




LGBTIQ+ RIGHTS IN AZERBAIJAN

Leyla Hasanova, Chairperson of Queerdian (NGO)



Azerbaijan's previous UPR (2018)

- Azerbaijan's UPR in 2018: 259 Recommendations
 - 9 Recommendations for LGBTIQ+ Rights
 - Absence of Recommendations in 2009 and 2013 UPR Cycles
 - Ongoing Pattern of Denial and Lack of Recognition
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LGBTIQ+ Rights in Azerbaijan

- Worrying environment for the LGBTIQ+ citizens in Azerbaijan
 - ILGA's reports: Consistent lowest ranking in safeguarding LGBTIQ+ rights
 - Frequent arbitrary arrests and mistreatment by law enforcement authorities
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Findings of Queerdian's Joint Submission to UPR

- Misuse of anti-public morality laws leading to unlawful arrests and detention
- Emotional and physical abuse faced by LGBTIQ+ detainees
- Forced medical exams without consent
 - Incidents of 2017 and 2019
 - Large-scale police raids targeting LGBTIQ+ citizens
 - Ongoing fear and vulnerability within the LGBTIQ+ community



Hate Speech & Hate Crimes

- Lack of inclusion of gender identity and sexual orientation in hate speech-related laws
 - Increased level of hate speech and hate crimes in media and society
 - Example: Murder of Avaz Hafizli and inadequate punishment due to lack of hate crime classification
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Data Gap

- Absence of data concerning LGBTIQ+ citizens within state institutions
 - Factors contributing to the data gap and state's perception
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Queerdian's Recommendations

- Comprehensive Anti-Discrimination Strategy
 - Ratification of Istanbul Convention
 - Regulations for Data Collection
 - Amendments to Criminal Code
 - Establishment of LGBTIQ+ Rights Monitoring Body within Ombudsperson Office
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Thank you for your attention
Leyla Hasanova

