

LGBTI EN EUROPE, REFLECHISSONS ENSEMBLE LGBTI IN EUROPE, THINK TOGETHER

Biographies of the moderator and the speakers



Anna RURKA

President of the Conference of the INGOs of the Council of Europe

Since 2015, she holds the position of President of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe. She is a Senior Lecturer at the University Paris Nanterre, Vice President of European Committee for Home-based Priority Action for the Child and the Family (EUROCEF, INGO with participatory status with the Council of Europe). Her professional and social engagement activities focus on participation in assessing measures for people receiving social work support, access to rights by vulnerable groups, systemic and institutional analysis of the power relations.

Depuis 2015, Anna Rurka occupe le poste de Présidente de la Conférence des OING du Conseil de l'Europe. Elle est maître de conférences à l'Université Paris Nanterre, Vice-Présidente du Comité européen d'action spécialisée pour l'enfant et la famille dans leur milieu de vie (EUROCEF, OING ayant obtenu le statut participatif auprès du Conseil de l'Europe). Ses activités d'engagement professionnel et social se concentrent sur la participation à l'évaluation des dispositifs des personnes accompagnées en travail social, l'accès aux droits des groupes vulnérables, l'analyse systémique et institutionnelle des relations de pouvoir dans le domaine des politiques publiques.



Doctor in law, Barrister at the French Bar of Versailles, France, Anne Nègre is teaching at University Paris 1-Panthéon-Sorbonne. She is engaged on equality of rights between women/men. She has led an INGO founded in 1919, present in 70 countries, dedicated to education and rights. Its regional group, University Women of Europe has supported her candidacy in 2015 as the Gender Expert of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe where she has been elected.

ANNE NEGRE, Docteure en droit, Avocate au Barreau de Versailles, elle enseigne à l'Université Paris 1-Panthéon-Sorbonne, France. Elle est engagée dans l'égalité des droits entre les femmes et les hommes, a dirigé GWI présente dans 70 pays fondée en 1919, défendant l'éducation et les droits des femmes. Sa branche européenne, University Women of Europe a porté sa candidature comme Experte Egalité entre les Femmes et les Hommes de la Conférence des OINGs du Conseil de l'Europe qui l'a élue. Chevalière de la Légion d'Honneur, Chevalière de l'Ordre National du Mérite.



Nigel Warner has been active in LGBTI rights since the mid-70s. He became involved with International Lesbian and Gay Association soon after its foundation in 1978, and served on its Financial Secretariat between 87 and 93. Since 1998 he has worked as a full-time volunteer with ILGA-Europe, as board member and treasurer between 2000 and 2005, and representing ILGA-Europe at the Council of Europe from 1998 to the present time. In 2016 he joined the founding board of the European Implementation Network, an NGO set up to assist lawyers and NGOs in working for full and effective implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.



Daina Rudusa is a third culture child, originally from Latvia but grown up moving between Riga, Moscow, Prague and elsewhere. Daina has a BA in History and English from Simon Fraser University in Canada, and an LLM in Public International Law and Human Rights from the Riga Graduate School of Law in Latvia; LGBT rights were at the heart of both of her degrees.

Daina coordinates ILGA-Europe's advocacy work in Eastern Europe, in particular in EU Enlargement and Eastern Partnership countries. She works on developing and implementing advocacy strategies and policy positions with relevant European organisations, and delivering capacity-building activities for local, national and regional LGBTI organisations to enable them to contribute effectively to policy-making at national and European levels.



In 2016, **Rev. Wielie Elhorst** (The Netherlands) was appointed by the Protestant Church of Amsterdam as Minister “with a special mission for the LGBT-community”. Rev. Wielie Elhorst is also the minister of a parish near Amsterdam. Elhorst has been advocating the emancipation of Christian LGBTs since 1989. He is currently active as one of two project managers that aim for the social acceptance of LGBT Christians in The Netherlands in their respective communities. In Amsterdam, he is the coordinator of the annual Pride Church Service, the Pink Christmas Church Service and the IDAHOBIT vigil.

Rev. Wielie Elhorst is the Co-President of the European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups (www.euroforumlgbtchristians.eu). In July 2016, the European Forum gained participatory status in the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe. For several years, the European Forum has been leading the campaign called ‘Inclusive Faith’ (www.inclusivefaith.eu). Its goal was to gather the voices of religious leaders and people of faith who, despite the different stances their religious teachings take on issues of sexual and gender diversity, are ready to say that violence and hatred have no place in their traditions and institutions. Elhorst was involved in leading and executing this campaign.



Misha Cherniak (Poland) was born in Moscow and currently lives in Warsaw. An Orthodox Christian, professionally trained in the fields of linguistics, IT, and music, he now works as an LGBT activist, with a special focus on the intersection of human rights and religion. Since 2012, he has been a member of the Faith and Rainbow (Wiara i Tęcza) Group of Polish LGBTQ Christians. Since 2013, he has been involved with the European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups, first as a volunteer, then as a staff member. Currently, he is the Forum’s Programme Officer, responsible for the implementation of several large-scale projects in the fields of advocacy and capacity building. He is also the head of the Forum’s Orthodoxy Working Group. In this role, he wrote the open letter of Orthodox LGBT persons to the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church gathered in Crete in June 2016, and edited of the first-of-its-kind publication on the Orthodox Church and LGBT issues “For I Am Wonderfully Made” (published in English in 2016, Russian and Greek editions expected in 2018).



Manuel Tornare est professeur de philosophie et de littérature française avant d'accéder aux postes de doyen et de directeur de Collèges. Il devient Maire de Genève en 2001 et sera réélu trois fois. En 2011, il est élu puis réélu au Conseil National Suisse. Il fait partie de la Délégation suisse à l'Assemblée parlementaire du Conseil de l'Europe depuis 2015 où il est élu Vice-président de la Commission égalité et non-discrimination. Il est le Rapporteur sur « Les détenus gravement handicapés en Europe ».



Piet De Bruyn est historien de formation, Député au Parlement flamand de 2007 à 2009, il est Sénateur belge depuis septembre 2010. Il est nommé le 27 juin 2017 Rapporteur général de l'Assemblée parlementaire sur les droits des personnes LGBTI.

Il a permis par son rapport « Promouvoir les droits humains et éliminer les discriminations à l'égard des personnes intersexes » approuvé à l'unanimité par Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination, que le 12 octobre 2017 l'APCE adopte la première résolution spécifique aux questions intersexes venant d'une institution gouvernementale européenne.