

# **Indore World Summit**

**Study Guide (Sochum)** 



# **AGENDA**

Combating stigma and criminalization against the LGBTQ+ community

### **SOCHUM STUDY GUIDE**

#### Letter from The Executive Board

Distinguished delegates,

Welcome to Indore World Summit 2022

The Bureau for the committee is:

Mr. Siddhanth Nair & Ms. Vidhi Patni

The agenda under discussion for SOCHUM is:

Combating Stigma and Criminalization Against LGBTQ+ Community

We are certain that attending Indore World Summit is an opportunity for all of us to come together, debate global issues and experience the art of diplomacy. You can improve your academic skills and form strong friendship with like-minded peers, both locally and internationally. We sincerely hope that the sessions will provide you with an interesting look at the complex issues and that you will leave the conference with a more critical eye for the unique problems and solutions that are being faced by our modern-day world.

It is with confidence that we trust all of you will get meaningful deliberations to the table when it comes to debate, it is only justifiable to embrace the platform that Model United Nation Conferences give to you when even in such times of global crisis the circuit stands strong in its young representation of contrasting and holistic views of various important global issues. With that being said this guide will only consist of basic yet intensive explanations of the different views surrounding the agenda, your job as a delegate is to analyse the different views along with any additional research that you find and utilise them in your country's favour in committee. However, do not limit your research to this background guide, the entire point of the document is to give a starting point to your research. In case you have any queries regarding anything in this document or require clarifications with regard to anything related to the agenda feel free to contact any of the undersigned EB members.

We expect each of you to respect the platform you are being provided.. Use this chance to speak up and believe that you can make a change. Enjoy the chance Indore World Summit offers you. We are looking forward to fiery arguments, bizarre elucidations and bursting sessions of diplomatic spectacle to amaze us. If you have questions concerning your preparation for the committee or any queries please do not hesitate to contact us at

nairsiddhanth@gmail.com / vidhi2605patni@gmail.com

We wish the best for your preparation for the conference and look forward to seeing all of you there.

### Regards

Note: This background guide is merely for your personal understanding and reference. At no point in committee can this document be used to back claims or facilitate any statements directly, in case you do wish to utilise points made in this document you are welcome to only if you provide your own analysis on those statements.



### INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE - SOCHUM

The Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM) is also known as the third Committee of the General Assembly. Founded in 1947 at the inception of the United Nations General Assembly, it focuses on the social and humanitarian affairs of the general world population. All 193 member states of the United Nations General Assembly are considered members of the third Committee. As such, SOCHUM is neatly positioned to discuss and make recommendations on global issues since it is representative of the international opinion. SOCHUM addresses the rights, status, and treatment of vulnerable world populations. This includes, but is not limited to, the defence of children, empowerment and improvement in the lives of and opportunities for women, the treatment and survival of indigenous peoples, and an elimination of racial discrimination that leads to an unequal society.

The committee's jurisdiction extends beyond these groups to populations needing social assistance including, but not limited to children, elders, those with disabilities, and incarcerated persons. The committee also discusses the international criminal justice system, improved methods for crime prevention, and the international drug problem. SOCHUM's keen interest in human rights issues led to the establishment of the UN Human Rights Council in 2006. As of 2014, the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee had over fifty outreach programs that address specific geographic and cultural issues as part of the Human Rights Council across the world. Because of their far reach, often intensive manpower and need for specific expertise, these special rapporteurs can place financial strain on the committee. Considered one of the most effective outreaches of this committee, the special rapporteurs include on-the-ground assistance for developing areas, programs for technological advancement and infrastructure, as well as the collection of independent, non-United Nations human rights inquiries.

The Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee is a resolution-based committee. Historically, the third Committee has produced many landmark documents including the Universal Declaration on Human Rights created in a post-World War II world, this document as served as a legal document though it lacks actual legal power for implementation. It serves as a tremendous example of the lasting power this committee can have on wide-ranging vulnerable populations throughout the world.

### **DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS**

LGBTQ+: LGBTQ+ stands for "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transexual, queer, and other sexual orientations (including intersexual, pansexual, asexual)." Specifically, the LGBTQ+ is the group of all individuals who, in essence, are not heterosexual cis male/female. In different cultures, there are different ways to describe individuals of different sexual orientations and who exhibit non-binary gender identities.

TRANSGENDER / TRANS: Transgender (can/might be shortened to "trans") is an overarching term to describe a group of people who do not conform to binary genders. For instance, transmen identify as men but were biologically female when born, and trans women identify as women but were biologically male when taken. Some transgender individuals seek surgery and hormones to align themselves with the gender they find. Additionally, some transgender individuals don't associate with a binary gender at all.

Transexual: a person who emotionally and psychologically feels that they belong to the opposite sex. Transexual individuals belong under the category of transgender, but transsexual individuals specifically identify as the binary gender that they were not biologically born as.

Homophobia: A fear or hatred of non-heterosexual individuals: gay, lesbian, bisexual.

Gender Identity: Gender identity is an individual's perception of their gender. Typically, an individual's gender is the sex that they were born. Cisgender, refers to individuals who remain aligned with the sex they were assigned at birth. Some individuals, who are transgender, seek to align themselves with the other gender or non-binary gender.

Gender Expression: Gender expression is the way an individual demonstrates their genderidentity. Gender expression is often illustrated through appearance - physical features and body structure, or through style. Although a male may wear stereotypically feminine clothes, it does not mean that that individual is gay or transgender. An individual's gender expression is not always linked to their gender identity or sexual orientation; however, it is one method to express one's gender identity.

Legislation: The creation of laws that have the power of authority over the individuals under a government. Laws can be created by an official organ, state, or other organization.

In many places, LGBTQIA+ people still face stigma, violence and discrimination and are not able to reach their full potential. There is a lot to do in our parliaments, on our streets and in our minds.

However, I want to highlight the hope and all the positive change we have seen so far. This change has been possible because of so many people supporting each other, working together to change laws or raising awareness in our streets. Activists and parliamentarians, academics and allies, each of us can play a role to make this change happen, especially if we join forces.

