



Home Office

Country Bulletin

Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender identity or expression

Reference: DZA-002-08-26

July 2026

Summary: Updated information on the treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people, and people of other sexual orientations and gender identities (LGBT+) in Algeria since May 2025.

Summary

Same sex activity in Algeria is penalised under Article 338 of the penal code with a maximum penalty of 2 years imprisonment and a fine. Article 333 also penalises acts of 'public indecency' with a maximum penalty of 3 years imprisonment and a fine. The law applies to same sex acts between both men and women.

Evidence regarding the treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people, and people of other sexual orientations and gender identities (LGBT+) by state and non-state actors is scarce and there has been minimal new country of origin information published in the time since the Country Policy and Information Note (CPIN) [Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#) was last substantively updated and published. Decision makers must therefore continue to follow the information, country guidance and assessment contained in that CPIN.

LGBT+ people form a particular social group (PSG) in Algeria within the meaning of the Refugee Convention.

LGBT+ people are unlikely to face persecution or serious harm from non-state actors (outside of their families).

A person who fears the state is unlikely to obtain protection. A person who fears a rogue state actor and/or non-state actor is unlikely to obtain protection from the state. This is because in general, the state is able but not willing to offer effective protection.

Where the person has a well-founded fear of persecution or serious harm from the state, they are unlikely to be able to relocate to escape that risk. Where the threat is from a non-state actor, internal relocation is likely to be viable for gay males, however lesbians and transgender females may face difficulties due to societal attitudes to their gender rather than sexuality.

Where a claim is refused, it is unlikely to be certifiable as 'clearly unfounded' under section 94 of the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002.

All cases must be considered on their individual facts, with the onus on the person to demonstrate they face persecution or serious harm.

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Country information

About this bulletin

The topic, structure and content are designed to provide a summary of the current situation for actual and perceived lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and people of other sexual orientations and gender identities (LGBT+) in Algeria.

The COI provides the basis for the summary. Decision makers must use relevant COI as the evidential basis for decisions.

The cut-off date for COI included in this bulletin is **5 August 2026**.

For details on how CPIT makes its assessments, gathers and presents country information, its research methodology and disclaimers and explainers on coverage, source selection, maps, translations and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in developing CPIT products, see [About country policy and information notes](#).

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1. Legal context

- 1.1.1 The legal situation remains unchanged since the publication of the Country Policy and Information (CPIN) [Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#) in May 2025.
- 1.1.2 In June 2026, Human Dignity Trust, an organisation of legal experts that work to challenge and overturn laws that criminalise LGBT people¹, updated its webpage for Algeria, which stated:

‘Same-sex sexual activity is prohibited under the Penal Code 1966, which criminalises “acts of homosexuality” and “public indecency”.

‘... Penal Code 1966, Article 338 Homosexuality

‘Article 338 criminalises “acts of homosexuality” with a maximum penalty of two years and a fine of 2000 dinars [£11.15²]. The law applies to such acts both between men and between women.

‘Penal Code 1966, Article 333 Acts against nature

‘Article 333 (modified) increases the penalty for “public indecency” if it involves people of the same sex, whether between men or between women. The maximum penalty is three years and a fine of up to 10,000 dinars [£55.78³].’⁴
- 1.1.3 The Human Dignity Trust webpage was updated in June 2026, but did not cite any cases of enforcement of the law after 2023⁵.
- 1.1.4 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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¹ Human Dignity Trust, [Who we are](#), no date

² Xe.com, [2000 DZD to GBP](#), calculated 20 July 2026

³ Xe.com, [10000 DZD to GBP](#), calculated 20 July 2026

⁴ Human Dignity Trust, [Algeria](#), last updated 26 June 2026

⁵ Human Dignity Trust, [Algeria](#), last updated 26 June 2026

2. State attitudes and treatment

- 2.1.1 In May 2024, EuroMed Rights, 'one of the largest and most active networks of human rights organisations in the Euro-Mediterranean region'⁶, published an article entitled 'Algeria: A Member of Parliament calls for capital punishment for transgender people' which stated that 'During a parliamentary session dedicated to discussing the draft Criminal Procedure Code, Ben Amar Fawzi, member of an Islamist party, provoked strong reactions by calling for the introduction of the death penalty not only for individuals convicted of pedophilia but also for transgender people.'⁷
- 2.1.2 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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3. Societal treatment

