

Trans*-Rechte sind Menschenrechte!

Podiumsdiskussion

Datum: Mittwoch, 05. Oktober 2011 18.00 – 21.00 Uhr

Ort: Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, 10117 Berlin, Schumannstr. 8

Kurzbiografien der Referent_innen

Tamara Adrián

is a Venezuelan lawyer, graduated at the Andrés Bello Catholic University in Caracas, *summa cum laude*, 1976. She further obtained the Doctorate in Law degree, mention *très bien* at Paris 2 University, France, 1982, and a Diploma in Comparative Law from the Paris Institute of Comparative Law, this same year. She is a professor for undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral degrees at the Andrés Bello Catholic University and at the Central University of Venezuela, in several subjects: torts and contracts, commercial law, corporations, capital markets, international contracts, consumers' law and general theory of law. She is author of many articles and books relating the matters she teaches, as well as LGTTTBI law. As a transsexual lesbian woman, she has a constant activity aiming at the recognition and protection of the civil and human rights of lesbian, gays, transsexual, transgender and intersexual people. As a feminist woman, she is part of the women's movement of Venezuela, and she has been involved in all the fights concerning protection of women rights. She is the author of a draft Gender Identity Law, a Civil Partnership Law, a Non Discrimination Law and a Civil Registry Law, submitted –but not discussed– to the National Assembly of Venezuela. She is an active participant in many of the lead legal movements in the country concerning gender and sexual diversity issues. She is female co-president for International Lesbian Gay Transgender Law Association ILGALaw and member of the board of directors of Asociación Civil Plafam, the Venezuelan correspondent association for IPPF. She is the international contact person for Central and South America and a member of the advisory board of the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project.

Witnes Booysen

is the Outreach Coordinator of Gender DynamiX (GDX) Gender DynamiX is the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project's partner organization in Africa. GDX is a human rights organisation promoting freedom of expression of gender identity, focussing on gender non-conforming, and transgender and transsexual matters in Southern Africa. Witnes is from Lutzville, a rural area nearby Vredendal in the Western Cape of South Africa. She is a qualified Community Development worker and had filled many positions in community work. Witnes believes in Women rights especially the rights of transwomen and is an activist on that. She loves Spiritual dance and is also playing netball.

Naomi Fontanos

is the current Chairwoman of the Society of Transsexual Women of the Philippines (STRAP), one of the Asian partner organizations of the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project. She is a member of the International Advisory Board of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) tasked to draft the 7th and latest version of the Standards of Care (SoC). In May 2011, she became one of three complainants that sent a communication to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) asking the UN to compel the Philippine government to take steps to improve

the living conditions of transgender and transsexual Filipinos using the Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Agniva Lahiri,

a transgender youth activist from the global south and the executive director of People Like Us (PLUS) Kolkata, India. PLUS, the institute of sexuality and rights study for transgender in India, is one of the Asian partner organizations of the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide project. Agniva is a research scholar at the gender and AIDS training Institute Asia and the Pacific and is studying sexual culture and its relevance in the area of HIV intervention and prevention. Agniva also coordinates the Network of Asia Pacific Youth – the regional youth led network promoting, protecting and advancing the participation and rights particularly the sexual and reproductive health and rights in 19 countries in Asia and the Pacific. Agniva holds a master degree in sociology and is practicing development communication as a tool for change. She is a member of the international advisory board of GATE (Global Action for Trans Equality) and the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project and also a board member of INFOSEM (Indian network for sexual minorities) representing East India as a trans representative.

Ms. Joey Joleen Siosaia W.C.A. Mataele,

is the founder and executive director of the NGO Tonga's Leiti Association (TLA) in Nukualo'fa in the Kingdom of Tonga. TLA is one of the partner organizations of the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project in Oceania representing the Pacific region. TLA has a focus on improving the rights, and celebrating the contribution of Leiti in Tonga. (TLA defines the term Leiti as a broad spectrum of transgender people, gay and bisexual men and men who have sex with men (MSM).) Joleen is also the co-founder and chairperson of the Pacific Sexual Diversity Network (PSDN), a nascent MSM and transgender network in the Pacific, with among others members in Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, and Papua New Guinea. Joleen is an international activist, and a well-known entertainer and choreographer in the Pacific region. She is the founder and organizer of the famous international contest „Miss Galaxy Pageant“, and event celebrating the Pacific gender and sexuality diversity.

Kristian Randelović,

is an activist, working and cooperating with the unofficial Belgrade Gender Dysphoria Medical Team in order to provide help and support to other trans persons for over 14 years now. In 2006 he started working with Gayten LGBT, Center for LGBT Human Rights, where he has been systematically developing programs for trans individuals, including the first trans support group in the Balkans. He has also contributed to creation of trans programs in Croatia and Bosnia. He has also participated in the creation of the first trans site in ex Yugoslavia region (www.transserbia.org)

Throughout this period he appeared in various media sharing his experiences and issues faced by trans persons. He has been invited and participated as an expert and lecturer in various meeting, seminar and conferences organized by other NGO and professional organizations. He is a member of the Steering committee of Transgender Europe (TGEU) and the contact person for Eastern Europe and a member of the advisory board of the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project.

Carsten Balzer/Carla LaGata, Ph.D., M.A. (Cultural Anthropology, Free University Berlin), wrote his Ph.D. thesis on transgender movements in Brazil, Germany, and the United States. S_he carried out fieldwork in Tanzania and the Brazilian Amazon region, as well as in Rio de Janeiro, New York City, and Berlin, taught courses at the Free University Berlin, and has published a book and various book chapters and articles in peer reviewed journals in the U.S., Brazil, Germany, and Spain. S_he is a member of the steering committee of the international NGO Transgender Europe (TGEU), chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Transgender Network Berlin (TGNB) as well as a founding member and co-editor of the academic online magazine „Liminalis – Journal for Sex/Gender Emancipation and Resistance“. Dr Balzer/LaGata also initiated TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring project,

which systematically monitors, collects and analyses reports of homicides of trans people worldwide. S_he is the lead researcher of TGEU's „Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide“ (TvT) research project, which conducts „A Comparative Qualitative and Quantitative Review of Respect, Acknowledgement, and Equality for Trans People versus Transphobia, Transphobic Hate Crimes, and Discrimination on Grounds of Gender Identity or Gender Expression“. (www.transrespect-transphobia.org)

Jan Simon Hutta,

received his PhD from the Geography Department of The Open University, Milton Keynes, UK. His doctoral project investigated LGBT politics of anti-violence and citizenship in Brazil. Before, he studied psychology at the Free University Berlin. His work has been published in several journals and the book *Rethinking the Public* (Policy Press). He co-organised political and academic conferences and has been involved in queer activism in Berlin and Brazil. Since August 2010 he is the second researcher of the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project.

Julia Ehrt holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics of the Free University Berlin. She has been involved in international trans activism since 2005 and is one of the founders of Transgender Europe (TGEU). Currently she is the Co-Chair of TGEU. She has supported and contributed to the Transrespect versus Transphobia Worldwide research project from the beginning and is the supervisor of the project.