



60th session of the Human Rights Council

*Panel discussion on combating discrimination, violence and harmful practices against
intersex persons
15 September 2025*

Mr. (Vice) President,

I am speaking on behalf of the BENELUX countries: Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. The Benelux fully supports the statement made by the European Union.

The Benelux reaffirms its commitment to promoting and protecting the human rights of all persons, including intersex persons. The experience of intersex persons remains largely marginalized from public discourse, even though it raises crucial concerns related to human rights, healthcare, and social recognition.

Too often, intersex persons face silent discrimination, stigmatization and institutional invisibility that hinders their identity and dignity.

We are proud to have been among the first signatories of Human Rights Council Resolution 55/14 combating discrimination, violence and harmful practices against intersex persons. This Resolution clearly defines intersexuality, condemns unnecessary and non-consensual medical interventions on intersex children, and calls on States to guarantee the bodily integrity, self-determination, and dignity of people born with variations in sex characteristics. We encourage all States to enhance efforts to combat discrimination, violence and harmful practices against intersex persons and to address their root causes

Today, we reaffirm our commitment to fostering a better understanding of the lived experience of intersex persons, sharing best practices, and defending the physical integrity and dignity of all persons, regardless of their sex characteristics.

Thank you.