

**UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls**

**Questionnaire on girls’ and young women’s activism**

**Introduction**

The Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, in preparation for its thematic report to be presented at the 50th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2022, has been researching the topic of girls’ and young women’s activism focusing on accomplishments, challenges and opportunities for change. The scope of this questionnaire will cover the various aspects of girls’ and young women’s participation and activism in the political and public life at different levels.

In this regard, the Working Group would like to seek inputs from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), States and other stakeholders to inform the preparation of the report in line with its mandate to maintain a constructive approach and dialogue with States and other stakeholders.

The Working Group would greatly appreciate it if you could **reply by 1 October 2021** to the following email address: wgdiscriminationwomen@ohchr.org. Responses to the questionnaire will be made publicly available at the time of the report publication.

**I. Nature, modalities and trends of girls’ and young women’s activism**

 1. *What is the normative framework related to girls’ and young women’s civic space and activism?*

There is a national strategy for achieving gender equality, a legislation "*On state guarantees ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women* '' and a law "*About social and legal protection from domestic violence*" in Kyrgyzstan. However all these regulations do not include intersecting perspectives.

 2. *What are the main features of their activism/participation in political and public life in countries or regions you are working? Please describe, in particular, in terms of:*

1. **Specific issues (thematic areas) on which girls and young women are mostly engaged**

There are several large LGBT organizations and initiatives in Kyrgyzstan. LBT+ activists promote sexual and reproductive health, inclusive gender equality, and justice with feminist movements.

1. **Political actors and authorities they mostly engage with**

LBT+ women, together with informal movements and LGBT+ organizations, cooperate with some state structures, such as the Republican AIDS Center, Office of the Ombudsman.

 However, of all government agencies, law enforcement is the most homophobic and transphobic. 81% of trans\* women have experienced police violence[[1]](#footnote-0). And they are the ones who do not want to cooperate with LBT+ women.

1. **Levels of engagement (grassroots, local, national, international)**

*Grassroot*

There are grassroots LGBT+ organizations and initiatives in Kyrgyzstan. We as Kyrygz Indigo improve the quality of life of LGBT+ through human rights programs.We inform, increase visibility, develop organizational and community capacity, and build partnerships with other organizations and movements.

*National*

LBT+ activists are engaged in gender agenda, such as movement UNITE, and gender Council under the Speaker of Parliament. We also promote anti-discrimination legislation, that should include SOGI as protected characteristics.

*International*

 LBT+ activists of Kyrgyzstan are involved in monitoring compliance with the conventions to which Kyrgyzstan is a party and create alternative reports with recommendations for improvement.

1. **Main spaces for engagement (e.g. schools, community, media, online platforms, etc.)**

Feminist movement of civil society is inclusive of all women, regardless of SOGI, which helps to integrate the issues of LBT+ women into the general feminist agenda. LGBt+ movement also has several friendly media that help to spread non-stigmatized information about SOGI.

However, in Kyrgyzstan there is no sexual education at all and school spaces are not friendly to LBT+ women. Instead, we use official websites, social media to educate and inform about the existence of LBT+ women. The main issues on media platforms are:

*- increasing the visibility of LBT+ women;*

*- increasing the visibility of women from the community with HIV-positive status;*

*- increasing the visibility of LBT+ women with disabilities;*

*- the problem of conversion therapy, as well as correctional rape of women from the community;*

*- the problem of LBT+ community migration.*

Also, some women activists give interviews on television about their lives and talk about their experience of LBT+ activism, which is also important.

1. **Cross-movement cooperation and solidarity**
2. *What are the forms and modalities for girls’ and young women’s engagement/activism in countries or regions you are working (specifying the country/ries or region/s)? Please provide information about any structures in place (formal and informal) and how they operate.*

The main form of participation of women, including LBT+ in activism remains work in NGOs or participation in events organized by NGOs.

