anticipated Supreme Court decision to remove the principle of gender equality from the national curriculum for primary education (CNEB), being implemented since January 2017. Civil society emphasizes the importance of the curriculum in reducing discrimination against women and LGBTI people.</p>

<b>Russian Federation</b> 9 May 2018	Disability Freedom of opinion and expression Health Women in law and practice	Information received concerning the removal of two foster children from the home of Yulia Savinovskih.
<b>Brazil</b> 22 March 2018	African descent Extrajudicial executions Foreign debt Housing Human rights defenders Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and practice	Killing of Marielle Franco (and her driver) an Afro-Brazilian human rights defender working for the rights of women, people of African descent, LGBT people, and populations from the favelas, also elected member of City Council of Rio de Janeiro.
<b>Honduras</b> 10 July 2017	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received in connection with the recent murder, in the vicinity of the capital, Tegucigalpa, of a transsexual woman, who was also an LGBTI rights activist, Ms. Sherlyn Montoya.
<b>El Salvador</b> 26 May 2017	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	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.
<b>Ireland</b> 17 April 2015	Health Women in law and practice	Allegations regarding the discriminatory effects of certain provisions contained in the Gender Recognition Bill, with concern raised at provisions about mandatory medical certification, and disproportionate safeguards applied to children.
<b>Egypt</b> 17 April 2014	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of religion Minority issues Torture Violence against women Women in law and practice	Alleged arrest, detention, conviction and sentencing of four individuals on the sole basis of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.
<b>Kuwait</b> 5 February 2014	Arbitrary detention Violence against women Women in law and in practice	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.
<b>Republic of Moldova</b> 29 July 2013	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Housing Human rights defenders Women in law and in practice	Alleged risk of restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.



**Iran**  
28 June 2013

Extrajudicial executions  
Freedom of religion  
Iran  
Torture  
Violence against women  
Women in law and in practice

The revised Islamic Penal Code: death penalty for some non-violent acts, including “for sodomy for the non-Muslim party in same-sex relations.”