

**SOGIESC OPPORTUNITIES IN THE 41st HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SESSION
24 JUNE – 12 JULY 2019**

This report contains weekly updates on SOGIESC issues mentioned in the reports that will be presented during the 41st Human Rights Council Session.¹

The objective of this report is to identify opportunities for engagement or participation at the Human Rights Council.

The structure of the report is based on the Items of the agenda of the Human Rights Council.

¹ **Searched key words:** Sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, LGBTI, SOGIESC, HIV, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, homosexual, sexual minorities, same-sex and sex.



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AGENDA OF THE 41st HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SESSION

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 40TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (24 JUNE - 12 JULY 2019)

AS OF 19 JUNE 2019 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

	24 June		1 July		8 July	
M O N D A Y	09.00 – 12.00	ITEM 1 - Opening of the session ITEM 2* - Oral update by the HC ITEM 3 - Clustered ID with: - IE on sexual orientation and gender identity - SR independence of judges & lawyers	10.00 – 13.00	ITEMS 3 - SG/HC thematic reports/oral update followed by General debate	09.00 – 12.00	ITEM 6 - General debate (cont'd) ITEM 7 - General debate
	12.00 – 15.00	ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd) Clustered ID with: - SR on health - SR on leprosy	13.00 – 15.00	BREAK	12.00 – 15.00	ITEM 8 - General debate ITEM 9 - ID with SR on racism
	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd) Clustered ID with: - SR on migrants - IE on international solidarity	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 3 - General debate (cont'd) ITEM 4 - ID with SR on Belarus	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 9 - ID with SR on racism (cont'd) - General debate
T U E S D A Y	09.00 – 12.00	ITEM 2 General debate on HC oral update	10.00 – 13.00	ITEM 4 - ID with SR on Eritrea - ID with the Commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (oral update)	10.00 – 13.00	ITEM 9 - General debate (cont'd) ITEM 10 - Enhanced ID on the Sudan
	12.00 – 15.00	ITEM 2 - General debate (cont'd) ITEM 3 ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd)	13.00 – 15.00	BREAK	13.00 – 15.00	BREAK
	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 3 Clustered ID with: - SR on freedom of expression - SR on peaceful assembly and association	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 4 - ID with the Col on the Syrian Arab Republic (oral update) (cont'd) - ID with the Commission of inquiry on Burundi (oral update) - ID with SR on Myanmar (oral update)	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 10 - Enhanced ID on the Democratic Republic of the Congo
W E D N E S D A Y	09.00 – 12.00	ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd) - SR on summary executions - SR on the right to education	09.00 – 12.00	ITEM 4 - ID with SR on Myanmar (oral update) (cont'd) - General debate (Item 4)	09.00 – 11.00 – 12.00	ANNUAL THEMATIC DISCUSSION ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION (HRC res. 18/18 and 39/18) ITEM 10 ID on regular periodic update on Ukraine
	12.00 – 15.00	ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd) Clustered ID with: - WG on discrimination against women - WG on business and human rights	12.00 – 15.00	ITEM 4 - General debate (Item 4) (cont'd)	12.00 – 15.00	- ID on regular periodic update on Ukraine (cont'd) - ID with IE on CAR (oral update)
	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd)	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 4 - General debate (cont'd) ITEM 5 Report of the Forum on Business and Human Rights followed by General debate	15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 2 - ID with HC in follow up to res. S-27/1 (oral update) ITEM 10 HC oral updates on Nicaragua (item 2) and Georgia followed by General debate
T H U R S D A Y	10.00 – 12.00 – 13.00 – 15.00 – 18.00	ANNUAL FULL-DAY DISCUSSION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN (HRC res. 6/30) Clustered ID with: - SR on violence against women - SR on trafficking BREAK ITEM 3 - Clustered ID (cont'd)	09.00 – 12.00 – 15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 6 UPR adoptions of Viet Nam, Afghanistan, Chile, New Zealand, Uruguay, Yemen, Vanuatu, North Macedonia, Comoros, Slovakia, Eritrea, Cvoros, Dominican Republic, Cambodia	09.00 – 12.00 – 15.00 – 18.00	ITEM 10 General debate (cont'd) ITEM 1 Decisions and conclusions Decisions and conclusions (cont'd)

	28 June		5 July		12 July	
F R I D A Y	09.00	ANNUAL FULL-DAY DISCUSSION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN (HRC res. 6/30)	10.00	ITEM 2 Enhanced ID on Venezuela	09.00	Decisions and conclusions (cont'd)
	11.00				12.00	
	11.00	ITEM 3 - Clustered ID with: - SR on extreme poverty - SR internally displaced persons	13.00	BREAK		
	15.00		13.00		12.00	Decisions and conclusions (cont'd)
	16.00		15.00		15.00	
	15.00	PANEL DISCUSSION ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (HRC res. 38/4)	15.00	ITEM 6 – UPR adoptions (see list above)	15.00	Decisions and conclusions (cont'd)
	18.00		18.00	OHCHR reports followed by General debate	18.00	- Adoption of the session report



ITEM 1: ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS



ITEM 2: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND REPORTS OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

- [A/HRC/41/3-E/CN.6/2019/7 - Report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations trust fund in support of actions to eliminate violence against women Note by the Secretary-General](#)

6. A particular focus of the trust fund has been the provision of support for small women-led organizations and other organizations working to ensure that, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, no one is left behind. The groups of women and girls that have most often been left behind include: survivors of violence in humanitarian situations; women and girls living with disabilities; lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women; and women living with HIV/AIDS.

(...)

C. Lesbian, bisexual and transgender women

41. Lesbian, bisexual and transgender women are another key group at risk whose needs have historically been underserved and need to be addressed if the goal of leaving no one behind is to be achieved. The trust fund invests in a number of projects to improve the delivery of services and change harmful, discriminatory attitudes and mindsets in order to prevent and end violence against lesbian, bisexual and transgender women. In China, for example, the organization Equality, in collaboration with its partners, used a small grant from the trust fund to implement a project to empower female survivors of violence, focusing in particular on lesbian, bisexual and transgender women; women and girls living with HIV/AIDS; and young women in seven provinces and municipalities. In a final evaluation of the project, it was revealed that dozens of women in these target groups had gained knowledge about domestic violence and relevant legislation, as well as the skills needed to build a support network of survivors. It also found the project had successfully leveraged a network of civil society organizations to prevent domestic violence among the target groups. 42. In Malaysia, Persatuan Kesedaran Komuniti Selangor, or Empower Malaysia, was awarded a grant in 2018 to provide both cisgender and transgender women with the language, tools, know-how and support to counter sexual and gender-based violence. The project, implemented in six states, is aimed at defending and promoting women to freedom of expression and to engage in decision-making in public and political spaces. It employs a mixture of research, documentation, monitoring, advocacy, capacity development, awareness-raising, networking, support and institutional strengthening to highlight and address the way sexual and gender-based violence are used to prevent women from participating in the public and political spheres.



- [A/HRC/41/22 Summary report on the annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)

26. Likewise, some delegations emphasized that, while international developments were important, national dialogue and action should be prioritized. There was a need for greater political will to ensure the recognition of indigenous peoples and the fulfilment of their rights. In addition, the importance of addressing compound discrimination was emphasized, noting the potentially multiplicative effects of intersecting vulnerabilities such as gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, and indigenous status. Some delegations also pointed out the links and interplay between the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, other human rights instruments and mechanisms, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

- [A/HRC/41/26 - Analytical study on gender-responsive climate action for the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of women Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)

D. Sexual and gender-based violence, and discrimination

(...)

17. Women are also at a higher risk of sexual and gender-based violence during and after extreme weather events. Disaster displacement can push survivors into evacuation centres. Women in these centres, including relief workers, may feel unsafe, be subjected to sexual and gender-based violence, harassment and discrimination, and/or have limited access to reproductive and other health services. After disasters, law enforcement may be less effective due to strained resources, and women subjected to sexual and gender-based violence may not report violence due to associated stigma. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons are uniquely vulnerable, due to stigmatization and discrimination. They may be excluded from recovery, relief and response efforts and may lack access to emergency shelters that satisfy their needs.

