



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

2006 Annual Report:
Strengthening and Expanding
the IGLYO Network

Amsterdam, April 2007

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Part I. IGLYO Background

Introduction

IGLYO as a Membership organisation who continually strives for transparency is proud to present its annual report for the year 2006. We aim to give Member Organisations an insider view of what the IGLYO Board worked on in 2006, this follows our recent work-plan for the year 2007 that was also shared with Member Organisations. One will find in this annual report an array of different activities that the IGLYO Board has been engaged in throughout 2006 according to its work-plan that was proposed and implemented during the said period.

This report exposes different segments; they include an introduction to IGLYO, its history and structure. This is followed by the list of activities within the headers originally proposed. During the course of the year, IGLYO did set out to use 2006 as year to continue to strengthen it's network and continue to assist it's Member Organisations in their own capacity to grow. Together with IGLYO's own ability to continue to develop, not only internally and within it's own sustainability but also in the area of it's work.

As a whole, 2006 proved to be a year where IGLYO was very much politically involved with a series of higher-end representations at different European events, with the launch of a website and a publication to just name a few. This year was certainly a year of growth for IGLYO, which was made possible thanks to the assistance provided by the youth in action programme amongst others.

This report hopes to highlight some of the features of this year. If any additional information is required, do not hesitate to contact a member of the Board by e-mailing us at board@iglyo.com.

We at IGLYO would like to thank our Members for constantly believing in our work, and by supporting IGLYO through their Membership.

The IGLYO Board

Björn, Fabio, Darren, Bruno and Lucy

Contact Details of IGLYO

Full name:	International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth and Student Organisation
Acronym:	IGLYO
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Legal status (Association, etc):	Association
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Summary of the Aims and Activities of the Organisation

IGLYO was created in 1984 as a reaction to the need for better co-operation among regional, local and national LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender) youth and student organisations. Today the IGLYO network is an important LGBTQ youth meeting point in the European region, having Member Organisations in almost every European country, and beyond as well.

Our activities reach countries with weak legal protection towards minorities, especially regarding the rights of people belonging to sexual minorities, amongst EU Members, as well as future EU Members, new EU member countries, and cover the European region in general. All member organisation benefit from IGLYO as a platform where information and experience can be exchanged, partnerships can be started and where all forms of discrimination can be combated from a joined perspective.

The main goals of IGLYO are to:

- Combat the discrimination and persecution of young lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth;
- Motivate young people to work against intolerance on the community level and help the youth to play an active part in the development of human rights policy throughout member countries;
- Promote and support the emancipation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth;
- Support partnership, co-operation and joint strategies on national and regional level.

IGLYO organizes study sessions, seminars, publicity campaigns and annual conferences such as women's conferences or skill oriented conferences. IGLYO also represents the political needs of LGBTQ young people in Europe and abroad within existing bodies, such as the European Youth Forum, but also within the European Parliament and through the European Commission.

During IGLYO session's young people, youth gay activists, people involved in the anti-discrimination movement and minority's representatives have an opportunity to share knowledge, gain experience, learn legal issues, gather connections and even start new activities. This can be on topics such as: media, lobbying and advocacy, mental health and educational systems.

We work towards promoting better understanding of youth social involvement, their education, informal learning, strengthen young people in their struggle with intolerance. Moreover our goal is to teach young people all over Europe and co working countries to present and defend their diversities and increase social integration. This often happens within mainstream structures, therefore partnerships with Youth and Student organisations are always sought for. Our program is mostly directed to LGBTQ youth activists. Thanks to their involvement and devotion intercultural dialogue is being introduced.

History

In 1984, the Dutch Gay Youth Platform (LHJO) hosted the first International Gay Youth Congress and Festival in Amsterdam, Holland. The participants regarded the event as such a great success they decided to arrange a follow-up. In 1985, Ireland's National Gay Federation hosted the second Congress in Dublin. At the Dublin conference plans were made to establish a facility to collect and distribute information about lesbian, gay, and bisexual young people and their groups. The youth group of Norway volunteered to organize the International Gay Youth Information Pool (IGYIP), as well as host the Third Congress. At the end of the conference in Oslo, it was decided to establish IGLYO as a permanent organisation for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual youth. In order to fulfil its goals IGLYO has firmly committed itself to the struggle against sexism and racism. The organisation practices a policy of positive discrimination for women, ethnic minorities, variably disabled people and Members of other traditionally under represented groups.

Relationship with other institutions/organisations

- Council of Europe, Directorate of Youth and Sports
- Intergroup on Lesbian and Gay Rights in the European Parliament
- ILGA-Europe
- European Youth Forum
- ESIB (IGLYO holds the status of observer member)
- OBESU (regular attendance on activities)
- Salto Youth (promotion of activities)

Structure

IGLYO has 51 Member Organisations in 30 different countries; these include local and national LGBTQ organisations. IGLYO is open to any youth and/or student group which is either autonomous or forms an integral part of another organisation which also consists mainly of LGBTQ youth (IGLYO defines youth as under the age of 27). Actual Members are

youth groups that deal with coming-out; social groups for young LGBTQ; political and activist groups; local, regional and national networks and/or organisations for LGBTQ people and LGBTQ youth.

