

GATE

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



**576 Fifth Avenue, Suite 903
NY 10036, New York
USA**

**This document was produced with the greatest care but does not claim to
be complete.**

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

I am very proud to share with you our Annual Report 2019. It reflects an intense year of work in all of GATE's thematic areas, including the beginning of some exciting new projects.

2019 was an historic year for trans and gender diverse communities around the world, as the World Health Assembly approved the eleventh version of the International Classification of Diseases. After more than ten years of advocacy, trans-related categories were removed from chapter on Mental Health and moved to a new chapter related to sexual conditions. However, there is still a lot to be done: intersex people are still heavily pathologized in ICD-11.

In 2019, trans, gender diverse and intersex people were targeted by anti-gender organizing. To respond to this challenge, GATE launched a campaign Unite against Transphobia, and created a new project focused on violence rooted in so-called 'Gender Ideology'.

We continued our work on HIV, engaging with key stakeholders including UNAIDS, The Global Fund, WHO, IAS, GNP+, ICASO, PITCH and IRGT. We also engaged in the process of organizing AIDS2020, and created our other new project, the Trans Men and HIV Working Group.

For GATE, 2019 was a year marked by collaborative processes; we organized and co-organized, facilitated and participated in multiple trainings, workshops, meetings and conferences, as well as providing peer-to-peer mentorship, and we contributed to informing the work of donors supporting our movements.

From the end of 2019 to the end of 2020, we will be celebrating GATE's 10th Anniversary. We are facing a new year full of its own challenges, so this report offers a comprehensive account on how we have been building our capacity to face them to date.

In solidarity,



Mauro Cabral Grinspan
Executive Director, GATE



WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

GATE is an international advocacy organization working towards justice and equality for trans, gender diverse and intersex communities. Rooted in our movements, we work collaboratively with strategic partners at the global level to provide knowledge, resources and access to UN mechanisms and bodies.

OUR VISION

GATE envisions a world free from human rights violations based on gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics.

OUR VALUES

- ◇ supporting community-based leadership
- ◇ promoting autonomy and self-determination
- ◇ framing our work through depathologization and decolonization
- ◇ working collaboratively and advocating collectively for human rights
- ◇ solidarity with our communities internationally
- ◇ creating transformative knowledge
- ◇ fighting for justice on issues of race, geopolitics, climate, socioeconomics, and sexual and reproductive reparations.

OUR STRATEGY

GATE works to transform the landscape of global advocacy, knowledge creation and resource distribution through critical inclusion of trans, gender diverse and intersex movements at all levels of political, legal and socio-economic processes. Our organizational strategy is shaped by our board in consultation with trans, gender diverse and intersex partners, allies from different human rights movements and key experts in our specific fields of work.

HOW WE WORK

GATE works in strategic partnership with UN bodies and mechanisms, international human rights organizations, global funders and trans and intersex regional and national networks to advocate for and create opportunities to include our communities in global decision-making processes.

- ◇ We partner with trans, gender diverse and intersex activists, organizations and networks; with allies in other movements (LGB, feminist, human rights, sexual and reproductive rights, etc); with donors; with official agencies and academic institutions.
- ◇ We advocate at the international level, pushing for the full inclusion of trans, gender diverse and intersex issues in decision-making processes and for increased resources to fuel their work.
- ◇ We research and share critical knowledge on depathologization, HIV, funding and human rights, combining expert approaches with concrete strategies to make them accessible to all.
- ◇ We support and mentor trans, gender diverse and intersex activists, facilitating their access to technical and political processes at the international level.
- ◇ We engage in international conversations, initiatives and advocacy efforts to promote and defend human rights.
- ◇ We train and mentor trans and intersex activists to engage in global decision-making mechanisms, processes and bodies, and in organizational management.
- ◇ We participate in international working groups, meetings and conferences, inviting trans, gender diverse and intersex activists from around the world to attend and providing training to ensure they can participate fully.

Founded in 2009 by Justus Einfeld and Mauro Cabral Grinspan, GATE is registered in the United States of America as a 501c(3) non-profit organization, with all our staff working remotely. Our organization has two official languages: English and Spanish.



