



PacificMUN 2017

LEGAL

Backgrounder Guide

Topic A: LGBTQ Rights



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Dare to Speak | February 24–26 2017

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Welcome all delegates,

My name is Adam Mawji and I will be serving as the director of LEGAL for PacificMUN 2017. Currently, I am a Grade 10 Student at Southpointe Academy and this conference will be the first Model United Nations (MUN) conference that I will staff. Serving as Assistant Director is Katie Philips, who is a Grade 12 student at Little Flower Academy. Having been part of the MUN community since Grade 9, this conference will be Katie's second staffing experience. Matthew Remedios will be serving as the Chair of LEGAL. He attends Vancouver College and is in Grade 12. PacificMUN will be his fifth MUN staffing experience, and Matthew has been in Model UN since Grade 10. We are all very excited to meet each of you as delegates and look forward to hearing an exciting debate in our committee. We will do everything we can to ensure that PacificMUN will be a conference to remember, but in order to have the best experience possible, it is critical to research your topic well and be prepared to support your country's stances in the committee sessions to enhance the debate.

With regards to the upcoming conference, the staff team of LEGAL hopes to see thorough preparation from all delegates. With regards to both topics, we hope to see strong substantial debates inspired by differences of political stances between countries with varying levels of socioeconomic development and cultural values. We would like to encourage delegates to choose countries whose political stances do not necessarily align with that of the delegate's own. This will provide you with a significant challenge as it will to expand your horizons by looking through alternate viewpoints on issues that you may have your own set opinions on. The staff looks forward to seeing topics covered extensively through passionate debate, and new ideas being brought from different viewpoints.

Best of luck and kind regards,
Your LEGAL Staff Team



PacificMUN 2017

Committee Overview

LEGAL acts as the main UN organ for discussing legal questions in the General Assembly. The LEGAL committee is the Sixth General Assembly that generally meets on an annual basis usually between September and late November. As a general assembly, all UN Member States are entitled to a voice in LEGAL. Unlike most general assemblies, the committee rarely passes resolutions through the standard voting procedure but most often passes resolutions unanimously. The Sixth Committee has the power to pass resolutions and provide recommendations to all other UN organs. This power does not apply to recommendations of peace and security which is left for the Security Council.

Established in 1946, the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) was created as a department in the United Nations (UN). However in 1954, it was established in its own office. In 1967, the International Trade Law Branch was created to manage the exporting and importing of trade goods between nations, and to place a standard set of laws for the international community. By 1992, the Office for Ocean Affairs had broken off, leaving the Office of Legal Affairs which we have today. In respect to the international community, LEGAL deals with a variety of social and political issues that impact the global community. LEGAL's governance extends over all organs of the UN and all 193 nations involved with LEGAL.

The most recent meeting of LEGAL will be at the seventy-first meeting of the Sixth General Assembly from October 3rd to November 2nd where a myriad of topics are to be discussed such as "Measures to eliminate international terrorism" (October 3 - 4); and "The law of transboundary aquifers" ¹(October 20). This weekend, you will be tasked with maintaining society in a legal manner with regards to two important topics: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Rights and Electronic Privacy Rights.

¹ Provisional Agenda for the Fifty-sixth Session." Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2014): 22. Web. 31 July 2016



PacificMUN 2017

Topic Introduction

"It takes no compromise to give their rights. It takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no political deal to give people freedom. It takes no survey to remove oppression."

-Harvey Milk

Throughout history, with particular relevance in the modern international society, the topic of LGBTQ rights has grown in both importance and controversy. While many developed nations have granted and ensured equal rights for the LGBTQ community, a considerable number of countries not only deny equal rights for all LGBTQ people, but also persecute them. Across all nations, many people carry strong negative views on LGBTQ people. The discrimination of LGBTQ people stems from multiple reasons. For example, on an international basis, identifying yourself as a member of the LGBTQ community carries a negative connotation amongst many people. Another major cause for discrimination harkens back to many religious groups and beliefs that strongly disagree with people identifying as LGBTQ, especially with people who identify as Lesbian and Gay. A popular example is the Southwest Baptist Church's views against Gay and Lesbian people.² We hope to see advancement in discussion throughout the conference progressing and combatting LGBTQ discrimination and ensuring their equal rights.

