



## **Summit of the Future Action Days Side Event**

### ***International Peace and Security and LGBTIQ+ crisis response: new trends in displacement***

September 19th, 2024, 2pm, Church Centre for the United Nations

Organized by: Rainbow Railroad, Outright International, Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations New York, Permanent Mission of Malta to the United Nations New York, Government of Canada, Equal Rights Coalition

#### **Background on the event (one paragraph)**

The last 3 years has seen international geopolitical crises unfolding in multiple contexts, and crises targeting the queer community as part of a global anti-gender movement, resulting in increased violence and discrimination against, and consequent forced displacement of, LGBTIQ+ people. Bringing international crisis response into the future, the global humanitarian community must strive for gender equality and greater inclusivity, including of LGBTIQ+ people, to ensure that those who are most in need receive effective assistance. Novel criminalization of same-sex relationships, legislative regression and democratic backsliding are undermining peace and security in multiple regions. These crises are changing the landscape of how the international community needs to adapt and respond to threats to human rights which are underlying drivers of instability and violence. The panel explored where partnership has been successful, including with states, international organizations, and civil society, and where countries can do more to be leaders in holding the line on the global anti-gender movement and

the LGBTIQ+ rights pushback that's unfolding in real time.

### **Key Issues discussed**

- Panelists discussed how increased multilateralism can enhance international peace and security.
- Experts discussed how to integrate the perspectives of LGBTIQ+ persons in crisis contexts to collectively re-envision how the international community adapts and responds to threats to human rights.
- Participants shared examples of successful partnerships with states, international organizations, and civil society, and identified areas where countries can champion the fight against LGBTIQ+ persecution.
- State representatives and UNHCR provided insights into programming and pathways intended to reach and prioritize LGBTIQ+ persons in forced displacement, while a speaker with lived expertise shared some of the challenges and intersecting barriers faced by LGBTIQ+ persons navigating the international refugee and asylum apparatus.
- Speakers shared how queer perspectives can be integrated into global agreements such as the Pact of the Future and in the Declaration on Future Generations.
- Experts explained how the global anti-gender movement is not only leading to legislative and social regressions that target LGBTIQ+ communities, but also has broader implications for rising authoritarianism and destabilizing international peace and security.

### **Key recommendations for action**

- Mainstream LGBTIQ+ perspectives into broader discussions of forced displacement, humanitarian protection, and peace and security.
- Mainstream the perspectives of LGBTIQ+ persons at every level of crisis response efforts: from monitoring of early warning systems, to active humanitarian protection and forced displacement initiatives, to post-conflict peace-building efforts.
- Coordinate responses between multilateral entities, states, and civil society organizations who are best placed to address the specific challenges faced by LGBTIQ+ persons amidst the global forced displacement crisis.
- Leverage existing international mechanisms and fora to enhance support to at-risk LGBTIQ+ communities in crisis-affected contexts including: the Equal Rights Coalition, the UN LGBTI Core Group, councils such as the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council, agencies such as UNHCR, offices of Independent Experts such as the Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, and resolutions such as the Women, Peace and Security agenda.
- Create new opportunities for multilateral coordination on international crisis response affecting LGBTIQ+ persons through fora such as the Queer Forced Displacement Initiative.

**Webpage to find more information:** [rainbowrailroad.org](https://rainbowrailroad.org)