



The SOGICA newsletter: Issue 19 (April 2026)

Welcome to this SOGICA project newsletter. Since the project's formal end in 2021, the SOGICA team have continued to promote the project's findings through publications and events, as well as working on other relevant projects. Below are updates on some of these which we hope you will find of interest – as well as an [invitation to the online launch of 'Decolonizing Queer Migration: Iranian Voices in Exile'](#) on 23 April.

SOGICA publications

Since our last newsletter in 2024, we have made a couple of submissions to public consultations:

- SOGICA, (2025) '[Submission to the Call for Evidence by the European Commission regarding the EU LGBTIQ equality strategy for 2026-2030](#)', University of Sussex, Brighton [re-submission of 2020 '[32 recommendations to the European Commission on the new EU LGBTI+ Equality Strategy](#)']
- SOGICA, (2025) '[Submission to the UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in response to the Call for Input: Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in relation to forced displacement](#)', University of Sussex, Brighton [SOGICA submission referenced in paras. 26, 62 and 65 of the [Report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity](#), Graeme Reid, UN Doc. No. A/HRC/59/43 (UN Human Rights Council, April 2025)]

In addition, [SOGICA's survey report](#) was cited by the BAMF (Germany's Federal Office for Migration and Refugees) in a recent publication evaluating refugee and migrant integration courses, [The orientation course between knowledge and values transmission](#), 25 March 2026: 111.

All publications by the SOGICA team can be found on the [SOGICA website publications page](#). If you would like access to any of these publications and they are not publicly accessible, please email us (see signature below) and we will be happy to send them to you.

SOGICA events

Please visit the [events page of the website](#) for information about events, including events we have taken part in since the formal end of the project.

Other news

'Decolonizing Queer Migration: Iranian Voices in Exile', the book of the '[Negotiating Queer Identities Following Forced Migration](#)' (NQIfFM) project is now out as an open access (free to download) publication from Bristol University Press. The publication is based on the 'Negotiating Queer Identities Following Forced Migration' (NQIfFM) research project which explores the experiences of people who have left Iran to escape persecution or discrimination on grounds of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or sex characteristics (SOGIESC). You can find out more on the project website and we hope you enjoy [the book](#) and the other [project outputs](#) including:

- The research brief available online [here](#) summarises the key findings and recommendations of the project for your convenience.
- the documentary '[The Other Place](#)', freely available on YouTube;
- the poetry collection '[Rainbows on Rugged Terrains: Poetics of Queer Iranians in Exile](#)', freely downloadable from the Transnational Press London website;

- the journal article '[Putting People in Boxes: Iranian Exiles and Queer Identities](#)', published on open access in the *Sexuality & Culture* journal;
- five [podcast episodes](#) on Spotify;
- an [op-ed](#) in The Amargi;
- and several submissions to calls for evidence and blog pieces, available in the [outputs page](#) of the project's website.

Please read, review, and share with others!

Please also join the NQIfFM team for the online book launch event on Thursday, 23 April, 17:00 (BST). Please register online [here](#), to be sent the event link.

Readers of this newsletter who are in or near Bologna, Italy are invited to an event on migration controls that will include discussion of the implications for SOGIESC asylum seekers: [La Convenzione europea dei diritti umani e il controllo dei flussi migratori](#), is at the University of Bologna (Forlì campus), 17 April 2026, 2-5.30pm.

In January 2026, WiRL (the global network for knowledge exchange and the promotion of the rights of refugee women) made a submission to a UN Human Rights Council Call for input: WiRL's '[Response to the call for input to thematic report to HRC62: Violence and discrimination experienced by LBQ women](#)' draws together recent evidence and knowledge from WiRL's UK members with lived experience of claiming asylum, and legal practitioners, advocates and researchers.

The [GenDJus Guidelines](#) were published in 2026 as part of the 2023-2026 [GenDJus](#) research project. These Guidelines aim to facilitate the prevention and eradication of Gender-based as well as sexual orientation-based prejudices, stereotypes and biases (PSB) in judicial language and, to this end, are focused on the relations between judicial language and PSB as enshrined therein in the specific area of human rights concerning sexuality, parenthood and reproduction. They may be of use and/or provide food for thought for asylum authorities when thinking about issues of sexuality, parenthood and reproduction from an anti-stereotyping perspective in relation to asylum and refugee protection.

In February 2025, Carmelo Danisi and Nuno Ferreira published the book chapter "X, Y and Z (European Union): Who is protected as queer refugee by the Court of Justice of the European Union?" in the [Queer Judgments](#) book, on open access, published by Counterpress. This edited collection is an output of the [Queer Judgments Project](#).

Finally

Our thanks for all your support and if you would like to keep in touch, please email us.

Best wishes from Nuno, Carmelo, Moira and Nina at SOGICA

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