Activity Report of Transgender Europe

May 2014 – May 2016
Activity Report

Of Transgender Europe

May 2014 – May 2016
1 Introduction 6
2 Greetings from the Staff 7
3 Our work 8
   Advocacy and Policy 9
      • Legal Gender Recognition 10
      • Healthcare and Depathologisation 10
      • Trans People’s Safety 11
      • Non-Discrimination 12
      • Invisibility, Stigma, and Backlash 12
      • Intersectionality 13
      • Trans Family Rights 13
      • Privacy 13
   Work with TGEU membership 14
      • Supporting members’ activism and advocacy 16
      • Strategic advocacy partnerships 17
      • Community building 19
      • International and in-country trainings 19
      • Campaigns and resources 19
   Transrespect versus Transphobia worldwide project 20
   The ProTrans, “Protecting Transgender People from Violence” Project 23
4 Steering Committee, Auditors, and Staff 26
   • Executive Board members 26
   • Steering Committee members 26
   • Auditors 27
   • Members of Staff 27
   • Meetings of the Steering Committee and Executive Board 27
5 TGEU financial report and annual budgets 2016 – 2018 28
6 Communications and Publications 30
7 TGEU membership 34
8 Donors and supporters 35
Dear TGEU Members and allies,

In the last two years, ten members of staff, six interns, ten Steering Committee members, two auditors, and an unknown number of dedicated activists and friendly organisations worked with TGEU to advance trans rights. While there have been many successful times, for e.g. the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly adopting the Resolution "Discrimination against transgender people in Europe" or Malta enacting self-determination, many trans and gender diverse people are still fighting for their right to live.

We envision TGEU as an organisation that leaves no one behind when leading progressive change. That's why at the beginning of this term, the Steering Committee decided to give special support to countries where, so far, there has hardly been any community building. Another focus for the Steering Committee during the last term was to strengthen TGEU’s work in the field of health. With the employment of a health officer this is now being implemented. When you read this activity report you will see that a lot has happened in only two years.

We are proud to lead TGEU in such exciting times and thank everyone, especially our Executive Director, Julia Ehrt, and every member of the staff for their contribution.

Aless Recher and Arja Voipio
TGEU Co-chairs

Dear Members, colleagues, and friends,

It is hard to believe how much can happen in two years. Since we last met in Budapest TGEU staff have been very busy; speaking at conferences and seminars, attending meetings with decision makers and other stakeholders, writing press releases and launching publications, and organising our own meetings, sessions, and trainings. Unnoticed by most but equally important, we carried out a lot of work behind the scenes, which constitutes the basis for our more visible work.

Two years ago it felt like the six of us in the staff were a big team flying to Budapest. This year there are eleven of us attending the conference. Despite this growth we continue to be busier in the office than two years ago, as there still is too much to do to improve the situation for trans people. While many things may have changed for the better in recent years, far too many have not!

We will continue working to challenge that, now and in the future!

On behalf of the staff.
TGEU Executive Director
Julia Ehrt
“Trans people in Europe can live openly according to their gender identity without interference, enjoy their human rights and share full equality in all spheres of life.”

Our Advocacy Goal for 2014-2016 was an ambitious one; and while we are proud of major progress in many of the identified key areas, much more remains to be done for the full realisation of this goal.
Legal Gender Recognition

The world witnessed a marvellous transformation when Malta became the first European country to protect each person’s gender identity, gender expression, and the free development thereof in 2015. TGEU worked closely with Maltese activists and the Maltese Government towards the groundbreaking “Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Act”. Similarly, we have consulted and supported reform processes for Legal Gender Recognition across the continent.

We have worked closely with many European institutions, governments, and activists to ensure that “quick, transparent and accessible procedures, based on self-determination” are at the core of any recognition procedure. Most notably, our work with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) resulted in a historic trans resolution in 2015.

To help better legal protections, we intervened in 4 gender recognition court cases before the European Court of Human Rights, and are waiting for a decision in a first collective complaint before the European Social Charter against the sterilisation requirement in legal gender recognition. We are optimistic that sooner or later abusive, and preclusive recognition procedures will be a thing of the past.