To those who hold the power to make fundamental change: this is the time to do it. As a former parliamentarian, I would like to call on you, parliamentarians, to use your power to change our society for the better.

We are mostly limited by the borders that other people have put on us, and that we have made our own. To bring those down takes a lot of courage. It all begins with being true to yourself. Be true to yourself and the rest will follow."

- Petra de Sutter, Federal Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium and former Member of the European Parliament

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA -

Combating Stigma and Criminalization Against LGBTQ+ Community

Deeply-embedded homophobic and transphobic attitudes, often combined with a lack of adequate legal protection against discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, expose many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) people of all ages and in all regions of the world to egregious violations of their human rights.

The intersection with racial discrimination, on the grounds of race, color, descent, national or ethnic origin, makes LGBTQI+ people even more vulnerable to discrimination and hate-motivated violence. Several international instruments and human rights mechanisms explicitly recognize the impact of intersecting forms of discrimination on the enjoyment of human rights.

LGBTQI+ people are discriminated against in the labour market, in schools and in hospitals, mistreated and disowned by their own families. They are singled out for physical attack – beaten, sexually assaulted, tortured and killed.

In some 77 countries, discriminatory laws criminalize private, consensual same-sex relationships – exposing individuals to the risk of arrest, prosecution, imprisonment — even, in at least five countries, the death penalty.

Discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community has existed for a long time. These

people have historically been forced to hide their gender identity and sexual orientation for fear of being cruelly punished. Currently, more states and/or people have adopted a welcoming attitude of non-heterosexual orientation and non-binary gender identity. Despite this, the LGBTQ+

Discrimination, violence, and criminality continue to be a focus in the community. A binary or "black-white" conception of gender has existed throughout history. It was thought only males and females existed as genders. However, the LGBTQ+ community has gained recognition in recent years is embraced by various people and many countries.

Thus, the number of individuals who are open about their non-binary gender or sexual orientation has skyrocketed in recent years. Many countries have legalized same-sex marriage and allow individuals to undergo surgery to align with their gender identity.

However, in several nations and several individuals still do not accept these individuals and resort to acts of violence, discrimination, and criminalization. As stated in the declaration of human rights, all individuals have the right to equality and non-discrimination, including individuals of the LGBTQ+ community. The UN seeks to ensure unequivocal legislation for these individuals and seeks to end violence and discrimination against them. In order, for LGBTQ+ individuals to have equality the UN and other relevant organizations, must work to educate individuals to recognize and accept them as people.

#### **HISTORY OF THE TOPIC-**

There is proof to indicate that same-sex relationships have existed for several centuries, and different cultures had different views. For instance, in Israel, it was prohibited, as written in the bible. Many other religions were against same-sex relationships and still oppose them. On the other hand the in ancient Greece there were many same-sex couples. In recent years, to stand up against the discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community from the church, various governments, and homophobic individuals.

Some of the significant events in LGBTQ+ history:

• In the late 19th century - approximately 1870 - movements for the LGBTQ+ community started. Individuals within the group and outside the group began campaigning for their rights.

- Numerous psychologists and doctors researched homosexuality and gender identity in the late 19th century. They believed that homosexuality and bisexuality were linked to biology and were innate, in essence. However, many still opposed transgender and other differing gender identities.
- Between World War I and World War II numerous journalists and authors began writing about the LGBTQ+ community. These were received differently in different countries. For example, in Germany, the gay bar scene thrived. However, in England, there was a backlash against authors who wrote about the LGBTQ+ community.
- During World War II, gay and lesbian individuals were allowed to fight in the army. They were able to meet other LGBTQ+ individuals through their military service. Moreover, the mindset towards them was very open during this time.
- At the same time, LGBTQ+ individuals were targeted by the Nazis and killed in concentration camps.
- After World War II, the increasing awareness of the LGBTQ+ individuals in the military service and federal positions outraged the population, in the United States. LGBTQ+ individuals were discriminated against and had no organization to help them.
- Organizations to help gay and lesbian individuals started to form in the 1950s

   specifically, the Mattachine Society, One Inc, and Daughter of Bllitis. All of these organizations attempted to prevent the discrimination against these individuals in the United States.
- At the same time, psychologists began to write about the LGBTQ+ community. Donald Webster Cory claimed that gay and lesbian individuals were a legitimate minority group. Additionally, Evelyn Hooker, Ph.D., wrote a groundbreaking paper that illustrated that gay individuals were as capable as heterosexual individuals.
- The civil rights movements for the LGBTQ+ community began in 1965. The turning point for there movement was in 1969, in which "patrons of the popular Stonewall Inn in New York's Greenwich Village fought back against ongoing police raids of their neighborhood bar."
- Finally, in 1973, the American Psychological Association (APA) removed homosexuality as an illness or disorder. Before this, homosexual individuals were at risk of jail time, losing their jobs, and psychiatric lockup.
- The 1970s was an extremely successful period for the LGBT movement.
   Lesbians started to start their movements, and also campaign for their rights.

Before this, typically only gay men advocated for their rights.

II. "Expanding religious acceptance for gay men and women of faith, the first

out

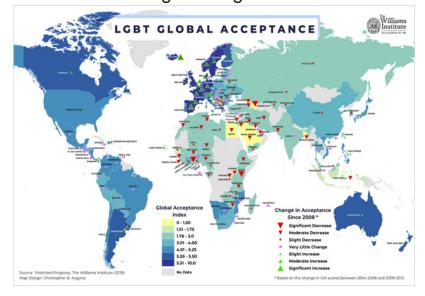
gay minister was ordained by the United Church of Christ in 1972. Other gay and lesbian church and synagogue congregations soon followed."

**III.** The Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PGLAG) were created in 1972.

and it offered opportunities for the friends and families of homosexual individuals to help in their movement.