² "Southern Baptist Convention." "On "Same-Sex Marriage" And Civil Rights Rhetoric." N.p.,



1440 -1400 B.C.E: Christian Book of Leviticus

The Book of Leviticus was a Christian holy book written as messages from God leading the Christian people. Passages from the Leviticus have sparked much controversy over the rules and is also a primary factor in Christian religious groups discriminating against same-sex couples. From the passages Leviticus 18:22 and Leviticus 20:13 the discriminations against same-sex couples arises. Respectively, the passages quote, "You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination." (18:22) and "If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them." (20:13)

1897: Founding of Scientific-Humanitarian Organization

The first gay rights organization was the Scientific Humanitarian Organization. Founded by Magnus Hirschfeld on May 15th, 1897³, the Berlin-based organization is documented to be the first organization for gay equality. It was the most important gay and lesbian right organization in the world until it was suppressed by the Nazi Party.

The 1940s: World War II Pink Triangle

In the 1940's the LGBTQ community in Nazi Europe suffered extreme persecution with many cases of people who identify as gay being treated, at times, worse than the Jewish People in Auschwitz. To identify Homosexual prisoners, Nazi's would place a pink triangle on their prisoner's uniforms. In doing so, the Nazi's created a new symbol with a negative connotation that sparked hatred in Germany.

June 28, 1970: First LGBT Pride Parade

In the last week of June 1970, the Mattachine Society led the first multi-street Pride Parade in New York City. After a year of planning and organization, the first ever Pride Parade was held in one the world's most famous cities. The parade was one of the most notable and vibrant displays of LGBTQ Pride in the world. In modern developed society, Pride Parades and festivals are held on an annual basis involving supporters and members of the LGBTQ community.

1979: The Formation of The Gay and Lesbian Asian Alliance

The Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Asians in the Asia Pacific region was formed to ensure that LGBTQ people in the Asia Pacific are granted equal rights. The movement was also to foster communications within the LGBTQ communities throughout the Asia Pacific. While

³ "Scientific-Humanitarian Committee Formed in Berlin · Outhistory.org." Omeka RSS. N.p., n.d. Web. 31 July 2016.



PacificMUN 2017

Timeline

communications were being fostered, new laws were being passed in the post-World War II era and the Alliance, along with a myriad of other Asian LGBTQ rights organization were able to contribute and voice their opinions.

1989: Denmark's Registered Partnership Act

Denmark was the first country to recognize unions between couples of the same sex, although they were not granted all the rights of a married couple. They could not be married in the Danish State Church or adopt children.⁴

2001: The Netherlands became the first country to legalize same-sex marriage

Amsterdam's mayor, Job Cohen, married Anne-Marie Thus and Helene Faasen on April 1, 2001, making them the first legally married same-sex couple⁵. Same-sex couples in the Netherlands were granted all the rights and obligations of heterosexual couples.

2013: Pope Francis is named 226th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church

In relations to LGBT rights, Pope Francis' first year as Pope is notable as he has supported the community by saying "If a person is gay and seeks out the Lord and is willing, who am I to judge that person?" This step was a strong advancement in religious acceptance of LGBTQ members.

June 26, 2015: United States Supreme Court legalization of same-sex marriage

On June 26th, 2015 the United States Supreme Court voted on the famous Obergefell v. Hodges case. The case was founded by groups of same-sex couples who sued the States of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee challenging the bans on same-sex marriages. This case was brought to the Supreme Court on the grounds of violating the Equal Protection Clause and Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. ⁶The end of the trial resulted in the Supreme Court lifting the ban on same-sex marriage in the United States. This event marks a major development in the progression of LGBTQ equality on both an international and national scale.

