

Declaration on the Criminalization of Homophobia and Transphobia

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Abstract

This declaration calls for the criminalization of homophobia and transphobia, acknowledging their harmful effects on human rights and advocating for the protection of LGBTQ+ individuals from discrimination, violence, and marginalization.

Preamble

Recognizing that every individual, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, is entitled to equal rights and dignity as guaranteed by international human rights standards,

Acknowledging the historical and ongoing violence, discrimination, and marginalization faced by LGBTQ+ individuals, which undermines their right to live freely, safely, and authentically,

Affirming that homophobia and transphobia—manifested in both state-sanctioned and societal violence, discrimination, and hate speech—are violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

We, the undersigned, call upon the global community, governments, organizations, and institutions to declare homophobia and transphobia as illegal acts that warrant legal consequences.

Article I: Definition of Homophobia and Transphobia

1. **Homophobia** refers to any act of prejudice, discrimination, or violence based on an individual's real or perceived sexual orientation.
2. **Transphobia** refers to any act of prejudice, discrimination, or violence based on an individual's real or perceived gender identity or expression.
3. This includes, but is not limited to, verbal abuse, physical assault, exclusion, bullying, hate crimes, and discriminatory policies.

Article II: Legal Consequences for Homophobia and Transphobia

1. **Criminalization:** Acts of homophobia and transphobia shall be subject to legal prosecution, including but not limited to hate crimes, assault, and incitement to violence.
2. **Civil Penalties:** In cases of systemic or repeated discrimination, civil actions may be taken to hold individuals, institutions, or corporations accountable for harm caused by discriminatory practices.
3. **Hate Speech:** Any speech, whether public or private, that incites hatred, violence, or discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals shall be prohibited and subject to legal penalties.

Article III: Protection for LGBTQ+ Individuals

1. Every individual, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, is entitled to protection from discrimination, violence, and harassment.
2. LGBTQ+ individuals shall have the right to access public services, employment, healthcare, and education without fear of discrimination or retaliation.

3. Efforts shall be made to provide safe spaces for LGBTQ+ individuals and educate the public on the harm caused by homophobia and transphobia.

Article IV: International Cooperation

1. Governments and international organizations are urged to collaborate to combat homophobia and transphobia at all levels, including enacting laws, promoting awareness, and providing support for LGBTQ+ refugees and displaced persons facing persecution due to their identity.
2. The global community shall work together to monitor, report, and address acts of homophobia and transphobia through international legal and diplomatic channels.