

Language and Interpretation in SOGI Asylum Claims in the UK: The Experiences and Perspectives of Interpreters –

Call for Participants

Hello

We are looking for interpreters to take part in a research project we are currently undertaking which investigates the experiences and perspectives of interpreters involved in sexual orientation and gender identity-based (SOGI) asylum claims in the UK.

The research project is driven by a motivation to develop a greater awareness and understanding of the language-based issues faced by gender and sexual minority refugees in the British asylum system. We hope that, by learning more about language issues, anyone involved in advocating for LGBT+ asylum seekers in the UK will have a deeper and more sensitive understanding of the importance of language in the asylum-seeking process. This, in turn, should lead to more effective policy and decision-making in asylum claims based on gender and sexuality and, subsequently, more LGBT+ individuals being granted asylum in the UK.

To conduct the research, we would like to conduct short (around 30 minutes) informal interviews with interpreters working in legal contexts to ask about their experiences of how issues to do with gender identity and sexual orientation are dealt with in their profession, the level and nature of any training they may have received, and the issues commonly faced in interpreting for asylum seekers whose case is based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

If you are interested in taking part in this important research, please let us know by contacting Dr Helen Trouille on h.trouille@bangor.ac.uk. Please also use these contact details if you would like to find out more about this research.

Thank you for your time.

Dr Helen Trouille, Senior Lecturer in Law, Bangor University
Dr Linda Walz, Senior Lecturer in Linguistics, Leeds Trinity University
Professor Helen Sauntson, Professor of English Language and Linguistics, York St John University

ENDS
15th December 2025