



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Transparent z.s.,
company ID number: 04470729

The TRANS*PARENT association strives to reach social justice and advocate for rights of and positive social changes to benefit transgender, non-binary, and intersex people.

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**OUR
VISION**

THE MAIN GOALS OF TRANS*PARENT

1. Creating spaces where transgender and genderqueer people could meet, which would also serve for the purposes of other LGBTQI organisations and initiatives
2. Organising support groups and providing psychological, social and legal advice free of charge
3. Spreading awareness about trans issues through discussions, workshops, happenings and an online presentation
4. Working with the media and the public to build a positive, real and undistorted image of trans people and their lives
5. Research activities in the transgender context
6. Opening dialogues on difficult trans issues, organising discussions, events and meetings both within the trans community and with people outside of it
7. Building an active community of trans people regardless of their gender self-identification
8. Planning to provide job opportunities for transgender people who may have trouble finding a job due to their gender identity

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

We believe that gender diversity is an integral part of every society and as such, it should be supported, protected and celebrated.

We believe in the right of self-determination, we stand against exoticisation, pathologisation and the classification of transgender identities as mental disorders.

We believe that trans people have the right to live without violence, stigmatisation, discrimination and unequal treatment in their personal, professional and social lives.

Trans*parent, z.s. was legally established as a registered association on 19 November 2015. However, it was founded in the spring of 2015 as an unofficial club by a trans* activists' group that responded to a need for policy change in the field of transgender persons' rights. The organisation strives for social justice and advocates for the rights and positive social changes to benefit transgender, non-binary, and intersex people in the Czech Republic. This way, Trans*parent intends to promote understanding and acceptance of trans* persons both on societal as well as on legal levels through various activities.

In the fifth year of its existence, Trans*parent started running support groups online (as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic) as well as in the city of Ostrava where a local branch of Trans*parent was founded and, at the same time, began a cooperation with media and human-rights organisations with which it worked on joint projects. Our effort was mostly targeted at the fields of healthcare improvement and therapies for trans, non-binary, and intersex people.

SUPPORT

SUPPORT GROUPS

Last year, we continued our long-term work together with our facilitators within regular self-help meetings for trans* persons, providing space for sharing feelings, experiences, joys as well as fears in a safe environment. Trans* people find support in our organisation regardless of their gender identity and self-determination. Together with those who are going through the same experience, we ask questions and we search for answers. The group is open to all trans* people and their loved ones, free and is held twice a month.

During the year, there were 6 persons taking turns as facilitators.

In 2020, there were 28 support groups in total, out of which 13 took place online, 1 ran during the Prague Pride week, with an overall attendance estimated at 160 attendees (this includes both regular as well as one-time visits). On average, 6 attendees come to every session.

Half of the sessions had to run online because of pandemic restrictions. The attendance at them was almost a half lower than in the case of live sessions. On the other hand, online groups are a plus in terms of providing the possibility to connect across the whole country. For this reason, we aim to keep the online sessions after the end of pandemic restrictions.

THE OUT PROJECT

As part of our support activities, we began a collaboration on the OUT project financed by the European Commission within the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2019) in 2020 whose main implementer and coordinator is Prague Pride. Thanks to them, we received financial support to run support groups up until 2022.

COUNSELING

In 2020, our counseling activities were conducted by means of our info-mail where we were contacted by dozens of trans and non-binary people asking for help and guidance in transition and the situation during the pandemic. A dedicated counseling service will be advertised in 2021, depending on the counsellors' availability.

QUEER TEENS WORKSHOPS

Queer & Trans Youth supported young queer or trans persons also in 2020, be it during regular gatherings or as part of visibility at other allied LGBTQI+ events in the country (organised by Prague Pride, S barvou ven counselling service).

Our programme was aimed at socialisation, finding a community, friendships, safe space as well as creative activities and culture (music, film, visual arts). Until January, a therapeutic group with restricted access was running.

