

# SUMMARY

## Special Rapporteur on the freedom of opinion and expression (2011–2017)<sup>1</sup>



### Current Special Rapporteur:

**Mr. David Kaye** (USA)  
Since June 2014 (probably until June 2020)

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### Former Special Rapporteurs:

- Mr. Frank William LA RUE (Guatemala), August 2008 to July 2014
- Mr. Ambeyi LIGABO (Kenya), August 2002 to July 2008
- Mr. Abid HUSSAIN (India), 1993 to July 2002

## SUMMARY OF WORK

### Countries Visited

Where SOGIESC mentioned in the report	Where SOGIESC not mentioned in the report
<b>Italy</b> (November 2013) – <a href="#">Report</a> , para. 66. <b>Montenegro</b> (June 2013) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 21, 65, 66 & 67. <b>Macedonia</b> (June 2013) – <a href="#">Report</a> , paras. 77, 78, 82 & 94. <b>Honduras</b> (August 2012) – <a href="#">Report</a> , para. 79.	<b>Ukraine</b> (May 2016) <b>Tajikistan</b> (March 2016) <b>Japan</b> (May 2016) <b>Turkey</b> (November 2016) <b>Israel</b> (December 2011) <b>Algeria</b> (April 2011)

### Annual Thematic Reports

<b>August 2017 (72<sup>nd</sup> Session GA)</b> <a href="#">The state of access to information with regard to the activities of international organizations</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>March 2017 (35<sup>th</sup> Session HRC)</b> <a href="#">The roles played by private actors engaged in the provision of Internet and telecommunications access</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>September 2016 (71<sup>st</sup> Session GA)</b> <a href="#">Promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression</a>	Para. 47. Brief reference to LGBTI (in the context of combatting discrimination and violence)
<b>May 2016 (32<sup>nd</sup> session HRC)</b> <a href="#">Freedom of expression, states and the private sector in the digital age</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>September 2015 (70<sup>th</sup> Session GA)</b> <a href="#">Promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression</a>	No SOGIESC references

<b>May 2015 (29th session HRC)</b> <a href="#">The use of encryption and anonymity to exercise the rights to freedom of opinion and expression in the digital age</a>	Paras. 1 & 12. Brief mention of SOGI only
<b>August 24 (69th Session GA)</b> <a href="#">The right of the child to freedom of expression in electoral contexts</a>	Paras. 53, 58 & 68. Brief reference to SOGIESC (in the context of discrimination)
<b>July 2014 (26th Session HRC)</b> <a href="#">Right to freedom of expression in electoral contexts</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>September 2013 (68th Session GA)</b> <a href="#">The right to access of information</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>April 2013 (23rd Session HRC )</b> <a href="#">States' surveillance of communications on the exercise of the human rights to privacy and to freedom of opinion and expression</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>September 2012 (67th Session GA)</b> <a href="#">Hate speech and incitement to hatred</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>June 2012 (20th Session HRC)</b> <a href="#">Protection of journalists and media freedom</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>August 2011 (66th Session GA)</b> <a href="#">Freedom of expression exercised through the Internet</a>	No SOGIESC references
<b>May 2011 (17th Session HRC )</b> <a href="#">The key trends and challenges to the right of all individuals to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds through the Internet</a>	No SOGIESC references

Individual Complaints		
Country/Date/IC type	SPs	Problem
<b>EI Salvador</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 26 May 2017	Discrimination against women in law and in practice; HRDs, violence against women; SOGI; executions; freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of assembly and association	Alleged murders of 3 trans women in San Luis Talpa, as well as allegations of acts of intimidation and threats, including acts of extortion against a human rights defenders.
<b>Russian Federation</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 13 Apr 2017	Arbitrary detention; executions; torture; sexual orientation and gender identity	Alleged unlawful detentions, torture and extrajudicial killings of men perceived to be gay or bisexual in Chechnya by local militia and security forces.
<b>Tunisia</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 24 Nov 2016	Freedom of expression and opinion; freedom of peaceful assembly and association; human rights defenders; sexual orientation and gender identity.	Alleged arbitrary detention of two LGBTI HRDs in Tunisia, for defending the depenalization of homosexuality in the country.
<b>Haiti</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 26 Oct 2016	Executions; Freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of peaceful assembly and association; Haiti	Alleged cancelation of the Festival Massi Madi, a film and arts festival with LGBTI thematic aimed at involving both communities to promote cultural exchange.
<b>Bangladesh</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 31 May 2016	Executions; freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of peaceful assembly; human rights defenders	Alleged assassination of two Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) rights defenders in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