- 3.1.1 In May 2025, Aabbir, a Moroccan online newspaper⁸ published the article entitled 'Algerian university opens door to "homosexuality"', translated from Arabic using AI, which reports on a leaked exam paper from the faculty of foreign languages at the University of Oran which contained a question on 'the topic of homosexuals'. The Dean of the college, Bouayad Nabila, disavowed the behaviour and cancelled the exam, and stated:
- "Due to the sensitivity of the subject and its inappropriateness to the constitutional and academic context of Algerian society, not to mention the moral, social and cultural values of our society, we affirm that this behavior is individual and isolated and does not fully reflect the general direction of the faculty administration in respecting our values, ethics and our commitments to the pedagogical controls adopted by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research."⁹
- 3.1.2 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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4. Media attitudes

- 4.1.1 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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5. Access to services and civic rights

- 5.1.1 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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⁶ EuroMed Rights, [About](#), no date

⁷ EuroMed Rights, [Algeria: A Member of Parliament calls for capital punishment...](#), 7 May 2025

⁸ Aabbir, [About](#), no date

⁹ Aabbir, [Algerian university opens door to 'homosexuality'](#), 15 May 2025

6. LGBTI groups

- 6.1.1 In March 2026, Outright International, a global human rights organization that defends and advances the rights LGBTIQ+ people¹⁰, updated their webpage for Algeria which stated that ‘There is a strong and growing LGBTIQ civil society in Algeria that is working to protect LGBTIQ people and decriminalize same-sex sexual activity. However, government agencies have denied LGBTIQ groups official registration for supposedly violating “public morals.”’¹¹
- 6.1.2 Alouen is an organisation for young LGBTQI+ people in Algeria. The group has around 12,000 followers on Facebook and, at the time of writing, were last active on the platform in July 2026¹². They have 12 thousand followers on Facebook. Alouen also have a radio show via Skype¹³. Alouen last posted about their radio show in June 2025¹⁴.
- 6.1.3 The unofficial national day for LGBT+ people in Algeria is known as ‘Le TenTen’ and is observed on 10 October each year¹⁵. Alouen last posted celebrating the occasion in 2025¹⁶. The day is celebrated by lighting a candle and sharing a post on Facebook to show solidarity with other LGBT+ people¹⁷.
- 6.1.4 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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7. Freedom of movement

- 7.1.1 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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8. Protection

- 8.1.1 CPIT was unable to find additional updated COI relevant to this subsection since the publication of the [CPIN Algeria: Sexual orientation and gender expression or expression](#), within the sources consulted (see [Bibliography](#)).

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¹⁰ Outright International, [About](#), no date

¹¹ Outright International, [Algeria](#), last updated 12 March 2026

¹² Facebook, [Alouen](#), viewed 21 July 2026

¹³ StopHomophobie, [Alouen: The radio station that fights against all forms of...](#), 2 October 2013

¹⁴ Facebook, [Alouen](#), viewed 21 July 2026

¹⁵ Outright International, [The Global State of LGBTIQ Organizing](#) (Page 40), September 2023

¹⁶ Facebook, [Alouen](#), viewed 21 July 2026

¹⁷ Jeune Afrique, [TenTen, the Algerian Gay Pride in complete discretion](#), 9 October 2013

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Version control and feedback

Clearance

Below is information on when this note was cleared:

- valid from **19 August 2026**

Official – sensitive: Not for disclosure – Start of section

The information in this section has been removed as it is restricted for internal Home Office use only.

Official – sensitive: Not for disclosure – End of section

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Independent Advisory Group on Country Information

The [Independent Advisory Group on Country Information](#) (IAGCI) was set up in March 2009 by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration to support them in reviewing the efficiency, effectiveness and consistency of approach of COI produced by the Home Office.

The IAGCI welcomes feedback on the Home Office's COI material. It is not the function of the IAGCI to endorse any Home Office material, procedures or policy. The IAGCI may be contacted at:

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Information about the IAGCI's work and a list of the documents which have been reviewed by the IAGCI can be found on the Independent Chief Inspector's pages of the [gov.uk website](#).

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