(...)

G. Human Mobility

23. Although many women may migrate into situations of greater empowerment or assume leadership roles in the response to climate change, human mobility poses unique risks to women. Women on the move are more likely to suffer from sexual and genderbased violence. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons displaced by climate change may also face elevated risks of violent abuse in the context of human mobility. 50 Furthermore, the economic impacts of climate change can contribute to increased human trafficking and child, early and forced marriages, both of which often involve migration.

- [A/HRC/41/27 Human rights in the response to HIV Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*](#)

A. Ending AIDS by 2030: human rights in the response to HIV, challenges and opportunities

(...)



15. Dr. Odumosu presented the work of the African Men for Sexual Health and Rights in representing African key populations in global forums, and presented examples of civil society collaboration at the regional level. He stressed the importance of ensuring that community voices were heard and had a platform, supporting the concept of the top-down, bottom-up approach. He welcomed the decriminalization in Angola of same-sex consensual relations and the prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation. He praised the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, welcomed its resolution 275 and its report on HIV, human rights and the law. He also welcomed the key population strategy implemented by the Southern African Development Community. Dr. Odumosu elaborated on these examples, highlighting the important role played by civil society at the regional level, and praised regional funding programmes that supported joint advocacy.

C. Regional accountability mechanisms to uphold human rights to and through health

(...)

30. Mr. Golosceapov explained that, although health and HIV status were not expressly mentioned in legislation on equality in the Republic of Moldova, the Council for the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality provided protection on those grounds, given the open-ended nature of the list of grounds for discrimination. The Council received complaints and delivered binding decisions. Although the decisions could be appealed in a court of law, the courts supported 93 per cent of the decisions, a fact that reflected their quality. Although the Council had received several cases relating to HIV, the fear of disclosing one's status probably prevented others from presenting their cases. The Council identified systemic human rights-related issues and the initiatives to address them, also proactively, by providing opinions on draft legislation and developing policy. Mr. Golosceapov noted with concern that surveys in the Republic of Moldova had shown that the right to health was being violated, and that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and people living with HIV were often socially excluded. He invited external and local donors to support the Council's work.

(...)

D. Delivering on the "leave no one behind" promise: addressing stigma, discrimination, violence and abuse

34. The panel was composed of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, Victor Madrigal-Borloz; Suzanna Aho Assouma, member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child; Eszter Kismodi, editor of the journal Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters; and Ruth Morgan Thomas, of the Global Network of Sex Work Projects. The panellists highlighted the central role of human rights in leaving no one behind, and advocated for a people-centred and inclusive response to HIV, and called for an end to all forms of inequality, stigma, discrimination, violence and abuse.

35. The Independent Expert pointed out that the right to health lay at the intersection of a human rights-based approach and the Sustainable Development Goals, which also had the aim of leaving no one behind. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons faced specific challenges and barriers that were at the root of discrimination and violence – demonization, pathologization and criminalization – which were the drivers of negation and stigma. Criminalizing environments had a negative impact on access to health-care services and health-related information. The 2030 Agenda could not be achieved while the criminalization of sexual orientation or gender identity remained the norm in 70 States. The Independent



Expert then drew attention to the nefarious effects of the pathologization on health-related laws and policies, and called for measures to eradicate the conception of certain forms of gender as a pathology. The Independent Expert also pointed out that violations to the right to health of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons were enabled by denial. In a context of negation and criminalization, knowledge about a State's population and its diversity was lacking, and had a detrimental impact on health programming, including in the response to HIV/AIDS. Health programming required evidence-based interventions. The Independent Expert stressed that the majority of trans and gender-diverse persons did not have their gender recognized by the State. This legal vacuum encouraged discrimination and allowed for violence, leaving such acts unpunished and to de facto criminalization, with a serious impact on the right to health.

(...)

40. The representative of the Gambia called for further advocacy efforts to eliminate stigma and discrimination. The representative of India noted with concern the discrimination against persons living with HIV, and called for laws that ensured respect for and protection of the human rights of all persons living with or affected by HIV. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasized the need to address the issue of HIV/AIDS from a health perspective, and through cooperation and financial support, which would be more helpful than forcing human rights obligations on States. The representative also asked how the universality of the right to health could be reconciled with the fact that the mandate of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity did not enjoy universal support within the Human Rights Council. The representative of the Netherlands called for an end to stigma and discrimination against key populations, and stressed that the science to prevent new infections existed, even though political will was still required to deliver on a more just and inclusive response to HIV. The representative of Colombia referred to the national law of 1997 that prohibited discrimination against persons living with HIV, and highlighted the fact that women and children were particularly affected by HIV. The representative of Switzerland stressed that leaving no one behind was at the core of the 2030 Agenda, and that the UNAIDS strategy for 2016–2021 and the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS had affirmed the importance of human rights in the response to HIV. The representative

(...)

42. The representative of the International Commission of Jurists stated that certain punitive laws, particularly those on sexual and reproductive health, drug use, HIV transmission and sexual orientation, violated the obligations of States under international human rights law. There was a need for principles and guidance on when and how criminal law was being used. The Commission therefore called for organizations to join it in the creation of these principles. The representative of Choice for Youth and Sexuality called for more sexual and reproductive health services for young persons, who were disproportionately affected by HIV, and the repeal of laws and practices that impeded the response to HIV. The representative called for the involvement of young people when making decisions on matters that affected their lives. The representative of the International Network of People Who Use Drugs expressed concern at the use of biometrics in data collection, which was potentially dangerous to key populations, particularly criminalized ones. Furthermore, the criminalization of key populations would leave them behind in the response to HIV. The representative of RedLacTrans condemned the recurring situation whereby transgender women were treated and provided services as men in countries where transgender identity was not recognized. She called upon States to promote the rights of transgender persons, including economic and social rights, and highlighted the



effectiveness of peer-to-peer service delivery in the response to HIV. She commented on the lack of support and attention by the United Nations for trans children, and commended Argentina for its leadership with regard to its respect for and protection of the rights of transgender persons.

43. In response, panellists affirmed that stigma and discrimination hindered the response to HIV, which should be based on human rights. They reiterated the need for community participation in the response to HIV, the involvement of all key stakeholders in decisionmaking, and the repeal of laws that impeded the promotion of human rights. They also emphasized the need for advocacy and the protection and promotion of civil society space, and health services for key populations, and called for the elimination of stigma and discrimination in health settings. The Independent Expert stressed that the work of the mandate was firmly grounded in international human rights law, and that human rights were universal and indivisible. Violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity hindered an effective response to HIV. The Independent Expert expressed concern at the current pushback on human rights and its effect on trans persons, leading to greater violence. He welcomed the recent decision of the Supreme Court of India ordering the repeal of section 377.

- [A/HRC/41/29 - Operations of the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the implementation of the universal periodic review Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)

III. Results achieved through the implementation of activities supported by the Voluntary Fund during 2018

23. The activities financed through the Voluntary Fund in 2018 can be divided into three categories: (a) activities of OHCHR field presences; (b) direct support to Governments; and (c) a regional workshop on universal periodic review preparation and implementation of recommendations. Support to OHCHR field presences was provided for activities in Argentina, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Fiji, Jamaica, the Niger and Uruguay. Based on a request from the Government of Mongolia (where OHCHR does not have a field presence), a comprehensive one-and-a-half-year project was developed, focusing on different elements, including a national preventive mechanism; business and human rights; the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up; and an e-learning platform in the National Human Rights Commission.

40. In response to a request from the Government of Mongolia for assistance from the Voluntary Fund, OHCHR provided technical assistance to support the implementation of the Government's Universal Periodic Review Action Plan 2016–2019, which contains the 150 recommendations from the second cycle of the universal periodic review that the Government accepted, grouped in 12 clusters, including actions against torture, to strengthen the national human rights institution and to counter discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. The project, which runs from July 2018 until the end of 2019, includes plans for the establishment of a national preventive mechanism in line with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; the establishment of a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up and a national recommendations tracking database; the adoption of a national strategy to implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework; the submission to the parliament



of a draft law on human rights defenders; and the launching of the Free and Equal Campaign at the national level.



