Summer School

Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity in International Law

Human Rights and Beyond

The Hague, Leiden & Amsterdam, 25 July – 4 August 2023

Programme
(version 29 July 2023)
*SOGI = sexual orientation and gender identity
*SOGIESC = sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, and sex characteristics
*LGBTI = lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex
*TBC = to be confirmed

For a number of introductory materials (some by speakers at this Summer School) see:

Kees Waaldijk & Waruguru Gaitho

**Leiden Overview on SOGIESC in International Law**

– A list of online introductory video/audio/reading materials for anyone interested in the international legal aspects of sexual orientation, gender identity/expression or sex characteristics – and in particular for anyone (considering) taking part in Leiden University’s Summer School on SOGI in International Law

Leiden: Universiteit Leiden 2021, 2022, 2023


(revised and updated from time to time)
**Tuesday 25 July** (The Hague)

Between 12.30 and 13.45 registration is possible

14.00 – 15.15  **The global picture (especially of legal recognition of sexual orientation) and how it is moving**
Kees Waaldijk, professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law at Leiden University – and academic coordinator of the Summer School on SOGI in International Law

15.30 – 17.00  **Two-minute poster presentations about country situations**
by all participants, facilitated by Loran Hempenius, organiser of the Summer School on SOGI in International Law – and law student at the universities of Leiden and Oxford

17.15 – 18.30  **Using the UN to decriminalise gay sex, lesbian sex, and gender expression in Asia-Pacific**
Paula Gerber, professor of law at Monash University, Australia – and President of Kaleidoscope Human Rights Foundation (an NGO advancing the rights of LGBTIQ+ people in the Asia-Pacific region)

18.30 – 19.30  **Optional social activity**

**Wednesday 26 July** (The Hague)

10.30 – 11.45  **Transgender issues across the world – and their journey into international law**
Ales Recher, head of legal counselling and advocacy at Transgender Network Switzerland – and independent researcher

12.00 – 13.15  **The work of UN treaty bodies around SOGIESC – in particular of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and of the Committee on the Rights of the Child**
Paula Gerber, professor of law at Monash University, Australia – and President of Kaleidoscope Human Rights Foundation

13.15 – 14.15  **Lunch**

14.30 – 15.00  **About the programme of this Summer School**
information from, and Q&A with, the organising team

15.15 – 16.30  **Gender identity in the case law of the European Court of Human Rights**
Ales Recher, head of legal counselling and advocacy at Transgender Network Switzerland – and independent researcher

16.45 – 18.00  **The right to relate, to come out, and to come together: sexual orientation as an aspect of sexual, gender and relational diversity**
Kees Waaldijk, professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law, Leiden University

18.15 – 21.00  **Opening dinner**
Thursday 27 July (The Hague)

10.30 – 11.45 LGBTI advocacy at the United Nations: exploring the potential of human rights and development mechanisms
Kseniya Kirichenko, UN Programme Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and PhD Researcher at Leicester Law School, UK

12.00 – 12.25 Country focus (by participant)

12.25 – 12.50 Country focus (by participant)

12.50 – 13.15 Country focus Australia
Paula Gerber, professor of law at Monash University, Australia – and President of Kaleidoscope Human Rights Foundation

13.15 – 14.15 Lunch

14.30 – 15.30 How and where in the UN system to challenge specific national violations of human rights of LGBTI persons?
brief pitches by participants – and advice from the panellists:
Paula Gerber, professor of law at Monash University, Australia – and President of Kaleidoscope Human Rights Foundation
& Kseniya Kirichenko, UN Programme Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and PhD Researcher at Leicester Law School, UK

16.00 – 16.45 SOGIESC issues in the global arena – Q&A with Special Envoy Jessica Stern
Jessica Stern (speaking remotely), U.S. SpecialEnvoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons, Washington DC (and formerly the Executive Director of OutRight International, New York)

17.00 – 18.15 The inclusion of sexual orientation into the world’s prohibitions of discrimination
Kees Waaldijk, professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law, Leiden University

Friday 28 July (The Hague)

