

Applications for international protection based on sexual orientation and/or gender identity (SOGI) or religion in the light of international refugee and European human rights law

Training

Bern, 25 November 2020

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



FÜR MENSCHEN IN NOT

BERNER RECHTSBERATUNGSSTELLE



Program

- 9:00** **Welcome and Introduction**
Anja Klug, Head of the UNHCR Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein, and
Eleni Tsetsekou, Head of SOGI Unit, Council of Europe
- 9:15** **Introduction to religious freedom and Swiss asylum practice, and applicable international and European human rights standards**
Anne Kühler, Post-Doctoral Senior Assistant, Zürich University
- 10:00** **Introduction to sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) and Swiss asylum practice**
Lucia della Torre, Lawyer, Swiss Refugee Council
- 10:45** **Discussion**
- 11:00** **Applicable international and European human rights standards in relation to sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics**
Luna Lara Liboni, Project Manager, SOGI Unit, Council of Europe
- 11:20** **Selected ECtHR case-law in relation to asylum claims based on religion or SOGI**
Daniel Rietiker, Senior Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights; Lecturer in international Law, Lausanne University
- 11:50** **Key Issues in Credibility & Discretion**
Neil Grüngras, Expert, Council of Europe; Attorney at Law
- 13:00** **Discussion**
- 13:20** **Lessons learnt and recommendations**
Dominique Wetli, Managing Director, RBS Bern
- 14:00** **End of program**

Moderation

Delphine Leneutre, Legal Associate, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg & Margarite Zoetewij, Protection Associate, UNHCR Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein

Date and venue

The training is to take place on 25 November 2020. Due to the developing Covid-19 situation, it will be offered online only.

Registration and translation

Those interested in participating in the training session are kindly asked to register **no later than 6 November 2020** by sending an email to Margarite Zoetewij (zoetewei@unhcr.org). The training will be held in English. The availability of simultaneous translation in German and French depends on the number of participants that explicitly request translation in the registration mail.