OUR AREAS OF WORK

Our work is divided into 5 program areas: Depathologization, HIV, Movement Building, Socio-Economic Justice, and the United Nations. Under each program area we run various projects and create resources for our communities.

Depathologization

Advancing psycho-medical and legal depathologization of our communities and ensure full access to legal gender recognition, gender affirming healthcare, and Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

HIV

Highlighting the disproportionate effect of HIV on our communities and ensuring our inclusion in the global HIV response.

Socio-Economic Justice

Highlighting the disproportionate effect of poverty, marginalization, and exclusion from basic rights on our communities.

Movement Building

Highlighting the chronic under-resourcing of our communities and advocating for increased resources for community-led initiatives.

United Nations

Increasing the meaningful engagement of our communities in international human rights systems and expanding the inclusivity of human rights frameworks.



DEPATHOLOGIZATION

Trans, gender diverse and intersex people have been historically pathologized by psycho-medical and legal institutions. GATE is working internationally to advance depathologization, while ensuring all people's full access to legal gender recognition, gender affirming healthcare and its coverage. We are also advocating for many human rights violations to be recognized as rooted in pathologization, such as 'normalizing' procedures on intersex infants, 'conversion' therapies, and other forms of torture and ill treatment in psycho-medical institutions.

EVENTS

World Health Assembly – ICD-11

One of the successes of this program has been the depathologization of trans and gender diverse identities and the revision of intersex codes in the ICD-11, the World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases, which passed at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2019. GATE was represented at the WHA by our Executive Director; GATE also invited Morgan Carpenter (from IHRA) to attend.

Our next steps including encouraging Member States to start the implementation of the ICD-11 in all countries around the world, and to promote legal reform that reflects this, as well as building trans, gender diverse and intersex activists' capacity to engage with the implementation process.

24th Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health

GATE's Executive Director was invited to give a Keynote Lecture at the 24th Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health, "Building Bridges in Sexual Health and Rights". His presentation was focused on intersex, trans and gender diverse children. [Read the presentation.](#)

GATE's Executive Director also participated in a meeting of the Trans Working Group at WAS.

European Intersex Conference, Zagreb

GATE's Executive Director was invited by OII Europe to attend the European Intersex Conference in Zagreb and to coordinate a workshop on Intersex depathologization in the context of ICD-11.

Eurasia Coalition on Male Health (ECOM), Estonia

Our Director of Programs was in Estonia at the Eurasian Coalition on Male Health (ECOM) 3rd Regional MSM and Trans consultation on the HIV response in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, presenting on depathologization of trans identities. The trans community took advantage of the gathering to formalize the Eastern Europe Trans Working Group. The session on Depathologization was a highlight of the event, with opportunity for questions and answers and discussions with local activists on what advocacy activities they could engage in at their country and regional level.

CAMPAIGNS

International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female, Intersex, and all forms of Genital Mutilation

GATE created an #EndIGM #EndFGM campaign to highlight the flawed scientific evidence that supports genital mutilation and to raise awareness of the erasure of voices of those individuals who have undergone genital mutilation. [See campaign materials.](#)

Unite Against Transphobia

This project is comprised of series of articles from trans and gender diverse activists across the globe, discussing their work to dismantle structural, institutional and social barriers that lead to stigma, discrimination and violence towards trans and gender diverse people. Activists from Oceania, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Asia. [Read the articles.](#)

STATEMENTS

ICD-11

After the WHA in May 2019, a collective statement was released regarding the depathologization of trans and gender diverse identities in the ICD-11. [Read the statement.](#)

A separate statement was co-produced by GATE and IHRA highlighting the negative outcomes of the ICD-11 process for intersex people and restating our demands. GATE and IHRA appointed an international working group, called IDepath, to fuel advocacy on intersex depathologization. More than 50 intersex-led organizations and groups from every region of the world signed a joint statement to the World Health Organization condemning the re-pathologization of intersex variations as “disorders of sex development” in the WHO International Classification of Diseases 11 (ICD-11), and medical classifications that promote early surgical intervention to “fix” intersex bodies. [Read the statement.](#)