In 2020, there were QTY 12 gatherings. Six of them were organised online. 95 teenagers attended (incl. repeated visits), the overall number was 133. QTY's picnic organized during Prague Pride 200 was attended by 70 young people. There were 4 regular facilitators and 1 took part as a host facilitator.

QTY group also created an Instagram account which acquired a few hundred followers in a couple of months of its existence.

FACEBOOK SUPPORT GROUPS

Trans*parent supervises two special Facebook groups dedicated to the support of trans and non-binary people's loved ones, which is just as important as the primary support for trans* people:

Partneři a partnerky trans lidí ("Partners of Trans* People"): 49 members

Rodiče a příbuzní trans lidí ("Parents and Relatives of Trans* People"): 70 members

The Partneři a partnerky trans lidí group is dedicated exclusively to trans* people's partners. The group has restricted access, so only members can view its content. It serves as a safe space for people that are in a partner relationship with a trans* person.

Similarly, the Rodiče a příbuzní trans lidí group connects only those who are kin to a trans* person. The group also employs restricted access and serves as a safe space for the aforementioned target group.

ADVOCACY

AGAINST MANDATORY STERILIZATIONS

Legal Change

The case of mandatory sterilizations for legal gender recognition was heard in the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament, the Pirate representative František Kopřiva prepared and delivered an interpellation to the minister of interior, regarding trans* people's sterilizations as a requirement for legal transition. In cooperation with the representative Barbora Kořánová from the ANO party and the Pirate representative Ondřej Profant, Transparent contributed to an amendment to the Civil Registration Act which was abolishing the sterilization requirement. Prior to discussing this amendment by the Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development of the Chamber of Deputies, Trans*parent prepared a campaign following the www.jsmetrans.cz project, aimed at the explanation of the said issue for representatives of this committee.

Unfortunately, the amendment wasn't approved, also because of the absence of some more liberally-oriented representatives that had promised their support and because of the active opposition by the government Commissioner for Human Rights Helena Válková. We reworked the amendment in cooperation with the ministry of justice and it now awaits second reading of legal negotiation in the Chamber of Deputies.

During the year, we were working on improving our argumentation against mandatory sterilizations, especially in reaction to a frequent fear from the very trans* community that cancelling the requirement would also cancel gender-reassignment surgery coverage by insurance companies. The research of the legal and healthcare development in selected European countries proved that this fear is unfounded as this has not happened in any country that cancelled the sterilisation requirement.

Constitutional Court

In February 2020, the Senate of the Constitutional Court recommended cancelling some parts of the civil code that order sterilisation for legal gender change, in the case of T. H. Since then, the case was investigated by the plenum of the Constitutional Court. Trans*parent collected trans* people's stories related to the sterilisation requirement for the discussion of this case to provide evidence of the absurdity of its legality. Trans*parent also actively supports T. H. in their dispute with the Czech public administration.

Activity in the Working Group for Sexual Minorities of the Government Council for Human Rights

As a permanent member of the working group for sexual minorities, Trans*parent participated in the organisation of the Bariéry důstojného života LGBT+ lidí v České republice ("LGBT+ people's barriers to dignified lives") conference that took place in June 2020 under the auspices of the government commissioner for human rights Helena Válková at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. Bára Soukupová delivered a speech on the main problems and barriers that trans* people in Czechia are facing every day.

As a follow-up to the proceedings of this conference, a government strategy for LGBT, including individual provisions for improving LGBT+ people's lives in Czechia, began to form. Many of these provisions are specifically aimed at trans* people: from the right to proper identity through their position within administration, school system, healthcare, prison system to employment and service at state institutions. The strategy is now (January 2021) in the early phase of consultations with individual offices and ministries.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

On an international level, the president of the association Bára Soukupová participated in the Czech-Saxon "Ehe für Alle" symposium and webinar under the auspices of the EU Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli.



