

**1. Equal rights for LGBT citizens;
public and official opinion mostly
supportive; some prejudice remains**

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	Gay marriage and civil partnership both recognised

2. Hostile official and public opinion, despite legal rights; no freedom of expression for LGBT people

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

3. Hostile public opinion; harsh laws; violence condoned by police

Age of consent laws	No age of consent for same sex act
Male/male relationships illegal	Yes
Female/female relationships illegal	Yes
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	No
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

4. 'One of the most gay-friendly countries in the world'

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	Yes

5. Legal advances and some protection; indigenous cultures recognise a '3rd sex' but religious values and 'machismo' lead to public hostility

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	Legal since 1871
Female/female relationships illegal	Legal since 1871
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	In one state only
Marriage/substitute for marriage	In some states only

6. Attempts by the government to decriminalise and prevent discrimination opposed by the church; hostile public opinion

Age of consent laws	No age of consent for same sex acts
Male/male relationships illegal	Yes - life imprisonment
Female/female relationships illegal	Yes - life imprisonment
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	No
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

7. Among the most liberal laws in South America

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	Legal since 1934
Female/female relationships illegal	Legal since 1934
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	Yes

8. Equal rights enshrined in the constitution but homophobia and violence common

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	Yes

9. Legal rights improved since the end of the 20th century but marriage still illegal

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	Not since 1994
Female/female relationships illegal	Not since 1994
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

**10. Homosexuality is not recognised
but '3rd gender' widely recognised
and accepted**

Age of consent laws	No legal consent for same sex
Male/male relationships illegal	Yes
Female/female relationships illegal	Yes
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

11. Same sex acts illegal but some lawyers consider this unconstitutional; public hostility but 3rd gender recognised

Age of consent laws	No age of consent for same sex
Male/male relationships illegal	Illegal since 1860
Female/female relationships illegal	Illegal since 1860
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	3 rd sex recognised and protected
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

**12. Rights for LGBT citizens
improved since the new republic in
2007**

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes - also 3 rd gender recognised
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No - but under discussion

13. An active LGBT community with many prominent members, despite strong religious influence

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	In some fields
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No, but the state recognises marriages performed abroad

14. Harsh laws against gay men,
applied to foreigners as well as
citizens

Age of consent laws	Not equal
Male/male relationships illegal	Yes
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	No
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

15. Public acceptance and some legal protection but no marriage yet

Age of consent laws	Equal since 1890
Male/male relationships illegal	Not since 1890
Female/female relationships illegal	Not since 1890
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

16. Although harsh laws not enforced, discrimination and violence common

Age of consent laws	No age of consent for same sex
Male/male relationships illegal	Yes - life imprisonment with hard labour
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	No
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

17. No legal protection but in practice little discrimination; a history of male homosexuality in religious and military contexts

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No - since 1880
Female/female relationships illegal	No - since 1880
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	No
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	No

18. First country in the world to have an openly gay head of state

Age of consent laws	Equal
Male/male relationships illegal	No
Female/female relationships illegal	No
Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation banned	Yes
Right to change legal gender	Yes
Marriage/substitute for marriage	Yes - law passed without opposition in 2010