

ACTIVITY REPORT

of Transgender Europe

SEPTEMBER 2012 – APRIL 2014



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Activity report of the Executive Board and the Steering Committee of Transgender Europe

October 2012 – April 2014

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INTRODUCTION

Dear TGEU members and supporters, It is an honour to be bringing you the introduction to the Activity Report which sums up the 2012–2014 Steering Committee term of office. Much of this honour comes from the fact that although we have experienced a lot of difficulties over the past two years, we seem to be coming out of it much stronger and richer in the overall governance experience.

The *Organisational Highlights* will bring you a breakdown of what TGEU has achieved since our last General Assembly in Dublin. We also give you *Personal Highlights* – both from the members of the Steering Committee and the Staff – to give you a closer look at what it meant for us to be a part of this great adventure.

The greatness of it, however, does not mean that we did not experience difficulties along the way. And many of these difficulties have been on the governance side. Both the Steering Committee and the Executive Board experienced several changes. In January 2013 our Co-chair – Maria Sundin – resigned from her position to continue as a member of the Steering Committee and later that year decided to leave the team completely to be able to undertake other responsibilities. The Steering Committee held internal elections and Kemal Ordek was chosen to take Maria's place, becoming the second Co-chair. We also lost Kim Trau who needed to take a break from

her duties and eventually resigned as well. To be able to continue our work, we published a call for two additional members of our team and had the pleasure of welcoming Nathan Gale from Scotland and Arian Kajtezović from Croatia to our team. Both have immensely contributed to TGEU's activities and we can surely say that we could not have continued the work without them.

As a Co-chair – and one of the few persons who joined the Steering Committee back in 2010 during the General Assembly in Malmoe – I have to confess, the past two years have been an incredible journey from striving for funding to creating a greatly professional organisation with amazing potential. There is still much to do and experience, but I am more than glad that I had the opportunity to be a part of that process. Unfortunately, due to other responsibilities, I will be leaving the governing team completely, but I am more than certain that TGEU is in the right hands. I know that you, as our membership, will entrust another professional and devoted team to lead the organisation. I am also certain that our Staff, led by our great Executive Director, will do their best to ensure that TGEU moves forward. It cannot be otherwise.

With warmest regards



Wiktor Vern Dynarski Co-chair and Steering Committee Member (2010 – 2014)

GREETINGS FROM THE STAFF

Dear Members, colleagues and friends, at this Council we can look back over an eventful 18 months since the Council in Dublin with many highlights, especially in the second part of the term. We have been speaking at conferences and seminars, were present at meetings with decision makers and other stakeholders, wrote press releases and publications and organised meetings and trainings. We also took care of an incredible amount of work behind the scenes, unnoticed by most, but equally important as it constitutes the basis for our more visible work.



TGEU staff (Noah, Julia, Richard, Moritz, Boglarka and Carla) at the TGEU office.

The joint efforts of the TGEU Steering Committee, the staff and many committed volunteers in this term were rewarded at the beginning of 2014 with the approval of TGEU's funding application to the European Commission: one of the most ambitious goals we had defined in TGEU's strategy back in 2010 at the Council in Malmoe.

This comes as well with the responsibility to continue our work to advance the rights of trans people in Europe and to help build a stronger trans movement in Europe. A responsibility we are looking forward to meeting.

On behalf of the staff.



*Julia Ehrh
Executive Director of TGEU*

Acknowledgements

TGEU would not exist without the volunteer commitments of so many people. We are grateful to those who, 'behind the scenes', have given their time, energy and hospitality, shared links, provided information, engaged in debate and shored us up in times of challenge. Among the many, many volunteers, we would like to thank the following:

Daniel Moure (editing)
Leslie Sherlock (Newsletter and editing)
Constantin Cojocariu (Legal Advice)
Orlaith O'Sullivan
 (Access all Areas campaign)
Nana Moe (accommodation)
Andrés Gonzalez Axthammer
 (TVT project)

HIGHLIGHTS OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE STAFF

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wiktor Dynarski

My personal highlight for the whole period has to be the cooperation TGEU has established with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. Since September 2013 TGEU has had a great influence on the creation of Recommendations on the Security of Human Rights Defenders, which will become a transgender inclusive document. I believe this is one of the examples where TGEU has played an advisory role to other institutions, hence furthering the trans agenda to an even greater extent.

Alecs Recher

As an organisation we had to navigate TGEU through a demanding term. Steering TGEU, a growing NGO in which donors, allies, politicians, and many other partners have trust and being able to improve our work and internal processes were the most important achievements of the whole term.

Listening to the hearing in the case of *Hämäläinen v. Finland*, on forced divorce as a requirement for legal gender recognition, in which TGEU's written submission was mentioned many times by the judges: a highlight not for being at the European Court of Human Rights, but for the fact that TGEU now has the knowledge, the strength and the credibility to be able and allowed to support important cases with our own interventions which are taken seriously by the court.

Arja Voipio

I had the pleasure to work closely with the committed and very professional staff of TGEU as the non-executive line manager.

I am also proud of the inclusion of gender identity in the new EU data protection legislation. The reform is at the time of writing still a work in progress, but when the legislation comes into force a person's gender identity will enjoy special protection under the EU data protection regime. This should become the minimum norm in the rest of Europe as well.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Vreer Verkerke

When thinking of the most important events for me, the first must be the ILGA convened 2nd International Intersex Forum in Stockholm, December 2012. Being present at this meeting to build an international intersex movement also led to the decision being made that ILGA will run an intersex secretariat for the coming world conference.