Healthcare and Depathologisation

We are proud to have secured funding and to have started our first health-specific project, which aims to discover new insights and solutions to “ensure that trans people attain the highest standard of trans related healthcare, have equal access to general healthcare and that trans identities are no longer considered a mental health condition”.

To achieve this goal we have also been collaborating with activists across the globe for depathologisation, and we continue to do so. We have engaged with EU Parliamentarians, which for the first time led to an international body being called to speak out for trans depathologisation and against a childhood diagnosis. 6-year old Willa’s plea at the International Action Day for Trans Depathologisation in October 2015, to “leave trans kids alone” has moved over 8,000 people across the world.

Trans People’s Safety

For years, we have been engaging with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) which through the publication of two reports; “Being Trans in the European Union” (2015) and “Professionally Speaking: challenges to achieving equality for LGBT people” (2016) have not only confirmed absent, abusive, and unequal treatment, but have supported our longstanding demand for decisive political action.

For years, we have been engaging with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) which through the publication of two reports; “Being Trans in the European Union” (2015) and “Professionally Speaking: challenges to achieving equality for LGBT people” (2016) have not only confirmed absent, abusive, and unequal treatment, but have supported our longstanding demand for decisive political action.

For years, we have been engaging with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) which through the publication of two reports; “Being Trans in the European Union” (2015) and “Professionally Speaking: challenges to achieving equality for LGBT people” (2016) have not only confirmed absent, abusive, and unequal treatment, but have supported our longstanding demand for decisive political action.

For years, we have been engaging with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) which through the publication of two reports; “Being Trans in the European Union” (2015) and “Professionally Speaking: challenges to achieving equality for LGBT people” (2016) have not only confirmed absent, abusive, and unequal treatment, but have supported our longstanding demand for decisive political action.
are no longer targeted by prejudice-based violence and hate speech”.

Being part of a broader NGO coalition, TGEU works to ensure that binding European instruments, such as the Istanbul Convention, the first European convention against gender-based violence, and the EU Victims Rights Directive, not only refer to trans people in the text, but actually improve trans people’s safety.

**Non-Discrimination**

In 2016, 26 states in Europe protect trans people against discrimination in employment. That’s 18 more than in 2011, but there is still a long way to go to “achieve full equality and explicit protection from discrimination for trans people in all spheres of live”. The economic crisis, a conservative backlash, and flourishing EU scepticism led to diminished commitments on a European and national level. TGEU has been addressing all three EU institutions (the Commission, Parliament, and Council) on the need for the EU to champion trans equality. We feel that the Commission has not reached its potential of leading the way for Member States - two internal documents, the EU Commission LGBTI Action plan and a staff-working document on gender equality are not enough. We will continue to struggle for better and more explicit protections of trans people on ground of gender identity and gender expression.

**Invisibility, Stigma, and Backlash**

Attitudes towards trans discrimination are strongly influenced by whether a person has an actual friend or acquaintance who is trans. In 2015, we worked with the EU Commission on its EU-wide survey on discrimination attitudes; it is clear that ignorance remains the leading factor in trans discrimination. Our strongest weapon against a flourishing conservative backlash are solid facts and the authentic voices of trans people. To make sure that our message carries out to a wider audience and is understood better, we joined an initiative led by ILGA-Europe on framing messages for LGBTI equality. Our own work in this area has improved thanks to the addition of a communications officer in our team, which intensifies and professionalises our outreach and output.

**Intersectionality**

According to our TvT research, sex work, youth, migration – or a combination thereof – are factors which increase the risk for a trans person to be discriminated against and assaulted.

Over the past two years, we have strengthened our feminist message and our co-operation and collaboration with the intersex movement and sex worker groups. We held joint trainings and have a co-operation agreement with OII Europe, and developed a sex work policy which we hope the General Assembly will approve in Bologna.

