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ILGA-Europe's monthly electronic LGBT political
and legal news bulletin

ILGA
EUROPE 

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- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities; and
- relaying the views of the stakeholders and society at large

For more information see:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/progress/index_en.html

The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission.

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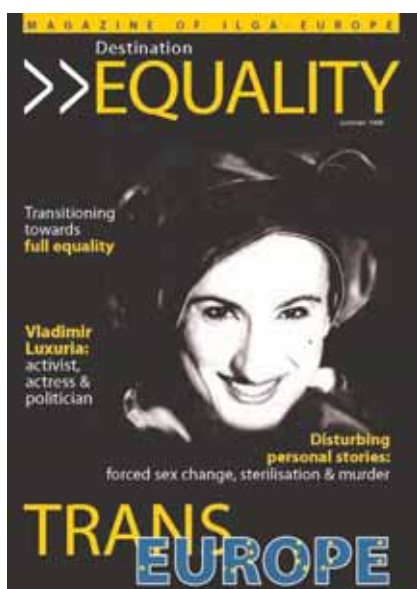
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ILGA-EUROPE:

ILGA-Europe's Newsletter becomes a magazine – “Destination>>EQUALITY”

media release by ILGA-Europe, 29 July 2008



Since 2001, ILGA-Europe published a quarterly Newsletter which informed its members, friends, supporters and funders about its work and about LGBT related news and developments across Europe.

For the last few years, ILGA-Europe enhanced its communications strategy and as a result the Newsletter became more a thematic resource. Now the organisation is taking a further step up – our Newsletter has become a magazine! It has increased in volume and will continue the thematic approach. The magazine will be published twice a year.

To reflect the essence of what ILGA-Europe is and works for, a title “Destination>>EQUALITY” has been given to the magazine. The first edition of our magazine is focused on transgender people’s rights.

Patricia Prendiville, Executive Director of ILGA-Europe, said:

“I hope our members and supporters will welcome yet another development towards enhancing our communications work. We believe a new title clearly identifies both the organisational dynamic and marks the ultimate destination where we want to be. We also believe the thematic approach, which has already proven to be popular with our readers, will continue providing added value for all who are interested and passionate about equality issues.

We are proud that the first edition of our magazine focuses on transgender people’s rights. This edition provides a variety of articles covering many aspects of trans people’s lives and rights: from stories of humiliation, intrusion and abuse to stories of hope and inspiration.”

PDF version of “Destination>>EQUALITY” is available on our website:

www.ilga-europe.org/europe/publications/magazine_destination_equality/2008/transeurope_summer_2008

A dialogue of a new kind: The first round table of the Age Project took place in Berlin, Germany

by Sylvi Paulick, IGLYO

IGLYO is currently, in close partnership with ILGA-Europe, undertaking an Age Project whose overall objective it is to investigate the intersectional experience of age and sexual orientation as grounds of discrimination. The Age Project – funded by the European Commission – came about as a result of the recognition that certain age groups of the LGBTQ communities are rendered almost invisible, older LGBTQ people in particular. It is for this reason that the Age Project not only intends to assess the issues of the different age groups in the LGBTQ communities but to also bring together people of all ages and reflect over an intergenerational dialogue. Essential to the project is the execution of two round tables, the first of which took place in Berlin from August 7 - 8, 2008. This event gathered a total of 29 participants from all over Europe and initiated a cross-national discussion about, and between, the different age groups and the specific issues in relation to LGBTQ identity.

The 1,5-day programme of the round table comprised a variety of working sessions whereby participants received the opportunity to discuss the different issues in various group settings. The first working session focused on assessing the important issues for younger and older LGBTQ people and participants identified the following issues as commonalities between the different age groups: LGBTQ people are not adequately represented in the media, there is a lack of awareness by service providers about LGBTQ people's needs, and decisions relating to LGBTQ life tend to be made by "outsiders" who neither represent the sexual orientation nor age of the people in question.

