TGEU Guide on EU Legal Aid

publication, non-discrimination

Claim Your Rights

Guide to legal aid for trans people in Europe

TGEU's guide to legal aid for trans people in Europe provides information on how to claim your right to legal aid as provided for in Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights ("ECHR"), Article 47 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union ("the Charter"), in a number of European Union ("EU") directives, such as Directive 2016/1919, and in various other European law documents.

This guide covers:

- legal aid in criminal cases,
- legal aid in civil cases,
- legal aid in administrative cases, and
- sample country information.

What is legal aid?

Legal aid is defined as a state support enabling people to exercise the right of access to a lawyer. It allows people who have little income to meet the costs of hiring a lawyer or of a court case. It facilitates access to basic rights, either to defend oneself in court against the accusation of a crime (criminal proceeding) or to bring a claim against another person (civil proceeding). It may also help to challenge a decision of a public authority (administrative proceeding). Legal aid can take various forms, including support for the costs of a lawyer, providing access to legal documentation, or free legal counselling.

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More information on EU law

For more information and resources on EU law and trans people's rights in the EU, check our EU law resources page.

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