



Independientes en Inglés
TecMun Morelia 2022

Office of the United Nations High
Commissioner for Human Rights



Committee:



President

Carol Sofía Rodríguez Esquivel



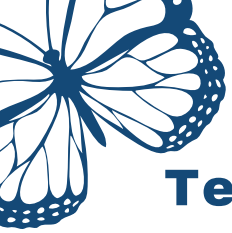
Moderator

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Conference Officer

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The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the main document in the history of human rights. It was first proposed in the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on 10 December 1948. Since then, it has helped to determine the rights of every person, regarding their religion, country or nationality.

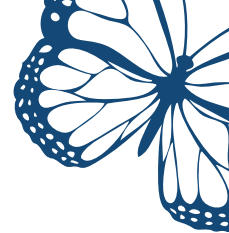
In order to preserve and maintain the fulfillment of the basic Human Rights established in this Universal Declaration, the United Nations, based on the recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action, created the “Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights” in 1993. The foregoing Department of Human Rights “UN Center for Human Rights” and the OHCHR unified in 1997, ensuring the compliance of Human Rights around the world.

In March 2006, the Human Rights Council was created by the United Nations General Assembly. Its first session was held from 19 to 30 June 2006. The members of this Council are selected by the General Assembly every 3 years, and these same countries conform to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

This committee is composed of the 47 members of the Human Rights Council. Disponibility depends on the geographical distribution, having specific seats for every region.

The OHCHR is responsible for guaranteeing the wellbeing of every person’s rights. It works among the General Assembly, in order to assure all of the Universal Human Rights in every region.





Topic A: Human Rights Violation in Preparation for 2022 World Cup

What is the issue:

The FIFA World Cup is the most prestigious tournament in the world, it takes place every four years, and involves 32 nations competing against each other.

For this year, Qatar was chosen as the host country, which means it is responsible for covering the outlay of necessary infrastructure for the tournament. Around two million migrant workers are involved in the preparation of the 2022 World Cup, they are building the stadiums, the roads, the metro; they will be providing security for the football matches, transporting fans in taxis to the games, greeting them in hotels and serving them in restaurants as the tournament edges closer.

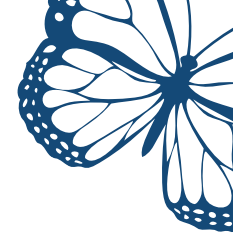


Human Rights Violation

On May 19, the NGO Amnesty International released a report on the human rights violations that are affecting thousands of workers in preparation for the World Cup.

This report speaks about how the construction of the World Cup facilities was based on multiple serious abuses, including the payment of excessive and illegal unreimbursed recruitment fees, corrupt employers, abusive practices, excessive hours, working in extreme temperatures, forced labor, high risk jobs without protection, and deaths that have rarely been investigated and gone unreported. Many workers were even denied food and water, had their identity documents taken away, and many of them were not paid, turning some of them into slaves. At the heart of the abuse facing migrant workers is the 'Kafala' employment system, which is based on sponsorship that legally binds foreign workers to their employers, which until recently prevented workers from changing jobs. or even leave the country without the permission of their employer.



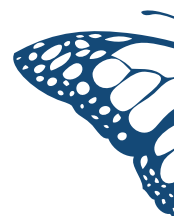


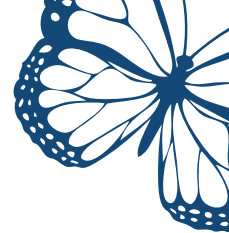
After years of promises but limited actions, in November 2017 Qatar signed an agreement with the UN International Labor Organization, working on a reform process that includes: access to justice, voice of workers, health and safety , and payment and contracting.

Since 2017, Qatar's government has passed several new laws aimed at benefiting migrant workers, including the introduction of a law for domestic workers and the establishment of an insurance and support fund for workers.

In 2018, Qatar removed the 'exit permit' requirement for most workers, meaning workers should be able to leave the country without their employer's permission.

In 2020, Qatar has made further significant progress, including removing the no-objection certificate requirement, meaning all workers should now be able to change jobs without their employer's permission, and introducing a new statutory minimum wage.