November 16, 2015: Ireland Legalizes Same-Sex Marriage By Vote

While many nations in recent history have legalized same-sex marriage and granted equal rights for all LGBTQ people, the Republic of Ireland was the first nation which legalized same-sex marriage through the popular vote. Meaning, that majority of voters supported the

⁴ Taylor, Adam. "What Was the First Country to Legalize Gay Marriage?" The Washington Post. N.p., 26 June 2015. Web. 31 July 2016.

⁵ "Gay Marriage around the World." BBC News. N.p., 23 Apr. 2013. Web. 31 July 2016.

⁶ "Obergefell v. Hodges." Oyez. Chicago-Kent College of Law at Illinois Tech, n.d. Jul 31, 2016.



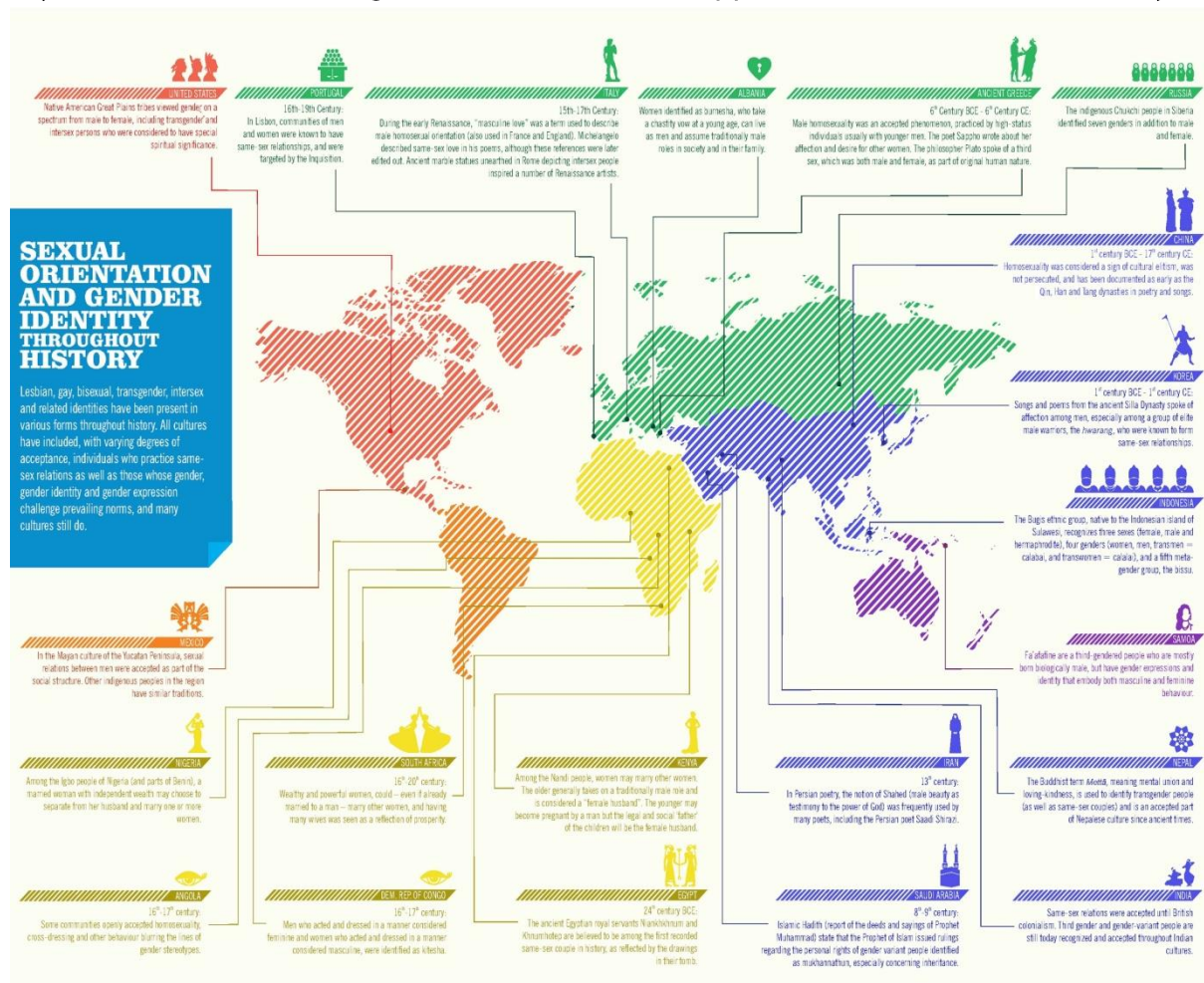
PacificMUN 2017

Timeline

LGBTQ community. This was the first time in international history where same-sex marriage was legalized through the popular vote.

June 12, 2016: Orlando Shooting

On June 12, 2016, 29-year old security guard, Omar Mateen, killed 49 people and injured 53 people in a shooting at Pulse, a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida. ⁷Considered the worst mass shooting in a developed nation in recent history, the attack stands out as a hate crime and as a symbolic act of violence against all members and supporters of the LGBTQ community.



The image above shows the views on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity throughout history with relevance to major cultures in a particular area.

⁷ News, CBC. "Orlando Nightclub Attack: Gunman Had Been Investigated for Terror Links."



PacificMUN 2017

Historical Analysis

With respect to the hate crimes mentioned in the timeline, the appearance of hate crimes against the LGBTQ community has escalated and seems to be most prominent in the modern age. Apart from isolated hate crimes against the LGBTQ community, one of the largest escalations in the persecution of LGBTQ people was during the World War II in Nazi Germany. Overall, the persecution of LGBTQ people has become most apparent in past 50 years.

