



First European TransGender Council

3rd - 6th November 2005

Vienna, Austria

Conference binder

<http://tgeu.net>

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The Program of the Council

Locations

Conference rooms:	Town hall, 1010 Wien, Rathaus
Get-In-Touch Meeting:	Rosa-Lila Villa, 1060 Vienna, Linke Wienzeile 102
Friday Evening Meeting:	Heuriger Nikisch, 1190 Vienna, Sieveringerstrasse 172
Saturday Evening Party:	Andino, 1060 Vienna, Münzwardeingasse 2

Thursday, 3th November: Registration and Get-in-touch

18:00 Registration and Get-in-touch meeting

The Café Willendorf at the Rosa-Lila Villa is reserved for us.

The TransX-TgEuNet-work-Team is ready to welcome you between 06:00 p.m. and 12:00 p.m. In this time you may come whenever you want to get in touch with us, ask questions or just to chat with other participants.

Of course it's the best time to do registration too.

Besides, the Café has a superb kitchen and we've organised a special menu with some good value meals.

End: 24:00

Friday, 4th November: Status quo -> Country Surveys

09:00 Opening

09:30 **Trans People: Our Welcome in Europe**
Stephen Whittle / Press for Change (GB)

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 **Trans People in Europe: Comparison of laws, jurisdiction and social situations**
Joanne Sinclair / TNUKdigest (GB) - Simona Vivaldo / trans-european.org

12:00 **Organisational Information:** The course of the council

12:30 Lunch

14:00 **Short presentations:** Spotlights on transgender-policy
* Transsexuality in Spain: Close to legal solutions * *Alec Casanova / GIGT (E)*
* First law on transsexuality in Belgium: a bridge too far? * *Joz Motmans / GAG (B)*
* Mediterranean Sun an Sea - TGs in Portugal * *Jó Bernardo / a.trans (P)*
* Transphobia in Russia * *Brian Dark / LGBT center together (RUS)*
* Young Transgenders: Between discrimination and (in)visibility? * *Ammo&Julia (D)*
* Transition in Job * *Maria Gigliola Toniollo / CGIL (I)*

16:30 Coffee break

17:00 **Open forum: Groups presentations**
Several groups will present themselves, their activities and aims

Special Program:

* *FeMigra (A)*: „Discussion: TransGender and asylum“

* *Peter Neuman (Dk)*: „Artist Meeting: Trans-gender-blender-bender-artists-of-all-genders“

* *Lambda Istanbul (TR)*: „Discrimination against MtF Transsexual Women in Turkey“

19:00 End of the first day at the town hall

20:00 **Meeting at „Heuriger Nikisch“**

Above all a „Heurigen“ is a snug place with good conditions to sit and talk and enjoy the time with each other. That's exactly what we want to do.



Saturday, 5th November: Going forward -> Common demands

- 09:00 **Transgender movement and strategies: Panel discussion**
*Alex Moro (Gruppo Luna / I), Armand Hotimsky (Caritig / F),
Eva Fels (TransX / A), Jannik Franzen (Transgender Net Berlin / D)*
Chair: Justus Eisfeld (T-Image / NL)
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:30 **Building blocks of our network:** *Jo (TransX / A), Eva Fels (TransX / A)*
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 **Working groups: Formulating goals and demands**
* Acceptance in the society * Anti discrimination * Civil Status * Medical Treatment
* Right of Name * Transition in Job * Self determination in the transition process *
- 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:30 **Presentation of the working group results**
- 17:30 **Voting**
- 18:00 End of the second day at the town hall
- 20:00 **Patrick Califia: The Politics of Transgenderism (Andino)**
- 21:00 **TransMission - TransX 10th anniversary party**
*** Stars ***
Patrick Califia will talk on „The Politics of Transgenderism“
The famous *Kingz of Berlin* will present their great show
The wonderful *Lucy McEvil* will sing for us

Sunday, 6th November: Outlook, plans and public presentation

- 11:00 Brunch
- 12:30 **Proclamation of the voting results**
- 13:00 **Panel: Outlook and plans**
Composition of the panel depends on willingness to work for the network in the future
- 14:00 Coffee break
- 14:30 **Public presentation:**
Results and vistas of the First European TransGender Council
- 16:00 End of the last day at the town hall

Abstracts

Trans People: Our Welcome in Europe

Stephen Whittle, Press for Change, Great Britain

I will review the the current legal and social positions of trans people as European Community citizens.

