

Extra-ordinary Declaration against Homophobia

Yesterday, whilst young people from all over Europe gathered at the Council of Members of the European Youth Forum in Prato, Italy, right wing extremists attacked young lesbian and gay people taking part in a gay pride event which was held during the festival of Tolerance in Krakow, Poland. Young people demonstrating their freedom to assembly were attacked. stones and eggs were thrown at them in the streets. An expression of affirmation for Human dignity, the right to chose life paths and the cherishing of social diversity was met by violence and hatred.

We express our outrage at this new outbreak of homophobia, which sadly continues to manifest itself in our society.

Homosexuality is strongly impeded in different European countries by the attitude of state bodies, for instance not allowing for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to celebrate their rights. Violation of fundamental Human Rights taking place when governmental representatives label lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people as deviants, should not be tolerated.

Freedom of assembly and the freedom of expression form the main foundation of different Human Rights conventions. The prohibition of gay pride events as happened recently in Warsaw, Poland, is additionally still being supported by the Moscow Mayor for a planned gay pride in May. This constitutes a violation of Human Rights and should be strongly condemned.

The principles on which the European Union is founded include Human Rights for all citizens. These are frequently being violated when it comes to discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation. We remind the European Union member states of the pledges they made in article 13 of the Amsterdam treaty, which calls for appropriate action to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. Furthermore, we remind Member States of the European charter of fundamental Human Rights, which includes the prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation. We demand that the European Commission and the European Council take actions against those Member States who violate fundamental Human Rights and fail to take the necessary measures to protect young lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people from discrimination.

We call upon the General Assembly of the United Nations to recognize the International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO) on the 17th of May as an official calendar day. This initiative would give a clear and positive signal to everyone who stands for Human Rights and freedoms, especially lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, whom are facing discrimination in their every day life. We encourage citizens of Europe to embrace the diverse society in which we live.

The resolution was signed on the 29th of April 2006 in Prato, Italy, by the following representatives to the Council of Members of the European Youth Forum:

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| 1. Tamsin Pearce | International Falcon Movement – Se IFM-SEI |
| 2. Björn Van Roozendaal | IGLYO (International Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Youth and Student Organisation) |
| 3. Jovana Bazerkovska | OBESSU (Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions) |
| 4. Yvonne O'Callaghan | IUSY (International Union of Socialist Youth) |
| 5. Srd Kisevic | LYMEC (European Liberal Youth) |
| 6. Olga Israel | EUJS (European Union of Jewish Students) |

