



Killings of LGBTIQ+ people in Africa, the Americas and Europe *Submission to the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions*

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Joint submission by:

International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA World)¹

With the support of:

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¹ ILGA World (International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association), <https://ilga.org>, established in 1978, is a federation of more than 1,700 organisations from over 160 countries and territories campaigning for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) human rights. ILGA World enjoys the ECOSOC status, consistently engaging with UN human rights bodies, and conducts legal and socio-economic research on the situation of LGBTIQ+ persons. ILGA World supports local LGBTIQ+ civil society groups engaging with United Nations treaty bodies, special procedures and the Human Rights Council. It also produces research publications on social and legal situation of LGBTIQ+ persons. This includes [Annual Treaty Bodies Reports](#), [Treaty Bodies Strategic Litigation Toolkit](#), [Special Procedures Factsheets](#) and [ILGA World Database](#).

² CHEVS is a hub for queer youth activism in West Africa. We mobilise, support, and amplify the voices and agency of young LGBTIQ+ persons, sex workers and organisations in the region, working collaboratively and intersectionally to build solidarity across the movement, closing the gap in youth leadership towards the realization of the rights and liberation of the communities we serve in West Africa <https://chevs.org/about-us/>

³ Colombia Diversa is a non-governmental organisation that has been working since 2004 to promote the human rights of LGBTIQ+ people in Colombia. Its mission is the inclusion, recognition and respect for the human rights of the LGBTIQ+ people. Its main objectives are strategic litigation, political advocacy and peace-building in favour of the dignity of LGBTQ people.

⁴ Equality for All Foundation (EFAF) is a human rights and social justice advocacy organisation which seeks to promote social change, advance human rights, empower lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people and improve their well-being, and make Jamaica a more hospitable place for LGBT people.

⁵ Mulabi is a non-governmental, non-profit, horizontal organization that brings together activists from the Global South of diverse identities (sexual, gender, ethnic, nationality and others). It works on sexualities and rights from a critical and celebratory point of view, promoting empowerment and autonomy especially for the most excluded people. Mulabi disseminates Latin American perspectives on these issues, using as its main strategy the common construction of transformative knowledge.

⁶ El Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos (Promsex), es una organización no gubernamental feminista que, a través de la incidencia política, el litigio estratégico, la generación de conocimiento y las alianzas, contribuye a que las personas decidan sobre su sexualidad y reproducción con autonomía, dignidad, justicia e igualdad.

⁷ Centro para el Desarrollo y Cooperación LGTBI, "SOMOS CDC." Misión: Desarrollar de programas y proyectos tendientes a mejorar la calidad de vida de las personas LGTBIQ+ en Honduras y la región Centroamericana.

⁸ [TGEU](#) is a membership-based organisation working to strengthen the rights and wellbeing of trans people in Europe and Central Asia

⁹ The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP) was founded in Rome on May 13th, 2002. Is an alliance of over 160 NGO's, bar associations and local authorities strengthening the international dimension of the fight against the death penalty. Its objective is to obtain the universal abolition of the death

Introduction

This report will address two forms of unlawful killings to which LGBTIQ+ people are subjected: (1) capital punishment for consensual same-sex sexual activity (CSSSA) and other sexual or "moral" crimes, and (2) hate crimes, or violent crimes motivated by prejudice based on the victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). Other relevant laws, policies and practices that contribute to or prohibit the unlawful killings of LGBTIQ+ people, including incitement to violence and hatred, will also be tackled.

To produce this report, ILGA World reached out to its regional offices and member organizations in the Americas, Africa and Europe to request data, including relevant laws, case studies, and statistics. Additional information through desk research, including the [ILGA World Database](#), was used to complement their contributions.