1. *What are the main trends and drivers influencing their activism in countries or regions you are working? Please explain if there are particular ways NGOs and feminist movements influence girls’ and young women’s activism.*

In recent years, more visible actions in support of LGBT+ people have appeared in Kyrgyzstan. LBT+ activists have become more open about SOGI and inspire the younger generation to be active. In 2020, Kyrgyz indigo released a video about "stupid questions to LGBT+ people”, which was watched by about 100,000 people[[2]](#footnote-1), which is a lot for the Kyrgyz instagram.

1. *What are the distinct experiences and shared experiences of girl and young women activists with other WHRDs of different ages, and what is the state of intergenerational interactions and movement building? Are there also any distinct trends in the way in which young women are active now, compared to previous generations of young activists? (N/A)*

The previous generation of women activists are not always friendly to LBT+ women and, among other things, do not want to be associated with the community. In 2019, a march for women's rights was held under the auspices of the UNITE movement, which consolidates different generations of women in the Kyrgyz Republic who fight against violence[[3]](#footnote-2). There were rainbow flags and many women's organizations said they didn't want their partners to think they were associated with LBT+ women.

Most often, these women are invited by government agencies to cooperate in promoting gender equality. Filling the niche of civil society - they legitimize decision-making, but these decisions are often not inclusive of socially disapproved women.

1. *What are the positive and inspirational examples of girl's activism in terms of:*
2. **Social mobilization and change**

Currently, young people are also the main leaders in femm activism. The initiators of the movement are girls, teenage feminists from the LGBT+ community who want to create a space for themselves where there would be no sexism, homophobia, discrimination, regardless of nationality and social status[[4]](#footnote-3). The Tik-Tok platform is trending, where content with the above-mentioned agendas is promoted and significantly changes the attitude of many to LGBT+ community and LBT+ women.

1. **Influencing policies and legislation**

 LBT+ activist were included in the working group of gender Council under the speaker of the Parliament in 2020. She promotes inclusiveness in the Council. As a result of her inclusion the gender Council included monitoring of gender dicrimination based on SOGI in its plan.

1. **Personal development and empowerment (of girls and young women)**

There are community centers that are open to LBT+ women. Due to that fact, LBT+ women are able to mobilize, get information about health, rights and find support with the principle of “peer to peer”. Kyrgyz Indigo also has internship, volunteering programs for LBT+ women to empower the community.

1. **Solidarity with feminist and human rights movements**

Feminist movement 8\365 organized the March for equal rights. 8\365 - means a daily struggle for solidarity, women's rights, equality and diversity. LBT+ women are involved in the movement as others feminists[[5]](#footnote-4).

1. **Enabling factors and good practices**

1.  *What solidarity and support frameworks are available in the countries or regions of your operation that enhance girls’ and young women’s activism? Please provide information on the role of:*

*i. Legal/policy and institutional frameworks (N\A)*

*ii. Social, cultural, religious institutions (N/A)*

1. *Collaborative initiatives, human rights and/or women’s movements*

Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the country play an important role in gender responsive advocacy and program implementation. They participate actively in political life and provide a wide range of social services and assistance to vulnerable groups by protecting the rights and interests of citizens. Women’s rights and gender equality NGOs have monitored gender equality and human rights since the submission of the first alternative report to CEDAW—by a team led by the Women’s Support Center—in December 1999. Such NGOs helped in lobbying for the adoption of a new, comprehensive Law on Protection from Domestic Violence. A Council of NGOs was established in 2003 and included Women’s rights and gender equality NGOs. The council’s main objective is to monitor the compliance of government bodies and other agencies with the principles of equal rights and opportunities set out in the Kyrgyz Republic Constitution, the Gender Equality Law and NGS, the CEDAW, the BPFA, and other international commitments.

One of the largest movements is the UNITE, which consolidates about 150 members in the field of promoting gender equality. Among other things, this movement lobbied for the preservation of the mechanism for the implementation of the gender quota and to ensure the representation of women in the legislative body of Kyrgyzstan.

