



Parliamentarians for Global Action
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي

Global Parliamentary Petition Regarding the Adoption of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2023 by the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda

March 29, 2023

We, the undersigned Members of Parliament, are alarmed by the adoption of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2023 by the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda and strongly condemn the passing of this retrograde legislation denying sexual and gender diverse persons their very existence.

Some of the most grievous provisions of the Bill running contrary to international human rights law include life imprisonment on conviction for the offense of homosexuality; and the death penalty for the offense of aggravated homosexuality, which includes same-sex relations with “a person with a disability” or with a person under 18 years.

The effects of this Anti-Homosexuality Bill are far-reaching and violate fundamental human rights of sexual and gender diverse persons, including their rights to life and liberty, freedom from torture, freedom of expression, association, and privacy. The Bill, furthermore, introduces a “duty to report homosexuality,” i.e., a person who knows or has reasonable suspicion that a person has committed or intends to commit the offense of homosexuality is obliged to report the matter to the police.

The Anti-Homosexuality Bill runs counter to the Constitution of Uganda; the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment; and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, by limiting the rights of sexual and gender diverse persons and effectively depriving them of equal protection under the law. Equality and non-discrimination are fundamental to building peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, which we, as parliamentarians, pledged to uphold in our respective countries.

As parliamentarians, we all must ensure equal protection under our respective laws, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity, without discrimination.

Therefore, we, Members of Parliament from around the world, call on President Museveni not to assent to the Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2023 and thus prevent it from becoming law and entering into force.

Signatories:

Hon.	Mariam Solaimankhil	Afghanistan
Dip.	Margarita Stolbizer	Argentina
Dip.	Claudia Beatriz Ormachea	Argentina
Hon.	Graciela Camaño	Argentina
Sen.	Juliana Di Tullio	Argentina
Dip.	Karina Banfi	Argentina
Dip.	Mara Brawer	Argentina
Dip.	Monica Macha	Argentina
Dip.	Natalia Souto	Argentina
Dip.	Pamela Calletti	Argentina
Dip.	Sabrina Ajmechet	Argentina
Dip.	Hilda Clelia Aguirre	Argentina
Dip.	Mabel Caparros	Argentina
Dip.	Lía Verónica Caliva	Argentina
Hon.	Brenda Magalí Vargas Matyi	Argentina
Dip.	Liliana Yambrun	Argentina
Mrs.	Victoria Morales Gorleri	Argentina
Dr.	Gabriela Lena	Argentina
Mr.	Stephen Bates	Australia
Ms.	Petra Bayr	Austria
Hon.	Eva-Maria Holzleitner	Austria
Hon.	Katharina Kucharowits	Austria
Mr.	Mario Lindner	Austria
Mr.	Carmelo Barrio Baroja	Basque Parliament
Hon.	Oihana Etxebarrieta	Basque Parliament
Mr.	Iñigo Iturrate	Basque Parliament
Mr.	Christophe Lacroix	Belgium
Sen.	Orry Van de Wauwer	Belgium
Hon.	Valerie Woods	Belize
Dip.	Betty Yañiquez Lozano	Bolivia
Mrs.	Robeyoncé Lima*	Brazil

Sen.	Marilou McPhedran	Canada
Mx.	Lisa Lachance	Canada
Mr.	Blake Desjarlais	Canada
Hon.	Robert Oliphant	Canada
Ms.	Lisa Marie Barron	Canada
Hon.	Jean-Guy Dagenais	Canada
Hon.	Paula Simons	Canada
Hon.	Pierrette Ringuette	Canada
Sen.	René Cormier	Canada
Hon.	Amina Gerba	Canada
Hon.	Bernadette Clement	Canada
Hon.	Claude Carignan	Canada
Hon.	Clement Gignac	Canada
Hon.	David M. Arnot	Canada
Hon.	David M. Wells	Canada
Hon.	Dennis Glen Patterson	Canada
Sen.	Donna Dasko	Canada
Hon.	Elizabeth Marshall	Canada
Hon.	Éric Forest	Canada
Hon.	F. Gigi Osler	Canada
Hon.	Frances Lankin	Canada
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Hon.	Jim Quinn	Canada
Hon.	Josée Verner	Canada
Hon.	Karen Sorensen	Canada
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Hon.	Lucie Moncion	Canada
Hon.	Marc Gold	Canada
Hon.	Marty Deacon	Canada
Hon.	Mary Coyle	Canada
Hon.	Nancy Hartling	Canada
Sen.	Patricia (Pat) Duncan	Canada
Hon.	Patrick Brazeau	Canada
Hon.	Paul Massicotte	Canada

Hon.	Percy Downe	Canada
Hon.	Peter Boehm	Canada
Hon.	Peter Harder	Canada
Hon.	Ratna Omidvar	Canada
Hon.	Raymonde Gagné	Canada
Hon.	Rebecca Patterson	Canada
Hon.	Rosa Galvez	Canada
Hon.	Rosemary Moodie	Canada
Hon.	Rose-May Poirier	Canada
Hon.	Sarabjit Marwah	Canada
Hon.	Senator Raymonde Saint-Germain	Canada
Hon.	Stanley Kutcher	Canada
Hon.	Tony Dean	Canada
Hon.	Wanda Thomas Bernard	Canada
Sen.	Julie Miville-Dechêne	Canada
Hon.	Mobina Jaffer	Canada
Hon.	Tony Loffreda	Canada
Hon.	Margo Greenwood	Canada
Hon.	Ian Shugart	Canada
Hon.	Randy Boissonnault	Canada
Hon.	Michele Audette	Canada
Mr.	Domagoj Hajdukovic	Croatia
Hon.	Sascha Faxe	Denmark
Mrs.	Charlotte Munch	Denmark
Hon.	Jette Gottlieb	Denmark
Ms.	Karin Liltorp	Denmark
Ms.	Mai Villadsen	Denmark
Ms.	Marianne Bigum	Denmark
Mr.	Mogens Jensen	Denmark
Mr.	Peder Hvelplund	Denmark
Mr.	Søren Søndergaard	Denmark
Mr.	Kim Valentin*	Denmark
Mr.	Søren Egge Rasmussen	Denmark
Ms.	Trine Mach	Denmark
Mr.	Noah Sturis	Denmark

