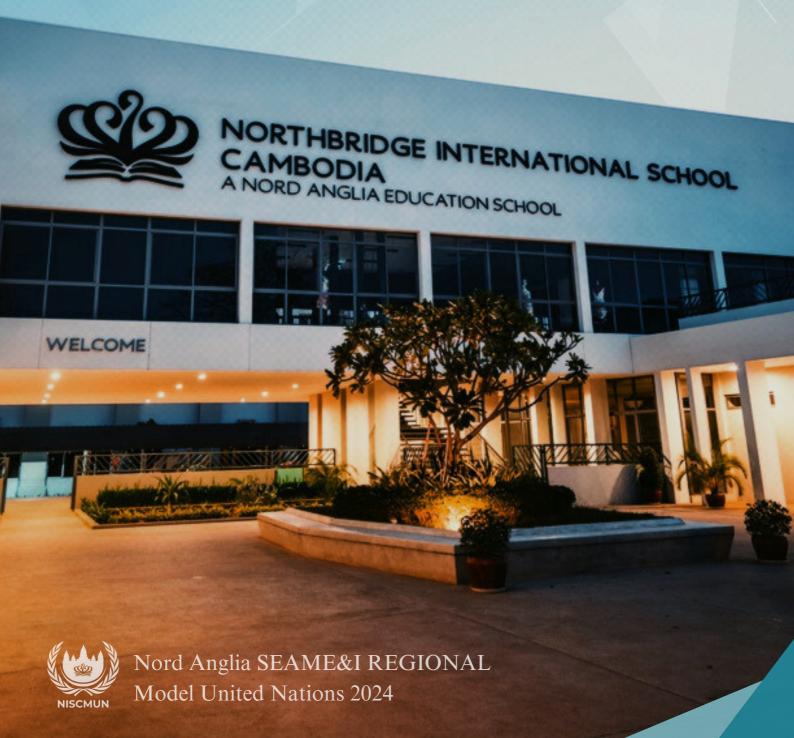
# General Assembly 3: Social, Cultural and Humanitarian

The Question of Protecting Gender Identity and Transgender Rights

Head Chair: Rathmanemo Sanha

**Deputy Chair: Haram Lee** 

**Assistant Chair: Emily Sun** 





## **Contents**

Introduction	2
Definition of Key Terms	2
Background Information	3
Current Situation	4
Major Parties involved and their views	5
Timeline of Relevant Events	6
Related UN Treaties and Events	9
Previous Attempts to solve the issue	10
Possible Solutions	11
Suggested Reading	13
Bibliography	14



## Introduction

At its core, gender identity delves into an individual's internal and distinct sense of gender, which may not align with the gender assigned at birth. Yet, moving beyond the conceptual, a stark reality unfolds—a cycle of exclusion and marginalization experienced by gender-diverse and transgender individuals on a global scale. This cycle manifests in various forms, from school bullying and familial rejection to employment denial, often pushing individuals to the fringes of society. The risks are exacerbated for those within marginalized groups, including people of color, ethnic minorities, migrants, individuals living with HIV, or engaged in sex work, leading to distressing levels of violence and abuse. Amidst these challenges, a glimmer of hope emerges with the depathologization of trans identities. Recognizing the misuse of mental health diagnoses to stigmatize identities, the revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) in 2019 marks a pivotal step toward liberating trans individuals from the shackles of violence and discrimination.

## **Definition of Key Terms**

#### **LGBT**

An acronym used to describe lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning persons or the community.

#### **Gender Identity**

A deeply felt internal experience of gender, which may or may not align with the sex assigned at birth. It is an individual's personal sense of their own gender, which can include being male, female, or non-binary.

#### **Gender Diverse**

Used to refer to a person whose gender identity, including their gender expression, is at odds with what is perceived as being the gender norm in a particular context at a particular point in time, including those who do not place themselves in the male/female binary.

#### Transgender

A term describing individuals whose gender identity differs from the sex assigned to them at birth. Transgender people may identify as male, female, or non-binary, and may undergo gender-affirming processes such as hormone therapy or gender confirmation surgery.

#### **Transgender Rights**

The legal and social rights afforded to individuals who identify as transgender. This includes protection from discrimination, equal access to healthcare, education, employment, and the right to express one's gender identity without fear of prejudice or violence.