I will address the inter-state complexities and legal lack of knowledge as it relates to many trans people's lives, in particular how current national laws contradict many of the main rights of being a European Community citizen, causing conflict and uncertainty in the day to day lives of transgender and transsexual people.

I will point out some of the areas of law for where it not only needs clarifying, but in which we need to be campaigning to make sure it is both know and acted upon.

A Comparison of European Transgender Laws taking into account Cultural and Social influences and National Legal and Medical Requirements

Joanne Sinclair, TNUKdigest, Great Britain

A comparative examination of the legal, medical and social issues affecting trans people. This will include, the right to adopt a name reflecting the desired gender. The comparative procedures for a change of civil status and the safeguards for data protection and confidentiality.

The availability of sex affirmation surgery and associated surgeries such as Facial Feminisation surgery together with the availability of hormonal treatment and the funding of such provisions.

The Europe-wide social attitudes towards trans people, including discrimination in the work-place and in the field of the provision of goods and services. The security of trans people in employment, education and training, particularly in the early stages of transition.

The relationship of discrimination in these areas and the numbers working in the sex industry. The frequency of violence and discrimination in public and the family.

The requirement in some states for divorce prior to sex affirmation surgery. Are Civil Unions an inferior status to marriage. Should not Civil Marriage be open to all? The emphasis on infertility in some countries given the technology to preserve genetic material prior to hormone treatment.

The necessity to appreciate that increasing medical knowledge firmly places Transsexuality within the definition of Intersex. More important is the extension of categories within Discrimination Law particularly helpful? Is it not more important to have a constitutionally embedded requirement for non discrimination in general? Also the need for a Human Right to Bodily Integrity. Can we learn anything in Europe from the United States developing „Queer Theory“ which enables fluidity of movement between genders, what I have called „Flexigender“, and which allows us to concentrate on the person and not what they are?

Transsexuality in Spain: Close to legal solutions

Alec Casanova, Coordinator of the Transsexuality and Gender Identity Group (GIGT) of Colectivo Lambda in Valencia, Spain

Since 1983 the sex change is no longer punished by law in Spain. But all the medical care and legal bureaucracy transsexual people need to undergo to get our registered name and sex changed, have not been ruled yet.

There's only one autonomous community, from the seventeen which conform the Spanish State, which has included the complete medical care for transsexual people in the Community Health Service. This situation is due to the decentralization of the National Health Service among the different Autonomous Communities.

The legal situation is due to be regulated on the next months with the „Ley de Identidad de Género“ (Gender Identity Law). Until now, 2005, transsexual people had to go to court demanding sex and name change on our birth certificates. On these trials we are obliged to undergo a medical examination, which is inhuman. On top of this, judges have the last word on our identity. Thus if anyone has a conservative judge on the trial we are quite sure we won't get the name and sex change on our birth certificates.

When the Gender Identity Law becomes a reality, transsexual people will only need the certificate of a psychologist and the endocrinologist who are attending us to be able to change our registered name and sex on our birth certificate.

In 1989, The European Parliament passed a Resolution on the discrimination of the transsexual people in which requests the States members to pass dispositions on the rights of the transsexuals and the prohibition of discrimination.

The current situation in Spain is that of persistent discrimination at both legal and social level toward the transsexual people. This discrimination has led to labour exclusion and social scorn of the transsexual community.

Taking into account the above depicted situation, the following measures are claimed by the transsexual community in Spain:

- The inclusion in the National Health Service of the transsexual process (psychological support treatments, hormonal and surgical).
- The regulation of the registered name and sex change in our birth certificate.
- The concession of asylum on grounds of transsexuality.
- Educational programmes which help society understand the transsexual situation.

The government's financial aid to transsexual associations on their self-help groups.

First law on transsexuality in Belgium: a bridge too far?

Joz Motmans, Policy Research Centre on Equal opportunities (university of Antwerp) & Genderactiongroup, Belgium

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-chirurgical 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.

Mediterranean Sun and Sea is not always pretty to see

Jó Bernardo, a.trans, Portugal

Transgenderism is a widely unknown reality in Portugal.

There are no statistics concerning the transgender population, and investigation in this field is limited by the difficulties in accessing individuals that lack support from the law and are stigmatised by society in general. There are many false beliefs attributed to transgenderism, like for example that all transgender people are sex workers or have some other type of night life activity (like strippers or drag show performers). In fact, the most visible part of the transgender community, either national or emigrated from Brazil or from ancient Portuguese African Colonies like Angola, São Tomé e Príncipe or Mozambique has a professional activity related with one of these two (or both) areas.

