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**Q1: Personal Details**

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**Q2: Member Organisation Nomination**

Member Organisation Name:	Dundalk Outcomers
Country:	Ireland
Legal Representative Name:	Bernardine Quinn
Legal Representative Role:	Project manager
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**Q3: What is your motivation to become an IGLYO board member and what roles/duties particularly interest you?**

My motivation for becoming an IGLYO board member is my strong commitment to human rights and my enduring relationship with and appreciation of IGLYO as an organization. I am a human rights activist and advocate that is particularly interested the protection and promotion of the human rights of marginalized populations. Particularly the discrimination that is faced by those whose LGBTI identities intersect without other identities that are subject to discrimination and marginalisation. I also feel that I have valuable knowledge, skills and experience to bring to the table having worked at the European Parliament and the United Nations while also holding a MA in International Relations.

I am also a trans person who first came out when I became involved with IGLYO and for that reason IGLYO has always held a particular association with me as a welcoming, progressive and powerfully important organisation. As someone who currently is not part of a member organisation but who was thankfully nominated by one, becoming a member of the IGLYO board would provide me with the opportunity to remain part of the IGLYO family and contribute meaningfully and effectively towards the protection and promotion of the human rights of LGBTQI youth and students.

I am particularly interested in any role that involves the formulation of resources, training, advocacy, communication and policy development. I have strong research, strategic planning, policy analysis, writing, project management and interpersonal skills. I work extremely well as part of a team and am adaptable while also comfortable working remotely and on my own initiative. I am extremely passionate, jovial, resourceful and hard working and believe that I would be able to contribute much to the overall vision and mission of IGLYO.

**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.**

Currently I am working as the LGBTQI and Human Rights Project Officer with the 'Being LGBTQI in Asia' programme. This

currently I am working as the LGBTI and Human Rights Project Officer with the Being LGBTI in Asia programme. This programme is led by the United Nations Development Programme and is the first UN level regional programme focusing on the human rights of LGBTIQ people anywhere in the world. The programme places a strong emphasis on capacity building of LGBTIQ organisations and social mobilisation. As part of my role I provide technical support on human rights, draft research concepts, manage social media, undertake policy analysis and project management as well as liaise with key partners and institutions. Please find below a sample of some of the projects and activities I have been involved in. This list is not exhaustive as this is a regional level programme that include both country specific and regional level activities and is just an indication of some of the activities I am involved with.

Blueprint for the provision of comprehensive care for trans people and trans communities in Asia and the Pacific: I was part of the coordinating group for this publication outlining the priority health care needs and human rights issues for transgender people in the Asia Pacific Region. This role included providing input, editing, reviewing and coordinating communications and dissemination of the document. <http://goo.gl/McQCSB>

As part of my role we are also implementing regional research at the moment on the topics of: psychosocial violence and its mental health ramifications; gender recognition; employment discrimination; LGBTIQ civil society engagement with the universal periodic review process and other united nations human rights monitoring mechanisms; and an analysis of SOGIE representations in the media.

Launch of Thailand's Gender Equality Act: Liaising with the Thai government and Thai LGBTIQ civil society as UNDP representative in the launch of Thailand's new Gender Equality Act B.E 2558, the first law in Thailand with a definition of gender that is LGBTIQ inclusive. To organise this I met with government officials and helped with logistical arrangements, agenda setting, and identifying resource people and participants. As part of this event we held a National Advocacy Workshop which brought LGBTIQ activists and the government implementers together to create a National Advocacy Framework centred around this new law. I am a lead drafter for this framework which is in the final stages of completion. <https://goo.gl/MXulnh>

Work with UNESCO to combat school related bullying: Facilitator leading a session on awareness raising at the Asia-Pacific Consultation on School Bullying on the Basis of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity/Expression held from 15–17 June in Bangkok, Thailand. More than 100 participants took part in the consultation, including delegations from 13 Asia-Pacific countries, comprising education and other ministry officials, national civil society organisations, academic institutions and UN agencies, as well as regional and global education and development partners. <https://goo.gl/EcJyJW>

I also support the UNDP and UNESCO 'Purple my School campaign' which aims to promote safe spaces for LGBTI students in Asia-Pacific schools by calling for supporters—peers, parents, teachers or schools themselves—to show solidarity through images that feature the colour purple prominently, whether via clothing, drawings or purple creations, the more creative the better. <http://www.campaign.com/PurpleMySchool>