Secondly I was very happy to have attended the second GATE expert meeting on the Depathologisation of trans* health which works to get an optimal placing and phrasing in the coming ICD-11. Strategising with friends and colleagues from all over the world is a delight. It gave me the final push to really concentrate on trans* health rights.

Nathan Gale

I was delighted to be appointed to the TGEU steering committee late in 2013 and have thoroughly enjoyed being part of the organisation since then. I imagine that many of my highlights are still to come at the Council in May. So far I have very much enjoyed getting to grips with the role of a steering committee member and, as a native English speaker, being the go-to proof reader for the Committee! Being involved in the strategic planning for TGEU's future has been particularly interesting and I was glad to be able to provide the rest of the Committee with an overview and analysis of the members' feedback to the draft strategy.

Arian Kajtezović

My highlight was the publication of the legal gender recognition toolkit and Access All Areas campaign as they are key tools for raising visibility on the issues trans people face without quick, transparent and accessible legal gender recognition procedures. The toolkit is particularly important for trans activists as it covers examples, best practices, a checklist which is particularly useful when working on new legislation proposals or holding governments responsible, as well as responses to some common myths and misconceptions regarding quick, transparent and accessible legal gender recognition. This is certainly a tool that can greatly help in achieving legislative changes in legal gender recognition throughout Europe.

Kristian Randjelovic

My highlight was the capacity building trainings for activist in Macedonia and in Montenegro, empowering them to be more proactive in the field of trans identities and related rights. Twelve transgender persons were present on the training in Macedonia and five trans persons in Montenegro. In those two countries TGEU is helping trans communities to grow and encourages them to connect with others in the region.

Laura Leprince

2012 and 2013 have been very challenging years for my commitment to TGEU. While France was gripped by the extraordinary battle over same sex marriage, caught between its best supportive allies and its worst homophobic and transphobic conservatism, I was involved in more discreet and long running advocacy for trans rights and LGR. I managed to introduce TGEU into formal meetings to voice its legitimacy to recommend its LGR policy and related model laws.

Bringing TGEU advocacy and legal comparative data into internal discussions of the French National Advisory Commission on Human Rights, resulted in a formal vote of the Commission in favour of the self-determination and fully de-medicalised LGR model; which stands now for the reference model that cannot be pushed back despite the very difficult domestic political situation that put all societal reforms on hold.

Maria Sundin

The 4th European Transgender Council in Dublin 2012 was a personal highlight for me as I was elected co-chair with my dear friend Wiktor Dynarski and above all the trust our membership invested in our newly elected Executive Board and Steering Committee to manage the acute and severe financial crisis still has a special place in my heart.

The work I did as TGEU co-chair in bringing the ILGA Europe Trans Pre-conference back to life and the warm words from global trans* activists is a warm and special memory.

The work for depathologisation of trans* identities that I and Vreer Verkerke did together with around 25 global activists and supporters in Buenos Aires in April 2013 - despite being robbed of my purse containing three credit cards and quite a large sum of cash - make this another fond memory.

The Philadelphia Trans-health Conference was just mind blowing - meeting a number of old and new friends and also listening to awesome African American trans* activists.

STAFF**Julia Ehrt**

My personal highlight was the finalisation of the TGEU accounts 2010-2012 in early 2013 and their approval by the Membership of TGEU as well as all TGEU's institutional and private donors. The process also included a full revision of our internal procedures. Why is that a highlight? Because it lay the basis for the organisational successes of TGEU in the second half of 2013 and 2014, including the successful funding application to the European Commission.

Moritz Sander

My biggest highlight was moving into our own office space in February 2014 and also being able to hire staff under regular employment with the German association. I always enjoy meeting activists from all over Europe and being able to help move things forward by taking care of the logistics for the meetings.

Carla LaGata

My personal highlight was the launch of TGEU's Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide (TvT) project research report at the ILGA trans pre conference, the RFSL expert conference on transphobic hate crimes and the XXVI ILGA World conference in Stockholm, Sweden, in December 2012 and its successional benefits and spin-offs for TGEU and the trans movement in 2013. The spin-offs include the translations of the report into Spanish and Turkish and included an invitation to TGEU to brief the US state department on the human rights situation of trans and gender variant people worldwide. This eventually informed their grant call focussing on protecting trans people from violence in South America and Eastern Europe for which TGEU successfully applied with the "Pro Trans Project".

Richard Köhler

Trans people in the EU have a right to better protection and trans-sensitive treatment in case they fall victim to a crime. The EU Victims' Rights Directive recognises trans people's particular vulnerability. It is the first EU directive to mention gender identity and expression and has to be implemented by all EU member states. An important mile stone for ending violence against the trans community.

Boglarka Fedorko

Since I started working on the ProTrans project of TGEU in February 2014, I have met partners and activists with energy, passion and dedication, which was truly inspirational for me. The highlight so far was joining the team in the new TGEU office in Berlin and the recent ProTrans kick-off meeting in Budapest with lively discussions and partners' eagerness to get a deeper understanding of the monitoring process and putting it into action.

Noah Keuzenkamp

Being the newest addition to TGEU's staff, my personal highlight so far has been to join such a welcoming, friendly and motivated team in March 2014 and to start working in TGEU's wonderful new offices in Berlin. I am particularly looking forward to the Council in May, as it will allow me to meet many of TGEU's members and activists from across Europe.

POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

The past two years have built on previous achievements and give reason for hope. The European trans community worked hard to ensure that trans issues gained greater visibility and can no longer be ignored. But there is no time to rest.

