

The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association – ILGA World and the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) have compiled a series of factsheets highlighting the work that UN special procedures – independent human rights experts, appointed to monitor and report on human rights violations – have undertaken to defend the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons. The factsheets compile the references and recommendations made by these experts to LGBTI persons, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). They cover all thematic reports, country visit reports, and communications published between January 2011 and November 2019.



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## SPECIAL RAPPOREUR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, ITS CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

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**Dr. DUBRAVKA ŠIMONOVIĆ (CROATIA)**

Since August 2015 (until June 2021)

FORMER SPECIAL RAPPOREURS:

- Ms. Rashida MANJOO (South Africa),  
2009 - 2015

- Ms. Yakin ERTÜRK (Turkey),  
2003 - 2009

- Ms. Radhika COOMARASWAMY (Sri Lanka),  
1994 - 2003



EMAIL



WEBSITE

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## WORK SUMMARY

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### COUNTRIES VISITED

#### ADDRESSES SOGIESC ISSUES:

- **Nepal** – (November 2018) Report, paras. 65, 69, 81c.
- **Canada** – (April 2018) Report, paras. 20, 34, 50, 52, 55, 90, 95k, 95n, 95ix.
  - **Bahamas** – (December 2017) Report, paras. 23, 36.
  - **Australia** – (February 2017) Report, para. 96.
- **Argentina** – (November 2016) Report, paras. 12, 17, 18, 34-38, 49, 82b.
  - **Georgia** – (February 2016) Report, paras. 42, 52.
- **South Africa** – (December 2015) Report, paras. 11, 33, 34, 41-43, 48, 72, 82 (1c, 2k & 4a).
  - **Honduras** – (July 2014) Report, paras. 17, 38.
- **United Kingdom** – (March/April 2014) Report, paras. 13, 66, 93, 106, 107b(ii).
  - **Azerbaijan** – (December 2013) Report, paras. 79, 87c.
  - **India** – (April 2013) Report, paras. 7, 19, 50, 78.
  - **Croatia** – (November 2012) Report, paras. 22, 23, 24, 31.
- **Bosnia & Herzegovina** – (October/November 2012) Report, paras. 31, 32.
  - **Italy** – (January 2012) Report, paras. 1, 35.

DOES NOT ADDRESS SOGIESC ISSUES:

- Palestine (September 2016)
- Israel (September 2016)
- Sudan (May 2015)
- Afghanistan (November 2014)
- Bangladesh (May 2013)
- Papua New Guinea (March 2012)
- Solomon Islands (March 2012)
- Somalia (December 2011)
- Jordan (November 2011)
- United States (January/February 2011)

**ANNUAL THEMATIC REPORTS**

**A human rights-based approach to mistreatment and violence against women in reproductive health services with a focus on childbirth and obstetric violence**

July 2019 (74th Session General Assembly (GA))

No SOGIESC references.

**Twenty-five years of the mandate: an analysis of its evolution, current challenges and the way forward**

June 2019 (41st Session Human Rights Council (HRC))

No SOGIESC references.

**Violence against women in politics**

August 2018 (73th Session GA)

Brief reference to LGBTI.  
(LGBTI activists among the groups of women in politics who may be more exposed to risks of gender-based violence.)  
Para. 10.

**Online violence against women and girls**

June 2018 (38th Session HRC)

Good references to SOGIE, SOGI and LGBT.  
(SOGIE-based discrimination affecting access of women to technology; LBT women among the groups of women that are particularly targeted by ICT-facilitated violence; particular importance of online anonymity for those facing discrimination and persecution based on SOGI.)  
Paras. 28, 60.

**Adequacy of the international legal framework on violence against women**

July 2017 (72nd Session GA)

Brief reference to LGBT.  
(LGBT persons listed among the groups of women violence against whom should be addressed by more regulations, according to civil society).  
Para. 34.

**A human rights-based approach to integrated services and protection measures on violence against women, with a focus on shelters and protection orders**

June 2017 (35th Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

**Modalities for the establishment of femicide/gender-related killings watch**  
September 2016 (71st Session GA)

Brief references to LBT and SO.  
(Underreporting of the murders of LBT women mentioned by the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women; the importance of tracking the victim's sexual orientation, among other categories.)  
Paras. 57, 59.

