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**Country:** Czech Republic / Czechia

**Committee:** The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

**Topic:** Recognition and Visibility of Transgender Women

The lives of transgender women are immersed in an ongoing social struggle towards social Recognition and Visibility.

Changing the law is just the beginning, the road to gender recognition requires changing the public's perception and understanding of who a transgender person is.

The Czech Republic is acceptive and supportive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights.

In Czechia registered partnerships (=same sex marriages) (Czech: registrované partnerství) have been legalized.

In the Czech's public, the transgender community has become more visible as they challenge the nation's gender recognition laws and ensure their social status.

Transgender individuals are legally able to alter their identity, but there is a long, invasive transition waiting ahead. It includes a medical diagnosis, medical procedures, a court ruling, and selecting a gender-neutral name during the transition.

To use health insurance, individuals first have to request the change of gender and if approved after a doctor assessment can begin treatment.

The applicant is treated with hormonal medicine, which is followed by a social assessment according to gender norms. After this two-year process, the individual's genitalia can be altered during an operation.

Married applicants need to get a divorce and, unfortunately, sterilization is required.

According to the European Court of Human Rights (2017) is a violation of human rights to require sterilisation during the gender alteration process. Even though there is a way to gain gender recognition in Czechia, there is room for improvement, for example removing the need for sterilisation. There is too much pressure to undergo surgical treatment.

The Ministry of Justice proposed an amendment to the Civic Code, Section 29, and the Act on Specific Healthcare Services no. 373/2011 Coll. to ease access for transgender individuals to gain legal gender recognition. [2]

Czechia prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The general public is increasingly supporting these laws.

Unfortunately, the reality is that many transgender individuals still go through prejudice, discrimination and harassment in Czechia as the "Being LGBT+ in the Czech Republic" survey found.

"Being LGBT + in the Czech Republic," published by the Office of the Public Defender of Rights of the Czech Republic in May, found that up to 86% of trans people felt discriminated against in the last five years.

The Czech Republic advocates for a policy that advocates for all countries to recognize sexual acts between people of the same sex and the change of one's own sex as legal. We encourage for countries to take measures against employment discrimination and hate crimes based on gender identity and sexual orientation. [3]  
Furthermore we suggest awareness campaigns that educate the general public of the hardships that transgender people go through as well as explain who they are.

Sources:

- [1] [Bay Area Reporter :: Czechia's trans community pushes to be visible \(ebar.com\)](#)
- [2] [LGBT rights in the Czech Republic - Wikipedia](#)
- [3] [global\\_workplace\\_briefing\\_czech\\_republic\\_final.pdf \(stonewall.org.uk\)](#)