Response to the Congregation for Catholic Education publication

On the 50th Anniversary of Stonewall, GATE along with other trans and gender diverse activists, organizations and networks created a petition denouncing the publication released by the Congregation for Catholic Education called “Male and Female He Created Them”. This document included stigmatizing and pathologizing language against LGBTQI people in general and, specifically, deeply problematic language on gender issues, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and children’s rights. This publication directly countered all the work done at the international advocacy level to depathologize trans and gender diverse people, and a letter was sent to the Congregation calling for them to work with, not against, our communities. [Read the petition.](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Gender Identity and Reproductive Autonomy

Dr Eleonora Lamm, Human Rights Director at the Supreme Court of Justice of Mendoza (Argentina), wrote this paper addressing the right to found a family and the right to benefit from scientific progress in the context of challenging oppressive normative imaginaries on gender, sexuality and embodiment. Her paper was originally delivered as a keynote presentation at the International WPATH Symposium in Buenos Aires last November. This paper focuses on two main issues: 1) how the above rights should be guaranteed to trans people under equal conditions and 2) how the combination of these rights and new technologies are challenging concepts, roles, and relationships. [Download the paper.](#)

Reproductive Justice and Transphobia - SRHM Journal Article

GATE's Communications Officer wrote an article for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters (SRHM) Journal website on framing reproductive justice in the context of institutionalized transphobia. [Read the article.](#)

The Right to Truth for Intersex People - SRHM Journal Article

GATE's Executive Director wrote an article for the Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters (SRHM) Journal website on the Right to Truth for Intersex People, highlighting the need for intersex inclusion in the UN International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims, commemorated annually on 24 March. [Read the article.](#)

NEW PROJECT

Gender Ideology

Attacks based on "gender ideology" aim to restrict or eliminate trans & gender diverse people's access to legal gender recognition and transitional healthcare; to reintroduce pathologizing diagnoses; and to force us into torturing treatments such as "conversion" therapies. These attacks are limiting or preventing trans & gender diverse people's participation in social and political life, removing funding from our organizations and silencing our voices.

Following on from the ICD-11 reform, GATE's project on Gender Ideology is drawing together information on legal pathologization and issues relating to human rights abuses based on gender identity and sex characteristics. The publication will highlight statistics globally around depathologization, legal reform and will present case studies for best practices. [Find out more.](#)

HIV

The inclusion of trans communities in the global HIV response is growing and, with it, a greater understanding of the need for differentiated service delivery, community-led services, and a holistic approach that integrates HIV and sexual health care with trans-related healthcare.

EVENTS

AIDS 2020 CCC

GATE became a Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC) Civil Society Partner for AIDS 2020 and 2022 and is represented by our Director of Programs. The tasks of the CCC include: identifying speakers, developing the scholarship criteria, prioritizing thematic for the conference, organizing CCC sessions and agreeing on plenaries, among other tasks.

CRG-SI Project

GATE 's Community, Rights and Gender (CRG) Strategic Initiative (SI) project focuses on developing skills and building capacity of transgender communities to meaningfully engage with Global Fund processes in areas of HIV, malaria and tuberculosis. This project was initially funded for 2 years beginning in January 2018 and working in Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. It has now been extended for an additional year and working in the African continent. [View this project.](#)



4th LAC Platform Forum – Mexico City, July 2019

The 4th Learning and Sharing Forum of the LAC Platform took place over 3 days and provided in-depth information, knowledge, and skills-sharing for community engagement in Global Fund-related processes. Beneficiaries of GATE's CRG-SI project whose successful requests for short-term support from the CRG SI Technical Assistance program were facilitated by GATE and the LAC Platform jointly, shared their experiences and best practices and we highlighted the opportunities for collaboration amongst the different Strategic Initiative's components. [Read more.](#)