In a study conducted in 1998 with a sample of approximately 50 transgender individuals, some important issues were identified; a significant majority of the sample came from rural parts of the country (45%) from this sample 28% had changed from their birthplace because of their sexual orientation. 39% are originally from the city and 16% are foreigners.

There are no specific laws in the country regarding transgenderism or transexualism, only a few court sentences that serve as references about the later and that are sometimes contradictory. In fact, name change is possible for any citizen that wishes it and is a relatively accessible procedure, but only when the new name belongs to the same gender category as the previous one or to a gender-neutral name. This last case is the chosen one by several transsexuals in order to avoid the complicated procedure to have gender identity recognised. For this, the person has to go through a complicated legal process, and it can only occur with the decision of a court of law.

Since 1996, sex change operation is possible and occurs in Portugal. It was only that year that the Portuguese Medical Order allowed it to happen. However, no information is available regarding the real number of operations performed in the national territory. Nevertheless, the process to have a sex change operation is long and implies a severe psychological and psychiatric evaluation in order to verify whether the candidate is eligible for the process.

Besides, transgender persons were until the last 10 years socially not well seen, and were very often, disregarded as well as discriminated. However, as in the case of homosexuality, the traditional Portuguese „tolerance“ is usually prevalent in the contact with transgender individuals.

For a couple of years now several institutions working in the field of HIV prevention have organised an annual transvestite gala on the 1st of December (World AIDS Day) to gather funding for the fight against AIDS. This gala has considerable impact in the media. Many other Trans people have in the last years contribute for changing the mainstream idea about the transgender community due to the visibility and recognition in their professions like Human rights activists, Models, Medicine Doctors, Lawyers or Journalists.

Transphobia in Russia

Brian Dark, LGBT Center together, Russia

Unfortunately, there are few transgender specialists in Russia. They work only in big cities, such as Moscow, St. Petersburg, Novosibirsk, Chelyabinsk. They say there are some transgender specialists in Rostov-Na-Donu, but anyway the situation is far from perfect.

Doctors (psychiatrists) often don't see the difference between transgender inclination and schizophrenia. They mix up self-identification with sexual orientation. There are few endocrinologists, who can find proper medication for therapy. That's especially important for MtF. The situation with the surgery is much better. There are different methods of operations and there's always a choice. However sometimes doctors show homophobia and transphobia, for example, they can say to MtF person: "You can't become a woman with such an ugly face!" or to FtM person: "Never tell me about yourself as a man! That insults me, because this is me who is a REAL man!"

Transgender people often face homophobia and transphobia, especially in small towns. Transgender people are often abused, insulted and raped. (That refers to MtF and FtM) However, victims seldom go to the police. There are cases, when transgender persons went to the police, but they were refused any help, because there is also great homophobia among policemen.

There were precedents when a transgender person lost his/her work because of the change of his/her sex. Now some transgenders try to go to the law, but they succeed rarely. That's why most transgenders think that the best way is to earn money for transition, to change sex and documents and only then – to try to find a new job. Many transgender people change their place of living, as a rule they move to big cities, for example Moscow and St. Petersburg, because relatives refuse to communicate with them anymore and are ashamed of them.

In the media this topic has scandalous and marginal trace, most „normal people“ think that transgenders are prostitutes or people, lost for the society. However, in recent years there have been people in Russia who try to do their best to give true information about transgender people. For example, in the summer of 2005 there were series of transmissions about transgender people on one of the main Russian TV-channels with a presenter Elena Malisheva. Unfortunately, there were great problems with this material, they even try to forbid it, so it was reduced and shown, but not in prime-time as it was promised to authors of the material.

Nowadays, transgender problem is considered to be completely medical one. That means that only doctors deal with transgenders, but there is no social support for them. There was a group of psychological help for transgenders in Moscow, in the winter of 2004/2005, but it has stopped its activity, because the price turned out to be too high for Russian transgenders - \$70 per months for 4 meetings a month. Few transgender people in Russia can be solvent enough.

Since 2004 there appeared new groups of psychological support, but they are not professional, as they are organised by transgender people themselves. These are simply meetings of transgenders and they are usually held at home of some friend of the community. So, they are rather scanty and not stable.