1. *Technological infrastructures/means (N/A)*
2. *Donor organizations (N/A)*
3. *Other frameworks/ actors (N/A)*
4. *What are the concrete ways in which the State promotes and secures girls’ engagement/activism? Are there particular issues and platforms in which the State encourages their engagement?* (N/A)
5. *How do NGOs promote girls’ and young women’s engagement and activism in your national or regional context? Please describe which other stakeholders are very active in this area and what role they play.* (N/A)
6. *Are there ways to assess and support girls’ evolving capacities to fully and freely participate in all spheres of public decision-making? Also, how is the diversity of girls' activism and inclusion in all human rights activism initiatives ensured (e.g. gender equality, disability, environment, LGBTI issues, etc.)?*

Despite a strong civil sector in protecting the rights and ensuring equal opportunities for women, they do not have full access to the decision-making process.

Women’s political representation remains relatively low in the Kyrgyz Republic. There was an initial sharp decline in the number of female political representatives at state and local levels following independence due to the dissolution of the former Soviet Union quota system, which guaranteed women 33% of seats in the Council of People’s Deputies. After the 2002 elections, women accounted for only 6.7% of Deputies in the Parliament (Jogorku Kenesh)[[6]](#footnote-5). By 2005, the Kyrgyz Parliament was solely composed of men. At the executive government level, a similar downward trend is noted in the level of women’s representation in high-level positions. The adoption of mandatory quotas in the amended Election Code in 2007 and 2011 helped improve women’s representation in elected office at national and local levels. By 2016, women constituted 15.8% of parliamentarians in the Jogorku Kenesh[[7]](#footnote-6) and in 2018, they comprised 16%. Despite a considerable increase in the number of women in office, the 30% threshold identified by the Beijing Platform for Action as critical to women’s effective voice in decision-making has not been reached.

Decision making process is absolutely unavailable for LBTQ+ women who face intersecting forms of discrimination and very low access to the economic and financial resources due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

1. *What are the achievements at the national level in the implementation of laws, policies, plans and/or programs and practices relevant to promoting girls’ and young women’s engagement/activism? What roles have NGOs played in this respect?* (N/A)
2. *Please provide concrete examples of good practices and any innovative initiatives taken by the State, NGOs and other stakeholders, and lessons learnt.*

**Civil society response to COVID-19 crisis related to LGBT+ community in 2020.**

Many shelters working with the support of NGOs were inaccessible for new residents. At the same time, many NGOs could not get special permits for moving around the city to deliver humanitarian aid to key populations. The positive experience was the solidarity and collaboration of international organizations, NGOs, and some government agencies during the time of crisis. For example, once a partner organization receives a travel pass, the other ones, without a pass, reallocate their aid so that supportive packages to be delivered to their beneficiaries. Donor organizations have allocated money for additional shelters, in response to increasing poverty among the community. In Bishkek, instead of one shelter for LGBT+ people, five temporary shelters began to function; moreover, all sanitary and hygiene standards were taken into account and, and food products also were provided. An online psychological and legal consultation was organized; food packages were distributed. NGOs has helped 2,000 LGBT+ people across the country, which supported LGBT+ people in period of hunger and poverty during crisis[[8]](#footnote-7).

1. **Challenges and structural barriers**
2. *What kind of gender and age specific barriers are affecting girls’ and young women’s participation/activism in your national context? Please indicate concrete examples of direct and indirect as well as formal and informal factors posing threats and risks for girls and young women engaging in the public space (examples of these can include stereotyping based on gender and age, restrictions on freedom of expression, speech, assembly, liberty, etc., legal restrictions to capacity to provide legal consent, legal age of marriage, etc.)*

One of the most important barriers to women's activism is the lack of access to education. According to the CEDAW concluding observations on the fourth periodic report of Kyrgyzstan, women face negative stereotypes and structural barriers when choosing non-traditional educational areas for girls, for example: technical fields[[9]](#footnote-8).

In addition to being the most emotionally abused in school, LBT+ women endure emotional abuse in their families. Corrective "treatment" is applied to them with the help of clergymen, where all kinds of practices are applied, including rape. LBT+ women feel constant fear for their lives and activists often turn out to be an instrument of propaganda of the state and the media and persecution by them, which resort to the disclosure of their personal data, as well as harassment by law enforcement agencies. The aforementioned barriers, which are based on patriarchal principles, also persist in the employment of women. This trend affects the limits of their professional potential. It should also be borne in mind that even in areas where women are quantitatively dominant, leadership positions that are well paid are traditionally held by men. The justification for this segregation is the stereotypical view that women are more executive, but too emotional for positions where decisions are required.