#### **Gender-Based Discrimination**

Unfair treatment or prejudice against individuals based on their gender identity or expression. This can manifest in various forms, such as denial of rights, exclusion, harassment, or violence.

#### **Conversion Therapy**

A controversial and discredited practice that aims to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity. It is widely condemned as unethical and harmful, with potential severe psychological and physical consequences.

#### Intersectionality

The recognition that various aspects of a person's identity, such as gender, race, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status, intersect and influence each other. Addressing transgender rights should consider the intersectionality of individuals and the unique challenges they may face.

#### **SOGI**

Abbreviation for the phrase Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

## **Background Information**

The discussions surrounding LGBT rights within the United Nations (UN) have undergone a significant evolution since the organization's inception in 1945. Notably, it wasn't until 1994, following the Toonen v. Australia case, that LGBT rights, specifically equality irrespective of sexual orientation or gender identity, entered the discourse at UN political bodies. The first breakthrough occurred in 2003 when Brazil proposed a resolution against discrimination based on sexual orientation, though debates led to a postponement until 2004.

Crucially, the dialogue expanded in 2006 to encompass gender identity, with Norway presenting a joint statement on human rights violations related to sexual orientation and gender identity on behalf of 54 states. Subsequent years saw Argentina presenting a similar statement to the General Assembly in 2008, sparking both support and opposition, notably from the Arab League and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation. In 2011, South Africa spearheaded a groundbreaking UN Human Rights Council resolution, leading to the drafting of a report documenting discriminatory laws and violence against individuals based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The report, released in 2011, highlighted human rights violations and recommended measures for the protection of LGBT persons.



The momentum continued in 2014 with the UN extending equal benefits to employees in same-sex unions. Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay subsequently led a follow-up resolution in the UNHRC, reflecting growing international support. This resolution sought to update the 2011 report, emphasizing the application of existing human rights law and standards. In 2016, the UNHRC appointed an Independent Expert to investigate violence and discrimination against individuals based on gender identity and sexual orientation. This mandate is considered the UN's most explicit acknowledgment of gay rights as human rights.

## **Current situation:**

On June 30, 2016, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution titled "Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation, and gender identity." This historic decision mandates the appointment of an independent expert on the subject, marking a significant step forward in safeguarding the human rights of individuals vulnerable to discrimination and violence due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. The resolution, presented by the Core Group of seven Latin American countries and supported by 41 additional nations, builds upon prior resolutions from 2011 and 2014. The voting outcome revealed 23 in favor, 18 against, and six abstentions (HRW.ORG).

The adoption of this resolution is considered as an achievement by human rights groups, with organizations worldwide joining forces in a joint campaign that garnered support of 628 non-governmental organizations across 151 countries. The global south, representing around 70% of these organizations, conveyed a cross-regional message to the UN, emphasizing the need to protect the rights of LGBTI persons. The appointed independent expert will play a crucial role in assessing the implementation of existing international human rights law, identifying best practices and gaps, raising awareness of violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, engaging in dialogue with states and stakeholders, and providing advisory services and technical assistance to address these issues.

While the resolution faced challenges, including hostile amendments introducing notions of cultural relativism, the core affirmation of the universal nature of international human rights law prevailed. The establishment of a UN expert provides an official voice to those facing violations due to their sexual orientation or gender identity globally. Human rights advocates express their commitment to working with civil society and the new UN expert to strive for a world free from violence and discrimination for all, irrespective of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The UN Security Council's condemnation of the Orlando nightclub shooting in 2016 marked a historic moment, recognizing violence targeting the LGBT community for the first time. As of 2023, same-sex marriage is legally performed and recognized in 34 UN member states, reflecting an evolving landscape in the international recognition of LGBT rights.



## Major Parties involved and their views

#### The United Nations:

The United Nations has been instrumental in advocating for the rights of transgender individuals. In 2011, the UN passed a historic resolution that brought specific focus to human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The resolution called for a panel discussion to be held at the Human Rights Council to discuss the findings.

#### **UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC):**

The UN Human Rights Council is a key factor in the promotion and protection of human rights globally. In 2011, the UNHRC played a pivotal role by passing a historic resolution submitted by South Africa, marking the first time any United Nations body affirmed the rights of LGBTQ+ people. The resolution called for a study on discrimination and sexual orientation, tasking the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with documenting discriminatory laws and practices. The UNHRC's engagement reflects a commitment to addressing human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Their perspective emphasizes the need for comprehensive reports, awareness, and action to combat discrimination and violence against LGBTQ+ individuals.