<https://bit.ly/3vaAZFN>



**FOR BETTER
HEALTHCARE
AND
THERAPEUTIC
CARE**

In 2020, Trans*parent's primary focus was also on trans and non-binary people's healthcare and therapeutic care with an aim to improve it. For this reason, the organisation joined two important projects dedicated to this area that has a further impact on improving health, social as well as legal situation of trans and non-binary people in our country.

THE SWITCH PROJECT

(Supporting the Wellbeing and Integration of Transgender Victims in Care Environments with Holistic Approach)

The SWITCH project is financed by the European Commission under the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2019) and implemented in cooperation with six partnership organisations from three EU countries: Italy (Perseo SpA Social, Paradigm and Reggio Emilia local health authority), Czech Republic (Transparent, z.s. and National Institute of Mental Health), and Spain (Fundazio Parc Tauli and Mirada Local SI). The main objective of the project is to help secure informed and holistic approach to transgender and intersex clients on the part of service providers in the area of healthcare on the basis of improving competencies of care professions (psychology, psychotherapy, psychiatry, etc.).

In the first year of the project, we and our colleagues from the National Institute of Mental Health worked on the preparation of an extensive guide for therapists which will serve as an entry point and a basic study and information material for care providers for trans* people. The publication will be released by the National Institute of Mental Health in 2021.

Another important part of the project is mapping trans and non-binary people's needs and experiences with healthcare and therapeutic care after which will follow a publication with results of this survey in 2021.

More information about the project can be found on the project's website: www.projectswitch.eu.

DIVERTING THE MEDICAL GAZE – DREILINDEN AND EQUALITY WITHOUT BORDERS

Last year, another crucial project in the area of improving medical care started – bearing the name Diverting the Medical Gaze. Its aim is to fight the pathologising approach of care professions towards trans and non-binary people (a significant percentage of trans persons, according to our research from 2018, faces mistreatment and abuse in healthcare or therapeutic environments).

With financial help of the Dreilinden organisation facilitated by the Equality without Borders organisation, we created a working healthcare team consisting of 12 members uniting specialists from the fields of psychiatry, psychotherapy, sexology, and general medicine most of whom identify as trans* themselves. Thanks to this project, we, among other things, created an extensive database and map of contacts to services providing trans-specific as well as other medical and therapeutic help and support across the whole country (sexology, psychotherapy, endocrinology, surgery, gynecology, etc.). The team also produced recommendations for care professions as part of respectful and sensitive care whose outcome will be an informative handbook for physicians and care professions in 2021.

Another outcome of the project is a unique handbook for trans and non-binary people that helps them with orientation in the process of social, medical, and official transition, including specification of their rights in the medical and legal context. After establishing a section aimed at professional audiences on our new website, the handbook will be available to download and also in print version on our journeys to Czech regions.

In 2021, we are going not only to publish handbooks, but also hold a series of webinars for care professions to train them in respectful and sensitive care provision, and make presentations in 11 cities of the Czech Republic to the transgender community to inform them of their rights and options in receiving trans-specific medical care and other healthcare and therapy services.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Last year, Trans*parent made a series of appearances in media, including the biggest Czech media outlets: DTV, Televize Seznam, Czech Television, IDnes, A2larm, etc., especially on the issue of mandatory sterilisation, but also on other topics, with a reach of several thousands of people:

TELEVIZE SEZNAM | TRANS*



<https://bit.ly/3fkhxRo>

PODCAST VYHONIT DÁBLA



<https://spoti.fi/3fICYup>

PODCAST VYSÍLAČ



<https://spoti.fi/3hPLwT1>

TALKSHOW V TRANZU



<https://bit.ly/3fHqQK8>

ROZHOVOR V DVTV



<https://bit.ly/3fCcQRK>

A2LARM



<https://bit.ly/3bNhziD>

AWARENESS AND PUBLIC EVENTS

Trans* docuseries on Seznam TV

In cooperation with Stream.cz and Televize Seznam, we collaborated on a docuseries about trans* people called Trans* featuring several members of Trans*parent as well as other trans* people outside our association. The series also provided an overview of trans* people's situation in other countries.

