**Country:** United Kingdom

**Committee:** (CSW) Commission On The Status Of Women

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

The United Kingdom believes that discrimination against transgender women is against human rights. Most of the community has a negative approach and prejudice for transgender women. “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights”. These first few famous words of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 60 years ago established the basic premise of international human rights law. Yet today, the fight against transgender discrimination remains a struggle for millions around the globe. Progress on equality for trans people should be a priority for all of us. Hate crime and discrimination against trans people, on our streets, in our hospitals, workplaces, and at universities, is widespread. Two in five trans people had to deal with a hate crime or incident in the past 12 months. Many trans people are forced to hide who they are, change how they dress, or drop out of university because of fear of discrimination. In our workplaces, half of the trans and non-binary people have hidden or disguised that they are LGBT for this reason, and one in eight have been physically attacked by a colleague or customer.

States are legally bound by international human rights law to respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of all persons within their jurisdiction – including those who are LGBT and transgender. But some of the countries like Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, and Malaysia criminalize all LGBT actions. There are still 69 countries that have laws that criminalize being transgender. our, UK government’s, the aim is equality and visibility for transgender women. In December 2002, the Lord Chancellor's office published a "Government Policy Concerning Transsexual People" document that states that transsexualism "is not a mental illness. Since 4 April 2005, as per the Gender Recognition Act 2004, it has been possible for transgender people to change their legal gender in the UK, allowing them to acquire a new birth certificate, affording them full recognition of their acquired sex in law for all purposes. Transgender people must present evidence to a Gender Recognition Panel, which considers their case and issues a Gender Recognition Certificate; they must have transitioned two years before a GRC is issued. It is not a requirement for sex reassignment surgery to have taken place. There is formal approval of medical gender reassignment available either on the National Health Service or privately.

Most of the transgender women tell that they don’t feel supported by the police force and doctors because of problems regarding the anti-trans biased community. As a result of this, transgender women can not take proper health services. Also, there is a lack of legal recognition of transgender women in some countries. As a consequence of this issue, hate crimes are increasing in these countries. We strongly encourage the implementation of enacting protection laws for transgender women and transgender women’s rights obliged to be the same with the other women. In addition, punishments for hate crimes need to be increased.

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