#### The United Nations LGBTI Core group:

The United Nations LGBTI Core Group is an intergovernmental coalition formed in 2008 to address LGBTI rights globally. This group fosters collaboration between Global South and Global North state diplomats. By co-chairing and participating in the group, countries aim to advocate for the rights of the LGBTQ+ community at the international level. The Core Group engages in discussions, organizes events, and collaborates on initiatives to promote inclusivity and address challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community. Their perspective is centered on fostering equality, ending discrimination, and advocating for human rights regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

#### **Denmark & Argentina**

Denmark has adopted a progressive stance on gender recognition reform, aligning itself with Argentina's pioneering approach, according to Transgender Europe. In 2012, Argentina's Senate unanimously passed the Gender Identity Law, granting legal rights to sex-change surgery, which is covered by both public and private health care plans. Following Argentina's lead, the Danish Parliament enacted legal gender recognition for transgender individuals aged 18 and above in 2014, solely based on self-determination and without the need for medical intervention. Remarkably, Denmark stands out in Europe as the only country not requiring psychiatric diagnoses or certification by a medical professional for legal gender recognition, as highlighted by Transgender Europe. Notably, 34 European countries still impose restrictions, preventing transgender individuals from changing their name and



#### Iran

Iran's approach to transgender rights presents a 'double-edged sword.' In 1987, Ayatollah Khomeini issued a fatwa allowing sexual reassignment surgery, acknowledging those who undergo complete gender reassignment. However, the government fails to recognize transgender individuals who do not undergo medical intervention, according to international human rights organization Outright Action International. Although the government allows and subsidizes gender reassignment surgery, critics argue that this policy can be detrimental for transgender individuals. While it provides legal recognition and access to transition-related healthcare for some, it also reinforces stigma by suggesting that transgender individuals inherently suffer from psychological disorders requiring medical intervention for full citizenship, as stated by Jessica Stern, OutRight Executive Director.

#### Russia

On July 24, 2023, President Vladimir Putin signed a new law criminalizing the alteration of gender identifiers on legal documents and the modification of physical characteristics for gender transition through medical or surgical means in Russia. The bill, unanimously approved by Duma members in mid-June, also imposes restrictions on individuals who had previously changed their gender identifier, prohibiting them from adopting children and potentially annulling their marriages. This move represents a significant intensification of the Kremlin's assault on the LGBTQ+ community in Russia. This legislative trend traces back to 2013 when Russia instituted a federal ban on the distribution of "gay propaganda" to minors, prohibiting positive to neutral expressions of LGBTQ+ identity in public venues and the media. The November 2022 update expanded this prohibition into a total ban on LGBTQ+ expressions, increasing fines for violations, with penalties reaching up to 400,000 rubles (\$6,600 USD) for individuals and over five million rubles (more than \$80,000 USD) for organizations. The ban applies to both Russian and foreign entities, as illustrated by Roskomnadzor's fine on TikTok for promoting "videos with LGBT themes" in October.

## **Timeline of Relevant Events**

Date	Description
1966	The Transsexual Phenomenon' The physician Harry Benjamin published "The Transsexual Phenomenon," a groundbreaking book that outlined how transgender people could transition medically.



1969	The Stonewall Riots  Police officers raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club in New York City. The crowd, weary of the raids on gay clubs, rioted. Many in the L.G.B.T. community, including transgender people, joined in several days of demonstrations. The Stonewall Riots are widely considered to have sparked the L.G.B.T. rights movement.
1993	First State Protections  Minnesota became the first state to extend protections against discrimination to transgender people.
1995	Bev Ditsie Speech at the Fourth Conference on Women in Beijing Brazil presented a resolution prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Discussions were postponed until 2004.
2002	UN General Assembly References to Sexual Orientation Since 2002, the UN General Assembly has included a reference to sexual orientation in its biennial resolutions on extrajudicial, summary, and arbitrary executions. The former Commission on Human Rights also addresses sexual orientation in its resolutions on the death penalty between 2002 and 2005.
2003	Brazil resolution at UN commission on Human Rights Brazil presented a resolution prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Discussions were postponed until 2004
2006	First Joint Statement on Human Rights Violations Based on SOGI at Human Rights Council  On December 1, 2006, Norway presents the initial joint statement on human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) at the Third Session of the Human Rights Council on behalf of 54 states. The statement emphasizes the need to address violations and commends the role of Special Procedures, treaty bodies, and civil society.



