



Resources

Asylum related to sexual or gender identity or expression in the UK

Home Office

Statistics: Asylum claims on the basis of sexual orientation [experimental statistics] (30 November 2017)

Country information notes: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/country-policy-and-information-notes> (see also SOGICA list of Home Office country policy and information notes on sexual orientation and gender identity (updated December 2017))

Home Office guidance:

Sexual orientation in asylum claims (3 August 2016)

Gender Identity Issues in Asylum Claims (13 June 2011) – update in progress as of 12/2017

Victims of Modern Slavery (Competent Authority guidance) (21 March 2016)

Victims of Modern Slavery (Guidance for frontline staff) (18 March 2016)

UNHCR

Guidelines on International Protection No. 9: Claims to Refugee Status based on Sexual Orientation and/or Gender Identity within the context of Article 1A(2) of the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (2012)

UNHCR Training package on the protection of LGBTI persons in forced displacement
<http://www.unhcrexchange.org/topics/15810>

Protecting Persons with Diverse Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities: A Global Report on UNHCR's Efforts to Protect Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex Asylum-Seekers and Refugees (UNHCR, Dec. 2015)

Independent Chief Inspector on Borders and Immigration

Inspection report on asylum claims on the grounds of sexual orientation (Independent Chief Inspector John Vine) (2014)

The Independent Advisory Group on country Information (some reports address sexual/gender identity)

See also

Asylum Aid Response to Inspection of asylum intake and casework April – August 2017 by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (December 2017)

Asylum Aid submission to Inspection of Asylum Casework of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (June 2017)

UKLGIG submission in response to the invitation of the Independent Chief Inspector with respect to the Inspection of Asylum Casework (June 2017)

SOGI Background/country information:

Refugee Legal Aid Information (Rights in Exile Programme): contains links to LGBTI resources listed by country, country experts, resource persons, and other publications/groups

State-Sponsored Homophobia - A World Survey of Sexual Orientation Laws: Criminalisation, Protection and Recognition (ILGA, 2017)

Human Dignity Trust: links to country and other information

Electronic Immigration Network - Country Reports Database which includes latest LGBTIQ+ reports/articles

Other sources of helpful country information may include:

- Amnesty International country reports
- Human Rights Watch reports
- United States Department of State Human Rights reports

Other sources:

Refugee Status Claims Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, A Practitioners' Guide, no. 11 (International Commission of Jurists, Feb. 2016)

S Chelvan, Chapter XI: 'Asylum Claims based on Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity' (Credibility Assessment in Asylum Procedures, Vol 2, 2015)

Katherine Fobear, "'I Thought We Had No Rights': Challenges in Listening, Storytelling, and Representation of LGBT Refugees," *Studies in Social Justice*, vol. 9, no. 1 (2015)

Moira Dustin, 'Designating "vulnerability": the asylum claims of women and sexual minorities', *security praxis*, 3 June 2017

Uwe Berlit, Harald Doerig, Hugo Storey, 'Credibility Assessment in Claims based on Persecution for Reasons of Religious Conversion and Homosexuality: A Practitioners Approach', *International Journal of Refugee Law*, vol. 27, no. 4 (Dec. 2015) [Restricted access – request via <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/284705947> Credibility Assessment in Claims based on Persecution for Reasons of Religious Conversion and Homosexuality A Practitioners Approach]

No Safe Refuge: Experiences of LGBT asylum seekers in detention [in the UK] (Stonewall/UKLGIG, 2016)

SOGICA (University of Sussex project on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Claims of Asylum)

Pink News

Case law

HJ (Iran) and HT (Cameroon) [2010] UKSC 31
<https://www.supremecourt.uk/cases/docs/uksc-2009-0054-judgment.pdf>

For other caselaw, see: SOGICA [Table of UK SOGI asylum case law](#) (updated December 2017)

Organisations providing support to LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers/refugees in the UK:

- UK Lesbian and Gay Immigration Group (London) <https://uklgig.org.uk/>
- African Rainbow Family (Manchester) <https://africanrainbowfamily.org/>
- Lesbian Immigration Support Group (Manchester) <http://lesbianimmigrationsupportgroup.blogspot.co.uk/>
- First Wednesdays (support and social group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in the Greater Manchester area who are in the asylum process) <http://firstwednesday.lgbt/>
- Pride Without Borders (Leicester) <https://leicester.cityofsanctuary.org/lgbt-leicester-pride-without-borders>
- LASS (support group for lesbian, bisexual and queer asylum seekers & refugees in Sheffield) (Sheffield) <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/siibs/news/lass-1.710215>
- Kairos Lesbian Immigration Support Group (Nottingham) lisg.nottingham@gmail.com
- Micro Rainbow International (London) - focus on housing support <https://www.micro-rainbow.org/>
- Journey Asylum Social at Birmingham LGBT (Birmingham) - <http://blgbt.org/asylum-seekers/>
- East London Out Project (Runs two therapeutic groups for LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers) (London) - <http://elop.org/>
- Say it Loud Club (London) - <http://www.sayitloudclub.co.uk/About.html>
- London Friend (London) - <http://londonfriend.org.uk/get-support/refugees-asylum-seekers/#.WikY4xO0OwB>
- Mind's Outcome LGBTIQ+ Asylum Seeker Project (London) - <http://www.islingtonmind.org.uk/DocumentLibrary/ffflflyer.pdf>

If you would like us to update this resource page, please contact Leila Zadeh leila@uklgig.org.uk