

SINCE 2009

The UN Human Rights Council

has adopted 3 resolutions, recognising "traditional values" as a vehicle for promoting and protecting human rights

"Traditions" might sound harmless enough

BUT...

None of the resolutions have defined what "traditional values" mean

A 2011 resolution said dignity, freedom, and responsibility are traditional values

But what about equality? And why place responsibilities centre-stage?

None of these resolutions acknowledge that "traditional values" are abused to...

LEGITIMISE DISCRIMINATION

SILENCE DISSENT

JUSTIFY HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

The "traditional values" agenda is a smokescreen to obscure and legitimise the exclusion of minority and vulnerable groups in society.

Russia, Ukraine and Moldova bans on the "propaganda" of "non-traditional sexual relationships" have been adopted or considered

These laws stigmatise and legitimise violence against LGBT people, silence them in the public sphere, and deny them information and access to services essential for health care and education.

National linguistic minorities ethnic indigenous people religious

Similar laws are seen in Nigeria and Uganda

Are excluded from public debates, their concerns are often systematically marginalised.

Minority groups and indigenous people rarely have a say on what "traditions" are worth keeping.

Violence against women remains a global concern

No state has a monopoly on misogyny and violations of women's rights.

land rights; nationality rights; exclusion from democratic participation; equal access to work, education, healthcare; virginity testing; forced marriage; sexual violence; unequal property rights; infanticide; female genital mutilation; harassment; assault at protests.

Women rarely have a say on what "traditions" are worth keeping.

The Human Rights Council must stop this race to the bottom



STATES MUST STAND UP

FOR THE UNIVERSALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS

EQUALITY NON-DISCRIMINATION

must be central to international human rights protections

Show your support by joining our Thunderclap at article19.org/traditionalvalues

#HRC24 must #RejectTraditionalValues
Human Rights are Universal

International human rights law exists to protect

EVERYONE

and has been developed to protect our rights in more specific, not less specific, terms:

The right to life

- The right to privacy
- Freedom of peaceful assembly
- The right to be free from torture
- The right to culture
- The right to health
- Freedom of expression
- The right to equal treatment, regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, identity, age, disability
- The right to freedom of religion or belief
- Right to Information Protection for Human Rights Defenders
- The right to an education

THE "TRADITIONAL VALUES" AGENDA does not seek to add to the list but aims to take away from it.

"Traditional Values" would undo the progress we have made since the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

The United Nations Human Rights Council is mandated to:

"PROMOTE UNIVERSAL RESPECT FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS FOR ALL, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF ANY KIND AND IN A FAIR AND EQUAL MANNER"

All States are required by international law to **modify** or **eliminate** "traditional values" or practices that contradict human rights protections.

THEREFORE

We must to restate, categorically and unequivocally, our commitment to the universality of fundamental human rights.

AND

#RejectTraditionalValues

ARTICLE 19

TRADITIONAL VALUES



OR

UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS

An agenda at the UN Human Rights Council since 2009 threatens the very bedrock of International Human Rights Protections