IV. The first Gay rights march in Washington took place in 1979

- The Aids crisis of the 1980s setback the gay and lesbian movements. The community
  - suffered many losses and did not have proper support from organizations to combat
  - the AIDS crisis. Fortunately, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) and Queer
  - Nation supported the community during the crisis.
- In the 1990s, LGBTQ+ individuals were grasping more power. Many celebrities came
  - out as lesbian or gay. Additionally, transgender and intersex individuals were starting
  - to get the spotlight and campaign for their rights.
- The legalization of same-sex marriage was an enormous success for the LGBTQ+
  - community. Countries such as the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium, Canada, and some
  - states of the United States began to legalize same-sex marriage.



### **LGBT Rights at the United Nations**

In 2008, a group of 66 countries issued a statement before the UN General Assembly affirming their support for LGBT rights. The statement referenced the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in condemning human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. It was opposed by Russia, China, the United States under the Bush administration, The Holy See, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the last of which issued its own statement accusing the 66 countries of attempting to "undermine the international human rights framework by trying to normalize pedophilia, among other acts." The 2008 statement was followed in 2011 by a UN Human Rights Council report documenting discrimination faced by LGBT individuals in both law and society. It was updated in 2015 with a second UN Human Rights Council report concerning violence against LGBT individuals relative to commitments under international law.

Despite efforts by UN agencies to advance LGBT Rights, countries opposed to such reform constitute a strong faction with the ability to halt or delay progress. In his final year in office, former Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon stated that his advocacy for LGBT rights often put him at odds with powerful member states. Although he affirmed LGBT rights as an "institutional commitment," he regarded his efforts as mostly unsuccessful. This is reflected in the final version of the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN's global development agenda, which failed to include any mention of LGBT rights. Calls for specific language protecting LGBT persons faced opposition from "a bloc of countries, including Russia and most of Africa, Middle Eastern, Asian and Caribbean countries, as well as the Vatican and religious groups."

Nevertheless, on 29 September 2015, a mere four days after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, a group of 12 UN agencies (ILO, OHCHR, UN-AIDS Secretariat, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WFP, and WHO) released a statement declaring their intention to end violence and discrimination against the LGBT community. The statement, Ending Violence and Discrimination Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex People, frames discrimination against LGBTI individuals as a violation of international human rights law and an impediment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Its specific recommendations include recognizing LGBTI status as grounds for asylum, repealing laws that criminalize people "on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression," and "prohibit discrimination against LGBTI adults, adolescents and children in all contexts—including in education, employment, healthcare, housing, social protection, criminal justice and in asylum and detention settings." Several UN member states maintain power to influence UN

resolutions against the inclusion of LGBT rights, but they have been unable to fully impede the efforts of those countries seeking reform.

LGBT rights at the UN are represented by the LGBTI Core Group, an informal assembly of countries and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) committed to addressing LGBT rights outside of formal UN bodies.[18] Established in 2008, the Core Group supported both the General Assembly's 2008 statement and the Human Rights Council's 2011 statement on LGBT rights but failed to secure specific protections within the Sustainable Development Goals. Despite this setback, the Core Group has promoted cooperation between the Global North and Global South, including representation from both Western countries and Latin America and even including Albania as its first Muslim-majority observer state.

#### **6 MAJOR GLOBAL LGBTQ+ ISSUES**

**1.** The Ugandan Parliament passed the Sexual Offenses Bill, further criminalizing same-sex sexual acts.

LGBTQ+ rights organizations like Sexual Minorities Uganda have highlighted the homophobic language and called on the international community to speak out against the bill. While many human rights advocates believe that President Yoweri Museveni



will not assent to the bill, they are also worried that the nature of homophobia presented by government officials will lead to an increase in violence and discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, as in the case of the 2014 Anti-Homosexuality Act.

**2.** The US Supreme Court ruled that a Catholic organization can discriminate against LGBTQ+ people based on religious beliefs.

Though the Supreme Court ruling may not have far-reaching effects on the future of

LGBTQ+ rights in the United States, it is part of a concerning trend of anti-LGBTQ+



rulings and legislation taking place around the world. Last year, the Hungarian parliament passed a law banning same-sex couples from adopting children by enforcing a rule that only married couples can adopt. Same-sex marriage is currently illegal in Hungary.

**3.** Seven countries make sure that the death penalty is a punishment for same-sex conduct.

Human Rights Watch has compiled an interactive tracker that allows users to explore where LGBTQ+ people are persecuted under the law. While legal punishment can be interpreted by the judge issuing sentencing, sexual acts partcipated in by people of the same sex — as well as some forms of gender expression, such as a



person dressing in accordance with their gender identity rather than their sex assigned at birth — can be punishable by stoning, prison sentences, fines, whipping, and flogging.

Currently, Brunei, Iran, Mauritania, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and Yemen maintain the death penalty.



4. Hungary passed a law banning LGBTQ+ content in schools/educational institutes all across

In the United States, the governor of Tennessee recently signed a law requiring educators to obtain parental consent to teach curriculum on sexual orientation and gender identity. This puts young people at risk of missing out on important milestones in LGBTQ+. Lack of history and knowledge of sexual health.

5. Violence against LGBTQ+ people in Brazil is mushrooming incrementally

"Brazil is the world champion of LGBT murders," Margareth Hernandes, a lawyer and president of the gender law commission, told the Guardian. "We are a very conservative country where there is still a lot of prejudice. Hate speech ends up propagating violence."



6. LGBTQ+ people remain vulnerable to COVID-19 around the world.

OutRight senior communications manager Daina Ruduša told Global Citizen last year: "Not only are we more vulnerable in our daily lives, but we are excluded from relief efforts that do not intersect, and our communities are cut off from critical lifelines like networks."



### **GLOBAL INITIATIVES -**

Twelve UN entities expressed concern about these issues in a joint statement released in 2015:

"Discrimination and violence contribute to the marginalization of LGBTI people and their vulnerability to ill health including HIV infection, yet they face denial of care, discriminatory attitudes and pathologization in medical and other settings... The exclusion of LGBTI people from the design, implementation and monitoring of laws and policies that affect them perpetuates their social and economic marginalization."