We spoke with the CoE Children Rights Unit and worked with the Parliamentary Assembly to ensure that the best interest of a trans or gender variant child is given primary consideration. We are looking forward to invest further into the next generation and will continue to address the specific challenges faced by trans and gender variant minors, specifically in legal gender recognition, education, and health.

**Trans Family Rights**

Working on Trans Family Rights will complement our work to protect trans families against divorce requirements in Legal Gender Recognition. To this end, we have intervened in Hämäläinen v Finland before the European Court of Human Rights, followed a number of cases of trans men struggling for legal recognition to their offspring, continuously advocated for family-friendly gender recognition procedures, and collaborated with the European LGBT family network NELFA.

**Privacy**

TGEU advocated for the explicit inclusion of gender identity as a protected personal characteristic in the EU data protection regulation. Going against the position of the European Parliament, Member States removed this protective provision which would have improved the lives of many trans people. Nonetheless, we will continue to consolidate our knowledge of the right to privacy and keep on improving argumentation in this area.
Work with TGEU membership
In the last two years, TGEU continued to work intensively with its members to build their capacity, both by giving general support, information, and resources, but also as through close cooperation with several partner organisations. TGEU supported national advocacy efforts, built and expanded strategic advocacy partnerships in several countries, initiated efforts to support community organising, held international and in-country trainings for our members, and designed resources and campaigns.

Some of the highlights from the last two years are:

Supporting members’ activism and advocacy

TGEU continued to provide a range of support and advice to members upon request, ranging from supporting advocacy efforts drafting gender recognition laws to writing letters of complaint or support to national policy makers and members of national parliaments. Examples from the last two years include our work with activists in Ireland, Poland, and Malta. TGEU has been working with activists in Malta since 2010, and advised the governments closely on its ground-breaking gender recognition law. For the first gender recognition law in Ireland, we supported TENI and local activists throughout with letters, translations of national case law, and by reaching out to the European Human Rights Commissioner. The ad-hoc support we mobilised from European Parliamentarians for a first Polish gender recognition law could not convince the new conservative government to follow the Senate’s will, but local activists felt the support and solidarity of the European Trans movement. For Bulgaria and Georgia it might be still further away to actually realise the dream of local activists of an own gender recognition law, but we will continue to support them. Also, in countries with an established human rights record such as Sweden, Norway, Finland, Netherlands and Belgium, activists and national experts have been seeking TGEU expertise to reform abusive regulations.

TGEU continued to work closely with and support the Russian-speaking Trans* Coalition.

Strategic advocacy partnerships

Since 2014, TGEU has been co-operating closely with partner organisations in Slovenia (TransAkcija and Legebitra), Lithuania (LGL), and Greece (GTSA) to advance gender recognition legislation and other policy and social changes in those countries, offering in-country visits, trainings, and resources, and joining partners in national advocacy meetings. New partnerships were more recently added with partners in the Czech Republic (Trans*parent) and Cyprus (Accept’s Trans Action Group). The co-operation has contributed to two legal gender recognition draft laws, a national awareness raising campaign, national trans conferences, and meetings with members of national parliaments and policy makers.
**Community building**
In 2015, TGEU identified key countries in Europe with comparatively little trans organising, and started to specifically provide support to activists in such countries, beginning with field visits to Macedonia and Estonia in 2015. In April 2016, TGEU, together with ILGA-Europe and TENI, invited young trans activists from these countries and Lithuania to an activism study visit in Dublin and to their first Council in Bologna.

**International and in-country trainings**
In 2015 alone, TGEU held three international trainings for our member organisations; one in Berlin on advocacy, one in Geneva on trans advocacy at the UN, and one in Lisbon on organisational development and fundraising. In addition, we organised numerous in-country training sessions during field visits, tackling topics such as legal gender recognition, human rights, trans inclusion in LGBT organisations, strategic planning, and community organising.