IGLYO is governed by an Executive Board, which is elected by Members at the General Meeting. The Board, together with Member Organisations, is responsible for the development and direction of the organisation. The governance system has changed over the years where more representatives from Member Organisations are encouraged to get involved in IGLYO's work, such as representing IGLYO at events, working together with the Board on specific events and/or issues (such as conferences, maintenance of website and the setting up of Steering Teams).

As pointed out above, the target groups of IGLYO are organisations, which operate at local, national and regional levels, which comprise mainly of LGBTQ youth. In the last few years IGLYO has experienced a shift in target groups:

- There has been more focus towards Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe;
- Encouraging non-LGBTQ young people to attend IGLYO's activities;
- Promoting women as leaders within IGLYO and their home countries;
- An increased visibility and participation of transgender people.

The role of people who benefit from IGLYO is important for the decision-making process of the organisation. IGLYO survives through its network of young people across a wide range of countries. Thus IGLYO's over 20 years of existence is the best evidence of how LGBTQ young people have benefited along the years. Their participation and input shapes the organisation's character, which is based on principles and values existing in young people's communities rather than on the expectations drawn up by other communities.

One of the organisation's policies is that members of the Executive Board should be made up of people coming from different countries and who are also members in any one of IGLYO's Member Organisations. This helps IGLYO head in the right direction through its direct contact to the grassroots, bringing in different cultural experiences and qualities. On the other hand, the General Meeting of Members always strives to establish a gender balance within the Board, to equally represent genders.

Part II. Activity Report

Introduction

This section of the report is divided into the different group heading as suggested. These groups are the following:

- Representation of the views and interests of LGBT young people
- Youth Exchanges / IGLYO Activities
- Informal and non - formal learning opportunities
- Promotion of Intercultural learning and understanding
- Debate on European Matters and European Union policies / Youth policies
- Communication Initiatives and Strategies
- Board Meetings
- Other Highlights
- Strategic Activities

Also together with such reporting, a brief report will be included into those events which were not successfully implemented within the work plan of 2006, to the possible implementation of such events within the upcoming work plan of 2007.

Due that some of the events that were organised in the past year had multiple areas of functionality within the proposed groupings, special reference will be made in each activity whose merit was not solemnly within the particular grouping one can find it under.

The report within itself is an overall summary of the ongoing work of the IGLYO Executive Board. Most of the work was done on voluntary basis.

Representation of the views and interests of LGBT young people

IGLYO's Publication 'Social Exclusion of young LGBTQ people in Europe'

- Date:** June 2006
- Place:** Two coordination meetings took place (Amsterdam; Brussels)
- Type of activity:** Information, and social integration

Achieved objectives

- An overview on literature mapping the social inclusion of young LGBTQ people in Europe was given;
- Personal experiences of LGBTQ young people experience social exclusion were collected and a representative overview was produced;
- Best practises on approaches of social inclusion were collected;
- Attention of the European Parliament, European Institutions and limited national governments was drawn in order that the needed changes within the EU policies dealing with the educational issues, and other areas affecting young people's social inclusion were considered following the recommendations and issues pointed out by the constituent report of the publication.

Achieved results

The publication¹ was the result of cooperation between ILGA-Europe and IGLYO. This cooperation brought together two key players on the European level of LGBTQ rights. ILGA-Europe has important experience with policy making, whereas IGLYO brings together a huge network of young people. The research was carried out by Ph.D. researcher Judit Takács, whom was selected from a group of 70 researchers that applied for the research. Together with Evelyne Paradis (ILGA-Europe) and Björn van Roozendaal (IGLYO) she formed the research team and setup the methodology of the research.

The research firstly gives an overview of existing research demonstrating how LGBTQ young people can be socially excluded from society. Secondly it collects the real life examples of 754 young people coming from 37 different countries, explaining how they face social exclusion based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity in their own lives. For the latter, a questionnaire had been developed which was translated in 18 different languages. A considerable amount of volunteers has contributed to the collection of

¹ The publication has been added to this report as annex. It can also be downloaded online at: <http://www.iglyo.com/content/files/2006-Report-SocialExclusion.pdf>.

this material. The last part of the research gives ‘best practices’ of projects that are addressing issues dealing with social exclusion.

1,000 copies of the research were printed, of which approximately 800 have been disseminated to policy makers, EU institutions, ILGA-Europe/IGLYO Member Organisations, etc. In the beginning of 2007, ILGA-Europe decided to have a second print run of a thousand copies, following the success of the first run. An even bigger number has been downloaded from the websites of ILGA-Europe and IGLYO.

The research was presented at numerous occasions such as:

- OUT conference, August 2006, Delft, the Netherlands;
- ‘Equal is not enough’, LGBTQ conference organised by the city of Antwerp, May 2006;
- Queer conference Berlin, July 2006, Berlin, Germany;
- ECOSY’s ‘Queer Easter’, May 2006, Berlin, Germany;
- Moldovan Gay Pride, May 2006, Chisinau, Moldova;
- IUSY summer camp, June 2006, Alicante, Spain;
- ILGA-Europe conference, October 2006, Sofia, Bulgaria;
- Dwars conference ‘Gay Rights’, August 2006, Amsterdam, the Netherlands;
- Meeting with Political Youth Organisations (organised by European Youth Forum), September 2006, Brussels, Belgium.

In addition, the publication was mentioned as a good example which brings new insights to the ‘social inclusion strategy of the European Commission’ during e.g. the Round table on Social Inclusion which was organised during the Finnish Presidency (November 2006, Tampere, Finland). The publication is still welcomed and keeps being used by various European institutions, of which the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

Number of young participants from eligible countries

754 young LGBTQ people contributed to the research by filling in a questionnaire online. IGLYO considers this as the ‘strength of the research’: the fact that such an amount of people contributed to show the will to change and the need for change.