First and foremost, **legal gender recognition** seems to have entered a new era. With the Argentinean *Gender Recognition Act*, quick, accessible and transparent procedures fulfilling human rights standards at last became a reality. This has been echoed by international bodies. The *UN Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment* included mandatory genital-normalising surgeries in gender recognition procedures in his list of abuses being *always prohibited by international law*. The Committee of the *European Social Charter* (ESC) in 2014 asked the first trans-specific questions of all Council of Europe member states, how can mandatory sterilisation be in compliance with the right to health care, as guaranteed under the Charter? Both European Parliaments, of the Council of Europe and of the European Union, repeatedly condemned the fact that forced sterilisation is still a reality for trans people in 23 European countries. The awareness that inhuman requirements, such as mandatory medical interventions, compulsory mental health diagnosis and even the necessity to get a divorce are

unacceptable in Europe in the 21st century is slowly sinking in. However, for an individual who is waiting to have their gender identity recognised, the pace of action appears painfully slow. While there is reason for frustration and anger, as documented in Amnesty International's report *The state decides who I am* (February 2014), 3 countries took action and improved their laws including the abolition of mandatory medical interventions (Sweden - 2012, Netherlands - 2013, Iceland - 2012). Currently, reforms in 23 countries are underway - some solely pushed by civil society, especially trans organisations and activists, some in co-operation with the authorities. The Council of Europe's pilot LGBT project incited real reform processes in Albania, Serbia, Latvia and Poland by supporting the draft of "ideal" laws. Reform processes often steer public debate, giving much-needed visibility to transgender issues. However, they might also bring prejudice, ill-informed argument and stereotypes to the surface. Trans organisations on the domestic, European and international level are reporting more and more organised opposition from conservative groups targeting transgender persons and the concept of *gender identity* specifically, for instance the French *Manif pour tous* and a wider backlash against gender equality, targeting women's and sexual and reproductive rights. This is certainly a development we need to watch out for and

stay alert to together with other social movements and our allies. The TGEU materials on Legal Gender Recognition and Campaign *Access All Areas! Recognition opens Doors* are timely contributions to inform a fact-based debate and explore solutions for better recognition procedures for trans people.



Also in the important area of trans people's **access to health**, improvements can be documented. In a resolution in June 2013 the Council of Europe Parliamentarians called for equal access to health care for transgender persons: "The Assembly notes that inequalities in access to care, including mental health care, particularly affect vulnerable groups, including transgender persons." The

EU Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection, Tonio Borg, kept his promise and set to work on removing the stigmatising classifications of trans identities in the *International Classification of Diseases* (ICD), on a global scale. It is also a first that within the EU, the Commission gave greater recognition to inequalities in health. Trans people are denied treatment, facing abuse and stigma, instead of "having access to adequate and appropriate services sensitive to their needs" reads the background note to the Commission's first conference addressing Health Inequalities in March 2014. Another important chapter in the relationship of trans communities with health care professionals, traditionally swinging between love and hate, is the announcement of the founding of the European Professional Association for Transgender Health - EPATH, in early 2014. First reactions from the community showed an equal amount of scepticism of the medical establishment and hope for much-needed improvements in health care.

As highlighted in our contribution to the *OSCE Annual Hate Crime Report*, **violence against trans people** remains a continuing and wide-spread problem. All the better, that Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Greece, Montenegro and Norway resorted to action with the adoption of trans-inclusive hate crime legislation. While in summer 2013 Thessaloniki police harassed and humiliated trans women systematically, the Greek parliament

adopted a trans-inclusive law against biased police violence in March 2014.

The *EU Victims' Rights Directive*, adopted in 2012, recognises trans people as more vulnerable to gender-based violence. Its implementation will hopefully translate into the better protection of trans people from violence and greater sensitivity of law enforcement and victim support services. It is in any case an important stepping stone in the struggle towards a consolidated EU response against hate crime, e.g. by extending the *EU Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia* to other grounds including transphobia. The first regular monitoring body, the *European Commission against Racism and Intolerance* (ECRI) is now able to include trans issues in its work. Its first two trans-inclusive reports for Belgium and Germany denounced transphobic violence and hate, calling for better responses. In its review of the 2010 LGBT recommendations the Committee of Ministers were particularly concerned about the lack of information regarding trans issues and demanded more action to counter the harsh realities trans people face in Europe.

Negative attitudes towards and discrimination of trans people were confirmed by public body large-scale data collections on a European level. In the LGBT survey on victimisation and discrimination, carried out by the EU Fundamental Rights

Agency and presented in May 2013, 6,771 self-identified trans respondents participated, making it the largest trans survey in the EU. The fact that a trans-specific report of the findings is planned for later in 2014 shows that there is greater sensitivity by decision and policy makers of the systematic and far-reaching inequalities against trans people. Negative attitudes were once more confirmed quite drastically by the *Discrimination Eurobarometer 2012* (survey by the European Commission monitoring attitudes towards minorities in the EU) which included for the first time attitudes towards trans people. It found a profound level of discomfort with gender diversity amongst the general population. It is certainly no coincidence and gives food for thought that only 8% of respondents knew a trans person personally and 13% had no idea about the discrimination trans people are up against.

In contrast, repeated calls from civil society and the 10 calls (!) from the EU Parliament for a comprehensive EU LGBTI-strategy have been shipwrecked by the Commission's resistance. It is good to see however European leaders committed to LGBTI rights for the next term, amidst an expected gain of euro-sceptics in the up-coming EU-elections. Minority rights have become an easy to reach target by populists who try to surf on waves of the crisis.

However, Europe is no island and we stand in proud solidarity with trans people worldwide. We continue to receive distressing stories from trans people all around the globe. The EU has two important tools aimed at supporting them. In June 2013, the EU member states adopted binding LGBTI Guidelines for EU dip-

lomatic staff in third countries and for multinational forums. Secondly, in the period 2014 – 2020 the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) will specifically seek to fund projects and organisations working for the human rights of LGBTI persons.

ORGANISATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The last two years were a time with many ups and downs for TGEU. From an organisational point of view it was also a time of consolidation (in the first year) and of substantial growth (in the second). If we take stock of what has been achieved since the Transgender Council in Dublin in 2012 it is safe to say that the term was a successful one. We have developed from an organisation with challenged finances that had four persons working on freelance contracts from home into a well funded organisation with six members of regular staff working from a well equipped office in Berlin. We have managed to accomplish the most ambitious goal set down in our organisational strategy in 2010 in Malmoe: *to meet the structural requirements to apply for EU commission grants*. The grant application

TGEU filed in 2013 to the Commission was successfully awarded to us in January 2014! Moreover in 2013 we successfully applied for another large two year grant to the US Department of State, which is financing the ProTrans project (see page 19), and could as well consolidate the funding for the Transrespect versus Transphobia project for the next two years. At the end of the term TGEU engaged in developing our new organisational strategy for the coming years, which will be presented in Budapest.

These successes were possible because in the first half of the term we had fully revised our internal procedures. TGEU's financial management and accounting procedures, planning of activities, decision-making and governing processes were scrutinised and

re-worked. Moreover we successfully moved the organisation from Vienna (Austria) to Berlin (Germany), as decided by the GA in Dublin, and as a result could employ as regular staff those people already working for TGEU and also employ two additional members of staff:



Group picture Legal Gender Recognition Seminar

Boglarka Fedorko working on the ProTrans project and Noah Keuzenkamp working on the EqualTrans project supported by the EU.

On the more content related side TGEU organised an activist seminar on legal gender recognition in Berlin with more than 20 participants from 17 countries and a round-table event together with ILGA-Europe bringing together activists and government representatives on the same topic over the following two days. In spring 2013 we launched the first TransRights Europe Map and Index in the context of the First International IDAHOT Forum in The Hague, where the TGEU staff had the pleasure to meet with Her Majesty Queen Maxima of the Netherlands. The TransRights Europe Map was so popular that we needed to reprint it five months later!

Towards the end of the term we have been launching our Access all Areas campaign on legal gender recognition, to be printed in six different languages, and the TGEU toolkit on Legal Gender Recognition.

Moreover, the Transrespect versus Transphobia project published its comprehensive research report in November 2012 and started at the end of 2013 to analyse data from our research in six partner countries.

This term TGEU has also paid close attention to the Eastern parts of Europe with the ProTrans Project, Council, and support of local trans initiatives, especially in the Balkans. As an organisation devoted to enabling dialogue between our diverse communities, TGEU has also been actively interested in intersex issues – agreeing on a policy on these issues, participating in the 3rd International Intersex Forum and keeping an eye on emerging subjects in the debate surrounding the international (and European) intersex agenda.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TRANSRESPECT VERSUS TRANSPHOBIA WORLDWIDE!



At this 5th European Transgender Council TGEU's Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide (TvT) research project celebrates its 5th anniversary and thus becomes TGEU's longest-running project. In these five years, TGEU's TvT team managed to cooperate with 20 partner organisations and more than 50 activists in the global South and East, being guided by more than 25 experts and researchers from all world regions, and thus enabling TGEU and its partners to do ground-breaking research on the human rights situation of trans and gender variant people worldwide.

This ongoing comparative qualitative-quantitative research is first and foremost grounded in, and serves, gender-variant/trans people's movements and activism. The project seeks to provide an overview of the human-rights situation of trans and gender variant persons in different parts of the world and to develop useful data and advocacy tools for international institutions, human-rights organisations, the trans movement and the general public.

The complex research includes several sub-projects. The first is Trans Murder

Monitoring (TMM), a systematic collection, monitoring and analysis of reported killings of gender-variant/trans people worldwide. Between January 1st 2008 and March 31st 2014, 1,509 reported killings of gender-variant/trans people in 61 countries have been documented, including 87 in 12 European countries.

The second sub-project is the Legal and Health Care Mapping, which provides an overview of existing laws, law proposals, and actual legal and health-care practices relevant to gender-variant/trans people. It currently comprises 91 countries including 40 European countries.

The TvT research report from 2012 presents, discusses and contextualises the key findings of these two sub-projects and provides a polyvocal account of some of the major challenges and achievements of gender-variant/trans people and movements in the twenty-first century. The third sub-project is a survey of the Social Experiences of Trans People, which addresses experiences of both transphobia and transrespect and was developed and conducted in 2012 together with our partners in India, the Philippines, Serbia, Tonga, Turkey and Venezuela. Fortunately in 2014 the research will be extended to and conducted in Thailand – together with our partner organisation Thai Transgender Alliance (Thai TGA). The results will be published in a comparative study in early 2015. Having the format of peer research, which aims to combine research with empowerment, it lays the ground for future TvT research and

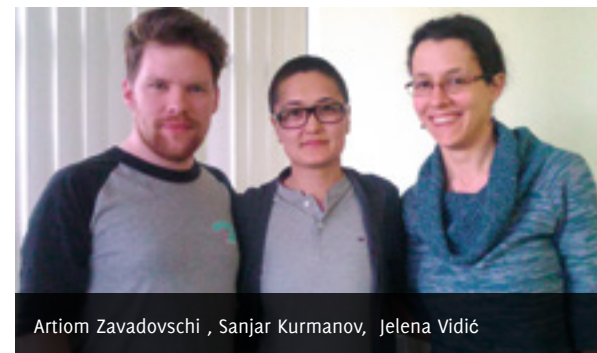
further regional and transnational collaborations as the example of Thai TGA demonstrates.