**Campaigns and resources**
TGEU worked with its membership to release its first ever campaign video 34 countries in Europe make this nightmare a reality, which members subtitled in 35 languages, and to distribute and translate the “Access All Areas!” Campaign. We also published resources to build members’ knowledge and capacity, such as the Know your rights guide and the Activist guide on Trans People’s Right under EU Law, as well as the Trans Rights Card Game.
Transrespect versus Transphobia worldwide project

At this 6th European Transgender Council, TGEU’s longest running project celebrates its 7th birthday! In the last seven years, the TvT team has been guided by 25 experts and researchers from all world regions, and has co-operated with more than 25 partner organisations and more than 100 activists in the global South and East, enabling TGEU and its partners to do ground-breaking research on the human rights situation of trans and gender diverse people worldwide.

The good news is: there is no seven-year-itch for the TvT project. On the contrary in 2015 TGEU secured funding until October 2017 and extended the TvT team by hiring Lukas Berredo as the Transrespect Officer on the project. With TGEU having increased capacity to work on communications, the TvT project now has dedicated social media accounts on facebook and twitter to promote our findings and news to a wider audience.
The ProTrans, “Protecting Transgender People from Violence” Project

In addition to research and the presentation of research results in numerous conferences, meetings, and trans events as well as field trips worldwide, the TvT team also held capacity building trainings with international experts in Budapest (Hungary), Darwin (Australia), Bangkok (Thailand), Mexico-City (Mexico), and Taipeih (Taiwan). A capacity building training with experts from Brazil, Pakistan, Thailand, South Africa, and Uganda will be held one day before this council in Bologna (Italy). The participants will also participate in the council to enhance interregional networking, the exchange of knowledge, mutual learning, and celebration.

More information:
- http://www.transrespect.org/
- tut-publication-series/
- trans-murder-monitoring/tmm-resources/
- https://www.facebook.com/transrespect
- https://twitter.com/transrespect

At the 5th European Transgender Council in 2014 in Budapest, Transgender Europe and its partner organisations from Hungary (Transvanilla), Serbia (Gayten-LGBT), Turkey (Red Umbrella Sexual Health and Human Rights Association), Kyrgyzstan (Labrys) and Moldova (GENDERDOC-M) met for the second time in the framework of the ProTrans project, an initiative to monitor transphobic hate crimes and violence, support trans victims/survivors and increase awareness on the human rights violations and violence against trans people.

Since then, activists in the region have been facing strengthening homophobic and transphobic social attitudes fuelled...
by anti-LGBT rhetoric of strengthening far-right parties and movements and laws prohibiting ‘promotion of homosexuality’ or sanctioning organisations receiving foreign financial support in many countries. In this increasingly hostile environment, the extent of violence against the community is reported to be on the rise and violent incidents are often committed by organised hate groups. In 2014, several attacks against GENDER-DOC-M’s office and events have been carried out by the “Occupy Paedophilia” group. In Bishkek, three bottles with explosives were thrown into the yard of Labrys Kyrgyzstan’s office in 2015 and in the same year on IDAHOT, a crowd of aggressive men, associated with the “Kalys” and “Kirk Choro” movements, threatened and insulted the activists present at the Labrys event.

ProTrans partners remained resilient despite these and various other threats against the community and their organisations. They relentlessly monitored violent incidents, reported them to the police or domestic and international bodies and provided much needed psycho-social and legal support for community members in the project. Not only did they create an online tool for monitoring incidents that hopefully more organisations can utilise in their future work, but they also contributed to amplifying community struggles in domestic and international fora by organising local roundtables, convening the community, participating at high-level meetings and continuously campaigning for trans rights.

Transgender Europe finds it crucial to sustain its efforts to support organisations from the region. Together with partners, it managed to find resources for continuing the project and expanding it to other countries in the region (Russia, Ukraine, Armenia and Georgia). We hope to contribute to heightened visibility of trans activism and the community’s fight against violence in the region not only in policy-making, but also within the broader civil society and the public.

More information:
• www.tgeu.org/pro-trans

**Development of TGEU**

Over the course of the last two years TGEU hired 4 new members of staff and increased the budget again by more than 50% since the last Council (after having more than doubled the organisation’s budget already between 2013 and 2014). In 2016 TGEU will have received grants and contributions from more than ten governments, multinational institutions as well as private and public foundations.