Youth Exchanges / IGLYO Activities

“Beyond Coming Out: Discussing Mental Health Issues among LGBTQ Youth and Communities” - IGLYO’s 20th Annual Conference

- Place:** Riga, Latvia
- Date:** 3rd December till the 10th December 2006
- Type of activity:** Information, promoting a better understanding of young persons’ concerns, education and lifelong learning, social integration

Achieved Objectives

Prejudice, discrimination, and anti-LGBTQ violence may lead members of the LGBTQ community to deal with mental health issues and stress-related disorders, such as depression, anxiety, low self-esteem and substance abuse. Years of negative experiences can also lead to internalized homophobia, which further contributes to stress and mental related disorders. As seen by a number of past IGLYO events this event aimed to look into the lived experience of LGBTQ Youth to seek to understand and look into pro-active ways of making concrete changes.

This event helped assist those present and their various organisations within the following area:

- to raise awareness on the specific need of LGBTQ youth regarding mental health;
- to identify sources causing mental health disorder at LGBTQ youth;
- to identify approaches on how to provide support young people dealing with mental health condition;
- to share best practices, experiences and available information in order to encourage LGBTQ organizations and other institutions to start including mental health support within their program;
- to identify partners who could play a role in providing mental health care.

Achieved Results

During the course of the conference a number of key outcomes were explored with the conference participants on how we can move forward. Many lessons were learnt, and key action points which will allow IGLYO to continue working within the mental health agenda.

The following points were seen as concrete things that IGLYO will work on during the year of 2007 in the area of mental health. Areas made thanks to this event that was organised within the year plan of 2007.

- Web to be used an effective tool to both lobby within mental health issues as well as inform, this will be done primarily via the IGLYO website.
- Report from the conference to be made available for local authorities – possibly also sent to them.
- Peer counselling projects to be implemented, within some of the Member Organisations present as an effective tool of support they can provide.
- Take a role in the consultation process with the Commission as the white paper on Mental Health is being developed further. This to be done together with the IGLYO Member Organisations, ILGA-Europe and in consultation with John Bowis, MEP, something which IGLYO shall coordinate.
- Research and publication of possible best practices that can be undertaken in the field of mental health and LGBTQ youth movements and projects as mainly indicated by the report and/or projects that might stem out from the conference..
- The active engagement of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in the active lobbying for work in the area of mental health. This will start by IGLYO sending the WHO a copy of the report to be circulated within its own network.
- Proper cooperation with ILGA-Europe especially in the area of mental health policy.
- Possible web resource as a method of exchange on tools in the area of mental health.

IGLYO's 3rd Women's Conference: "Second Closet – revealing sources, effects, and possible solutions for violence against and among LBTQ women"

The third women's conference was proposed to take place in Turkey in September 2006 subject to funding. For this conference the Board took the decision to broaden its approach in terms of non-traditional funders, as previously all events had relied heavily on the EYF. The leading Board member approached the following funders; Astraea Lesbian Foundation, Mama Cash and the Global Fund for Women in an attempt to reach their target. However funding strategies were unsuccessful on all three fronts, and core funding was not obtainable.

The IGLYO Women's conference was perceived initially by the Board as a spring Board for the IGLYO Women's Steering Team to be initiated, however the decision was

reached that the conference would be postponed until after the establishment of the Steering Team who could continue to develop sustainable fundraising strategies for the work on these issues.

International Study Session at the European Youth Centre: “Creating Dialogues Between LGBTQ Communities and Faith Based Communities”

The funding for this study session was to come from the CoE and funding was unavailable for 2006; however, funding for this event has now been confirmed, and it will take place in November 2007. The event in 2007 has been further developed with clearer aims and objectives, and will feature as a very useful tool for Member Organisations.

Informal and Non-Formal Learning Opportunities

IGLYO Workshop at the Global Village in Kent, UK

Date: 5th August 2006

Venue: Kent, UK

Type of Activity: Information, promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns, education and lifelong learning, social integration

Achieved Objectives

This workshop was aimed to give support and empower LGBTQ youth who were currently at the event known as Global Village, and who were currently engaged in a number of non-formal educative activities. These activities were all aimed at helping young individuals who seek to get a better understanding of the world around them.

Obtained Results

This event allowed IGLYO to promote its message of the empowerment of LGBTQ youth, not only to those present, but especially to those who were L, G, B, T or Q themselves. The workshop was specifically designed for young LGBTQs to explore the issues they are currently experiencing in their day to day lives, and seeking how to support their current needs, and also making them aware of what is currently available in terms of ad-hoc support.

Promotion of Intercultural Learning and Understanding

Representation within the European Youth Forum and participation in the activities initiated or implemented by the European Youth Forum

Dates and venues:

- January: involvement on development Policy paper on Diversity (Moscow, Russia);
- April: Participation to Youth Event organised by the Austrian Presidency (Vienna/ Bad Isschl, Austria);
- Participation to the Council of Members (Prato, Italy);
- June: Participation to the Youth Event organised by the Finnish Presidency, Finland;
- June: Participation to the launch of the 'Roadmap to Gender Equality', European Commission, Brussels, Belgium;
- September: representation to EC event 'Social Inclusion of disadvantaged young people', (Brussels, Belgium);
- November: participation to the General Assembly (Vilnius, Lithuania);
- December: participation on the info day for INGYOs (Brussels, Belgium).
- PAX, Participation Against Xenophobia, international youth seminar, October, Matera, Italy

Type of activity: Participation, promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns, social integration, the debate on the future of Europe.