The earliest religious document that has sparked conflict based on religion was the Book of Leviticus. It is considered a holy book in many branches of Christianity and certain branches of Judaism. The two passages mentioned in the timeline are the primary two that created major conflicts. Christian groups, such as the Southwest Baptist Church, have committed basic hate crimes against the LGBTQ committee. These religious beliefs have also been motives for individuals to commit heinous hate crimes under the pretense of religious beliefs. In addition to the Orlando Shooting, hate crimes tied to religious beliefs have been increasingly apparent in the modern world.

Taking a look at history prior to the 20th Century, we see that across all nations the discrimination against LGBTQ people is clearly present. In the Muslim and Arab world, especially nations governed by Sharia Law, homosexual activity is highly banned. Even in modern times, nations governed by Sharia Law have strong bans on members of the LGBTQ community. Although most nations have revoked the death penalty many still have it in place. Moving towards the Asian countries' history, we find that nations vary extremely on stances with LGBTQ people. While homosexuality is taboo in Chinese society, it has been decriminalized, whereas Russia and India have criminalized same-sex marriage.⁸ In history, Christian nations have had alternate stances on LGBTQ rights depending on the Church a nation belonged to. Finally, African nations have many stances depending on the religious orientation of particular areas or civil codes. Many of these stances strongly antagonize the LGBTQ community and prevent LGBTQ from having equal rights in society. For example, the African nation of Uganda has same-sex marriage criminalized to this day.

One of the most prominent events in the LGBTQ rights movement was the Stonewall Inn riots. This display of LGBTQ resistance exemplifies one of the first times in history where members of the community actively fought against the laws prohibiting them. The Stonewall Inn Gay Bar in New York, was raided by police members in 1969 where the LGBTQ people fought back. The event concluded when the police subdued everyone, bringing multiple people into custody and temporarily closing the bar.