7. Ines Prainsack	DEMYC (Democrat Youth Community of Europe)
8. Jakob Paaskejensen	ICYE (International Cultural Youth Exchange in Europe)
9. Aleksander Studen-Kirchner	YEN (Youth of European Nationalities)
10. Maria Paschou	ESYN (National Council of Hellas; Greece)
11. Marianne Muonzi	Alliansi – Finnish National Youth Council
12. Tine Cornillie	FIMCAP (International Federation of Catholic Parochial Youth Movements)
13. Petra Schnabel	EYCE (Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe)
14. Sabine Klocker	RYEurope (Rural Youth Europe)
15. Milosz Czerniejewski	SCI (Service Civil International)
16. Christoffer Grønstad	LNU (The Norwegian Youth Council)
17. Hanh Nha Ruyther	EEE-YFU (European Educational Exchanges – Youth For Understanding)
18. Akos Lehotkai	GylK-NIKI (Greece Youth Council)
19. Marius Ulozas	YEU (Youth For Exchange and Understanding)
20. Rein Meus	
21. Donika Goday	YWCA (Young Women’s Christian Association)
22. Stephen Matthews	YMCA (European Alliance of Young Men’s Christian Associations)
23. Ania Skrzypek	ECOSY (EC Organisation of Socialist Youth)
24. Constantinos Papatryfonas	CYC (Cyprus Youth Council)
25. Hoskuldur Saemundsson	LÆF (National Youth Council of Iceland)
26. Kay Ritchie	BYC (British Youth Council)
27. Viorel Proteasa	CTR (Romanian Youth Council)
28. Lisa Vaccarino	ICYCW (International Coordination of Young Christian Workers)
29. Wouter Bruma	
30. Regula Heggli	SAJV/CSAJ (National Youth Council of Switzerland)
31. Veselin Iliev	EBCO / BEOC (European Bureau for Conscientious Objection)
32. Kadri Vanem	EGTYF (European Good Templars Youth Fedaration)
33. Khaalid Hassan	Dutch NYC (Dutch National Youth Council)
34. Ernest Urtasun	FYEG (Federation of Young European Greens)
35. Haris Subasic	TEJO (World Organisation of Young Esperantists)
36. Mette Kirstine Schmidt	DUF (Danish Youth Council)
37. Mikaël Garnier-Lavelley	CNAJEP (French Youth Council)
38. Ramon Serra Santaefemia	CNJC (Catalan Youth Council)
39. Cecilia Lohasz	IYNF/IJAN (International Young Nature Friends)
40. Marta Escribano	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
41. ...	CJE (Spanish Youth Council)
42. Igor Casapu	CNTM (National Youth Council from Moldova)
43. Igor Casapu	Youth Employment Centre for Moldova
44. Mike Walker	WOSM (World Organization of Scout Movement)
45. Martin Aschauer	EFYSO (European Federation of Youth Service Organisations)
46. Effie Gavriel	DEMYC (Democrat Youth Community of Europe)
47. Nina Svensson	LSU (Swedish Youth Council)
48. Martin Kaasgaard	DUF (Danish Youth Council)
49. Jan Kreutz	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
50. Bettina Schwarzmayr	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
51. Ioannis Piliouris	ESYN (Bureau Member of Hellenic Youth Council)
52. Jan Kamey	
53. Roman Kuehn	ALLIANCE of European Voluntary Service Organisations
54. Carlos Crespo	CRIJ (Comité pour les Relations Internationales de Jeunesse)
55. Diogo Pinto	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
56. Leif Holmberg	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
57. Lea Torve Iren	WAGGS (World Association of Girls Guides and Girls Scouts)
58. Hiroshima Mandee	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
59. Tine Radinja	MSS (National Youth Council of Slovenia)
60. Erik Schionnemann	DUF (Danish Youth Council)
61. Carla Mouro	CNJ (Portuguese Youth Council)
62. Benoît Benich	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
63. Anne Debrandere	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
64. Maxim Cerutti	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
65. Ante Martic	YFJ (European Youth Forum)

66. Nikola Ornig	Austrian National Youth Council & European Youth Forum
67. Ilmari Nalbantoglu	Finnish Youth Cooperation Allianssi and European Youth Forum
68. Karolina Wysocka	
69. Gerard Oosterwijk	DNYC (Dutch National Youth Council)
70. Solveig Riiser	IUSY (International Union of Socialist Youth)
71. Rune Arctander	LNU (Norwegian Youth Council)
72. Jörg Hölzmer	CESI-Youth (European Federation of Independent Trade Unions)
73. Dietmar Kneucht	CESI-Youth (European Federation of Independent Trade Unions)
74. Etienne Genet	CNAJEP (Comité pour les Relations Nationales et Internationales des Associations de Jeunesse et d'Education Populaire)
75. Giuseppe Porgarro	WOSM (World Organisation of the Scout Movement – European Office)
76. Ilaria Olimpico	FNG (Italian Youth Forum)
77. Luca Scarpello	OBESSU (Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions)
78. Tanya Basarab	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
79. Tamar Kekenadze	NCYOG (National Council of Youth Organisations Georgia)
80. Diana Tamm	ENL (National Youth Council of Estonia)
81. Bram Vermeiren	VJR (Flemish Youth Council)
82. Marianne Schapmans	VJR (Flemish Youth Council)
83. Renaldas Vaisbrodas	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
84. Mariana Turcan	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
85. Petcov Agata	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
86. Marta Gomez	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
87. Saray Espejo	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
88. Patricia Sanchez	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
89. Alix Masson	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
90. James Doorley	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
91. Jaakko Weuro	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
92. Tania Matias	CGJL (Luxembourg Youth Forum)
93. Malte Spitz	DNK (German Youth Council)
94. Peter Blaas	RMS (Youth Council of Slovakia)
95. Ewoud Roes	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
96. Sarah Welford	ATD-Quart Monde (International ATD Fourth World Movement)
97. Peter Wood	European Union Affairs Commission of the European Youth Forum
98. Roisin Fitzgerald	WAGGS (World Association of Girls Guides and Girls Scouts)
99. Alfredo Garcia	YAP (Youth Action for Peace)
100. Peter Torp Madsen	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
101. Luiza Bara	YFJ (European Youth Forum)
102. Anje Fellerer	ÖJV-Austria (Austrian Youth Council)