**Submission to the report on FoRB and SOGI**

Thanks to Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz, the UN Independent Expert for collecting information on the situation of religious freedom of sexual and gender minorities.

I'm Small LUK, an Intersex human rights defender in Hong Kong.

Regarding the situation of Intersex people in terms of religious freedom in Hong Kong and China, first of all, in China, although the Chinese government has said that it has given people religious freedom, the religious freedom of sexual and gender minorities in China is subject to many restrictions. Sexual and gender minorities often cannot participate in religious activities with your true self, otherwise you will be easily oppressed. Many homosexuals are criticized by religious as problematic in China. Many Intersex people are criticized as being disabled cause by sin. Religious leaders rely on the state granted power to force homosexuals to accept religious forms of “spiritual healing”. They try to prevent transgender transsexuals from undergoing gender reassignment surgery. Religious leaders strongly recommend and urge parents take their Intersex children for genital modify surgery, in order to plead God's forgiveness for the sins. Religious leaders work hard to make their members being “normal” people. Religious leaders make good use of the power given by the government, in the name of religious freedom, to control members and put a lot of religious pressure on members. They say it is freedom of religion, but it is actually discrimination and persecution.

In Hong Kong, the government constantly emphasizes that the Chinese central government grants freedom of religion to Hong Kong. Some well-known religious organizations against sexual and gender minorities have repeatedly criticized them as a crime in various public media. They also believe that the sex charactistic of Intersex people are the result of sin which born with. Those organizations, in the name of caring, publicly advocated in the public media that parents should take Intersex children for sexual organ modification treatment, so that Intersex children can be back to "normal" as soon as possible, also return into the arms of God.

We found that those pro-government religious organizations, in the name of religious freedom, control the people, and also use the power given by the regime to persecute sexual minorities, especially bringing a very wrong social impression to the Intersex group, making the society and Intersex parents believe that being Intersex is a consequence of sin, putting Intersex people at great risk.

I am sorry that this report does not meet the scope of your question, but I hope this can be used as a supplementary information material, allowing you to understand that certain regimes use the name of religious freedom to control people, and conservative religious forces use the name of religious freedom to control members, persecution of sexual minorities and Intersex people!

Thank you so much for your efforts and contributions, and wish you success in your work in 2023!