2008	Joint Statement on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity at the General Assembly  On December 18, 2008, Argentina presents a joint statement on human rights violations based on SOGI at the General Assembly on behalf of 66 states. The statement reaffirms the principles of universality of human rights, non-discrimination, and expresses deep concerns about ongoing violations. It urges states to take legislative measures to ensure SOGI is not a basis for criminal penalties.  UN LGBTI Core Group Established  UN LGBTI Core Group was established to focus on LGBTI rights in an intergovernmental context. Comprising 42 member states, the European Union, OHCHR, Human Rights Watch, and Outright International, the group aims to raise awareness and contribute to multilateral work at the UN.
2013	UN Free & Equal Campaign Launched by OHCHR  The UN Free & Equal Campaign is launched in 2013, a global public information campaign aimed at promoting equal rights and fair treatment of LGBTI persons. The campaign utilizes social media, videos, graphics, and fact sheets to reach a global audience.
2015	First Meeting Focusing on LGBT Rights at Security Council The first Security Council Arria Formula Meeting focusing on LGBT rights is held in 2015, cohosted by Chile and the United States. The meeting addresses the situation of LGBT persons in conflict settings in the Middle East.
2016	Independent Expert on SOGI Mandate Created In June 2016, the Human Rights Council adopts resolution A/HRC/RES/32/2, creating the mandate of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.



2021	SOGI Explicitly Mentioned in Second-ever GA Resolution In December 2021, the General Assembly adopts resolution A/RES/76/176, the second resolution explicitly mentioning sexual orientation and gender identity. The resolution urges member states to eliminate discriminatory laws, regulations, and practices based on SOGI.
2024 (Today)	Events Celebrating Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Expression, and Well-Being Numerous occasions arise annually for individuals to delve deeper into and commemorate the diversity within the LGBTQ+ community. These events range from those organized by various entities to days, weeks, and months acknowledged and celebrated by the LGBTQ+ community on a broader scale. The list provided highlights some of the widely recognized events in this regard.

## **Related UN Treaties and Events**

UN LGBTI Core Group: Established in 2008, the UN LGBTI Core Group focuses on LGBTI rights in an intergovernmental context. Its main goals are to raise awareness about LGBTI issues, contribute to multilateral work and negotiations at the UN, and seek common ground and dialogue with non-members and other stakeholders

UN Free & Equal Campaign: Launched in 2013, the UN Free & Equal Campaign is an unprecedented global UN public information campaign aimed at promoting equal rights and fair treatment of LGBTI persons. It reaches people all over the world through social media, videos, impactful graphics, and plain-language fact sheets

**Human Rights Council Resolutions:** In 2019, the Human Rights Council passed resolution A/HRC/RES/40/5 on discrimination of women and girls in sports, which addressed intersex issues for the first time. In 2022, the Human Rights Council passed resolution A/HRC/RES/51/1 on the elimination of discrimination against women and girls, which included a focus on LGBTI issues

General Assembly Resolutions: In 2008, the General Assembly adopted a joint statement on human rights, sexual orientation, and gender identity. In 2013, the General Assembly added "gender identity" to the General Assembly Resolution on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions (EJE).""



## **Previous Attempts to solve the issue**

EEfforts have been made by various actors in the past to address the question of protecting gender identity and transgender rights. One notable attempt involved legal initiatives aimed at establishing protections against discrimination based on gender identity. In the United States, for instance, a significant development was the U.S. Supreme Court decision recognizing workplace discrimination protections for transgender individuals. Despite such legal strides, there have been ongoing discussions about the need for comprehensive federal non-discrimination laws that explicitly include gender identity, extending beyond the workplace to areas such as housing and public services.

Additionally, advocacy groups and organizations have played a crucial role in raising awareness and pushing for policy changes. The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and other LGBTQ+ rights organizations have engaged in campaigns to promote understanding, tolerance, and legal reforms. These initiatives have sought to challenge societal perceptions, combat stigma, and address the discriminatory practices that transgender individuals often face.

