

Being trans is not a mental disorder anymore: ICD-11 is officially released.

The World Health Organization has just announced the completion of the ICD-11 and released the official on line version. A link will be shared in the next hour, once the embargo is over.

The announcement **does not mark the end of the ICD-11 process**, but the beginning of a **new phase**, focused on implementation and assessment at the country level. The new ICD version will be presented for final approval at World Health Assembly in May 2019.

As anticipated, **all trans-related categories have been deleted from the ICD Chapter on Mental and Behavioral Disorders**. At the same time, **new trans-related categories have been introduced: Gender Incongruence of Adolescence and Adulthood and Gender Incongruence of Childhood**. These categories have been included in a **new ICD location, Chapter 17 on Conditions Related to Sexual Health**. Therefore, WHO rules that **being a trans or gender diverse person does not mean to suffer a mental disorder**. Today, a shameful history of pathologization, institutionalization, “conversion” and sterilization begins to come to a close.

The work to depathologize trans and gender diverse lives **is far from complete**:

- Committed and organized advocacy will be more needed than ever to **ensure effective implementation at the country level**, to remove pathologizing regulations while ensuring full access to legal gender recognition and to gender affirming healthcare.
- **Gender Incongruence** must be reviewed and replaced as soon as possible with a category that is both able to retain its utility while removing normative or othering content.
- **Gender Incongruence of Childhood** must be removed from ICD-11, through national, regional and international mobilization in favor of **depathologizing gender diversity in childhood** entirely and for good.
- **Trans and gender diverse** depathologization in ICD-11 must be accompanied by a bold reaffirmation of our ultimate goal: full depathologization grounded in human rights and, particularly, on **universal access to healthcare**.
- Many people around the world have severely suffered the impact of pathologization. As any other victim of human rights violations, they have the **right to truth, to rehabilitation and to reparation**.

To review the ICD-11 process and analyze its outcomes, to plan for next steps and articulate global strategies, **partner organizations in the international ICD-11 initiative will be hosting a series of webinars, stay tuned!**

In solidarity,

GATE, AKAHATA, TGEU, APTN, ILGA, Post-Soviet Trans* Coalition, lranti.org, STP International Campaign Stop Trans Pathologization