Death penalty

Aside from violating the absolute prohibition against torture or cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment (CIDTP), the death penalty, when used to punish CSSSA, is unlawful under international law as it does not meet the most serious crimes threshold, considering that the criminalization of CSSSA is in itself unlawful.¹⁰ LGBTIQ+ people can also be sentenced to death for vaguely worded sexual or moral crimes, such as "corruption on Earth"¹¹ and *zina*¹² or sex outside marriage.¹³

Among the twelve countries that impose the death penalty for CSSSA or where there is no legal certainty of its application, and therefore possible, four are in Africa, namely:

- **Mauritania.**¹⁴ The Sharia-based Criminal Code (1983) criminalizes CSSSA as "indecent acts" or "acts against nature." Article 308 provides for the death

penalty. To achieve its goal, the World Coalition advocates for a definitive end to death sentences and executions in those countries where the death penalty is in force. In some countries, it is seeking to obtain a reduction in the use of capital punishment as a first step towards abolition by supporting its member organizations, local, national and regional abolitionist forces and by coordinating the international advocacy towards worldwide abolition of the death penalty. The World Coalition gives a global dimension to the action taken by its members on the ground. It complements their initiatives, while constantly respecting their independence. The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty is committed to making visible gender and intersectional discrimination at work in capital punishment as well as to strengthen the protection of women and gender and sexual minorities facing the death penalty.

¹⁰ Right to life (UN Human Rights Committee, General comment No. 36 on article 6: right to life, par. 36); Right to privacy (UN Human Rights Committee, *Toonen v. Australia*, Communication No. 488/1992, views of 31 March 1994), Rights to non-discrimination, to be free from gender-based violence and stereotypes, to participate in NGOs and associations, to have access to protection and remedies, and to family and relations (UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, *Flamer-Caldera v. Sri Lanka*, Communication No. 134/2018, views of 21 February 2022).

¹¹ A recent example was the case of Zahra Sedighi Hamedani and Elham Chubdar, LGBTIQ+ activists sentenced to death in Iran in 2022. For more information, see: [Iran: Save Sareh and Elham's lives](#).

¹² Zina is being enforced in jurisdictions that apply Sharia law, such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and Sudan.

¹³ "As in other nearby countries, it is theoretically possible that zina (a sexual act by a married party outside of marriage) is punishable by death and that these could be used to prosecute consensual same-sex sexual acts, depending on the facts of the cases. Amnesty International is not aware of any case in which the use of zina laws against consensual same-sex sexual conduct has resulted in a death sentence..." For more information, see: [Love, hate and the law: decriminalizing homosexuality](#).

¹⁴ In 2019, the UN Human Rights Committee expressed concerns "that sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex remains an offence that carries the death penalty under article 308 of the Criminal Code" and recommended Mauritania to "repeal article 308 of the Criminal Code in order to decriminalize sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex and release anyone currently detained under this article" (UN Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations: Mauritania (23 August 2019), CCPR/C/MRT/CO/2, paras. 12-13).

penalty by public stoning for men found guilty.¹⁵ However, since 1987, a de facto moratorium on executions has been in place.

- **Nigeria.**¹⁶ 12 Northern states¹⁷ have Sharia Penal Codes, which, to varying degrees and contexts, prescribe the death penalty for CSSSA. Religious courts in these states have been sentencing people to flogging for CSSSA. There are no recorded executions on this basis, but some are suspected in the Kano state.¹⁸
- **Somalia.** While Article 409 of the Penal Code (1964) only punishes CSSSA with imprisonment for up to 3 years, the Provisional Constitution of Somalia (2012) affirmed the primacy of Sharia law and as such Sharia courts can sentence individuals found guilty of CSSSA to death, marking legal uncertainty. Based on strict interpretations of Sharia, in areas controlled by al-Shabaab, individuals found guilty of CSSSA have been sentenced to death.¹⁹
- **Uganda.** Section 3 of the Anti-Homosexuality Act (2023) prescribes the death penalty for “aggravated homosexuality” or against those convicted as a “serial offender.” It is also mandated when one of the adults involved is a person with a disability or of advanced age. On 15 August 2023, Uganda’s Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions charged a 20-year-old with “aggravated homosexuality” after the 41-year-old individual arrested alongside him was released, as they claimed his mental status prevented him from consenting. However, Amnesty International reports that no evidence was provided to substantiate this claim.²⁰

Hate crimes

Due to prejudice against their actual or perceived SOGIESC, LGBTIQ+ people are vulnerable to hate crimes, which can result in death. Impunity for these crimes is exacerbated by hostile sociocultural norms, the lack of policies on legal protection and recognition, and incitement to hatred and violence by political and religious leaders.