**Vision-setting report**  
June 2016 (32nd Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

**Closing the gap in international human rights law: lessons from three regional human rights systems on legal standards and practices regarding violence against women**  
July 2015 (70th Session GA)

Brief reference to SO.  
(Prohibition of SO-based discrimination among the debated topics during the negotiation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.)  
Para. 12.

**Existing legal standards and practices regarding violence against women in three regional human rights systems**  
June 2015 (29th Session HRC)

Brief reference to SO.  
(Prohibition of SO-based discrimination among the debated topics during the negotiation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.)  
Para. 13.

**Violence against women as a barrier to the effective realization of all human rights**  
September 2014 (69th Session GA)

No SOGIESC references.

**Violence against women: 20 years of developments within the UN**  
June 2014 (26th Session HRC)

Brief references to SOGI.  
(CSW discussions; HRC resolution; violence and intersecting factors.)  
Paras. 18, 28, 60.

**Pathways to, conditions and consequences of incarceration for women**  
August 2013 (68th Session GA)

Strong references to LGBTI.  
(A separate chapter on LGBTI persons in prison; examples of LGBT persons'/defenders' arrests in Iran.)  
Paras. 28, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63.

**State responsibility for eliminating violence against women**  
June 2013 (23rd Session HRC)

No SOGIESC references.

**Violence against women with disabilities**  
August 2012 (67th Session GA)

Good SOGI references.  
(SOGI in the context of multiple forms of discrimination; problems faced by "lesbians and other sexual minorities who identify as female" with disabilities.)  
Paras. 13, 27.

**Gender-related killings of women**  
June 2012 (20th Session HRC)

Strong references to SOGI and LGBTIQ.  
(A separate section on “Killings as a result of SO and GI”;  
other references to SOGI/LGBTIQ in the context of  
violence.)  
Paras. 16, 18, 26, 53, 55, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 93.

**Continuum of violence against women from the home to the transnational sphere: the challenges of effective redress**  
August 2011 (66th Session GA)

Strong references to SOGI, LBT, LGBTI.  
(Discrimination, stalking and violence, including statistics  
and case examples.)  
Paras. 33, 36, 84.

**Multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence against women**  
June 2011 (17th Session HRC)

Strong references to SO, SOGI.  
(Several mentions of sexuality, SO and GI among  
protected grounds; risk of violence; risk of long-term  
health consequences.)  
Paras. 22, 47, 51, 58, 67, 73, 76, 104.

## COMMUNICATIONS

COUNTRY/DATE	EXPERTS	SITUATION
<b>Kazakhstan</b> 22 July 2019	Independence of judges and lawyers Privacy SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning acts of harassment and discrimination directed towards a young lesbian couple and the unauthorized filming and posting of a video in social media, affecting their right to privacy.
<b>Mauritius</b> 3 May 2019	Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women	Information received concerning the physical and verbal assault of members of the LGBT community and of two LGBT human rights defenders associated with the Collectif Arc-En-Ciel, including Ms. Sandrine Julien.
<b>Armenia</b> 18 April 2019	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women	Information received concerning online harassment and hate speech against woman human rights defender Ms. Lara Aharonian and trans human rights defender Ms. Lilit Martirosyan.
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b> 1 April 2019	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of religion SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the criminalisation of adultery and consensual same-sex relations and the imposition of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments for such acts, including stoning, whipping and amputation.
<b>Egypt</b> 20 March 2019	Arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Information received concerning the alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of transgender woman and LGBTIQ human rights defender, Ms. Malak Al-Kashif.

<p><b>Russian Federation</b> 11 February 2019</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received in connection with allegations of new acts of persecution against people who are or are perceived to be gay, bisexual or lesbian in Chechnya.</p>
<p><b>Honduras</b> 9 January 2019</p>	<p>Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received in relation to threats directed against the human rights defender, Ms. Indyra Mendoza.</p>
<p><b>Brazil</b> 31 December 2018</p>	<p>African descent Extrajudicial executions Foreign debt Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Follow-up to the communication on the murders of Ms. Marielle Franco and her driver.</p>
<p><b>Canada</b> 19 December 2018</p>	<p>Cultural Rights Disability Education Freedom of opinion and expression Health SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning changes to the sexuality education curriculum of the Province of Ontario. The Ontario Minister of Education announced that the Province's schools would be returning to teaching a sexuality education curriculum first promulgated in 1998, replacing the one adopted in 2015. The Premier of Ontario declared that any teachers who continued teaching the curriculum of 2015 would be sanctioned. The differences between the two curriculum include, in particular: discussion in the curriculum of 2015 of differences among people such as sexual orientation and gender identity and the need for acceptance and appreciation of diversity along with further discussion around sexual orientation and gender identity in the curriculum for grades 6-8; and the inclusion of the words "gay", "lesbian", "transgender", and "cyberbullying" that are lacking in the 1998 curriculum.</p>