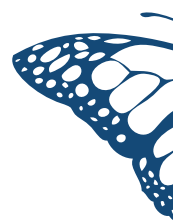




Regardless of major reforms to the kafala sponsorship system, structural problems persist and thousands of workers continue to be victims of abuse and exploitation. Migrant workers cannot apply for or renew their residence permits by themselves and it is the responsibility of the sponsor to do so. According to Amnesty International, the respective duties to repair the violations committed have not been fulfilled, workers are still tied to their employers.



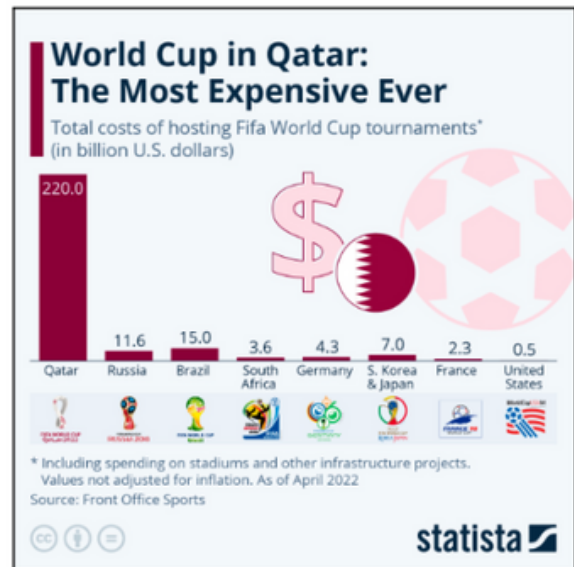
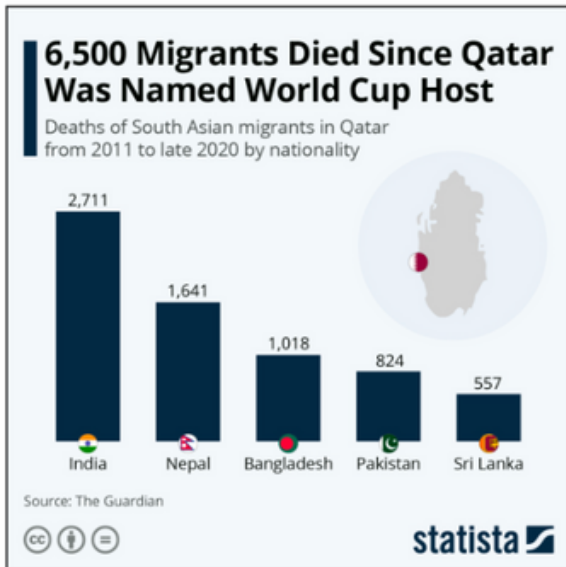
In addition, Qatar's human rights record raises other concerns, such as severe restrictions on freedom of expression, state policies that discriminate and facilitate violence against women, and a repressive environment against LGBT residents and visitors. Homosexuality, extramarital relations, alcohol consumption, among other things, are prohibited by law and are punishable by up to eleven years in prison, even those who wear the LGBT flag in the World Cup will be arrested.





General Statistics

- According to The Guardian, an average of 12 migrant workers have died each week since the night in December 2010 when Qatar won the right to host the World Cup in 2010.
- According to Amnesty International 60% of workers had to deal with wage withholding, delay or non-payment since 2016.
- According to the OHCHR there have been 299 public complaints about the abuse of migrant workers by companies in Qatar since 2016.





Perspectives on the Solutions

The core legal obligations that delegations have based on the Human Rights include the following:

- Ensure migrants' access to adequate health care
- Protect migrants from slavery and any type of abuse
- Guarantee an adequate salary: taking into account the material, social, and cultural aspects.
- Provide the necessary work equipment, to guarantee their safety
- Apply sanctions in case of labor law violations and an accessible and well-functioning judicial system.