Participants then received the opportunity to explicitly discuss the benefits and gains of intergenerational contact as well as the perceived problems that might inhibit it. The most obvious benefits identified were the transfer and exchange of experience which would enable a better understanding of the fears and problems of the other age groups. Furthermore, it could provide continuity within the LGBTQ movement. People could learn from the experience others have already made which could result in future generations being able to develop their identity in healthier and less painful ways. Overall, participants stated that a life without intergenerational contact is an impoverished life. As potential barriers to intergenerational contact

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participants highlighted the differences in life experiences which could result in a lack of things in common. Also, the different means of communication and a different language used could be problematic. Finally, existing stereotypes about other age groups were identified as a problem and the need to address and debunk them.

During the second day of the round table, participants were requested to formulate recommendations with regard to the issues of the different LGBTQ age groups and with regard to the dialogue between those groups. This was in preparation for the second round table which will take place in Brussels in November 2008. It will gather a variety of age lobby groups and service providers who do not have an explicit LGBTQ focus but who are interested in joining the dialogue and incorporating the findings about needs and requirements of the LGBTQ communities into their work so that LGBTQ people will be appropriately represented in the future.

The first round table was not only a debate about the dialogue between the different LGBTQ generations; the event truly was an intergenerational dialogue in itself. Participants very much enjoyed the international nature of this event – not only because it enabled them to meet international colleagues of different age groups but also because they were able to learn about the vast geographical differences in LGBTQ activism. Because legal protection for example is still not guaranteed for many activists especially in Eastern European countries, questions of how to organise around LGBTQ issues in general have been of higher priority than focusing on age-related issues and intergenerational dialogue in particular.

If you are interested in further information about the Age Project or if you would like to share your thoughts or give recommendations, please contact Sylvi Paulick (Age-Project Coordinator) directly at sylvi@iglyo.com.

Images of the roundtable are available on ILGA-Europe website:

www.ilga-europe.org/europe/photo_galleries/iglyo_ilga_europe_age_project_1st_roundtable_7_8_august_2008_berlin

ILGA-EUROPE:

ILGA-Europe took part in EuroPride 2008 in Stockholm

by Juris Lavrikovs, ILGA-Europe's Communications manager



ILGA-Europe's banner at EuroPride March



Representatives of ILGA-Europe meeting Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil



Martin K.I. Christensen and Juris Lavrikovs delivering speech at EuroPride main stage

This year's EuroPride took place in the Swedish capital of Stockholm. One of the central themes of the EuroPride was international solidarity and ILGA-Europe took an active part in the event alongside the numerous LGBT activists from across Europe.

Patricia Prendiville, ILGA-Europe's Executive Director, was invited to speak about the work on advancing LGBT rights at the EU level at a seminar dedicated to EU issues. A lot of questions from the audience were about the current debate on the recently proposed new EU anti-discrimination directive. She also was one of the key-note speakers at the panel discussion on European trade unions and LGBT rights.

ILGA-Europe cooperated with the Swedish LGBT organisation RFSL and displayed and distributed its publications in Pride House and at RFSL stall at Pride Park. While in Stockholm ILGA-Europe staff and board members also had the opportunity to meet many of ILGA-Europe member groups, as well as network with the Swedish NGOs and officials. One of the highlights was a meeting with Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil from India who recently came out and is now actively working on HIV/AIDS prevention projects in West India. During this meeting we had the opportunity to introduce ILGA and ILGA-Europe, learn about the situation in India and explore possible involvement of Manvendra in ILGA and ILGA-Europe work at UN level.

ILGA-Europe also took part in the EuroPride March and delivered a speech on a main stage of Pride Park raising awareness of hostility which LGBT activists experience in some European country and encouraging financial support fro ILGA-Europe's work with activists and organisations in those European countries.

EU anti-discrimination truck is not welcomed by mayors of two Lithuanian cities, disappointment over compromise to display the truck on private territory of supermarket

media rerelease by ILGA-Europe and LGL, 20 August 2008

This year, the EU anti-discrimination truck is calling in two Lithuanian cities, Vilnius (20 August) and Kaunas (22 August). The mayors of both cities have refused to allow the truck on their municipal territories. The European Commission, on behalf of which the truck tour is organised, has had to compromise and display the truck on private territories on supermarkets. Last year, for the first time in its history, the truck was banned by one of EU member states – Lithuania. The mayor of Vilnius refused to allow the truck into the city claiming that participation of LGBT activists would be ‘propaganda of homosexuality’.

