



Written by [D. Michael DeRidder](#) on May 17, 2024

## Blinken Releases Statement on “International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia, and Transphobia”

Secretary of State Antony Blinken released a statement reaffirming the U.S. commitment to “LGBTQI+” individuals on the “International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia, and Transphobia.” Blinken stated on X:

Today on International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia, and Transphobia, the United States re-affirms its commitment to promoting the safety and dignity of LGBTQI+ persons. This is not just a moral imperative, but a key component of advancing our national interests.

— Secretary Antony Blinken  
(@SecBlinken) [May 17, 2024](#)



AP Images  
Antony Blinken

The U.S. [Department of State press statement](#) by Blinken notes President Biden wants the United States to work toward ending conversion therapy globally, stating, “last year, President Biden directed the U.S. government to promote an end to so-called ‘conversion therapy practices’ around the world. Conversion therapy is a scientifically discredited practice that can cause significant physical and psychiatric harm, and in certain circumstances may amount to torture.”

The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) released a [statement today calling for integration](#): “In honor of the international day, UNFPA is calling for the integration of LGBTQI+ rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights in global humanitarian and climate-resilience policies.”

The World Health Organization (WHO) [classified homosexuality as a mental handicap](#) between 1948 and 1990. The the International day commemorates the anniversary of the WHO declaring “homosexuality is not a disease, a disturbance or a perversion” on May 17, 1990.



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