

FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, STIGMA AND STEREOTYPES

FEMINIST AND WOMEN'S ACTION PLAN THEME 3

Freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes for asylum-seekers and refugees has historically been governed by a complex set of laws and policies across institutional levels (SDG 16). The 1951 Geneva Convention, for instance, defines a refugee as a person “owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion” (Article 1). This definition reinforces gender binary conceptions as the baseline for qualifying for asylum and for being protected under international law.

At Beijing + 25, we have made some progress, but much remains yet to be achieved. While the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees provides important guidelines on freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes for asylum-seekers and refugees, the Compact neglects the explicit protection of LGBTQIA+ individuals. The Compact calls on states to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual- and gender-based violence and harmful practices targeted at women and girls.



Although the 2012 “Guidelines on Sexual Orientation and/or Gender Identity” by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees acknowledge the lack of recognition for persecution on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity in the current international refugee system, the recommended authentication procedures for asylum claims erase specific experiences of LGBTQIA+ individuals. At this point, only a few countries across the world (notably Canada) have adopted an understanding of gender-based persecution beyond binary conceptions.

To ensure that freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes for asylum-seekers and refugees can be achieved, the Center for Migration, Gender, and Justice has identified five key demands for the international community at Beijing +25:

1. PUT HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE INTERSECTION OF MIGRATION AND GENDER AT THE TOP OF THE AGENDA!
2. PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS OF REFUGEES ON THE MOVE AND IN HOST COUNTRIES!
3. ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION ABOUT REFUGEE EXPERIENCES!
4. DENOUNCE ANTI-REFUGEE AND GENDER-BASED HATRED AND VIOLENCE!
5. PROMOTE PARTNERSHIPS WITH REFUGEE COMMUNITIES!



The Center for Migration, Gender, and Justice (CMGJ) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that addresses human rights at the intersection of migration and gender.

Our goal is to shrink spaces between migrant communities and governing bodies. We believe that justice necessitates shared agency, representation, and accountability in protecting human rights for all.

CMGJ operates in four key areas:
Research, Advocacy, Education, and Community



Research

We believe that there is a need for refined knowledge on human rights of migrants. We produce knowledge for change!



Advocacy

We believe that migrants must be involved in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of laws/policies that govern them. We speak knowledge to power!



Education

We believe that education is key to the protection of human rights of migrants. We share knowledge!



Community

We believe that community safeguards human rights of migrants. We put knowledge into practice!

Protect Human Rights With Us!

Find us on these platforms to see what we are up to and how you can get involved!

Email: info@migrationgenderjustice.com
Website: www.migrationgenderjustice.com
Facebook: [@migrationgenderjustice](https://www.facebook.com/migrationgenderjustice)
Instagram: [@cmgyngo](https://www.instagram.com/cmgyngo)
Twitter: [@cmgyngo](https://twitter.com/cmgyngo)

#migrationgenderjustice

Gender Justice Beyond the Binary!