⁸ Lu Stout, Kristie. "Being Gay in China: Does the Rainbow Flag Fly Free?" CNN. Cable News



PacificMUN 2017

Historical Analysis

As described in the timeline, the first documentation of any organized LGBTQ equality movement organizations was the Berlin-based, Scientific-Humanitarian Organization. While this organization was, at one time, the world's most important LGBTQ Organization, Nazi Germany disbanded the society and imprisoned all members. Several decades after the founding of the Scientific-Humanitarian Organization, the western world saw their first LGBTQ organization in take place in America with the Society for Human Rights in 1924. The World War II era saw the first notable mass persecution of LGBTQ people in history. With particular relevance to Homosexuals, the Nazi Party would imprison them in concentration camps alongside the Jewish people, but they were often treated worse. On the other side of the world, the Allies still had extremely harsh treatment of homosexuals and any members the LGBTQ community. A famous example the mistreatment of homosexuals by the allies is Alan Turing. The creator of the Turing machine, one of the earliest computers, came out as a homosexual and was put on medication as a way to combat, what was thought of as “a problem.” This culminated in his suicide. The treatment of LGBTQ people on both sides of the war marked a tragic point in the LGBTQ history. However, the ending of the war marked a turning point in the LGBTQ rights movement.

Following the end of World War II, the LGBTQ rights movement sparked causing many nations to decriminalize and accept same-sex couples as well as transgender and questioning/queer peoples. While this did not happen immediately after WWII, the end of the war is considered a major turning point. The end of the war saw the emergence of Pride Parades in many first world nations. 2001 marked one of, if not, the most important event in the LGBTQ rights movement history. The Netherlands became the first country to legalize same-sex marriage. Through the first and second decades of the 21st Century, more countries began to legalize same-sex marriage with the United States of America and Ireland becoming monumental victories in the rights movement. Despite these major victories, hate crimes such as the Orlando Shooting occurs and many people still protest and detest the LGBTQ community, and many parts of the world still have harsh punishments for homosexuality.



PacificMUN 2017

Current Situation

Throughout the pages of modern history, we have seen the progression of LGBTQ equal rights but also an escalation in small groups or individuals committing hate crimes. The situation is also escalated due to numerous countries continually not accepting the LGBTQ community and outlawing same-sex marriage. To enumerate on the myriad of hate crimes being committed in current times, while the Orlando Shooting was a major mass shooting, there have been plenty of other isolated hate crimes internationally. Even in America, apart from the Orlando Shooting, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has reported 770 murders or seriously violent attacks against members of the LGBTQ community in America. Outside of North America, there are uncountable amounts of attacks on the LGBTQ community. For instance, on July 30th, 2015 Yishai Shlissel injured 5 marchers and killed 1 marcher during a Pride Parade in Israel.⁹ In other areas, such as Jamaica, a man named Brian Williamson was slashed 70 times with a machete.¹⁰ The attacker pleaded guilty but also stated he believed what he was doing was right and in the name of his religion, Christianity. These events are tragic examples that show that even in countries where the legal system accepts the LGBTQ community, crimes of great audacity are still committed under the pretense of religious or personal beliefs.

While the scattered appearance of seemingly random individuals committing violent acts of aggression towards the LGBTQ community is increasing in modern society, even nations that accept the LGBTQ community have many groups united by personal and religious beliefs targeting members of the LGBTQ community in their areas. As previously mentioned, the Southwest Baptist Church is a famous example. However, many other groups of people discriminate strongly against anyone with association to the LGBTQ community. Apart from religious groups, many neo-Nazi groups (such as the Socialist Reich Party) and organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan have discriminated LGBTQ people and even attacked them.

Another key area to address when analyzing the current situation in regards to the LGBTQ rights movement is nations which currently are unaccepting of LGBTQ people. To illustrate, the Sochi Olympic Games sparked a major controversy as Russia, where while accepting same-sex couples without persecution, couples have less government services provided towards their households, and are often subject to cultural alienation. In terms of national acceptance, the issue mainly shifts to nations governed by Sharia law. As mentioned previously, most nations governed this way have criminalized same-sex couples with intense, often physical, punishments. Other nations, such as India, have criminalized same-sex marriage based on multiple reasons with regards to the nation's heritage and culture.