In addition, several United Nations initiatives foster inclusion in various fields. For example:

- UNDP and the World Bank published the LGBTI Inclusion Index with the Proposed Set of LGBTI Inclusion Indicators.
- UNDP regional "Being LGBTI" and "SOGIESC and rights" programmes are building understanding of the issues that LGBTI people face and advancing their inclusion in national development efforts.
- ILO's project Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation: Promoting Rights, Diversity and Equality in the World of Work (PRIDE) identifies good practices in discrimination faced by LGBT people.

- Through its work on homophobic and transphobic violence including bullying in educational institutions, UNESCO has published several publications, including the "Good Policy and Practice in HIV and Health Education Booklet 8: Education Sector Responses to Homophobic Bullying".
- Evidence related to school violence and bullying was also highlighted in UNES-CO's 2019 report Behind the numbers: Ending school violence and bullying.
- The World Bank has been expanding the evidence-based links between LGBTI exclusion and development through research and applied knowledge of project design
- OHCHR developed the Standards of Conduct for Business in tackling discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, which are now supported by hundreds of businesses.

### **EFFECTS OF STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION**

Stigma and discrimination can result in negative outcomes for LGBT individuals including economic instability and poor health. Research has found that gay men and transgender people experience wage gaps, and has found an association between lower earnings and lack of state-level protections from discrimination for LGBT people. Research also indicates that LGBT people, in general, are disproportionately poor, and that social climate and policy are linked determinants of poverty among LGBT communities.

In addition, research has linked experiences of stigma and discrimination, as well as living in a state with unsupportive laws and social climate, to health disparities for LGBT people, including higher rates of mood and anxiety disorders, depression, attempted suicide, self-harm, and substance use.

#### 1. ECONOMIC INSTABILITY

Wage Gaps for LGBT People

Wage gap analysis has used by economists to measure employment discrimination against women, people of color, and LGBT people. Several studies have found evidence of wage gaps affecting gay men and transgender people, and

for many LGBT people who face discrimination along multiple axes of inequality, the resulting impact is greater than the sum of the parts.

A 2015 study found that the overall wage gap for men of color in same-sex couples was greater than what the sum of the race and sexual orientation wage gaps would have predicted. The bottom three quartiles of earnings, indicating that the magnifying negative interaction effects of minority race and sexual orientation status is most pronounced for lower.

- Poverty in the LGBT Community
   While national averages indicate that LGBT people may be more likely to have
   higher household incomes than non-LGBT people, those averages can mask
   that LGBT people are also disproportionately poor and that poverty is concen trated in certain groups within the LGBT community such as female same-sex
   couples, people of color, transgender people, youth, and the elderly.
   For example, key findings from a 2013 study on poverty in the LGBT community include:
  - **I.** 7.6% of lesbian couples are in poverty, compared to 5.7% of married different-sex couples;
  - **II.** Over 1 in 5 children of same-sex couples are in poverty, compared to 12.1% of children of

married different-sex couples;

**III.** Female same-sex couples who live in rural areas are much more likely to be poor (14.1%),

compared to lesbian couples in large cities (4.5%).

#### 2. HEALTH DISPARITIES FOR THE LGBT COMMUNITY

Experiences of discrimination and harassment, as well as living in a state with unsupportive laws and social climate, have been shown to contribute to health disparities for LGBT people. Substantial research has documented that LGBT people experience disparities on a range of health outcomes, and health- related risk factors, compared to their non-LGBT counterparts. Research shows that mood and anxiety disorders, attempted suicide, and self-harm are more common among sexual minorities (LGBs) than non-LGB people. Studies also indicate that rates of depression, anxiety disorders, and attempted suicide are also elevated among transgender people. In addition, LGB people are more likely to report tobacco use, drug use, and alcohol disorders than their non-LGB counterparts.

# World Health Organization on the LGBT health gap.

Sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE) is diverse and spans cultures across the world.Individuals experience common and unique barriers to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health based on SOGIE. They are less likely to access health services and engage with healthcare workers due to stigma and discrimination and bear a disproportionate burden of adverse physical and mental health outcomes. As a community, they are more likely to experience human rights violations including violence, torture, criminalization, involuntary medical procedures, and discrimination. In addition, they face denial of care, discriminatory attitudes, and inappropriate pathologizing in healthcare settings. In July 2013, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) launched UN Free & Equal – an unprecedented global UN public information campaign aimed at promoting equal rights and fair treatment of LGBTQI+ people, eventually reaching 2.4 billion social media feeds around the world and generating a stream of widely shared materials, including some that rank among the most ever watched videos by the United Nations.

WHO's support to Member States is founded on the fundamental human rights principle that all persons should have access to health services without discrimination, including on the basis of SOGIE. The adoption of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and its pledge to "leave no one behind", based on the normative framework of international human rights law has reinforced the need to understand and improve the health and well-being of LGBTQI+ people, who are often left behind. WHO develops guidelines, technical support and conducts research to strengthen LGBTQI+ inclusive health services and policies.

## **LGBT Rights in Individual States**

Increased recognition for LGBT rights is also exemplified in the actions of individual countries. Efforts to overturn laws barring homosexual activity have appeared in Botswana, India, Kenya, and Trinidad and Tobago. In Taiwan, the Constitutional Court issued a 2018 ruling declaring that same-sex marriage is a legal right. Although two referendums failed to approve legislative changes to the existing Taiwanese Civil Code, they have no effect on the court's prior ruling.

According to André du Plessis, executive director of the International Lesbian, Gay,

Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, "We've seen a lot of exciting changes. . . . Progress has been slow but steady." Reform and decriminalization have appeared in Africa, Asia, and even the Middle East, reflecting the global nature of the LGBT rights movement.

Several countries such as Botswana and India have retained anti-LGBT laws as a legacy of imperialism. At a special UN event in 2015, former president of Botswana Festus Mogae declared same-sex activity "the most basic of rights" and commented on the need for LGBT Rights to combat the African AIDS epidemic. At the same forum, Frans Timmermans, vice president of the EU commission, "apologized on behalf of Europe for having brought 'homophobia and discrimination' to Africa."