We increasingly engaged in the fields of health, protection from and monitoring of violence, have increased our engagement in the global arena, and intensified European level advocacy, our communications, and work with our membership. In order to manage such growth successfully we have changed the organisational structure within the staff, standardized and streamlined financial and administrative procedures and have again revised and completed TGEU’s operational manual!

The Steering Committee and Executive Board held more than 60 online and face to face meetings to govern these processes (see next chapter), and in the next term we are planning to evaluate and revise internal communications and procedures between the staff, Steering Committee, Executive Board and our membership. For the first time, in the end of 2015 we have conducted an impact assessment through an external contractor (Patricia Prendiville) who surveyed 29 and interviewed 21 of our stakeholders including representatives from Council of Europe and EU institutions, Members of the European Parliament, national governments, Equality Bodies, European, national and local NGOs and several of TGEU’s members. Patricia said it had been “the most positive impact assessment she had undertaken” so far and that the primary concern among stakeholders was that they wanted to engage more with us. The analysis of the assessment and suggestions made will together with our revised and extended strategic plan inform TGEU’s work in the next years.
4. **Steering Committee, Auditors, and Staff**

**Executive Board members:**
- Arja Voipio (Co-Chair)
- Alecs Recher (Co-Chair)
- Krisztina Kolos Orbán (Treasurer)
- Arian Kajtezović (Secretary)

**Steering Committee members:**
- Júlia Mendes Pereira
- Vreer Verkerke
- Stein Wolff Frydenlund
- Kristian Randelović
- Clémence Zamora-Cruz (since June 2015)
- Kemal Ordek (until April 2015)

**Auditors**
- Katherine Burrows
- Kira Selin

**Members of Staff**
- Julia Ehrt (Executive Director)
- Richard Köhler (Senior Policy Officer)
- Moritz Sander (Senior Financial Officer)
- Carla LaGata/Carsten Balzer (Senior Researcher, Lead Researcher of the T&T project)
- Boglarka Fedorko (Project Manager)
- Noah Keuzenkamp (Capacity Building Officer)
- Adam Smiley (Health Officer)
- Mina Tolu (Communications Officer)
- Catie Carr (Operations Officer)
- Lukas Berredo (Transrespect Officer)
- Akim Giroux (Intern, February – July 2016)
- Sasha Ichim (Intern, September – December 2015)

Since mid-2015 we were joined by four new members of staff, Communications Officer, Operations Officer, Health Officer, and Transrespect Officer, and for the first time have had interns, including four from the Humboldt University Law Clinic in Berlin.

**Meetings of the Steering Committee and Executive Board**

In total the Steering Committee met 31 times between the Councils, of these meetings, 11 were meetings in person, 20 were held online through Skype. In addition the Executive Board met 39 times, with 12 meetings in person and 27 were conducted online.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4, 2014</td>
<td>Budapest, constitutional meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4 – 7, 2014</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 5 – 7, 2014</td>
<td>Helsinki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 28 – December 1, 2014</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27 – 30, 2015</td>
<td>Bern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12 – 15, 2015</td>
<td>Zagreb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 3 – 6, 2015</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 27 – 30, 2015</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 19 – 22, 2016</td>
<td>Bologna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22 – 24, 2016</td>
<td>Berlin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2, 2016</td>
<td>Bologna</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please find below an Excel Chart with information on TGEU’s income and expenses in 2014 and 2015, as well as annual budgets for the years 2016 – 2018.

The Incomes and Expenses for 2014 and 2015 are based on TGEU’s annual and audited accounts in the respective years. The result of each year was fully allocated to the organisation’s reserves, based on TGEU’s strategic goal to increase the organisation’s reserves.