Africa

In **Ghana**, the Penal Code (1960), as amended in 2003, criminalizes “unnatural carnal knowledge” of any person of 16 years or over with his consent and acts of “gross indecency” in public. There is no legal protection against discrimination based on SOGIESC or prohibition of incitement to hatred and violence. In addition, in February 2024, Ghana's parliament passed a bill, with the support of the country's two major political parties, to make it a crime to engage in CSSSA, perform gender-affirming

¹⁵ Article 306 punishes women with a sentence of 3 months to 2 years’ imprisonment and a fine.

¹⁶ In 2021 the UN Committee against Torture expressed its distress “by reports that capital punishment can be imposed in 12 states that operate under sharia for offences such as, [inter alia], sexual relations between same-sex persons”, including for persons under the age of 18, and made a number of recommendations in this regard (UN Committee against Torture, Concluding observations: Nigeria (21 December 2021), CAT/C/NGA/COAR/1, paras. 27-28).

¹⁷ Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Kebbi, Niger, Sokoto, Yobe and Zamfara.

¹⁸ For more information, see: [Ensemble Contre la Peine de Mort, Love is not a crime.](#)

¹⁹ For more information, see: Freedom House (2021), Freedom in the World. <https://freedomhouse.org/country/somalia/freedom-world/2021>.

²⁰ Information provided by WCASP. For more information, see: [Uganda: Authorities must drop charges in death penalty case under Anti-Homosexuality Act.](#)

treatment or publicly identify as LGBTIQ+, with penalties of up to three years in prison. Funding or forming an LGBTIQ+-related group would be punished by up to five years in prison. The bill has been forwarded to President Nana Akufo-Addo, who previously said that, if most Ghanaians wanted the legislation, he would not oppose it.

Due to this hostile environment, enabled by State-sanctioned discrimination, several reports of hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ people have been documented. Please see Annex for the full list.²¹

In **Nigeria**, on top of existing anti-LGBTIQ+ attitudes, the anti-LGBTIQ+ laws and violent political rhetoric contribute to hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ people. For example, after the Same-Sex Marriage Prohibition Act was passed in 2014, it has been widely invoked to justify anti-LGBTIQ+ violence. Shortly after its implementation, a disturbing incident unfolded in the Gishiri area of Abuja, where a violent anti-gay attack occurred, perpetrated by a mob claiming alignment with the directives of President Goodluck Jonathan to eradicate homosexuality in the country.²²

"Kito" is a colloquial term for sextortion pertaining to homosexuality in Nigeria, in which a person is blackmailed, kidnapped, beaten, molested, or killed on the basis of their sexual orientation. While the word was once used to describe instances where a person is catfished with the intent to harm them based on their sexual orientation, it is now used to describe almost any kind of harm that can occur to a person as a result of their sexual orientation.²³

Many cases of extrajudicial killings against LGBTIQ+ people often go unreported, and state actors seldom pursue justice against the perpetrators of these crimes. In numerous instances, family members of the victims also attempt to keep such cases under wraps to avoid drawing attention to having an LGBTIQ+ family member. Despite these difficulties in collecting data, there have been several instances reported by the media. Please see the annex for the list.²⁴

Americas

In Colombia, violence against LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders remains pervasive. In 2023, Colombia Diversa, with support from the CINEP Human Rights and Political Violence Data Bank, released preliminary findings indicating 49 homicides, six threats and one case of police violence, among which LGBTIQ+ community leaders were victimized (8 homicides and 3 individual threats). Among the eight killed, five were Afro-descendant and five were transgender women or non-binary persons.²⁵ Similarly, in

²¹ Information shared by Youth Initiative Foundation Ghana.

²² For more information, see: [Mob Attacks Gays In Nigerian Capital](#).

²³ For more information, see: [From Hate Speech to Being Kitoed: The Precarious Online Lives of the Nigerian LGBT Community](#).

²⁴ Information provided by CHEVS.

²⁵ Information provided by Colombia Diversa from their report: *Violencia contra personas LGBTIQ+ defensoras de Derechos Humanos, lideresas y líderes políticos durante 2023 en Colombia*.

