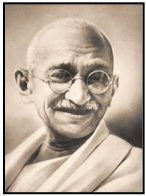


LGBT Rights at the UN: A Brief Overview



First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.

- Mahatma Gandhi

- 2003-2004: Brazilian resolution on sexual orientation & human rights, Commission on Human Rights, withdrawn
- 2005: Joint statement on sexual orientation and human rights, Commission on Human Rights, delivered by New Zealand on behalf of 32 States
- 2006: Joint statement on sexual orientation, gender identity and human rights, Human Rights Council, delivered by Norway on behalf of 54 States
- 2008: Joint statement on sexual orientation, gender identity and human rights, UN General Assembly, delivered by Argentina on behalf of 66 States (+ 1)
- 2008-2012: Resolution on sexual orientation, gender identity and human rights, Organisation of American States (OAS), adopted by consensus
- 2000-2010: Inclusion of “sexual orientation” in UN General Assembly resolution on extrajudicial executions. December 2010: US amendment on sexual orientation adopted by a vote of 93-55, with 27 abstentions.
- March 2011: Joint statement on sexual orientation, gender identity and human rights, Human Rights Council, delivered by Colombia on behalf of 85 States
- June 2011: South African resolution on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity adopted at UN Human Rights Council by a vote of 23-19, with 3 abstentions.
- Dec 2011: First UN report on Discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity
- Mar 2012: First UN panel discussion on ending human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity.



UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon

“Human Rights Day commemorates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is not called the ‘Partial’ Declaration of Human Rights. It is not the ‘Sometimes’ Declaration of Human Rights. It is the *Universal* Declaration, guaranteeing all human beings their basic human rights, without exception.

When our fellow humans are persecuted because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, we must speak out.

Human rights are human rights everywhere, for everyone.”



John Fisher / Sheherezade Kara
+41-79-508-3968 / +41-78-834-9916
john@arc-international.net
sheherezade@arc-international.net
www.arc-international.net