

A central illustration of a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue jacket over a grey sweater. The background is a light blue pattern of small white dots, overlaid with various icons: a stethoscope, a blood pressure cuff, a clipboard with a checklist, a pen, a keyboard, a typewriter, a stethoscope, a heart rate monitor, a transgender flag, and several female symbols. The overall theme is human rights and healthcare.

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



DEMANDING THE RIGHT TO BE WHO HE IS

SAKRIS KUPILA

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, FINLAND

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Sakris Kupila has never identified as a woman. Yet the 21-year-old medical student must endure daily embarrassment because his identity documents say he is female.

Sakris was a teenager when he realised that the gender he was given at birth didn't express who he is. He chose a new name – which is considered male – but under Finnish law people are not allowed names of another gender. Sakris had to be diagnosed with a “mental disorder” to keep his name.

This was Sakris' first step towards legal recognition of who he is. But to have your gender reassigned in Finland, you must be diagnosed with a “mental disorder” *and* sterilised. Such requirements are a stain on Finland's reputation for openness and tolerance.

For Sakris, the choice is clear. He opposes this humiliating treatment and is demanding a change to the law. “The basic human rights of transgender people are currently violated in Finland,” he says. “Not only do we face discrimination within society itself, but also by the state.”

Sakris' struggle has earned him threats and open hostility. But he won't give in. “I'll stop when the fight is over,” he says.

Tell Finland to change the law and support transgender rights activists.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the Prime Minister of Finland

Tell him to change the law and support transgender rights activists.

Prime Minister Juha Sipilä
Finnish Government
PL 23, 00023 Valtioneuvosto
Finland

Facebook: <http://amn.st/60028tb22>
Twitter: @juhasipila

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister



Show Sakris you're with him

Send him your messages of love and support. You can use the colours of the Trans flag: white, pink and light blue.

Sakris Kupila
Amnesty International Finnish Section
Hietaniemenkatu 7 A
00100 Helsinki
Finland