



GLOBAL SUMMIT 2021: BUILDING GLOBAL CAPACITY FOR INCLUSIVE DEMOCRACIES

# Challenging Bias Against Women, Girls and the LGBTI Community

## Global Workshop

September 14 – 16, 2021

7:30 am - 11:00 am EST

All times are in EST, please check your local time [here](#)

### Overview

From industrialized cities to rural indigenous settlements, women and girls, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people are subjected to a panoply of discriminatory practices and human rights abuses due to their gender, gender identity, gender expression, and/or sexual orientation. According to Amnesty International, 76 countries criminalize sexual acts between adults of the same sex, and in 10 countries the death penalty is the maximum sentence for sexual acts between same sex adults.

When it comes to gender-based discrimination and violence, there are laws, customs and beliefs in all regions of the world that deny women and girls their rights. Gender stereotypes and norms are responsible for much of the violence, exclusion and lack of opportunities that women and girls suffer around the world. UN Women reports that globally, an estimated 736 million women -- almost one in three -- have been subjected to intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both at least once in their life (30 per cent of women aged 15 and older). This figure does not include sexual harassment.

Furthermore, the global COVID pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on women, girls and the LGBTI community leaving them particularly vulnerable to violations, abuse and economic inequality. In addition to higher levels of domestic violence during lockdowns, across the world authoritarian regimes and conservative political parties have tried to reinforce their power by



justifying discrimination in the name of morality, religion or ideology leading to increasing social stigma, moral opprobrium, bias, discrimination and violence towards women, girls and LGBTI people.

Presentations, peer-to-peer exchanges, and case studies from our [Reckoning with Systemic Racism](#) (May 25-28, 2021) and [Embracing Religious Diversity](#) (July 27-29, 2021) global workshops showed that systemic discrimination is rooted in historic political, economic and socio-cultural systems that have perpetuated rather than eradicated inequality and exclusion; that discrimination needs to be understood in terms of intersectionality; and that at the heart of all forms of discrimination is prejudice based on concepts of identity and on a social pressure to identify with and adhere to a certain group.

From **September 14-16**, 2021, the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience (ICSC) is hosting **“Challenging Bias Against Women, Girls and the LGBTI Community,”** the third and final global workshop that comprise the 2021 Global Summit, “Building Global Capacity for Inclusive Democracies,” designed to support peer-to-peer learning, capacity building and project collaboration in promoting inclusivity and democratic values in our communities.

Building off the belief that sex and gender should not define or limit anyone’s role in society, **“Challenging Bias Against Women, Girls and the LGBTI Community”** will bring together Sites of Conscience and community members across the world to build allyship and develop joint-strategies to counter the systemic discrimination, ill-treatment and violence that women, girls and LGBTI people suffer today.

To that end, the workshop will offer a combination of global Sites of Conscience panels and case studies, trainings, and community-led sessions aimed to challenge the discriminatory laws and practices that oppress women, girls and the LGBTI people today. Sessions will draw attention to the multiplicity of factors and/or root causes of the violence and discrimination against people due to their gender, gender identity and sexual orientation with the end goal of developing effective projects and advocacy campaigns that promote tolerance, respect and equal rights for all.



## Agenda

### Tuesday, September 14

---

7:30 – 7:50 am

#### Welcome and Introduction

Silvia Fernández, Global Networks Program Director,  
[International Coalition of Sites of Conscience \(ICSC\)](#) (5')

Emelda Davis, President, Australian South Islanders (Port Jackson),  
ICSC Board Member - Australia (15')

7:50 – 9:15 am

#### GLOBAL SITES OF CONSCIENCE PANEL: Understanding Bias, Discrimination and Violence Against Women/Girls and LGBTI People

Through the work and history of three Sites of Conscience, this panel will provide an in-depth analysis of the factors and systems of oppression leading to the systemic discrimination, ill-treatment and violence that women, girls and LGBTI people suffer today.

- Sally Roesch Wagner, Executive Director, [Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation](#) – USA (15')
- Antonio F. Paradas, Researcher, [Asociación Pasaje Begoña](#) - Spain (15')
- Katherine Potter, Seasonal Park Ranger, [Longfellow House - Washington Headquarters](#) - USA (15')

Q&A (25')

**Moderator:** Radhika Hettiarachchi, Founder, [The Herstories Archive](#) - Sri Lanka (10' intro and 5' closing)

9:15 – 9:30 am

#### Interactive Coffee Break

##### Video Projection: Manolita, La Chen de Arcos (Spain)

Manuela Saborido Muñoz, better known by her stage name Manolita Chen, (Arcos de la Frontera, October 1, 1943) is well-known in the LGTBI community in Spain for being the first transsexual woman to receive permission to legally change her name and sex.