IAS Conference – Mexico City, July 2019

The IAS Conference took place over 4 days, focusing on the scientific advances and latest research into HIV and AIDS. GATE's involvement included highlighting the exclusion of transgender and gender diverse HIV-related professionals from this conference, highlighting those events featuring, or which were of relevance to, trans and non-binary professionals, and providing on the ground support for trans and non-binary activists, to increase their engagement and visibility as well as to facilitate access to communities, as GATE's Director of Programs was one of two Community Activists Liaisons for the conference. [Read more.](#)

CAMPAIGNS

World AIDS Day

Celebrated annually on 1st December, the theme for World AIDS Day 2019 was Communities Make the Difference. GATE created 1 long and 3 short videos highlighting the issues that trans and gender diverse people face in living with HIV, accessing HIV-related healthcare, and inclusion in HIV-related research. The focus on these videos was to encourage the meaningful inclusion of trans communities in the global HIV response by placing our communities at the center of the response to the epidemic. [View materials.](#)

NEW PROJECT

Trans Men and HIV Working Group

There is very little awareness or inclusion of trans men in HIV platforms and this community is mostly ignored in HIV research data. The formation of this project began at the World AIDS 2018 Conference in Amsterdam to address this exclusion. This global project is focused on strengthening and generating knowledge to further their engagement in the international HIV response. GATE aims to produce critical knowledge on trans men and HIV, to propose abstracts and sessions for AIDS 2020 and HIV 2020, and to develop a strategy for increasing the meaningful engagement of trans men in health discussions. This group currently has 20 active members from 17 countries across all continents. [Read more.](#)

MOVEMENT BUILDING & RESOURCING

Trans, gender diverse and intersex movements are chronically affected by very limited access to financial and organizational resources. GATE works to support our movements by advocating to increase resources to fully fund community-led initiatives.

EVENTS

CRG-SI Workshops and Training

Through the CRG SI project we have been able to provide capacity building in Monitoring and Evaluation and Transition and Sustainability to trans activists and organizations, in addition to tools developed by GATE, which can be accessed via our website. These activities have given transgender communities the opportunity to develop links with one other and with the broader set of key populations, as well as creating connections with policy makers and service providers engaged in the HIV, TB and malaria responses and health systems. This project has strengthened connections between the transgender community and the Global Fund's Community, Rights and Gender Coordination and Communications regional platforms, hosted by APCASO in Asia and the Pacific, and CRAT VIA LIBRE-International HIV AIDS Alliance in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Key outcomes of this project include the training of 120 activists across 62 organizations from 14 countries across Latin America and Caribbean and Asia-Pacific, the provision of assistance for 6 technical assistance applications. [View this project.](#)

ILGA World Conference

In February 2019, our Executive Director attended the ILGA World Conference in Wellington, New Zealand to co-chair a panel on trans access to funding with Broden Giambrone, the Executive Director of the International Trans Fund.

Funder Advocacy

GATE continued its participation in the Thematic Group on Donors' Coordination at the Equal Rights Coalition, represented alternately by our Executive Director and our Director of Programs.

GATE is active in several funding bodies, including co-chair of ViiV Positive Action Program for MSM and Trans which focuses on providing small grants to organizations according to the objectives of Positive Action. Participation at the Board of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria is crucial to ensure that trans perspectives are reflected in policy making at the highest level of this health funding agency, which mobilizes and invests more than US \$4 billion / year.

SOCIOECONOMIC JUSTICE

Globally, trans, gender diverse and intersex communities are disproportionately affected by poverty and are marginalized or excluded from basic rights such as education, employment, healthcare and sanitation. GATE addresses these issues in all our areas of work, specifically by engaging with the process on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and supporting the movement towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

EVENTS

Universal Health Coverage

In April 2019, GATE coordinated webinars in English and Spanish to introduce Universal Health Coverage in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to trans, gender diverse and intersex activists.

GATE's Executive Director also attended the Multi-Stakeholders meeting in New York, which was focused on civil society's participation in the Universal Healthcare Coverage process, and the GAP meeting organized by UN agencies on the UHC process.