The EU “For Diversity. Against Discrimination.” truck is travelling around Europe to promote diversity, tolerance and raising awareness about EU legislation prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of gender, disability, age, religion/belief, race/ethnicity and sexual orientation. While stopping in various destinations across Europe, it engages locals to learn more about EU anti-discrimination laws, co-operate with local organisations representing various groups protected from discrimination, it also facilitates debates, exhibitions concerts and competitions.

This year, Juozas Imbrasas, the mayor of Vilnius repeatedly refused permission for the truck to be displayed on his municipal territory. Also Andrius Kupèinskas, Mayor of Kaunas, said that the ‘homosexual festival may cause many negative emotions’.

This year a compromise has been reached between the European Commission and the Lithuanian partners, and the truck is going to be displayed and available to the general public on private territories at supermarkets in Vilnius and Kaunas. While being satisfied that this year the truck is not being prevented from

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stopping in Lithuania, ILGA-Europe and Lithuania Gay League are disappointed that the mayors of two major Lithuanian cities have once again demonstrated ignorance and disrespect of the EU anti-discrimination principles and legislation. ILGA-Europe and LGL are also disappointed that the European Commission has agreed on a compromise between the municipal and private territory.

Deborah Lambillotte, Co-Chair of Executive Board, said:

“While welcoming the fact that the truck will be able to enter Lithuania and to deliver the messages of tolerance, diversity and respect to the people of that country, we regret that the European Commission had to agree on a compromise of a private supermarket territory. We believe that such a compromise might send out a wrong message and be interpreted by some as a lack of principles and firmness by the European Commission when it comes to EU anti-discrimination legislation and principles. The resistance and disrespect towards this legislation and these principles by the Lithuanian mayors is yet another proof that the Commission needs to take an uncompromising leading role and to ensure that all EU member states and their authorities, including cities, are compliant with and respectful of EU principles and its laws.”

Vladimir Simonko, Chair of Lithuanian Gay League, said:

“We know that it takes time to build a non-homophobic, tolerant and inclusive society. Major European cities are mainstreaming equality by holding numerous public events including LGBT Prides. Unfortunately, it is not a practice in two main Lithuanian cities, which refuse to embrace such an important anti-discrimination information campaign. Furthermore, the mayors of Vilnius and Kaunas are sending a clear message that LGBT people are still not welcome in their diverse communities and are creating some kind of 21st century apartheid. Homosexuals who find it impossible to live in such a situation are forced to emigrate to more tolerant European cities.”

Journalist Award 2008: Competition opens early August

Source: Stop-discrimination Newsletter August 2008

Now in its fifth year, this EU-wide competition recognises journalists who write articles on discrimination and diversity issues either in online or print media. In 2008 a special award will also be given for articles which examine discrimination against the Roma.

With a value of up to €4,500, prizes include the chance to participate at a conference on discrimination in the EU, visit Brussels to meet EU officials and MEPs, or electronic equipment to help the winner with his or her work. An independent jury of media professionals and anti-discrimination experts will select winners in the 27 EU Member States. National winners will then compete for the overall European award.

Entries can be submitted via the 'For Diversity. Against Discrimination.' Journalist Award 2008 website which will be online from the beginning of August. Competition closes at midday on 31 October 2008.

Further information:

<http://journalistaward.stop-discrimination.info/>

FRA Director Morten Kjaerum honoured by the Danish National Association for Gays and Lesbians (LBL)

Source: Fundamental Rights Agency, 18 August 2008

Morten Kjaerum, Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, was honoured as "one who swims against the stream" on 15 August 2008, and presented with the 'Salmon of the Year' award by the Danish National Association for Gays and Lesbians (LBL).

The "Salmon of the Year" prize is awarded "for one who swims against the stream", and in this case Morten Kjaerum has been given the award for "a courageous effort for homo-, bi- and transsexual people's rights and conditions" in contexts where the normal stance taken is negative. Kristoffer Petterson, national secretary of LBL, stated "*We are pleased to award Morten this prize and look forward to his continuing work for sexual minorities in the EU.*" He added that in the context of the fact that there is still a great deal of work to be done to ensure equal rights across the EU, the award gives Morten support and encouragement for this future work.