There are some internet resources about transgenders in Russia and that fills up the lack of information – for example www.transsexuals.ru with law and medical sources, forum, photos of participants etc. Transgender people can share their opinion and experience there.

There is no fixed document in Russian legislation, which lets a determine sequence of changing the documents simultaneously or before changing the sex. Few people can change documents before the operation. As a rule, a transgender person is observed in some medical centre during a year, and then a committee gives him/her a permission to change the sex. Only after first series of operations have been made, a transgender person can change documents.

In 1970 Professor A.I. Belkin become the first to study transsexuality in Russia. He created Moscow Centre of Psycho-Endocrinology, which studies transgender problems.

We would like to find new friends among foreign transgender people, to learn their experience with homophobia and transphobia and their adaptation after the change of the sex. We are interested in everything connected with the life of transgender people abroad.

Young Transgenders: Between discrimination and (in)visibility?

Ammo Recla, Inbetween, Germany

First we will introduce ourselves and our project. After that we will portrait the legal and social situation of young transgenders in Germany with the focus on Berlin where the situation is very different to the one in the rest of the country.

Then we will speak about the special needs of young transgenders from the perspective of the work in our project. Here we will differentiate into needs in the transgender scene and needs in the help for young people (e.g. youth welfare, youth work).

We will close our spotlight with a hypothesis about how the definition of trans identities among young transgenders has changed over the last decade.

Working Groups

In the course of the invitation to the European Transgender Council we addressed all interested groups and persons to submit three demands considered to be pursued with priority. One of the major aims of the council itself now has to be to integrate the reflux on this invitation to a common and generally shared list of claims acknowledged by its plenum.

The demands submitted - there are too many to be discussed and presented as a homogenous unity - can be summarized according to a restricted list of focal points, such as:

Acceptance:	Forming public opinions for acceptance of gender-diversity in society
Anti discrimination:	Laws and jurisdiction against discrimination on grounds of TransGender
Civil status:	Appropriate sex-entry in identity papers and legal recognition
Medical treatment:	Financing of the medical treatment by the public health systems
Right of name:	Free choice of the first names
Transition in job:	Experience and jurisdiction on transition in the working environment
Self determination:	Passing the transition process with self determination

Unsurprisingly the presented demands or at least their formulations still are partially contradictory. To reach unity these contradictions have to be discussed and explained. On this behalf we invite to constitute working groups, to put the demands formulated by transgender activists into practice.

We hope that the working groups will be carried and promoted by the people and groups who did submit demands on their main concerns. Please, help to advance our common ideas and aims.

Each working group should work on the base of the submitted demands, discuss its implications and develop a harmonised formulation of the goal and the strategies to pursue it. It should present a text to be published as part of the final statement of the council. Depending on its area of expertise the working group may develop proposals to be addressed to TG-groups, national governments and institutions as well as to the European union.

Then during the personal meeting at the conference in Vienna the groups have to work out the final formulation for each of the specific demands and to present it to the plenum to be acknowledged as a part of the TG-Councils final statement.

Working groups are asked to submit distinct drafts on specific aspects. If they cannot find a concordant position, they may submit also contradictory formulations. In any case it is the duty of all participants of the council to decide which proposed formulations and recommendations will be accepted for the final statement of the council and for future work.

We ask you to join a working group only if you are interested in serious work on that specific subject. You should be prepared to

- * join the mailing-list of the working group to start the discussions immediately,
- * work out formulations which should be accredited by the TG-council (multiple versions are possible),
- * present strategic considerations to achieve the goal,
- * and - if necessary - keep on working in the working group after the council.

Large working groups may split up into subgroups with distinct ranges of application.

Additionally to these predefined working groups we might convoke further ones, if such a demand, including the proposition of a title and a mission-statement, is submitted and a minimum of four participants of the Council give a declaration of interest in participation.

As it shows, the working groups will partially cover similar problems on different levels from very general to particular issues. This represents the differing interests and fields of activity and the varying levels of experience among the participating groups, in order to offer to every participant to engage themselves in the working group most appropriate to the practical interest. We hope that by this not only an exchange but also a transmission of experience will be enabled.