ITEM 3: PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

- [A/HRC/41/33 Women deprived of liberty - Report of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice](#)

34. Sexual and gender non-conforming women are disproportionately targeted for social control based on their perceived challenge to or “transgression of” established norms of gender roles and sexuality (A/HRC/23/50, para. 47). As a result, they face increased vulnerability to criminalization and deprivation of liberty. Even in cases where such women are not expressly criminalized based on their sexual orientation or gender identities, they may face a heightened risk of encountering the criminal justice system. For example, transgender women are arbitrarily profiled and targeted for prostitution/sex work.

[...]

61. Reduced job opportunities, coupled with a lack of social protection, may be a factor in women’s criminalization and eventual imprisonment. Several stakeholders pointed to the lack of decent work opportunities as one of the major reasons for women’s involvement in drug trafficking, certain forms of prostitution/sex work and other irregular businesses, resulting in them coming into conflict with the criminal justice system. Women who are incarcerated for their involvement in illicit economic ventures identify such activities as being the only opportunities available to them to provide for their families, given their financial constraints and family responsibilities. In several States, transgender women disproportionately engage in prostitution/sex work, owing to the limited opportunities available to them because of discrimination, and face criminalization or other types of restriction of liberty as a result of such activities.

- [A/HRC/41/33/Add.1 - Visit to Honduras Report of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice](#)

2. Main achievements in promoting women’s rights and gender equality in the law

(...)

9. During the visit, the experts were informed that several relevant draft laws were scheduled in Congress, such as bills regulating domestic work, agrarian reform, violence against women in politics, transgender peoples’ rights and shelter houses for victims of violence and a comprehensive law on violence against women. The Working Group hopes that any shortcomings in these bills will be remedied (see relevant sections below) and that they will be passed without undue delay.

(...)

III. Participation of women in family and cultural life, political and public life and economic and social life, and access to health

22. Despite efforts by the State and feminist activists in the country to promote women’s empowerment and gender equality, discrimination against women persists in all spheres of their lives. This systemic and structural discrimination, nurtured by patriarchy and discriminatory gender roles, affects all women in Honduras, but women living in poverty,



indigenous, Garífuna and Afro-Honduran women, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women and women with disabilities, inter alia, are particularly disadvantaged.

(...)

Women human rights defenders

31. Although Honduras has made efforts to establish a mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders, there still seems to be little understanding of the specificities and needs of women human rights defenders and the hurdles that they face. All the women human rights defenders met during the visit – who were working in areas of violence against women, including trafficking, discrimination, gender equality and sexuality education, reproductive rights, environmental and land rights, labour rights, rights of lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women and the rights of women engaged in sex work/prostitution – stated that they were not able to operate in a safe and enabling environment. They told the experts that they faced numerous attacks and threats, as well as the criminalization of their activities and lack of access to justice.

(...)

D. Health

1. General access to health care

(...)

48. The experts welcome the establishment of a government commission to examine gaps in the health-care system, which disproportionately affect women. Access to health care varies for women around the country, with women living in poverty and rural women having less access than others. The experts were informed that in rural areas, hospitals were too far away, of poor quality or lacking medication. Further, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women, women engaged in sex work/prostitution and women living with HIV have reportedly less access to quality health care due to stigmatization and discriminatory attitudes. Women have reported severe cases of discrimination against women living with HIV, including forced sterilization. The experts were also informed that such violations also applied to women with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, whose health needs are generally not sufficiently addressed. There are no targeted health programmes for women engaged in sex work/prostitution.

(...)

IV. Gender-based violence against women and women experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination

A. Gender-based violence against women

53. During the visit, the experts were informed that violence against women is rampant in the country, fuelled by inequality, insecurity and impunity, and the lack of socioeconomic opportunities. A permissive regulation on the possession of firearms also contribute to the problem: in 2017, 62 per cent of femicides were committed with the use of firearms.³² The forms of violence include exploitation, psychological, physical and sexual violence, trafficking and femicide, as well as legally unregulated cyberviolence (e.g., cyberharassment and publication of intimate images without consent, including of public and political personalities).



The perpetrators include partners and family and community members, as well as other private actors and State agents. Certain groups of women are particularly vulnerable, such as women human rights defenders, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women, women engaged in sex work/prostitution, and young girls. According to the interlocutors met, there has been a rise in the brutality of violence, as well as the number of cases of disappearance of women. Violence has been one of the root causes of migration by women.

(...)

B. Women experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination

61. There is lack of data on women experiencing intersecting forms of discrimination. Moreover, there is a lack of targeted policies and laws, and research on the needs of these women. During the visit, the experts met with the representatives of indigenous, Garífuna and Afro-Honduran women, peasant farmers and rural women, transgender women, women engaged in sex work/prostitution and women living with HIV. They also visited women's prison in Tegucigalpa. All these women recounted stories of discrimination, marginalization and exclusion. Lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women and women engaged in sex work/prostitution have been particularly vulnerable to violence, and transgender women, women engaged in sex work/prostitution and women living with HIV complained in particular of obstacles to accessing quality health services. The experts have tried to reflect these concerns throughout the report, and the focus in this section is on indigenous, Garífuna and Afro-Honduran women, rural women and incarcerated women.

66. The experts were informed during the visit that women requesting conjugal visits were subjected to various invasive procedures and medical checks, including tests for HIV and forced contraception, which often effectively prevented them from exercising that right. More stringent requirements for unmarried partners, coupled with the prohibition of samesex marriage, has discriminatory effects on unmarried and lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women prisoners. Furthermore, the experts were informed of a new set of rules of procedure for visiting people in prison adopted in 2016.³⁸ Visitors need to obtain several documents and fulfil numerous requirements to obtain a permit that lasts for only a few months and then has to be renewed. These documents are costly – they can amount to 3,000 lempiras (\$124) yearly – and disproportionately affect people living in poverty.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

A. Conclusions

(...)

68. Despite all these efforts, gender inequality persists. Women's living conditions have not improved and poverty, violence, insecurity and social exclusion still affect them significantly. Women are underrepresented in political and economic spheres, girls face significant barriers to access to quality education (including sexuality education) and there are many obstacles to access to quality and comprehensive health care. In particular, access to sexual and reproductive health is very restrictive; abortion is prohibited in all circumstances, as is emergency contraception. Certain categories of women are in a particularly disadvantageous position, such as indigenous, Garífuna and Afro-Honduran women, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women, rural women, women with disabilities and women living in poverty. Women in prison also face poor conditions and women human rights defenders are subjected to criminalization, violence, stigmatization and intimidation



(...)

B. Recommendations

(...)

(e) Eliminate violence, discrimination and stigmatization against lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex women, women with disabilities, women engaged in sex work/prostitution and women living with HIV and ensure their effective participation in political, civil, economic and social life and access to quality health services;

- [A/HRC/41/33/Add.2 Visit to Poland - Report of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice](#)

14. Some local authorities have developed their own models for equal treatment. Of particular note is the model in Gdańsk, which includes the grounds of sex, age, ethnic and national origin, religion or worldview, disability and sexual orientation and was developed through a broad consultation process. The Working Group considers this model to be a good practice that could be replicated by other municipalities and is concerned that it has been challenged by the regional governor. Local governments are also increasing funding for women's organizations and covering areas such as sexuality education and women's reproductive health. However, the Working Group learned that there is considerable disparity in terms of local governments' engagement in gender equality across the different regions of the country.

15. The Working Group stresses that gender equality and women's empowerment need to be addressed in a comprehensive manner both as a stand-alone goal and as cross-cutting concepts across all other development goals. The limited understanding of equality as equal treatment and the lack of explicit focus on addressing women's disadvantage in society undermine the potential for developing targeted gender equality measures. Therefore, the legal, policy and institutional framework should be strengthened, and particular attention should be paid to women who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, such as minority and migrant women, particularly Roma, women with disabilities, rural women, sex workers and lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women.

(...)