The FRA published in June 2008 the first part of its report on "Homophobia and Discrimination on Grounds of Sexual Orientation in the EU Member States", a legal analysis, which calls for "equal right to equal treatment". It highlighted that equal protection by EU anti-discrimination law has not yet been achieved for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transsexuals (LGBT) living in many parts of the European Union (EU).

This report is available on FRA website:

http://fra.europa.eu/fra/index.php?fuseaction=content.dsp_cat_content&catid=3fb38ad3e22bb&contentid=4868b375493cf

LGBT FAMILIES:

Different Families, Same Right? LGBT families roving exhibition

by Silvan Agius, ILGA-Europe's Policy and Programmes Officer

ILGA-Europe is pleased to launch another product complementing its Different Families, Same Right? project launched earlier this year at the LGBT families conference in Ljubljana.

ILGA-Europe shall print on canvas the 12 images of the LGBT families poster series, and launch them as a roving exhibition. The intention is to reach the widest audience possible and assist the quest for legal equality at national level. The roving exhibition shall be launched at the forthcoming ILGA-Europe's Annual Conference in Vienna (Oct/Nov 2008) and subsequently co-hosted with the LGBT Intergroup at the European Parliament.

ILGA-Europe would like to see this exhibition travel extensively within Europe, and urges all interested organisations to get in touch to book a slot for the hosting of this exhibition in their respective country/city during 2008-2009. ILGA-Europe is ready to provide the translation of the texts of the posters into the national language/s, and prepare them in the form of printed exhibition plaques to accompany the exhibition. It can also send a reasonable number of copies of the family reports, posters and postcards (English only) for distribution during such events.

For further information contact Silvan Agius at silvan@ilga-europe.org

LGBT FAMILIES:

Czech Republic: Interest in registered partnership on decline

Source: ÈTK, 4 August 2008.

www.praguemonitor.com/en/392/czech_national_news/26311/

The number of same-sex couples who conclude registered partnership in the Czech Republic has declined since the boom in 2006 when the respective law took effect, the daily Pravo wrote Friday, referring to its poll at birth registry offices.

The law on registered partnership of gay and lesbian couples has been valid since July 1, 2006. In the same year 235 couples entered into registered partnership in the 10-million Czech Republic.

During the first half of this year, it was only 105 couples, according to data from 14 birth registries, Pravo writes. "In 2006 we registered 26 couples, during the whole 2007 it was also 26, and this year we have so far registered 10 couples," a clerk, from the birth registry in Kladno, central Bohemia, told Pravo. The situation in other localities is similar, the paper adds.

The only exception is Karlovy Vary, west Bohemia, where the number of registered same-sex couples has increased. In 2006, two couples were registered, last year it was eight, and this years ten couples have entered registered partnership in Karlovy Vary.

The highest number of couples concluded registered partnership in the capital of Prague.

Activist Jiri Hromada, former chairman of the Czech Gay Initiative, says the current decreasing figures only prove that he situation has stabilised. "I cannot see a decline. It has stabilised after the boom," Hromada told Pravo. He added that the figures in the Czech Republic corresponded to the situation in the Netherlands and Germany.

TRANSGENDER:

Castration law for Swedish transgenders

Source: The Local, 2 August 2008, www.thelocal.se/13448/

A new proposal to introduce castration as a prerequisite for those undergoing gender reassignment surgery in Sweden has been met with outrage by a leading gay and transgender rights organisation.

Today, those undergoing gender reassignment surgery in order to achieve sex change usually complement their surgery with hormone treatment. A side-effect of the hormone treatment is natural sterilisation.

However, hormone treatments may be broken off, whether permanently or short-term, allowing for the possibility of pregnancy, as was the case of a British transgender "man" who got pregnant this year.

The new legislation would prevent a pregnancy altogether by making castration obligatory – testicles or ovaries would be taken out in an operation.

The Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL) and several patient associations have given a firm thumbs down for obligatory castration. RFSL has criticised the move as downright discriminatory and insulting.

This may be why the proposal has been gathering dust on Social Minister Göran Högglund's desk. Apparently he is currently on holiday, but his press secretary told Svenska Dagbladet newspaper to count on the final proposal being presented in spring 2009.

