

## ABOUT BRÚJULA INTERSEXUAL [INTERSEX COMPASS]

We are a Mexican organization founded by Laura Inter in 2013. At Brújula Intersexual, we work with intersex people, activists and communities in Mexico, Latin America, and Spain. We advocate for intersex human rights and seek to improve the lives of people with intersex bodily variations. To this end, we produce informational materials, provide peer support, and collaborate with government institutions in Mexico to develop public policies.

We seek to create a more just world by transforming the political, social, and cultural structures that sustain gender-based violence.

### WHY THE COMPASS?

The compass is the tool that helps travelers not get lost, and it is important for us to provide orientation and guidance to people with intersex variations and their families.



## CONTACT & SOCIAL MEDIA



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[@brujulaintersexual.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/brujulaintersexual)



[@brujulaintersexual](https://www.youtube.com/@brujulaintersexual)

### LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK AND PROJECTS



## INTERSEX

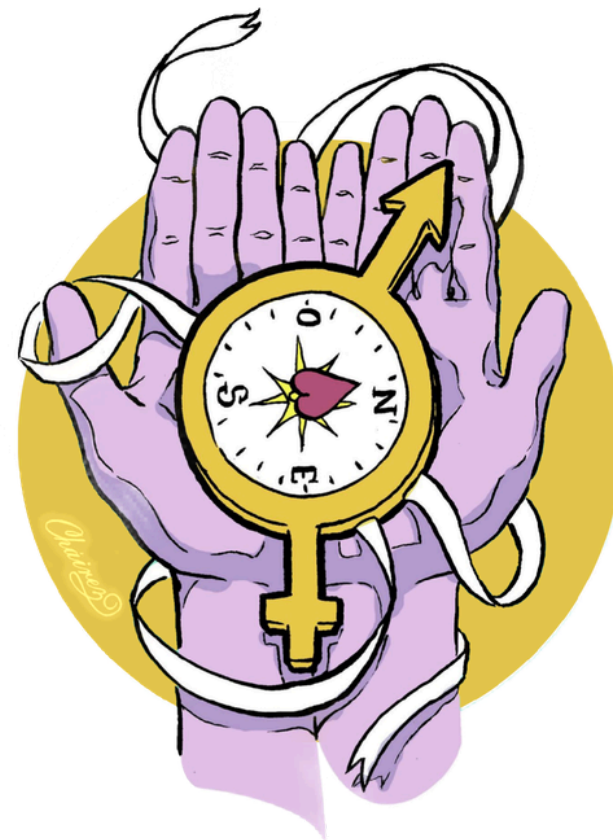


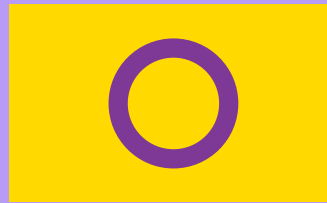
Illustration: Fabián Cháirez

## WHAT IS INTERSEX?

Intersex is the term we use to describe a range of natural bodily variations in which a person is born with variations of sex characteristics – that is, variations in genital anatomy, gonadal composition, hormone levels, or chromosomal patterns – that do not seem to fit the typical definitions of male or female. Therefore, there is no standard intersex anatomy, but different intersex variations.

This variability in body composition is not always evident at birth. In some cases, a person may not discover that they have an intersex variation until puberty, when the physical changes expected for a typical woman or man do not occur.

According to the UN, up to 1.7% of the population is born with intersex variations. This proportion is equivalent to a population larger than that of Mexico.



## INTERSEX

**IS NOT**

a sexual orientation  
a gender identity  
a pathology  
a “third sex”

Women, men, and non-binary people’s bodies can take many forms, which are all valid.

In Mexico, legislative initiatives that seek to register babies born with intersex bodies in a “third category” on birth certificates have been introduced. We consider that this is not a suitable solution to the problems we face.

The Latin American intersex movement rejects this type of initiative. We align with San José de Costa Rica Statement, which calls states to reject any notion and labelling of intersex as a “third sex”, “third gender” or similar ones at birth, because these categories do not reflect the diversity of the bodies we inhabit and violate our right to privacy. We recommend assigning male or female based on best expectations without this involving any modification to our Intersex bodies in order to adjust our bodily forms to the notions of what is believed to be a typically male or female body.

## MAIN ISSUES FACED BY PEOPLE WITH INTERSEX VARIATIONS

Medical protocols include genital surgeries and other medically unnecessary, invasive, and painful treatments performed at early ages when informed consent is not possible. Their physical and emotional consequences include loss of genital sensitivity, scarring, pain, recurrent infections, depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress.

Denial of access to medical records: hospitals and doctors refuse to release our medical records, denying our right to the truth.

Stigmatization, discrimination, and violence in different social settings.

A shortage of trained and sensitized psychologists and physicians who can provide dignified, informed, and efficient care to people with intersex variations.

Lack of responsible information in the media and failure to consult with intersex organizations.

In legislation, public policies in Mexico are rarely consulted with intersex organizations, and the statements of the global and regional intersex movement are not known.