<b>Zambia</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 11 January 2016	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders	Alleged undue delays and arrests of civil society and defenders in registration of LGBTI NGOs on grounds of “soliciting for immoral purposes”.
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b> <a href="#">JLA</a> , 30 July 2015	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders	Alleged targeting and harassment of defenders and attack on an NGO promoting LGBTI rights.
<b>Ecuador</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 2 December 2015	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders	Allegations of abduction, threats and a smear campaign against an LGBTI rights defender.
<b>Honduras</b> <a href="#">JLA</a> , 11 November 2015	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;	Allegations of violent deaths and attacks against defenders of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) rights.
<b>Ukraine</b> <a href="#">JLA</a> , 16 October 2015	Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders	Alleged physical assault of and threats against a human rights defender advocating for the rights of LGBTI persons
<b>Russia</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 12 August 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders	Signs bearing the names of organizations with offices in HRHV were removed and vandalized and a banner was placed in Voronezh with the phrase “The fifth column in Voronezh.
<b>Venezuela</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 27 June 2014	Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged criminalization and detention of a human rights activist working against discrimination and the rights of LGBTI persons.
<b>Georgia</b> <a href="#">JLA</a> , 13 June 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged lack of effective protection provided to demonstrators during the International Day against Homophobia and subsequent threats made against members of an LGBT organization.
<b>Côte d’Ivoire</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 11 March 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;	Allegations of physical attacks and death threats against the staff of an NGO that advocates for the rights of people living with HIV / AIDS and the rights of lesbian, gay, Bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI).
<b>Mexico</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 14 Feb 2014	freedom of opinion and expression ;human rights defenders ; torture ; health	Alleged arrest of activist of LGBT collective rights, in Yucatán.
<b>Zimbabwe</b> <a href="#">JLA</a> , 7 February 2014	Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;	Alleged acts of harassment against leaders of two associations promoting and defending human rights.
<b>Honduras</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 20 Jan 2014	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; executions; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged pattern of attacks and harassment against organizations that work in defense of the rights of LGBTI people in Honduras.
<b>Cameroon</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 13 Aug 2013	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; executions; freedom of peaceful assembly	Allegations of murder of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) rights defender and intimidation of other defenders.
<b>Russian Federation</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 12 Jul 2013	Freedom of expression; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged attack against LGBTI rights activists and break-up of St. Petersburg Pride parade.
<b>Sierra Leone</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 20 Jun 2013	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged physical attack and threats against a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) rights defender.

<b>Rep of Moldova</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 17 May 2013	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly	Allegations of a re-routing of the 2013 Chisinau Pride Parade.
<b>Zambia</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 14 May 2013	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; health	Alleged criminal charges against human rights defenders and alleged Government campaign against defenders working on LGBTI rights.
<b>Colombia</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 14 Sep 2012	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; executions; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged threat of death against human rights defenders.
<b>Nepal</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 14 Sep 2012	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; violence against women	Alleged intimidation of and threats against women human rights defenders.
<b>Rep of Moldova</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 4 Jul 2012	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged bans on public activities organized by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) persons in several municipalities in Moldova.
<b>South Africa</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 28 Jun 2012	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; executions	Alleged killing of a LGBTI rights defender.
<b>Uganda</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 25 Jun 2012	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged disruption of a workshop for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) human rights defenders by police.
<b>Uganda</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 29 Mar 2012	Arbitrary detention; freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; executions; health; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged re-tabling of a Bill which would violate fundamental principles and norms of international human rights law if enacted.
<b>Russian Federation</b> <a href="#">JUA</a> , 30 Nov 2011	Freedom of opinion and expression; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly and of association	Allegation of the passing of the first reading of an allegedly discriminatory bill by the Legislative Assembly in Saint Petersburg amending the Law on administrative violations.
<b>Rep of Moldova</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 31 May 2011	Freedom of expression; human rights defenders	Alleged ban to broadcast a documentary film on LGBT rights, 'Human Rights on Screen: The Rights of Sexual Minorities'.
<b>Belarus</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 30 May 2011	Freedom of opinion; human rights defenders; freedom of peaceful assembly	Alleged arrest and detention of human rights defenders, gathered peacefully in Minsk with a view to commemorating the International Day of Anti-Homophobia.
<b>Uganda</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 1 Feb 2011	freedom of opinion and expression; human rights defenders; executions	Alleged murder of LGBT rights activist.
<b>South Africa</b> <a href="#">JAL</a> , 14 Jan 2011	Freedom of opinion and expression; human rights defenders; torture; Violence against women	Alleged "corrective" rape of a lesbian woman.

JLA – Joint letter of allegation

JUA – Joint urgent appeal

AL – Allegation letter

<sup>1</sup> Although the mandate was established in 1993, this summary covers work reported from 2011 until December 2017.