Despite advancements in the LGBT rights frameworks of non-Western countries, violence and discrimination remain a norm for LGBT individuals in over 70 countries barring same-sex activity. The sobering reality of violence against the LGBT individuals in these countries is beyond the scope of this guide.

### **Brazil**

Brazil's large LGBT community represents a significant force in the Brazilian economy and contributes to the country's status as an LGBT tourist destination. According to corporate advisory firm LGBT Capital, Brazil's LGBT market has an estimated value of R\$300 billion, or US\$133 billion. In 2017, the Brazilian Association of LGBT Tourism announced that LGBT tourism in Brazil was growing at a rate of 11 percent per year, more than triple the 3.5 percent growth rate for conventional tourism. This growth is reflected in the image Brazil projects internationally, with former Rio de Janeiro mayor Eduardo Paes declaring that "Rio is a city without prejudice. . . . It is an open city that accepts everything with an open heart." Sao Paulo boasts the world's largest pride parade, with 2018's festival attracting more than three million people.

LGBT rights in Brazil have also experienced significant progress during the last decade, with the National Council of Justice legalizing gay marriage nationwide in 2013. In 2018, the council removed restrictions requiring transgender individuals to undergo surgery or judicial review in order to change their names or gender markers on identification documents. Internationally, Brazil presented a 2003 resolution to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations entitled "Promotion and Protection of Human Rights," which addressed human rights violations due to sexual orientation. Discussion of the resolution was postponed, but it served as a precursor to the 2008 statement and 2011 declaration of LGBT rights before the General As-

sembly.

### The United Kingdom

In the United Kingdom, debate over reforms to the 2004 Gender Recognition Act have revealed rifts within feminism and between UK and US political norms. The act became the first in the world to allow for self-identification of gender without requirements such as medical transition to amend legal status. In October 2018, the Government Equalities Office opened a consultation to address concerns of bureaucratic inefficiency in the process of legal gender change. The consultation's description states that "trans and non-binary people are members of our society and should be treated with respect." Nevertheless, the proposed reforms sparked debate between trans activists and anti-trans campaigners. Responding to this debate, *The Guardian UK* published an editorial that attempted to highlight instances of conflict between "trans women and other women" such as in rape support services or women's prisons. The editorial was criticized by *Guardian US* journalists who described it as advancing "transphobic viewpoints" reflective of attacks on transgender rights in America.

### **The United States**

In 2011, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announced before the UN that "gay rights are human rights," signaling a strong commitment by the Obama administration to protect LGBT rights both domestically and internationally. This pronouncement represented a wider initiative by the Obama administration for all US agencies to "promote and protect" LGBT rights. The State Department created a new position of US special envoy for the human rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender persons, a role established to promote LGBT rights internationally. To further this effort, the administration utilized LGBT rights as a diplomatic tool, tying access to foreign aid with a country's commitment toward decriminalizing same-sex activity. US embassies played a vital role in LGBT diplomacy, joining local pride parades and promoting LGBT rights in hostile countries such as Poland and Nigeria. Domestically, the Obama administration expanded rights for LGBT workers, such as adding gender identity as a protected class under the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and expanding health care access for LGBT federal workers.

However, the election of President Donald Trump brought a reversal of these pro-LGBT trends both domestically and internationally. Coinciding with his inauguration, the White House website removed all references to LGBT issues, an early sign that LGBT rights were not a priority for the administration. In January 2019, the Supreme Court upheld the Trump administration's ban on transgender people from serving in the military. With US troops stationed in nearly 150 countries, the removal of transgender visibility constitutes the loss of a powerful tool in advancing on-the-ground LGBT rights diplomacy. The Trump administration has also denied visas to the same-sex partners of foreign diplomats and UN employees. Although the administration justified the new policy as aligned with the Supreme Court's approval of same-sex marriage, the policy change imposes difficulties for foreign officials from countries where same-sex marriage remains illegal, and who may face punishment if they marry in the United States. By retreating from LGBT diplomacy, President Trump has signaled a strong opposition to the human rights priorities established under President Obama.

### People's Republic of China

China's LGBTQ community has long had to deal with not only societal prejudice but also pressure from the state: censorship, surveillance and intimidation, at times even detention by police. During the early 2000s, though, it looked like things might be changing. Gay clubs flourished in big cities and community groups sprang up to offer social services. These days, the feeling has faded. While it's difficult to point to any direct crackdown, the reality is that over the past decade it's become tougher to be gay in China. That's seen as a consequence of a broader push by President Xi Jinping to mold a more conservative, conformist China.

Homosexuality was decriminalized in 1997, but there are no explicit legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Same-sex couples are not allowed to marry or adopt children. Advocates have had some successes in court arguing that the rights to equality and dignity in the constitution apply to LGBTQ people, like when a Beijing court in 2020 ruled that protecting a transwoman against workplace discrimination "should be within the meaning" of the law. The Chinese Psychiatric Association removed homesexuality per se from its list of mental illnesses in 2001, calling it "not necessarily abnormal." Still, a 2020 report from the United Nations human rights office found so-called conversion therapies still being provided at public hospitals. People living with HIV/AIDS or those seeking sex-reassignment surgery have reported facing discrimination from healthcare workers.

#### **Russian Federation**

In 1991, Russia liberalized some of its anti-LGBT laws. Most notably, homosexual relationships were decriminalized in 1993. Transgender Russians have also been allowed to change their legal gender on identity documents since 1997, although there are many obstacles to the process and invasive surgical requirements remain in place. Despite these liberalization trends during the immediate post-Soviet period, in recent years, Russian authorities have routinely denied permits for Pride parades, intimidated and arrested LGBT activists and condoned anti-LGBT statements by government officials. ILGA-Europe, the European section of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, rates Russia as the least protective country in Europe for LGBT citizens, ranking it 49th out of the 49 European countries rated in its annual survey.

