



# CZECH REPUBLIC

## Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations

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Third Committee – ID with Mr Victor Madrigal-Borloz

**Statement by**

**Lenka Aldorf**

**First Secretary**

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*Check against Delivery*

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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

*Czechia aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union.*

We want to express our support for the mandate of the Independent Expert. We also want to thank him for his report, in which he addresses how gender identity and sexual orientation operate in armed conflicts. We appreciate the report's policy-oriented approach.

The conclusions of the report state, among other things, that current UN policy frameworks may have overlooked the scope of violence against LGBT and gender-diverse persons in armed conflicts. In the complex reality of an armed conflict sexual orientation and gender identity-based violence is used as means to exercise control or obtain legitimacy for the conflict parties.

The report also identifies blind spots stemming from the binary gender construct anchored in international humanitarian as well as human rights law. We fully support the statement included in the report that sexual orientation and gender should not matter when determining the protected or unprotected nature of an individual or group in international humanitarian law.

Non-discrimination belongs to the most important cross-cutting principles and priorities of Czech foreign policy. We are convinced that the road to lasting peace and prosperity must be paved by an equal access to all rights for all. We also recognize the important role of civil society organizations working on the promoting and protection of LGBT and gender-diverse persons, including those affected by conflict.

*Mr. Independent Expert,*

*How do you envision the effective support, relief, reallocation and protection of LGBT and gender-diverse refugees or internally displaced persons that State actors should promote as mentioned among the report's recommendations?*

Thank you.