Key Questions

- Which are the main violated rights in this specific World Cup?
- How should the affected families be compensated?
- Has your country been directly affected by this problem?
- How can your delegation help to prevent this type of problem in the future?
- What does your delegation do to guarantee respect towards human rights?
- Should there be a penalization against Qatar for these deaths and rights violations?
- What can the delegations do to prevent this situation occurring again in the future?
- How are Human Rights principally affected?





Research Sources for the Agents

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- The World Cup is Exciting, Lucrative, and Deadly: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/08/23/world-cup-exciting-lucrative-and-deadly>
- Qatar's migrant workers have faced exploitation and servitude. Now they're fighting for change: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/qatar-world-cup-exploited-migrant-workers-human-rights-rcna2889>
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Topic B: Deliberation over the rights of the LGBTQ+ community with special emphasis on Transgender rights

“More than 65 countries criminalize same-sex sexual relations”. (ONU, 2019).

Homosexuality has always existed since we humans had registered life.

On May 17 1990, the WHO removed homosexuality from the list of mental health disease, and in 2012, the PAHO stated that "the alleged 'healing' services for people with non-heterosexual sexual orientation lack medical justification and represent a serious threat to the health and welfare of those affected". Likewise, 15 years after the World Health Organization (WHO) removed homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses, progress has been made in the situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people.



The acronym “LGBTQ+” stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual and queer, among other sexual identities which are represented by the plus “+”.

The first three terms were first used in the 1990s, due to a movement of activists who adopted the acronym LGB to describe their community and promote inclusion, which would not have been possible without the participation of activist individuals who participated in the Pride parade in Boston in 1975. Within this progressive trend, the acronym "LGB" gradually acquired a broad meaning, encompassing communities not included, emphasizing sexual diversity and gender identities, as well as including people who have a sex, sexual orientation or gender not accepted by traditional heteronorma and binarism.





One of these included classifications is, for example, transgender people. Transgender people are referred to in this way because they have a gender identity (self-identification as male, female, intersex, nonbinary, etc.) or expression different from those socially and culturally typically attributed to their biological sex which given at birth. As explained by the National Center for Transgender Equality, a transgender girl or woman is a girl or woman whose sex assigned at birth was male, but who understands herself as female. A transgender boy or man is a boy or man whose sex assigned at birth was female, but who understands himself to be male. Some transgender people identify as neither male nor female, or as a combination of/among a spectrum of male and female.

The start of transgender rights

Michael Dillon (1915–1962) is one of the first transgender person in the world who went from female-to-male through hormones and surgery. He always used to identify as masculine, and began using testosterone in the year of 1940 and achieved in getting his birth certificate changed to reflect his gender in 1944.

Over nine years from 1944, Dillon had genital reconstruction surgery carried out by the leading plastic surgeon Sir Harold Gillies at his hospital, Rookdown House, near Basingstoke. Meanwhile, Dillon himself trained and qualified as a doctor.

It is alarming that only around 15 countries allow transgender people to change their status with a simple declaration, approximately in thirteen countries they currently live under specific laws that criminalize them, punishing them with imprisonment, corporal punishment and even death and the ONU is worried about this and is asking for the elimination of discriminatory laws against LGBTQBIQ+ people which includes transgenders.





Current Relevance of the Situation

Giorgia Meloni is a journalist and an Italian politician. She is currently the President of the party “Hermanos de Italia”. She was the most voted candidate in the elections of the past September 25th.

This is another victory for the far right in Europe and shows the rapid growth of such parties in parliaments across Europe.

His views on LGTBQ+ people are worrying, as they reflect a reversal of what in recent decades he has been trying to advance with regard to the rights of this community.