As the TvT project will be having a TvT team meeting and a TvT capacity building training in the days running up to the European Transgender Council in Budapest, TvT team members from the Philippines, Serbia, Thailand, Turkey, Tonga, and Venezuela will participate in the council to enhance interregional networking, the exchange of knowledge, mutual learning, and celebration.

More information:

- <http://www.transrespect-transphobia.org/>
- http://www.transrespect-transphobia.org/uploads/downloads/Publications/TvT_research-report.pdf
- http://www.transrespect-transphobia.org/uploads/downloads/Publications/tvt_legalandhealthcaremapping.pdf
- http://www.transrespect-transphobia.org/en_US/tvt-project/tmm-results.htm

PROTRANS PROJECT



Artiom Zavadvoschi, Sanjar Kurmanov, Jelena Vidić

Thanks to additional funding from the Dutch government, three organisations from European Union member states will also participate in monitoring violent incidents against trans people.

The project has three pillars:

1. **Monitoring:** A systematic yet simple monitoring system is developed and implemented in an inclusive process by participating trans-rights organisations and TGEU to monitor violent incidents. Participating organisations will be trained on methodology and skills for its implementation in order to document violent incidents against transgender persons domestically in the framework of the project. As a result, the capacity

The ProTrans project – initiated by TGEU in 2012 and financed by the US Department of State – aims to better protect trans people and their communities in Eastern and Southeastern Europe against violence. To this end, five trans-rights organisations will work together under the guidance of TGEU in this two-year project to increase their capacities.

The participating organisations are the following:

1. Gayten-LGBT, Serbia (www.transserbia.org)
2. GenderdocM, Moldova (www.lgbt.md/eng)
3. Labrys Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyzstan (www.labrys.kg)
4. Red Umbrella, Turkey
5. Transvanilla, Hungary (www.transvanilla.hu)

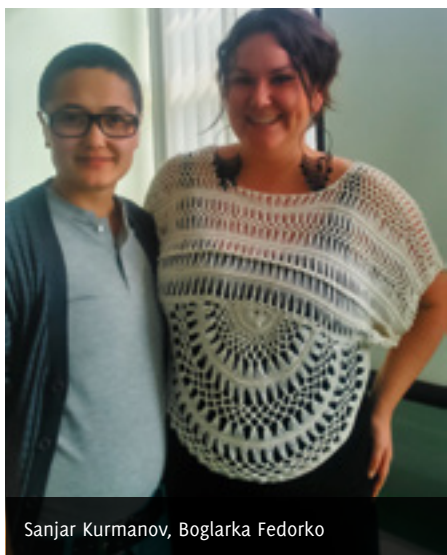
Krisztina Orbán, Sanjar Kurmanov



of trans-rights groups to reach out to transgender persons and to document violence against them is increased and common patterns of violence are systematically captured.

2. Support services: In conjunction with monitoring, project partners will offer community-based support services for survivors of violence and increase legal literacy about possibilities for redress among the transgender community. The project provides local partners with the necessary means to pursue legal action and use domestic redress mechanisms. As a result, the legal literacy of transgender people is increased, as is their confidence in seeking legal or other forms of redress for the infringement of their rights.

3. Advocacy: The objective of the fact-based advocacy is to enhance partner organisations' capacity to increase public awareness of domestic authorities' responsibility to provide appropriate ad-hoc and long-term responses. To this end, each project partner will produce a final project report using findings from their monitoring activities. The report will be part of an advocacy plan, based on the analysis of the political framework. TGEU will assist this process by organising a joint meeting with all project partners and by providing guidance on the advocacy planning as required. Finally, TGEU will complement the domestic efforts with a publication of the project's findings in English, which will be promoted to key national and European stakeholders, such as policy makers, equality bodies, human-rights NGOs and journalists.



Sanjar Kurmanov, Boglarka Fedorko



LIST OF EVENTS ATTENDED BY TGEU SEPTEMBER 2012 – APRIL 2014

2012

September 2012



- 4th European Transgender Council, Dublin, September 7-9

- Presentation at Institut Solidarische Moderne Summer Factory, Frankfurt/Main, September 28-30
- Presentation at the European Parliament seminar Trans and Intersex Issues Challenges for EU law, Brussels, September 26

October 2012

- Presentation at **United Against Homophobia in Sports conference** (organised by the European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation (EGLSF) and the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sports (EPAS) of the Council of Europe), Utrecht, October 11-12
- Presentation at *Roundtable Rights of Trans People in Serbia*, Belgrade, October 12
- * **TvT**: Presentations at **Expert Conference on Trans People of the Anti-Discrimination Unit of the City of Vienna**, October 18
- **ILGA-Europe annual Conference**, Dublin, October 17-21
- Presentation and moderation at **European Symposium Being Transgender at Work**, Dordrecht (NL), October 25-26

November 2012

- Presentation at **Joining forces to combat homophobic and transphobic violence in Europe Conference**, The Hague, November 8-9
- Presentation at the conference **Trans people in Switzerland**, Bern, November 23
- Meeting with Hungarian activists in Budapest, November 17
- Interventions at **Transgender Day of Remembrance**, Southern Cyprus, November 20
- **EU Equality Summit**, Southern Cyprus, November 22-23
- **LGBT Press Conference**, Northern Cyprus, November 25,

December 2012

- Intervention at **Fundamental Rights Conference**, Brussels, December 6
- * **TvT**: **TvT Strategic Planning meeting and Training**, Stockholm, December 9 and 12
- **ILGA Trans* pre-conference co-facilitated by ILGA and TGEU**, December 10-11
- * **TvT**: **RFSL Expert conference on transphobic hate violence**, Stockholm, December 11
- Presentations and workshops at **ILGA World Conference**, Stockholm, December 10-16
- **2nd International Intersex Forum and ILGA World**, Stockholm, December 10-16

Dawn Madrona, Tamara Adrian, Julia Ehr, and Carla LaGata launching the TvT research report at the ILGA World conference in Stockholm.