44. However, certain challenges remain in securing women's right to health, particularly for women facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. The Working Group learned that in certain places rural women still faced obstacles in their access to health services and health-care providers such as gynaecologists, for example due to geographical distance, and that women with disabilities, Roma women, sex workers and lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women have limited access to health services that are tailored to their needs. Access to health services is particularly difficult for migrants in irregular situations, who constitute the majority of sex workers, according to interlocutors.

(...)

57. The problem of gender stereotypes is widespread and deep-rooted but generally disregarded, according to various interlocutors. Research has demonstrated how the media,



the education system and the public discourse contribute to perpetrating stereotypical roles of women and their implied inferiority.^[1] International human rights treaty bodies have repeatedly expressed concerns about the persistence of harmful stereotypes and their adverse impact on the enjoyment by women of their human rights, and particularly the negative stereotypes of Roma women, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women and women with disabilities (see E/C.12/POL/CO/6 and CEDAW/C/POL/CO/7-8).

(...)

85. With regard to health, the Working Group recommends that the Government:

(a) Ensure full access to health-care services, including reproductive health care and tailored care to address the needs of adolescent girls, women with disabilities, sex workers, rural women and lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women;

- [A/HRC/41/34 - Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health](#)

19. Protecting mental health requires taking the measures necessary to prevent third party interference. Harmful practices such as “conversion therapy” for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, private centres or “camps” using religion instead of science to treat drug dependence or mental health struggles, and the outsized influence of pharmaceutical companies in the dissemination of biased information about mental health issues (see A/72/137) all require positive, protective action from the State. In many parts of the world, these practices are the result of a complex set of factors, including power imbalances that lead to biased use of evidence, a lack of investment in rights-based policies and services, and overreliance on coercive, punitive and overmedicalized measures. These practices also reflect a failure to fulfil right to health obligations: they demonstrate a lack of political will to support, replicate and sustain evidence-based social interventions that foster well-being, prevent discrimination and promote community inclusion.

55. Abusive relationships, gender-based violence, sexual abuse, violence against children and other forms of violence are closely associated with imbalances of power and restricted rights and freedoms, and with political, economic and cultural structures that determine conditions throughout a person’s lifetime at home, in schools, at work, in healthcare settings and in the community. Socioeconomic conditions that generate insecurity and fear for the future increase the risk of conflict between communities. These conditions are felt individually and collectively, and these experiences have intersectional implications, particularly for persons belonging to ethnic and racial minorities, indigenous communities, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, and persons with disabilities.

56. Relationships are also deeply influenced by scars of the past, such as historical injustices, the legacy of colonialism, racism, slavery and land appropriation, the subjugation of women and violations of sexual and reproductive rights, the historic oppression of the lesbian, gay,



bisexual, transgender and intersex community and the denial of the rights of children. Social trauma, such as systemic racism, violent conflict and displacement, can damage communities for generations. Poverty, inequality and power asymmetries make it difficult or even impossible to build and sustain relationships of mutual trust and respect. Reducing inequalities, systemic socioeconomic disadvantages, disempowerment, social exclusion, insecurity and displacement is a precondition for enabling respectful, non-violent relationships that support mental health.

- [A/HRC/41/34/Add.1 - Visit to Kyrgyzstan Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health*](#)

20. Kyrgyzstan underwent a review in the context of the universal periodic review in 2010 and 2015; the next review is scheduled for January 2020. During the most recent review in 2015 (see A/HRC/29/4), Kyrgyzstan was commended for, inter alia, its readiness to cooperate with international human rights mechanisms, the reforms initiated to implement recommendations made at the previous review and establishing a human rights coordinating council. Concerns raised included the increasing number of persons with HIV/AIDS, the growing number of children placed in care institutions owing to poverty, violence against women and against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, early marriage, bride-kidnapping and limited progress towards the reconciliation of ethnic groups.

(...)

22. The adoption of the Constitution in 2010 helped to strengthen human rights standards, although progress was restricted by the amendments approved in December 2016. The reference in article 6 to international human rights instruments taking precedence over other international instruments was removed, and article 16 was redrafted to suggest that fundamental rights and freedoms were part of the superior values of Kyrgyzstan, whereas previously they had been considered of superior value. In addition, the provision in article 36 allowing persons over the age of consent the right to marry and create a family was replaced with language suggesting that a family was created only upon the voluntary union of a man and a woman who had reached the age of consent and entered into marriage. This is a discriminatory and retrogressive provision that negatively affects the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

(...)

38. To address these issues, there is a clear need to invest significantly more in human resources, which should be a priority. Health-care personnel play an indispensable role in the realization of the right to health. They help to document and provide redress for human rights violations, such as violence and torture. In some cases, they are, intentionally or unintentionally, complicit in certain types of human rights abuses, for example when providing non-discriminatory services to all, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons or migrants and refugees.

(...)

45. Overall, any health-care system should address discrimination, which can undermine the full realization of the right to physical and mental health. The Special Rapporteur learned about



many cases of stigmatization and discriminatory attitudes based on different grounds among society at large, and among health-care personnel in particular. One particular example of discrimination related to sexual orientation and gender identity. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons are subjected to psychological violence, sexual abuse and physical harm by family members, law enforcement officials and healthcare personnel. This significantly affects their physical and mental integrity.

46. Such discriminatory practices are the result of a strongly patriarchal and conservative society, where issues that differ from the socially approved traditional norms, including those linked to sexual orientation and gender identity, are not accepted by social institutions, families or even government officials. This attitude is further reflected in the lack of national programmes specifically addressing the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and, in some cases, in the reluctance of public officials to cooperate with civil society organizations representing this community.

47. In 2017, Kyrgyzstan made a commendable step forward by issuing the Manual on Provision of Medical and Social Care for Transgender, Transsexual and Gender Nonconforming Persons, 19 for use by medical professionals at all levels of the national health-care system and at other national institutions. The aim of the manual is to help medical professionals to provide medical and psychological care and assessments, psychotherapeutic and social support and specialized medical care to transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming persons to maximize their overall physical and mental well-being. It also includes guidance on changing gender expression and making gender-affirming changes to the body, which may involve masculinization or feminization. Importantly, the manual stresses the need to change the gender marker in identity documents to give legal recognition to transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming persons, and the need to assist them in their social readaptation.

48. While the manual sets one of the most progressive standards in the Central Asian region, it is yet to be fully disseminated among health-care personnel and is yet to be effectively used in health-care centres. Testimonies gathered by the Special Rapporteur indicated that the most pressing challenges related to changing the gender marker in identity documents and addressing the remaining discriminatory attitudes among healthcare personnel. Informal payments may sometimes help to remove the barriers faced by transgender, transsexual and gender non-conforming persons in their access to health-care facilities, although they can rarely afford the high prices that are demanded.

(...)

85. Access to safe abortion for adolescents is a key element in the realization of the right to health, but it should not replace the need for access to modern contraceptive methods or to information on sexual and reproductive health at schools and health-care facilities at the community, local and national levels. Measures should be taken to raise adolescents' awareness of their rights to sexual and reproductive health and to the relevant services and goods. Furthermore, age-appropriate, comprehensive and inclusive education on sexuality, based on scientific evidence and human rights, should be part of the mandatory school curriculum. Special attention should be paid to relationships, sexuality, gender equality and identity and sex characteristics, including non-conforming gender identities, responsible parenthood and sexual behaviour, and preventing early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.



100. The Special Rapporteur recommends that the authorities in Kyrgyzstan:

(...)

(j) Disseminate and effectively implement the Manual on Provision of Medical and Social Care for Transgender, Transsexual and Gender Nonconforming People among medical professionals at all levels of the health-care system and among other institutions;

- [A/HRC/41/34/Add.2 Visit to Canada - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health](#)

91. Canada has made significant efforts regarding sexual and reproductive health rights. However, the Special Rapporteur received information about retrogressive measures, such as the elimination by the government of Ontario of the 2015 sexuality education curriculum in favour of reinstating a previous one that had reportedly missed key contents in terms of consent, challenging homophobia, Internet safety and information on a diversity of gender identities and sexual orientations.