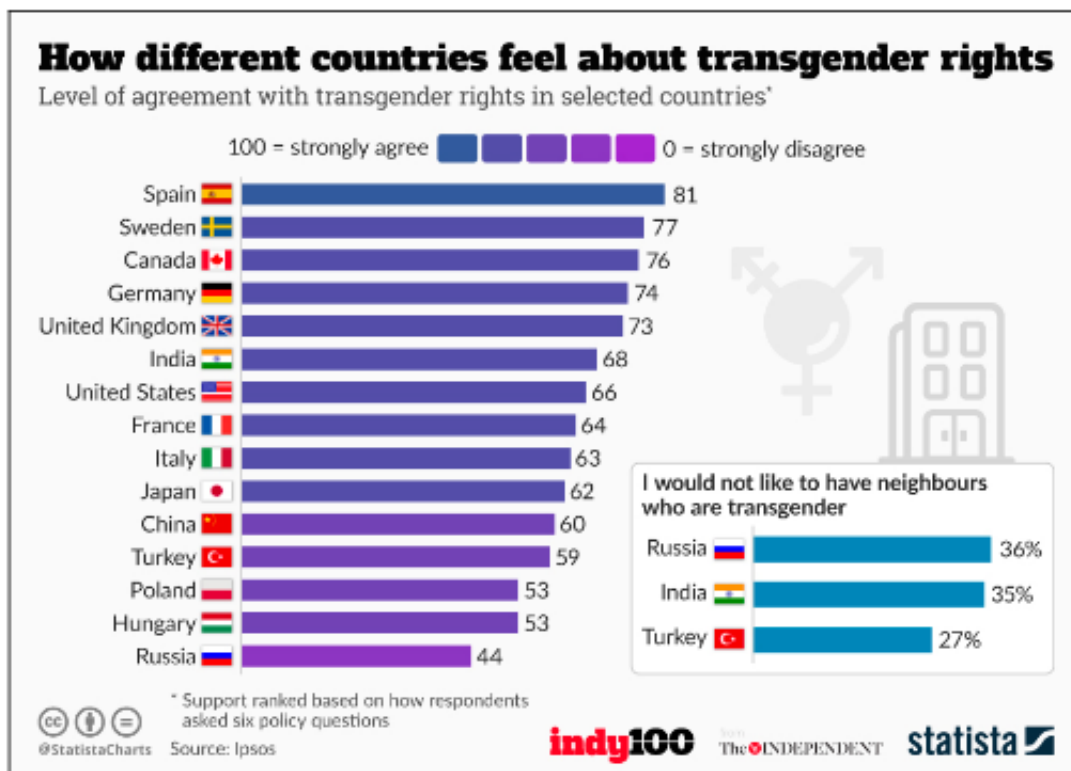
In one of his last speeches, his intervention was loaded with hatred against the LGTBQ+ collective and the feminist movement.

He has even mentioned his opinion regarding adoption by couples belonging to the LGTBQ+ community, in which he considers that a child has the right to grow up with a father and a mother, since he considers it is unfair that the homosexual couple votes and chooses and not the minor.