Blogging and Social Media Activism: During the Irish Equal Marriage Referendum I was based in Thailand and could not do the on the ground activism that I wanted. Instead I engaged in media activism which resulted in two news articles in prime time Irish newspapers. One editorial in the Irish Times, the other a feature on young people flying home to vote, advocating for overseas voting in the Sunday Times. I flew home to vote and campaigned in my district in the two days I was in country. Following my return to Thailand I wrote a blog post about my experience which was shared over 5000 times: <https://goo.gl/jN34k5>

I also write numerous press releases and blog posts for the Being LGBTI in Asia project as well as managing their Facebook and Twitter accounts which have over 17k and 4k followers respectively. <https://www.facebook.com/beinglgbtiinasia>

Amnesty International LGBTI group: I am an active member of Amnesty International Ireland, and Amnesty International Ireland's LGBTI group. This is Amnesty's dedicated, voluntary group focused on activism protecting LGBTI people who have had their rights violated. One example of the LGBTIQ specific campaigns I have worked on is the case of John Jeanette Solstad Remø, a Norwegian trans woman fighting for legal gender recognition without undergoing compulsory medical requirements. I was responsible for drafting the petition contents and for providing the media content for her case. For this purpose we also highlighted her case during the Dublin Pride festival, during this time people could text to add their name to petitions and we promoted this fact at the main pride events resulting in a marked increase in signatures. Ms. Solstad Remø was also included in the global annual "Write for Rights" campaign that sees a select few priority cases become the focus of a coordinated letter writing campaign targeted towards influencing key decision makers.

IGLYO Involvement: I was the Policy and Communications intern at IGLYO Secretariat from August to October 2013. During that time I compiled the IGLYO Position Paper on the Social Inclusion of LGBTQ Youth. I also project managed

the publication of 'IGLYO on Hate Speech'. I was also a prep team member and facilitator for the week long Study Session at the Strasbourg Youth Center "Equality in Action: Mobilising LGBTQI youth around the Council of Europe Recommendation on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity" organised by IGLYO and TGEU in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe . As well as being a prep team members I also facilitated sessions of Gender and Terminology.

Additionally I was a participant at the Intersectionality conference in Bologna as well as the IGLYO 30th Anniversary Event in Dublin. I have used what I learned about Intersectionality at the Bologna conference to inform my work at UN level and Intersectionality has become a key strategic focus enabling us to mainstream LGBTQI issues into programmes in difficult or conservative environments.

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

Training Design/Delivery, Advocacy & Policy,  
Resource Writing

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

Resource Writing: IGLYO Position Paper on Social Inclusion; Thailand National Advocacy Framework. My greatest strength is perhaps my strong writing ability.

Advocacy: I have worked as a human rights monitor in the West Bank of the Palestinian Territories where I was responsible for reporting on rights violations in the field including child arrests and detention. Following my experiences in the field I engaged in human rights-focused lobbying activities at Irish and European Union level. This included meeting with Irish members of parliament as well as Members of the European Parliament and resulted in parliamentary questions being raised.

Policy: As part of my role with the UN, policy analysis and liaising with governments, encouraging good governance and best practice are primary roles. Therefore we are constantly engaging with partners in relation to policy.

Training Design/Delivery: I am a 'UN for All' trainer. That is that I have been trained to provide training to UN staff and their families on the workplace inclusion of People living with HIV, LGBTQI people, people living with a disability, mental health and people who use or have used drugs. I have also facilitated sessions on Awareness Raising to tackle homophobic and transphobic bullying, presented on Intersectionality at a conference held by the ASEAN SOGIE Caucus in Manila Philippines and on the human rights situation of LGBTI people in Asia and the Pacific. I was also part of the prep team for the IGLYO study session in Strasbourg 'Equality in Action'. My strong interpersonal skills mean that I am an approachable trainers while my strong research skills provide me with the necessary knowledge and informal learning strategies.

**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?**

With great enthusiasm. I am a very energetic person and I have managed thus far in my life to handle multiple competing priorities and effectively meet deadlines. My strategy would likely be to divide the ten or more hours into several blocks. Several small hours throughout the week with a larger chunk during the morning of the weekends. Of course I would be able to prioritise time limited activities and devote myself to these full time.

While the mandate for the Board Member starts in January, I remain in Asia until the end of March and if elected would need to work remotely for the first three months of my term. This is the only restriction I can envision on my time commitments and availability.

Thank you for taking the time to review my application!