The budget 2016 is based on the detailed annual organisational budget 2016 developed by the staff and Executive Board. The budgets for 2017 and 2018 are projections based on this year’s budget and funding possibilities we already anticipate.
Communications & Publications

- TGEU’s Know your rights! Guide – For Trans People in the EU
- ‘Conosci i tuoi diritti!’ La guida del TGEU per le persone trans dell’Unione Europea (UE)
- ‘Znaj swoje prawa!’ Przewodnik TGEU dla osób trans w UE
- TGEU’s Strategic Plan 2014-2016 (2018)
- TransrightsEurope Map and Index 2014
- TransrightsEurope Map and Index 2015
- TransrightsEurope Map and Index 2016
- TransRightsEurope Card Game 2015

- TGEU's Activist’s Guide on Trans People’s Rights under EU Law
- Trans at the Crossroads: Trans People’s EU Employment Rights and National Gender Recognition Laws

- Guide For Journalists: a practical guide on how to cover stories about trans people or about issues which affect trans people in a fair and respectful manner.
- Policy Briefs
  - 10 Things the EU Can Do
  - 10 Things Governments Can Do
  - 10 Things Companies Can Do
  - 10 Things Trade Unions Can Do
  - 10 Things Equality Bodies/NHRIs Can Do
  - 10 Things Trans Organisations Can Do
  - Human Rights for Trans People: What can Members of the European Parliament do
  - 10 Facts on Transgender Rights and Gender Equality

- ProTrans: Monitoring Transphobic Incidents
- ProTrans: The monitoring Form
- ProTrans: For the Record: Documenting Violence Against Trans People

- Access All Areas Campaign materials.
- Transrespect vs Transphobia Volume 9: The social experience of trans and gender-diverse people in Colombia, India, The Philippines, Serbia, Thailand, Tonga, Turkey and Venezuela
- Transrespect vs Transphobia Volume 10: Transrespect versus Transphobia: The Experiences of Leitis in the Kingdom of Tonga
- Transrespect vs Transphobia Volume 11: Transrespect versus Transphobia: The Experiences of trans people in the Philippines
- Transrespect vs Transphobia Volume 12: การการเคารพคนขามเพศเปรยบเทยบกับการเกลยดกลวคนขามเพศ ประสบการณทางสังคมของคนขามเพศในประเทศไทย
• TvT: Legal and Social Mapping (in English and Spanish):
  - World #1: Legal Gender Recognition, Anti-Discrimination, Hate Crime and Asylum Legislation
  - World #2: Criminalisation, Prosecution and State-Sponsored Discrimination, Hormones and Hormone Therapy/Surgery and Body Modifications
  - World #3: Community/Movement, Good Practice, Reports of Transphobia
  - Special Edition Europe
  - Special Edition Oceania World

• Transgender Day of Remembrance Campaign 2015 (English and Spanish):
  - Stickers: Transphobia Kills, Transrights Here, Transrights now
  - Folding flyer Murders of Trans People
  - Postcards: Fight, Organise, Remember – in Solidarity and Every 36 hours a trans person is reported murdered
  - Making the UN work for you: A toolkit to UN advocacy for trans activists

• Transrespect vs Transphobia Volume 13: Transfobiye Karşı Trans-Saygı: Türkiye’de yaşayan trans bireylerin toplumsal Deneyimleri

• Transrespect versus Transphobia updates of the Trans Murder Monitoring Project:
  - IDAHOT 2014
  - IDAHOT2015
  - IDAHOT 2016
  - Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR) 2014
  - Transgender Day of Remembrance 2015
  - Transgender Day of Visibility 2016

• Transgender Day of Remembrance Campaign 2015 (English and Spanish):
  - Stickers: Transphobia Kills, Transrights Here, Transrights now
  - Folding flyer Murders of Trans People
  - Postcards: Fight, Organise, Remember – in Solidarity and Every 36 hours a trans person is reported murdered
  - Making the UN work for you: A toolkit to UN advocacy for trans activists

• TGEU Info Flyer
TGEU membership

100 member organisations in 42 countries (May 2016)

Donors and supporters

Rights, Equality and Citizenship Program of the EU

Government of the Netherlands

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

US Department of State

German Foreign Office

HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG
May 1 – 4
5th European Transgender Council, Budapest, Hungary