International actors, including the United Nations, have also been involved in addressing the issue. The UN Human Rights Council has adopted resolutions and established mechanisms, such as the appointment of an Independent Expert, to investigate and address violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. These global efforts reflect a commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of transgender individuals on an international scale.

However, challenges persist, and there have been instances of resistance and opposition to the advancement of transgender rights. Some legislative bodies have debated or enacted laws that restrict transgender individuals' access to public spaces or services, contributing to an ongoing struggle for equal rights and societal acceptance.

Finally, efforts to address issues related to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) have witnessed a multifaceted approach over the years. Globally, various actors, including LGBTQ+ advocacy groups, have played a pivotal role in advocating for equal rights and protections for individuals of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Legal initiatives have been undertaken in several countries to decriminalize same-sex relationships and establish anti-discrimination laws.



At the international level, the United Nations has actively engaged in discussions and resolutions addressing human rights violations based on SOGI. The establishment of the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination related to sexual orientation and gender identity represents a significant step in investigating and addressing these issues on a global scale. Despite progress, challenges persist, and ongoing efforts are essential to foster inclusivity, eradicate discrimination, and ensure the rights of individuals across the spectrum of sexual orientation and gender identity.

### **Possible Solutions**

#### **Legal Protections**

Implementing and reinforcing robust legal frameworks that explicitly protect individuals based on gender identity and transgender status is crucial. To ensure accuracy and dispel myths, collaboration with neutral parties such as international human rights organizations like Amnesty International or Human Rights Watch is vital. These entities can provide guidance on creating comprehensive anti-discrimination laws and workplace protections while serving as independent monitors to assess the impact and implementation of these legal measures.

Engaging with United Nations agencies, particularly those focused on human rights and non-discrimination, can offer valuable insights and recommendations. Legal and policy experts, including academics and think tanks, can contribute precision to the drafted legislation, ensuring alignment with international standards. They also play a role in conducting impact assessments and guiding governments on potential challenges in implementation.

Encouraging governments to prioritize the creation of inclusive laws becomes more achievable through incentive-based programs led by neutral parties, like international development agencies and financial institutions. Working closely with local and global LGBTQ+ rights organizations and advocacy groups becomes crucial in this effort. Their involvement not only raises awareness but also ensures that the voices of communities at the grassroots level are heard. Together, these collaborative efforts contribute to a stronger foundation for safeguarding the rights of transgender individuals by fostering accountability, addressing challenges, and promoting a more inclusive legal framework.

#### **Education and Awareness**



International organizations, such as The United Nations LGBTI Core group, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNICEF, and the World Health Organization, can lend their expertise and global influence to support widespread educational programs. By partnering with these organizations, governments and advocacy groups can work on creating guidelines, policies, and international standards that encourage inclusive education, dispel myths, and foster understanding of gender diversity.

Non-governmental organizations specializing in LGBTQ+ rights, mental health, and education, like GLAAD, ILGA World, or organizations specific to each region, can serve as valuable allies. These organizations often have experience in designing and implementing awareness campaigns, conducting research, and providing resources that can enhance the effectiveness of educational programs. Collaborating with such neutral parties ensures a more holistic and informed approach to tackling gender stereotypes and stigma.

Engaging educational institutions at various levels, from schools to universities, is essential for implementing change at the grassroots level. Teachers' associations, school boards, and university administrations can contribute by integrating gender diversity into curricula, providing training for educators, and creating safe and inclusive environments for students. Neutral parties in the educational sector can bring credibility, resources, and practical insights to the development and execution of awareness programs.

In addition to these formal channels, involving media outlets, influential personalities, and celebrities can amplify the reach and impact of awareness campaigns. Collaborating with neutral parties in the media and entertainment industry can contribute to reshaping public perceptions, challenging stereotypes, and normalizing diverse gender identities.

#### **Healthcare Access**

Ensuring accessible, affirming, and non-discriminatory healthcare services for transgender individuals is paramount. This involves training healthcare professionals to understand and address the unique healthcare needs of the transgender community, as well as working towards destignatizing and depathologizing transgender identities.

#### **International Advocacy and Media Representation**

Continued advocacy on the international stage, leveraging platforms like the United Nations, is essential. This involves collaborating with governments, NGOs, and activists globally to push for comprehensive human rights protections based on gender identity and transgender status. Simultaneously, promoting positive and accurate portrayals of transgender individuals in media and popular culture can contribute to reducing stereotypes and fostering societal acceptance. Media outlets can play a role in shaping narratives that challenge biases and promote understanding.

