

El Consorcio Latinoamericano de Trabajo sobre Intersexualidad

Organisation Intersex International Australia

IntersexUK

Zwischengeschlecht.org

and

ARC International

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

Global Action for Trans* Equality (GATE)

International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA)

Intersex People and Human Rights: Violations, Voices and Visions

Tuesday 11 March

10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

Room VIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Abstract

We are Intersex: people who are born with bodies that vary from female and male standards, including our chromosomes, gonads and/or genitals. All around the world we face gross human rights violations.

We are often subject to mutilating and ‘normalising’ practices such as cosmetic genital surgeries on children. Our bodies are ‘normalized’ without our informed consent, and this has profound consequences on us as intersex adults during our entire lives. In some places we are subject infanticide or other killings. We are also frequently subjected to non-consensual (secondary) sterilization, psychological and other medical treatments.

We also face human rights challenges in many other areas: discrimination in family matters, in sanitation, in sport as some examples.

There is, however, action that can be taken to change this. We must be enabled to be able to make our own decisions affecting own bodily integrity, physical autonomy and self-determination. There is also an urgent need to depathologise variations of sex anatomy in medical guidelines, protocols and classifications, such as the World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases.

This side event will give an opportunity to hear from some of those working on the human rights of intersex persons, the challenges they face and some of the assistance that they need from the United Nations and others. The side event will be in English.

Objectives

To raise awareness around intersex issues and the rights of intersex people in society at large.

To increase awareness of the human rights challenges facing intersex persons.

To encourage International, regional and national human rights institutions to take on board, and provide visibility to intersex issues in their work.

To share lessons learned in different places to address human rights challenges of intersex persons.

Format

Panelists include:

- Holly Greenberry, Intersex UK
- Mauro Cabral, Global Action for Trans* Equality (GATE)
- Morgan Carpenter, Organisation Intersex International Australia (video)
- Daniela Truffer and Markus Bauer, Zwischengeschlecht.org
- André du Plessis, International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA)

Questions and Discussion

Close