

# **SOGIESC Asylum Mailing List – Membership Policy**

## **What is SOGIESC Asylum?**

‘SOGIESC asylum’ refers to the experiences and needs of people in the asylum system or who have refugee status who face additional particular barriers or risks due to their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and/or sex characteristics (SOGIESC). LGBTQI+ people who are seeking asylum or who are refugees may have vulnerabilities that exist either independently of, or that are exacerbated by, the wider international protection context in which they find themselves.

More information on the social and legal experiences of LGBTQI+ people inside the European asylum system, and how European asylum systems can treat LGBTQI+ people more fairly, can be found on the [SOGICA website](https://www.sogica.org/en/sogica-database). This includes links to legal cases, research and other SOGIESC related resources: [www.sogica.org/en/sogica-database](https://www.sogica.org/en/sogica-database)

List members are encouraged to incorporate an intersectional approach in their participation in this list. This entails being aware and inclusive of not only SOGIESC aspects in isolation, but also of how these interact with other characteristics, such as gender, ethnicity, religion, faith, nationality, age, disabilities and socioeconomic status, as well as experiences of violence, torture or trafficking.

## **Who is this list for?**

This list is open to a broad range of actors working on SOGIESC issues in the context of international protection. This includes grassroots, local, national, regional and international NGOs, activists, legal experts and academics. Not eligible to participate in this list are state/government or political institution representatives, students, journalists and other media representatives.

Members who joined this mailing list as part of an eligible category and subsequently move to a position in an ineligible category are kindly asked to unsubscribe from the list.

## **Confidentiality**

The protection of asylum seekers and refugees and those who support them is of paramount concern. This means that while this list is intended to discuss strategies, share relevant developments, materials and good practices, and to connect those working on SOGIESC issues in the context of international protection in Europe, extreme care must be taken to protect the safety and privacy of those for and with whom we work.

Specific details around cases or individuals should not be shared on the mailing list. Members may seek support for individual claimants through the list, but discussions of specificities must take place off-list, through more secure channels.

A good rule of thumb is that if the information is not a matter of public record, then it is best to avoid discussing it in a public forum. In situations of uncertainty, members may post a request for support or connections by anonymising/generalising the details of the case.

As such, list members may also not repost or otherwise share content posted by others without explicit consent, unless the information has previously been clearly indicated as being public.

### **Cessation of membership**

Infringement of the membership policy may result in suspension or expulsion from the list.

### **Conduct**

All list members are expected to uphold decency, courtesy and consideration in their actions with respect to the mailing list. As a minimum, this entails:

1. Refraining from breaching confidentiality;
2. Refraining from discrimination in any form;
3. Refraining from harassment, bullying or personal attacks in any form;
4. Ensuring that discussions and critiques are constructive;
5. Refraining from posting content unrelated to the purpose of the group;
6. Refraining from spamming the list;
7. Not posting anything with the aim of personal advancement (e.g. requests for jobs, CV reviews, etc.);
8. Not using the list and information shared as a tool for exploiting others;
9. Calling out and reporting list members engaging in inappropriate conduct.

Infringement of the membership policy may result in suspension or expulsion from the list.

### **Management**

This is an unmoderated list. While the list is hosted by ILGA-Europe, individual posts submitted by list members are automatically distributed without prior review. All members are therefore expected to post responsibly, and accept equal responsibility for monitoring and reporting or calling out inappropriate content.

### **Language**

Members are free to post in the language of their choosing. Please do also keep in mind the accessibility of your posts for other members on the list.

**For further questions** please contact [juliana@ilga-europe.org](mailto:juliana@ilga-europe.org).

*[last updated: 16 January 2019]*