The number of people applying for sex change operations in Sweden has grown since 1997 when only 16 people requested the surgery. In 2007, a total of 46 people applied for a sex change.

TRANSGENDER:

Malta: Woman born a man insists on right to marry

by Claudia Calleja, Times of Malta, 30 July 2008

A woman who was born a man but was legally declared female following gender reassignment surgery has taken her court battle for the right to marry a step further when she filed a constitutional application, yesterday.

"I'm still young and will keep fighting for the family life I always wanted... It is my right and if I don't get it from the Maltese courts, I'm ready to take my case to the European Court," Joanne Cassar, 26, said when contacted.

She filed the application in the First Hall of the Civil Court in its constitutional jurisdiction after a court revoked a previous ruling that had given her the green light to marry.

In the constitutional application, Ms Cassar explained that she was born a male in September 1981. Ever since she was a child she felt she was female. As she grew up older, she decided to undergo gender reassignment surgery to solve the internal conflict she had. After surgery, she filed an application calling on the courts to change the gender annotation on her birth certificate to female. In June 2006 the court upheld her request.

Ms Cassar said that subsequently she applied to the Marriage Registry to issue the wedding banns as she wanted to marry her partner. But the director of the Public Registry refused to issue the banns sparking off her legal battle for the right to marry.

Ms Cassar filed an application in the Civil Court demanding that the director of the Public Registry issues the banns and, on February 12, 2007, the court upheld her application and ordered the issue of the banns.

The director the Public Registry filed another application, also in the Civil Court, calling on the court to reverse the previous decision.

In a judgment handed down in May this year, the court ruled that, despite the fact that

Ms Cassar was registered as a woman, it believed she was essentially still a man and the Marriage Act did not allow a union between two men. The court ruled that her gender had been changed on the birth certificate to safeguard her privacy and did not give her the rights of a "female" in light of the Marriage Act.

TRANSGENDER:

The court also ruled that the marriage of Ms Cassar to a man was in breach of the Marriage Act and so the court revoked the February 12, 2007 ruling saying it was based on an "unrealistic premise" as the parties were not of the opposite sex.

In her constitutional application, Ms Cassar argued that the law as interpreted by the Maltese courts went against a judgment handed down by the European Court of Human Rights. Quoting case law, she submitted that "there have been major social changes in the institution of marriage since the adoption of the (European) Convention as well as dramatic changes brought about by developments in medicine and science in the field of transsexuality..."

The condition of gender identity disorder, which Ms Cassar suffered from, has been accepted by medical authorities and one could not ignore the post-operative gender for the purposes of law.

Maltese law did not recognise her as belonging to the post-operative gender for all legal intents and purposes. This put her in the situation where she could neither marry a man nor a woman. This exposed her to degrading treatment and was in breach of her fundamental human right to marry.

She called on the court to provide her with legal remedies and declared that the director of the Public Registry could not refuse to issue the banns on grounds that she could not marry a man because she was born male.

Lawyers José Herrera and David Camilleri represented Ms Cassar.

TRANSGENDER:

Training for Our Future

by Jane Thomas, TGEU, www.tgeu.org

Transgender Europe is looking for a few young (at least in heart) trans people to take a leading role in activism in their own country. Are you fed up with a lack of support from your government? Fed up with missing or old-fashioned legislation? Are you tired of being forced to live in the closet? Or of living a dog's life? Forced out of work? Living a life on the street because you dare to be who you are? Yes? Maybe it is time to take action, and we want to help you.

Transgender Europe (TGEU), with the support of the UK's extremely successful activist organisation, Press for Change (PFC) and ILGA-Europe, is now taking applications for a training project aimed at giving new activists the tools and support they need to get out and work change in their communities.

National teams, comprised of three activist candidates are invited to submit applications for the project. Just four (4) of these teams will be successful and asked to take part in the project at no cost to themselves.

The project has two parts:

- 1.** You will be required to attend a four day training course in Manchester, UK, from Wednesday, October 1st, to Sunday, October 5th, 2008. There you will attend workshops and receive some formal training in various areas.
- 2.** The activists will then, with the help of TGEU, organise a local training to take place not later than the end of 2008.

Your travel and accommodation costs will be met by TGEU. Training and activities are also free. We demand only your presence and unmitigated attention. You don't have to pay a thing: you need only put your training to use through your own projects in your local community.

