



RIGHT SIDE

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER NGO

August - September 2017 Seminars & Events



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August
2017

“Age specifications of sexuality and gender” seminar summary

On August 3rd 2017 in “Right Side” human rights defender NGO took place a seminar about “Age specifications of sexuality and gender”, which hosted a specially invited expert Karen Badalyan, project director of “Alliance for Public Health”.

The aim of the seminar was to inform trans people about age specifications of sexuality and gender, for example, how is the gender expressions vary in different ages, person’s change of behavior and its influence on gender and sexuality in different age periods. This was the first cooperation between “Alliance for Public Health” and “Right Side” human rights defender NGO.

During the seminar, participants also got their opportunity to share with their personal experience, to tell stories, and exchange opinions.

“I would have never imagined that there is a science like this. Karen Badalyan’s training helped me to understand myself, to find a skillful approach to things happening in my life” – said one of the participants

In addition, we want to mention that Karen Badalyan will be one of the special guests in one of our winter camps



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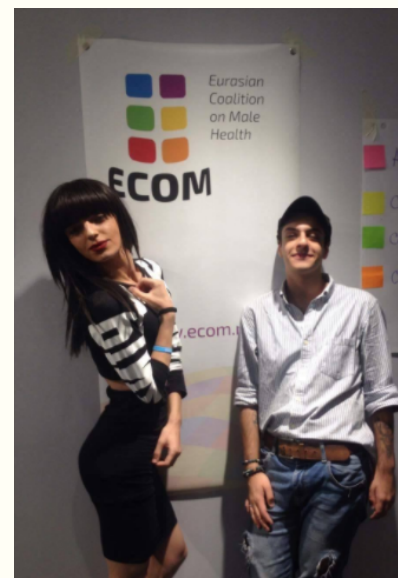
August
2017

“Rights Sensitization” training participants visit to “Right Side” human rights defender NGO

On August 22-nd 2017, “Right Side” human rights defender NGO hosted the participants of “Rights Sensitization” training from Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and FYR of Macedonia. “Rights Sensitization” training is organized by Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM). During the visit, participants got acquainted with the activities of “Right Side” human rights defender NGO and the problems of trans community in Armenia. NGO’s president Lilit Martirosyan gave a tour on the community center and presented the programs of “Right Side” human rights defender NGO. During the visit participants met with trans activists of Armenia and exchanged experience. The training participants expressed their gratitude to “Right Side” human rights defender NGO for organizing and initiating the visit.

Representatives of “Right Side” human rights defender NGO, Max Varzhapetyan and Ella Martirosyan took part on a training organized by ECOM 21-23 of August.

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August
2017

First Trans Camp in Armenia



Casey Weiss posts his last vlog entry

From 26th to 30th of August 2017 “Right Side” human rights defender NGO organized first trans* camp in Armenia. trans* people and trans* activists were participating in this camp. Aim of the camp was to promote human rights protection and democracy, through the consolidation of trans community in Armenia. Very important and necessary topics were discussed during the camp such as, hormone therapy and sex change which hosted “Right Side” human rights defender NGO’s president Lilit Martirosyan, gender identity and sexuality which hosted NGO’s politics and programs officer Ashot Gevorgyan, human rights which hosted NGO’s lawyer Ani Vardanian, and many other topics. According to the camp participants, it took place in a friendly environment, in an informal format, which contributed to the formation of the camp. This camp contributed to the consolidation of the community, the elimination of internal transphobia, and raised the trans* community’s visibility, and even some of the participants were deprived of their own transphobia. This camp was a platform where problems of trans* community were raised and future solutions to those problems were discussed. For the first time in Armenia, a camp was organized for the trans* community, participants expressed a wish that such events should be continuous and that this would not be the last camp for trans* community.

September
2017

workshop with state officials and transgenders

From September 14 to 15, "Right Side" Human Right Defender NGO organized a workshop with state officials and transgenders on one of the resorts outside of Yerevan. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the issues and needs of transgender people in the Republic of Armenia, particularly in medical and educational institutions, the police, etc. The meeting was held face to face with representatives from Ministry of Health, doctors, party representatives, and the police.

