

Intersex Refugees & Asylum Seekers...

...can often experience a range of additional problems due to being intersex. OII Europe is working towards increasing intersex sensitivity and knowledge among professionals working with intersex refugees and asylum seekers.

Intersex Refugees & Asylum Seekers are at risk of encountering:

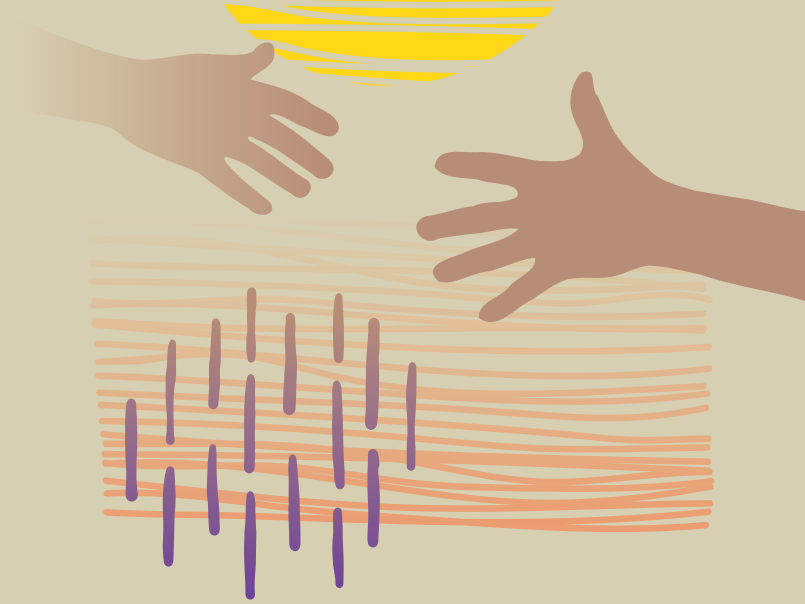
- ▶ Intersexphobic and LGBTQ-phobic behaviour and violence at borders and refugee facilities
- ▶ In countries experiencing ongoing conflict/ war: Problems with leaving the country of origin with a male gender marker in official documents even when person's gender identity is different
- ▶ Lack of access to necessary hormones and medications
- ▶ People coming from occupied territories being victims of LGBTIQ-phobic violence or of being drafted into army when having a male gender marker

If you an intersex refugee or asylum seeker, willing to share your experience, your input would be very valuable for our work on improvement of services for intersex refugees and asylum seekers in the future!



Please contact us at info@oiieurope.org

Intersex Refugees & Asylum Seekers



OII Europe 12/2022 - www.oiieurope.org



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The Current Migration Policies should:

- ▶ Guarantee the option to leave the country based on gender identity, not gender marker in documents
- ▶ Guarantee LGBTIQ sensitivity at the borders and in refugee facilities and shelters, including training staff
- ▶ Provide simple access to needed hormones, hormone blockers and/or medication in a new country

Specific Needs of Intersex Refugees & Asylum Seekers can include, among others:

- ▶ Hormonal treatment, HRT, hormone blockers
- ▶ Antidepressants and other mental health medication
- ▶ Intersex-sensitive professional help for mental health
- ▶ Bone density medication and medical care
- ▶ Salt-wasting medication
- ▶ Adrenal supplements, Corticosteroids, Glucocorticoids
- ▶ Thyroid medication
- ▶ Gender-affirming facilities in refugee shelters and camps

- ▶ Guarantee privacy in refugee shelters and forbid LGBTIQ-phobic harassment, hate speech and hate crime
- ▶ Provide LGBTIQ friendly safe housing, especially intersex and trans specific housing, to focus on the special needs of community members
- ▶ Require mandatory privacy options and non-discrimination rules installed in refugee facilities
- ▶ Guarantee financial support for all refugees and local peer-support groups, including intersex and trans organisations
- ▶ Require COVID-19 measures to be followed at the borders and in refugee facilities
- ▶ Require humanitarian aid to include necessary hormones and medicine
- ▶ Require humanitarian aid efforts to cooperate with local LGBTI organisations in order to access more people from the communities
- ▶ Make sure that local LGBTIQ organisations in countries that accept refugees are supported by the government (financially and logistically) in their safe housing network creation and other efforts
- ▶ When providing medical support - forbid doctors from pressuring intersex persons and their parents to undergo non-vital medical interventions that do not correspond to their real medical needs and which are motivated by psycho-social factors
- ▶ Provide LGBTIQ people with support to be able to relocate to safer countries
- ▶ Simplify access to medical insurance and required medicine and hormones in the destination country or transit country (including in the case of detention)
- ▶ Guarantee intersex sensitive translators and interpreters for times when communication in legal institutions or during interviews is required
- ▶ Provide LGBTIQ-friendly mental health support
- ▶ Allow refugees to safely seek asylum and to transit to the country of their choice, not just the first country they entered
- ▶ Provide financial support to local peer-support groups

Specific Needs of Families and Parents with Intersex Children can include, among others:

- ▶ Safe housing
- ▶ Human rights-based intersex-sensitive friendly doctors
- ▶ Intersex-sensitive translators
- ▶ Contact with intersex organisations
- ▶ Intersex peer counseling
- ▶ Intersex-sensitive counsellors (ensuring that decisions concerning the child's health are made free from any pressure and accordingly to the child's wishes)
- ▶ Salt-wasting medication
- ▶ Hormone blockers

