

Hi everyone. I know it's been a while since I've posted, and there are reasons for that.

I had to do the most important things that were bothering me every day, then I got tired of being afraid of society for who I was and started wearing women's clothes outside (even if not completely, but still), then news came from the Georgian parliament that the country, where I am now, will ban LGBTQ+ propaganda soon, including SRS (sex reassignment surgeries) and, perhaps, even HRT. I had the desire to write a post about it, then I was consumed by depression because of this news, from which I was pulled out for a while by emotions from a difficult choice on which my life will depend for the next few years and which I still haven't made. And this choice of life path is now killing me morally, sometimes even more than the gender dysphoria that I have been experiencing since I realized I am a trans girl (and that was exactly 4 years ago) and from which I have done nothing specific to get rid of, except for coming out online 2 years ago and IRL social coming out a couple of months ago (and even that was not a complete coming out, because I can't insist to local people that they call me what I want).

I don't want to talk about anything else right now except the pain I feel every day. The pain of choosing a life path that I haven't made yet. I'm not able to make it myself. And I can't tell anyone about it either, because I don't think anyone can imagine themselves in my place and tell me what to do.

If you want to know what's been gnawing at me all these months, read this post to the end.



# About me

But first, I'll tell you a little about myself for those who are hearing about me for the first time or who don't know me very well, even though we either communicated in DM only a couple of times or only followed each other, but after that we never communicated.

I am Irisia a.k.a. Holly. I am 22 years old.

I love EDM, My Little Pony, Star Wars, music-based and indie games (especially Geometry Dash, Porter Robinson and Madeon music).

All these interests, which appeared gradually from the age of 14, helped me understand who I really am, what I want from life and also that I can achieve this not in my country. And all this still helps me to remain myself in such difficult conditions.

I was born in Russia and lived there for 20 years. But 2,5 years ago, when the war in Ukraine started, I made a choice that was more difficult than I had ever had to make before. I decided to move from the country.

The reasons why I decided to move were the following:

- 1) I wanted to leave Russia even before this moment.
- 2) I never had any plans related to Russia. My only goals in life were to make a gender transition and to bring a large-scale idea to life through animation. I immediately understood that since the worst thing that any person on Earth feared had happened, it would only get worse, right up to the isolation of the country, both economic and physical (that people would not be allowed to leave the country) and all possible bans for LGBTQ+ people.

As a result, everything I was afraid of and why I left became real after 2.5 years. LGBTQ+ persons are outlawed, and any public manifestation of queer activity is now punishable by up to and including imprisonment. And the law on electronic summonses will soon come into effect, and any biological man who does not show up to the military commissariat in response to a summons, whether it is in paper or electronic form, will now be deprived of basic civil rights, including travel abroad.

On the very first day of the war, I wrote a post on Twitter that I wanted to leave the country and needed help in the form of donations. Then a lot of people responded and they all donated enough money for me to leave. For this, I will be grateful to them forever.

I did not choose the specific country to leave willingly. And my budget for moving was limited. Everything depended on a variety of circumstances, and even the choice of country could

change. And in the end, thanks to one friend, I ended up here — in Georgia, the Caucasus country (it's better to rename it to Sakartvelo to not mistake it with the US state that has the same name).

When I moved here, things weren't that bad politically. But it's only now that I've realized how similar it is to the country I just left. But first things first.

## What happened?

Since December, when I moved to a better room after a year and a half of living in Georgia, I fed myself with the hope that I would be able to save some money from my small salary for the things I wanted (first of all, for the deco of my room, and only then for gender transition). At that moment, I realized that for any of the goals that I have in life, I need to cut costs as much as possible, which is why this move happened. However, then a series of events at work began that could affect my financial situation, which had just become a little better, and as a result of which I came out to two of my friends. But despite this, I fell into dismorality, which was also accompanied by my leaving all the platforms where I was publicly active, including Twitter, in order to focus on work that I do not really like, and by a long wait for things from AliExpress, which I planned and plan to use for my photo shoots for OnlyFans/Fansly.

This is how my first room, where I lived for 1,5 years after I moved from Russia, looked like very close and a little distant:







And this is how my room, where I lived from December 2023 to January 2024, looked like:

Then there was a huge disappointment because I chose an apartment whose lease was expiring soon, which I didn't know before. Which meant I had to move soon. And I moved to a hostel in the city center, which, surprisingly, turned out to be very cheap. Of course, the inside look there left much to be desired, but due to the fact that the price now allowed me to save more money, I turned on full creative mode and, inspired by popular adult creators from Twitter and Reddit, ordered a large tapestry for myself to hang those parts of the room that I didn't want to show in case of getting back to socials, and a RGB light ring on a large tripod.