In May, GATE's Director of Programs presented at a session in Geneva titled "Making UHC work for key, vulnerable and underserved populations" on the importance of UHC for key populations and its alignment with SDGs. The session was a side event organized by AIDSfonds, GNP+ and the Global Fund.

CAMPAIGNS

World Social Justice Day

For World Day of Social Justice, GATE created a graphic to highlight the injustices that trans, gender diverse and intersex people face around the world.

Health for All

For the first Universal Health Coverage Day, held on 12th December, GATE created a series of social media graphics as a toolkit to raise awareness about the necessity of UHC particularly for trans, gender diverse and intersex communities. This was as part of a global UHC campaign, using #HealthForAll and #UHCDay. [View the Toolkit.](#)

NEW PROJECT

LGTBI Stakeholder Group

The LGBTI Stakeholder Group is composed of global, regional, and national civil society organizations and activists concerned about the inclusion of LGBTI people and SOGIESC issues in the 2030 Agenda. GATE's Executive Director is representing GATE in this group, which was formally recognized as an entity within the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGoS) structure at the 2019 United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In 2019 GATE joined the Major LGBTI Stakeholder Group, whose mission is to work on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, and to engage in the annual follow-up and review process and High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development.

UNITED NATIONS

Human rights violations based on gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics have received insufficient attention from the international human rights system. GATE is working to change this situation by increasing the meaningful engagement of trans, gender diverse and intersex activists with the United Nations, and by expanding human rights frameworks to be fully inclusive.

EVENTS

Trans Advocacy Week and SOGI mandate renewal

UN Trans Advocacy Week is a joint initiative driven by trans-led collaborative work, centering trans activism and issues at this significant global arena. It is organized annually by APTN, GATE, ILGA, RFSL and TGEU, and takes place in Geneva at the UN Human Rights Council in June/July each year.



This year, we joined with a wider consortium of 1,312 non-governmental organizations from 174 States and territories to support the successful campaign calling on the Council to renew the mandate of the UN Independent Expert on SOGI. In addition, two oral statements were delivered at the Plenary and a third statement was submitted, and participants attended meetings with the OHCHR, UNAIDS, special procedures, and country missions. [Read more.](#)

PUBLICATIONS

The Road To Hell: Intersex People, Sexual Health and Human Rights

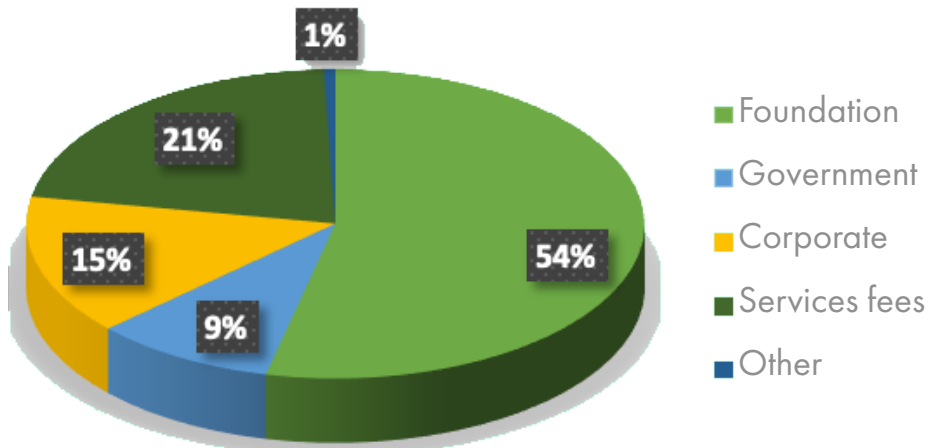
In October, GATE's ED gave a keynote lecture on intersex issues at the Congress of the World Association for Sexual Health. This publication is the text of his presentation. [Read the publication.](#)

