



Global LGBTI Rights: Key Terms

LGBTI terminology:

- **LGBTI** – An umbrella term that refers to people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, and/or intersex. Despite the often substantial overlap between the experiences of LGBTI people around issues such as violence and discrimination, gender identity, sexual orientation, and intersex status are different aspects of individual identity/behavior and should not be conflated.
- **Assigned sex** – The sex assigned to an individual, usually at birth, by medical, legal, or other social authorities.
- **Gender expression** – An individual’s personal traits, mannerisms, and other manifestations of gender identity.
- **Gender identity** – An individual’s deeply-rooted internal sense of gender. For most people, gender identity aligns with assigned sex, but this is often not true for trans* people.
- **Gender-nonconforming** – A term used by some people to describe identifying as or being perceived to be an intermediate state between male and female, both male and female, neither, or another gender altogether.
- **Intersex** – Having genetic and/or physical characteristics that vary from typical expectations of male and female. A former medical term, intersex has been reclaimed by some – but not all – intersex people as a personal and political identity. Others use the term “differences of sex development” (DSD) and do not identify as intersex. Many intersex people consider themselves to be part of trans* communities, but many do not.
- **Sexual orientation** – An individual’s sexual, physical, and/or romantic attraction to other people of the same or a different gender; frequently described as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or straight/heterosexual.
- **Trans*** – An umbrella term derived from “transgender” that is used by many people who do not identify with their assigned sex or whose gender identity or expression is different from their assigned sex. Trans* people describe themselves by many different terms, many of which are specific to local cultures. The asterisk denotes a placeholder for the entire range of possible gender identities that could fall under the broad definition of trans*.

International LGBTI rights concepts:

- **Yogyakarta Principles:** A set of principles regarding the application of international human rights law to issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. The Principles were developed by a group of international human rights experts and activists in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in 2006. While not binding themselves, the Principles reflect and affirm binding international legal standards with which all states must comply.
- **Amsterdam Network:** A network of national LGBT rights organizations from 12 countries and the European Union, primarily those behind OECD giving, that meets periodically to coordinate advocacy for pro-LGBT foreign policy and to enhance the quantity and quality of foreign assistance for LGBT projects around the world.
- **Stockholm Process/post-Stockholm Process:** In 2010, Sida and Hivos hosted the first meeting at which bilateral agencies from donor countries came together with private foundations and LGBT advocacy groups to discuss enhancing financial and non-financial support for the rights of LGBT people worldwide. The British, Dutch, Finnish, French, Norwegian, Swedish, and U.S. governments sent representatives, along with approximately eight private and public foundations. The meeting resulted in the identification of six goals, and the “post-Stockholm process” refers to efforts to push governments to follow through on these goals. In December 2013, a follow up meeting was hosted by the German government in Berlin, and the US government will host the next meeting in November 2014.



Global LGBTI Rights: Selected Resources

Note: This resource list is not exhaustive and focuses on global organizations; there are many other global, regional, and local advocates and funders that are not listed here for reasons of space.

Global Philanthropy Project: www.astracafoundation.org/global-philanthropy

Funders for LGBTQ Issues, including annual Global Gaze reports: www.lgbtfunders.org/resources/global.cfm

The Yogyakarta Principles on the application of international human rights law in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity: www.yogyakartaprinciples.org

Map of anti-LGBT laws around the world, primarily related to sexual orientation (May 2013):
http://old.ilga.org/Statehomophobia/ILGA_map_2013_A4.pdf

United Nations resources on LGBTI issues: www.ohchr.org/en/issues/discrimination/pages/lgbt.aspx

Organization of American States resources on LGBTI issues: www.oas.org/en/iachr/lgtbi

International Human Rights Funders Group and Foundation Center snapshot of LGBT rights foundation giving (2010): http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/pdf/humanrights_lgbt.pdf

“Giving Out Globally: A Resource Guide of Funding Mechanisms to Support Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual and Transgender Rights in the Global South and East” (2009):
www.arcusfoundation.org/images/uploads/downloads/Giving_Out_Globally_Arcus_Dorf_2009.pdf

“Expanding Global Philanthropy to Support the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual and Transgender People” (2008):
www.arcusfoundation.org/images/uploads/downloads/Expanding_Global_Philanthropy_Arcus_Simon_2008.pdf

“Mobilizing Resources for the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual and Transgender People: Challenges and Opportunities” (2008):
www.arcusfoundation.org/images/uploads/downloads/Mobilizing_Resources_Arcus_Parkhurst_Johnson_2008.pdf

ARC International: <http://arc-international.net>

Council for Global Equality: www.globalequality.org

GATE – Global Action for Trans* Equality: <http://transactivists.org>

Human Rights Watch LGBT resources: www.hrw.org/topic/lgbt-rights

International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC): <https://iglhrc.org>

International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Organization (ILGA): <http://ilga.org>

Sexuality Policy Watch: www.sxpolitics.org

Sexual Rights Initiative: <http://sexualrightsinitiative.com>

Trans* Respect Versus Transphobia Research Project: www.transrespect-transphobia.org