



# MSM and Trans Labor Migrants Affected by the HIV Epidemic in Russia.

**Problems and Solutions** 

















- at the beginning of 2018, 10,000,000 foreign citizens were in Russia
- more than 50% of migrants are found in the Moscow region
- 80% of migrants come from the countries of the former USSR (Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, Armenia, etc.), of which 33% come from the countries of Central Asia (Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan)
- 90% are men between the ages of 18-40
- In 2017, 8,300 MSM and trans people were covered by LaSky's project, of which 29.6% (2,457) were internal migrant citizens of the Russian Federation and 8.2% (680) were labor migrants from countries of the former USSR
- 883 clients were tested for HIV at the project's service center, of which 116 (13.1%) tested positive

















#### Problems of HIV+ MSM and trans internal migrant-citizens of Russia

- linkage of treatment to the place of registered permanent residence of the patient
- lack of ART drugs in regional AIDS centers
- discrimination in the place of work
- discrimination at school or university
- discrimination at the place of residence
- SOGI-based discrimination and stigmatization















### Problems of HIV+ labor migrants from countries of the former USSR in Russia

- total lack of access to treatment
- prohibition on working
- threat of deportation
- pressure from authorities and inspection bodies
- Persecution based on SOGI from other diaspora representatives
- Xenophobia at all levels

















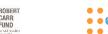
#### Solutions and recommendations for Russia

- decriminalize foreign citizens who have HIV or other chronic diseases in Russia
- ensure access to treatment and prevention programssimplify the residency system for citizens from countries of the former USSR in Russia
- eliminate barriers for foreign citizens receiving a work permit in Russia















## Solutions and recommendations for foreign governments

- Enter into a dialogue with the state structures in Russia responsible for HIV and STI treatment and prevention in order to ensure treatment for their citizens temporarily residing in Russia
- Build relationships with Russian authorities and inspection bodies in order to stop the unlawful persecution and pressuring of their citizens in Russia
- Decriminalize representatives of the LGBT community in their countries
- Ensure that the medical information of their citizens remains confidential
- Ensure access to treatment for HIV and other diseases for all categories of citizens, regardless of social status or SOGI
- Ensure that human rights legislation is in line with generally accepted international norms

















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Thank you!













