

Human Rights in Norway

IPPF Norway
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Situation in Norway – Issue 1.

Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Previous recommendations:

- Several recommendations addressed gender-based violence and domestic violence as well as sexual violence.
- No recommendations explicitly mentioned comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)
- CSE is stated as a priority by Norway to prevent violence and ensure the right to health and non-discrimination

New developments:

- National Curriculum Reviewd in 2020 with learning targets on sexuality and health
- However, still a gap in teacher training curriculums, in-service training and implementation in schools
- National data collection Ungdata 2023, revealed:
 - 45% of young girls experienced sexual violations. All forms of sexual violence among youth doubled since 2015
- 2024 Official Norwegian Report on rape and sexual violence stated:
 - Too little has been done for prevention. Recommended to increase Comprehensive sexuality education in schools

Recommendations Issue 1. Comprehensive Sexuality Education

Enhance access to comprehensive sexuality education by:
providing teacher training,
quality-assured resources,
and ensuring non-discriminatory access in all official languages and
for all pupils, including persons with disabilities.

Situation in Norway – Issue 2.

Discrimination, stigmatisation, and ill-treatment of sex-workers

Previous recommendations

- The purchase of sexual services from adults is currently prohibited under § 316 of the Criminal Code.
- There have been made no explicit recommendations to Norway on this topic previously.
- High levels of violence and abuse against people selling sex are well documented in Norway.
 - Higher risk of violence and abuse, due to their isolation and marginalised status
 - High risk of eviction, police surveillance, loss of livelihood and/or deportation
 - Less ability to screen clients, work organized or otherwise take measures to ensure their safety

New developments

- In 2023, the Criminal Code Council delivered their report reviewing the Criminal Code.
 - Recommends that § 316 be repealed, and
 - decriminalize the purchase of sexual services
 - Based in the right to sexual self-determination and the harm principle

Recommendations Issue 2.

Discrimination, stigmatisation, and ill-treatment of sex-workers

To decriminalize the purchase of sexual services and

Repeal § 316 of the Criminal Code,

in accordance with the recommendation of the Criminal Code Council

Situation in Norway – Issue 3.

Third legal gender

Previous recommendations

- Several recommendations addressed sexual orientation and gender identity
- None specifically addressed the issue of a third legal gender.
- 1/3 of the world population live in countries with legal recognition
- In Norway non-binary persons lack legal recognition.

New developments

- 2023 public investigation of a third legal gender to improve living conditions and legal protection.
- Non-binary people experience:
 - Worse living conditions and quality of life
 - More exposed to exclusion, discrimination and violence
 - Face barriers to using public services including healthcare.
- The investigation recommends including a third legal gender in Norway.

Recommendations Issue 3. Third legal gender

Legalize a third legal gender
in order to ensure the rights of non-binary people

Thank you for your attention