Complete the application form which you can obtain from jthomas@tgeu.org.

Attach an accompanying letter stating why your team should be chosen from the many teams applying.

These are to be completed and returned to jthomas@tgeu.org by Monday, September 8th, 2008.

TRANSGENDER:

London Transgender Film Festival

Source: LTGFFUK press release

We are happy to confirm that the London Transgender Film Festival 2008 will be taking place at Ritzy Picturehouse on Fri 7, Sat 8 + Sun 9 of Nov 2008.

We are accepting submissions from film makers of feature length and short films, animations and experimental films to be considered for screening at the festival. Deadline is 20 Sept 2008.

This year's Festival is looking for works of all different styles and techniques.

It's focus is to exhibit content of transgender, intersex, androgyny, gender variant, trans feminists, gender queer, and gender fluid persons of all natures, all races and cultures, ages and abilities.

Its aim is to increase trans visibility and acknowledgement, question the gender binary, to dispel ignorance and demystify stereotypes, unite and support a diverse LGBTQI community and celebrate trans spaces and their friends.

For full details of the festival and how to submit films please go to: www.transgenderfilmfestival.co.uk

HATE CRIME & VIOLENCE:

Thomas Hammarberg's latest view point on hate crimes

Source: website of Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe

Thomas Hammarberg, the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, published its latest view point on hate crime. Among other things he stated:

"Gay pride events have been attacked in several European cities, including Bucharest, Budapest and Moscow. In Riga, extremists hurled faeces and eggs at gay activists and their supporters when they were seen leaving a church service. Some years ago a Swedish hockey player was stabbed to death in Vasteras after he had made known that he was homosexual. In Oporto, Portugal, a group of boys attacked and killed a homeless Brazilian transgender woman and left the body in a water-filled pit. These incidents are only the tip of the ice-berg.

Some of these assaults may have been committed by distorted individual minds but many of them bear the imprints of neo-Nazi groups or other organised, extremist gangs who tend to be at the same time racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Roma, anti-Muslim, anti-Arab, and homophobic. They may also target foreigners and persons with disabilities."

The full text of his view point is available on

http://www.coe.int/t/commissioner/Viewpoints/080721_en.asp

HATE CRIME & VIOLENCE:

Berlin Mayor Condemns Attack on Gay Memorial

*Source: Spiegel Online International, 18 August 2008,
www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,572829,00.html*

Berlin's memorial to the thousands of homosexuals persecuted and killed by the Nazis was damaged over the weekend, less than three months after its unveiling. Berlin Mayor Klaus Wowereit condemned the attack and joined a demonstration at the site on Monday.

The mayor of Berlin, Klaus Wowereit, condemned an attack that damaged the city's monument to homosexuals (more...)persecuted by the Nazis and joined a demonstration at the scene on Monday afternoon.

"An attack against this memorial is clearly directed against homosexuals -- that can be said without waiting for further police investigations. We must show our condemnation of this act of intolerance and homophobia," said Wowereit, who is himself openly gay.

A viewing window in the concrete monument through which a video of two men kissing can be seen was smashed in the attack. The damage was reported by a passerby on Saturday, police said, adding that they had launched an investigation.

Germany's Association of Lesbians and Gays said in a statement: "Everything suggests that this attack was motivated by a hatred of homosexuals."

"The attack shows in a drastic way how necessary this monument is. Hostility to homosexuals remains virulent. The kissing scene shown in the monument evidently hit the mark. Even in a democratic society there are people who can't stand the sight of men kissing in public."

The monument was unveiled at a ceremony on May 27 and commemorates the thousands of homosexual men who died in concentration camps because of Nazi laws persecuting them for their sexual persuasion.

There were more than 50,000 convictions of homosexuals in the Nazi era, and authorities in some cases ordered men to be castrated.

HATE CRIME & VIOLENCE:

Rudolf Brazda, a homosexual survivor of Buchenwald concentration camp, said in a statement: "I had feared something like this would happen. People don't learn, they're much too stupid unfortunately. Because they don't want to understand that there is such a thing as homosexuality. Because they don't want to accept that there are people who are naturally different from them."