10.30 – 11.45 The role of the African Union in combating SOGI based human rights violations
Seun Bakare, PhD candidate in international criminal law at Leiden Law School – and Head of Human Rights for Pride in London

12.00 – 12.25 Country focus (by participant)

12.25 – 12.50 Country focus Nigeria
Seun Bakare, PhD candidate in international criminal law at Leiden Law School – and Head of Human Rights for Pride in London (and formerly Head of Programs at Amnesty International Nigeria)

12.50 – 13.15 Country focus (by participant)

13.15 – 14.15 Lunch

14.30 – 15.45 Gay & lesbian individuals in the case law of the European Court of Human Rights
Robert Wintemute, professor of Human Rights Law, King’s College London

16.00 – 17.15 Litigating for same-sex couples at the European Court of Human Rights
Robert Wintemute, professor of Human Rights Law, King’s College London

From 17.30 Optional social activity
Monday 31 July (The Hague)

10.30 – 12.00 Persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities in international refugee law
Katinka Ridderbos, Country Guidance Adviser of the UN Refugee agency, UNHCR (Division of International Protection)

12.15 – 13.00 The situation in a country of origin of LGBTI refugees: Cameroon (parallel session)
Berachard Njankou, law graduate (D.E.A., University of Douala Cameroon), The Hague

12.15 – 13.00 The situation in a country to where LGBTI refugees migrate: Kenya (parallel session)
Masafu Okwara, Human Rights Lawyer, and Program Officer at National Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission, Kenya

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.15 – 15.00 LGBTI asylum-seekers and refugees: a vulnerable group within a vulnerable population
Katinka Ridderbos, Country Guidance Adviser of the UN Refugee agency, UNHCR (Division of International Protection)

15.15 – 15.40 Country focus (by participant)

15.40 – 16.05 Country focus (by participant)

16.20 – 16.45 Country focus (by participant)

17.00 – 17.25 Country focus (by participant)

17.30 – 18.00 How to do a PhD on SOGIESC law (optional session)
Kees Waaldijk, professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law – and formerly head of PhD studies (both at Leiden Law School)

From 18.00 Optional social activity (TBC)

Tuesday 1 August (The Hague)

10.00 – 12.00 Visit to the International Criminal Court in The Hague

13.15 – 14.15 Lunch

14.30 – 15.00 Information and Q&A about the final days of the Summer School

15.15 – 16.15 Dusting off the law books: recognizing gender persecution crimes committed against LGBTQI+ persons in conflicts and atrocities
Lisa Davis (speaking remotely), professor of law for the Human Rights and Gender Justice Clinic at CUNY School of Law (New York) – and Special Adviser on Gender Persecution to the International Criminal Court Prosecutor

16.30 – 17.30 Finding protection for women and LGBTI persons in international criminal law: the draft articles for a treaty on crimes against humanity
Lisa Davis (speaking remotely), professor of law for the Human Rights and Gender Justice Clinic at CUNY School of Law (New York) – and Special Adviser on Gender Persecution to the International Criminal Court Prosecutor

17.45 – 18.30 Panel on working as LGBTI+ at an international organisation
panelists:
Natasha Atieno, Evidence Assistant, Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court – and Co-Chair/Co-Founder of the Interagency Diversity and Inclusion Network (The Hague)
Steven Beyba, Human Resources Officer at Eurojust (The Hague), Co-Chair of the European Union Agencies Network Working Group on Diversity & Inclusion – and Board Member/Co-Founder of the Interagency Diversity & Inclusion Network (The Hague)
Antônia Pereira de Sousa, Special Assistant to the Registrar, International Criminal Court, The Hague – and Founding Member of ICCQ (the informal network for sexual and gender diversity at the International Criminal Court)

From 18.30 Optional social activity
Wednesday 2 August (Leiden)

10.30 – 11.45 The emergence of intersex as a protected category in international law
Benjamin Moron-Puech, professor of law, Université Lumière Lyon 2, France

12.15 – 13.15 Contested legal issues on intersex: torture and non-binary gender
Benjamin Moron-Puech, professor of law, Université Lumière Lyon 2, France