- [A/HRC/41/35/ADD.1 Visit to Ecuador - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression](#)

41. The Special Rapporteurs reiterate that it is essential that the law guarantee genuine community media on terms under which communities do not have to compete with private actors according to the same criteria. Community radio, to be successful, requires government financial and training support so that local initiatives can ensure rural and indigenous peoples' access to information and communication. Community radio offers diverse groups, such as women and indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities, access to information that they might not otherwise obtain and, conversely, allows people who have been discriminated against historically to have a voice and to transmit important information affecting their communities.

(...)

84. The Special Rapporteurs call upon the relevant authorities to:

(...)

(c) Adequately and effectively prevent, investigate and punish unnecessary and excessive use of force by law enforcement officers, showing greater rigour when the force has been directed against vulnerable groups, taking account of the historical discrimination against them on the basis of their ethnicity, race, sex or sexual orientation, among other grounds;

- [A/HRC/41/38 - The impact of migration on migrant women and girls: a gender perspective Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants:](#)

14. The present study is focused on migrant women and girls, given that they are uniquely and disproportionately affected by gender-based discrimination, abuse and violence. The Special



Rapporteur seeks to examine migration through a gender lens, with a focus on relevant gender-based human rights concerns relating to migrant women and girls. He also looks into the root causes of women's migration, and the specific challenges that women and girls face at all the different stages of migration. He begins with the premise that gender intersects with other social issues, such as class or caste, migration status, nationality, ethnicity, age, disability, race, sexual orientation and gender identity. Taken together, a complex map of stratification emerges with its own dynamics of discrimination, exclusion or inclusion and power relations. Migrants are constantly entering and leaving those stratified societies, which explains why gender relations and issues are constantly changing and fluid concepts.

44. In countries of destination, regardless of their migratory status, migrant women encounter multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, not only as women and as migrants, but also on other grounds, including age, race and ethnicity, nationality, religion, marital and family status, sexual orientation and gender identity. As a result, they are at risk of abuse and exploitation. It is well documented that migrant women in general struggle in many countries to have their credentials recognized, which leads to “deskilling” as a result of being underemployed.

[...]

5. Specific challenges faced by migrant women belonging to the lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community

69. Within international human rights law, there is a well-established framework to promote respect for sexual orientation and gender identity. Consistently, human rights treaty bodies have affirmed that sexual orientation and gender identity, including gender expression, are prohibited grounds for discrimination, just like race, sex or religion. United Nations human rights mechanisms have also expressed concern with regard to human rights violations based on gender identity, including gender expression, and have called upon States to address such violations (see A/73/152).

70. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has exposed at length the many violations that lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons face around the globe: hate-motivated acts against their communities are widespread, brutal and often perpetrated with impunity. Lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons also have an increased risk of becoming victims of torture and ill-treatment, including in custody and in clinics and hospitals. The situation is further exacerbated by the fact that in many countries, the law is used to punish individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity, and to restrict their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly. Some countries still criminalize consensual same-sex relationships, and in at least seven countries the death penalty may be applied (see A/HRC/29/23).

71. Research has demonstrated that migrants who are members of the lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community often experience discrimination and stigmatization from both their own communities and from mainstream culture, in both their countries of origin and destination and along the migratory route. Those negative experiences may be compounded for transgender persons. For example, while in detention for irregular entry and stay, transgender women can be exposed to social isolation and be subjected to physical and sexual violence, because they are usually held with men. This approach is, in part, a reflection of the narrow scope of defining sexual violence and the limiting binary vision of “women victims and



men perpetrators”, which ignores the complex realities of sexual violence, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex victims.

- [A/HRC/41/40 - Internal displacement and the role of national human rights institutions Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of internally displaced persons](#)

72. National human rights institutions can assist IDPs to organize and mobilize to build or strengthen their ability to determine and realize their own priorities and gain access to relevant forums to shape and inform programme design and strategy rather than being passive recipients. They can promote transparent and inclusive processes for participation to ensure the inclusion of women and young people and vulnerable IDPs, including older persons, those with disabilities or members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual or intersex community, who face particular human rights concerns and have different needs, views and perspectives. In Colombia, the institution supports the strengthening of communities displaced or at risk of displacement and their organizations, with specific courses in public policy to promote the enforceability of the rights of IDPs and their participation in public policy processes.

- [A/HRC/41/41 Rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association](#)

48. Women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons are at particular risk of facing these attacks. For example, the Government of Egypt reportedly identified and arrested lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex activists by infiltrating and surveilling their activities on social media platform Grindr.⁶⁷ Authorities in Brazil used Tinder to form relationships and then conduct surveillance on women activists engaged in protests.⁶⁸ In Thailand, women human rights defenders were subjected to extensive discrediting, harassment campaigns and death threats in blogs and on social media.⁶⁹ These attacks take particular forms, which include the dissemination of doctored pictures, usually of a sexualized and gendered nature; the spreading of information designed to discredit, often full of harmful and negative gender stereotypes; violent hate messages and threatening messages on social networks, including calls for gang rape and for murder; and breaches of privacy, including hacking into family members’ computers and phones and exposing the phone number, the home address and personal and family photos. The mandate holder echoes the findings of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, that online abuse against women is a direct attack on women’s visibility and full participation in public life, and should be duly investigated and punished.

(...)

61. Policies and features on user privacy and security of communications can also affect the enjoyment of the rights of peaceful assembly and association. Only a few digital technology companies allow the use of pseudonyms or other ways to mask an individual’s identity, or provide for encrypted communications. The Special Rapporteur welcomes efforts made by social media platform Grindr to devise and introduce security features on its platform to help protect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon who face police harassment, torture and imprisonment.

(...)

A. Recommendations to States



(...)

71. Online association and assembly play a particularly important role for marginalized groups, and interference with the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association can have a disproportionate impact on individuals and groups in vulnerable positions. In fulfilling their obligations, States should pay particular attention to the disparate impact that limitations on access to and use of digital technologies can have on racial and religious minorities, political opponents and activists, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

- [A/HRC/41/41/Add.1 Observations on communications transmitted to Governments and replies received - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association](#)

Egypt

(...)

96. JUA Case no: EGY 4/2019 (Egypt), sent on 20 March 2019, no reply. Allegations concerning the arbitrary arrest and detention of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender, Ms. Malak Al-Kashif.

(...)

105. The Special Rapporteur notes with concern the case of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender Ms. Malak Al-Kashif, who was arrested on 6 March 2019 by National Security forces (EGY 4/2019). It is alleged that Ms. Al-Kashif was arrested in connection with her calls for protests following the Ramses Station train accident in Cairo, which occurred on 27 February 2019. After being interrogated, Ms. Al-Kashif was held by authorities in an unknown location for three consecutive days, and, on 10 March 2019, she was allegedly referred to a hospital for a medical examination, which included a coercive anal examination. Ms. Al-Khashif faces charges of “aiding a terrorist organisation” and “misusing social media to commit a crime punishable by law with the intention of disrupting public order”. According to allegations received, Ms. Al-Khashif’s case is not alone in this regard, and indeed over 60 cases of arbitrary arrest have occurred in relation to peaceful protests over the incident. Those arrested also face the same charges as Ms. AlKhashif. The Special Rapporteur stresses that the right to freedom of peaceful assembly must be guaranteed by the Government of Egypt, and an expression of collective will calling for solidarity and accountability should not be criminalised. He notes that public order offences are often used in order to criminalise assemblies and the Special Rapporteur urges the Government to Egypt to ensure that they are not used to prosecute people for the legitimate expression of their rights.

(...)

111. In Tunisia, Shams, an organisation which campaigns for the decriminalisation of homosexuality, has faced repeated obstacles to its registration as an association, which have been raised with the Government by the Special Rapporteur (TUN 4/2018). Although it fulfilled all necessary legal procedures for the official publication of the creation of the association in the Official Journal of the Tunisian Republic (Journal Officiel de la République Tunisienne or JORT), and despite the fact that its registration was confirmed by the Director General of Associations, the Official Printer of the Tunisian Republic, who edits the JORT, refused to publish this announcement. Such an announcement must be published in order for the organisation to be recognised as a legally constituted association. On 20 February 2019,



Shams was requested to appear before the Tunis Court of Appeals (TUN 2/2019). This request was a result of an appeal lodged by the Attorney General against a court decision in February 2016 which judged that the association was not in contravention of any law and which lifted a previous suspension imposed on the organisation in January 2016. The decision considered whether the organisation was in contravention of Article 230 of the Criminal Code which criminalises homosexuality. At the time of writing of the most recent communication on this matter, the registration of the organisation had still not been published in the JORT, preventing Shams from being considered as a legally constituted association.

