

**YREN ROTELA AND MARIANA
SEPÚLVEDA
PARAGUAY**

Protesting to exist

Yren and Mariana want to live their lives freely and do things they love, like playing volleyball, dancing and going to the theatre. However, as trans women, Yren and Mariana are busy defending themselves against discrimination. They've been bullied, physically attacked and prevented from speaking out about the issues they face in their daily lives.

Trans people in Paraguay cannot legally change their names or obtain identity documents that match their gender identity, among other discriminatory practices. This means trans students cannot get school certificates in their chosen names, which makes finding a job difficult. This inequality has motivated Yren and Mariana to become activists, to demand change.

But protesting isn't easy for trans people in Paraguay. Paraguay is a very conservative country which treats trans people and the wider LGBTI community unfairly. It tries to make them invisible. Because of this, protests by trans groups are often banned, and in some cases demonstrations have been attacked.

Yren and Mariana have been fighting for years to change their legal names. If they could get documentation that matches who they are, it would mean the state had started to recognize their existence as trans women. As Yren says: "I came into the world to show who I am, not to be told who I am."

Tell Paraguay to legally recognize the identity of trans people so they can exercise their rights

**WRITE TO THE
PARAGUAYAN
AUTHORITIES**

Tell them to legally recognize the identities of transgender people so that they can exercise their right to freedom of expression, association and protest under their self-perceived identities.

President of the Supreme Court of Justice
Palacio de Justicia del Paraguay
Mariano Roque Alonso y Testanova
Asunción
C.P. N°001001
Paraguay

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Salutation: Dear Mr President

His Excellency Raul Antonio MONTIEL GASTO
Ambassador for the Republic of Paraguay
130 Albert Street, Suite 418
Ottawa ON K1P 1B1

Email: embaparcana@mre.gov.py
Salutation: Your Excellency

SHOW YREN AND MARIANA YOU'RE WITH THEM

Send your messages of friendship and hope to Yren and Mariana to continue in their fight.

Address:
Amnesty International Paraguay
Hassler 5229
entre Cruz del Defensor y Cruz del Chaco
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