Trans*parent at Prague Pride

The 2020 Prague Pride was, even a year later, an interesting opportunity to reach out to the wider LGBTI community. Trans*parent made use of an information stall at Střelecký island in Prague, shared with Amnesty International ČR, for trans* issues promotion. At this stall, a joint project on LGBT+ people's situation in the Visegrád Four was presented.

Our programme within Prague Pride also included one support group and the ON*A exhibition whose author Tereza Koňářková portrayed non-binary Tova and the tattoo artist Marek.

Transparent (Czech) Language at the Mezipatra Film Festival

At the Mezipatra queer film festival, we organised a lecture named Transparentní čeština ("Transparent (Czech) language") which dealt with ways of referring to and about trans* people. The event was attended by over 80 journalists, copywriters, and other people working in media.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

On 11 November 2020, we published members' photographs and videos to commemorate deceased trans* people's memory. Unlike in the previous year, we did not go to the Parukářka park in Prague for safety reasons (pandemic) for a commemorative event.

FREE-TIME ACTIVITIES

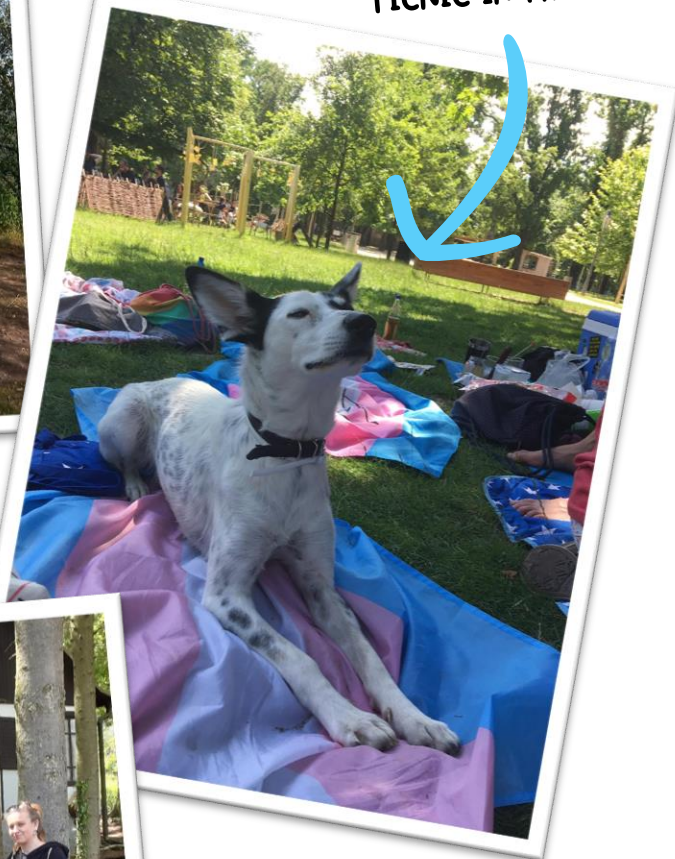
PICNIC AT OSTRAVSKÝ PRIDE



Transparent organised more than 10 events for the trans community as well as the general public (trips, meet-ups, and an information stall at Prague Pride). Most of the planned events were cancelled or postponed because of pandemic provisions.



