

## Stronger together

### *An Equinet Roundtable on Implementing the EC LGBTIQ Strategy*

Online roundtable, 31 March 2021

#### Concept note

On November 2020, the European Commission adopted its first-ever LGBTIQ Strategy. This ambitious policy document is a major landmark for the protection of LGBTIQ people all over the European Union. It contains important commitments and proposals for achieving LGBTIQ equality, including on key topics such as access to health, artificial intelligence, parenthood recognition between Member States, and intersectionality. The Strategy also identifies equality bodies as essential actors for ensuring that discrimination against LGBTIQ people is tackled, while stating that EU legislation might be introduced in 2022 to strengthen their role.

An important next step for the Strategy will be to ensure its effective implementation. Strategic collaboration between stakeholders will be key, including EU institutions, Member States, civil society and equality bodies. This online roundtable will explore how to best collaborate for a successful implementation of the LGBTIQ Strategy, in order to achieve equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, intersex and queer people in the European Union.

#### OBJECTIVES

This event aims to:

- Identify the role equality bodies can play for implementing the LGBTIQ Strategy;
- Identify how equality bodies, civil society, national authorities and European institutions can cooperate to successfully implement the LGBTIQ Strategy;

#### PARTICIPANTS

The roundtable is aimed at equality body staff, representatives of EU institutions & national authorities, and civil society organisations.

#### DRAFT AGENDA

##### OPENING SESSION – 10:00 – 10:05

Online check-in  
Welcome & housekeeping

##### SETTING THE SCENE – 10:05 – 10:35

*Presentation of the LGBTIQ Strategy* – Commissioner Helena Dalli, European Commission (10 minutes)

**Equality bodies & the LGBTIQ Strategy, an essential partnership** – Tena Šimonovic Einwalter Equinet (10 minutes)

Q&A (10 minutes)

## SESSION 1 – 10:35 – 11:05

### *Litigating for LGBTIQ equality*

**A story of strategic litigation** – The Coman Case - National Council for Combatting Discrimination (10 minutes)

**Reaction from civil society** – ILGA and Accept (10 minutes)

Q&A (10 minutes)

Coffee break – 11:05 – 11:15

## SESSION 2 – 11:15 – 11:45

### *Defending LGBTIQ equality in a challenging political context*

**A story of independence** – LGBTIQ Equality in Poland – Polish Commissioner for Human Rights (10 minutes)

**Reaction from an MEP** – Terry Reinke (10 minutes)

Q&A (10 minutes)

## SESSION 4 – 11:45 – 12:55

### *Discussing collaboration*

Panel discussion on collaborating for implementing the LGBTIQ Strategy (60 minutes):

- **French Ministry Representative**
- **European Commission**
- **MEP (March Angel, LGBTI Intergroup representative)**
- **TGEU or OII**
- **ILGA**
- **Equinet**

Q&A (10 minutes)

**Concluding session – 12:55 – 13:00**