2022, among the 148 LGBTIQ+ people who were killed in the country, 10 were human rights defenders. Election periods are marked by an increase in violence against LGBTIQ+ people. LGBTIQ+ political and community leaders, including those seeking office, have been subject to attacks based on their SOGIESC. Of the 52 cases of attacks against LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders documented in 2022, Colombia Diversa confirmed that the majority occurred in the first half of 2022 (33 cases of threats recorded between January and June), thus coinciding with the electoral period.²⁶

In **Costa Rica**, several laws concerning the punishment, investigation and prevention of homicides make explicit references to SOGIESC:

- Law No. 10175 of April 25, 2022 "Addition of paragraph 11) to Article 112 of the Penal Code, 2 Law No. 4573, of May 4, 1970" increased prison sentences by between 20 and 35 years for homicides motivated by hate based on "nationality, race, age, sex, political opinion, migratory status, **sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability or genetic characteristics** of the victim."²⁷
- Article 381bis of the Penal Code tackles torture. It establishes prison sentences of three to 15 years for anyone who uses methods aimed at seriously affecting the physical, mental or emotional integrity of the victim for reasons based on sex, sexual orientation, or genetic characteristics and any other condition.
- Article 21 of Law No. 8589 or the Law for the Penalization of Violence against Women prohibits femicide and establishes a prison sentence of 20 to 35 years for anyone who kills a woman with whom they maintain a relationship, whether in a declared union or not.

Since October 2021, the judiciary has been constructing variables to collect data on LGBTIQ+ populations in order to reduce data gaps on crimes motivated by SOGIESC. However, this process has not yet been completed.²⁸

In **Honduras**, the Observatory of violent deaths of LGBTIQ+ people of Cattrachas has recorded 363 murders and one enforced disappearance of LGBTIQ+ people from 2009-2020 based on media sources and information provided by organizations.²⁹ However, among these cases, only 82 have been considered by law enforcement and judicial authorities in varying degrees, which means that 77.41% of reported murders go unpunished.³⁰

In *Vicky Hernández et al. v. Honduras*, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) concluded that Vicky was murdered due to her gender identity as a trans

²⁶ This section is based on information provided by Colombia Diversa from their reports: [La realidad de la discriminación Situación de derechos humanos de las personas LGBTIQ+ en Colombia](#); [Revista Noche y Niebla N° 68 Panorama Nacional de Derechos Humanos y Violencia Política en Colombia](#). For more information regarding these figures, we invite the Special Rapporteur to reach out to Colombia Diversa.

²⁷ Código Penal, Ley N° 4573, 15/11/1970, Versión de la norma: 76 de 76 del 19/03/2024, Disponible en: https://www.pgrweb.go.cr/scij/Busqueda/Normativa/Normas/nrm_articulo.aspx?param1=NRA&nValor1=1&nValor2=5027&nValor3=140292&nValor5=23892.

²⁸ This section is based on information provided by Mulabi.

²⁹ Informaiton

³⁰ Information provided by SOMOS CDC from their report: INFORME DIAGNÓSTICO SOBRE BARRERAS PARA LA INVESTIGACIÓN Y JUDICIALIZACIÓN DE CASOS DE VÍCTIMAS POBLACIÓN LGTBI.

woman and as a sex worker, and ordered Honduras to continue investigating the case, create a training plan to sensitize State security agents on SOGIESC and sex work, and adopt a procedure for legal gender recognition based on self-determination.³¹ To date the following reparation measures have been enacted:³²

- The President of the Republic on May 9, 2022 signed a public act where the death of Vicky Hernandez was recognized and apologized for,
- Creation of the Vicky Hernández scholarship for trans people,
- Payment for damages to the family and representatives of the victim, which is currently ongoing;
- Establishment of a procedure for the legal name change for trans people,
- Creation and implementation of a permanent training plan for agents of the State security forces,
- Investigation and administration protocol of justice during criminal proceedings,
- Design and implementation of a system for collecting data and figures linked to cases of violence against LGTBI people.

