



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT ON INTOLERANCE TOWARDS LGBTI PEOPLE

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the Permanent Council 6 November 2014

Thank you, Mr Chairman, for giving me the floor. I shall be very brief.

I want to join my US colleague in condemning the violent attack on an LGBTI event last month in Skopje.

Mr Chairman,

Intolerance towards LGBTI people is – as we all know – widespread. Attack on LGBTI events are an expression of such intolerance and must be met with robust responses.

The attack on the event in Skopje is unfortunately not unique. A similar event in St. Petersburg in September – the so-called Queer-Fest 2014 – was also disturbed by people with homophobic attitudes.

Lack of appropriate response to such incidents may be interpreted by some as a signal that harassment of LGBTI people is condoned by our societies.

Thank you.