# **Committee: UNHCR 1**

**Topic: Healthcare and Protection of LBTQ+ People**

**Chairs: Molly Hirner and SK Childs**

# **Report of the Chairs**

# **Rationale**

**Access to healthcare for LGBTQ+ people throughout the entire world is nowhere near equal and in many places people who identify as LGBTQ+ are often discriminated against or ignored within their home state’s healthcare system. Also, there are continued hate crimes and criminal punishments throughout the world for identifying as LGBTQ+, and in many countries where they are legally protected, they are often still dealing with cultural boundaries. The UN declares to fight for equal human rights worldwide and one of the most pressing issues is LGBTQ+ representation within and quality access to healthcare no matter where they are living.**

# **Background of the Topic**

**LGBTQ+ rights have just recently become a part of legislation within countries. Currently, approximately only 1.2 billion people within the world have access to same sex marriage, which is just 15% of the population (1). On top of not having equal rights worldwide as heterosexual people, “LGBT people are nearly four times more likely than non-LGBT people to be victims of violent crimes” (2). That statistic is from the US, a country known for having more rights for LGBTQ+ people than many other places. Ultimately, the discrimination and crime LGBTQ+ people deal with impacts their daily lives. Less medical spending and research is dedicated to them, and the 21st century marks the first time that new research is being dedicated to transgender and LGBTQ+ healthcare options. The first time LGBTQ+ rights were a part of a United Nations meeting was in 2011 and expressed the concern of worldwide violence against LGBTQ+ people (3). Since then, LGBTQ+ rights have been involved in many UN legislations and resolutions, but only a few have made a substantial change.**

# **Contemporary Evidence of the Topic**

**A contemporary example of LGBTQ+ discrimination is within Poland. Poland currently ranks last out of EU nations for LGBTQ+ people (4). Poland is a majority Catholic nation, and due to the extreme influence of Catholic leaders, a large amount of anti-LGBTQ+ ideas are being spread throughout the nation. Although, there are many other countries where people are being killed and attacked daily for being LGBQ+, it is important to notice the homophobia and transphobia within Poland even though it is so close to some of the most LGBTQ+ progressive countries.**

# **References and Research Resources**

1. **Crary, David. “The Dutch Went First in 2001; Who Has Same-Sex Marriage Now?” *AP NEWS*, Associated Press, 1 Apr. 2021,** [**https://apnews.com/article/europe-africanetherlands-job-cohen-western-europe-e08b053af367028737c9c41c492cc568.**](https://apnews.com/article/europe-africa-netherlands-job-cohen-western-europe-e08b053af367028737c9c41c492cc568)
2. **thisisloyal.com, Loyal |. “LGBT People Nearly Four Times More Likely than Non-LGBT People to Be Victims of Violent Crime.” *Williams Institute*, 5 Oct. 2020, https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/press/ncvs-lgbt-violence-press-release/.**
3. **“10 Ways the U.N. Has Protected LGBTQ Human Rights.” *Human Rights Campaign*,** [**https://www.hrc.org/news/ten-ways-the-united-nations-has-protected-lgbtq-human-rights.**](https://www.hrc.org/news/ten-ways-the-united-nations-has-protected-lgbtq-human-rights)
4. **Daniel TillesDaniel Tilles is editor-in-chief of Notes from Poland. He has written on Polish affairs for a wide range of publications. “Poland Ranked as Worst Country in EU for LGBT People.” *Notes From Poland*, 26 July 2020, https://notesfrompoland.com/2020/05/14/poland-ranked-as-worst-country-in-eu-for-lgbtpeople/.**

# **Note to the Delegates**

**Esteemed delegates, we are honored to have the opportunity to moderate a conference on such a pertinent issue being LGBTQ+ protection and access to healthcare. We have also included some questions for the delegates to ponder as they are preparing for the debate. For example, what is the importance of religion within this topic? How does this topic specifically affect transgender and non-binary people? Finally, what are ways to truly protect LGBTQ+ people from hate crimes and discrimination worldwide? Feel free to reach out if you have any questions! My email is hirme-25@rhodes.edu.**

**Listed below are the respective countries that delegates can choose from upon registration:**

The Netherlands

Poland

United States

Germany

Yemen

Afghanistan

South Korea

Japan

Mexico

Canada

United Kingdom

Spain

Russia

China

Nigeria

Qatar

Yemen

Tanzania

Saudi Arabia

Belgium

France

Oman

Sudan

Singapore

Thailand

Greece

Pakistan

India

Argentina

Chile

Peru

Morocco

Myanmar

Brazil

Uzbekistan

Kazakhstan

Egypt

Eritrea

Switzerland

Sweden