

President
Yoweri Museveni
Parliament Avenue
Kampala
UGANDA

LGBTI+ und Menschenrechtsverteidiger*innen

Sehr geehrter Herr Präsident,

der Ihnen vorliegende Gesetzentwurf, mit dem die Kriminalisierung einvernehmlicher gleichgeschlechtlicher Handlungen in Uganda festgeschrieben würde, verstößt gegen zahlreiche Menschenrechte von LGBTI+ und denjenigen, die deren Rechte in Uganda verteidigen. Betroffen sind unter anderem die Rechte auf Würde, Gleichheit vor dem Gesetz, gleichen Rechtsschutz und Nichtdiskriminierung sowie die Rechte auf Meinungs-, Vereinigungs- und Versammlungsfreiheit.

Hiermit fordere ich Sie auf, unverzüglich Ihr Veto gegen den Gesetzentwurf *Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2023* einzulegen und Schritte einzuleiten, um die Menschenrechte aller Personen unabhängig von sexueller Orientierung, Geschlechtsidentität und/oder Ausdruck der Geschlechtlichkeit zu schützen.

Darüber hinaus appelliere ich an Sie, alle notwendigen Schritte zu unternehmen, um diskriminierende Gewalt zu verurteilen, und Maßnahmen zu ergreifen, um LGBTI+ und Menschenrechtsverteidiger*innen vor diskriminierenden Angriffen zu schützen, die von den Diskussionen um den Gesetzentwurf befeuert werden.

Hochachtungsvoll

President
Yoweri Museveni
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Rights of LGBTI+ and human rights defenders

Dear President,

I am writing to express grave concern about the **2023 Anti-Homosexuality Bill** which entrenches criminalisation of consensual same-sex conduct in Uganda and is in violation of numerous human rights of LGBTI individuals and those defending their rights in Uganda, including the rights to dignity, equality before the law, equal protection by the law, non-discrimination, and freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association.

On 21 March, the Ugandan Parliament passed the Bill with 387 out of 389 MPs voting in favour of the Bill, which was then sent to the President to sign. On 21 April, the President sent the Bill back with revisions. On 2 May, Parliament passed an amended version that included the President's recommendations. The Bill now sits with His Excellency, who has until 31 May to either sign the Bill, veto it or return it once again to Parliament for revisions.

The amended version of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill still imposes a punishment of life imprisonment for same-sex sexual conduct, and up to 10 years imprisonment for attempted same-sex sexual acts. It also imposes the death penalty in cases of "aggravated homosexuality" - a broad term used to describe actions including same-sex acts among people living with HIV- and criminalizes the "promotion of homosexuality" with a 20-year prison sentence. The Bill will have a devastating impact on LGBTI individuals in Uganda, who already face institutional and widespread discrimination, fuelling violence and discrimination against them, as well as reinforcing stigma and gender-based stereotypes negatively affecting LGBTI people. It will also have a chilling effect on freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, as individuals who support LGBTI rights also risk persecution and imprisonment.

I urge you to immediately veto the 2023 Anti-Homosexuality Bill and take steps to protect the human rights of all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression. I also urge you to take all necessary steps to condemn discriminatory violence and to take actions to protect LGBTI people and human rights defenders from discriminatory attacks that are fuelled by the discussions around the Bill.

Yours sincerely,