⁹Yonah, Jeremy Bob. "Court Convicts Gay Pride Parade Stabber Yishai Schlissel of Murder." *The Jerusalem Post*. N.p., 19 Apr. 2016. Web. 31 July 2016.

¹⁰"I. Summary." *Jamaica: Hated to Death*. N.p., Nov. 2004. Web. 31 July 2016.

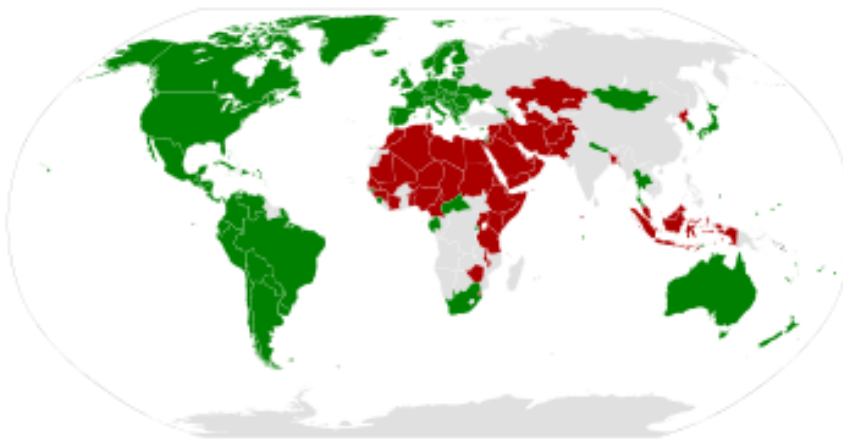


PacificMUN 2017

Current Situation

To the credit of the international community and many individual countries, attempts and developments have been made in the LGBTQ equal rights movement. One important development was the debate brought up in the United Nations on the topic of Gay rights being the same as Human rights. Many nations have resisted this idea despite its support from major nations such as the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States of America. Attempts to advance the rights movement has been aided by international nations such as OutRight Action International.¹¹ A recurring topic of discussion in the UN is that of Lesbian and Gay people's right to marry. The UN has declared LGBTQ people to be granted and guaranteed all human rights as mentioned in the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, but despite this, many nations have not complied with the ideals of the General Assembly. Due to the inability to impose laws due to a nation's sovereignty, the United Nations is still in the process of ensuring that equal rights are upheld for LGBTQ people worldwide.

In summary, the major issues and conflicts facing the current international society have had attempts to be combatted with but progress has been limited. The need to handle radical individuals has escalated through isolated attacks on LGBTQ people. National and international groups opposing LGBTQ rights form a significant challenge for LEGAL to resolve. Finally, nations whose laws or legal systems still oppose LGBTQ rights especially in terms of same-sex marriage provide an immense challenge.



The image to the left shows countries which have signed a General Assembly declaration of LGBT rights or sponsored the Human Rights Council 2011 resolution on LGBT rights, those that are opposed to it as well as which nations remained neutral.
(View full image [here](#))

¹¹ "Documentation." *OutRight*. N.p., 08 June 2015. Web. 31 July 2016.



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United Nations Involvement

As previously mentioned, the UN has had limited success in directly advancing the issue, however they support numerous organizations that work on an international level. Apart from the aforementioned OutRight International, the UN supports the Free and Equal campaign for global public education on the topic of equality for LGBT people.