Gender Identity and Reproductive Autonomy

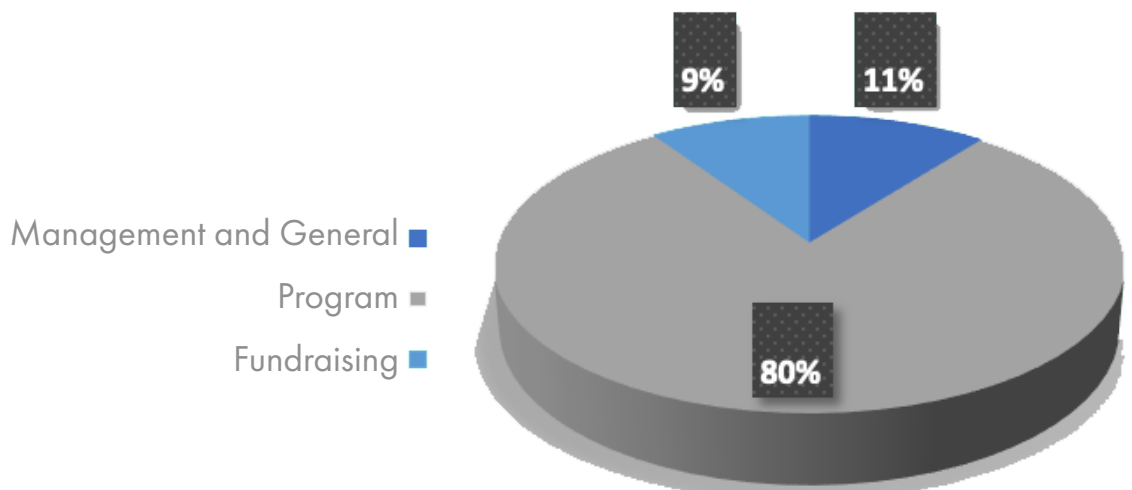
Gender identity and reproductive autonomy analyzes how the combination of the right to found a family with the right to benefit from scientific progress and access to it by any person regardless their sexual orientation or gender identity has generated a deconstruction of biology, sex, gender and roles. This paper focuses on two main issues: 1) how the above rights should be guaranteed to trans people under equal conditions and 2) how the combination of these rights and new technologies are challenging concepts, roles, and relationships. This paper was originally delivered as a keynote presentation by Dr. Lamm at the International WPATH Symposium in Buenos Aires, November 2018. [Read the publication.](#)

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE: US \$839,500



EXPENSES: US \$663,000



OUR WORK IS SUPPORTED BY

- Arcus Foundation
- Global Health Strategies
- The Global Fund CRG SI
- International AIDS Society
- Open Society Foundation
- Global Equality Fund
- ViiV Healthcare’s Positive Action Program
- Anonymous donor
- Individual donors

GOVERNANCE

GATE’s Board of Directors

- Tamara Adrian, Venezuela, Co-Chair
- Dave Scamell, Australia, Co-Chair
- Masen Davis, US, Treasurer
- Eszter Kismodi, Secretary, Switzerland
- Kitty Anderson, Iceland
- Tshep Ricki Kgositau, South Africa
- Ricky Nathanson, Zimbabwe/USA

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

In 2020 GATE will:

- ◇ Co-chair the Thematic Group on National Laws and Policies at the Equal Rights Coalition;
- ◇ Co-organize Trans Advocacy Week at the Human Rights Council in Geneva;
- ◇ Attend AIDS2020 Virtual Conference and Co-host the Trans Networking Zone;
- ◇ Produce policy papers on legal depathologization, the right to truth and poverty;
- ◇ Produce reports on gender ideology, including its conceptual and political framework and its occurrence in Central Europe and Latin America;
- ◇ Co-organize the trans pre-conference to the AWID International Conference;
- ◇ Monitor follow up steps in the ICD-11 implementation process;
- ◇ Produce a new Strategic Plan; and
- ◇ Celebrate our 10th Anniversary!





GATE is an international organization working on gender identity, gender expression and bodily diversity, including sex characteristics. We work defending and promoting trans, gender diverse and intersex people's human rights, supporting their political mobilization and making available critical knowledge on the issues affecting them.

Our work is guided by a strong commitment with collective and collaborative work, reparative justice, accountability, intersectionality, solidarity, diversity and transformational knowledge.

www.GATE.ngo

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