TRIP ON EMA,
OSTRAVA



PICNIC IN PRAGUE



FIRST TRIP OF 2020,
POSÁZAVÍ



HIKE TO PRAŠIVÁ



OUR STAND AT PRAGUE PRIDE



MEETING IN OLOMOUC



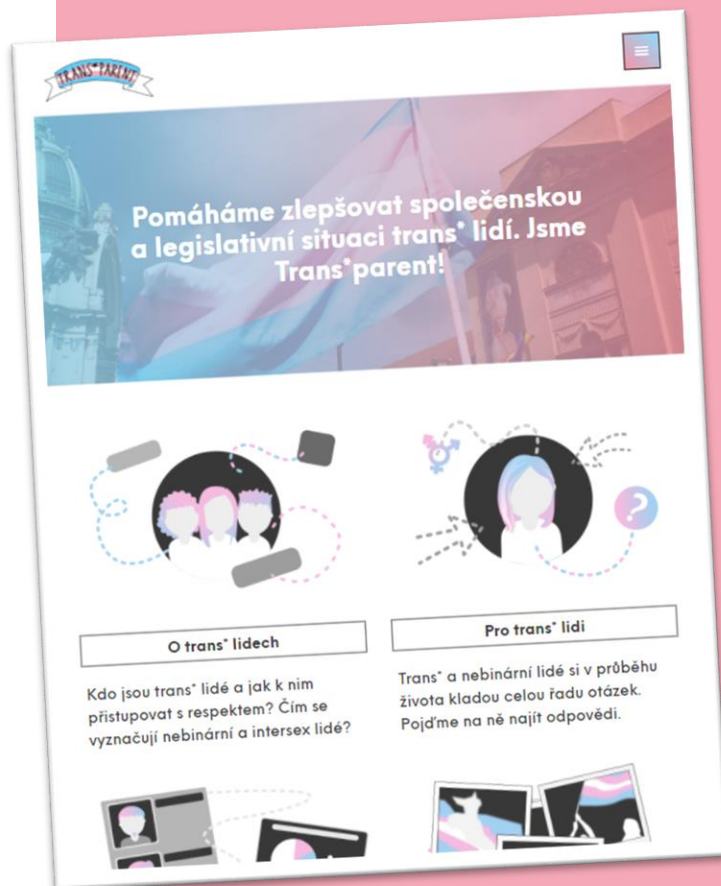
**WHAT MAKES
US HAPPY**

New Website

In 2020, we launched new websites of our organisation with Tomáš Kořínek's design. The visual aspect of the site was administered by our member Petri Mališů. The neat structure contains these sections: Pro trans* lidi (For Trans* People), O trans* lidech (About Trans* People), Pro média (For Media), and Odborná veřejnost (Specialists). It also presents perhaps the most comprehensive source of transgender issues in the Czech Republic.

Support from our donors

We are very thankful to all those who have made donation to our organization in the year 2020, including our first-time structural funding from GiveOut and project funding from Dreilinden and the EU programme Rights, Equality and Citizenship, which made our activities possible.



Social Media

Thanks to Haru Špindler's new Instagram management, we acquired almost 3,000 followers. On Facebook, our numbers also grow continually, albeit not so steeply.

Healthcare

One of our greatest achievements is our presence at two fundamental projects in the area of healthcare: the SWITCH project (financed by the EU) and a project of ending transgender identities' pathologisation (financed by the Dreilinden organisation).

Cooperation with Amnesty International Czech Republic

Another important result is a newly founded or continuing cooperation with national as well as international partners. We were extending joint projects also in cooperation with other Czech LGBTQI organisations and initiatives, including the Prague Pride festival and the Amnesty International Czech Republic human-rights organisation with which we focussed on awareness of the situation in the Visegrád Four countries.

Media Outreach

Our member and the then-president of the association Viktor appeared in an interview for the DVTV Internet television station on 15 June 2020. The topic was trans* people's lives, including reproductive rights and writer J. K. Rowling's quotes. The next medium appearance was the Trans* documentary produced by TV Seznam where some of our members participated as well.

FINANCES

IN 2020

In 2020, Trans*parent z.s. received structural financial support thanks to the GiveOut organisation which helped us start and improve structural processes (administration, accounting, PR, etc.) in the amount of 145,040 CZK.

We also received financial support for projects aimed at healthcare improvement: For the years 2020 to 2022, we plan to implement the partnership in the Switch project in the amount of 424,809 CZK.

Diverting the Medical Gaze project is another healthcare project funded by Dreilinden and facilitated by Equality without Borders in the amount of 394,196 CZK.

