

**Thematic Session
LGBTQI**

**The role of human rights cities, LGBTQI and
climate justice in the era of climate crisis**

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Climate crisis has now become a condition everyone around the world must face in their lives. The consequences of climate crisis have not affected everyone proportionately as witnessed in torrential rains swept across the nation in the summer of 2022. Climate crisis could be viewed as a matter of inequality, and even human rights and dignity affected by climate crisis are distributed depending on geopolitical status of region and nation, economic and social status of individuals.

Climate crisis amplifies the vulnerability of LGBT individuals' life and health driven by social stigma and prejudice against non-normative sexual orientation and gender identity. As seen in the 'mass infection case of COVID-19 at clubs in Itaewon', fear of infectious diseases could turn into stigma and blame against LGBT individuals, especially during pandemic, which most likely will occur more often from now on due to climate crisis. Also, in a society where phobia and discrimination against LGBT are prevalent, LGBT people are not fully guaranteed their human rights and often experience instable housing, marginalization in labor market, poverty, and precarious social safety net. And those situations could worsen in climate crisis and its consequential result of disasters.

Solidarity for LGBT Human Rights of Korea has recognized that climate crisis is not 'a new crisis', but a crisis of capitalism that generated exploitation, suppression, discrimination, and exclusion already existing in our society. Based on that recognition, the Solidarity suggests that LGBT human rights movement is a solution to protect life, health, and safety of the LGBT people in the age of climate crisis. Furthermore, the organization seeks for discourse and activities to make sure the voice of LGBTs to be heard and incorporated regarding the civic groups' calls for climate justice.

In the age of climate crisis, the role of human rights cities for securing LGBT citizens' human rights is not new either. Clarifying the principles of anti-discrimination including prohibition of discrimination against sex-orientation and gender identity and seeking for ways to guarantee the LGBT rights including the right to education, expression, assembly, and association in terms of policies and administration practices are the challenges that need to be realized by local governments. Furthermore, the obligations of human rights cities are to check out whether local governments' climate crisis responsive policies consider the existence of LGBT citizens and to improve them in a bid to guarantee life, health, and safety of the LGBT people in the era of climate crisis.