

EURO-LETTER

no. 29

20 November 1994

The Euroletter is published by the Eurosecretariat of
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A. Council of Europe

Additional protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights (prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation).

No news!

NGO status of ILGA to the Council of Europe

ILGA's secretariats committee has decided to postpone the application in the light of the suspension of ILGA as an UN NGO.

Lesbian and gay rights in Central- and Eastern European countries applying for membership of the Council of Europe

1. Romania

William Courson has sent us a file of his communications with UN authorities. The file is enclosed in this Euroletter. Especially page 3 of the letter to the secretary general and annex B are highly interesting.

2. Albania

An article about the Gay Albania Society is enclosed together with translations of the relevant clauses in the Albanian penal code.

A press release from Amnesty is enclosed. Furthermore ILGA's immediate reaction to the police harassment towards gay Albanians is enclosed.

Other European issues

An update of Alexandra Dudas survey of the legal situation in Europe is enclosed.

B. The CSCE - CHD process

Budapest Review Conference

A summary will be included in the next Euroletter.

A description of CSCE structure and institutions is enclosed.

C. The European Union

Sitges seminar on the EU 21 - 23 October 1994

The minutes of the seminar is included. The draft resolutions that will be proposed at the Helsinki conference are:

ILGA should take an active and coordinating role in promoting lesbian and gay rights within the policies of the European Union. ILGA should influence the institutions of the European Union in order to gain full equality for lesbians and gays in the European Union as well as in all member states.

ILGA should work for the inclusion of an anti discrimination clause covering sexual orientation in a new treaty, in accordance with the European Parliament resolution of 1994 (Roth report)

ILGA should work for the redefinition of the term 'legal spouse' to include homosexual relationships with or without registered partnerships.

ILGA should work for the inclusion of gays, lesbians and their children in the concept of family, including the right to family life. Furthermore ILGA should work for

- recognition of partnerships
- abolishing of discriminatory provisions in the partnerships laws
- adoption possibilities for gays and lesbians
- the right to artificial insemination for lesbians
- the right to joint custody.

Forum for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Europe

A group of members of the European Parliament has decided to form a forum for lesbian

and gay rights in Europe (a kind of inter-group) in the parliament. See enclosed invitation to other members of the parliament.

HIV testing of personnel in EU

The European Court of Justice has ruled against the Commission about hiv testing of staff members in European institutions. See enclosed parliamentary question and memo from Egalité.

Egalité

The organisation for gays and lesbians in the European institutions, Egalité, and the working party on EU has begun a co-operation. Some information about Egalité is enclosed.