(...)

Turkey

181. JAL Case no: TUR 12/2018 (Turkey), sent on 18 September 2018, reply received on 8 November 2018. Allegations concerning an indefinite ban on public LGBTI-related gatherings or events by the Governor of Ankara.

- [A/HRC/41/41/Add.3 Visit to Tunisia - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association](#)

117. Prendre des mesures législatives et administratives visant à protéger les défenseurs et défenseuses des droits de l'homme, en particulier ceux et celles qui travaillent sur des questions sensibles telles que les droits des minorités religieuses, l'orientation sexuelle et l'identité de genre, la gestion des ressources naturelles et la corruption.

- [A/HRC/41/41/Add.4 - Visit to Armenia Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association* , **](#)

5. The value of social movements

84. The Special Rapporteur believes that social movements have done remarkable work in bringing together a broad base of support, composed of students, youth, civil society members, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender groups, feminist movements, environmental activists, diaspora movements, academia, private sector actors, the media, politicians, musicians and celebrities.

(...)

B. Recommendations

(...)

(d) Ensure that there is no discrimination in the application of the laws governing the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, in particular regarding the groups most at risk, such as national and religious minorities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups, children and women;

(...)

(h) Ensure the safe exercise of the right to peaceful assembly by groups that are most at risk, such as national and religious minorities, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups, children and women.



- [A/HRC/41/42/Add.1 Visit to Canada - Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences](#)

20. The Canadian Human Rights Act (1977) provides protection against [harassment](#) or discrimination when based on one or more [grounds](#) such as race, age and sexual orientation.^[1] In 1996, it was amended to specifically include sexual orientation as one of the prohibited [grounds of discrimination](#). In 2000, the Parliament passed Bill C-23, which gives same-sex couple the same social and tax benefits as heterosexuals in common-law relationships. Bill C-38, the [Civil Marriage Act](#), in 2005, provided for same-sex couples to be married anywhere in Canada. Most provinces and territories have included sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination.^[2] In 2017, the Government amended the Canadian Human Rights Act and Criminal Code, making gender identity and expression a prohibited ground for discrimination.

(...)

34. Since the Royal Commission on the Status of Women tabled its landmark report in 1970, Canada has developed a multi-level national machinery for the advancement of women at the federal level, with a federal Minister on the Status of Women since 1971. In 2015, the first full Minister for Status of Women was appointed. The Minister acts within Cabinet to ensure women's contributions and concerns are part of government decision-making. In 2018, the Office of the Coordinator for the Status of Women was formally replaced by the Department for Women and Gender Equality. Departmental legislation introduces an expanded mandate to advance equality, including social, economic, and political equality, with respect to sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression. The Department is also responsible for promoting a greater understanding of the intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors that include race, national and ethnic origin, Indigenous origin or identity, age, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, place of residence and disability. Provincial and territorial governments also have Ministers responsible for the status of women and commensurate offices within the public service, and some have independent advisory councils. In addition, there is a FPT Forum of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women that meets annually.

- [A/HRC/41/43 Gender dimensions of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights - Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises](#)

2. The overall context of the report is provided by three main factors. First, as the Working Group noted in the report it submitted to the General Assembly at its seventysecond session, rights holders are not a homogenous group.¹ Therefore, measures to implement the Guiding Principles in the form of laws, regulations, policies, plans, practices and decisions must be responsive to differences among rights holders. Women experience adverse impacts of business activities differently and disproportionately. They may also face additional barriers in seeking access to effective remedies. Moreover, because of intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination, different women may be affected differently by business activities in view of their age, colour, caste, class, ethnicity, religion, language, literacy, access to economic



resources, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, residence in a rural location, and migration, indigenous or minority status.

(...)

9. The present report contains gender guidance for States and business enterprises in relation to all three pillars of the Guiding Principles. The term “gender” refers to socially constructed roles of and power relations among men, women and gender non-binary persons, all of whom may be affected differently by business activities. However, considering that women have historically been discriminated against owing to patriarchal norms and power structures, the guidance in the report focuses only on women, although the gender framework proposed herein could be used in relation to any group of rights holders. The guidance should be read together with other relevant standards, such as the standards of conduct for business, published by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, aimed at tackling discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, and the Children’s Rights and Business Principles.

(...)

21. The forms of discrimination noted above all reflect a failure to integrate a gender perspective in laws, regulations, policies, plans, practices, processes and decisions. The current general business practice of gender-neutral human rights due diligence is a case in point. 31 A gendered approach to decision-making by States and businesses should also consider the intersectional nature of discrimination. For example, a single mother, a migrant woman, a lesbian, a woman of colour and a woman with disability may experience discrimination and sexual harassment at work in varied ways.

(...)

23. In order to respect the internationally recognized rights of women, business enterprises should consider, among other instruments, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child relevant in all circumstances and throughout their operations.

(...)

(d) Business enterprises should be aware of the intertwined layers of discrimination faced by women because of intersectionality: different women may be affected differently by business activities owing to variables such as age, colour, caste, class, ethnicity, religion, language, literacy, access to economic resources, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, residence in a rural location, and migration, indigenous or minority status;

- [A/HRC/41/43/Add.1 Visit to Thailand - Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises](#)

67. Women and men are treated equally under the Constitution and other laws. However, during the visit, the Working Group learned that women continue to receive lower pay and to experience discrimination, sexual harassment and violence in the workplace. They face additional barriers to securing decision-making positions in both the public and private sectors. Women workers in certain settings and circumstances (for example, domestic workers, migrant workers and sex workers) experience specific obstacles that render them vulnerable to human rights abuses. The Working Group was also informed that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in Thailand face a range of forms of discrimination in availing themselves of services or finding employment.



68. The Working Group commends the Government of Thailand for enacting the Gender Equality Act of 2015, which prohibits discrimination based on sex or gender and extends protection to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.¹³ Under the Act, a fund to promote gender equality was created to support activities aimed at promoting gender equality and a committee dealing with complaints about unfair gender discrimination set up to investigate and provide remedies for gender-based discrimination. However, the lack of any complaints of sexual harassment or discrimination based on sex under the 2015 Act in over two years seems to indicate that the full potential of the new law is not being realized. The Government should therefore take additional steps to enhance awareness of the Gender Equality Act, including its complaint mechanism.

(...)

102. The Working Group recommends that civil society organizations:

(...)

(d) Engage in a multi-stakeholder process to contribute to the development of a national action plan on business and human rights and facilitate the full participation of all stakeholders, including ethnic groups, indigenous peoples, children, women, persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities;

- [A/HRC/41/43/Add.2 Visit to Kenya - Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises](#)

69. During their visits, the experts heard testimonies about stigmatization of and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in the workplace and when seeking employment. A comprehensive anti-discrimination legal framework to protect all individuals, irrespective of their sexual orientation or gender identity, is yet to be adopted.⁵⁶ In parallel, the private sector should take the necessary measures to combat discriminatory practices against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, in the light of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Standards of Conduct for Business on the issue.

(...)

86. The Working Group recommends that the Government:

(...)

(r) Step up efforts to address gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment in the workplace, including with a view to protecting all individuals, irrespective of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and adopt legislation criminalizing sexual harassment in the workplace and include sanctions for all perpetrators;

- [A/HRC/41/44/Add.2 Visit to the Netherlands - Report of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity](#)

20. The Independent Expert was informed that the budget of the Netherlands Human Rights Fund was being increased by €7.4 million in 2018 from the previous year (of which €5.4 million will be included in the First Supplementary Budget and €2 million in the Second Supplementary Budget), and by €9.6 million from 2019. Furthermore, the coalition agreement of the governing parties explicitly affirms the need to promote the international legal order and human rights in foreign policy. The Human Rights Fund specifically mentions a number of vulnerable groups: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, religious minorities and journalists.