The situation with transgender women should be emphasized here. Due to the inability to legally change the gender marker and the resulting impossibility of matching documents to gender identity, most transgender women are forced to be involved in sex work, in which they face objectivization, sexualization, violence and a risk to the health. Also, due to the lack of documents, these women most often do not seek help from law enforcement agencies, since representatives of law enforcement agencies are a group that, taking advantage of the legitimate insecurity of transgender women, go to blackmail or use them as examples, film them and show publicity as an example of a successful raid on brothels.

LB women can face conversion marriages if families become aware of their sexual orientation. In 2021, relatives tried to forcibly marry one young woman. She ran away from home, but her family went to the police on the fact that the person was “missing”. Despite the fact that she was already 18 years old, the police found her and gave her to her relatives.

1. *Are there any particular groups of girls and young women who are most affected by these barriers and why? What roles your organization and other NGOs have played to address these barriers?*

Women that faced intersecting forms of discrimination are more vulnarable.

1. *What issues or gaps do arise with regard to existing frameworks (i.e. legislation, policies, plans, and/or programs) relevant to girls’ and young women’s civic space and activism? Are there any specific laws, policies and practices that place obstacles to their participation, activism or collective action? What role do NGOs play in response to these gaps?*

 Since there is no anti-discrimination law in Kyrgyzstan, there is a practice of stigmatization and discrimination of the LGBT+ community and specially LBT+ women.

On May 6, 2014, a draft law was initiated, which, according to its preamble, "defines the inadmissibility of popularizing homosexual relations in society and promoting a "homosexual lifestyle"". In January 2016, the bill returned to Parliament[[10]](#footnote-9). This bill may come back for consideration again and threatens the lives of the LGBT+ community and LBT+ women. This fear is caused by the fact that in recent years, a number of laws have been adopted indicating this:

On August 1, 2020, the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Acts of Civil Status" was adopted, which became an obstacle to changing the gender marker for transgender people and canceled the force of the Guidelines on providing medical and social assistance to transgender, transsexual and gender non-conformal people for medical specialists at all levels of health care and other departments of the Kyrgyz Republic from 2017[[11]](#footnote-10). At the moment, there is no procedure for changing the gender marker in Kyrgyzstan, which makes life much more difficult for transgender women.

On April 11, 2021, a new version of the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan was adopted at a referendum, and on May 5, 2021, it was already signed by President Sadyr Zhaparov[[12]](#footnote-11). The new version of the Constitution of Kyrgyzstan can also become the basis for discrimination against the LGBT+ community, which also harms LBT+ women, due to paragraph 4 of Art. 10: "In order to protect the younger generation, events that contradict moral and ethical values, the public consciousness of the people of the Kyrgyz Republic, may be limited by law".

Deputies of the Parliament at a meeting on July 28 adopted the law "On protection from false and false information"[[13]](#footnote-12). This law directly restricts the right to freedom of speech and opinion, which may cause LGBT+ community and femштшые activists to be held accountable. The law may also prevent the free stay of the LGBT+ community in the media space, taking away the right to anonymity in order to protect against discrimination based on SOGI and hate speech.

 Currently, amendments to the laws "On Non-profit Organizations" and "On State Registration of Legal Entities of Branches (Representative Offices)" of June 26, 2021 serve as an obstacle to LBT+ women's activism within NGOs[[14]](#footnote-13). Starting from 2022, these amendments oblige all NGOs that carry out their activities at the expense of funds provided free of charge to annually prepare and submit a report on their sources of funding, the expenditure of these funds, and their acquisition and use of property for publication on the website of the state tax service. Non-compliance by NGOs with their reporting obligations can lead to sanctions, including the closure of organizations. But NGOs already provide reports to the Tax service and Social Fund annually. They already have the ability to audit NGOs from a legal point of view. The public release of the reports is likely aimed at using socially discouraged groups to divert attention from the political social crisis in Kyrgyzstan.