Achieved Objectives

- Political representation of IGLYO and its Members and with that raised visibility of LGBTQ youth on the European level;
- Possibility to liaise in different networks and exchange information with other EYF Members (national youth councils and international NGOs);
- Cooperation between national youth councils and gay and lesbian youth in their own respective countries was encouraged;
- Policies and recommendations concerning the youth as shaped and proposed by EYF to the European Union were created.

Achieved Results

Thanks to our continuous presence in events organised by the European Youth Forum, or at events that we can attend thanks to the European Youth Forum (such as Presidency

events or European Commission events), IGLYO is able to better understand and influence the creation of youth policy in Europe. This enables us to contribute to the debate, and make sure that youth policy also reflects the needs and situations of LGBTQ young people.

Moreover, IGLYO is able to reach out to many other youth networks in Europe through the European Youth Forum. In 2006, this has led to a good cooperation with numerous networks such as OBESSU, ESIB, ECOSY, the British Youth Council, the Greek Youth Council, IFM-SEI, and many others.

Following an outcry of homophobic events during the spring of 2006, IGLYO decided to launch an extraordinary declaration against homophobia, which was signed by a majority of participants to the Council of Members of the European Youth Forum, and got good media coverage throughout Europe. IGLYO, in cooperation with ten other Member Organisations of the European Youth Forum, decided to follow-up this declaration by the development of a YFJ resolution to an ‘integrated approach against homophobia’ (see annex...), which was adopted unanimously by the General Assembly of the European Youth Forum. This resolution enables IGLYO to strengthen its work in and with the European Youth Forum, particularly because it gives a clear and univocal view of YFJ on homophobia.

Through our involvement in the development of the Diversity paper, as well as our attendance to the event where the European Roadmap to Gender Equality was launched, IGLYO tried to give continuous attention to gender policies. Oftentimes, such policies are perceived as documents which contribute to the better participation of ‘women’. For IGLYO it is of vital importance to recognize that gender-policies are only effective if they also address other areas, such as gender identity and gender expression.

During the events that were organised by the European Commission, IGLYO addressed the need to strongly link social inclusion policies with anti-discrimination policies.

Number of Young Participants from Eligible Countries

This representation did not include IGLYO Member Organisations, but the outcomes were mostly disseminated amongst member organisation, mainly through online bulletins and communications to Member Organisations.

Participation at the ILGA (International Lesbian and Gay Association) World Conference

Date: 27th March – 3rd April 2006

Place: Geneva, Switzerland

Type of activity: Participation, promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns, social integration

Despite earlier pledges of the organisers, IGLYO did not receive any scholarship to attend this event. Organisers clarified that it could only provide scholarships for 'the global South'. IGLYO has discussed the issue with representatives of ILGA, particularly addressing the fact that *young* LGBTQ people face severe problems in participation due to their usual lack of autonomy. IGLYO hopes to attend future ILGA events.

IGLYO-ESIB partnership

Dates and places: March 2006: participation to 'Student's Convention on the Lisbon Agenda' (Vienna, Austria)

May 2006: Guest Speaker on the 'Conference on Student Rights' (Novi Sad, Serbia)

Type of activity: Participation, promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns, social integration, the debate on the future of Europe.

Achieved Objectives

- Representation of IGLYO and its Members and a raised visibility of the issues that LGBTQ students face on the European Level;
- Possibility to liaise in different networks and exchange information with other ESIB Members (e.g. National Unions Of Students – NUS UK);
- Provided models of best practice to ESIB Member Organisations as to how LGBTQ issues can be implemented and integrated at a national level;
- Policies and recommendations concerning LGBTQ students to the ESIB Executive and Equality Working Group.

Achieved Results

At the beginning of 2006, it was one of IGLYO's continued primary objectives to develop sustainable partnerships and working relations with external organisations, as IGLYO is a youth and student network we found it vitally important to develop provisions for our

student Member Organisations. ESIB was seen as the primary vehicle to do so, as it brings together National Unions from each European country.

For many of ESIB's members, an integrated policy to combat homophobia in their national union has in the past not received much contemplation. Through the attendance of IGLYO as a guest speaker, LGBTQ issues were visibly legitimised as an integral part of minority rights within the student sphere.

Through IGLYO's attendance at such events, the visibility of both the organisation and the issues facing LGBTQ students were increased, both on the immediate European level and also through the dissemination of information to ESIB members. Through IGLYO's participation, our Member Organisations have been put in touch with their national student unions through ESIB, and this has facilitated a number of working partnerships.

We hope to continue this working relationship through further input into the newly-elected ESIB Board and the Equality Working Group.

Debate on European Matters and European Union Policies / Youth Policies

Hearing ‘Social exclusion of young LGBTQ people in Europe’

- Date:** 13 September 2006
- Place:** European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium.
- Type of activity:** Information, promoting a better understanding of young persons’ concerns, education, social integration

Achieved Objectives

- The research on social exclusion was presented during a hearing in the European Parliament;
- Best practices of social inclusion policies were presented;
- Recommendations to the European Parliament as well National Governments on social inclusion of LGBTQ young people were presented and taken up;
- Awareness of the problems with regard to inclusive social policies on the European level was raised, and it was emphasised that there is a need to link the social inclusion policies with the anti-discrimination policies, and that such should have a horizontal approach.