2013

January 2013

- Meeting with European Commission, DG Justice, Unit on Non-Discrimination and Roma-Coordination, Brussels, January 22
- Presentation at EU Foreign Ministries Meeting on LGBT human rights in EU foreign policy, Amsterdam, January 24-25
- Presentation at the Hearing at the Senate on the Reform of the French gender recognition legislation, Paris, January 31
- Seminar on transgender advocacy, Prague, January 31

February 2013

- Presentation at Queer City Talk: Austria shall become Argentina of the Anti-Discrimination Body of the City of Vienna, February 13
- Presentation at Vienna Anti-Discrimination Body's Press Conference, Vienna, February 14
- Presentation at Baki Kosar Hate Crimes Conference, Izmir, February
- Stakeholders Discussion on Protecting Transgender Persons from Violence hosted by the US Department of State, Washington/US Embassy Berlin, February 15
- Czech Transgender and the Law Conference, Prague, February

March 2013

- Meeting with ECRI on the situation of trans people in Germany, Berlin, March 11
- CoE LGBT Project seminar on Training health care and social welfare professionals, Belgrade, March 11-12
- Social Platform networking meeting with EIGE, Brussels, March 20
- Meeting with Joanna Darmanin, Head of Cabinet of Mr. Tonio Borg, EU Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection DG SANCO on depathologisation, Brussels, March 21
- Social Platform meeting, contact with CSOs and meeting with vice minister of Justice LT, Vilnius, March 21-23
- Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) Meeting, Strasbourg, March 20
- Panelist, workshop moderation and presentation at the Conference LGBT Rights in Europe, Paris, March 24
- * **TvT**: Presentations at 5th ILGA Asia Conference, Bangkok, March 29-31

April 2013

- GATE Conference on ICD-10 revision and trans* depathologisation, Buenos Aires, April 2-4
- Workshop rapporteur at Global conference on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, Oslo, April 4
- Presentation at the Thematic Session of the Parliament of Croatia's Committee for gender equality, Zagreb, April 11
- Presentation at Nordic Committee on Bioethics: Workshop on sexual identity, Copenhagen, April 18-19
- Training on EU Victims' Rights Directive and EU Asylum Legislation, Brussels, April 19-20
- * **TvT**: Meeting with trans activists in Yangoon, April 24
- 6th Annual Meeting of the Fundamental Rights Platform, Vienna, April 25-26

May 2013

- Presentations at 5th International Conference of the Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch: The Right of the Child and of the Adolescent to his/her sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Sion, May 2-4
- Presentation at the RFSL conference: Thousand Genders at Work, Stockholm, May 6
- Training for staff of Council of Europe LGBT Unit, Berlin, May 6
- * **TvT**: Meeting with Thai Transgender Alliance in Bangkok, May 6
- Workshop on international transactivism at Trans Conference Munich, May 10-12

Carla LaGata meeting trans activists in Yangoon, Myanmar.



- Presentations & moderation at the **Training on transgender issues for participants of the Council of Europe LGBT pilot project**, The Hague, *May 15*
- **IDAHOT Transgender Expert Meeting**, The Hague, *May 16*
- Reception with **Her Majesty Queen Maxima of the Netherlands**, The Hague, *May 16*
- **Launch of Trans Rights Map & Index 2013 at the IDAHOT conference**, The Hague, *May 17*
- Presenting on Legal Gender Recognition at **Hearing at the Parliament on the reform of the Danish gender recognition legislation**, Copenhagen, *21 May*
- **Networking visit to the Lithuanian EU Presidency and meeting with Lithuanian Deputy Minister of Justice**, Vilnius, *May 24*

Julia Ehart, Richard Köhler and Carlien Scheele (Dutch Government) launching the Trans Rights Map & Index at the IDAHOT conference



June 2013

- **ILGA-E Strategic Planning Meeting**, Athens, *June 1-2*
- *** TVT:** Presentation at Salzburg Global Forum: **LGBT and human rights in a globalising 21st century: New challenges, next steps**, Salzburg, *June 2-7*
- Organising and chairing a workshop on Trans in the **Workplace at Workplace Pride: 7th Workplace Pride Conference** Amsterdam, *June 6-7*
- **European Alternatives Barcelona: freedom of movement. Part of European Alternatives Manifesto**, Barcelona, *June 8-9*
- **23rd Harm Reduction International Conference**, Vilnius, *June 9-12*
- **Philadelphia Trans-Health Conference**, Philadelphia, *June 13-15*
- Presentation at **EU Member states briefing on the reform of the International Classification of Diseases**, Geneva, *June 18*
- **Training for staff of the European Commission on transgender issues**, Brussels, *June 20*



- Presentations at **LGBT Istanbul Pride Week**, Istanbul, *June 25 - July 1*

July 2013

- Presentation at the **Gender Unit Madrid: Second European Transgender Conference**, Madrid, *July 4-6*
- **Europride Transgender Conference**, Marseille, *July 12-13*
- Presentation at **Workshop on LGBT asylum seekers at the Young Socialists' Summer Camp**, Izmir, *July 20*

August 2013

- Presentation at **Football Fans v Homophobia Conference**, Manchester, *August 17*