The UN Human Rights Committee has declared, during the 1994 *Toonen V Australia* case, that laws prohibiting consensual same-sex relations was a violations of human rights. The case was started with the goal to decriminalize same-sex relations in all of Australia and resulted in a victory for Mr. Toonen, the gay rights activist who petitioned to revoke the criminalizing laws on same-sex relations by the Tasmanian Criminal Code.¹² This historic event was the official recognition of the LGBTQ community's member's rights to be guaranteed all rights under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In an attempt to promote the acceptance of LGBTQ rights on an international level, the issue was brought to the UN Human Rights Committee where 66 Member States agreed and pledged their full support for the cause.¹³ Consisting of the signatories on the paper were six African Nations. This showed the international community how nations can progress and accept all people, a factor that proves to be vital in growing and developing countries. On the other hand, 56 Member States signed an opposing document. Many nations that opposed the situation were those that had currently criminalized same-sex marriage. While there is a clear opposing body, many nations are in support of LGBTQ equal rights providing hope for future change.

While the UN Involvement in this issue has been growing in the past couple decades, factors of the problem can be due to the lack of involvement by many nations. The number of Member States that are in favour of supporting LGBTQ rights is higher than the number opposed, with many nations still remaining undecided. 46 Member States are yet to be opposed or in favour of LGBTQ rights.

The most recent resolution adopted on this issue was in 2014 with the Human Rights Council resolution - Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity.¹⁴ Adopted by the Human Rights Council, this resolution was the official document that was seen as a major victory for the LGBTQ community and all its supporters as it was finally declared that all LGBTQ members had the same rights as everyone else. Finally, following the Orlando Shooting, the United Nations Security Council condemned the event as a public statement noting it as a violent attack towards to LGBTQ community.

¹²<http://remedy.org.au/cases/24/>

¹³"UN: General Assembly Statement Affirms Rights for All." *Human Rights Watch*. N.p., 18 Dec. 2008. Web. 31 July 2016

¹⁴LGBT UN Resolutions." *LGBT UN Resolutions*. N.p., n.d. Web. 31 July 2016.



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Possible Solutions

The issue facing LEGAL committee during the conference is one of immense difficulty. While many assemblies have been held to debate the current issue it is an opportunity to further advance the issue each time it is brought up. One of the most obvious issues with handling hate crimes in many first world communities is removing the negative connotation around terms such as "Gay" and "Transgender". With strong focus on the western world, terms such as "Gay" and "Transgender" have an extremely negative connotation and are commonly used as insults. The usage of these words and considering these words vulgar perpetuates the non-acceptance of people who identify with these labels. These labels carry with them the power to make individuals feel isolated in society.

While the negative connotations have an increasingly poor effect of LGBTQ members who have yet to identify themselves, it sparks the ideas and motives behind radical individuals and groups. It is LEGAL's opportunity to utilize education, acceptance promotion, and governmental actions to eradicate this stigma and improve the collective social conscious, especially in many developed nations where people are given the ability to make choices in how they live.

Solutions can only be found if strong political relations are fostered. This concept can not apply between neighboring nations or western and developed nations, but must be between any nations that can find a common stance. Small steps can be taken by all nations to encourage the tolerance of LGBTQ people. Currently, there are at least 10 nations where the death penalty is in place for homosexuality.¹⁵ While many countries will have different approaches to combatting the death penalty, whether it be incentive based or by giving a sentence that complies with international law. Overall, the entire issue regarding the death sentence, physical punishment and Sharia Law is tricky to handle, as it is important to make sure no countries sovereignty is imposed upon. Furthermore, cooperation must occur between nations. To deal with these issues, countries that are for the LGBTQ rights movement must combat the issue in many major ways. To enumerate, they must determine the reasons many nations have not sided on the issue since the last record of the topic being discussed in a General Assembly. A nation's reason for not completely supporting the LGBTQ rights movement can be attributed to many reasons that do not pertain to religious reasons such as LGBTQ lifestyles being seen as crimes against society or it being seen as a sickness.

In addition, combating the threats placed upon LGBTQ people in particular nations becomes a strong point of tension. Recent initiatives brought by many countries to assist in this endeavour have LGBTQ people, living in nations where Homosexuality is punishable by death, claiming refugee status under the threat of death facing them. This new form of protecting human rights has the support of many developed countries.

