

# Recommendations on Gender Equality, Reproductive Rights & LGBT Rights<sup>1</sup>

## Universal Periodic Review of the United States of America, May 2015

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a peer review mechanism through which the United Nations Human Rights Council scrutinizes the fulfillment of human rights obligations and commitments in each of the 193 UN Member states, relying in part on materials provided by domestic stakeholders such as civil society organizations.

Click [here](#) to read the complete report of the U.N. Human Rights Council.

In addition, the ACLU's report and briefing materials to the Human Rights Council Working Group on the UPR are available [here](#).

### LGBT Rights

**176.162.** Heighten efforts to promote non-discrimination of any kind, including discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (South Africa);

**176.163.** Keep promoting progress in LGBTI issues, especially in preventing discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation (Israel);

**176.164.** Take affirmative steps to ensure that individuals' religious refusals are regulated to conform with international human rights standards that protect sexual and reproductive rights and the rights to equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity (Sweden);

### Women's Rights

**176.112.** Consider issuing standing invitations to all special procedures and institute measures to ensure women are paid equally as men for the same work (Ghana);

**176.113.** End various forms of inequality (Egypt);

**176.114.** Improve domestic legislation towards a genuine gender equality in the working place (Congo);

**176.115.** Ensure that women receive equal pay for equal work so as to close the gender pay gap (Serbia);

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<sup>1</sup> This document is a compilation based on the full [U.N. Universal Periodic Review Recommendations to the U.S.](#), which should be used as the authoritative document for citation purposes.

- 176.116.** Eliminate discrimination against women by introducing paid maternity leave and providing equal pay for women for the same work (Maldives);
- 176.117.** Issue a decree on compulsory maternity leave and equal wages for men and women (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 176.138.** Take necessary measures to combat discriminatory practices against women and migrant workers in the labour market (Algeria);
- 176.255.** Promote actions to eradicate sexual and domestic violence (Israel);
- 176.256.** Guarantee the right to access to justice and effective remedies to all indigenous women who were victims of violence (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- 176.257.** Continue to pay attention to violence against indigenous women by ensuring that all reports of violence, in particular sexual violence and rape against indigenous women, are thoroughly investigated, with a focus on ending impunity and bringing perpetrators before justice (Finland);
- 176.258.** Redouble efforts to prevent sexual violence in the military and ensure effective prosecution of offenders and redress for victims (Slovenia);
- 176.272.** Establish, where appropriate, specialized services required for children and women who have been trafficked or sold for sexual exploitation (Canada);
- 176.289.** Improve access to justice, including due process and redress, for victims of sexual violence in the military; this would include removing from the chain of command the decision about whether to prosecute cases of alleged assault (Denmark);

## **Reproductive Rights**

- 176.97.** Interpret the Helms Amendment on the Allocation of Foreign Assistance in such a way that US Foreign Assistance enables safe abortion for A/HRC/WG.6/22/L.10 9 women and girls who have been raped and impregnated in conflict situations (Netherlands);
- 176.98.** Clarify its interpretation of the Helms amendment in order to be able to provide safe abortion for rape survivors (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 176.99.** Allow foreign assistance to support safe abortion services, where legal in the host country. This should apply as a minimum in the cases of rape, incest and life endangerment, as is also permitted by existing US federal law (Belgium);
- 176.100.** Ensure that the US international aid allows access to sexual and reproductive health services for women victims of sexual violence in conflict situations (France);
- 176.316.** Ensure equal access to equality maternal health and related services as an integral part of the realization of women's rights (Finland);

**176.318.** The removal of blanket restrictions on abortion for US foreign assistance to permit its use for safe abortion in cases of rape, life or health endangerment and incest in countries where abortion is legal (Norway);