### THE URGENCY OF SUPPORTING COALITIONAL QUEER FEMINIST SOLIDARITY: RESPONDING TO THE ANTI-TRANS AND ANTI-GENDER MOVEMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

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- Introduction by <u>Alix Vuillemin</u>, Executive Director, Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice



WHAT ARE ANTI-TRANS AND ANTI-GENDER MOVEMENTS?

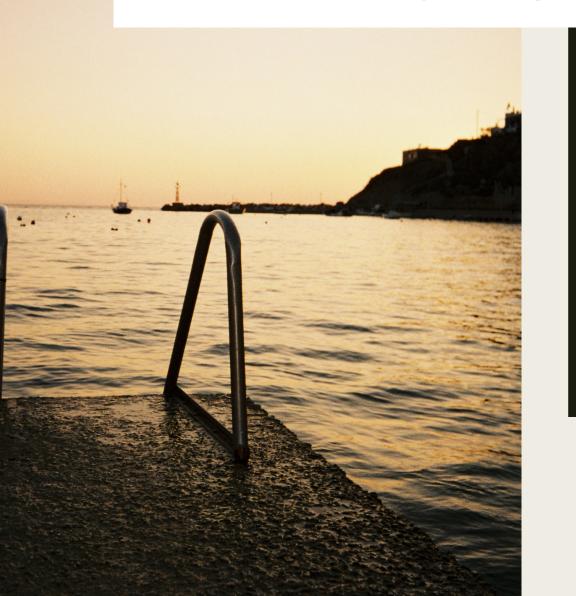
MANIFESTATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE?

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO RESPOND AND HOW?



## WHAT IS COMING UP FOR YOU AS WE ENTER THIS CONVERSATION?

3. For the purpose of this Statute, it is understood that the term "gender" refers to the two sexes, male and female, within the context of society. The term "gender" does not indicate any meaning different from the above.



#### "WHAT IS REQUIRED OF US IN THIS LONG TIME OF OUR UNDOING?"

CHRISTINA SHARPE, ORDINARY NOTES (NOTE 246)

"<u>SHE WAS, SHE KNEW, IN A QUEER</u> INDEFINITE WAY, A DISTURBING FACTOR"

NELLA LARSEN, QUICKSAND

## ON PRONOUNS

PRONOUNS, THEN, AREN'T JUST ABOUT

THE ABILITY TO USE A WORD LIKE "SHE."

THEY ARE ULTIMATELY ABOUT OUR

ABILITY TO BE. THIS HAS NEVER JUST

BEEN ABOUT WHO GETS TO SPEAK.

THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT WHO

BETS TO LIVE.

NEVER FORGET: THINGS ARE NOT ONLY SPOKEN INTO EXISTEN THEY ARE ALSO SPOKEN INTO EXTINCTION.

## ALOK V MENON

## Anti-trans and anti-gender movements in international justice

#### There Is No Place for Anti-Trans Agendas in the UN

18 May 2023 by AWID

Read in: English French Spanish

#### Leia em português aqui

We express grave concerns over the series of harmful statements made and actions<sup>1</sup> taken by the current UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, Reem Alsalem. To our dismay, the Special Rapporteur has persistently advocated for additional obstacles and conditions to legal gender recognition that undermine the rights protections of trans people, rather than calling for bodily autonomy for all. Instead of strengthening protections of marginalized groups and contributing to progressive legacies of previous Special Rapporteur and feminist movements that untiringly advocated for the creation of the office, we witness that the current Special Rapporteur is misusing her position and power to advocate for discriminatory policies against trans people and misapplying established human rights principles and frameworks.