The Government is also continuing existing efforts to defend freedom of expression, advance equal rights for women and girls, protect human rights defenders and promote the international legal order and the fight against impunity, in line with established international human rights policy.

(...)

26. The Netherlands also supports equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, focusing specifically on decriminalizing homosexuality, combating discrimination and violence and promoting social acceptance, in accordance with the coalition agreement.

- [!\[\]\(aca6fcc8bd95e8255b9ea1b1d08ef300_img.jpg\) A/HRC/41/45 Data collection and management as a means to create heightened awareness on violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity - Report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity](#)

This is the report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on data collection and management. We highly recommend reading it all in any of the available languages.

- [!\[\]\(79de0df6c6ddd2d4eb74f1cc5f48ec50_img.jpg\) A/HRC/41/45/Add.1 Visit to Georgia - Report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity](#)

This is the report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity on his visit to Georgia. We highly recommend reading it all in any of the available languages.

- [!\[\]\(e492b5d52ab457a7a3c2826c4091dfee_img.jpg\) A/HRC/41/45/Add.2 Visit to Mozambique - Report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity](#)

This is the report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity on his visit to Mozambique. We highly recommend reading it all in any of the available languages.

- [A/HRC/41/46 Trafficking in persons, especially women and children - Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children](#)

31. In addition to stigma, migrants who are victims of trafficking may also face xenophobia, intolerance and intersectional discrimination. States' obligations to prohibit discrimination on any grounds, including race, sex, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnicity, or any other status, such as migratory status or the status of victim of trafficking, should be enforced as a prerequisite to trafficked persons' social inclusion. The Special Rapporteur stresses that States, in cooperation with civil society, should provide trafficked persons with comprehensive and easily accessible and understandable information about assistance options at all times in their recovery. She notes with interest programmes such as the one provided in Germany through which refugees, including trafficking victims, can have access to migration



counselling and to integration courses, generally consisting of 600 hours of language training and 100 hours of cultural orientation. Cultural outreach allows trafficked persons to become acquainted with their rights, with cultural differences that may exist with their home countries, and with the means that may contribute to their social inclusion.

(...)

IV. Recommendations

A. To Member States:

(g) Revise any legislation or policies hampering social inclusion, including policies tying workers to a single employer, or preventing equal access to long-term empowerment measures, especially in respect of trafficked women and girls and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons; and adopt appropriate policies to ensure the birth registration of children born out of rape as a result of trafficking;

- [A/HRC/41/48 Independence of judges and lawyers - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers](#)

60. The Commentary on the Bangalore Principles (paras. 127, 135, 167–168 and 176) contains useful guidance on the issue of judges' membership in various organizations. A judge may be a member of a trade union or non-profit organization; however, there is no consensus at the international level on whether a judge has the right to be member of a political party (see paras. 65–75 below). Also, it would not be appropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that discriminates on the basis of race, religion, gender, national origin, ethnicity or sexual orientation, because such membership might give rise to the perception that the judge's impartiality is impaired.

- [A/HRC/41/49 Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises on the seventh Forum on Business and Human Rights](#)

71. Over 200 of the world's largest companies have publicly expressed support for the Standards of Conduct for Business with regard to discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. This development was addressed in a dedicated Forum session, at which participants discussed how bridges could continue to be built between activists and the private sector and how mutual trust and accountability could be created.¹⁸

ITEM 4: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS THAT REQUIRE THE COUNCIL'S ATTENTION

- [A/HRC/41/52 Situation of human rights in Belarus - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus](#)

7. The information collected also shows a heavy-handed and punitive approach towards marginalized groups, such as people suffering from addiction or the unemployed. Individuals, including children, arrested for drug-related offences are sentenced to disproportionately long terms in prison. Parents who are unemployed, suffer from addiction or have committed minor administrative offences can see their children taken away by social services. Unemployed individuals have to pay higher prices for utilities and are forced to accept any employment offered to them or risk being sent to labour treatment centres. This severe approach has a



negative impact on already vulnerable and socially or economically disadvantaged individuals. However, anyone can potentially be impacted by such measures. The Special Rapporteur also notes that several groups, such as Roma, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community or people living with HIV, continue to be discriminated against.

48. Article 23.34 of the Code of Administrative Offences continues to be widely used and human rights defenders, activists and simple protesters are repeatedly fined for “breaching the order of organizing or conducting mass events”. In the reporting period, article 23.34 was used in 141 cases against 98 individuals. It is even applied to one-person pickets or other forms of individual protest, including artistic performances. On 16 July 2018, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex activist Viktorija Biran was fined for posing for a picture while holding a poster with the words “You are fake” in front of three different governmental buildings. Her action was planned in protest at a statement put out by the Ministry of the Interior condemning the British Embassy for having hoisted a rainbow flag above the Embassy on the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.

(...)

Sexual orientation

65. The systematic restrictions on freedom of expression, assembly and association mentioned above also lead to discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community. Public display of symbols or public statements in support of the community are usually repressed and followed by homophobic reactions and statements by the population and by State officials. For example, on 20 May 2018 the Ministry of Internal Affairs published an article entitled “We are for true things” containing homophobic content and calling same-sex relationships “fake”. The article was published in reaction to the rainbow flag hoisted above the British Embassy building in Minsk on 17 May 2018. In an interview on national television, the Minister of the Interior then reiterated homophobic statements. Human rights activists urged that the Minister be held accountable for inciting discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community but all appeals were rejected.

66. That event resulted in a chain reaction of activists protesting and further repression by the police. On 28 June 2018, activists placed rainbow-coloured flower pots near the statue of a policeman before being interrupted and detained by the police. On 21 July, the police raided a night club in which members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community were gathered, requested people’s documents, took note of their passport details and asked about their employers. One of the visitors to the club asked why his details were being taken but received no answer. Police officers subsequently twisted his arm almost breaking it and took him to the police station. The police justified this as a regular inspection of places of mass gathering in order to identify any possible offences. Later in 2018, three members of the Belarus Free Theatre were arrested and fined for dancing dressed as police officers with rainbow-coloured epaulettes in a public performance.

67. Belarus legislation does not have any laws specifically protecting sexual minorities from discrimination. Article 64.9 of the Criminal Code foresees aggravating circumstances for crimes motivated by “hatred or hostility towards any social group”. However, the term “social group” is very vague and prosecutions taking into account the article in regard to members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community are reported as rare.



68. More generally, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community can find it hard to access services without discrimination. Information received indicates that such youth can face domestic violence from their parents and are afraid to access services for legal or psychological support, fearing further abuse or discrimination from the authorities.

69. The Special Rapporteur notes the resilience of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community in the face of discrimination. After many failed attempts, the nongovernmental organization “Make Out” was finally registered in 2018. 81 Despite this positive step, a lot remains to be done at the societal level and within governmental structures to prevent and address discrimination and harassment of members of sexual minorities.

(...)

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

(...)

95. The Special Rapporteur recommends that the Government of Belarus:

(...)

(m) Take the necessary measures to protect and prevent discrimination against members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community and ensure that they can exercise their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly without fear of harassment;

- [A/HRC/41/53 Situation of human rights in Eritrea - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea](#)

45. The Special Rapporteur takes note of the efforts of the Government to address gender-based violence. She welcomes its efforts to ban harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation, and to end child marriage. She notes, however, that gender-based discrimination and violence against women remain widespread in Eritrea. She highlights that Eritrea lacks a comprehensive framework to address violence against women, including criminal provisions addressing all forms of sexual and gender-based violence and providing adequate legal remedy to victims. She also notes that the Government has not yet adopted a national action plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). The Special Rapporteur further notes that the 2015 Criminal Code bans same-sex relations, which fails to respect and protect the rights of individuals with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions. The Special Rapporteur encourages the Government to adopt a comprehensive policy and appropriate legislation to criminalize and eradicate all forms of gender-based violence and promote gender equality



ITEM 5: HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES AND MECHANISMS



ITEM 6: UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

- Afghanistan: received no SOGIESC recommendations.
- Cambodia: received 9 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Chile: received 7 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Comoros: received 5 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Cyprus: received 8 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Dominican Republic: received 10 SOGIESC recommendation and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Eritrea: received 1 SOGIESC recommendation and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- New Zealand: received 3 SOGIESC recommendation and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Slovakia: received 10 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: received 14 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Uruguay: received 5 SOGIESC recommendations. It accepted all 5 recommendations.
- Vanuatu: received 6 SOGIESC recommendations. It noted all of them.
- Viet Nam: received 7 SOGIESC recommendations and will respond by the 41st Human Rights Council session (July 2019)
- Yemen: received no SOGIESC recommendations.