In June 2013, the Russian duma in Moscow passed a new law banning the "propaganda of non-traditional sexual relationships" to minors. The new federal law is closely related to several regional laws that were already on the books, all of which seek to penalize "propaganda" of homosexuality, generally with the intent of "protecting" minors. The city of Sochi, which is the site of the upcoming Winter Olympics, has one of those regional laws in place. And while the regional laws are not uniform, like the new federal law, they all tend to advance vague definitions of propaganda that lend themselves to the targeting and ongoing persecution of the country's LGBT community. The language of this new law focuses on "non-traditional" sexual relationships, to contrast with "traditional values" or "traditional family" language that Russia is promoting at the UN to oppose positive statements supporting the human rights of LGBT people.

## **Problems Faced by LGBT People:**

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) people face tremendous difficulties growing up in a society where heterosexuality is often presented as the only acceptable orientation and homosexuality is regarded as deviant. They continue to face discrimination and exclusion across the world in all spheres of life. Homophobic violence and abuse targeting LGBT people occur on a regular basis.

The discrimination not only denies LGBT people equal access to key social goods, such as employment, health care, education and housing, but it also marginalizes them in society and makes them one of the vulnerable groups who are at risk of

becoming socially excluded. Here I am highlighting some major problems faced by LGBT people across the world:

### 1. Marginalization and Social Exclusion:

Marginalization is at the core of exclusion from fulfilling and full social lives at individual, interpersonal and societal levels. People who are marginalized have relatively little control over their lives and the resources available to them; they may become stigmatized and are often at the receiving end of negative public attitudes. Their opportunities to make social contributions may be limited and they may develop low self-confidence and self esteem and may become isolated. Social policies and practices may mean they have relatively limited access to valued social resources such as education and health services, housing, income, leisure activities and work. The impacts of marginalization, in terms of social exclusion, are similar, whatever the origins and processes of marginalization, irrespective of whether these are to be located in social attitudes (such as towards impairment, sexuality, ethnicity and so on) or social circumstance (such as closure of workplaces, absence of affordable housing and so on). LGBT individuals may experience multiple forms of marginalization-such as racism, sexism, poverty or other factors – alongside homophobia or transphobia that negatively impact on mental health.

### 2.Impact of Family Reactions on LGBT Children:

Conflict and Rejection In the past, very few adolescents —came outll to their families or told others they were gay. Most lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals (LGB) waited until they were adults to talk about their LGB identity with others. Fear of rejection and serious negative reactions kept many LGB adults from openly sharing their lives. Until the 1990s, there were limited resources for LGBT youth. Gay and transgender adolescents had few sources of information to learn about their identity or to find support. More recently, the Internet, school diversity clubs, and LGBT youth groups have helped gay and transgender youth find accurate information, guidance, and support. With greater access to resources, more LGBT youth are coming out (sharing their gay or transgender identity with friends, family, and other adults) during adolescence. Until recently, little was known about how families react when an LGBT young person comes out during adolescence. And even less was known about how family reactions affect an LGBT adolescent's health and mental health. Families and caregivers have a major impact on their LGBT children's risk and well-being

#### 3. Problems of Homelessness:

The myriad problems facing LGBT people who are homeless include a lack of housing and services that meet their specific needs. Transgender people are not allowed to choose with which gender they are more comfortable living in the shelter system. Abuse and harassment of LGBT homeless people is rampant in the shelter system. Most domestic violence shelters do not accept gay men or transgender people. There has been also a lack of any comprehensive plan for long-term housing for people with AIDS. Homeless LGBT youth are without economic support, often engage in drug use and risky sexual behaviors, and often develop mental health disorders. Homeless LGBT youth miss out on education and social support during critical formative years—more than half of homeless LGBT youth report experiencing discrimination from peers.

### 4. Problems of Homophobia:

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people are more likely to experience intolerance, discrimination, harassment, and the threat of violence due to their sexual orientation, than those that identify themselves as heterosexual. This is due to homophobia. Some of the factors that may reinforce homophobia on a larger scale are moral, religious, and political beliefs of a dominant group. Living in a homophobic environment forces many LGBT people to conceal their sexuality, for fear of the negative reactions and consequences of coming out .

#### 5. Harassment of LGBT Students in Schools:

LGBT students face harassment in schools. Being a teenager is tough enough without fearing harassment in a place where you're supposed to feel safe. All over the country lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students get harassed every day in school. Students who may be even just perceived as being LGBT also get harassed. Too many LGBT students find it hard to speak up about harassment because it is so embedded in our culture. LGBT harassment is one of the last forms of harassment that is still allowed in popular culture.

# **6.Psychological Distress:**

LGBT people face considerable levels of stigmatization, discrimination and harassment in their daily lives. The majorities of LGBT people learn to cope with this, particularly when they have the support of family and friends, and participate with LGBT organizations and social networks. However, a significant number of LGBT people,

most particularly younger LGBT people, had to cope with stigmatization, discrimination and harassment without support. Many also faced additional stress from experiences such as very high levels of homophobic bullying in schools and physical and verbal attacks. This had a negative impact on their mental health, leading to significant levels of psychological distress, self-harm and suicidality

### 7. Poor Economic Condition and Discrimination in the Workplace:

In addition to homophobia, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people confront racism and poverty on a daily basis. Discrimination of LGBT persons in the work-place is a significant factor in the differences in socioeconomic status for LGBT persons. Gay and transgender individuals suffer from socioeconomic inequalities in large part due to pervasive discrimination in the workplace. Discrimination directly causes job instability and high turnover, resulting in greater unemployment and poverty rates for gay and transgender people, as well as the wage gap between gay and straight.

### 8. Drug Addiction of LGBT people:

LGBT people are more likely to use alcohol, tobacco and other drugs than the general population, are less likely to abstain, report higher rates of substance abuse problems, and are more likely to continue heavy drinking into later life. LGBT's use alcohol, tobacco and other drugs for the same reasons as others.

#### **Problem Statement**

LGBT has become a widely accepted designation for minorities based on sexual and gender orientation. All members of these subgroups are subject to similar prejudices rooted in beliefs and traditions about sexuality and gender. LGBT people, as members of a social minority group, are suffering from various forms of socioeconomic and cultural injustice. The lacks of social recognition has an effect on the capacity of LGBT people to fully access and enjoy their rights as citizens. They are more likely to experience intolerance, discrimination, harassment, and the threat of violence due to their sexual orientation, than those that identify themselves as heterosexual.