Unfortunately, they took too long to arrive from China, and waiting for them became torture, but so was waiting for my second passport, this time a biometric one and for 10 years instead of 5, for which I applied in December after 2.5 months of waiting in line. I wanted to get it before the Russian presidential elections in mid-March because I was afraid of the upcoming ban on issuing foreign passports, news about which began to spread precisely while I was waiting for this document. I got mad at myself many times because I was afraid that if I didn't get this passport, then when my current one expired, I would become a complete illegal immigrant in any country in the world, bc I would not have a valid document confirming my identity. But fortunately, I got it 3 days before the elections.

In the end, when I received things from AliExpress and did all the necessary things, including getting a second passport, I did not know what to do next. I managed to finish decorating my room.

Here's how it looks like now:







Even for a moment it seemed that with the money that I save per month from my salary (and this is \$110 per month with a salary of \$333), I can start HRT and thus fully engage in gender transition. But then something happened that completely broke all my plans.

## The law that broke me and my future

In March 2024, in the Georgian parliament, in parallel with the law that is similar to the Russian law on foreign agents, one of the most repressive laws in modern Russia, they began to consider a law called "On family values and the protection of minors", which is actually directed against LGBTQ+ people, to which I also belong.

The following citations of the texts of the draft laws will be taken from here:

<https://www.parliament.ge/legislation/28703>

Here I will quote laws that will affect me personally as a transgender person who:

- 1)is not taking hormones yet, but wants to start;
- 2)wants to change her name and gender in documents;
- 3)could think about getting a residence permit in Georgia (but now I don't think about it anymore).

I will emphasize the most necessary.

*On Amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Healthcare"*

**Article 1.** To add Article 141 to the Law of Georgia “On Healthcare” (Parliamentary Gazette No. 47-48, 31.12.1997, p. 126) with the following content:

“Article 141. Carrying out a surgical operation or other medical manipulations to change the gender of another person is prohibited.”

**Article 2.** This law shall enter into force on the day of its publication.

### On Amendments to the Law of Georgia “On Civil Acts”

**Article 1.** To make the following amendments to the Law of Georgia “On Civil Acts” (Legislative Herald of Georgia ([www.matsne.gov.ge](http://www.matsne.gov.ge)) 28.12.2011 registration code: 040200010.05.001.016538):

1. To supplement the law with Article 61 of the following content:

“Article 61. Indication of gender in the civil act record and civil act registration certificate

Indication of gender different from the biological gender of the person in the civil act record and/or civil act registration certificate is prohibited.”

2. Supplement the law with Article 541 as follows:

“Article 541. Inadmissibility of Registration and Recognition of Alternative Marriage and Marriage Contrary to the Purposes of Creating a Family

1. Registration or legal recognition as a marriage of a union that does not meet the conditions established by the legislation of Georgia for marriage is inadmissible.

2. Registration or legal recognition of an alternative marriage or a union aimed at creating a family that does not meet the conditions established by the legislation of Georgia for marriage is inadmissible. Such unions registered or recognized abroad have no legal force in Georgia.

3. Registration or legal recognition of sexual relations between persons, one of whom identifies as a gender different from the biological one, or whose sexual orientation is not heterosexual, is inadmissible. Such relations, recognized or registered abroad, have no legal force in Georgia.”

4. Delete subparagraph “b” of Article 78.

**Article 2.** This law shall enter into force on the day of its publication.

*On Amendments to the Law of Georgia “On the Procedure for Issuing Identity Cards (Residence Permits) and Passports of Georgian Citizens for the Registration of Georgian Citizens and Foreigners Residing in Georgia”*

**Article 1.** To add Article 12 to the Law of Georgia “On the Procedure for Issuing Identity Cards (Residence Permits) and Passports of Georgian Citizens for the Registration of Georgian Citizens and Foreigners Residing in Georgia” (Parliamentary Gazette, No. 19-20, 30.07.96, p. 28) with the following content:

“Article 12. Indication of a gender other than biological in any of the documents provided for by this law is prohibited.”