Achieved Results

The hearing was organised in cooperation with MEPs Sophie In ‘t Veld and Proinsias de Rossa. The event was attended by ten Members of the European Parliament, as well a number of policy makers (European Commission) and representatives of other social NGO’s. In total over 50 people attended the event. Due to lacking funds IGLYO was unfortunately not able to actively involve young people in the activity, as a consequence only five people whom could be considered as ‘target group’ were involved in the event.

During the hearing the following people spoke:

- Sophie In ‘t Veld (introduction);
- Evelyne Paradis (policy context);
- Björn van Roozendaal (needs of young people);
- Judit Takács (presentation of results);
- Bettina Schwarzmayer (Vice-president European Youth Forum: Youth policy);
- Proinsias de Rossa (wrap-up).

After the speakers there was a lively debate amongst participants and guests, which accumulated in a few concrete commitments from the Intergroup of LGBT Rights in the European Parliament:

- A declaration against homophobic bullying was to be launched (developed and to be presented in February 2007);
- The link between social inclusion and anti-discrimination policies has to be strengthened;
- ILGA-Europe and IGLYO are invited to present their 'expectations' on the subject to the Intergroup (demands were presented in October 2006);
- Results should be evaluated in another hearing taking place within a year.

The launch was reported in numerous media across Europe.

Number of Young Participants from Eligible Countries

Due to a lack of funding, IGLYO was not able to invite Members to the launch. The effect was that only representatives of our Belgian Members were able to attend the activity. However, thanks to an important media coverage, the news of the event reached many young people. The fact that such issue has been taken seriously by the European Parliament is a big encouragement for these young people, whose social exclusion is often not taken seriously.

Participation in the Council of Europe's Campaign "All different All Equal", for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation of young people (2006-2007)

Dates and venues:

- 28th-30th June 2006: participation to the 2nd NCC meeting for the European launch of the "All Different, All Equal" Campaign (Strasbourg, France)
- 6th-14th August 2006: participation to "Roverway: dare to share", World Guiding Scout Association meeting (Florence, Italy)
- 14th August 2006: participation to the official launch of the "All Different, All Equal Campaign" in Italy (Florence, Italy)
- 24th-29th October 2006: participation to the "Diversity Youth Forum" (Budapest, Hungary)
- 6th-8th December 2006: participation to the 3rd NCC meeting (Budapest, Hungary)
- 8th-10th December 2006: participation to the NCC Training Course "How to campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation"

Type of activity: Participation, information, promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns, social integration, the debate on the future of Europe.

Achieved Objectives

- To cooperate with the Council of Europe, International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations (INGYOs) and National Youth Councils to the full accomplishment of the Campaign, raising in different countries Members of the Council or Europe the issues of Diversity, Human Rights and Participation of Young people to society;
- To ensure inclusion of LGBTQ issues and LGBTQ youth organization in the National Campaign Committees of the All Different, All Equal Campaign;
- To support, initiate and actively assist IGLYO Members at preparations of actions and achievements arising from youth activities being organised within the campaign.

Achieved Results

Since 2005, IGLYO has been involved to the preparation works of the new edition of the "All Different, All Equal" Campaign (2006-2007). IGLYO worked in close cooperation with minority youth organisations to promote a broader scope to the "All Different, All

Equal” Campaign including all the forms of discrimination to be tackled and considered on a peer level.

IGLYO has played as a consultant and advisor of the Campaign in CoE member states getting in touch with the National Committees and providing contacts with local LGBT organisations. A particular focus was given to the campaign in Poland and Moldova, where inclusion of LGBTQ issues was put under threat.

Through the Campaign IGLYO could reinforce partnerships with other INGYOs, especially the ones focusing on minorities and diversities.

Through the IGLYO website, where a special section on the All Different All Equal campaign was created, Member Organisations could find resources to create new initiatives in the frame of the campaign and contacts to get in touch with possible partners for projects on national levels.

Number of Young Participants from Eligible Countries

This activity did not actively include IGLYO Member Organisations, but the outcomes were mostly disseminated to them.

Communication Initiatives and Strategies

IGLYO website – www.iglyo.com

- Date:** Since February 2006
- Place:** IT account in Amsterdam, Webmaster resident in Italy and Israel
- Type of activity:** Participation; information; voluntary service; promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns; education, lifelong learning and mobility; social integration; giving young people more autonomy; the debate on the future of Europe.

Achieved Objectives

- To promote participation of young LGBTQ people;
- To provide an array of information sources related to the diverse work of LGBTQ organisations, NGOs, funding opportunities, EU programmes (particularly the YOUTH programme);
- To create a space for exchange of ideas, information, experiences and opinions – the ingredients for the inclusion of LGBTQ youth;
- To ease access for LGBTQ youth to information, documents, and discussion;
- To encourage LGBTQ young people to actively participate in IGLYO's decision-making process through discussions on foray;
- To ease the communication between Member Organisations and at the same time widen and strengthen the IGLYO network;
- To enable young LGBTQ and their organisations to network and devise strategies for trans-national joint projects together with their counterparts in diverse European countries.

