



## Ordine internazionale e diritti umani

International Legal Order and Human Rights  
Ordenamiento Jurídico Internacional y Derechos Humanos  
Ordre juridique international et Droits de l'Homme

### **WHEN CULTURE AND HUMAN RIGHTS COLLIDE: THE LONG ROAD TO THE ELIMINATION OF GENDER-BASED HARMFUL TRADITIONAL PRACTICES**

In the documentary *Le cri étouffé* by Manon Loizeau, sexual violence survivors described honour killings as an inexorable and immutable aspect of their country's culture. Indeed, it is a fact that honour killings and others harmful practices are valued and maintained in many communities as traditions or customs. The primary purpose of this article is to debunk the idea that gender-based harmful traditional practices cannot be expunged from the culture of a given community. In addition, by building upon the documents of human rights bodies dealing with the cultural dimension of gender-based violations of human rights, this article aims to contribute to the definition of new directions for debate and action on the transformation or elimination of harmful traditional practices.