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**Q1: Personal Details**

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**Q2: Member Organisation Nomination**

Member Organisation Name:	RFSL Ungdom
Country:	Sweden
Legal Representative Name:	Gisela Janis
Legal Representative Role:	President
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Legal Representative Mobile Number:	+46 70 766 46 64

**Q3: What is your motivation to become an IGLYO board member and what roles/duties particularly interest you?**

The decision to run for the IGLYO board comes from a very personal desire to make change for the better. IGLYO is a platform for achieving this and have the ability and increased potential to make a difference to LGBTQIA youth. I am a dedicated internationalist and I am looking forward to the possibility of directing my efforts through IGLYO.

I want to bring the best of my organisation and the experiences from in into IGLYO and the international arena, to inspire and be inspired by other member organisations working in similar or different contexts and to influence European policy for the better. I believe that IGLYO is a megaphone for the member organisations and their activists, reflecting their collective and individual the needs and strengths. This is humbling and the priorities of the IGLYO board should reflect the member organisations.

Besides being an experienced activist, I would like to offer my professional skills as a human rights lawyer to strengthen IGLYOs capacity in rights based advocacy, campaigning and training. My many years of training other activists, working strategically in executive boards, developing training programs and resource writing I think would serve IGLYO well.

IGLYO has a unique role as a LGBTQI youth organisation in European politics. In the light of this it is essential to strengthen IGLYO's internal democracy and cooperation with its member organisations and general transparency. This is needed to maintain credibility, accessibility and sustainability. I want to be part of that process to make IGLYO stronger. Together we are stronger and we can draw on each other's success in different issues, I am looking forward the chance to do this though advocacy, campaigning, sharing knowledge and experiences with activists around Europe (and globally).

**Q4: Tell us about your experience in LGBTQI activism (including any involvement with IGLYO, if applicable). Please include details about projects and events you were involved in, detailing your role and responsibilities in them.**

I have been working politically from 2003 to 2013 within the Swedish Social Democratic Youth (SSU), the biggest political youth party in Sweden. I was a member of different executive boards on local and regional level. My efforts were particularly put into campaigning, studies and ideology. I have been a trainer focusing on LGBTQ rights and feminism, using norm criticism and separatism as a method, having trained an estimated 500 activists. Within SSU I have participated in several national elections and elections to the European Parliament, pushing for i.e. gender equality, equal marriage rights and reforms in family policy. I'm currently active in the SSU Burma project, supporting the youth opposition in Burma/Myanmar by doing trainings on advocacy, human rights, feminism and LGBTQIA. I have built alliances and partnerships between LGBTQIA youth and other youth within my engagement in SSU, resulting in strong allies advocating together to see change happen.

More recently, I have been a part of RFSL Ungdoms executive board for two years, first as vice president and currently as a board member with responsibilities regarding international and national politics and other external activities. RFSL Ungdom is a member based organisation and the board supports the local activist groups around the country. During my two years I have participated in and arranged one general assembly meeting, member's conferences, events on prides and activities around important days such as TDoR.

I have further had the opportunity to enhance my public speaking skills by representing both RFSL Ungdom and RFSL at public demonstrations, seminars and panels on different topics, such as the police brutality during Istanbul Pride, discrimination and ill treatment in schools, the situation for LGBTQ activists internationally and the issue of marginalisation of femininities within the LGBTQ movement.

At RFSL Ungdom I have focused on advocacy towards politicians at a national level on issues such as legal gender recognition, comprehensive anti-discrimination laws and creating more inclusion within the LGBTQ movement and active efforts on anti-racism. I have also developed the first international strategy for RFSL Ungdom. Furthermore, I have participated in international trainings with ILGA and LSU on advocacy and bullying.

During 2015 I was a member of the IGLYO taskforce on Norm Criticism. The group was set to develop a policy paper on norm criticism and a tool kit to be used by members and other stakeholders. I took the leading role in writing the policy paper containing a narrative part, political standpoints, focus areas for IGLYOs continued work in the area of norm criticism and recommendations to member organizations, the Council of Europe, the European Commission and national governments

**Q5: From the list below, please select your top three skills and explain why you have chosen them in the next question.**

Advocacy & Policy, Public Speaking/Presentations,  
Strategic Planning

**Q6: Please give one real life example for each of the choices above to demonstrate your experience in each.**

I have done advocacy and policy work on various issues for many years within different organisations. One example relating to my current position at RFSL Ungdom is the advocacy for the “super election” year of 2014 where elections both to the Swedish parliament and the European parliament took place. The political context in Sweden is that a nationalist and racist party is growing in support and that the world around us is burnt through armed conflicts, resulting in many persons seeking refuge outside of their home country. RFSL Ungdom coordinated with RFSL and other relevant organisations and took forceful stances against racism and oppression against lgbtq persons in an intersectional manner. We made surveys amongst politicians on their position on issues relevant to LGBTQI persons to ground our campaigns. We had an election website where this information was accessible as well as facts about our core issues. By collecting data on our issues and disseminating it to the general public, voters, politician and media, we could also set the agenda, pushing politicians for answers and comparing parties and candidates. I partook in manifestations, debates, panel discussions and wrote articles. We also pushed for our issues in meetings with authorities. These advocacy efforts resulted in many initiated processes and promises from politicians to improve on our issues. As a follow up during 2016 we did a campaign at Stockholm Pride and the “politicians week” in Almedalen, a very big event in Sweden, called “Take your responsibility” (Ta ert ansvar) where we did manifestations, interviews and used social media such as twitter and facebook to advocate for our issues and remind the politicians what they promised the previous election year.

As far as experience in strategic planning goes I have had the privilege of working locally, regionally and nationally with politics focusing in LGBTQ and gender issues, and I have been involved in strategic planning on all these levels. The planning has included strategic advocacy issues, possible campaigns, collaborations, evaluations of past activities and preparations for important upcoming events such as Pride, IWD and TDoR. A recent example is during the super election year of 2014. As the vice president of RFLS Ungdom I managed the planning for external activities together with the president and my team members as well as setting long and short term goals for the mandate period.

As I have had the opportunity to do many trainings and participate in debates, panels, demonstrations and seminars I have developed a great public speaking skill. I like me meet people face to face as public speaking allows one to, where reactions can be instant and a free conversation is possible.

I have also worked extensively with conducting trainings and I have done resource writing for SSU, RFSL Ungdom, in my work with the Swedish Red Cross and most recently for IGLYO on norm criticism.

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**Q7: Being on the IGLYO board requires a commitment of around 10 hours a week for two years. How would you manage this role on top of other commitments and continue to contribute for your full mandate?**

If elected to the board I would resign from my current commitments in other organisations to be able to be fully committed to IGLYO. Activists have a tendency to burn out, therefore I would also resign from other commitments for the sake of my own health and to set a good example for other activists.

I have been politically active for over ten years and I understand what these commitments entail, both in time, effort and long term engagement. I feel that I have required the skill set to contribute to an international organisation and would love if I got the opportunity to do so.

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