If you want to know exactly what happened or find updated information on the Working Group Sessions and the UPR outcomes, check out ILGA's complete and updated Report for the [32nd UPR Working Group Session](#).



ITEM 7: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES



ITEM 8: FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION



ITEM 9: RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED FORMS OF INTOLERANCE, FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DURBAN DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION

- [A/HRC/41/54/Add.1 Visit to Morocco - Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance](#)

50. In one consultation, the Special Rapporteur learned that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were especially vulnerable to human rights violations on account of their sexual orientation and gender identity. In this context, she highlights the importance of an intersectional approach, and recalls that racial equality and non-discrimination must be guaranteed for all, irrespective of sexual orientation and gender identity.

(...)

IV. Conclusion and recommendations

(...)

85. Provide emergency humanitarian support for all persons experiencing grave human rights violations in the migration context, irrespective of race, ethnicity, national origin, descent, or immigration status, especially for those at risk of intersectional discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability or other status.

- [A/HRC/41/54/Add.4 Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on his visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Comments by the State](#)

7.

Para 10: Under UK legislation, all races have equal protection and all faiths have equal protection. While there is not complete parity between race and faith, in the hate crime legislation framework with regard to incitement offences, these are used very infrequently. They require Attorney-General approval to prosecute, so in practice there is little legislative difference between race and faith. Furthermore, as announced in October 2018 the Law Commission will be reviewing the adequacy of protection offered by hate crime legislation. This project is underway, and a consultation paper will be published in early 2020. Parts 3/3A of the Public Order Act 1986, covering stirring up offences, sets out the nature of offending behaviour. The key elements are summarised below. This distinction was established by parliament following a debate on free-speech and in consideration of representation from civil society.

Stirring up hatred on the grounds of: Race, Religion and Sexual Orientation

- Threatening, insulting or abusive
- Intended to or is likely to stir up hatred

Religion and Sexual Orientation

- Threatening
- Intended to stir up hatred

(...)

75. The public order offences of “stirring up hatred” focus both on hatred itself and the intention or likely effect of the action in question. The number of prosecutions for the stirring up of hatred is much lower than for other hate related offences, due to higher evidential



thresholds and the need to consider an individual's right to freedom of expression. Potential cases are referred to the Special Crime and Counter Terrorism Division by CPS. Areas in line with the CPS Legal Guidance on Prosecuting Cases of Racist or Religious Crime and on Stirring up Hatred on the Grounds of Sexual Orientation.



ITEM 10: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

[A/HRC/41/21 - National policies and human rights: a compilation of good practices, challenges, lessons learned and recommendations in mainstreaming human rights - Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)

31. Timor-Leste is among the youngest nations in Asia, with 62 per cent of the population under the age of 25. The country is committed to transforming the existing youth bulge into a “demographic dividend” by 2030, and in 2016 adopted a National Youth Policy. The United Nations, with technical advice from the Human Rights Adviser, is supporting implementation of the 2016 National Youth Policy. The policy gives specific attention to youth with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex youth and works to increase access to education, health services and employment, as well as to tackle discrimination and violence.

(...)

46. Given this, there are a number of national policies aimed at both securing economic, social and cultural rights and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2017, South Africa launched a national HIV plan aimed at significantly reducing infection rates, discrimination and stigma by providing information, psychosocial support and treatment to all members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community.¹⁶ Regarding the rights of persons with disabilities in Guatemala, OHCHR provided technical assistance to the State on a draft law on mental health. OHCHR Guatemala made recommendations on the labour inclusion of persons with disabilities and prepared an initial mapping of draft laws related to the rights of persons with disabilities. The Guatemala office also provided support to the Government to ensure that legislation and policy increasingly complies with international human rights norms in relation to the rights to food, housing and land.

REPORTS THAT DO NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES

- A/HRC/41/18 - Human rights situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- A/HRC/41/18/ADD.1 Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Situation of Human Rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela - Comments by the State
- A/HRC/41/19 - Child, Early And Forced Marriage In Humanitarian Settings - Report Of The United Nations High Commissioner For Human Rights
- A/HRC/41/20 - Summary of the expert workshop on good practices of United Nations-system support to States in preventing and fighting against corruption, with a focus on human rights - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- A/HRC/41/23 Approaches and challenges with regard to application procedures for obtaining the status of conscientious objector to military service in accordance with human rights standards - Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

- A/HRC/41/25 - Implementation and enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- A/HRC/41/28 Operations of the Voluntary Fund for participation in the universal periodic review - Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- A/HRC/41/30 Consultation on the experiences and practices of national human rights institutions in working to support the establishment and maintenance of inclusive societies and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- A/HRC/41/31 - Report of the team of international experts on the situation in Kasai
- A/HRC/41/33/Add.3 Informe del Grupo de Trabajo sobre la cuestión de la discriminación contra la mujer, en la legislación y en la práctica, en relación con su visita a Honduras del 1 al 14 de noviembre de 2018. 5 de abril del 2019 - comentarios formulados por el Estado
- A/HRC/41/33/Add.4 Report of the Report of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice on its visit to Poland - comments by the State
- A/HRC/41/34/Add.3 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health on his visit to Kyrgyzstan - Comments from the State
- /HRC/41/35/ADD.2 Follow-up on country visits - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
- A/HRC/41/35/ADD.3 Overview of submissions received in preparation of A/HRC/41/35 - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
- A/HRC/41/35/ADD.4 Summary of an Experts consultation on A/HRC/41/35 - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
- A/HRC/41/36 Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions - Report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions
- A/HRC/41/37 - Right to education: the implementation of the right to education and Sustainable Development Goal 4 in the context of the growth of private actors in education - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education
- A/HRC/41/38/Add.1 - Visit to the Niger - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants
- A/HRC/41/39 Extreme poverty and human rights - Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights
- A/HRC/41/39/Add.1 - Visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights
- A/HRC/41/39/Add.2 Visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic - Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights
- A/HRC/41/39/Add.3 - Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on his visit to United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Comments by the State

- A/HRC/41/39/Add.4 Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights on his visit to Lao People's Democratic Republic - Comments by the State
- A/HRC/41/40/Add.1 Global and national activities under the twentieth anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons
- A/HRC/41/41/Add.2 Civil society participation in the implementation of Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
- A/HRC/41/42 - Violence against women, its causes and consequences - Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences
- A/HRC/41/42/Add.3 Report of Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences on her country visit to Canada from 13 to 23 April 2018 - Comments by the State
- A/HRC/41/43/Add.3 Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises on its visit to Thailand Comments by the State
- A/HRC/41/44 Human rights and international solidarity - Report of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity
- A/HRC/41/44/Add.1 - Visit to Sweden - Report of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity
- A/HRC/41/46/Add.1 - Visit to Nigeria - Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children
- A/HRC/41/47 - Stigmatization as dehumanization: wrongful stereotyping and structural violence against women and children affected by leprosy - Report of the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members
- A/HRC/41/50 - Contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights - Study of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee
- A/HRC/41/51 - Activities of vulture funds and their impact on human rights - Final report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee
- A/HRC/41/54 Global extractivism and racial equality - Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
- A/HRC/41/54/Add.2 Visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
- A/HRC/41/54/Add.3 Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on his visit to Morocco - Comments by the State
- A/HRC/41/55 - Combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance - Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance