

EuroPride in Southeast Europe - one year on The human rights situation of LGBTI people

Panel discussion

In English only, without interpretation

Dorćol Platz, Dobračina 59, Belgrade
Friday, 30 June 2023
10h00-12h00

Belgrade hosted EuroPride in 2022. The event left its mark on the European pride movement and the LGBTIQ+ community of the country, Southeast Europe and beyond. An important part of EuroPride since 1992 is the promotion of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the LGBTIQ+ people in Europe.

The Council of Europe aims to support its 46 member states on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity. In this context, the joint European Union and Council of Europe action “Promotion of equality and diversity in Serbia” supported human rights activities taking place in the context of EuroPride.

At the IDAHOT+ Forum on 11 May 2023, in the run-up to the Council of Europe summit in Reykjavik, the Prime Minister of Iceland, the EU Commissioner for Equality and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe jointly stated:

“While visionary European policies are driving unprecedented positive change and the rights of LGBTI persons have been strengthened in many European countries faster than what could have been imagined only a decade ago, we cannot ignore an ongoing human rights backsliding and continued polarisation in Europe with alarming LGBTI-phobic hate speech, discrimination and sometimes even violence.”

To mark the end of global Pride Month of June, the panel discussion will take stock of the situation in Serbia one year after EuroPride and explore what needs to be done to support Serbia more effectively in combating discrimination and promoting diversity as member state of the Council of Europe and candidate country for European Union membership.

Everyone welcome. No registration required.

AGENDA

10:00 Welcome coffee

10:15 Panel discussion

Evgenia Giakoumopoulou, Head of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Unit, Council of Europe, Strasbourg

Biljana Ginova, LGBTIQ Human Rights Defender, Skopje

Miloš Kovačević, Legal Empowerment Coordinator, Association Da se zna, Belgrade

Koen Slootmaeckers, author of "Coming In: Sexual Politics and EU accession in Serbia", City, University of London

Moderator: **Tobias Flessenkemper**, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Belgrade

11:15 Discussion with the audience

11:45 Refreshments and view of the exhibition "Sheltered Pride" [ZAŠTIĆENI PRAJD].

Photos by @IMG_Dawood and texts by Dr Koen Slootmaeckers showcasing images captured during the 2022 EuroPride in Belgrade.

The exhibition runs from 21st June to 1st July 2023, at O3ONE ART SPACE, Dorćol Platz, Dobračina 59b, Belgrade.

12:00 End of the event

**The event will be held in English only and no interpretation will be provided.*