September 2013

- **OSCE/ODIHR Human Rights Defenders consultation**, Warsaw, *September 3-4*
- Consultations on **Latvian draft laws (anti-discrimination, hate crimes, legal gender recognition) and the tolerance promotion action plan**, Riga, *September 5*
- **Workshop on international trans activism at 1st Trans Conference Bern**, *September 7-8*
- Presentation at **"Trans and Intersex Issues in Albania" Workshop for Albanian civil society and government**, Tirana, *September 17*
- **Speech at Rainbow Pride Bratislava**, *September 21*
- **Speech at Brainstorming Day on International Work of Cavaria**, Brussels, *September 21*

- Presentation at **Berlin Roundtable on Transgender Issues**, Berlin *September 23*
- **Presentation Stakeholder consultation on LGBT Roadmap**, European Parliament, Brussels *September 24*
- **EQUINET-Consultation with stakeholders**, Brussels, *September 24*
- **TGEU and IGLYO Study Session on Council of Europe LGBT Recommendations 2010(5)**, Strasbourg, *September 25*

October 2013

- **Stakeholder consultation PES Election program**, Brussels, *October 2*
- **Meeting with Dutch ministry for Equality**, The Hague, *October 15*
- *** TVT:** Presentation at **ARCUS International Human Rights Program: Grantee and Partner Coordination Forum**, New York City, *October 15-16*
- Presentation at **European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) consultation with NGO stakeholders**, Vilnius, *October 21*
- **Annual Conference of ILGA-Europe**, Zagreb, *October 25*
- **European Alternatives, finishing European Alternatives Manifesto**, Berlin, *October 23-24*



TGEU and ILGA-Europe roundtable on Legal Gender Recognition



Wiktor Dynarski speaking at the Closing conference of the Council of Europe LGBT projects

November 2013

- TGEU Legal Gender Recognition Seminar, Berlin, *November 2-4*
- TGEU and ILGA-E roundtable on Legal Gender Recognition, Berlin, *November 4-5*
- Presentation at Amnesty International Finnish Section, Trans Helsinki Seminar on Legal Gender Recognition, Helsinki, *November 20*
- Presentation at International Conference on the reform of the Polish gender recognition legislation, Warsaw, *November 5*
- Fundamental Rights Conference on Hate Crime, Vilnius, *November 11-12*
- Presentation at Meeting of the Russian-speaking Trans*Coalition, Kiev, *November 17*
- Presentation at International Expert Meeting to inform a Ukrainian gender recognition reform, Kiev, *November 18*
- Social Platform Working-group on Fundamental Rights and Non-Discrimination, Brussels, *November 19*
- * **TvT**: Presentation at "Sexual Citizenship and Human Rights" conference at the University of Texas, Austin, *November 22-24*
- * **TvT**: Presentation at LGBTI Science Congress of the Magnus Hirschfeld Foundation, Berlin, *November 28-30*

December 2013

- Presentation at LGBT Project Closing Workshop, Tirana, *December 4*
- Presentations at Advancing Trans* Movements Worldwide – A meeting for funders and activists working on gender diversity, Berlin, *December 2-4*
- Presentation at International Berlin Conference: Increasing Support and Resources for LGBT Rights, Berlin, *December 5*
- Launch meeting of European Professional for Transgender Health Care – EPATH, Brussels, *December 6*
- Roundtable "LGBT Rights as Human Rights" at the US Embassy in Berlin, *December 9*
- Training with the Transgender Support Group Macedonia, Skopje, *December*
- Closing conference of the CoE LGBT projects, *December 16*

2014

January 2014

- Conference of the International NGOs of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, January 17-21
- Advisory Working Group for the OSCE/ODIHR Recommendations on the protection of human rights defenders, Warsaw, January 21-22
- Meeting with the Council of Europe LGBT Unit, Strasbourg, January 26
- PACE Equality and Non-Discrimination Committee, Strasbourg, January 27

February 2014

- Presentation at ILGA-Europe EU elections training, Brussels, February 12
- * **TvT**: SOGI UN Strategy Meeting, Istanbul, February 26-28

March 2014

- PACE Equality and Non-Discrimination Committee, Vienna, March 4
- Presentation at Seminar at the European Parliament 10 years LGBTI rights, Brussels, March 5
- Presentation at Seminar on Reform of the German Transsexual Law, Berlin, March 7
- Capacity Building Training on an internal EU Human Rights Framework, Brussels, March 12
- Kick off meeting EU Commission PROGRESS program, Brussels, March 14
- Presentation at International trans activist symposium "Transposium", Zagreb, March 15-16
- Presentation at Amnesty International Finnish Section, Mini seminar on the situation of Trans people in Finland, Helsinki, March 17
- EU Health Inequalities Conference, Brussels, March 18
- * **ProTrans**: Facing Facts "Make hate crime visible" Training and Conference, Budapest, March 17-21
- * **ProTrans**: Project kick-off meeting, Budapest, March 21-23

April 2014

- Capacity Building workshop on impact assessment, April 2
- Expert level meeting ahead of the 2nd European IDAHOT Forum, Stockholm, April 7
- Presentation at the Thematic Session of the Croatian Parliament's Committee for Health and Social Policy "The legal and medical position of trans people", Zagreb, April 9
- Conference "Transgender Transdisciplinary", Katowice, April 15-16
- Presentation at EQUINET High-level Seminar Gender Equality Legislation, Brussels, April 24
- ILGA-Europe training on financial management and funds administration, Budapest, April 28-29

- * **ProTrans**: Second project meeting on monitoring violence, Budapest, April 28-30
- * **TvT**: Strategic Planning meeting and TvT capacity building training, Budapest, April 29-May 1
- 5th European Transgender Council, Budapest, May 1-4



MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE, THE STAFF AND MEETINGS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEES

Executive Board

Wiktor Dynarski
(Co-Chair)