Brazda spent three years in Buchenwald, from 1942 until the camp was liberated in April 1945, and had to wear a pink badge during that time under Nazi rules identifying him as homosexual.

HATE CRIME & VIOLENCE:

Data collection on hate crimes against lesbians

by Dr Judith Schuyf

Homophobic (Lesbo/Bi/Transphobic) Hate Crime - Judith Schuyf has been commissioned by the Dutch Ministry of Justice to conduct a scan on homo-phobic hate crime in the Netherlands and six adjoining countries (Germany, Belgium, UK, Ireland, Denmark and Sweden). The resulting report will form the basis for an expert meeting in december 2008, which will hopefully lead to more effective measures against homo/Lesbo/bi/transphobic hate crimes.

I am particularly interested in the following information from any of these six countries:

- data from (national) surveys on these hate crimes and all additional data, especially on lesbo and transphobic hate crimes
- data on perpetrators of these crimes
- information on prevention projects on hate crime, preferably with evaluation results

Please send any information to j.schuyf@movisie.nl preferably with a reference to where I can find the information.

NOTICE BOARD:

Book “Beyond the Pink Curtain: Everyday Life of LGBT People in Eastern Europe” is now available online

by Roman Kuhar

The idea of this book was born in the Intimate/Sexual Citizenship conference in October 2005 in Ljubljana where scholars focusing on the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in post-socialist Eastern Europe were gathered to discuss the everyday experiences of LGBT people regarding the functioning of social, political and cultural boundaries that separate the “good heterosexual citizen” from the rest. The 21 articles of this volume illustrate the increasingly conspicuous ways of LGBT existence being specifically characteristic to Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, East-Germany, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia.

This collection effectively problematises the imposed heterosexuality in the dichotomised conception of sexuality and gender and the inequalities reinforced by an appeal to that dichotomy. At the same time – the collection, which focuses on the analysis of the position of LGBT people in Eastern European countries – implicitly draws attention to the hierarchical divisions of Europe and to the “otherness” of Eastern Europe.

The book is available on

www.mirovni-institut.si/Publikacija/Detail/en/publikacija/Beyond-the-Pink-Curtain-Everyday-Life-of-LGBT-People-in-Eastern-Europe/

NOTICE BOARD:

Job opportunity with Equinet - Communications officer

Source: Equinet

Equinet, the European Network of Equality Bodies, is seeking to recruit a Communications Officer to provide effective communications and information services to Equinet members and to support and contribute to the work of the Brussels-based Equinet Secretariat.

Equinet, the European Network of Equality Bodies, brings together the specialised equality bodies established at national level across the European Union to promote equality and combat discrimination on the basis of EU Equal Treatment legislation.

As Communications Officer you will be responsible for providing effective communications and information services to Equinet members on equality and non-discrimination issues and for supporting and contributing to the work of the Brussels-based Equinet Secretariat.

You will facilitate and promote internal network communication between Member organizations, as well as external communication with EU institutions, key stakeholders and contacts across Europe. You will manage the production, distribution and maintenance of communication products including Equinet publications, website and newsletter on equality and non-discrimination developments across Europe. You will contribute to the development and implementation of an overall Equinet communications strategy by facilitating effective internal network communication as well as external communication.

Your role requires a good knowledge of and track record in providing and promoting communication and information tools and services in an international environment. It also requires knowledge of and experience in publications, website and database management. You have excellent English language and computer skills and are proficient in French.

Deadline for applications: 5 September 2008

Further information including application pack:

www.equineteurope.org/news/2731.html

NOTICE BOARD:

Guide to Visualising Information for Advocacy

Source: OSI

The OSI Information Program funded the development of a guide called *Visualizing Information for Advocacy: An Introduction to Information Design*. The guide was written and designed by John Emerson, and produced by the Tactical Technology Collective. The guide has been released under a Creative Commons license and is available to **download at: <http://apperceptive.com/infodesign.pdf>**.

The guide is useful for NGOs and other organisations that publish reports and data. It's full of useful tips on how to make campaigns and visual materials more interesting and more effective. In April this year the creators of the guide presented it to the OSI-New York and OSF-London offices. There are plans for a second version of the guide to come out early next year. (contact: Janet Haven at jhaven@osieurope.org)