Delegates are encouraged to work together but also stay true to their Bloc Positions and political stance. Therefore, delegates must work together to be successful but debate must ensue. Seeking for a solution can be approached in many ways, but action must be taken as it is clear that the status quo has many countries violating international law.

¹⁵ Colin Stewart. "10 Nations Where the Penalty for Gay Sex Is Death." *76 CRIMES*. N.p., 08 Aug. 2015. Web. 31 July 2016.



Europe

Since Northern Cyprus repealed its law in 2014, no European countries, with exception to Russia, have laws against homosexuality. However, a few European countries have laws that restrict open and public displays of support for homosexuality. Lithuania currently has a law that prohibits any positive mention of homosexuality in the presence of minors, and in 2015, it considered, though has not yet implemented, a further law that would impose a fine for any public display that “defies traditional family values.”¹⁶ According to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, “lesbian, bisexual and gay people are currently protected from discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation only in the field of employment” by EU law, while “transgender people are legally protected from discrimination under EU law on the ground of sex to the extent that discrimination arises from gender reassignment.”¹⁷ Despite these laws being implemented, LGBTQ individuals in European nations continue to face discrimination on the daily basis.

North America and Australia

North American nations are more open to LGBTQ individuals (comparatively to other nations) however, there are still many problems that North American LGBTQ citizens face. For example, despite the repealing of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” legislation in the United States, LGBTQ citizens continue to face an extreme amount of discrimination and harassment in the military. Even though laws have been implemented to ensure equality for LGBTQ citizens, there are huge societal issues that have yet to be overcome.

Asia and South America

Similarly, Asian and South American still have a long way to go to achieve LGBTQ equality. In fact, in 2013, Russia even enacted an anti-“gay propaganda” which prohibited any positive mention of homosexuality in the presence of minors. This is just one example of the discriminatory legislation faced by homosexual individuals. In many nations, LGBTQ individuals will be killed if their sexuality/gender is made public. Unfortunately, this has created an extremely hostile environment where LGBTQ citizens are unable to express themselves. For the most part, Asian and South American nations have only recently begun to open up to the idea of homosexuality and gender fluidity.

Africa

In most African nations, homosexuality is legally punishable, potentially by the death penalty. In fact, homosexuality is illegal in 38 countries and punishable by death in 4. Unfortunately, most African nations oppose equal legal rights for gays, lesbians, transmen, and transwoman - citing religious, cultural and legal traditions.

¹⁶Colin Stewart. “77 Countries Where Homosexuality Is Illegal.” *76 CRIMES*. N.p., 17 June 2012. Web. 31 July 2016.

¹⁷European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. “*LGBTI*.” N.p., n.d. Web. 31 July 2016



PacificMUN 2017

Discussion Questions/Further Reading

In due course, the Staff team hopes that you will continue researching this topic and we have provided some questions to help guide you on your research.

1. How can laws be developed that will work in both western nations as well as nations that are traditionally very opposed to LGBTQ rights?
2. Does your nation support the development of new international laws and regulations to ensure equality for LGBTQ people worldwide?
3. What methods in creating and implementing a resolution can be accepted by all nations, especially those with strongly conservative viewpoints?
4. How can the international community protect LGBTQ rights in nations which refuse to adopt legislation protecting the LGBTQ community?
5. How does your nation's legislation protect the LGBTQ community and can these methods be implemented in other countries?
6. Does your nation recognise the legitimacy of a refugee claim by LGBTQ individuals living in nations where they are under the threat of oppression, discrimination, or death?
7. What factors have led to the current legal status for people in the LGBTQ community in your country? What influences these factors?

To assist in your research please feel free to utilize the sources provided.

<https://www.hrw.org/>

<https://www.unfe.org/>

<http://ilga.org/>

<http://arc-international.net/>

<https://www.outrightinternational.org/>



PacificMUN 2017

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PacificMUN 2017

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