**Article 2.** This law shall enter into force on the day of its publication.

*On Amendments to the Code of Administrative Offenses of Georgia*

**Article 1.** The following amendments shall be made to the Code of Administrative Offenses of Georgia (Bulletin of the Supreme Council of the Georgian SSR, No. 12, 1984, Article 421):

1. Part 3 of Article 29 shall be set out as follows:

“3. Confiscation of an item (goods) that was the direct object of an administrative offense provided for in Articles 1533 or 1536 or Parts 1 or 2 of Article 17210 of this Code shall mean its forced gratuitous transfer to the ownership of the relevant municipality.”

2. Supplement the Code with Article 17210 of the following content:

“Article 17210. Violation of the requirements established by the Law of Georgia “On the Protection of Family Values and Minors

1. Distribution of advertising aimed at popularizing sexual orientation or incest among persons of the same biological sex, or gender reassignment, if the distributor actually controlled this distribution:



is punishable by a fine of 800 GEL and confiscation of the subject of the offense for individuals, as well as a fine of 2,500 GEL and confiscation of the subject of the offense for legal entities.

2. Providing a minor with information (including creative works) aimed at popularizing sexual orientation or incest among persons of the same biological sex:

is punishable by a fine of 1,000 GEL and confiscation of the subject of the offense for individuals, and by a fine of 3,000 GEL and confiscation of the subject of the offense for legal entities.

### On Amendments to the Criminal Code of Georgia

**Article 1.** To add Article 1761 to the Criminal Code of Georgia (Legislative Herald of Georgia, No. 41 (48), 1999, Article 209) as follows:

"Article 1761. Violation of the Requirements Established by the Law of Georgia "On the Protection of Family Values and Minors"

1. Repeated commission by a person of an administrative offense provided for in Article 17210 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of Georgia, after imposing an administrative penalty for one of these offenses:

shall be punishable by a fine, deprivation of the right to hold a position or engage in activities for up to three years, or imprisonment for up to two years.

2. Carrying out a surgical operation or other medical manipulations to change the gender of a person:

shall be punishable by a fine, deprivation of the right to hold a position or engage in activities for up to three years, or imprisonment for a term of one to four years.

Note: a legal entity is punishable by a fine for the act provided for in this article.

**Article 2.** This law shall enter into force on the day of its publication.

# I'm done running, just let me live my trans life

To say that I was shocked by the adoption of this law is to say nothing.

It's been half a year (since April) since I managed to stabilize my income to the point where I can save at least something from my salary. I did my best to truly start my trans journey. It seemed that everything would only get better and I would have time to prepare for moving to a better country. And then, this shit happened right after I started socializing in a new country.

This means that I fled my country partly because I was afraid that queer people would have a much worse life (which is what eventually happened), and in the end these fears caught up with me in another country, from which I could be deported in the event of just one public violation of local legislation, which will soon include public displays of non-traditional inclinations. That is, in essence, soon I will be without the possibility of any legalization here. And if I am deported, I could face imprisonment under Russian law, because LGBTQ individuals have been recognized as a terrorist-level group for almost a year now (not exactly terrorists, but there is simply no more direct word than that).

I have only recently started wearing women's clothing as another step in my transition, and I am now afraid that even this moment could become a reason for the local police to stop me one day, detain me and subsequently deport me.

The whole new life for which I left Russia, leaving everything behind, is now under threat.

I am tired of running.

I am tired of hiding.

I am tired of pretending to be a person I don't want to be and being criticized by people who don't want to accept me for who I am (which is happening on my job).

Besides, it's already the fifth year of me dreaming about HRT, and it seems that it will be possible to overcome the ban by getting hormones illegally, but then I would tie myself financially to Georgia, and in order to leave, I would have to roll back all my progress and start all over again.

And looking at all the trans girls on Twitter, I have to admit, I'm jealous.