We are happy for small donations that enable our organisation to run normally, in the total amount of 100,200 CZK. The donations we managed to generate in 2020 were used for counselling and support activities, new website development, and other items regarding the basic operations of the organisation.

BALANCE SHEET | as of 31.12.2020 (in whole CZK)

ASSETS		Reality to date 1.1.2020	Reality to date 31.12.2020
A.	Fixed assets	0	0
I.	Intangible results of development	0	0
II.	Tangible fixed assets	0	0
III.	Long-term financial assets	0	0
IV.	Total repairs to fixed assets	0	0
B.	Total current assets	124 658	762 119
I.	Inventory	0	0
II.	Receivables	0	0
III.	Short-term financial assets	124 658	762 119
IV.	Other assets	0	0
	Total assets	124 658	762 119
LIABILITIES		Reality to date 1.1.2020	Reality to date 31.12.2020
A.	Equity	103 371	637 718
I.	Registered capital	0	0
II.	Net profit or loss for the current period	103 371	637 718
B.	Liabilities	21 287	124 401
I.	Provisions	0	0
II.	Long-term payables	0	0
III.	Short-term payables	21 287	49 022
IV.	Other liabilities	0	75 379
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	124 658	762 119

INCOME STATEMENT

as of 31.12.2020 (in whole CZK)

		Reality to date 31.12. 2020		
		Main activity	Economic activity	Total
A.	Salaries	x	x	x
I.	Material and services	0	278319	278319
	Material		4	
	Postage		78	
	Social network mangement		48500	
	Analytical activity		9790	
	Internet		5018	
	Advertisement		40919	
	Project coordination, Supervision, Management		139640	
	Economic services		34250	
	Bank fees		200	
II.	Changes in inventory of own products	0	0	0
III.	Personal costs	0	200125	200125
IV.	Taxes and fees	0	0	0
V.	Other costs (representation)	0	28871	28871
VI.	Ne book value of fixed assets sold	0	0	0
VII.	Contributions provided	0	0	0
VIII.	Income tax	0	0	0
	Total costs	0	507315	507315
B.	Revenues	x	x	x
I.	Operating subsidies	0	964045	964045
	Grant - Dreilinden Gesellsch, Equality without Borders project		394196	
	Grant - EU Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme		424809	
	Grant - structural funding from GiveOut		145040	
II.	Contributions provided	73788	0	73788
II.	Gifts received	100200		100200
III.	Revenues from own products and services	7000	0	7000
IV.	Other income	0	0	0
V.	Revenues from sales of fixed assets	0	0	0
	Total revenues	180988	964045	1145033
C.	Profit / loss before tax	180988	456730	637718
D.	Profit / loss after tax	180988	456730	637718

ORGANISA- TIONAL STRUCTURE

In 2020, we held elections of a new Board. There were six candidates and five of them (Bára, Markéta, Petri, Lenka, and Jan) were elected at the regular meeting held on 4 October. For personal reasons, Jan resigned before the end of the year and was not substituted by anyone else.



CONCLUSION

In 2021, Trans*parent will continue to focus on support and awareness activities, through the following activities: public events and presentations, workshops, work with media, spreading positive image, and campaigns against trans* people's sterilisations. Most importantly, we are going to work with medical and therapeutic specialists, through online as well as print resources, webinars and workshops, but also through meetings at a structural level. Furthermore, we are going to focus on meeting and training journalists with the use of our journalism manual. We would like to continue our work across Czech regions, too, not only in Ostrava by means of a series of visits to regional capitals and other towns and cities across the country. Similarly, Trans*parent is going to continue in organising and facilitating support groups in Prague and take part in creating a Prague Pride programme. In addition to this, we are going to extend free-time activities for trans* persons in order to strengthen cohesion and mutual support within trans* community, and proactively engage with the media landscape.

D

PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS



& **EQUALITY WITHOUT BORDERS**



*** REPRESENTS THE SPECTRUM OF NON-BINARY GENDER IDENTITIES**