 The most important reason for the adoption and signing of amendments to the laws were calls for homophobia: "Some deputies who signed the bill, which may limit and complicate the activities of non-governmental organizations, really admitted that they had not read it. They were told that this was "a law against LGBT people, so that they would not go to parades", seeking the signature and support of the controversial initiative thanks to homophobia".

1. *Are there particular threats girl and young women activists in your country or region experience in relation to their work? In particular, in terms of:*
2. *being prosecuted and punished for their activism*

In recent years, the right to peaceful assembly has been violated by Kyrgyzstan. Women activists are the first to suffer.

A flagrant case of mass violence against women is a March for Equal Rights in 2020. Before the 8\365 movement could start the march, a crowd of men who called themselves patriots began to rip up their banners and physically attack them. The activists began to turn to the police for help, but their actions were also directed against the participants in the march. They started to detain them and in the end 70 activists were arrested. The actions of law enforcement agencies show the attitude of state bodies to the active position of women, as well as their desire to realize their basic rights, and that any kind of violence can be used against activists so that they do not tell the inconvenient truth, so that they are content with what they have. Apart from physical damage, the participants of the march suffered colossal psychological damage[[15]](#footnote-14).

On April 15, 2021, a rally “I don’t want to be killed” was held on the occasion of the murder of A.K. near the building of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. At the same time, a rally was held against LGBT and NGOs near Ala-Too Square. The anti-LGBT protesters moved to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, they prevented the rally “I don’t want to be killed”, openly threatened with reprisals in the presence of police officers. Representatives of this group stated that the participants of the action “I don’t want to be killed” are “NGOs and gays who take advantage of the girl’s death and promote their interests[[16]](#footnote-15)». B.T. activist published a revealing video that provocateurs were controlled by police officers in civilian clothes[[17]](#footnote-16). He identified 8 law enforcement officers. Ch.I. and N.Ch commanded a crowd of provocateurs. T.K., head of the 10th department of the May Day region, also took part there. This department deals with issues of extremism. It is important to note that it is not the first time that T.K., wearing civilian clothes, participates in peaceful assemblies. He also participated in the 2020 march when feminists were attacked. Moreover, in 2020 T.K. represented the police at a court hearing banning a march for women's rights, where he voiced his position: *“... Last year, people with placards“ I am a trance and I am proud of it ”came out to the march. This is not our mentality****[[18]](#footnote-17)****».*

1. *facing intimidations, harassments, and attacks (direct or indirect, online or offline, sexual or physical)*

One of the transgender women who decided to take an active position and speak up for her rights admitted that she faces threats every day. On her phone, in instant messengers, personal messages are received from various kinds of threats, ranging from threats of reprisal against her personally, ending with threats about the reprisal of her family. Transgender women suffer not only from external threats, but as noted in the paragraphs above, they are the targets of emotional and physical violence in their families because of their gender identity. It is not surprising that many transgender women choose not to engage in activism, as there is a direct threat not only to their safety, but to their existence in general[[19]](#footnote-18).

Also, we can give an example of the threats that activists face, such as the disclosure of personal data. In April 2021, a video leaked to the network where an unknown person talked about Kyrgyz Indigo employees, reporting data about their SOGI, addresses of office, full names, and passport data. Given the negative public sentiment against the LGBT community as a whole, this video could have been used by malefactors to harm people working in the organization.

1. *lacking access to justice and reparations for violations of their rights*

In 2019, activists of the 8\365 movement were attacked during a May Day in support of labor rights. The participants were attacked by masked men. The police were present but did not react. Allegations of police attacks and inaction have not yet been investigated.

The attackers themselves openly admitted that they can use any weapon, including explosion against the LGBT+ community and they will not be stopped by the law.