Achieved Results

The website has been launched on February 28th, 2006. Since that day it has provided regular updates in terms of news on IGLYO activities, press review on relevant LGBTQ youth news from the world, a list of events/conferences/seminars which took place in Europe to provide training and networking and an archive of resources on LGBTQ issues and youth participation (in partnership with Salto-Youth Educational Network, ILGA and other partners).

The website has offered coverage “in time” to many events which has involved young activists around Europe (not only LGBTQ):

- IDAHO, International Day Against Homophobia – 17th May 2006
- Moscow Pride – 25th-27th May 2006
- Poland debate on Non-Formal Education with Compass – June 2006
- All Different All Equal, campaign of the Council of Europe – from June 2006 onwards
- 20th IGLYO Conference on Mental Health, Riga – 3rd-10th December

The website has been developed by young LGBTQ professionals on voluntary basis. The contents has been then produces by a number of 34 young volunteers living in many countries of Europe.

Number of Young Participants from Eligible Countries

The web counter has reported 12835 visits to the website until the date 5th of February.

IGLYO virtual Bulletin

- Date:** Long-term project (since September 2005)
- Place:** Editorial team living in Ireland and Italy
- Type of activity:** Participation; information; voluntary service; promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns; social integration; giving young people more autonomy; the debate on the future of Europe.

Achieved objectives

- To disseminate information on decision-making processes, exchanges, and news from around Europe;
- To encourage participation of young LGBTQ through their contribution in the dissemination of information;
- To provide a tool which LGBTQ organisations and other NGOs could use in their organisational work;
- To offer different spaces which enable an array of information sources related to the diverse work of LGBTQ organisations, NGOs, funding opportunities, EU programmes (particularly the YOUTH programme);

Results achieved

The Communication Team has produced 8 releases of the IGLYO Bulletin in 2006. The contents mainly reviewed the most recent updates to the IGLYO website and a review of the most relevant event for youth / student on the international level taking place in the frame of the "Youth Programme" or of the "All Different, All Equal" campaign. Generally appreciated by readers the Bulletin has been quoted on many websites and on the monthly European Youth Forum courier and ILGA-Europe newsletter.

Number of young participants from eligible countries

The audience reached by the Bulletin is of 647 permanent subscribers. Our list of contacts entails individuals, member organization, partner organizations, other youth or student or LGBTQ organizations, researchers, Member of Parliament, officers to the European Commission and to the Council of Europe, etc.

Leaflet and Poster Campaign

- Date:** December 2006
- Place:** Editorial Team living in Ireland, Malta and Italy. Distribution to cover all EU countries
- Type of activity:** Participation; information; voluntary service; promoting a better understanding of young persons' concerns; social integration; giving young people more autonomy; the debate on the future of Europe.

Achieved objectives

- To offer a positive image of young LGBTQ in a creative way;
- To raise the issue of visibility of young people through media;
- To implement corporate image of IGLYO and understanding of its work through communication;

Achieved Results

The leaflets offered a concrete source of information, which people took home and which contains compact information on IGLYO's activities. Two different posters have been printed in 500 copies as a first release, and were distributed to Member Organisations at the time of print. In many countries, visibility of young LGBTQ activists has been an issue, due to their having to hide for safety reasons. This poster campaign could offer them the opportunity to take a visibility campaign out of their organisation.

Number of Young Participants from Eligible Countries

The project has been developed by young professionals on voluntary basis. Four individuals took the lead on this project and over 60 young people from 18 countries agreed to offer their image rights for this purpose. More pictures will be reused in future campaigns through posters and IGLYO's website.

Board Meetings

First Board Meeting

Place: Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Date: 6th January - 9th January 2006

Achieved Objectives

The Board meeting was the first one in fact that IGLYO organised with the newly elected executive Board. This hosted the opportunity for the newly elected Board to have a proper hand over in regards to the previous Board, with regards to tasks and technical issues. As well offer the opportunity for the new Board to equate themselves with the work that would be undertaking within the next working year.

This first meeting in fact served as a crucial point for the new Board to select the areas they would in fact be engaging in, to delegate tasks and titles that are necessary in such a first statutory meeting.

The first Board meeting also in fact contained an element where the Board members also introduce themselves with key partners within their work, in this case within this Board meeting in Amsterdam it was COC with whom IGLYO would be working closely with.

Outcomes

Thanks to this initial meeting, IGLYO's newly-elected Board had the possibility to start working in the areas that are crucial for the natural development of the organisation. One can see that the points below were the active outcomes from the first statutory meeting:

- Office and secretariat of the organisation;
- Key partnership IGLYO currently has with COC Netherlands;
- Core IGLYO infrastructure;
- Event planning, including:
 - Annual Conference;
 - GMM (General Meeting of Members);
 - IGLYO representations;
- Financial overview and planning;
- Steering Team coordination set up;
- Statutes;
- Event that IGLYO is currently involved in:
 - Lesbian Life;

- ILGA World Conference;
- Mental Health Annual Conference;
- Religion Study Session;
- Projects:
 - Publication on Social Exclusion;
 - Website;
 - Membership;
 - Funding;
 - Board roles division / task division;
- Core organisational procedures;
- Minor issues.

One of the major key outcomes that this Board meeting helped establish was not only the sound establishment of a new team, but also cooperation with the administrative team in COC Netherlands that acts as the secretariat of IGLYO. It also established key developmental procedures that are essential for the functioning of an organisation such as IGLYO.