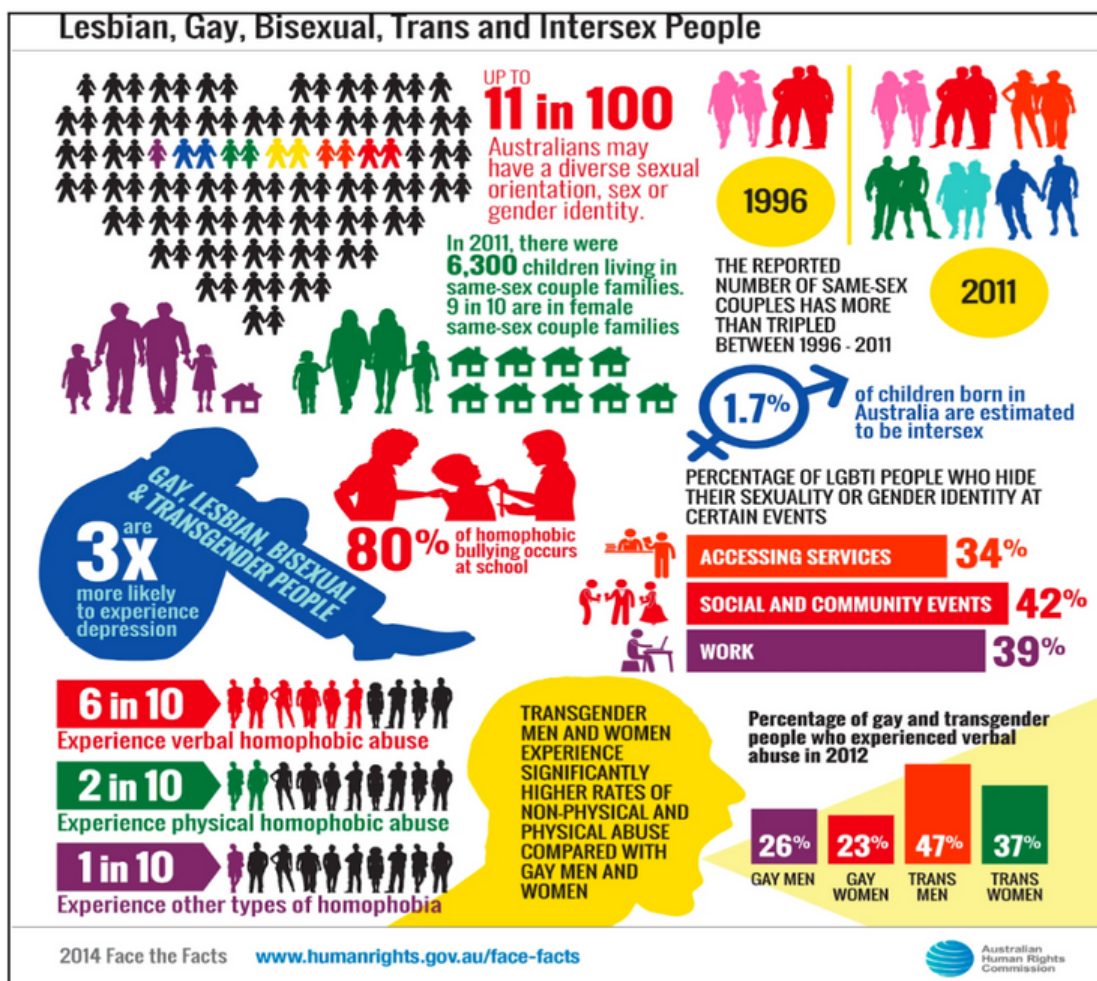
Despite this, he has mentioned in several speeches he has given, he does not consider himself a homophobic person and insists on condemning any kind of homophobia.



General Statistics



(McCarthy, 2017)





Perspectives on the Solution

The core legal obligations that delegations have based on the Human Rights include the following:

- **Protect** individuals from homophobic and transphobic violence
- **Prevent** torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment
- **Repeal** laws criminalizing same sex relations and transgender people
- **Prohibit** discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity
- **Safeguard** freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly for LGBTI people

“All States are obligated under International human rights law to promote and protect the human rights of all persons without discrimination. Yet in many countries, laws against cross dressing are used to punish transgender people on the basis of their gender identity and expression. Additionally, in 70 countries, discriminatory laws criminalize private, consensual same-sex relationships.” (OHCHR, s. f.)

Few years ago, many countries have started to take action on discriminatory and offensive acts against LGBT community including:

- Recognizing same-sex relationships and possibilities to obtain identity documents without any impediments or abusive requirements to stop its process.
- Promoting anti-discriminatory campaigns in order to make people aware of the mental damage that certain comments or attitudes can cause.
- Penalizing the hate and discrimination crimes committed.
- Giving capacitations to public workers such as police, teachers and social workers.
- Easing the process of changing gender in official documents.





Key Questions

- What actions is the government taking in order to reduce discrimination and what actions are being taken to respect the Human Rights that the LGBT community has?
- How is your country willing to help in order to address this problem?
- Which NGOs(Non Government Organizations) are taking action?
- Is the delegation currently supporting LGBT?
- If there is a government campaign, which improvements has it made?
- In your delegation, what percentage of people support LGBT?
- In your delegation, what percentage of people are part of LGBT?
- What actions is the government taking to punish the crimes committed against LGBT?
- Are there mental health programs or refugees destined to affected people?
- What are the main violated rights for transgender people?
- What are the consequences of the discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community?
- What actions do the delegation take in order to promote Transgender and LGBTQ+ rights?





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