1. *Are there particular concerns that may arise with respect to girls’ and young women’s access to technology and other infrastructures, and the corresponding divide? What role do NGOs play in response to these gaps?*

The above barriers, such as male dominance in the financial environment, male dominance in leadership positions in the workplace, domestic violence, gender stereotypes, the lack of an adequate number of representatives in the legislative branch of power of representatives of women's diversity, affect the uneven distribution of resources in a society in which the main economic the benefits are enjoyed by men. Women are forced to work twice as much in order to earn and provide for their families, also the patriarchal family structure suggests that a married girl is forced to give part of her income to her husband's family, and girls who have not received an education are completely financially dependent on her husband if he does not work , which most often happens in the regions and rural areas, it does not have access to any resources. She endures emotional violence from her husband, from his family, from distant relatives and pressure from her family, who take the side of her husband in all domestic and any conflicts. LBTQ + women do not have access to any resources. According to an alternative report from CEDAW, due to the lack of documents, transgender women who during COVID-19, like many women lost their daily salaries, could not access humanitarian aid from the state.

1. *What are the challenges, in your national/regional context, in the recognition and protection of girls as human rights defenders? What negative trends undermine their evolving capacities and interests at the family, community, and State levels? How do NGOs (including your organization) promote and work with girl human rights defenders?*

Traditional values of preserving the nation are being promoted in Kyrgyzstan, within the framework of which the Concept of Spiritual and Moral Development and Physical Education of the Individual was adopted on January 29, 2021[[20]](#footnote-19). This document defines the basic principles of patriotism, civic development, and legal culture. Also, "the priority of public and state interests over individual ones", which carries the mechanism of power and subordination of the individual to the state.

In Kyrgyzstan, homo/bi/transphobia, persecution of the LGBT+ community and LGBT women, and the fight against feminism are observed every day. These violations of the rights of LGBT women can occur both in life and in the media space.

As a result, this concept legitimately strengthens illegal actions against the LGBT community and LGBT women and may even encourage their actions.

The principles of denying women's freedom of speech in society are being promoted.

1. *What are the main challenges in ensuring the following?*
2. *Safe space for engagement*

The disclosure of the address of the Kyrgyz Indigo office made the community center unsafe and had to be relocated. LGBT+ people may be afraid to visit the center due to government persecution of activists.

1. *Inclusion of diverse groups of girls and young women and those from marginalized communities*

Government criticism of the Women's Rights March has been linked to the involvement of queer women and LGBT+ symbols. Government officials have argued that LBT+ women should not participate in peaceful rallies for the rights of "normal" women. That seperation to "right" and "wrong" women increase discrimination discourse.

That government position even makes some UN agencies in Kyrgyzstan to be afraid of affiliation with the LGBT+ community. In 2020, an anonymous source published an internal letter to the UN staff. It urged their colleagues not to participate in the March precisely because of the presence of LGBT+ symbols and LGBT+ people. Unfortunately, there was no reaction from the UN about the investigation of this incident. Moreover, a youth organization that participated in the march and received funding from one UN agency was advised by that agency not to participate anymore.

1. *Access to resources, infrastructures, networks and platforms*

In recent years the International community became more inclusive and new programs with intersecting perspectives appeared. More often grants for gender equality include vulnerable groups of women. However, some international organizations apply for grants themselves and then distribute the received resources among community organizations, forcing them to compete with each other instead of collaboration.

1. *Collaborative programs with different stakeholders*
2. **Emerging issues**

1. Are there new emerging issues related to girls’ and young women’s engagement at community, national and international levels?
2. *What are the impacts of digital advancements and major shifts in digital activism on girls’ and young women’s engagement/participation?*

Radical traditional forces use digital platforms to persecute LBT+ activists. Personal data is published in the social networks, cyber bullying occurs. Photos from the march were used by fake accounts and photoshopped. They covered up the real slogans of the activists and exchanged them for others. At the same time, digital platforms enable LGBT+ organizations to promote information about SOGI.

1. *What are the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on girls’ and young women’s activism/participation?*

The government use COVID-19 to narrow civic space. A feminist march against gender-based violence was disrupted in Bishkek in 2020 . The march was announced on February 25th. It was threatened with cancellation when local authorities filed a lawsuit on March 3 to ban public events due to the coronavirus epidemic. Although at that time there were no cases in the country and the ban did not apply to public holidays. It was abvious that the government is just trying to ban the March. The organizers chose an area in which there was no ban on peaceful Asssemblies, but they were attacked anyway by the radicals, and the police detained them.