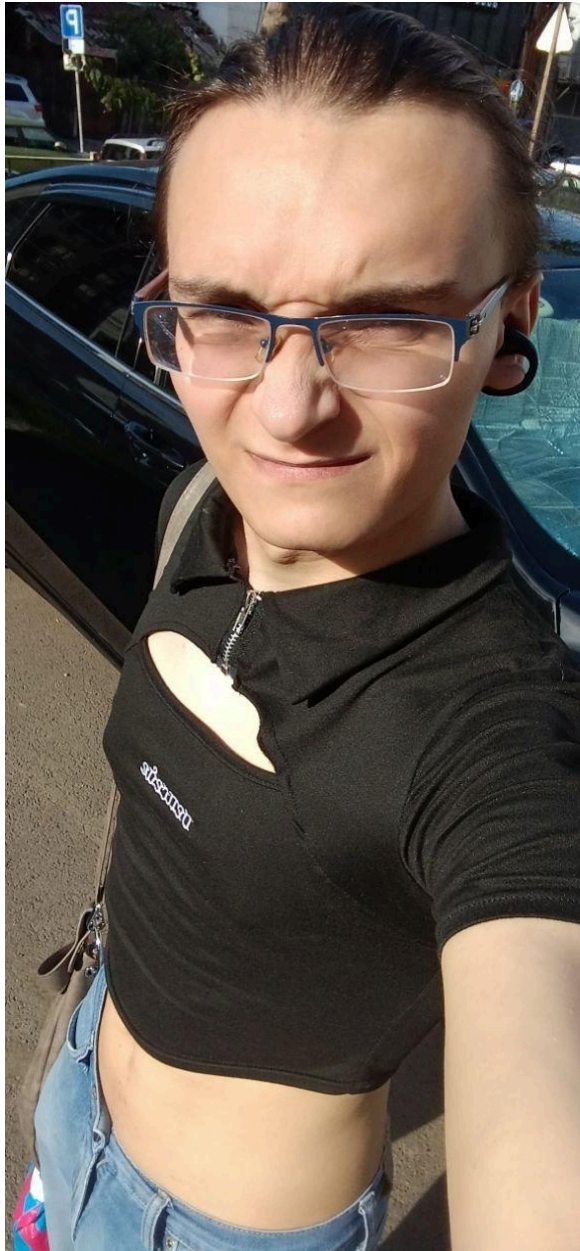
Jealous of people who are able to start HRT bc it's banned in my home country and will be legally banned in Georgia where I am now.

Jealous of people who are able to get gender-affirming surgeries bc it's banned in my home country and will be banned in Georgia where I am now.

Jealous of people who are able to change their gender and name in documents bc it's banned in my home country and will be banned in Georgia where I am now.

Jealous of people who are able to register same-sex marriage bc it never was possible in my home country and here, and I don't think that it may become real in both countries in the following years.

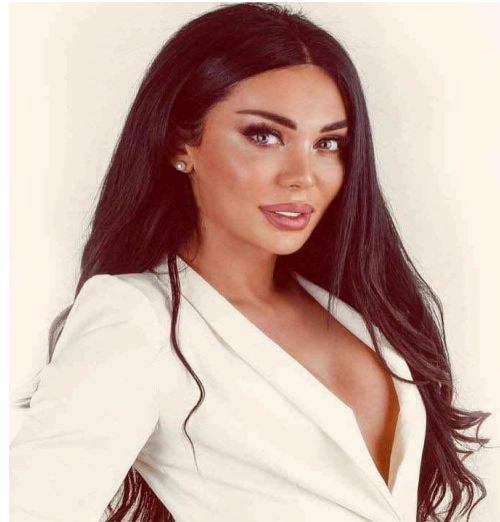
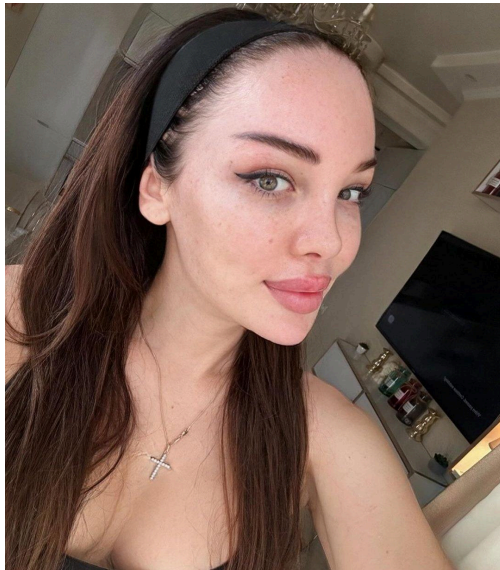
This is how much I changed my style only to start hiding it again in fear of getting back to Russia.





But an even bigger shock for me was the murder of the most famous trans girl in Georgia, Kesaria Abramidze. I had never heard of her before. But the circumstances of the case scared me so much that I immediately realized that from now on, after the law was passed, NO queer person is protected, EVEN TRANS PERSON.

This murder coincided with the fact that the law on family values (a.k.a. The Anti-LGBTQ Law) was adopted on the day preceding this tragedy, which is already a pretty big sign.



## I need your help

Only a couple of weeks ago I decided what I would do next: apply for asylum in Spain. I don't care that I don't have the skills to earn a living. I want to live my life to the fullest and be who I want to be. But there is a problem: I don't know how to get the money to move. And in the long run, probably the most extreme option: save money for 3 years (\$110 every month), not buying anything for myself and putting off the dream of HRT for those same 3 years, risking every day to come under the gaze of the police, to be deported and imprisoned in my home country simply for who I am.

