

ALO at the UN Human Rights Council – HRC57

In **September 2024**, the Afghanistan LGBTIQ+ Organization (ALO) participated in the **57th Session of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC)** to raise urgent concerns about the escalating human rights crisis facing women, girls, and LGBTIQ+ communities under Taliban rule. ALO's Executive Director, **Artemis Akbary**, delivered a formal statement during the session, calling on the international community to address the widespread and systematic violations occurring in Afghanistan.

In his intervention, Artemis highlighted the Taliban's continued repression of women and girls, including severe restrictions on education, employment, mobility, and public participation. He also emphasized the targeted violence, arbitrary arrests, torture, and discrimination faced by LGBTIQ+ people — groups often excluded from mainstream reporting and protection frameworks. Artemis stressed that these abuses constitute **gender-based and SOGIESC-based persecution** and urged Member States to support the establishment of an **independent international investigative accountability mechanism** capable of documenting and addressing crimes committed against marginalized groups.

In addition to his formal statement at the HRC, Artemis spoke at a **side event organized by FORUM-ASIA**, where he provided further analysis on the human rights situation in Afghanistan and the urgent need for victim-centered accountability processes. He emphasized the importance of including Afghan civil society — including women's rights activists and LGBTIQ+ advocates — in all international discussions related to justice, protection, and the future of Afghanistan.

ALO's engagement during HRC57 reinforced the organization's commitment to ensuring that the persecution of women, girls, and LGBTIQ+ people is recognized at the highest levels of international human rights decision-making. Through sustained advocacy and expert contributions, ALO continues to push for stronger global action and meaningful accountability.