## WORLD WIDE DAY OF GENITAL AUTONOMY 2021

|           |                                  | EXISTING LAWS CONCERNING FORCED GENITAL ALTERATIONS ON CHILDREN UNDER LEGAL AG  |   |                               |                              |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Country   | UN-CRC                           | Law: Right to bodily integrity  | Law: Children's<br>Right to violent-<br>free upbringing   | legalizing<br>FGC/M           | banning<br>FGC/M             | legalizing<br>MGC/M | banning<br>MGC/M | legalizing<br>IGC/M | banning<br>IGC/M | legalizing<br>Trans*-<br>GC/M | banning<br>Trans*-<br>GC/M |
| Europe    |                                  | 2000 (CFR)<br>Charter of<br>Fundamental Rights<br><u>Article 3</u><br>Right to integrity of<br>the person   | 1998<br>Corporal punishment<br>practice declared<br>illegal by the<br>European Court of<br>Human Rights |                               |                              |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| USA       | 1995 (signed,<br>not ratified)   | no specific provisions<br>regarding the rights<br>one has with respect<br>to their physical body<br>or the specific extent<br>to which the state can<br>act upon bodies |   |                               | 1996,<br>2018 <sup>1</sup>   |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Argentina | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified) |   | 2005  | No data<br><mark>found</mark> |                              |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Australia | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified) |   | Family Law Act 1975;<br>Australian Human<br>Rights Commission<br>Act 1986                               |                               | 1994,<br>reviesed<br>in 2010 |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Austria   | 1990 (signed)<br>1992 (ratified) |   | Federal<br>Constitutional Act on<br>the Rights of<br>Children 2011                                      |                               | 2002                         |                     |                  |                     | 2018             |                               |                            |
| Belgium   | 1991 (signed)<br>1992 (ratified) |   |   |                               | 2001<br>(little<br>applied9  |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |

|           |   | EXISTING LAWS CONCERNING FORCED GENITAL ALTERATIONS ON CHILDREN UNDER LEGAL AGE |   |                               |  |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
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| Canada    | 1990 (signed)<br>1991 (ratified)                          |   | 2004<br>Supreme Court of<br>Canada says yes to<br>"soft" spanking |                               | 1997   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| China     | 1990 (signed)<br>1992 (ratified                           |   | 1991, Law on the<br>Protection of Minors                          | <mark>No data</mark><br>found |  |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| Denmark   | 1990 (signed)<br>1991 (ratified)                          |   |   |                               | 2003   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| Egypt     | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified)                          |   |   |                               | 2008   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| Finland   | 1990 (signed)<br>1991 (ratified                           |   |   |                               | 2015   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| France    | 1990 (signed,<br>ratified)                                | 1994<br>Civil Code <u>article 16-3</u>  | 1889 <sup>2</sup><br>1898 <sup>3</sup><br>2019 <sup>4</sup>       |                               | 1979<br>first<br>lawsuits<br>won<br>1983 <sup>5</sup><br>1994<br>Penal<br>Code | <u>2004</u> <sup>6</sup> | 1889 <sup>7</sup><br>1994<br>Penal<br>Code,<br>but<br>"toleran<br>ce" |                     |                  | 2016<br>In order<br>to change<br>sex, you<br>had<br>before to<br>sterilise<br>yourself. |                            |
| GB        | 1990 (signed)<br>1991 (ratified)                          | 1967  | Children Act 1989   |                               | 1985   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| Germany   | 1990 (signed)<br>1992<br>(ratified)/<br>2010 <sup>8</sup> | 1949  | 2000  |                               | 2013   | 2012                     |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| Indonesia | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified)                          |   |   |                               | 2006,<br>2014 <sup>9</sup>   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |
| Iran      | 1991 (signed)<br>1994 (ratified)                          |   |   |                               | 2013   |                          |   |                     |                  |   |                            |

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| Israel          | 1990 (signed)<br>1991 (ratified) |   | 1977 (Penal Law,<br>5737)   | Still not<br>criminalised<br>(as of March<br>2020) |                  |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Japan           | 1990 (signed)<br>1994 (ratified) |   | Child Welfare Act of<br>1947;<br>Child Abuse<br>Prevention Act in<br>2000 | No case of<br>FGM<br>reported                      |                  |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Kenya           | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified) |   | 2001 Children Act   |  | 2001             |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Malaysia        | 1995 (ratified)                  |   |   | Still not<br>criminalised<br>(as of March<br>2020) |                  |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Malta           | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified) |   |   |  | 2010             |                     |                  |                     | 2015             |                               |                            |
| Norway          | 1990 (signed)<br>1991 (ratified) |   |   |  | 1995             | 2015                |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Russia          | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified) |   |   | Still not<br>criminalized<br>(as of March<br>2020) |                  |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| South<br>Africa | 1993 (signed)<br>1995 (ratified) |   |   |  | 2003             | 2005?               |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Sweden          | 1990 (signed)<br>1990 (ratified) |   | The Children and<br>Parents Code 1979                                     |  | 1982             | 2001                |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |
| Switzerland     | 1991 (signed)<br>1997 (ratified) |   |   |  | 2012             |                     |                  |                     |                  |                               |                            |

|         | GENERAL LEGAL CONDITIONS         |                                   |   | EXISTING LAWS CONCERNING FORCED GENITAL ALTERATIONS ON CHILDREN UNDER LEGAL AG |                  |                     |                  |                     |                  |  |                            |
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| Turkey  | 1990 (signed)<br>1995 (ratified) |                                   |   | Not clear <sup>10</sup>  |                  |                     |                  |                     |                  |  |                            |

## Keynotes:

- <sup>2</sup> law on the forfeiture of fathers on trial Unworthy organises paternal forfeiture, when he appears that children are abused or morally abandoned
- <sup>3</sup> law aimed at repressing violence, assault, acts of cruelty and attacks committed against children (remains a dead letter)

<sup>8</sup> Limited radification 1992

<sup>9</sup> Criminalised in 2006, medicalised in 2010, then recriminalised in 2014 but without punishments. Present legal status unclear

10 There have not been substantial research into FGM in Turkey. There is some evidence to suggest that FGM exists in this country. It is reported that FGM is practiced by regions inhabited by Kurdish minorities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Criminalised federally in 1996, but federal law declared unconstitutional in 2018. New federal law passed in 2021. Specifically criminalised in 38/50 states as of May 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> prohibition of "ordinary educational violence" (spanking forbidden)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The decision of the Criminal Division of the Court of Cassation recognised the criminal nature of sexual mutilation, considering that the removal of the clitoris was indeed a mutilation within the meaning of the French Criminal Code.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The Council of State, in its public report "Un siècle de laïcité" (A Century of Secularism), states "Accepted religious practice, ritual circumcision ...".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Prohibition of the ritual aspiration of the blood of the foreskin by the peritomist during the of Jewish circumcision, has never been taken into account