Kemal Aysu Ördek
(Co-Chair as of January 2013)

Arja Voipio
(Treasurer)

Alecs Recher
(Secretary)

Maria Sundin
(Co-Chair,
September 2012 – January 2013)

Steering Committee

Kristian Randjelovic
(Steering Committee)

Vreer Verkerke
(Steering Committee)

Laura LePrince
(Steering Committee)

Arian Kajtezovic
(Steering Committee,
as of October 2013)

Nathan Gale
(Steering Committee,
as of October 2013)

Kemal Aysu Ördek
(Steering Committee,
September 2012 – January 2013)

Kim Trau
(Steering Committee,
September 2012 – September 2013)

Maria Sundin
(Steering Committee,
January 2013 – September 2013)

Staff

Julia Ehrt (Executive Director)

Moritz Sander (Administration Officer)

Richard Köhler (Senior Policy Officer)

Carla LaGata (Senior Researcher)

Boglarka Fedorko
(Project Manager ProTrans project,
as of February 2014)

Noah Keuzenkamp
(Capacity Building Officer,
as of March 2014)

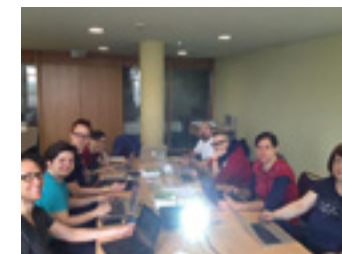
Meetings of the Steering Committee (face to face) 2012

September 9, *Dublin*
October 20-21, *Dublin*

2013
January 11-14, *Prenzlau*
April 20-22, *Brussels*
September 13-15, *Berlin*

2014

January 18-20, *Berlin*
March 22-23, *Budapest*



Alecs Recher, Arian Kajtezovic,
Vreer Verkerke, Nathan Gale,
Kristian Randjelovic, Wiktor Dynarski,
Julia Ehrt, Arja Voipio
(from left to right)

April 30, *Budapest*

Meetings of the Steering Committee (online)

In total 22 online based meetings of
the Steering Committee took place.

Meetings of the Executive Board (face to face and online)

The Executive Board held 6 face to face
meetings and 18 online based meetings.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2013

During the year 2013 TGEU moved its organisational seat from Austria to Germany. The below figures reflect all income and costs of TGEU both in Austria and Germany combined.

Income	
Projects	260.706,70 €
Other	20.297,43 €
Income Total	281.004,13 €
Expenses	
Staff	-122.151,04 €
Travel	-19.049,43 €
Services	-22.492,98 €
Other costs	-19.372,23 €
Expenses total	-183.065,68 €
Preliminary result of the year	
amounts payable projects	-88.758,52 €
amounts receivable projects	4.204,18 €
Actual result 2013	13.384,11 €
<i>out of that</i>	
<i>reserve rent deposit 2014</i>	3.500,00 €
<i>cash flow reserve</i>	9.884,11 €
	13.384,11 €

PUBLICATIONS

- TGEU Flyer
- TransRights Europe Map 2013



- TransRights Europe Map 2014
- Trans in the Spotlight (2013)

- Toolkit Legal Gender Recognition,



- TvT Report: English, Spanish (online only), Turkish



- TvT tables: world: English and Spanish, Europe: English

- TMM updates: TDoR 2012, March 2013, IDAHOT 2013, TDoR 2013, May 2014

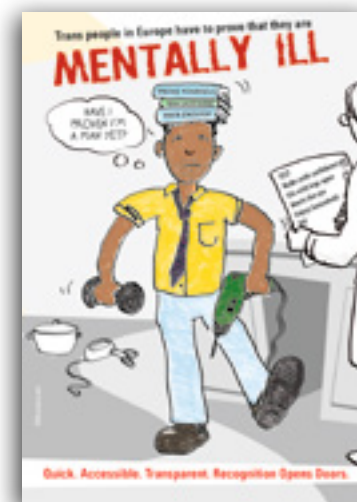
- **“Access All Areas! Recognition Opens Doors” Campaign**

In February 2014, TGEU launched the Europe-wide campaign “Access All Areas! Recognition Opens Doors”. The campaign urges decision makers and the wider public to recognise the serious human rights violations that trans people face in their everyday lives because of the lack of human rights compliant gender recognition laws and procedures.

Through the “Access All Areas!” campaign, TGEU aims to raise awareness of gender recognition legislation as a human rights issue and to inform decision makers about concrete measures they can take to advance better gender recognition legislation. The campaign also supports trans activists and allies who are interested in, or are already working on, starting national initiatives to improve legal gender recognition.

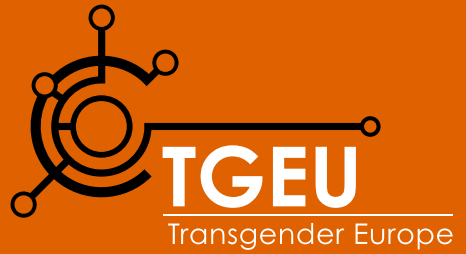
In order to achieve these goals, TGEU published and disseminated a wealth of campaigning materials, including five posters and postcards highlighting the problems with sterilisation, divorce and expert opinion requirements, discrimination in employment, and bullying and harassment in schools, as well as a factsheet, toolkit and checklist on legal gender recognition. These campaign tools are designed to support national and European advocacy efforts and to provide sound background knowledge to all campaigners.

TGEU hopes that this campaign will instigate progress towards quick, transparent and accessible legal gender recognition in Europe.



TGEU MEMBERSHIP





DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

PROGRESS
program
of the EU



Government of the Netherlands



OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS

arcus
FOUNDATION



HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG

US Department
of State