



Doc. 14049

27 April 2016

Promoting the human rights of and eliminating discrimination against intersex people

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Piet De BRUYN and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

The situation of intersex people is little known to the general public. Understandings of gender as binary – either male or female – are entrenched in our societies. People whose bodies do not conform to those understandings, because their sex characteristics are not exclusively either male or female, are subject to human rights violations in all aspects of their daily lives.

Intersex people are frequently subjected to irreversible and highly intrusive surgery well before an age where they could give informed consent. Every day they are confronted with the impossible choice: “male or female?” in requesting identity documents, filling in administrative forms, even in simply using public toilets. The vast majority of antidiscrimination laws do not expressly cover discrimination on the grounds of sex characteristics, making claiming equal rights extremely difficult. Prejudice based on ignorance is rife, exposing intersex people to humiliation and shame, and exacerbating the inequalities they face.

The Parliamentary Assembly should contribute to raising awareness on these issues by conducting research into the situation of intersex people. It should identify good practices in Council of Europe member States and beyond, and draw up specific and concrete proposals to remove the discrimination experienced by intersex people in all fields of life.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

BRUYN Piet, De, Belgium, NR
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC
BONET Sílvia Eloísa, Andorra, SOC
CENTEMERO Elena, Italy, EPP/CD
CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise, Norway, SOC
CROZON Pascale, France, SOC
CRUCHTEN Yves, Luxembourg, SOC
GRYFFROY Andries, Belgium, NR
GUNNARSDÓTTIR Valgerður, Iceland, EC
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
HEINRICH Gabriela, Germany, SOC
HETTO-GAASCH Françoise, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
KYRIAKIDOU Athina, Cyprus, SOC
LEITE RAMOS Luís, Portugal, EPP/CD
MAIJ Marit, Netherlands, SOC
MERGEN Martine, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
MICHELOTTI Augusto, San Marino, UEL
RAWERT Mechthild, Germany, SOC
SUTTER Petra, De, Belgium, SOC
THIÉRY Damien, Belgium, ALDE
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC
WURM Gisela, Austria, SOC

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group