## **Suggested Reading**



#### (UN Treaty Bodies Advance LGBTI Rights) Link

• UN treaty bodies increasingly address LGBTI rights, with growing references in concluding observations. Over the past five years, there's been a significant increase in mentions of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression. The approach is intersectional, considering cases like "corrective rape" and issues faced by LGBTI individuals with disabilities. Jurisprudence has evolved, impacting local changes. Activists' engagement with treaty bodies has led to recommendations influencing policies, but challenges remain, emphasizing the need for better understanding and protection for vulnerable groups within the LGBTI community.

#### (Gender Identity: The Human Right of Depathologization) Link

• The paper highlights that the pathologization of transgender individuals, considered a mental illness in some countries, has led to human rights violations, such as attacks, forced medical treatments, lack of legal gender recognition, and discrimination; and argues that this infringement on human rights, including civil, economic, social, cultural, and medical rights, is a universal concern that requires regulation and protection by countries, with special attention to intersex people and their specific needs.

#### (UN Makes History on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity) Link

• The United Nations Human Rights Council, in a landmark vote, adopted a resolution establishing an independent expert on "Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity," marking a historic victory for the human rights of those facing discrimination and violence due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. The resolution, supported by a coalition of countries, responds to a global campaign by numerous NGOs and aims to assess the implementation of international human rights law, raise awareness, and provide assistance to address violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

#### (The struggle of trans and gender-diverse persons) Link

• Transgender and gender-diverse individuals worldwide face a spiral of exclusion, discrimination, and violence, particularly when marginalized due to factors such as race, ethnicity, migration status, HIV status, or sex work; the path to legal gender recognition is often obstructed, leading to a legal vacuum and fostering stigma and prejudice; efforts to depathologize trans identities have made progress with the removal of trans-related categories from the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) in 2019; however, the impact of historical pathologization persists in public policy and legislation; and legal gender recognition remains a distant dream for many, necessitating state action to ensure self-determined gender recognition in a manner consistent with human rights principles, including simplicity, accessibility, cost-free processes, non-abusive requirements, recognition of non-binary identities, and access for minors. The goal is to foster social inclusion and end the discrimination and violence faced by trans and gender-diverse individuals.



## **Bibliography**

"UN Makes History on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity." Human Rights Watch, 30 June 2016, www.hrw.org/news/2016/06/30/un-makes-history-sexual-orientation-gender-identity.

María Elisa Castro-Peraza, et al. "Gender Identity: The Human Right of Depathologization." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, vol. 16, no. 6, 18 Mar. 2019, pp. 978–978, www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6466167/, <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph16060978">https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph16060978</a>.

"The Struggle of Trans and Gender-Diverse Persons." OHCHR, 2017, www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity/struggle-trans-and-gender-diverse-persons.

"Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity." OHCHR, 2016, www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity.

"1. Introduction | Ontario Human Rights Commission." Ohrc.on.ca, 2014, www.ohrc.on.ca/en/policy-preventing-discrimination-because-gender-identity-and-gender-expression/1-introduction.

Wikipedia Contributors. "LGBT Rights at the United Nations." Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 2 Jan. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT\_rights\_at\_the\_United\_Nations.

"LGBTI Milestones at the United Nations - UN LGBTI CORE GROUP." UN LGBTI CORE GROUP, 27 Dec. 2022, unlgbticoregroup.org/home/lgbti-milestones-at-the-united-nations/.

"Opinion | Milestones in the American Transgender Movement (Published 2015)." The New York Times, 2024, www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/05/15/opinion/editorial-transgender-timeline.html.

"Events Celebrating Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Expression, and Well-Being | Youth.gov." Youth.gov, 2017, youth.gov/youth-topics/lgbtq-youth/events-celebrating-lgbt-identity.

"Russia's War on the LGBTQ+ Community Continues." Wilson Center, 2023, www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/russias-war-lgbtq-community-continues.

Ansari, Azadeh. "Transgender Rights: These Countries Are ahead of the US." CNN, CNN, 23 Feb. 2017, edition.cnn.com/2017/02/23/health/transgender-laws-around-theworld/index.html.