<p><b>Malaysia</b> 16 November 2018</p>	<p>SOGI Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received concerning the criminalization of consensual sexual relations between adults and the application of punishments for such acts that are contrary to the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.</p>
<p><b>Brazil</b> 22 March 2018</p>	<p>African descent Extrajudicial executions Foreign debt Housing Human rights defenders Poverty Racism SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Killing of Marielle Franco and her driver on 14 March 2018. Franco was an Afro-Brazilian human rights defender working for the rights of women, people of African descent, LGBT people, young people in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro and socially excluded communities. She identified herself as a woman, as a feminist, as black, as favelada, as bisexual and as married to another woman.</p>
<p><b>Honduras</b> 9 March 2018</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression SOGI Torture Violence against women</p>	<p>Information received in connection with the recent murder of a transgender woman, Jennifer Cristal López (José Denis Ramos Gámes) and a gay man, Jorge Antonio Rodas García, in Puerto Cortés.</p>
<p><b>Honduras</b> 10 July 2017</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received in connection with the recent murder, in the vicinity of the capital, Tegucigalpa, of a transsexual woman, who was also an LGBTI rights activist, Ms. Sherlyn Montoya.</p>
<p><b>El Salvador</b> 26 May 2017</p>	<p>Extrajudicial executions Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders SOGI Violence against women Women in law and in practice</p>	<p>Information received regarding 3 murders of trans women in San Luis Talpa, as well as allegations of acts of intimidation and threats, including acts of extortion against a human rights defender.</p>
<p><b>Brunei Darussalam</b> 25 September 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Independence of judges and lawyers Torture Violence against women</p>	<p>The 2013 Shariah Penal Code Order: mandatory death penalty for some non-violent acts, including same-sex relations.</p>
<p><b>Egypt</b> 17 April 2014</p>	<p>Arbitrary detention Independence of judges and lawyers Torture Violence against women</p>	<p>Alleged arrest, detention, conviction and sentencing of four individuals on the sole basis of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.</p>
<p><b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</b> 7 Feb 2014</p>	<p>Cultural rights Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Human rights defenders Violence against women</p>	<p>Alleged violent disruption of the Queer Festival Merlinka in Sarajevo.</p>

<b>Kuwait</b> 5 February 2014	Arbitrary detention Violence against women Women in law and in practice	Allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention of a Kuwaiti national on the basis of her gender identity and expression. She was reportedly charged with “imitation of the opposite sex”, which is a criminal offence under Amendment 198 of the Kuwaiti Penal Code.
<b>Iran</b> 28 June 2013	Extrajudicial executions Freedom of religion Iran Torture Violence against women Women in law and in practice	The revised Islamic Penal Code: death penalty for some non-violent acts, including “for sodomy for the non-Muslim party in same-sex relations.”
<b>Nepal</b> 14 Sep 2012	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom of assembly and association Health Human rights defenders Violence against women	Alleged undue delays in registration proceedings of a non-governmental organization, and alleged instances of harassment and arbitrary arrest on the part of the authorities against LGBT individuals.
<b>Nepal</b> 28 March 2013	Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Violence against women	Alleged intimidation of and threats against women and LGBTI human rights defenders, reportedly as a result of their support of a victim of domestic violence, following her self-identification as a lesbian.
<b>Turkey</b> 30 Nov 2011	Human rights defenders Violence against women	Alleged arbitrary arrest and sentencing of three women human rights defenders and members of the Pink Life Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transvestite and Transsexual Solidarity Association.
<b>United States</b> 19 Aug 2011	Health Migrants Torture Violence against women	Alleged torture and ill-treatment towards 16 gay and transgender individuals in immigration facilities.
<b>Honduras</b> 18 May 2011	Executions Violence against women	Alleged murders of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and transvestite people during the course of 18 months in the country.
<b>South Africa</b> 18 May 2011	Freedom of opinion and expression Human rights defenders Torture Violence against women	Alleged “corrective” rape of a lesbian woman.