

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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**SPECIAL RAPPOREUR ON  
ADEQUATE HOUSING  
AS A COMPONENT OF THE RIGHT  
TO AN ADEQUATE STANDARD OF  
LIVING, AND ON THE RIGHT TO  
NON-DISCRIMINATION IN THIS  
CONTEXT**

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**Mr. BALAKRISHNAN RAJAGOPAL  
(UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)**  
Since March 2020 (Until March 2026)



EMAIL



WEBSITE

FORMER SPECIAL RAPPOREURS:

- Ms. Leilani Farha (Canada),  
2014 - 2020
- Ms. Raquel ROLNIK (Brazil),  
2008 - 2014
- Mr. Miloon KOTHARI (India),  
2000 - 2008

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WORK SUMMARY

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COUNTRIES VISITED

ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES:

- **Nigeria** – (September 2019) Report, paras. 19, 62-65, 91, 96, 97.
  - **France** – (April 2019) Report, para. 13.
  - **Egypt** – (February 2018) Report, paras. 87, 88, 105.
- **Republic of Korea** – (May 2018) Report, paras. 85, 86, 87, 99d(ii), 99e, 99f, 99l(i), 99l(ii).
- **Serbia and Kosovo\*** (UN Security Council Resolution 1244) – (May 2015) Report, para. 3.
  - **Indonesia** – (May/June 2013) Report, paras. 69, 81n.

DOES NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES:

- Chile (April 2017)
- Portugal (December 2016)
- India (April 2016)
- Cabo Verde (January 2015)
- United Kingdom (August 2013)
- Rwanda (July 2012)
- Israel & Occupied Palestinian Territories (January 2012)
- Algeria (July 2011)
- Argentina (April 2011)

**ANNUAL THEMATIC REPORTS**

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|--|---|
| <b>COVID-19 and the right to adequate housing</b><br>July 2020 (75th Session General Assembly (GA))  | Strong references to LGBT, transgender and gender-diverse persons, and SOGI.<br>(A separate section on LGBT persons' right to housing during the pandemic; a recommendation on data collection.)<br>Paras. 45-46, 68a.                            |
| <b>Guidelines for the implementation of the right to adequate housing</b><br>December 2019 (43rd Session Human Rights Council (HRC))                     | Good references to LGBTI and "sexual identity".<br>(Vulnerability and discrimination in housing.)<br>Paras. 33a, 44, 48d(v).  |
| <b>The right to housing for indigenous peoples</b><br>July 2019 (74th Session GA)  | No SOGIESC references.  |
| <b>Access to justice for the right to housing</b><br>January 2019 (40th Session HRC)   | No SOGIESC references.  |
| <b>The right to housing for residents of informal settlements</b><br>September 2018 (73rd Session GA)  | No SOGIESC references.  |
| <b>Human rights-based national housing strategies</b><br>March 2018 (37th Session HRC)   | Brief references to SOGIESC.<br>(LGBTI among groups that suffer housing disadvantages and that should be identified and addressed in housing strategies; Must ensure LGBTI participation in development of housing strategies.)<br>Paras. 36, 65. |
| <b>The right to adequate housing of persons with disabilities</b><br>July 2017 (72nd Session GA)   | No SOGIESC references.  |
| <b>Financialization of housing and the right to adequate housing</b><br>March 2017 (34th Session HRC)  | No SOGIESC references.  |
| <b>The right to life and the right to adequate housing: the indivisibility and interdependence between these rights</b><br>August 2016 (71st Session GA) | No SOGIESC references.  |

**Homelessness as a global human rights crisis that demands an urgent global response**  
March 2016 (31st Session HRC)

Good references to SOGIESC.  
(Those who face discrimination on grounds of, inter alia, SOGI, are more likely to become homeless and, once homeless, experience additional discrimination; LGBTI youth are overrepresented in homeless populations in some countries, face additional stigmatization and social exclusion, are more vulnerable to violence and more likely to be turned away from shelters.)  
Paras. 39, 44, 87.

**Centrality of the right to adequate housing for the development and implementation of the New Urban Agenda to be adopted at Habitat III in October 2016**  
August 2015 (70th Session GA)

Brief reference to SOGIESC.  
(LGBTI youth as one of the groups in vulnerable situations.)  
Para. 49.

**Responsibilities of local and other subnational governments in relation to the right to adequate housing**  
March 2015 (28th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

**Some preliminary thoughts and priority areas of work for new mandate-holder**  
August 2014 (69th Session GA)

Brief reference to SOGI.  
(LGBT persons among groups disproportionately affected by inadequate housing and homelessness.)  
Para. 12.

**Guiding Principles on security of tenure for the urban poor**  
March 2014 (25th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

**Analysis of two alternative housing policies: rental and collective housing**  
August 2013 (68th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

**Mapping and framing security of tenure**  
March 2013 (22nd Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

**The impact of housing finance policies on the right to adequate housing of those living in poverty**  
August 2012 (67th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

**Women and their right to adequate housing**  
March 2012 (19th Session HRC)

Brief references to SO.  
(Lesbians among especially disadvantaged groups who encounter intersectional discrimination in access to housing, and calling for prioritization of their needs.)  
Paras. 50, 63d.

**The right to adequate housing in disaster relief efforts**  
August 2011 (66th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

**Post conflict and post disaster reconstruction and the right to adequate housing**  
March 2011 (16th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

## COMMUNICATIONS

| COUNTRY/DATE                                   | EXPERTS   | SITUATION  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>United States of America</b><br>8 June 2020 | African descent<br>Arbitrary detention<br>Disability<br>Extrajudicial executions<br>Freedom of opinion and expression<br>Freedom of assembly and association<br>Hazardous substances<br>Health<br>Housing<br>Independent of judges and lawyers<br>Mercenaries<br>Minority issues<br>Older persons<br>Poverty<br>Racism<br>SOGI<br>Torture | Information received concerning several recent killings of people of African descent in apparently State-endorsed operations in the United States.   |
| <b>Guatemala</b><br>22 March 2019              | Food<br>Housing<br>International solidarity<br>Migrants<br>Racism<br>Sale of children<br>SOGI<br>Trafficking in persons   | Information received in relation to the situation of migrants, including LGBTI people, in caravans, heading for Mexico and the United States of America, and in particular with reference to a violent and xenophobic incident against migrants in Tecún Umán, as well as the need for the government to take active measures to protect the human rights of all migrants.                     |
| <b>Brazil</b><br>22 March 2018                 | African descent<br>Extrajudicial executions<br>Foreign debt<br>Housing<br>Human rights defenders<br>Poverty<br>Racism<br>SOGI<br>Violence against women<br>Women in law and in practice   | Killing of Marielle Franco and her driver on 14 March 2018. Franco was an Afro-Brazilian human rights defender working for the rights of women, people of African descent, LGBT people, young people in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro and socially excluded communities. She identified herself as a woman, as a feminist, as black, as favelada, as bisexual and as married to another woman. |