



57th session of the Human Rights Council

General Debate – Item 4

Statement by ILGA World

Delivered by: Gabriel Galil

Mr. President,

In the spirit of item 4, ILGA World would like to highlight human rights situations that require the Council's attention regarding LGBTI persons.

We are concerned about the findings of the courts in **Malawi**¹ and in **Ghana**², that upheld legislation criminalizing consensual same-sex conducts. These provisions are in clear contradiction with international human rights standards.

We are appalled by the fast-tracked law adopted in **Bulgaria** banning the portrayal of LGBTI identities in schools, directly affecting children's rights. The legislation draws upon similar **Russian** and **Hungarian** legislation, which were deemed incompatible with international human rights standards by regional bodies³. In this spirit, we join the call by UN Experts to the **Kazakhstan** Government to *fully* reject the partly approved petition to adopt similar legislation⁴.

Mr. President.

We are particularly concerned with the ongoing attacks waged against **Palestine and Lebanon**. As the global federation of LGBTI organisations, we recognise our LGBTI community members in **Gaza**: the criminalisation and violence they face adds to the threat of famine and bombs that they are now experiencing every day together with the rest of the population.

We are concerned about the violations of international law, including the disregard of the International Court of Justice's provisional measures, Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. We condemn any attack on systems that uphold international human rights and humanitarian laws and standards. These systems are fundamental to achieving accountability and international justice, including for LGBTI persons worldwide.

Thank you.

¹ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/07/11/dark-day-malawi-rights-lgbt-people>

² <https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/07/29/ghana-supreme-court-upholds-colonial-era-anti-lgbt-law>

³ <https://www.ilga-europe.org/press-release/bulgaria-passes-anti-lgbti-propaganda-law/>

⁴ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/07/kazakhstan-reject-rights-violating-petition-say-un-experts>