Acceptance in the Society

Purpose:

Forming public opinions for acceptance of gender-diversity in society

Mission:

Proposing strategies and instruments to improve the public resonance of the TransGender discourse

Many demands submitted concern the wish to abolish discrimination or, vice versa, to improve social acceptance. Unconcerned whether the legalistic way is chosen to reach this goal or not, a real and practical solution for the identified problem can only be found by social enlightenment. Which are the main contents we have to bring to public conscientiousness to prove that the acceptance of transgenderism is of general interest and which are the most adequate forms for their presentation?

Demands concerning Acceptance in the Society

Anti Discrimination

No Discrimination

No more discrimination of transgender people.

This means social change in attitude by the general public: transgender people should not be seen as ‚outsiders‘ and treated as such.

No more discrimination and acceptance in today’s society of GID-people.

GID raises a lot of questions and evokes all too often the wrong picture in the mind of people. Dissemination of correct information and campaigns for better understanding would dispel fears, refute misconceptions and lead to a better understanding and acceptance from the rest of the

Social Issues

Acceptance of Gender Diversity

Recognition of the gender diversity as a logical part of our society.

At the medical level by an exit of the DSM and ICD. But also by a better training of the professionals, a governmental financial support for non profit transgender organisations, information campaigns in direction of general public, etc.

Acceptance in today’s society.

Even in 2005 many people have where little knowledge about transgendered people. Often people have difficulties to distinguish between drags, transvestites and transsexuals, which is clouding their mind. Therefore we have to be better in communicating our message to the general public, in order to obtain a better understanding and acceptance from the rest of the society.

The Questioning and Criticism of the two-sex/gender-order.

Education in issue of Transgenderism

Education

Teachers and instructors in all areas, but with focus on education of young people, should be well educated about transgender issues. They should be educated directly by transgender people. Transgender issues should be part of the usual school curriculum
Mandatory further education on transgender issues of teachers and people working in pedagogic fields.

Educating people at a very early age on the whole issue of Transgenderism.

Organized publicity campaigns within the schooling systems to bring greater understanding to a whole new generation & thereby attempt to eradicate discrimination within a generation.

Financial Support of non-pathologizing TG/IS Infra

Support (e.g. financial among other things) of non-pathologizing TG/IS infrastructure (like support and advocacy groups, centers and projects).

Anti discrimination

Purpose:

Laws and jurisdiction against discrimination on grounds of TransGender

Mission:

Proposing guidelines for further formulations of anti discrimination laws on national and EU-level

The demands submitted reveal the necessity of improved and specified anti-discrimination-laws. As the general gender anti discrimination directives fail to protect TG-persons in especially during the transition process the requirement of appropriate protection-measures has to be articulated in an unequivocal language. Which are the adequate procedures to work out the wording of such laws according to the respective legislating bodies: EU, National,...? What is the major target and what has to be avoided anyhow? Who has to address whom and how?

Demands concerning Anti discrimination

Anti Discrimination

Anti Discrimination Law

Specific anti-discrimination law at European level

Specific anti-discrimination law.

... at a European level.

Having a specifying antidiscrimination European law for transgender people and not only European Court sentences.

We must be present in any future European constitution as subjects for whom is not allowed any kind of discrimination. In Italy we provided to publish (in collaboration with CGIL Union Trade „New Rights Sector“) a pamphlet on transgender rights on works based on some European Court of Justice sentences. The „pamphlet“ name is „Transessualismo e lavoro“ and it is published in Italian language only.

Human Rights

TransGender as Reason for Asylum

Recognition of trans* as a reason to be granted asylum

Asylum should be granted if you are a Transgender

Civil status

Purpose:

Appropriate sex-entry in identity papers and legal recognition

Mission:

Recommendation for the jurisdiction on gender recognition and changing sex-entry in documents without being forced to surgeries

A very urgent demand seems – not surprisingly – to be an adjustment of the existing regulations of the civil status. The demand of self-determination about the public person is unanimously shared within the community. This point of view has to be condensed in a structured and unmistakable wording, addressable to the respective legislating bodies: which are the acceptable standards for the official recognition and registration of the homefelt and lived gender.

Demands concerning Civil status

Civil Status

Documents without Surgery

No discrimination of sex in passports and other public identity papers

Declaring ones sex in passports implies severe problem for all travelling TGs but is not logical for public security. To adjust the gender marks in identity papers transgendered persons are still forced to undergo the procedures required by the state to recognise sex change. In fact, these entries express the sexist ideology of the state similar as race and religion were shown in identity papers of racist and fundamental regimes. But they imply also a severe discrimination of all people who don't represent one gender all their lifetime.

