



TERRE DES FEMMES
Menschenrechte für die Frau e.V.



Alþingi
Kirkjustræti
150 Reykjavík

Umsögn um frumvarp til laga um breytingu á almennum hegningarlögum (bann við umskurði drengja), 148. löggjafarþing, 114. mál.

Berlin, 20 march 2018

Ágætu þingmenn Alþingis / Dear Members of the Icelandic Parliament,

we,

- TERRE DES FEMMES – Human Rights for Women e.V.
- MOGiS e.V. - A voice to the Affected – people affected by assaults against sexual self determination in childhood, e.g. Circumcision
- Projekt 100% MENSCH – Project for equality for heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, trans*, non-binar, intersexual, queer und asexual people

adress you from Germany.

You will shortly be discussing a legislative proposal to extend the existing protection of **girls** against female genital cutting in every form to **children of any gender**.

We agree absolutely with the proposal and its human rights approach.

The issue of non-medical genital surgeries to non consent-able children is not a question of religion, culture or gender.

It is about the self determination of every human being about its intimate parts.

Human rights are indivisible.

Unequal protection of children depending on the appearance of their genitals is to be rejected for ethical reasons.

We agree that this is a very sensitive issue that concerns cultural and religious traditions. We strongly object to any attempts to misconstrue efforts on behalf of the rights of all children to genital self-determination, or to misuse these efforts as a basis to profess or carry out hatred toward religious and cultural minorities.

We very much appreciate the clear phrasing of the bill proposal, that this is solely about equality, the well-being, bodily integrity, and right to self-determination of children.

We ask you seriously to agree to the proposal.

It is a peaceful sign of hope and tolerance to the whole world: every child has the right to be accepted with the complete genitals it is born with.

Please have a look at the announcement of the yearly "Worldwide Day of Genital Autonomy" on may 7th. www.genital-autonomy.de
You will find there the list of 50 organisations from 12 countries on five continents, calling for e.g.

"Legislative initiatives worldwide that provide for the protection of all children, regardless of gender, from non-therapeutic genital operations."

This is exactly what your approval to the proposal can help realize.

Please notice this big support worldwide and contact us if we can assist you.

Thank you very much!

Yours,

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WORLDWIDE DAY OF GENITAL AUTONOMY – May 7th 2018

6th Anniversary of the Cologne Ruling

This will be the sixth anniversary of the "Cologne Ruling". In 2012, for the first time, a court explicitly granted boys the right to genital self-determination by concluding that medically unnecessary foreskin removal ("circumcision") from a boy is an offense. This decision has since become a worldwide beacon for the self-determination of children regardless of gender, ancestry or religion.

This year's main focus is:

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION IN ASIA

Millions of girls are victims of genital mutilation in Asia. Most of these cases are religiously motivated and are carried out by medical personnel. The people responsible are distancing themselves explicitly from African practices with regard to the form of the intervention. The 7th of May takes a closer look: because it stands for "zero tolerance" for violation of children's rights!

The "World Day of Genital Autonomy" calls for:

- **Increased measures also against so-called "less invasive" and medicalized forms of female genital mutilation, protection of the vulnerable and support for those affected worldwide.**
- **Adherence to and implementation of the UN-Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 2 (protection against discrimination); Article 3 (precedence of children's well-being); and Article 24 Paragraph 3 (abolishment of traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children).**
- **Legislative initiatives worldwide that provide for the protection of all children, regardless of gender, from non-therapeutic genital operations.**
- **Protection of children with atypical sex characteristics from genital surgery and intervention without absolute medical indication.**
- **An immediate stop to group or mass circumcision of minor males (boys) for alleged HIV prevention in African countries.**
- **Public research and education on the consequences of non-therapeutic genital surgery on children in its different forms and social contexts.**

Appealing for the **WORLDWIDE DAY OF GENITAL AUTONOMY** are:

- [AKTION REGEN - Verein für Entwicklungszusammenarbeit \(Austria\)](#)
- [Attorneys for the rights of the child \(California, USA\)](#)
- [Australasian Institute for Genital Autonomy - AIGA Inc. \(Australia\)](#)
- [Bay Area Intactivists \(USA\)](#)
- [beschneidungsforum.de - das Forum zum Thema Beschneidung \(Germany\)](#)
- [Berufsverband der Kinder- und Jugendärzte BVKJ \(Germany\)](#)
- [Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Säkulare Grüne \(Germany\)](#)
- [Canadian Foreskin Awareness Project \(Canada\)](#)

- [Children's Health & Human Rights Partnership \(Canada\)](#)
- [Deutsches Kinderbulletin - jedem Kind eine Chance / Politische Kindermedizin \(Germany\)](#)
- [Doctors Opposing Circumcision \(D.O.C.\) - Physicians for Genital Integrity \(Seattle, USA\)](#)
- [Droit au corps \(France\)](#)
- [Facharbeitskreis Beschneidungsbetroffener im MOGiS e.V. - Eine Stimme für Betroffene \(Germany\)](#)
- [Forum Männer in Theorie und Praxis der Geschlechterverhältnisse \(Germany\)](#)
- [Genital Autonomy \(UK\)](#)
- [Genital Autonomy America \(USA\) \(formerly NOCIRC\)](#)
- [Giordano-Bruno-Stiftung \(Germany\)](#)
- [GSSG: Gemeinnützige Stiftung Sexualität und Gesundheit \(Germany\)](#)
- [\(I\)NTACT - Internationale Aktion gegen die Beschneidung von Mädchen und Frauen e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [IBKA - Internationaler Bund der Konfessionslosen und Atheisten \(Germany\)](#)
- [Ibn Rushd – Goethe Moschee \(Germany\)](#)
- [Initiative gegen Gewalt und sexuellen Missbrauch an Kindern und Jugendlichen e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [Intact Africa \(Africa\)](#)
- [Intact America \(USA\)](#)
- [Intact Denmark \(Denmark\)](#)
- [Intact Kenya \(Kenya\)](#)
- [Intact Switzerland \(Switzerland\)](#)
- [Intaction \(USA\)](#)
- [intaktiv e.V. - eine Stimme für genitale Selbstbestimmung \(Germany\)](#)
- [Jews Against Circumcision \(USA\)](#)
- [KAHAL \(Israel\)](#)
- [Lessan e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [Männer gegen MännerGewalt e. V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [Men Do Complain \(UK\)](#)
- [MOGiS e.V. - „Eine Stimme für Betroffene“ \(Germany\)](#)
- [NOCIRC - \(see Genital Autonomy America\)](#)
- [NORM-UK / 15 Square \(UK\)](#)
- [Partei der Humanisten \(Germany\)](#)
- [pro familia Nordrhein-Westfalen \(Germany\)](#)
- [Pro Kinderrechte CH \(Switzerland\)](#)
- [Projekt 100% MENSCH \(Germany\)](#)
- [Protect the Child \(Israel\)](#)
- [Säkulare Flüchtlingshilfe e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [Sexpo \(Finland\)](#)
- [TABU International e.V. - Gegen Genitalverstümmelung, für Frauen- und Kinderrechte \(Germany\)](#)
- [TERRE DES FEMMES - Menschenrechte für die Frau e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [The VMMC Experience Project \(Kenya, Uganda\)](#)
- [Verband medizinischer Fachberufe e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [WADI e.V. \(Germany\)](#)
- [Your Whole Baby \(USA\)](#)
- [Zentralrat der Ex-Muslime \(Germany\)](#)