Geographical Representation and Gender Balance (GRGB) at the International Criminal
Court (co-hosted by Uganda and the ICC Registry)
13:15 – 14:30Conference room 7

#### ECtHR Turns its Back on Intersex People

On 31 January, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) issued its first-ever judgment on rights of intersex people in *Y v France*. This was a Chamber judgment which may yet be referred to the Grand Chamber. It held – by six votes to one – that the refusal of national authorities to insert the term "neutral" or "intersex" (instead of "male") on the birth certificate of an intersex person does not constitute a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

## Institutionalized policies and strategies

- ICC OTP 2014 Sexual and Gender-Based Crimes Policy
- IIIM 2022 Gender Strategy
- ICC OTP 2022 Gender Persecution Policy
- ICC OPT 2023 Gender-Based Crimes Policy
- Draft Articles on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity (Feminist Strategy: Silence)

# Institutionalized policies and strategies – ways forward

- Being more specific about the difference between: Gender (identity) and sexuality
- Using key terms and gloassary to explicitly represent all gender identities, including trans person and all sexualities, including pansexuality and asexuality within realms of protection and safety
- Honouring positionality and the role it plays in understanding harm: how we move beyond seeing harm from a heterosexual, cis-gender perspective?
- Uplifting practitioners in academia and practice that identify as LGBTQIA+
- Leaning into proactivity: trans-institutional, trans-border advocacy towards an expansiveness of gender, explicitly, specific and without silence
- Reorienting through policies and jurisprudence Art. 21 (1)/ Art 21 (3), if not rewriting of Art. 7 (3)

### Literature

- Gara Lanzas Peláez, Solving the Problem of Gender in the International Criminal Court: Does the Rome Statute Protect the LGBTQ+ Community from Persecution, Berkeley Journal of International Law, Vol. 41:1, pp. 88ff, 2023
- Nicholas Leddy, Investigative and Charging Considerations for International Crimes Targeting Individuals on the Basis of Sexual Prientation and Gender Identity, Journal of International Criminal Justice, Vol. 20, pp. 911 ff, 2022
- Neiha Lashire, Definition Problems, Indefinite Solutions: Revisiting the ICC's Conception of Gender in a Gender-Critical World, Wisconsin International Law Journal, Vol. 41:1, pp. 33, 2024
- María Manuela Márquez Velásquez, Intersex: A Neglected Category in the Understanding of Gender-Based Crimes at the ICC?, OPINIOJURIS (Mar. 9, 2022),

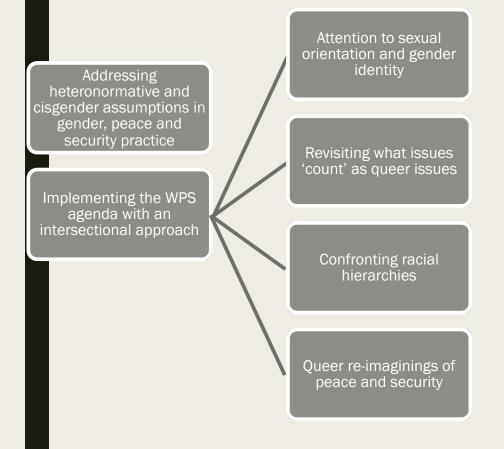


## COALITIONAL QUEER FEMINIST SOLIDARITY

"I am asking you in anticipation of achievement and disappointment and accomplishment and failure to make another way, to trace a different path to another set of social arrangements <u>so that we</u> <u>might all live</u>"

Saidiya Hartman

### Queering Women, Peace and Security





JEB (Joan E. Biren), *Delaware Dykes for Peace, Jobs, & Justice*, 1979.

See: <u>Queering Women, Peace and Security</u> (2016)



### Collaboration with Colombia Diversa

Objective: find common ground for alliances Discussions based on:

- What does security mean for LGBTQ women?
- What are specific risks faced by LGBTQ women?
- What does prevention, protection, participation, relief and recovery look like for LBTQ women?
- How can we articulate the advances in the inclusion of LBTQ women in the WPS agenda with the peacebuilding work of LGBTIQ+ social movements?

# Theory & Policy Into Practice



Hosting Conversation Cafes about queering peace and security Pictured: group from conversation café in NYC, March 2023 QUEERING THE WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA

a practice-based toolkit

See: <u>Queering WPS in practice toolkit</u>