Possibility to change id documents without the need of demolition surgery.

Especially important when already under hormone therapy and with physical changes taking place.

No sex entry

in the birth certificate, passport or other documents and free choice of the first name

Legalise Change of Birth Certificates

Legalise change of Birth Certificates

At the present time, only Andorra, Albania & here in the Republic of Ireland, Birth Certificates cannot be changed.

No Sex Registration

Abolition of sex registration

Sex registration is private information that the state has no business with. Just as religion and race registration were abolished, sex registration should be kept out of the state's records. Since the abandonment of military service for men, there is no reason for the state to register one's sex at all. A first step towards this abandonment could be a simplification of the process of name/gender change.

Recognition by the State without Surgery

The possibility of changing one's name and sex, stated at our birth certificate and DNI (National Identification Card), without having to go through all surgeries.

That is to say, we want our psycho-social sex-gender to be considered as the one to rule. Up till now, we have been forced, by law, to fulfill all surgery, even though, some of us have health problems with the anesthesia and other parts of the surgery, to obtain at court the sex and name change.

A law allowing the change of the mention of the sex without obligation of SRS

But also assuring of the right of privacy, for example: The future card in France of the health care will included the entirety of the medical file of the person. If this one does not wish to make known its transsexuality with all its doctors, that will not be possible!

A law like UK or Spain allowing a full change of gender without to be obliged to undergo SRS.

We think that every day of a transgender person lived with documents different from her/his new real gender is a day spent in violation of privacy. So that kind of law is totally necessary. We provided to interest Italian Privacy Authority questioning what written above but we still are waiting for reply. In next months we will re-write in a way that Privacy Authority must reply.

All certificated sex entries should be adjusted according to the actually lived gender without being forced to surgery.

Everybody should be respected in performing his/her own gender without defamation. The state might register our gender but should neither force us to physical adjustments nor to unfold our privacy by foreshowing a previous gender-status in any file public available. Living in one gender should be sufficient for full official gender recognition.

No Force to Divorce

No Force to Divorce

No automatic and forced divorce in case of sex change. That should be a free choice of the spouses.

TransGender Law

TransGender Law

Get a law that complies with transsexuality.

Our main goal is to get a general law for transsexuality. At the moment many different laws in this country has to be considered when dealing with transsexuals. Many of the laws that applies at the moment are form the beginning of the 20th century and where not intended to apply to people with Gender Dysphoria Syndrome. At the moment our lawyers are looking into how many laws would be affected if we would make a general law for transgendered people so that we are better prepared when we talk to the political establishment. When dealing with a law complex, you have to make a political decision on how to approach the problems and how to sell your ideas to the decision makers.

Medical treatment

Purpose:

Financing of the medical treatment by the public health systems

Mission:

Recommendation to ensure the recognition of necessary gender transforming treatment within the public health systems

The medical treatment and health promotion should be guaranteed for transgender-persons in the same way as for everybody else. Unfortunately the public health systems of some countries have still to be requested to recognise the need of healthy and safe gender transition and to cover the costs arising. The lack of trained professionals and proper research in the field of Transgenderism has to be redressed.

A wording has to be developed, to address this recommendation to the concerned institutions.

Demands concerning Medical treatment

Medical Treatment

Finance by Public Health Services

Better funding for treatment.

Treatment should be funded for all surgeries, psychotherapy sessions, medication etc. necessary for somebody to live in the desired gender - be that male, female, neither of the two or somewhere in between. Basically everything should be funded that makes it possible for somebody to manage/live with their gender dysphoria: be it altered or unaltered bodies. Right now it is especially hard for people who don't identify as 100% transsexual to have some kind of treatment and/or hormones and/or surgeries.

Lack of medical services & a great lack of trained professionals in the field of Transgenderism.

Hormones available through national health service.

Having to take hormones for our whole life, we should be included in the categories for which hormones are „life-saving medicines“.

Free choice of the doctors (private or public hospitals) and funded by the Health Care.

(That represents in France one of the most significant problems.) Only some medical teams are recognized and give the possibility to the transsexuals of being funded with the Health Care. If a person goes in the private one, it will have to pay from its pocket the surgery.

Right of name

Purpose:

Free choice of the first names

Mission:

Proposing guidelines for jurisdiction on self determined right of name

Actually the regulations on the right of name, more precisely the right on the choice of one's first or personal name, are very disparate and irrational, partially dominated by cultural and administrative standards since long time in contradiction to the acquired and formally shared standards of human rights. Recommendations of how to overcome the barriers have to be given.

