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2.8.2. Treatment by the authorities and societal attitudes

There is a lack of information related to incidents of violence specifically targeting individuals on the grounds of their diverse SOGIESC since the start of the war. The space that Sudanese LGBTIQ+ movements had found in Sudan between 2018-2021 was subsequently lost, and with it their capacity to report on incidents of violence against persons with diverse SOGIESC in Sudan. In cases where police officers perceived a person as having diverse SOGIESC, it is reported that they would not pursue criminal prosecution but rather subject them to extortion, harassment, and pressure.⁶⁰³ Forced displacement due to the war was reported to be a factor of heightened risk for persons with diverse SOGIESC as they went through checkpoints, or when experiencing a change in their accommodation situation and social life.⁶⁰⁴

○ (a) Persons with diverse sexual orientation

In the book 'Queer Lawfare in Africa', the authors noted that homophobia was 'widespread' in Sudan.⁶⁰⁵ While there were no recent reports on the treatment of persons with diverse sexual orientation, a 2015 publication noted that Sudanese persons with diverse sexual orientation faced discrimination, police harassment, arbitrary arrest, physical and psychological violence, treatments amounting to torture in detention, sexual violence including rape, as well as murder.⁶⁰⁶

○ (b) Persons with diverse gender identity and/or expression

Regarding transgender persons, the December 2025 Dutch report, citing a confidential source, noted that there were intersectional factors to consider when it comes to accessing gender transitioning in Sudan. An anecdote was reported of one

wealthy/privileged trans person who managed to access gender transition in Sudan, while a person without such privileges could not access gender affirming care.[607](#) In an interview transcript published in 2024 in a Sudanese Queer blog, Loud and Queer Sudan, a Sudanese trans woman stated that she managed to obtain legal gender recognition within Sudan. However, no additional information was found among the sources consulted by EUAA within the time constraints of this report on when the events took place or details on the process.[608](#)

○ **(c) Persons with diverse sex characteristics**

When a resolution on ‘Combating discrimination, violence and harmful practices against intersex persons’ was adopted on 4 April 2024 by the UN HRC, Sudan chose to abstain from the vote.[609](#) Information on the treatment of diverse sex characteristics in Sudan was only found in medical journals. A 2014 article titled ‘Pattern of developmental sex disorders in a tertiary hospital in Sudan’ studied 40 patients admitted for ‘developmental sex disorders’ at the Soba University Hospital. The study noted that patients were provided with hormonal treatment, and that surgeries were performed, including on children.[610](#) Intersex cases were managed by multidisciplinary teams, that included medical professionals, as well as lawyers and religious leaders.[611](#) The study noted that while intersex cases were not uncommon in Sudan, management was difficult as specialised services were only available in Khartoum at the time. It also pointed at sociocultural norms resulting in challenges for intersex individuals, once the naming ceremony done and the sex had been assigned.[612](#) Two other medical studies of 2015 and 2024 noted that intersex persons and their families in Sudan can experience social stigma and exclusion, psychological pressure and difficulties to access medical facilities.[613](#) The risk of FGM was high for intersex children in Sudan, with specific risks for children assigned at birth as female and undergoing FGM, resulting in penis amputation.[614](#)

- [603](#)

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