Mr.	Alexander Ryle	Denmark
Dip.	Juan Dionicio Rodríguez Restituyo	Dominican Republic
Dip.	Lily Germania Florentino Rosario	Dominican Republic
Asamb.	Esther Cuesta Santana	Ecuador
Dip.	María Dantas	España
Hon.	Lorraine Nxumalo	Eswatini
Ms.	Radka Maxová	European Parliament (Czech Republic)
Mr.	Ernest Urtasun	European Parliament (Spain)
Mr.	Thijs Reuten	European Parliament (The Netherlands)
Hon.	Hilde Vautmans	European Parliament (Belgium)
Mr.	Frédérique Ries	European Parliament (Belgium)
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Ms.	Kira Marie Peter-Hansen	European Parliament (Denmark)
Ms.	Sirpa Pietikäinen	European Parliament (Finland)
Ms.	Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield	European Parliament (France)
Dr.	Dietmar Köster	European Parliament (Germany)
Mr.	Fabio Massimo Castaldo	European Parliament (Italy)
Mr.	Marc Angel	European Parliament (Luxembourg)

Mr.	Cyrus Engerer	European Parliament (Malta)
Hon.	Jose Gusmão	European Parliament (Portugal)
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Mr.	João Albuquerque	European Parliament (Portugal)
Ms.	Malin Björk	European Parliament (Sweden)
Ms.	Alice Bah Kuhnke	European Parliament (Sweden)
Ms.	Henriëtte Catharina Rinzema	European Parliament (The Netherlands)
Hon.	Derya Türk-Nachbaur	Germany
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Ms.	Tina Rudolph	Germany
Mr.	Frank Schwabe	Germany
Mr.	Theofilos Xanthopoulos	Greece
Mr.	Vasilis Vasilikos	Greece
Dip.	Ligia Ramos	Honduras
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Mr.	Máté Kanász-Nagy	Hungary
Rep.	David Bedo	Hungary
Rep.	Laszlo Sebian-Petrovszki	Hungary
Ms.	Zita Gurmai	Hungary
Mr.	Bence Tordai	Hungary
Mr.	Andrés Ingi Jónsson	Iceland
Mr.	Björn Leví Gunnarsson	Iceland
Mr.	Gísli Rafn Ólafsson	Iceland
Ms.	Halldóra Mogensen	Iceland
Ms.	Hanna Katrín Friðriksson	Iceland

Ms.	Orri Páll Jóhannsson	Iceland
Ms.	Thorgerdur Katrín Gunnarsdóttir	Iceland
Ms.	Thórhildur Sunna Aevarsdóttir	Iceland
Mr.	Viðar Eggertsson	Iceland
Ms.	Bjarkey Olsen Gunnarsdóttir	Iceland
Mr.	Gudbrandur Einarsson	Iceland
Ms.	Helga Vala Helgadóttir	Iceland
Ms.	Þorbjörg Gunnlaugsdóttir	Iceland
Ms.	Arndis Anna Kristinardóttir Gunnarsdóttir	Iceland
Mr.	Guðmundur Ingi Kristinsson	Iceland
Mr.	Jóhann Friðrik Friðriksson	Iceland
Ms.	Steinunn Þóra Árnadóttir	Iceland
Ms.	Þórunn Sveinbjarnardóttir	Iceland
Sen.	Alessandra Maiorino	Italy
Hon.	Federica Onori	Italy
Sen.	Sandra Zampa	Italy
Mr.	Piero Fassino	Italy
Hon.	Angela Brown-Burke	Jamaica
Sen.	Gabriela Morris	Jamaica
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Hon.	Peter George Kaluma Opondo	Kenya
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Sen.	Gustavo Madero	Mexico
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Mrs.	Ndiilokelwa Nthengwe	Namibia
Ms.	Ingrid Leary	New Zealand
Hon.	Syed Naveed Qamar	Pakistan

		Parlamento Andino (Ecuador)
Asamb.	Virgilio Hernández	
Ms.	Katarzyna Kretkowska	Poland
Ms.	Katarzyna Ueberhan	Poland
Mr.	Krzysztof Śmiszek	Poland
Ms.	Edite Estrela	Portugal
Dep.	Cristina Mendes da Silva	Portugal
Dep.	Joana Mortágua	Portugal
Dep.	Maria Emília Apolinário	Portugal
Dep.	Paula Inês Alves de Sousa Real	Portugal
Dep.	Sara Velez	Portugal
Mrs.	Carla Sousa	Portugal
Sen.	Thalie Dasyo Mokfe	République centrafricaine
Dep.	Henri-Mylla Vigner	République centrafricaine
Mr.	Andrei-Razvan Lupu	Romania
Mr.	Cătălin Teniță	Romania
Dep.	Simina Tulbure	Romania
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Mr.	Jan Klink	The Netherlands
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