Topics such as legal issues, needs of transgender people, medical and legal aspects of hormone therapy and sex, access to health services, reducing discrimination and violence were discussed. The trans community has expressed its desire to participate in the settlement of such issues and readiness to engage.

The community members shared their personal stories about the fact that in the Republic of Armenia transgender people are more discriminated both in the legal and in the medical fields.

Sexologist Andranik Gharibyan, who was invited to attend the workshop, expressed his readiness to help the community to reduce the stigma and violence in medical institutions.

He also shared his experience.

Marine Asrian, who was from the Republican Center for AIDS Prevention, also expressed her support to the community.

The Community addressed their questions to Marine and it was decided that, in collaboration with the Republican Center for AIDS Prevention, "Right Side" NGO would train the community for free HIV testing.

Addressing a representative of the Ministry of Social Affairs, the community raised a question that transsexuals are subject to discrimination.

The participants of the workshop thanked "Right Side" Human Rights Defender NGO for the fact that this was the only face-to-face meeting with the trans community and government officials.

Community representatives decided that as soon as they arrive to Yerevan, they will go to different ministries to present their problems so that with their joint efforts problems will be solved." "Right Side" Human Rights Defender NGO expresses its gratitude to the European Endowment for Democracy without their financial aid workshop would not take place.



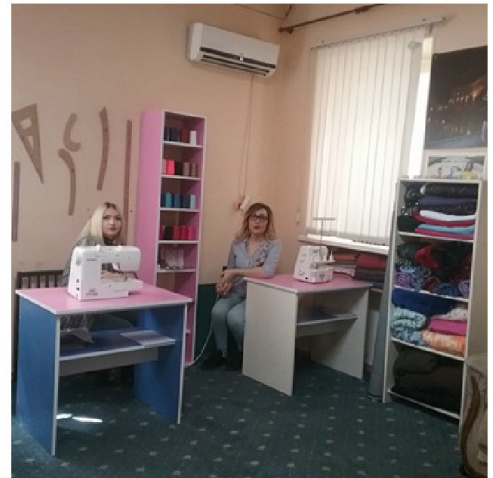
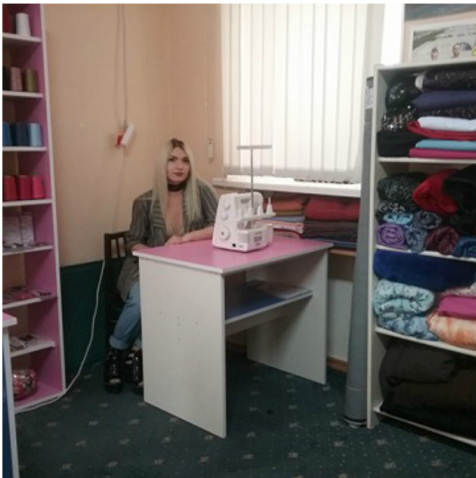
September
2017

“ Right Side “ Human Rights Defender NGO has started the training courses of make-up and sewing

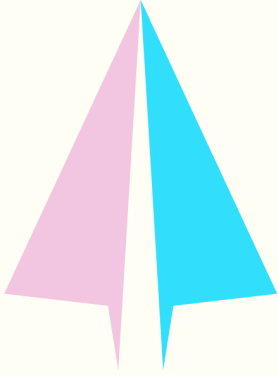
We are proud to inform you that starting from September 20th, “ Right Side “ Human Rights Defender NGO has started the training courses of make-up and sewing

the equipment and materials that have not been made available without the support of the European Endowment for Democracy.

The purpose of the courses and vocational training is to teach make-up and tailoring skills the trans community. During the courses, the organization will contact with and advocate for trans employment rights . The courses will be conducted by qualified specialists and at the end of the course the participants will be provided with certificates.



Summary



RIGHT SIDE

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER NGO

In general, our community center took place

August

- " Club of confidence " - 4 times**
 - " Legal Seminars " - 2 times**
 - " Queer & Proud " - 2 times**
-

September

- " Tailoring courses " - 4 times**
- " Legal Seminars " - 3 times**
- "Make up courses " - 4 times**
- " Club of confidence " - 4 times**
- " Queer & Proud " - 2 times**

We proudly inform you that two transgender men have already made a name change