A field investigation by SOMOS CDC also revealed that LGBTIQ+ people are victims of abuse by the police and military, including rape and sexual violence and “horrible hate crimes in which the victims are tortured before being murdered.” They also discovered that there were efforts for “social cleansing directed mainly towards sex workers, leaders of LGBTIQ+ rights defense organizations.”³³ According to the surveillance unit of the Grupo Generación Trans AWILIX. Asociación Ixchel (KAI), 27% of LGBTIQ+ victims of violent killings were LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders, while 18% of perpetrators were wearing police clothing, and another 18% were associated with organized crime.³⁴

In **Jamaica**, according to the 2024 LGBTQ+ Community Experience and Needs Assessment Survey, which collected data from 320 LGBTIQ+ adults, 40% reported experiencing sexual violence in the past twelve months, while 40% were subjected to physical attacks.³⁵

There is no hate crime law in the country. In addition, provocation is considered a partial defense for murder under section 6 of the Offences Against the Person Act, resulting in a substituted conviction of voluntary manslaughter. Under common law, “homosexual advance” is an established ground for claiming provocation. The conviction of the murderer of a advance.³⁶

³¹ For more information, see: [INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, VICKY HERNÁNDEZ ET AL. V. HONDURAS, JUDGMENT OF MARCH 26, 2021.](#)

³² This information was provided by SOMOS CDC from the Attorney General's Office.

³³ Information provided by SOMOS CDC from their shadow report to the Committee Against Torture in 2022. “It is notable that the methods, patterns and mechanisms of these attacks are identical to those carried out by the military and police in the times of the DNS National Security Doctrine, in the eighties and the subsequent repressions in the nineties and 2000s (social cleansing against street children, political opponents, etc.)”

³⁴ Boletín Trimestral No. 1. Enero-marzo 2022. Unidad de Vigilancia KAI. Asociación Kukulcán. Grupo Generación Trans AWILIX. Asociación Ixchel. Honduras 2022.

³⁵ Information provided by Equality for All Foundation Jamaica.

³⁶ Information provided by Equality for All Foundation Jamaica. For more information, see: [Jamaica: Gay panic defense in killing of Pride icon.](#)

In **Mexico**, Jesús Ociel Baena, the first openly non-binary magistrate in Latin America, and their partner were found dead in their home in November 2023. As a visible LGBTIQ+ activist and public figure, they "received many hate messages, and even threats of violence and death," according to Alejandro Brito, director of the LGBTIQ+ rights group Letra S, leading thousands to march to demand justice for their death. Authorities are still looking into their death as LGBTIQ+ and allied groups continue to demand a thorough and unprejudiced investigation.³⁷ While this case is the most high-profile, it is only one among the 500 targeted killings of LGBTIQ+ people documented by Letra S in the country from June 2023 to January 2024, revealing a pattern of violence and impunity, with transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming people being the most vulnerable.³⁸

In **Peru**, there is no law that recognizes or increases criminal liability for violent crimes motivated by prejudice based on SOGIESC, as there is for femicide.

In its judgment on the *Azul Rojas Marín vs. Peru* case of 2020,³⁹ IACtHR found a situation of structural discrimination against LGBTIQ+ people in the country and mandated the adoption of a "protocol on investigations and administration of justice in criminal proceedings involving members of the LGBTIQ+ community who are victims of violence" as a reparation measure to be implemented by the National Police of Peru, the Public Prosecution Service and the judiciary.⁴⁰ However, more than four years after the decision, the Peruvian State has not yet implemented this protocol even if the Court ruled that it should be done two years after the release of its decision.⁴¹ In addition, the Court also ordered Peru to create and implement a training plan for state agents on violence against LGBTIQ+ people and a system to collect data on these cases.⁴²

Europe

In Europe, according to the Trans Murder Monitor, a distressing pattern of violence against transgender individuals is evident, with several countries reporting murders over the years. Italy stands out with a total of 9 murders documented from 2020 to 2023, followed by Spain with 4 cases during the same period. Russia reported 4 murders in 2020, indicating a concerning level of transphobia in the region⁴³. Overall, transgender murders were documented in 10 countries across Europe, underscoring the widespread nature of this issue. These statistics highlight the urgent need for action

³⁷ For more information, see: [Thousands march for major Mexican LGBTQ+ figure Jesús Ociel Baena, slain after getting death threats.](#)

³⁸ For more information, see: [Wave of transgender slayings in Mexico spurs anger and protests by LGBTQ community.](#)

³⁹ "Azul is a transgender Peruvian, who, whilst living as a gay man, was arbitrarily arrested by police officers in 2008, then raped, beaten and verbally abused due to her sexual orientation." For more information, read this [summary](#).

