

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION

ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN SIXTY-EIGHTH SESSION FOR THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS:

Since its establishment in 2014, the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence (CŞMD) has been dedicated to combating sexual and sexualized violence through a comprehensive strategy of support, awareness, and advocacy initiatives. CŞMD has diligently worked to transform prevailing rape culture norms into a culture rooted in consent and respect. This document encapsulates the recommendations put forth by CŞMD, aligning with the priority theme of CSW68: "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective." Through these recommendations, CŞMD aims to contribute to the advancement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, girls, and LGBTIQIA+ individuals on a global scale.

Support System:

- Reaffirm the right to comprehensive support services for all women, girls, and those facing discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation.
- Advocate for accessible shelters for young people and women survivors of violence.
- Prioritize gender sensitivity in state parties' strategies and actions for comprehensive disaster response.

Strengthen Enforcement Mechanisms:

- Provide technical assistance and financial support to institutions to prevent and respond to violence against women, girls, and LGBTIQIA+ individuals.

- Mandate comprehensive data disclosure on violence against these groups to inform policy and accountability efforts.

Promote Gender-Responsive Policies:

- Reinforce the implementation of conventions protecting women and girls, shifting towards gender equality-focused policies.
- Prioritize collaboration between governments, civil society, and the private sector to address violence.

Prevention and Protection:

- Address the root causes of violence through education and policy reform.
- Implement comprehensive sexuality education in public schools by specifically trained specialists.
- Advocate for early intervention strategies and the elimination of abuse of children through marriage (early and forced marriages).
- Establish mechanisms to monitor and report hate crimes against LGBTQIA+ individuals.
- Enact legislation to ban unnecessary surgery on intersex newborns to ensure protection from non-consensual medical interventions.

Financing Gendered Perspective:

- Allocate resources to youth-led initiatives promoting gender equality and empowerment.
- Increase funding for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health centers and HIV testing services.
- Implement gender-responsive budgeting frameworks and support women's access to financial services.
- Allocate resources to support LGBTQIA+ advocacy groups and human rights defenders.



RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN SIXTY-EIGHTH SESSION FOR THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS:

Priority theme: Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective

Support System:

The Commission must reaffirm that, in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), all women, girls, and individuals who face discrimination based on their gender identity and sexual orientation have the fundamental right to access comprehensive, inclusive, and holistic support services and mechanisms. The Commission should also draw attention to the issue of housing for women and LGBTIQ+ persons, and emphasize the impact of violence and poverty on these groups. It is crucial for the Commission to mobilize state parties to urgently establish shelters that are accessible to young people and women who are survivors of violence.

Furthermore, the Commission must ensure that all state parties adhere to this obligation and take the necessary measures to provide equal and non-discriminatory access to these support systems, thus promoting a more equitable society for all.

Strengthen Enforcement Mechanisms:

Member states should provide technical assistance, capacity building, and financial support to institutions to strengthen their ability to prevent and respond to violence against women, girls, and LGBTIQ+. This may involve training law enforcement officials, healthcare providers, and social workers, as well as supporting the establishment of support services and shelters for survivors.

It is crucial that all state parties disclose comprehensive data on the current situation regarding violence against women, girls, and LGBTIQ+. This data can aid in the development of effective



policies to fight against violence and promote gender equality. Moreover, it is critical that this information is made accessible to the public and regularly updated, as transparency and accountability are key in ensuring that progress is made in the fight against gender-based violence. Therefore, the United Nations treaty body should urge all states parties to prioritize the collection and publication of accurate and timely data on violence against women and girls to better inform efforts to combat this pervasive issue.

The Commission should reinforce the implementation and enforcement of existing conventions and agreements aimed at protecting women and girls such as the Istanbul Convention and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This includes ensuring that member states adhere to their commitments and take proactive steps to prevent and address such violence.

Member states should prioritize gender-responsive policies that determine the rights and needs of girls, women, and LGBTIQA+. Member states take measures to support the individual rights and freedoms of women, girls, and and LGBTIQA+and implement public policies.

