

Incident Sheet

During Session 33 of the UPR Working Group, Costa Rica received 15 SOGIESC recommendations, of which it only accepted two and took note of two.

ACCEPTED:

- Raise awareness in public policies and programs, in cooperation with civil society, change cultural paradigms and attitudes to encourage and promote respect for LGBTI people and fight against prejudice and discrimination against LGBTI people. (Slovenia)
- Continue with measures to combat discrimination against LGBTI people (Argentina)

TAKE NOTE:

- Design of awareness in policies and programs regarding the prevention of discrimination of LGBT people and providing equal rights for LGBT People. (Netherlands)
- Fight discrimination against LGBT people both in law and in practice, as it affects the possibilities of education, justice and access to health services, with emphasis on the difficulties faced by transgender people. (Uruguay)

KEY ISSUES:

- Since 2018, Bill No. 20,970 has been in the Legislative Assembly, which seeks to establish the prohibition of the use of all aversive “therapy” aimed at suppressing, reversing or modifying sexual characteristics as a supposed cure. gender expression, gender identity or sexual orientation.
- “Conversion therapies” exist in Costa Rica and there are multiple testimonies from victims. Some churches promote these practices through social networks (despite the fact that the College of Professionals in Psychology of Costa Rica has already spoken out against them)
- Cases of discrimination in the work environment persist that have been reported without obtaining positive results from the administration. Trans people show disrespect for their privacy, disrespect for their pronouns, as well as their identity.

- Recommendation 111.38 (Uruguay) is “not yet implemented”, while the Costa Rican State does not have complementary efforts to guarantee access to employment for trans people.
- There are no written Care Protocols or follow-up manuals in the Neonatology and Pediatric Endocrinology services for the approach of intersex people. Public officials indicate that they rely on international literature.
- In Costa Rica, surgical interventions are given to newborns with Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia in which “corrective surgeries” are performed to “make them have the “standard” female anatomy, with urethral opening and vaginal canal” and “a reduction in the size of the clitoris.”

In accordance with the YOGYAKARTA principles on Protection Against Medical Abuse, clearly expresses the need for the adoption of legislative, administrative and other measures as may be necessary to ensure that the body of no creature is irreversibly altered through of medical procedures that seek to impose a gender identity on you without your full consent (Principle 18, B)

● **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Prohibit the use of all “Conversion Therapy” and consider them torture and discriminatory acts.
- Consider torture any form that seeks to modify or annul the sexual orientation, identity or gender expression of LGBTI people or those perceived as such.
- Pass legislation to punish and address all forms of violence related to discrimination, including sanctions for perpetrators of hate speech (111.19 carried out by Mexico in 2019)
- Guarantee that intersex people will not undergo surgeries without their prior, free and informed consent.
- Establish clinical guidelines or protocols for the comprehensive approach and care of intersex people at all stages of life.
- Promote from the public and private sectors the promotion of decent jobs for the Trans population, which guarantee an equal, free life and that contributes to the progress of the country.
- Urge the Ministry of Labor to carry out studies on complaints and administrative processes in public and private workplaces regarding acts of discrimination based on gender identity.