13.15 – 13.30 Tour of the building

13.35 – 14.25 Lunch

14.30 – 16.00 Professional networking session
Facilitated by Pien Kemeling, law student and student-assistant at Leiden University

16.20 – 16.35 Tour of the venue

16:45 – 18.00 The SOGIESC case law of the Inter-American Court & Commission of Human Rights and of the Caribbean Court of Justice – and its impact in the region
Lucas Ramón Mendos, Research Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and lead editor of the ILGA World Database

From 18.00 Optional social activity

Thursday 3 August (Amsterdam)

12.30 – 13.45 Bring-your-own-lunch picnic

14.00 – 14.30 Welcome at the venue

14.45 – 16.00 International economic organisations and international trade and investment law: global leverage for SOGIESC issues?
Andreas R. Ziegler, professor of Public International Law, Université de Lausanne

16.15 – 17.15 Inter-American initiatives in the fight against SOGI based discrimination and violence
Lucas Ramón Mendos, Research Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and lead editor of the ILGA World Database

17.30 – 18.00 The ILGA World Database – online access to SOGIESC law in every country and to UN documents on SOGIESC
Lucas Ramón Mendos, Research Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and lead editor of the ILGA World Database

From 18.00 Optional social activity (TBC)

Friday 4 August (Amsterdam)

10.30 – 11.30 SOGIESC challenges in different corners of international law
Kees Waaldijk, professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law at Leiden University – and academic coordinator of the Summer School on SOGI in International Law

11.30 – 12.00 Evaluation of summer school

12.15 – 13.00 Presentation of certificates

13.30 – 15.30 Farewell lunch
List of speakers at the 2023 Summer School on SOGI in International Law

Alecs Recher
Head of legal counselling and advocacy at Transgender Network Switzerland – and independent researcher
www.tgns.ch/fr/consultations/droit

Andreas R. Ziegler
Professor of Public International Law, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland
www.andreasrziegler.com

Antônia Pereira de Sousa
Special Assistant to the Registrar, International Criminal Court; and Founding Member of ICCQ (the informal network for sexual and gender diversity at the International Criminal Court, The Hague) https://nl.linkedin.com/in/ant%C3%B4nia-pereira-de-sousa-908167124

Benjamin Moron-Puech
Professor of Law, Université Lumière Lyon 2, France, https://univ-droit.fr/universitaires/25013-benjamin-moron-puech

Berachard Njankou
Law graduate (D.E.A., University of Douala Cameroon) The Hague

Jessica Stern
U.S. Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons (and formerly the Executive Director of OutRight International) www.state.gov/biographies/jessica-stern

Katinka Ridderbos
Country Guidance Adviser of the UN Refugee agency, UNHCR (Division of International Protection) www.linkedin.com/in/katinka-ridderbos-50193934

Kees Waaldijk
Professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law – and academic coordinator of the Summer School on SOGI in International Law, both at Leiden University (and formerly head of PhD studies at Leiden Law School) www.law.leidenuniv.nl/waaldijk

Kseniya Kirichenko
UN Programme Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and PhD Researcher at Leicester Law School, UK

Lisa Davis
Professor of Law for the Human Rights and Gender Justice Clinic at CUNY School of Law, New York – and Special Adviser on Gender Persecution to the International Criminal Court Prosecutor www.law.cuny.edu/davis

Lucas Ramón Mendos
Research Manager at ILGA World, Geneva – and lead editor of the ILGA World Database https://linkedin.com/in/lucasramonmendos

Masafu Okwara
Human Rights Lawyer, and Program Officer at National Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission, Kenya

Natasha Atieno

Paula Gerber
Professor of Law at Monash University, Australia – and President of Kaleidoscope Human Rights Foundation (an NGO advancing the rights of LGBTIQ+ people in the Asia-Pacific region) www.paulagerber.com

Robert Wintemute
Professor of Human Rights Law, King’s College London www.kcl.ac.uk/people/robert-wintemute

Seun Bakare
PhD candidate in international criminal law at Leiden Law School – and Head of Human Rights for Pride in London (and formerly Head of Programs, Amnesty International Nigeria) www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/seun-bakare

Steven Beyba