Addressing violence against women, girls, and LGBTIQA+ requires a multi-sectoral approach involving collaboration between governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, and other stakeholders. The UN should facilitate partnerships and cooperation at the local, national, and international levels to coordinate efforts and maximize impact.

In light of the ongoing need for comprehensive disaster response and assistance, it is imperative that all State Parties prioritize gender sensitivities across all aspects of their strategies and actions. This includes considerations for the unique vulnerabilities and needs of women, children, displaced persons, the elderly, disabled individuals, and members of the LGBTIQA+ community.



Prevention and Protection:

Recognizing that violence against women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ individuals often has deep-rooted historical and cultural origins stemming from inequalities, the Commission should prioritize efforts to address these root causes. This may involve supporting educational initiatives, cultural awareness programs, and policy reforms aimed at challenging discriminatory beliefs and practices.

The Commission should promote early intervention and prevention strategies to address violence against women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ before it occurs. This could include targeted outreach programs, the implementation of comprehensive sexuality education in public schools by specifically trained specialists, and awareness campaigns to empower individuals about their rights to sexual and reproductive health.

The Commission should advocate for the elimination of the abuse of children through marriage, recognizing it as a harmful practice that perpetuates gender inequality and violates human rights. This may involve supporting legislative reforms, providing access to education and economic opportunities for girls, and raising awareness about the negative impacts of child marriage on society. In addressing education policies, it is crucial to avoid regressive shifts away from secularism, as this risks marginalizing certain groups, discrimination, intolerance, and perpetuating inequality. Gender-specific education systems also pose significant risks, potentially reinforcing gender stereotypes, limiting opportunities for inclusive learning, mostly for girls and LGBTQIA+ youth, and hindering progress towards gender equality.

The Commission needs to establish mechanisms for monitoring and reporting hate crimes against LGBTQIA+ that are led by member states, including data on the prevalence as well as the response of authorities, where the information helps identify trends, gaps, and areas for intervention and can inform state parties to address hate crimes and promote the rights and safety of LGBTQIA+ communities.



The Commission needs to take action against state-sponsored hate crimes. Establish an emergency response mechanism specifically tailored to address instances targeting LGBTQIA+, with a focus on providing support and protection to those at risk, including youth. Advocate for a ban on unnecessary gender reassignment for intersex newborns, emphasizing the importance of upholding the rights of intersex individuals, including their right to bodily autonomy and self-determination. By implementing these measures, the Commission plays a crucial role in advancing the rights and well-being of LGBTQIA+ youth, protecting them from state-sponsored hate crimes and peer bullying, and preventing suicides.

Financing gendered perspectives:

The Commission has a responsibility to allocate resources towards supporting youth-led organizations and initiatives that are actively working to promote gender equality and women's empowerment at the grassroots level. This includes providing funding for capacity building, advocacy campaigns, and community-based projects led by young women, girls, and LGBTQIA+. It is crucial to advocate for increased funding and resources specifically designated for LGBTQIA+ organizations and initiatives to ensure their sustainability and resilience in the face of potential risks, such as closure and hatred.

The Commission should recognize the importance of securing increased allocation of funding from state parties to establish and support youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health centers as well as anonymous HIV testing services. These services should be staffed by trained specialists who are equipped to provide inclusive assistance.

The Commission should emphasize the need for sufficient financial resources to be earmarked specifically for these initiatives, in order to address the unique needs and challenges faced by young people.

a) Implementing gender-responsive budgeting frameworks

The Commission should support policies and programs that improve women's access to financial services, including credit, savings, insurance, and digital financial technologies. This involves addressing barriers such as discriminatory laws and practices, promoting women's entrepreneurship and leadership in the financial sector, and expanding financial literacy and training initiatives.

It should allocate resources to support LGBTQIA+ advocacy groups, human rights defenders, and civil society organizations working to protect the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals. This includes financial support, capacity-building initiatives, and international recognition for their critical work in challenging oppressive government policies.