So I see no other way out than to ask my followers on socials for help with donations. I tried to solve all this on my own, but it all came to a point where it became clear that I myself am not able to provide myself with a safe life.

Once, when I addressed this request to my subscribers, they helped me. Helped me raise money to leave Russia, which I had previously considered impossible.

Now I have to do one more impossible thing in my life.

I opened a GoFundMe to raise money for the move. To cover the minimum costs of moving, I need to raise €3500 — an amount that I have never done before. But in order to protect myself from deportation to Russia, I am ready to do anything.

I want to live my life without looking back, being in constant fear, as it was when the war in Ukraine began and I did not find a place for myself in Russia, because I understood that nothing good would happen anymore.

And now, when I have only just stopped being afraid, I have to think every day again about how not to return home to the abuser, which is what the Russian state is now. If I hadn't been afraid for my life because I want to be anyone, I wouldn't have left.

And the worst thing is that no one can protect you, because due to the order from above that queer people like me are considered outlaws, the local police will not spare anyone, even if they are emigrants who do not want to return to their homeland.

That is why I am asking you for help. The link to the fundraising is here.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-holly-to-move-to-a-safe-country-due-to-transphobic-law>  
<https://gofund.me/73257f31> (the shorter link)

And I ask you to share this with your friends and acquaintances. I am asking more about this because last time, without sharing of my post about my desire to leave Russia, nothing would have happened. But thanks to my followers and simply caring people, I found those who supported me financially. This was the case when you gave me a chance for a new life, and I did not miss it, no matter how much my family told me that no one would need me abroad. And now I am asking you to give me a second chance for a safe life.

## Some thoughts

This part will be about thoughts I had while I was missing. There won't be a lot of them, just the important ones.

The first thought that I got was when I was checking feed every day. I saw every trans person succeeding on their way to make their life better by transitioning. Then I looked to myself and felt like I'm nothing. I can't start HRT due to financial reasons (and now, it's just illegal), I don't do makeup daily bc it will cost me a lot of money to buy new cosmetics. I'm stuck at some point

and I can't move forward, and because of that, I feel that I don't belong to the community and I don't deserve people who made it work out.

At some point I felt that I can't do anything with it, I can't make my life any better. I was depressed because of it. I hated myself. I had gone through all this trouble, renounced my old life, only to end up not being able to create the new one I had always dreamed of.

But despite this, I have not lost hope completely. I still believe in changes. And it all depends on me, whether I want them to happen soon or not.

I got the second thought right after I made a choice to prepare moving from Georgia. I looked at myself in retrospect, with the context that all my friends who came here did it themselves and no one helped them. And I thought that maybe I wasn't initially destined to be here, bc I didn't have any skills or funds to make my move from Russia to Georgia on my own back then, while everyone who I know here made it from their own money that they earned, not from donations.

But I did something that was impossible for me, nothing has improved for me in 2 years significantly, and now I have to do one more thing of 'impossible' level again, while everyone else is making it, as I said, from the money that they earned themselves.

And the third thought is that I deeply regret not taking the chance to make new friends online in 2024. Because I thought it was important to focus on work. Some might have already forgotten about me. And I never had a chance to chat with others who follow me in DM. They kind of know about me because they follow me, but they don't know anything else. And I'm not interested in other people's lives because everything revolves around me. Just me and my life, and nothing else. This is wrong. And it needs to be fixed.

## Ending

Finally, I will show you my collection of clothes, which I have to hide precisely because of the Georgian anti-LGBT law, to show that I did not stand still and tried to improve life around me.



Visit the VVK Store 4.5 ★★★★★ 86  
VVK Tank Top for Women Keyhole V Neck Going Out Clothes  
Pleated Summer Casual Cute Floral Loose Fit Halter Tops



Dokotoo Visit the Store 4.2 ★★★★★ 3,569

Dokotoo Womens Color Block Sweaters Long Sleeve Crewneck  
Pullover Knit Jumper Tops  
50+ bought in past month



Once again, here's the link to GFM fundraising to help me to move from Georgia to Spain:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-holly-to-move-to-a-safe-country-due-to-transphobic-law>  
<https://gofund.me/73257f31> (the shorter link)

Thanks for reading !  
Cya later !!

- Irisia.

<https://linktr.ee/iamirisia>