Demands concerning Right of name

Right of Name

Free Choice of Name

Free choice of ones first name

Each person should have the right to change her first name in self-responsibility regardless of her sex. Names express personality and identity. The adoption of an official name should take place according to one's own declaration. People must not be forced to psychiatric and medical treatment respectively specific legal proceedings when they choose a name not according to their native sex.

Every person from 18 years and above should be able to change their first name to a gender specific name without any bureaucratic obstacles.

This issue will be discussed with the Minister of Justice in the fall, we had hoped that it would have been in the new law, but the new law only states that the minister has to make the rules in a directive, which he will discuss with our organization in the fall of 2005.

Free choice of ones first name without need of undergo SRS or any other surgery

Transition in job

Purpose:

Experience and jurisdiction on transition in the working environment

Mission:

Formulation of guidelines for strategies for job-protection and how they can be embodied in the corpus of labour and social laws

Alike in other cases of discrimination job-protection is a major requirement for transgendered persons. This implies as well improvement of information about existing anti-discrimination regulations within the TransGender community, as adjustment of anti-discrimination regulations to specific needs and demands of the transition process. An assessment of the European standards is to be done to identify to already existing instruments of protection and to define strategies to improve the possibilities of self-defence.

To succeed in transition in the working environment it is also important to act beyond the threshold of jurisdiction. For instance concerning people in the unions about transgender-issues to get in contact with the worker's councils. Informing the society and doing general public relations will be very important too. If the bosses and colleagues stand behind the transgender-employee it would be more easy to prevent dismissal. And last but not least we could exchange experience on how to act in the transition process to develop and communicate strategies to keep the job.

Demands concerning Transition in job

Social Issues

Support at the Work Field

We also demand positive discrimination at the work field because the transsexual population is discriminated on grounds of the transsexuality

We want to achieve some income benefit for the employer who gives work to transsexual people. So it would be as an incentive for them and for transsexual people.

Protection against dismissal

Transgender people, holding a job during the SRS period (not only surgery), should for a certain time be protected against dismissal by law. The target should be a similar system like the maternity protection for women after birth of a child.

Self determination in transition

Purpose:

Passing the transition process with self determination

Mission:

Recommendations for regulations of self-determined disposal on bodily, psychological and social integrity are to be embodied in the corpus of Human Rights

Transgenderism as a public discussed and – within limits – accepted way of living is a relatively young phenomenon. As a consequence, ethical as well as legal standards, regulations and procedures organizing the transition process are insufficient to take into account the variety of transition processes. Instead they are reduced to a single-frame standard, alien to transgender-reality, characterised by its irreducible diversity. Self-determination can not be based on alien fundaments. So recommendations on strategies have to be given of how the gap between standardized standards of care and transitory reality may be closed and the formally declared right of unrestricted personal integrity can be assured even to transitory concepts of personality.

Demands concerning Self determination

Human Rights

Self-determination

Enforcement of Human Rights concerning the bodily and psychological self-determination and autonomy

Enforcement of the Human Rights of self-determination and autonomy

Medical Treatment

Medicine generally

Inclusion of the whole transexualizing process, starting from the point in which people search for information on transsexuality, psychological therapy, hormonal therapy, surgery and any implications this process has on our health.

We think that there may be people who may need information to clear out the doubts they have about their possible transsexuality, which is a previous step to the initiation of the psychological therapy. We also think that our body, once it has been modified, will need special treatment on some illnesses common to non-transsexual people. Therefore, it is not only the process we need coverage, but the whole health understood from the point of view of transsexuality.

Self-determination

Total free transition in a different ethiology of transgenderism (no more psychiatric, or not in the way we are now in DSM IV and ICD 10).

We are close to diffidate the Ministry of Public Health because HRT is not free for transgender. We know and think that the only reason of this exclusion is a discriminatory one.

No interference of any kind of authority in the medical treatment of GID

No statutory determination of GID. No legislation concerning the dispensation of medical care nor its treatment. No restrictions of any kind and the right to choose one's doctor

Participating Groups

Here you can find a list of the European TransGender-Groups who will participate in the First European TransGender Council or are interested in the European TransGender Network.