⁴⁰ For more information, see: [INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, CASE OF AZUL ROJAS MARÍN ET AL. V. PERU, JUDGMENT OF MARCH 12, 2020](#), par. 242-244.

⁴¹ Information provided by Promsex.

⁴² For more information, see: [INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, CASE OF AZUL ROJAS MARÍN ET AL. V. PERU, JUDGMENT OF MARCH 12, 2020](#), par. 245-252.

⁴³ Information retrieved from the Trans Murder Monitor by TGEU <https://transrespect.org/en/map/trans-murder-monitoring/>

to address systemic discrimination and violence faced by transgender communities in Europe.

Despite legal recognition and anti-discrimination measures in some countries, transgender individuals continue to experience disproportionate levels of violence and marginalization. Efforts to combat transphobia and promote inclusivity must be intensified, with a focus on strengthening legal protections, enhancing access to support services, and raising awareness about the rights and challenges faced by transgender individuals. Comprehensive legal reforms are essential to ensure that transgender individuals are afforded equal rights and protection under the law.

While several countries have legislation that prohibits hate crimes and incitement to hatred, violence or discrimination, only a few countries, all of which are in Europe have laws that explicitly recognize sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). Please see the Annex for the full list.⁴⁴

⁴⁴ For more model laws prohibiting hate crimes and incitement to hatred, violence or discrimination, consult the [ILGA World Database](#).

Annex

Model hate crime laws

- **Belgium:** Law of 22 May 2014 (2014) amended the Criminal Code (1999) to establish enhanced punishments where the motive of the crime is hatred against, contempt for, or hostility to a person based on their SOGIESC. The list of offences includes indecent assault and rape (Article 377 bis), manslaughter and intentional injury (Article 405 quater). Under a new bill approved by the Council of Ministers in April 2022, aggravating factors would apply to all crimes in the criminal code.
- **Denmark:** Article 81(6) of the Penal Code (2005), as amended by Law No. 2,951 (2021), recognises as an aggravating circumstance that the motivation for a crime is grounded on SOGIESC.
- **Malta:** Legislative Articles 83B, 222A, 251D and 325A(1) of the Criminal Code of Malta (amended by Act No. VIII of 2012) set out the circumstances and penalties for hate crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Article 11(2) of Act No. XI (2015) establishes the punishment for offences motivated by gender expression and sex characteristics.

Prohibition of incitement to hatred, violence or discrimination

- **Belgium:** Article 22 of the Law against certain forms of discrimination (2007), as amended by Law of 22 May (2014) and Law of 4 February (2020), prohibits the incitement to discrimination, hate, segregation or violence based on SOGIESC.
- **Denmark:** Article 266(b) of the Penal Code, as amended by Law No. 18 (2021), bans statements that threaten, insult or degrade a group of people on account of their gender identity, gender expression and “gender characteristics.”

Killings of LGBTIQ+ leaders and human rights defenders in Colombia in 2023⁴⁵

- [Alfredo Arrieta Vilorio](#) - On January 24, 2023, unknown individuals murdered Alfredo Arrieta Description recognized LGBTIQ+ social leader from the municipality of Toluviejo, department of Sucre; The homicide occurred inside the victim's home.
- [Shaina Vanessa Pretel Gómez](#) - Unknown individuals murdered Shaina Vanessa Pretel Gómez, a 28-year-old black trans woman, with several gunshot wounds around 4:38 am. The events occurred when she was chatting with other people in an apartment, located on Carrera 28 and Calle 73, in the Siri invasion, El Poblado II neighborhood, in the east of the city. Although she was taken to the Carlos Holmes Trujillo Hospital, she died due to the severity of her injuries.

