

HDIM 2017 Side Event

Years of Combating Hate Crimes against LGBTI: *drawing up the balance*

Thursday 14 September, 13.15 – 14.45, Meeting Room 3

sandwiches and refreshments will be provided

The OSCE has many important commitments in combating any form of intolerance, discrimination, and bias based violence. All through the OSCE region, a clear pattern emerges of a high level of violence and bias crimes against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons. Since 2008, COC Netherlands has been engaging with the OSCE with several partners from across the OSCE region. With the support of many participating states, we have addressed hate crimes, intolerance and discrimination during side events. Activists from partner organizations around the world have delivered many related statements during working sessions at the HDIM.

Only last year, COC Netherlands and TGEU have pointed out that only in the last five years, 71 murders of trans people have been documented in Europe. Nearly every transgender person experiences harassment, abuse and violence. Similar facts are available when it concerns the position of lesbian, gay, bisexual and intersex people.

During this side event we would like to draw up the balance of years of engagement between civil society, the OSCE and participating states. With all these stakeholders, we will identify obstacles for progress and discuss clear and practical solutions in our common efforts to combat hate crimes in the OSCE region.

Confirmed speakers will represent community-based organisations from the Netherlands, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, as well as a representative of the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department of ODIHR.

This side event is co-sponsored by the 28 member states of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom), as well as Canada, Norway, Switzerland and the United States of America.