Some of the factors that may reinforce homophobia on a larger scale are moral, religious, and political beliefs of a dominant group. In some countries, homosexuality is illegal and punishable by fines, imprisonment, life imprisonment and even the

death penalty. Human sexuality is diversely experienced, and can be fixed or fluid. Male/female sexuality is blurred further with the existence of transgender, transsexual and intersex identified people. Heterosexuality should no longer be assumed; this assumption is called heterosexism. Although many societies have made significant strides in human rights advocacy, LGBT rights struggle to find universal acceptance. The fact that the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, drafted in 1948, does not specifically include sexual orientation allows some people to consider LGBT rights debatable. The declaration does however state: —Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration without distinction of any kind...||

Now more and more people are openly expressing their sexual orientation, and organizing and demanding their rights. Because of the work of these groups and their allies, acceptance of LGBT rights around the world is growing, and governments in certain countries are beginning to legislate in favor or LGBT rights and anti-discrimination laws.

Despite these encouraging realities, Deeply-embedded homophobic and trans phobic attitudes, often combined with a lack of adequate legal protection against discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, expose many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people of all ages and in all regions of the world to egregious violations of their human rights. They are discriminated against in the labour market, in schools and in hospitals, mistreated and disowned by their own families. They are singled out for physical attack – beaten, sexually assaulted, tortured and killed. And in some 76 countries, discriminatory laws criminalize private, consensual same-sex relationships – exposing individuals to the risk of arrest, prosecution, imprisonment — even, in at least five countries, the death penalty.

### Rules of Procedure

#### Roll Call

A committee meeting begins with a roll call, without which quorum cannot be established. A debate cannot begin without a quorum being established. A delegate may change his/her roll call in the next session. For example, if Delegate answers the Present in the First session, he can answer Present and vote in the next session when the roll call occurs.

During the roll call, the country names are recalled out of alphabetical order, and delegates can answer either by saying Present or Present and voting. Following are the ways a roll call can be responded in -

- Present Delegates can vote Yes, no, or abstain for a Draft Resolution when they answer the Roll Call with Present;
- Present and voting An delegate is required to vote decisively, i.e., Yes/No only
  if they have answered the Roll Call with a Present and voting. A Delegate cannot
  abstain in this case.
- Abstention The Delegate may abstain from voting if they are in doubt, or if their country supports some points but opposes others. Abstention can also be used if a delegate believes that the passage of the resolution will harm the world, even though it is unlikely to be highly specific. A delegate who responded with present and voting is not allowed to abstain during a substantive vote. An abstention counts as neither "yes" nor "no vote", and his or her vote is not included in the total vote tally.

#### Quorum

In order for the proceedings of a committee to proceed, quorum (also known as a minimum number of members) must be set which is one-third of the members of the committee must be present. Quorum will be assumed to be established unless a delegate's presence is specifically challenged and shown to be absent during the roll call. The Executive Board may suspend committee sessions if a quorum is not reached.

### **General Speakers List**

After the agenda for the session has been established, a motion israised to open the General Speaker's List or GSL. The GSL is where all types of debates take place throughout the conference, and the list remains open throughout the duration of the agenda's discussion. If a delegate wishes to speak in the GSL, he or she must notify the Executive Board by raising his or her placard when the Executive asks for Delegates desiring to speak in the GSL. Each country's name will be listed in the order in which it will deliver its speech. A GSL can have an individual speaker time of anywhere from 60-120 seconds. Following their GSL speech, a Delegate has the option of yielding his/her time to a specific Delegate, Information Points (questions) or to the Executive Board.

Speakers List will be followed for all debate on the Topic Area, except when superseded by procedural motions, amendments, or the introduction of a draft resolution. Speakers may speak generally on the Topic Area being considered and may address any draft resolution currently on the floor. Debate automatically closes when the Speakers List is exhausted.

#### **Yield**

A delegate granted the right to speak on a substantive issue may yield in one of three ways at the conclusion of his/her speech: to another delegate, to questions, or to the Director. Please note that only one yield is allowed. A delegate must declare any yield at the conclusion of his or her speech.

- Yield to another delegate. When a delegate has some time left to speak, and he/ she doesn't wish to utili#e it, that delegate may elect to yield the remaining speaking time to another delegate. This can only be done with the prior consent of another delegate (taken either verbally or through chits). The delegate who has been granted the other's time may use it to make a substantive speech, but cannot further yield it.
- Yield to questions. Questioners will be selected by the Executive Board. Follow-up questions will be allowed only at the discretion of the Director. The Director will have the right to call to order any delegate whose question is, in the opinion of the Director,

rhetorical and leading and not designed to elicit information. Only the speaker's answers to questions will be deducted from the speaker's remaining time.

• Yield to the EB. Such a yield should be made if the delegate does not wish his/her speech to be subject to questions. The moderator will then move to the next speaker.

#### **Motions**

Motions are the formal term used for when one initiates an action. Motions cover a wide variety of things.

- Once the floor is open, the Chairs will ask for any points or motions. If you wish to bring one to the Floor, this is what you should do:
- Raise your placard in a way that the chair can read it
- · Wait until the Chair recognizes you
- Stand up and after properly addressing the Chair(":hank you, honourable Chair" or something along these lines), state what motion you wish to propose
- Chairs will generally repeat the motions and may also ask for clarification. Chairs
  may do this if they do not understand and may also ask for or suggest modifications to the motion that they feel might benefit the debate.

Every motion is subject to seconds, if not otherwise stated. To pass a motion at least one other nation has to second the motion brought forward. A nation cannot second its own motion. If there are no seconds, the motion automatically fails.

If a motion has a second, the Chair will ask for objections. If no objections are raised, the motion will pass without discussion or a procedural vote. In case of objections, a procedural vote will be held. The vote on a motion requires a simple majority, if not otherwise stated.

