

Strengthening Accountability for Gender Persecution

MADRE's history of working to include civil society voices in the new Policy Paper on Gender Persecution

December 2021

Launch Event with International Criminal Court Prosecutor:

MADRE spoke about the importance of civil society participation in the drafting of the new policy paper on gender persecution at the launch event co-sponsored by the International Criminal Court, or ICC. The event was attended by influential participants from around the world.



September 2022

UN LGBTQIA+ Core Group Briefing:

MADRE's partner OutRight International organized a briefing for UN members dedicated to LGBTQIA+ rights on how states could engage with the process. Civil society speakers emphasized the importance of the policy paper and the inclusion of grassroots voices in the development process.



November 2022

Workshop with Colombia's Special Jurisdiction for Peace:

MADRE convened a training for 60 members of Colombia's Special Jurisdiction for Peace (Jurisdicción Especial para la Paz, or JEP), which is Colombia's main judicial mechanism for securing justice for conflict crimes. MADRE emphasized the link between the JEP's decision to charge armed actors with gender persecution and the development of the new ICC policy paper on gender persecution – two historic precedents for gender justice with global implications.

December 2021–October 2022

Gathering Perspectives:

In several events, MADRE brought together experts to discuss the new policy paper initiative and its ability to advance accountability for gender persecution and how women's and LGBTQIA+ rights groups could join the consultation process. Along with our partners, we compiled and facilitated input from nearly 400 organizations and 150 activists from over 100 countries and territories, as well as UN Special Rapporteurs and Independent Experts, UN agencies and governments. A number of other academic institutions, feminist legal scholars, and organizations with which we work made their own contributions, such as OutRight Action International and our local partner in Colombia, Proceso de Comunidades Negras (PCN). MADRE also brought together a group of experts to analyze the elements of gender persecution in the Rome Statute and provide recommendations for the policy paper.



December 2022

Launch of New Policy Paper:

The International Criminal Court Office of the Prosecutor published its new Policy Paper on the crime against humanity of gender persecution – a groundbreaking moment for gender justice. During the release event, speakers celebrated the historic moment and the unique participatory approach that enabled input from affected communities throughout the development of the policy.