



UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD): 97th Session, 26 November - 14 December 2018

States reviewed: Albania, Honduras, Iraq, Norway, Qatar, Republic of Korea

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RESUME:

- No SOGIESC questions or recommendations were issued during the Session.
- One oral question about discrimination of Afro-Honduran and indigenous LGBTI persons (Honduras).

- Next Session: **23 April - 10 May 2019**
 - States (for LOT and main review): Andorra, Guatemala, Lithuania, Zambia
 - NGO report deadlines:
 - LOTs: 11 February 2019 (TBC) to CERD@ohchr.org
 - Main review: 2 April 2019 (TBC) to CERD@ohchr.org

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1. SUMMARY

The UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) considered six State reports in relation to its [97th Session](#) (26 Nov to 14 Dec 2018). The Committee made no references to SOGIESC¹ in any of the Lists of Themes or Concluding Observations adopted, though it inquired about LGBTI discrimination in the constructive dialogue with Honduras.

On the other hand, two State delegations (Albania, Norway) and three civil society organisations (Iraq, Norway, Republic of Korea) mentioned SOGIESC. Norwegian civil society (Queer World) also met with the Committee in person.

1.1. Concluding Observations

During its [97th Session](#), CERD reviewed the periodic reports of Albania, Honduras, Iraq, Norway, Qatar and the Republic of Korea. No SOGIESC recommendations were issued.

On one occasion only did the Committee refer to SOGIESC; in the constructive dialogue with [Honduras](#), CERD asked about discriminatory hiring practices against LGBTI indigenous and Afro-Honduran persons. Meanwhile, in the constructive dialogues of [Albania](#) and [Norway](#), the State delegations mentioned SOGI legislation, action plans, hate crimes and police trainings.

Three States also had civil society submissions referencing SOGIESC, although none were stand-alone submissions. In the case of [Iraq](#), data by IraQueer on murders of and violence against homosexuals was used to advocate for urgent protection of LGBTI persons. The report for the [Republic of Korea](#) documented the strong opposition to anti-discrimination laws and human rights ordinances based on homo- and Islamophobic campaign slogans.

The submission for [Norway](#) contained several sub-sections on issues affecting LGBTI migrants, including the lack of right to report hate crimes if paperless, to family reunification for same-sex couples, and to medical care for trans persons without a permanent residence. Additionally, the Secretary General of Queer World [met with CERD](#) to raise these issues in person, but they did not form part of the Committee's recommendations.

Country	SOGIESC in previous CO*	SOGIESC in LOT**	SOGIESC in the constructive dialogues***	SOGIESC in CSS****	SOGIESC in current CO*
Albania	No	No	Yes	No	No
Honduras	No	No	Yes	No	No
Iraq	No	No	No	Yes	No
Norway	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Qatar	No	No	No	No	No
Republic of Korea	No	No	No	Yes	No

*Concluding Observations

**List of Themes

***According to the press releases

****Civil Society Submissions

Text in bold links to the source material.

1.2. Lists of Themes (LOTs)

Prior to the Session, the Committee produced a List of Themes for each State party to guide its reviews. No SOGIESC references were made.

¹ SOGIESC: Sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics

2. COMPILATION OF CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

No Concluding Observations contained SOGIESC recommendations.

States with no SOGIESC recommendations:

- Albania
- Honduras
- Iraq
- Norway
- Qatar
- Republic of Korea

3. COMPILATION OF LISTS OF THEMES

No LOTs contained SOGIESC recommendations.

States with no SOGIESC questions:

- Albania
- Honduras
- Iraq
- Norway
- Qatar
- Republic of Korea

4. CIVIL SOCIETY SUBMISSIONS

Iraq

- Submission by [Iraqi Al-Amar Association and Al-Namaa Center for Human Rights](#) for the 97th Session (*recommends urgent measures to protect homosexuals, based on data from IraQueer about murders, violence and lack of freedom of speech*).

Norway

- Submission by [Norwegian NGOs' joint report](#) for the 97th Session (*sub-sections on LGBTI migrants', based on data from Queer World, on lack of access to family reunions, to report hate crimes and to transgender medical care*).

Republic of Korea

- Submission by [47 South Korean NGOs Coalition](#) (*describes the homo- and Islamophobic rhetoric of the movement against anti-discrimination laws and human rights ordinances*).