

RESEARCH REPORT



Issue: Securing The Human Rights Of The LGBTQ+ Community In Africa

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Definition of Key Terms

LBGTQ+ Community

People who identify with the LBGTQ+ Community have a different sexual orientation than heterosexual, such as gay, bi- or pansexual.

Transgender

A person that is transgender is someone whose gender identity does not correspond with their biological sex, which was assigned at birth.

Introduction – Body of UN-legislation

One of the main purposes of the UN is to promote and encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion guided by the charter of the UN and the Declaration of human rights.

This includes, but is not limited to, Article 1 of the declaration of human rights, which states that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. Article 3 states the right to life and the security of person. Lastly, Article 19 states that everyone has the right of opinion and expression.

These rights have to be guaranteed for everyone, and should clearly not be disrespected in cause of sexual orientations. Therefore, the UN sees the need to put up an issue and put a new resolution in order.

General Overview

The UN notices with satisfaction that rights of the LBGTQ+ Community are increasingly being recognized in countries all over the world, which makes it easier for people identifying with this community to stand by their sexual orientation. This makes it easier for people who identify with the LBGTQ+ Community to stand b their sexual orientation and to have a fulfilled life. Since 2015, same sex marriage has become legal even in all US States.

The UN stresses that there is one continent that has stayed behind on these developments. In most African countries, it is still a scandal to be part of or show support to the LBGTQ+ Community. This could send you to prison for more than 20 years or even cause death penalty. Out of 65 African

countries, only 12 of them do not have a law against homosexuality, and transgender and other gender issues cannot be talked about. Discrimination and violence against the LBGTQ+ Community continue without being fight against by the government. This leads to people from the LBGTQ+ Community being excludes from school and having trouble to find a job.

Major parties involved

The African countries, who should clearly work on changing their laws and making the population aware of equality, and therefore need to be included in the process of finding certain solutions.

The countries who already have rights that secure the LBGTQ+ Community are able to help the African countries to realize these aims.

Useful documents

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54385#.WFeaLIXhDcs>

<http://www.un.org/pga/70/tag/lgbt/>

<http://www.un.org/africarenewal/topic/lgbt-rights>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55014#.WFeaHVXhDcs>

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54385#.WFeaLIXhDcs>