While voting upon motions, there are no abstentions. If a vote is required, everyone must vote either "Yes" or "No". If there is a draw on any vote, the vote will be retaken once. In case there are multiple motions on the Floor, the vote will be casted by their

Order of Precedence. If one motion passes, the others will not be voted upon anymore. However, they may be reintroduced once the Floor is open again.

During a moderated caucus, there will be no speakers' list. The moderator will call upon speakers in the order in which the signal their desire to speak. If you want to bring in a motion for a moderated caucus, you will have to specify the duration, a speakers' time, a moderator, and the purpose of the caucus. This motion is subject to seconds and objections but is not debatable.

In an unmoderated caucus, proceedings are not bound by the Rules of Procedure. Delegates may move around the room freely and converse with other delegates. This is also the time to create blocks, develop ideas, and formulate working papers, draft resolutions, and amendments. Remember that you are required to stay in your room unless given permission to leave by a Chair.

During the course of debate, the following **points** are in order:

Point of Personal Privilege: Whenever a delegate experiences personal discomfort which impairs his or her ability to participate in the proceedings, he or she may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege to request that the discomfort be corrected. While a Point of Personal Privilege in extreme case may interrupt a speaker, delegates should use this power with the utmost discretion.

Point of Order: During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may rise to a Point of Order to indicate an instance of improper parliamentary procedure. The Point of Order will be immediately decided by the Director in accordance with these rules of procedure. The Director may rule out of order those points that are improper. A representative rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. A Point of Order may only interrupt a speaker if the speech is not following proper parliamentary procedure.

Point of Parliamentary Enquiry: When the floor is open, a delegate may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the EB a question regarding the rules of procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker. Delegates with substantive questions should not rise to this Point, but should rather approach the committee staff during caucus or send a note to the dais.

Point of information: After a delegate gives a speech, and if the delegate yields their time to Points of Information, one Point of Information (a question) can be raised by delegates from the floor. The speaker will be allotted the remainder of his or her speaking time to address Points of Information. Points of Information are directed to the speaker and allow other delegations to ask questions in relation to speeches and resolutions.

Right to Reply: A delegate whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another delegate may submit a Right of Reply only in writing to the committee staff. The Director will grant the Right of Reply and his or her discretion and a delegate granted a Right of Reply will not address the committee except at the request of the Director.

### **Draft Resolution**

Once a draft resolution has been approved as stipulated above and has been copied and distributed, a delegate(s) may motion to introduce the draft resolution. The Director, time permitting, shall read the operative clauses of the draft resolution. A procedural vote is then taken to determine whether the resolution shall be introduced. Should the motion received the simple majority required to pass, the draft resolution will be considered introduced and on the floor. The Director, at his or her discretion, may answer any clarificatory points on the draft resolution. Any substantive points will be ruled out of order during this period, and the Director may end this clarificatory question-answer period' for any reason, including time constraints. More than one draft resolution may be on the floor at any one time, but at most one draft resolution may be passed per Topic Area. A draft resolution will remain on the floor until debate on that specific draft resolution is postponed or closed or a draft resolution on that Topic Area has been passed. Debate on draft resolutions proceeds according to the general Speakers List for that topic area and delegates may then refer to the draft resolution by its designated number. No delegate may refer to a draft resolution until it is formally introduced.

### **Amendments**

All amendments need to be written and submitted to the executive board. The format for this is authors, signatories and the clause with mentioning the add, delete and replace. There are two forms of amendment, which can be raised by raising a motion

for amendment and approval of the chair:

- Friendly Amendments: Amendment, which is agreed upon by all the author's does not require any kind of voting
- Unfriendly Amendments: Amendments that are introduced by any other need not be voted upon by the council and are directly incorporated in the resolution. You need a simple majority in order to introduce a normal amendment.

### **BODY of Draft Resolution**

The draft resolution is written in the format of a long sentence, with the following rules:

- Draft resolution consists of clauses with the first word of each clause underlined.
- The next section, consisting of Preambulatory Clauses, describes the problem being addressed, recalls past actions taken, explains the purpose of the draft resolution, and offers support for the operative clauses that follow. Each clause in the preamble begins with an underlined word and ends with a comma.
- Operative Clauses are numbered and state the action to be taken by the body.
  These clauses are all with the present tense active verbs and are generally
  stronger words than those used in the Preamble. Each operative clause is followed by a semi-colon except the last, which ends with a period.

### SAMPLE POSITION PAPER

Committee: UNDP

Country: Chad

Topic: Women in Development

Chad is concern with gender equality issues and quite glad with the attention tChad is concerned about gender equality concerns and is pleased that people are

paying attention to this subject. We promote human rights and believe that all humans, including men and women, are created equal. We see that violence and gender discrimination would be a violation of human rights. We also think that women, like men, should be allowed a larger role in practically every facet of life.

This crisis has been resolved in practically every country, and we now need to create a safer and more secure environment.

improved environment for women and their activities As many as 70% to 80% of women are responsible for their home. However, they are in an unpleasant condition due to a lack of education, financial management, and even awareness of their rights. Which led to bigger problems such as unpaid overtime work, low education owing to forced young marriage, and other culturally based constraints that make people unhappy.

Our country may have joined and ratified human rights accords that acknowledged the Gender equality is a concept. And our government enthusiastically passed the domestic violence statute, which is yet another step toward recognising this issue. Nonetheless, we think that there is a problem in law enforcement, which is why Chad will participate in UNDP programmes regarding gender equality, women empowerment, and advocating our position to our own people.

The government of Chad presented various remedies to this problem.

1. Creating an environment in which women are accepted and treated equally. in which case

As an example, UNDP should engage in social and cultural activities to create a "model community." to different villages Education is one of the projects. The majority of the time, young girls are stolen.away from school and compelled to work or marry owing to financial difficulties Developing an option may be night school or another flexible-in-time and free school.

2. A basic financial education. Women should seek out services or products that are effective. capable of handling them We would aid them in obtaining credit and a better and safer loan. And they should be functioning as entrepreneurs in their town or group. Which in this case In this situation, they create a new, independent employment.