Subject: Give legal certainty to transgender citizens and their families – Sign the Gender Accordance Act into law

Dear President Duda,

I am writing to you on behalf of Transgender Europe – TGEU asking you to sign the Gender Accordance Act into law. TGEU is a non-profit European network with members in 41 countries working for the equality of all trans people that has been working with numerous governments across Europe for better gender recognition procedures, such as recently in Ireland or Malta.

Rule of law should prevail for every citizen, independent of their gender identity or that of their children. You have the chance at your hands to give Polish transgender citizens and their families for the first time legal certainty. The Gender Accordance Act gives no special rights, but will enable transgender citizens to enjoy their basic rights and freedoms.

Due to the legal void, currently an applicant who seeks to rectify their registered gender needs to sue their parents. This violates the right to privacy and protection of family life, both of the applicant and other family members.

The Gender Accordance Act does away with an unnecessary burden to the Polish court system as it centralizes the application process and sets out clear guidance.
where and how to apply. Also, under the current case law system outcomes of applications for gender recognition are unpredictable. As a result, clarifying legal action consumes superfluously resources of the judiciary and individuals concerned.

Defunct gender recognition procedures are a major stumbling block for transgender persons’ success at the labour market. The Gender Accordance Act will help them to access jobs and will thus contribute to ease reliance on unemployment benefits and social welfare.

I call upon you to sign the Gender Accordance Act into law as is - out of respect for the rights of Poland’s transgender citizens and out of respect for the rule of law.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Julia Ehrt

Transgender Europe

Executive Director