

# HUMAN RIGHTS IN SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS



SAINT KITTS  
AND NEVIS  
ALLIANCE



THE EASTERN  
CARIBBEAN  
ALLIANCE FOR  
EQUALITY AND  
DIVERSITY

# Situation In Saint Kitts And Nevis

## Issue 1: Decriminalisation Of Same-Sex Conduct

### Implementation of previous recommendations

- 20 countries: Decriminalise same-sex consensual conduct.

### New developments

- Same-sex consensual conduct **decriminalised** in 2022 after **civil society court challenge**.
- LGBTQ+ citizens included in National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (GEPAP) 2022-2027.
- Lack of tangible steps by the State to recognise or include LGBTQ+ citizens.

# Recommendations

## Issue 1: Decriminalisation Of Same-Sex Conduct

We recommend that the Saints Kitts and Nevis Government:

- Work with the public sector, private sector and civil society to end discrimination, violence and societal intolerance against LGBTQ+ people.
- Enhance education and training on ending homophobic and transphobic violence and redress and access to justice.
- Build zero-tolerance education strategies against the cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of LGBTQ+ people of all ages.
- Enhance mechanisms to safeguard freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly for all LGBTQ+ people.

# Situation In Saint Kitts And Nevis

## Issue 2: Comprehensive Anti-Discrimination Legislation

### Implementation of previous recommendations

- Prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. (Germany, Uruguay, Mexico, Chile, UK and ors.)

### New developments

- LGBTQ+ people in Saint Kitts and Nevis still do not have the same rights as other citizens. They experience violence and discrimination with no means of redress.
- LGBTQ+ people in Saint Kitts report that they avoid law enforcement.
- Discrimination in the workplace, in education, in accommodation and hate speech are still not illegal.

# Recommendations

## Issue 2: Comprehensive Anti-Discrimination Legislation

We recommend that the Saints Kitts and Nevis Government:

- Enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Improve law enforcement training and encourage community-led safety initiatives.
- Ratify and implement key international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

# Situation In Saint Kitts And Nevis

## Issue 3: Access To Inclusive And Affordable Healthcare

### Implementation of previous recommendations

- France: Combat discrimination and obstacles faced by LGBTQ+ people when accessing healthcare.

### New developments

- LGBTQ+ people face limited access to mental health and HIV support, and to gender-affirming care for transgender people. They also face high healthcare costs and fear discrimination.
- There has been collaboration between civil society and the Min. of Health on sexual and reproductive health initiatives for LGBTQ+ people.
- Projects face administrative delays and a lack of funding for HIV testing.

# Recommendations

## Issue 3: Access To Inclusive And Affordable Healthcare

We recommend that the Saints Kitts and Nevis Government:

- Ensure all state-run healthcare facilities adopt policies, which unequivocally prohibit discrimination of all persons accessing healthcare and have measures in place to sanction persons who violate these regulations.
- Increase funding and resources for healthcare services that meet the needs of LGBTQ+ people.
- Remove barriers to gender-affirming care.



THANK YOU!