⁴⁵ Information provided by Colombia Diversa from their report: *Violencia contra personas LGBTIQ+ defensoras de Derechos Humanos, lideresas y líderes políticos durante 2023 en Colombia.*

- [Darwin Melvin Urueña Legro](#) - Hitmen on a motorcycle ended the existence of Darwin Melvin Urueña Legro, a renowned stylist and trans woman who also looked after the culture, traditions and good customs of his population. The hairdresser and folk dancer was in her beauty salon located in the downtown area, where the murderers arrived and shot her repeatedly.
- [La Pola, Dania Sharit Polo](#) - Dania Sharit Polo, a trans leader from Carmen de Bolívar, died after fighting for her life for a week and a half after the attack with a firearm of which she was a victim (she was shot repeatedly, affecting vital organs, the April 30th). Known as “La Pola”, she was a renowned activist of the LGBTIQ+ community. According to the Institute of Development and Peace Studies, Polo “promoted the recognition of the collective in the municipality of El Carmen de Bolívar as a subject of collective reparation.”
- [Franklin Pabón Camacho](#) - On the night of July 13, 2023, on 4th Street, Carrera 37, known as “the Hot Corner Sector” in the Mesolandia neighborhood, Franklin, a non-binary Afro-descendant person, was on the street when they were approached by unknown individuals who shot them, receiving three bullets in his body that caused serious injuries and, later, their death. In 2022, Franklin had received threats in a pamphlet, allegedly from the Gulf Clan, which were reiterated this year by telephone. These events were reported to the Prosecutor's Office and the protection route was activated with the Comprehensive Victim Care and Reparation Unit. They served as LGBTIQ+ municipal liaison and had been part of the Territorial Council of Peace, Reconciliation and Coexistence of that territorial entity.
- [Alba Karina Velasco](#) - Alba Karina Velasco, a lesbian woman and leader for sexual diversity in the municipality of Santander de Quilichao, mother and head of the household, was murdered in her municipality. These events are occurring within the framework of a situation of violence against women in the municipality of Santander de Quilichao, as well as a context of systematic violence due to the armed conflict in the North of Cauca.
- [Juan Camilo Falls Trespalcios](#) - On November 18, 2023, Juan Camilo Falls, an Afro-descendant LGBTIQ+ leader from the municipality of Cáceres (Antioquia), was murdered.
- [Roxanna Delgado Trujillo](#) - According to authorities' report, the lifeless body of a woman was found tied to a tree located in a wooded area. Those in charge of removing the body were members of the Police Sijín, who determined that, apparently, the victim's death had occurred due to mechanical asphyxiation in the neck. The woman was found tied by the neck to a tree in a sector that belongs to the town of Santa Fe. The victim was identified as Roxanna Delgado Trujillo, 32 years old. According to Indepaz, Delgado was recognized as a trans woman and an activist for the rights of the LGBTIQ+ community in the

department of Santander, in the north of the country, from where she moved to Bogotá after being a victim of threats and violence.

Cases of hate crimes in Nigeria⁴⁶

- In 2022, Dr. Obisike and his friend were murdered in the doctor's home. The perpetrators of the crime then proceeded to steal his property. Upon being caught, they pleaded that they killed the doctor and his friend because they thought the victims were gay.⁴⁷
- Akinifesi Oluide Olubunmi, a young man in Ondo State, was caught having a same-sex sexual affair with another man. He was attacked by a mob, while his partner escaped. Akinfessi was taken to the hospital, where he later died from the serious injuries he sustained from the mob attack on February 18, 2016.⁴⁸
- In 2017, about 15 students attempted to "beat the gay" out of their classmate, who they led out into the bushes where he was severely beaten with chunks of wood. After the beating, they brought him back to the school, and it was only his lifeless body that was found the following morning.⁴⁹
- Bamanga Rabi, also known as Rabina, was murdered and buried in a shallow grave in her house, in what is suspected to have been a hate crime. Bamanga was a Muslim trans rights activist who worked as a peer educator for the International Centre for Advocacy on Rights to Health (ICARH).⁵⁰
- In 2023, a Twitter thread gave an account of the way an unsuspecting gay man was lured by his killers to meet up with him. His killer, with whom he had been chatting, invited him out at 11 p.m. He went out to meet with his online love interest, who proceeded to threaten to out him if he did not pay a ransom of 3 million Naira. The victim tried to reach out for help to raise the ransom but was unable to. He was killed, and his body was later found in Ipaja, Lagos State.⁵¹
- On February 23, 2023, DAVE, a popularly known gay man in the Ojuda Berger area of Lagos, was killed in his own home by what was believed to be a hate crime, "kito."⁵² The image below shows the comments following Dave's murder on the popular online conversation platform Nairaland.⁵³

⁴⁶ Information provided by CHEVS.