Second Board Meeting

Place:	Rome, Italy
Date:	24th – 26th March 2006

Achieved Objectives

The statutory meeting that took place in Rome, during March of 2006 was one where the primary focus was to further develop the work of the Board. This Board meeting tackled a number of ongoing issues, as well as to further develop and implant the work plan that was set by the previous Board for 2006.

This meeting also served to engage with another Member Organisation present in Italy, and help develop key partnerships regionally. Lastly, it also served to evaluate the current work that was being conducted.

Outcomes

A number of outcomes stemmed from the second Board meeting. They helped develop the work that IGLYO engages in, from core planning to the creation of new key projects.

Main outcomes were active discussions and action points regarding:

- Evaluation of the Board's work;
- Profile of prospective secretariat;

- Prospective secretariat logistics;
- Steering Groups update;
- Event planning:
 - Conference;
 - Women's Conference;
- Representational planning;
- Membership;
- Website planning and implementation;
- Social Exclusion update and strategic planning;
- Leaflet and poster campaign creation;
- Youth Forum partnership;
- IDAHO preparation;
- Yearly strategic discussion.

This meeting was key in establishing the crucial work that the Board would be focusing on in the following period.

Third Board Meeting

Place: Reims, France

Date: 7th – 10th July 2006

Achieved Objectives

The third Board meeting served to further work on the 2006 work-plan. This meeting also served to further the strategic development of IGLYO during that year.

Outcomes

As mentioned within the objectives of such a meeting a number of key areas were explored during the Board's stay in Reims. Some of the topics discussed include the following:

- 2006 events overview;
- 2007 events planning;
- Fundraising strategy: initial discussion;
- Political debate update (Netherlands);
- Social Exclusion project update;
- Representations in following months;
- All Equal All Different campaign update;

- Poster and leaflet campaign update;
- Membership strategic discussion;
- Steering Teams update;
- Communication planning;
- Quarterly bulletin project update.

Fourth Board Meeting

Place: London - UK

Date: 28th September - 2nd October 2006

Achieved Objectives

The main purpose of the 4th Board meeting was to continue develop the work that the Board was undertaking, and also included the planning for the last year of the current Board's mandate, 2007.

This Board meeting was to look at how to effectively evaluate the current work-plan that has been implemented thus far and to also look at the strategy that IGLYO needs to develop in order to be able to continue to develop.

Outcomes

The outcomes for this meeting were mainly within the areas of evaluation and strategic planning on both the rest of the mandate of the current Board and on IGLYO as an organisation.

The main points below were some of the outcomes of this 4th statutory meeting:

- General meeting of members preparations;
- Statutory revision;
- Budget revisions;
- Welcoming and hand-over to new statutory member;
- Concrete activities 2007 planning;
- Annual conference implementation plan;
- Communication project;
- Steering team;
- European youth forum elections;
- European campaign update (All Different, All Equal);
- Events implementation update;
- Representations;

- Development work;
- Membership expansion;
- Priorities for 2007;
- Work-plan for 2007.

These discussions were crucial in the development of IGLYO, both for this executive Board but also for the one to follow.

GMM - General Meeting of Members

Proposed Date: November 2006

Proposed Place: Berlin, Germany.

Type of activity: Participation; giving young people more autonomy

Planned Objectives

The General Meeting of Members (GMM) was seen as an integral and important aspect of its work, an occasion for all its Members to meet. Such an event would have given IGLYO the opportunity to lay down new policies and procedures not only for IGLYO itself but also influence the work of its Members.

This event was proposed to help steer IGLYO towards a direction in which the Members would feel included, to further empower IGLYO's Members as well as strengthen a clear path and direction for the organisation itself.

Planned Outcomes

During the course of the year the IGLYO Board felt that organising a GMM within the first year of their mandate was pre-mature. Following also the lack of financial capacity to organise such an event it was further proposed to organise this event in December 2007.

Such decision was also taken due to the fact that, during the course of 2007, IGLYO will be working on creating a Strategic Plan for the organisation to be implemented during the next three years. Obeying this strategy together with a membership consultation would be the best course of action to assist in the further development and sustainability of the organisation.

Other Highlights

During the course of 2006, IGLYO was continuously involved in activities complementary to those proposed in the original applications to European bodies. For clarity it was felt that such work should also be highlighted to demonstrate the ongoing work IGLYO engages in with the field of LGBTQ youth activism.

