



# Andorra

## BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

On 11 January, a young gay man was verbally harassed and physically assaulted by two men at a club in Santa Coloma. The police investigation is ongoing.

## EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

Andorra's anti-discrimination body, the Equality Observatory was set up in February. The body will have a specific committee on LGBTIQ+ issues. LGBTIQ+ advocates have played an important role in the process and will continue to work with the newly established body.

DiversAnd was involved in the drafting of the National Plan for Childhood and Adolescence this year, giving a voice to LGBTI children and youth. The draft Plan will be published in 2021.

## FAMILY

A draft bill on amending the Law of the Person and Family was tabled on 10 March, establishing that civil unions will remain available for same-sex couples, but the term "marriage" will only be used for heterosexual couples. The law will recognise the parenthood of both parties who have a child via surrogacy, if the surrogacy was carried out in a country where it is legal.

## FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

On 4 November, the youth movement Contracorrent held the "day of the skirt", inviting anyone regardless of gender identity to wear a skirt to school that day. The aim was to tackle stereotypes and fight the mandatory gender binary. In most schools, the action was successful. One high school threatened students wearing skirts with expulsion. As a response, the students wore a skirt on the following day also.

## HEALTH

The lack of access to affordable trans healthcare in the country continued to leave many in a difficult mental and physical state of health. Two trans people launched fundraisers to collect money for their gender affirming surgeries, highlighting the issue of Andorran public insurance not covering these interventions. One of them, Monterosso Nile, a 15-year-old trans boy, who has suffered from severe depression due to his dysphoria, said:

*"This is not an aesthetic operation, but an operation for my health and particularly my mental health."*

## LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION

DiversAnd continued to urge MPs on an individual basis to reform legislation on legal gender recognition. On 28 June, on the occasion of Pride, DiversAnd held a small protest calling on the government to ensure that trans people can change their name and legal gender in a quick, accessible and easy administrative process that is based on self-determination. The event was joined by Miss Trans Spain 2019, Michelle Relayze, who said:

*"What we are demanding is not a gift, we are demanding our rights like anyone else."*



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