In 2021, the state also passed a ban on peaceful assemblies due to COVID-19 for several months, but noted that the state can independently hold the celebration gatherings[[21]](#footnote-20). Why the virus penetrates to peaceful meetings organized by activists, but not to state celebrations - there was no information.

1. *Please provide information on other recent national, regional and global developments and concerns with respect to girls’ and young women’s movements.*

As we have already said, LBT+ women are engaged in the movement for equality of rights and freedoms at the national and regional levels. All women in Central Asia face widespread manifestations of violence, discrimination and hostility, as well as "hate speech" because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The "hate speech" spread in the media and the Internet, as well as produced by politicians and other public figures, reflects and reinforces existing prejudices[[22]](#footnote-21).

The most effective ways to counteract the "hate speech" include manifestations of solidarity with LGBT people by the authorities and other segments of society, as well as the creation of platforms for informed and cautious dialogue and discussion aimed at identifying stereotypes and creating an inclusive, diverse and pluralistic society.

Therefore, the fight against homophobic and transphobic "hate speech" and discrimination in real life requires a combination of constructive political measures aimed at conducting correct discussions on LGBT issues based on facts. On the one hand, during such discussions, representatives of the LGBT community should receive a guaranteed opportunity to speak out and be heard in public discourse.

**V. Recommendations/ the way forward**

1. *What concrete measures should be adopted and implemented to ensure girls’ and young women’s meaningful participation, activism and collective action at all levels?*

- Supporting empowerment programs, with the principle “peer to peer”;

1. *What concrete measures should be adopted to address systemic gender-based/age-based discrimination and challenges affecting girls’ and young women’s engagement in the public and political life?*

- Acception of anti-discrimiation legislation, that suits international standards, with including SOGI as protected characteristic;

- Inclusion of intersecting perspectives in Gender plans and strategies.

1. *What concrete measures should be introduced to improve solidarity, support, collaborations towards creating an enabling environment for girls’ and young women’s engagement in the political and public life?*
2. *What particular roles should NGOs and feminist movements play towards the promotion and protection of girls’ and young women’s meaningful participation, activism and collective action?*

- There should be space for different women in all levels of decision making process.

1. PA “Kyrgyz Indigo” p 12, Available at: <https://indigo.kg/uploads/File/2021/01/14/%D0%92%D0%AB%D0%97%D0%9E%D0%92%D0%AB-%D0%98-%D0%91%D0%90%D0%A0%D0%AC%D0%95%D0%A0%D0%AB-%D0%92-%D0%9C%D0%98%D0%93%D0%A0%D0%90%D0%A6%D0%98%D0%98-%D0%9A%D0%90%D0%9A-%D0%9F%D0%9E%D0%A1%D0%9B%D0%95%D0%94%D0%A1%D0%A2%D0%92%D0%98%D0%AF-%D0%AD%D0%9A%D0%9E%D0%9D%D0%9E%D0%9C%D0%98%D0%A7%D0%95%D0%A1%D0%9A%D0%9E%D0%98-%D0%A3%D0%AF%D0%97%D0%92%D0%98%D0%9C%D0%9E%D0%A1%D0%A2%D0%98-%D0%A2%D0%A0%D0%90_gdZauxB.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. Video available at: <https://www.instagram.com/tv/CGXAGo2nkJN/?hl=ru> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. Annual Report of Kyrgyz Indigo, 2019, p. 11: [https://indigo.kg/uploads/File/2021/01/14/Годовои-отчет-Кыргыз-Индиго-2019.pdf](https://indigo.kg/uploads/File/2021/01/14/%D0%93%D0%BE%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D0%B8-%D0%BE%D1%82%D1%87%D0%B5%D1%82-%D0%9A%D1%8B%D1%80%D0%B3%D1%8B%D0%B7-%D0%98%D0%BD%D0%B4%D0%B8%D0%B3%D0%BE-2019.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
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