**9:30 – 11:00 am**      **ROUNDTABLE COMMUNITY-LED DISCUSSION: Understanding Bias, Discrimination and Violence Against Women/Girls and LGBTI People**  
This roundtable session will bring together representatives from women and LGBTI community organizations around the world to delve into the historic political, economic and socio-cultural systems that have perpetuated rather than eradicated inequality and exclusion towards women, girls and LGBTI people. The session will describe the way that multiple systems of oppression interact in the lives of those with marginalized identities. (90')

- Marzia Echenique, Karla Ojeda and Carolina Boetti, Archivo de la Memoria Travesti Trans (The Transgender Transvestite Memory Archive) – Argentina (15')
- Julia Applegate, Director, [Equitas Health Institute](#) - USA (15')
- Rose Kigere, Director, [Women's Rights Initiative](#) (WORI) - Uganda (15')

Plenary (30')

**Moderator:** Folade Mutota, Executive Director, [Women's Institute for Alternative Development](#) (WINAD) – Trinidad and Tobago (10' for intro and 5' closing)

## Wednesday, September 15

---

**7:30 – 7:45 am**      **Welcome**  
Gegê Leme Joseph, Senior Program Manager Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, [International Coalition of Sites of Conscience \(ICSC\)](#) (10')

**7:45 – 9:15 am**      **GLOBAL SITES OF CONSCIENCE PANEL: Confronting Stigmatization, Discrimination, Incitement to Violence and Persecution**  
Through the presentation of three Sites of Conscience case studies, this session will explore examples of strategies to tackle bias, stigmatization and persecution against women, girls and the LGBTI community. It will showcase advocacy and educational projects designed to change perceptions and further open the doors of democracy and civic engagement to women and LGBTI people.



- Laura Perez, Executive Director, [Museo Memorial de la Resistencia Dominicana](#) – Dominican Republic (15')
- Maja Cecen, Director, [Fund B92 – Serbia](#) (15')
- Dr Earl Mowatt, Vice-President of Education, [One Pulse Foundation](#) – USA (15')

Q&A (30')

**Moderator:** Alejandra Naftal, Executive Director, [ESMA](#) – Argentina (10' for intro and 5' closing)

9:15 – 9:30 am Coffee Break

9:30 – 11:00 am **A CALL FOR ACTION: COMMUNITY-LED ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Confronting Stigmatization, Discrimination, Incitement to Violence and Persecution**

This session will highlight concrete actions carried out at the community level to fight discrimination against people due to their gender, gender identity and sexual orientation in Russia and Egypt. The session will serve as an open platform to build allyship among Sites of Conscience and activists around the world to end oppression against women, girls and LGBTI people.

- Tatyana Glushkova, Memorial Human Rights Center and [Stimul](#) - Russia (20')
- Malak El-Kashif, Trans Activist connected to [Women's Center for Guidance and Legal Awareness](#) - Egypt (20')

Plenary (30')

**Facilitator:** Emilia Potenza, Curator, [Apartheid Museum](#) – South Africa (10' for intro and 5' closing)

## Thursday, September 16

---

7:00 - 7:15 am **Welcome**  
Silvia Fernandez, Global Networks Program Director,  
[International Coalition of Sites of Conscience \(ICSC\)](#) (5')



**7:15 – 10:30 am**      **TRAINING: Virtual Advocacy for Real Transformation: Using Digital Advocacy to Confront Bias and Discrimination Against Women, Girls and LGBTI**

This session is geared towards Sites of Conscience interested in applying to the [“Virtual Advocacy for Real Transformation” Community Engagement Grants](#). The session will offer comprehensive technical and financial support for participants to develop low-cost, high-impact digital advocacy campaigns.

**AGENDA:**

**7:15 - 8:30 am**      **WORKSHOP I: Developing Digital Advocacy Campaigns**

The workshop will provide participants with the tools and knowledge to develop effective community-driven digital advocacy campaigns.

**Facilitator/Trainer:** Pooja Pant, Director, [Voices of Women Media \(VOW Media\)](#) – Nepal

**8:30 - 9:15 am**      **WORKSHOP II: New Words for New Worlds: Lexicon and Sexual and Gender Dissidence Today**

This workshop will focus on the key vocabulary, notions, and linguistic practices needed to manage sexual and gender dissidence inclusively and effectively within their space, time, and cultural context. Language is a dynamic and variable element, and so are the realities it describes. In the specific case of sexual and gender dissidence, identity labels respond to specific social and cultural contexts that must be appropriately acknowledged and considered.

**Facilitator/Trainer:** Moisés Fernández and Miguel Sánchez Ibañez, [MariCorners](#) - Spain

**9:15 – 9:30 am**      **Coffee Break**



- 9:30 – 10:15 am      **CASE STUDY: “Insumisas – Intersections between Feminism and the Human Rights Movement in Argentina” (Encuentros del Feminismo y el Movimiento de Derechos Humanos en Argentina)**  
Building on Memoria Abierta’s experience implementing “Insumisas,” a digital advocacy project foregrounding the relationship between the Human Rights and the Feminist, Women and Sexual Diversity Movements in Argentina, the session will help participants conceptualize digital campaigns for the “Virtual Advocacy for Real Transformation” Community Engagement Grants.
- Facilitator:** Veronica Torras, Executive Director, [Memoria Abierta](#) – Argentina
- 10:15-10:45 am      **“Virtual Advocacy for Real Transformation” Project Development**  
This session will provide an opportunity for participants to apply the key take-aways from the three-day global workshop and apply to the “Virtual Advocacy for Real Transformation” Community Engagement Grants. Participants will discuss and develop concept notes on the use of grassroots digital advocacy to confront bias and discrimination against women, girls and LGBTI communities.
- Facilitator:** Gegê, Global Networks Program Director, [International Coalition of Sites of Conscience \(ICSC\)](#) (5’)
- 10:45 - 11:00 am      **Wrap Up and Closing**