- IGLYO provided advise to the booklet ‘A practical booklet for setting-up international LesBiGay projects’, which was developed by Salto-Youth.
- IGLYO has continuously ‘strategised’ its work with ILGA-Europe.
- IGLYO’s participation to the IDAHO conference, Strasbourg, France (17th May 2006). During this event, IGLYO met with EU Commissioners MM Frattini and Spidla, where it addressed the need for anti-discrimination policies affecting young LGBTQ people’s lives. It was also here where IGLYO strengthened its contacts with the Parliament’s LGBT Intergroup, particularly during the conference which was attended by the President of the European Parliament (Mr. Borrell) and European Commissioner for Human Rights Mr Hammarberg.
- IGLYO followed the implementation of gay pride events throughout Europe during 2006. It attended events and parades in Chisinau (Moldova), Moscow (Russia) to monitor whether support for these events complied with internationally-recognised Human Rights standards.
- IGLYO organised the debate ‘Love and Struggle - Gay Rights in Europe, your concern’, during the Mr Gay Europe elections. Different politicians debated with young people (approximately 30) on gay rights in Europe. All political youth organisations from the Netherlands attended this event.
- IGLYO’s work on the situation in Poland in light of the ongoing events surrounding Poland in 2006, IGLYO undertook a number of initiatives in order to lobby and combat some of the homophobic incidents that were occurring. Many of such initiatives were successful in getting some of the major stakeholders engaged, such as the European Commission itself.
- April 2006: Participation in Young Women From Minorities (YWFM) Study Session on Violence (European Youth Centre, Budapest).
- June 2006: Presentation of a workshop on LGBTQ rights internationally at the LSU (The Swedish National Youth Council) ‘Global conference’ (Gothenberg, Sweden).
- October 2006: Representation in the Council of Eeurope’s ‘Consultative Meeting on Social Exclusion’ (European Youth Centre, Budapest)

- November 2006: Participation in the ESYN (The Greek National Youth Council) conference on 'Global Co-operation' (Athens, Greece).

Strategic Activities

In the original funding application submitted in 2005, IGLYO proposed that it shall be starting to work in specific thematic areas. From the ongoing input received from Member Organisations on the importance of such work to be including in the IGLYO work plan, these areas were the following:

- HIV / AIDS;
- Communication;
- Trans issues;
- Women's issues;

Throughout the year, work was initiated within these specific areas, specifically within the work of Trans Issues and Communication. A written report of the activities can be found below.

Yet due to many changes that occurred throughout 2006, the HIV/AIDS and Women steering groups were not initiated. This was particularly due to the lack of human and financial resources in IGLYO. We believe that these areas of work could possibly be implemented at a later date, but felt that it was too early to expand into such work, and to continue to safeguard the resources available to sustain both IGLYO and its Members.

Trans Issues steering group

Date: Ongoing

Venue: N/A

Type of Activity: Developmental Work and Educational Project

Achieved Objectives

The Trans youth steering team was a subset of the work that was undertaken during the course of the year. One that was seen not to be based on one particular event, but be an ongoing piece of work IGLYO would be dedicated to work on during this Board mandate, and to be carried forward and finalised by the GMM is due to take place in December 2007.

The objectives established in 2006 were in the area of active engagement with Member Organisations in regards to trans youth and their active empowerment and inclusion

within our Members' work, and in the area of a draft Strategic Plan on how to actively involve of trans youth and their active engagement in politics.

Achieved Results

The results thus far for this steering group is the project of a number of written materials, produced by the steering group, aimed at educating and/or furthering the knowledge of IGLYO Members as well as other established organisations about trans issues. These materials would encompass various topics, from basic information on trans matters to the creation of an inclusive policy paper, specifically targeting trans youth issues. This work is undertaken in the context of a minority which has been continually discriminated against, including within the work for LGBQ youth.

Communication steering group

Date: Ongoing since March 2006

Place: Amsterdam

Achieved objectives

- Implemented IGLYO corporate image and strategy in terms of communication;
- Participation and professional growth of youth through a voluntary-based experience.

Achieved results

The team in 2006 could develop and guard IGLYO corporate image by offering internal consultancy and guidance to offer a more professional image of the organization through visuals and restructuring of the web-mail platform.

The Communication Team has been responsible to the management of the IGLYO.com website, to keep contacts with press and media in general, to edit the contents of the virtual bulletins and to produce a poster campaign.

Besides what has been already said in 2006 the Communication Team reached the following results:

- 7 press releases officially sent out;
- Production of IGLYO business cards and flags;
- Contribution to the European Youth Forum postcard for the "All Different, All Equal" campaign;

- Media coverage of IGLYO with reports on magazines, newspapers, TV, radio and websites in the following countries: Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

Part III: Financial Report

Introduction

This is a half-way report into the current Board's mandate. An exhaustive report will be presented to the General Meeting of Members in December 2007. For financial enquiries, please contact treasury@iglyo.com.

Half-way financial report

Throughout 2006, IGLYO remained financially healthy. The administrative grant received from the European Commission allowed the Board to carry out its daily duties, as well as lobby intensively at European and national levels for LGBTQ rights and youth integration, especially with regards to its social exclusion report.

The low amount of money received kept us from carrying out all planned activities, and as a result the side costs such as telephone costs or other basic administrative costs were kept very low, and the cash flow has remained positive throughout. However, it remains very difficult to raise administrative funds from other sources than the European Commission, and it is therefore hard to concretely plan the opening of a Belgian office in 2008, although it is becoming crucial for our growth and development.

The position of Treasurer has been vacated on the 5th October 2006 by Maxence de Barros, who chose to step down for personal reasons. The position was filled on the same day by Bruno Selun, which caused no interruption in the treasury flow. For the whole of 2006, IGYLO's finances practical management (e.g. bookkeeping, payment orders, etc.) has been performed by COC Netherlands and their accountant, as specified in our provisional budget which bore 6 full days of activity for IGLYO in 2006. The accountant was in touch with the Treasurer on a regular basis until the last third of 2006, which caused avoidable delays and misunderstandings in the treasury; this would be solved by having an office where the financial administration is centrally managed.

Overall, although the Association is financially very healthy and has concrete plans ahead for 2007, a logistical upgrade will prove more and more crucial, which will only be made possible with significantly more administrative funding in 2007-2008.