Participating: 65 Groups from 23 Countries

Austria, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Czechia, Danmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraina, USA

Interested: 10 Groups from 8 Countries

Belgium, France, Germany, Malta, Poland, Russia, Serbia/Montenegro, Spain

Countries that are not represented but with interested Groups:

Malta, Poland, Serbia/Montenegro

European Countries without any contact:

Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

Austria

FeMigra

GenderTalk

<http://feminismus.transgender.at>

Gruene Andersrum

<http://www.gruene-andersrum.at/kontakt>

transgender.at

<http://transgender.at>

TransGender Linz

<http://www.linz.transgender.at>

TransGender Steiermark

<http://www.graz.transgender.at>

TIS - Transidente IG Salzburgs

<http://www.salzburg.transgender.at>

TransX - Austrian TransGender Association

<http://www.transx.at>

Anti-Discrimination Unit for samesex Lifestyles

<http://www.wien.gv.at/queerwien>

Belgium

GAG - Genderactiongroup

<http://www.genderactiongroup.net>

Trans Action

www.trans-action.org

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Q - Queer zajednice u Bosni i Hercegovini

<http://www.queer.ba>

Croatia

Zenska Soba

<http://www.zinfo.hr/engleski/index-eng.htm>

Czechia

Transforum

<http://www.transforum.cz>

Transslide

<http://4/translide.unas.cz>

Danmark

PFT - Patientforeningen For Transseksuelle

<http://www.pft.dk>

Trans-Danmark

<http://trans-danmark.dk>

TS-Kontakt

<http://tsinfo.dk>



Europe

ILGA Europe www.ilga-europe.org

Finland

Trasek Net <http://www.trasek.net>

Former-Yugoslavia

SEE Q <http://www.queer.ba/seeqeng.htm>

France

CARITIG <http://www.caritig.org>

Germany

Inbetween <http://www.abqueer.de/>

Kingz of Berlin <http://www.kingzofberlin.de>

Polymorph <http://www.tgnb.de/gruppen/polymorph.html>

Sonntagsclub <http://www.sonntags-club.de>

TransSisters Berlin <http://www.transisters.de>

TGNB - TransGender Netz Berlin <http://www.tgnb.de>

TGNB WB - Wissenschaftlicher Beirat <http://www.tgnb.de/WBmain.html>

Transgender-Radio <http://www.transgenderradio.de>

transray.com <http://transray.com>

TransInterGenderSex <http://www.tgnb.de/gruppen/tigs.html>

Wigstöckel <http://www.wigstoekel.com>

Great Britain

a:gender

FTM Network www.ftm.org.uk

The Gender Trust <http://www.gendertrust.org.uk>

GIRES - Gender Identity Research and Education Society <http://www.gires.org.uk>

Press for Change <http://www.pfc.org.uk>

TNUKdigest <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TNUKdigest>

Transmarriage

TransYouth <http://www.transyouth.org.uk>

Transsexual UK

TS TV Newsletter <http://www.tstv-news.co.uk>

National Union of Students LGBT Committee

Hungary

Tranny Club

Iceland

FSS - Organisation of LGBT Students in Iceland <http://gay.mis.is>



Ireland

TSI - Trans Support Ireland

Italy

Arcitrans <http://www.arcitrans.it>
CGIL - Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro www.cgil.it/org.diritti
Crisalide - AzioneTrans <http://www.crisalide-azionetrans.it>
Gruppo Luna of Turin www.mauriceglbt.org
M.I.T. - Movimento di Identita Transsexuale <http://www.mit-italia.it/prima.htm>
trans-european.org <http://www.trans-european.org>

Netherlands

LKG T&T - Landelijke Kontaktgroep T&T <http://www.lkgtent.nl>
T-Image www.t-image.org

Portugal

a.trans <http://a-trans.planetaclix.pt/index.html>

Russia

LGBT Center together <http://gay.ru/english/index.htm>

Spain

FELGT - Federacion Estatal de Lesbianas, Gays y Transsexuales www.felgt.org
GIGT - Grupo de Identidad de Genero y Transsexualidad <http://gigt.org>

Sweden

FPE-S - Freedom of Personality Expression <http://www.fpes.se>
GLBT-Socialdemocrats www.hss.socialdemokraterna.se/styrelse.asp
RFSL - Riksförbundet För Sexuellt Likaberättigande <http://www.rfsl.se>

Turkey

Lambda Istanbul <http://www.lambdaistanbul.org>

Ukraina

ULGA <http://www.ugla.odessa.ua/enter.htm>