May 8
Meeting with Equality Director Salla Saastamoinen of EU Commission DG Justice to introduce TGEU’s work, Brussels, Belgium

May 13 - 16
TvT capacity building training & workshop contribution at the IDAHOT forum, Malta

May 28
Meeting with Equality Director Salla Saastamoinen of EU Commission DG Justice to introduce TGEU’s work, Brussels, Belgium

June 24
TGEU organises a panel discussion on “Trans people and employment” at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium

July 20
TGEU attends the Council of Europe PACE Session and votes on the Trans Resolution in Strasbourg, and organises a side event and exhibition “Trans at the workplace”, a meeting of activists with Council of Europe units (European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, SOGI Unit, Istanbul Convention Unit, Human Rights Commissioner) and the Judge of the European Court of Human Rights

August 25 – 28
Training for LGL, Lithuania on trans-inclusiveness, organisation of a community meeting with LGL and input at the Lithuanian LGBT Film Festival

October 8 – 11
Panel, advocacy network and workshop contributions at the ILGA-Europe Annual Conference in Riga, Latvia

October 20
TGEU organises events with the Greek Transgender Support Association (GTSA) in Athens, Greece

October 26 - 27
TvT capacity building training in Mexico-City, Mexico, as a pre-event of the 27th ILGA conference

October 28
Panel contribution at the “Tackling Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Discrimination” event organised by the Council of Europe SOGI Unit in Athens, Greece

November 6 – 7
Panel participation at the EU Equality Summit in Rome, Italy

November 14 – 15
Input at the panel discussion organised by the US Department of State, Washington, USA

November 24 – 26
Events with Legebitra and allies

December 17
Input at the “Peer-to-peer exchange on legal gender recognition reforms” event organised by the Council of Europe SOGI Unit in Tirana, Albania

January 19
Meeting with the rapporteur and shadow rapporteur on the FEMM Committee Report on the Gender Equality Strategy in Brussels, Belgium

February 27
Participation in expert meeting with the EU Fundamental Rights Agency

March 12 – 14
Participation at the Equality Summit in Brussels, Belgium

March 12
Meeting with EU Commission (DG NEAR) on trans rights in the Balkans and EU Neighbourhood countries in Brussels, Belgium

March 16
Meeting with EU External Action Services (EEAS) over trans rights in EU foreign policy in Brussels, Belgium

April 1
Participation at the Seminar on Maltese GIGESC Bill and input at the seminar “Beyond the binary”, Malta

April 20 – 21
Participation at the European Commission Forum on Gender Equality in Brussels, Belgium

April 20 – 23
TGEU attends the Council of Europe PACE Session and votes on the Trans Resolution in Strasbourg, and organises a side event and exhibition “Trans at the workplace”, a meeting of activists with Council of Europe units (European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, SOGI Unit, Istanbul Convention Unit, Human Rights Commissioner) and the Judge of the European Court of Human Rights

August 27
Training for the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) staff on trans-inclusiveness, and Round table with Policy makers in Vilnius, Lithuania
MAY HIGHLIGHT
ECCHR Decision (identities and others vs. Georgia): Gender identity is a protected ground under art. 14 (non-discrimination)
May 5 Participation at the inter-governmental meeting with the Ministries for Health, for Labour and for Interior in Ljubljana, Slovenia on reforming Slovenia’s legal gender recognition law
May 10 – 12 Panel participation and panel contribution at the IHADH conference in Montenegro, and input at LGBT friendly Governments Networks Workshop in Gaborone, Botswana
May 13 – 14 Participation at the International Trans Fund meeting in Istanbul, Turkey
May 27 Input at the Council of Europe European Social Committee for Cohesion, Human Dignity and Equality (COCES)
June 3 – 5 Workshop at the International Disability Conference in Strasbourg, France
June 6 – 8 Participation at the White House meeting “Combating violence against LGBT persons” in Washington D.C, USA
June 10 Participation at the conference “State crimes and non-discrimination against LGBT persons” in Madrid, Spain
June 18 – 19 Organisation of the Legal Practitioners Seminar in Zagreb, Croatia

