



**European Trans  
Gender Network**  
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## **First law on transsexuality in Belgium: A bridge too far?**

**Abstract of speech given to the  
First European TransGender Council  
in Vienna on 4th November 2005**

*by Joz Motmans, 04.11.2005*

In 2004, 4 Belgian politicians submitted a „law proposal about transsexuality“, hereby following European Resolution (12/09/1989) that asked member states to regulate the right of transsexuals on endocrinological, plastic-surgical and esthetical gender change, containing the juridical right to change ones first name and to correct the gender on the birth certificate and identity papers.

In this limited overview, I will present the „life course“ of this proposal, the main (political) actors who were involved, the mayor objections formulated by TG-groups, and the current state of affairs. Since the debate is still goign on, there are no definite results yet, but interesting observations on (non-)cooperation could be made.

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