⁴⁷ Oluokun, A. (2022, January 19). Ibrahim: Why I killed Dr. Obisike Ibe, friend with cutlass. PM NEWS. <https://pmnewsnigeria.com/2022/01/19/ibrahim-why-i-killed-dr-obisike-ibe-friend-with-a-cutlass/>.

⁴⁸ Kuchu Times Editor & More Posts by Kuchu Times Editor. (2016, March 14). Nigerian Man Lynched to Death for being Gay. Kuchu Times. <https://www.kuchutimes.com/2016/03/nigerian-man-lynched-to-death-for-being-gay/>.

⁴⁹ Iguar, R. (2017, September 1). Nigeria | Students beat "gay" classmate to death - MambaOnline - Gay South Africa online. MambaOnline - Gay South Africa Online. <https://www.mambaonline.com/2017/09/01/nigeria-students-beat-gay-classmate-death/>.

⁵⁰ Daemon, M. (2018, October 29). Muslim trans rights activist murdered in Nigeria. Erasing 76 Crimes. <https://76crimes.com/2018/10/29/muslim-trans-rights-activist-murdered-in-nigeria/>.

⁵¹ Thandiubani. (2023, October 9). Gay man lured and murdered in Ipaja after extortion attempt failed. Tori.ng. <https://www.tori.ng/news/250063/gay-man-lured-and-murdered-in-ipaja-after-extortio.html>.

⁵² Linda Ikeji's Blog. (2022, February 23). "My heart is broken" - Openly gay Nigerian pastor, Jide Macaulay reacts to alleged murder of gay man in Lagos. Linda Ikeji's Blog. <https://www.lindaikejisblog.com/2022/2/my-heart-is-broken-openly-gay-nigerian-pastor-jide-macaulay-reacts-to-alleged-murder-of-gay-man-in-lagos.html>.

⁵³ Source: <https://www.nairaland.com/7000487/popular-queer-guy-called-dave>.

That's an horrible way to live

1 Like

Re: A Popular Queer guy called DAVE was Murdered In His Resident By Unknown Culprits by **FuckDModz**: 6:54pm On Feb 23, 2022

One less abomination to worry about.

Next...

3 Likes

Re: A Popular Queer guy called DAVE was Murdered In His Resident By Unknown Culprits by **Barrywilly(m)**: 8:35pm On Feb 23, 2022

I have no RIP to waste

1 Like

Hate crimes in Ghana

- In 2022, a transgender woman in Kwame was brutally attacked and murdered in what appeared to be a hate crime motivated by her gender identity. Despite evidence pointing to a targeted attack due to her gender identity, local law enforcement failed to investigate the case adequately. Witnesses reported that Kwame had faced ongoing harassment and threats leading up to the attack, yet no measures were taken to protect her.
- LGBTIQ+ people are frequently subjected to mob attacks.
 - In 2020, a man narrowly escaped death after he was violently beaten by a vigilante group of ten men who suspected him of being gay.⁵⁴
 - In April 2022, four men were allegedly beaten in Kumasi, one of the largest cities in the country, because attackers thought they were gay.⁵⁵
 - In January 2024, a person who was wearing women's clothes, reported to be a gay man, was seeking accommodation accommodated by some women at a university. Upon discovering that the person was not a cisgender woman, the women attacked them.⁵⁶
- LGBTIQ+ people are entrapped on social media and lured into locations, only to be met by mobs or individual attackers.⁵⁷

⁵⁴ <https://www.thepinknews.com/2020/03/11/ghana-lgbt-rights-homophobia-ebenezer-okang-accra-human-rights-watch-hate-crime/>

⁵⁵ https://twitter.com/RightifyGhana/status/1646551090802966528?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

⁵⁶ <https://www.washingtonblade.com/2024/01/23/ghanaian-lgbtq-groups-condemn-attack-of-gay-man-at-university/>

⁵⁷ In June, a man reportedly arranged a sexual encounter with another man on Facebook, only to be met by a mob once he arrived. In July, a man was reportedly stabbed multiple times because of his sexual orientation, having been lured to a location via a dating app. Information provided by Youth Initiative Foundation Ghana.