JUNE HIGHLIGHT
The European Commission interprets existent EU sex discrimination law to also cover discrimination on grounds of gender identity (at par with gender reassignment)
June 24 Input at the European Parliament LGBTI Group roundtable “First Malta”, then the World – building respect for gender identity in the EU
June 26 – 28 Participation at a workshop on violence against trans people at the Istanbul Pride Week organised by Red Umbrella
July 1 – 3 Event attended by TGEU, organised externally.

JULY HIGHLIGHT
TGEU, ILGA-Europe and Amnesty International, submits observations in three cases against forced sterilisation in Turkey in French grand chamber proceedings before the European Court for Human Rights.

August
August 2 – 3 Participation at the trans rights conference “Relent2016” in Berlin, Germany
August 11 – 15 Panel participation at the Prague Pride, Czech Republic
August 30 Participation in Meeting with future EU presidencies on LGBTQI Roadmap in Brussels, Belgium

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHT
EU Parliament calls for Trans Depathologisation and particularly speaks out against gender identity pathology
September 1 Participation at the independent Gender Equality Commission of the German Equality Body in Berlin, Germany
September 15 Meeting with EU Commission (DG Justice) on trans-inclusive implementation of the Victims Rights Directive in Brussels, Belgium
September 16 Meeting with Monika Ladnmanova as advisor to EU Commissioner for Justice Jourova, on LGBTQI Roadmap and EU Strategy on Violence against Women in Brussels, Belgium
September 22 – 24 Training on EU advocacy organised by TGEU and AICI International in Geneva, Switzerland
September 23 – 27 Joint meeting with OII Europe and Future Nelson Mandela Foundation
September 29 – 30 Participation at the ICD Africa Workshop organised by Iranti (South Africa), including a presentation on monitoring of human rights violations

October
October 10 Breakfast meeting for members of the European Parliament on trans inclusion of the Gender Reagent Directive Report in Strasbourg, France
October 8 – 11 Organisation of and participation in the Creative Activism Training, Berlin, Germany
October 14 – 15 Participation at the UPLB National Conference on Gender Equality in the Philippines
October 18 – 20 Participation at the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) Expert Forum and the award ceremony of the European Citizenship Award in Brussels, Belgium
October 22 – 24 Transrespect vs Transphobia training is held before the 6th ILGA Asia Conference, Taipei, Taiwan

October 20 – 29 Input at the Council of Europe European Social Committee for Cohesion, Human Dignity and Equality (COCES)
November 1 – 5 Participation at the ILGA Asia Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia
November 12 Panel participation at the Prague Pride, Czech Republic
November 22 – 25 Participation at the ILGA Africa Conference in Durban, South Africa

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHT
EU Commission launches its first LGBTI Action Plan (2016 – 2019) and disappoints with a ‘strategic engagement’ for gender equality” without trans people being mentioned even once
December 1 – 4 Input to the seminar of the Estonian Equal Treatment Commissioner on legal gender recognition and meetings with the Georgian LGBTti NGOs
December 9 – 10 Participation in a briefing meeting with Lithuanian MPs, input during a Human Rights Day event, and a training with activists from LGL in Vilnius, Lithuania
December 12 Input at the Council of Europe for Gender Equality in Brussels, Belgium
December 14 – 15 Organisation of a strategic planning meeting on trans depathologisation in Berlin, Germany
December 16 – 19 Organisation of a workshop on violence against trans people in Brussels, Belgium
December 20 – 21 Participation at the UNHCHR and UNDP meeting organised by Outright in New York, USA
December 22 – 23 Organisation of the training “Building Sustainable Trans Organisations in Europe” in Lisbon, Portugal

LEGEND
Event organised by TGEU
Event by a member organisation, which TGEU participated in
Event attended by TGEU, organised externally
Policy/highlight in trans rights