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International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth and Student Organisation

Legislating LGBTQ

An IGLYO Conference on Anti-Discrimination Law

30th May - 4th of June 2010
Toledo, Spain

Call for Participants

Deadline for applications: 24th of March 2010





1. Why a Conference on Anti-Discrimination Law?

In 1997, Foreign Ministers of the European Union met in Amsterdam to sign a text that amended the Maastricht Treaty, which is the origin of the European Union, extending its social content.

Thus, Article 13 of the Amsterdam Treaty provides that “*Without prejudice to the other provisions of this Treaty and within the limits of the powers conferred by it upon the Community, the Council, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament, may take appropriate action to **combat discrimination base on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation***”. This article gives therefore a clear mandate to the European institutions to fight for the equality of its citizens in any of its Member States.

On July 2nd, 2008, 11 years after signing this Treaty, the European Commission presented a single anti-discrimination directive which would prohibit discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, sexual orientation and religion or belief in the areas of social protection, including social security and health care, education and access to and supply of goods and services which are commercially available to the public, including housing. This directive would therefore harmonize the various existing laws in member states and ensure the rights of EU citizens regardless of the Member States in which they live. The arguments against the Directive, mainly from Germany, and the need for a unanimous vote delayed its adoption until now.

To coincide with the Spanish EU Presidency, and in the context of the important discussions taking place around the proposed horizontal Anti-Discrimination Directive among EU Member States, we feel that this is a prime opportunity for our members to meet in Spain for a conference focusing on Anti-Discrimination legislations.

IGLYO aims to empower young LGBTQ activists to be part of high-level decision-making such as this, for which the main focus of the conference will be on effective lobbying and persuasion strategies. Some of the Conference’s main objectives are:

- Studying current anti-discrimination legislations and discuss their strengths and limitations in order to afford protection to LGBTQ young people, based on case studies ;
- Train activists to ‘win the argument’ for anti-discrimination legislation at a local and national level;
- Explore methods of engaging with policy-making processes at a national and international level;
- Sharing best practices as well as creating a network of activists;
- Planning future actions and supervision of the implementation process.

The Conference is organized in collaboration with Bolo-Bolo, the regional organisation of FELGTB, the State Federation of Lesbians, Gays, Transsexuals and Bisexuals of Spain. It will be held in the **Castle of San Servando, Toledo, from May 30th (Sunday) to June 4th 2010 (Friday)**.

2. Costs

1. All accommodation and food will be provided by IGLYO with the support of the Youth Institute of Castilla-La Mancha.
2. All reasonable travel expenses and visa costs will be reimbursed. Participants are expected to search for the cheapest mode transport available due to fund restrictions. Reimbursement will take place by bank transfer after the conference.
3. Participants are asked to contribute a participation fee¹. For being as non-excluding as possible, the fee depends on the country of residence, as followed:
 - EU Member States, prior to 2004² : 50 €
 - EU Member States, post-2004³ : 30 €
 - Non-EU countries: to be decided

3. Participants

The **ideal participant** would:

- Be able to work fluently in English⁴;
- Be between 18 and 30 years of age;
- Have experience in LGBT youth work;
- Be able to attend for the full duration of the activity;
- Can act as multipliers within their own organisation or community;
- Be keen to work in teams and get actively involved in the working process;
- Come from a Council of Europe member states or surrounding countries;

Candidates will be selected on the basis of geographical balance, gender balance, a good reflection of LGBTQ diversity and their motivation and involvement in youth activism. Priority will be given to participants representing an IGLYO full member organisation.

Interested candidates can apply by filling the Application Form clicking [here](https://spreadsheets.google.com/embeddedform?formkey=dGRsRXIXQ05tN2h0TVM3Y19Na2ZPUGc6MA)
(<https://spreadsheets.google.com/embeddedform?formkey=dGRsRXIXQ05tN2h0TVM3Y19Na2ZPUGc6MA>)
Candidatures will be considered by the preparatory team.

If you have any problem or question, please don't hesitate to contact us at office@iglyo.com

Deadline for applications: 24th of March 2010 (Wednesday)
Candidates will be notified by the 1st of April 2010 (Thursday)

1 IGLYO is aware of the problem of exclusion by this fee. Please do not hesitate to contact us if your participation is pending **only** on the fee and we will try to find a solution.

2 Ireland, United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Luxemburg, Austria.

3 Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Malta, Cyprus, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary.

4The conference will be conducted in English. Your English doesn't have to be perfect but no interpretation will be provided.