



## Public issues' proposal

# WSCF Statement on Violence against Transgender and Non-binary Peoples

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**Name and signature of Proposer:** Divy Uptegrove, Dunc Urquhart, Alisha Jefferis, and Kej Andrés

**On behalf of the SCM of:** Canada, Aotearoa/New Zealand, and the Philippines

**Endorsed by (name and signature):** Christiane Ehrenguber, Patrick Ramsey

**On behalf of the SCM of:** Germany, Britain

**Title of Public Issue Statement:**

## WSCF Statement on Violence against Transgender and Non-binary Peoples

At the beginning of this General Assembly, we were told how the World Student Christian Federation is a movement by and from the margins of our communities. In this spirit, we call the WSCF to action concerning violence against transgender and non-binary people around the globe. These violent acts include both physical and sexual assault, torture, and often murder.

In 2021 we saw 375 documented murders against transgender and non-binary people worldwide. Most of those murdered due to their gender identity were under 30. Those at risk of facing gender-based violence include students associated with the WSCF, as there are students who identify as transgender and non-binary in SCMs all over the world. While data is scarce, testimonies indicate that those most likely to be targeted with acts of violence are transgender and non-binary people who come from Abrahamic religious communities.

We also recognize that recorded numbers of these murders are grossly underestimated as many countries refuse to keep accurate records of gender-based violence if any at all. The context behind these issues is a lack of understanding; confusion almost always leads groups towards fear, anger and prejudice, and transgender lives are no different. These numbers also do not include the many transgender and non binary lives lost to suicide due to mental health trauma. These traumas are often related to social rejection or oppression, and the fear of safety for one's own life.

We are asking that a statement by the World Student Christian Federation be published stating that the



WSCF denounces violence against transgender and non-binary people, and recognizes it as a global human rights violation. As a Christian organisation committed to life-giving social justice, a Christian organisation by and from the margins, we think our voices are needed to condemn this targeted violence that prevents the sustaining and flourishing of human life.

*The WSCF also commits to working towards safety for everyone according to the capacity of each region.*