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# CONTENTS

- About LGL 4
- 2024: LGL's goals, objectives and tasks 7
  - Annual activity report 10
    - **Projects 28**
    - **Publications 39**
    - Financial report 42

# About LGL

The National lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) human rights organization LGL — is the only non-governmental organization in Lithuania exclusively dedicated to representing the interests of the local LGBT community. Having begun operations on December 3rd, 1993, LGL is one of the most mature and stable organizations in the country's civil sector. The fundamental principle behind the organization's activities is independence from any political or financial interests whilst striving for effective inclusion and social integration of the LGBT community in Lithuania. LGL seeks to achieve consistent LGBT human rights progress, drawing on its twenty years of experience in advocacy, awareness-raising and community building.

**Our vision:** a respectful, open, and inclusive Lithuanian society that is free of discriminatory homophobic, bi-phobic and transphobic attitudes.

**Our mission:** LGL is an advocacy organization dedicated to fighting homophobia and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Through education, support, and representation of the LGBT community, LGL promotes an inclusive social environment for gay men, lesbian women, bisexual and transgender persons.

# The values and principles of our organization:

- » respect and diversity;
- equal opportunities for participation in organization activities;
- » voluntary participation;
- » confidentiality of membership;
- >>> transparency.

### General fields of activity:

- » human rights and equal opportunities;
- » sport and cultural initiatives;
- » health and lifestyle;
- » employment;
- » social inclusion;
- >> family rights;
- » empowerment of organization members and encouragement of societal groups to participate in organization activities;
- organizational competence and capacity building.

LGL's **team** currently consists of 4 Board Members, 6 permanent staff members, 13 members, as well as over 20 volunteers both in Lithuania and abroad. Our team is enthusiastic, dynamic, ever-changing and open to new members, ideas and projects. It is important to emphasize that not only gay individuals are involved in the organization – in addition to the LGBT community, we are proud of our friends and allies who consider LGBT rights part of the issue of democratic and effective protection of human rights for all citizens of the Republic of Lithuania without exception.

LGL's office is located in Vilnius, Odminių str. 11-4. Here, the LGL team administers and implements projects, organizes meetings, and regularly invites the LGBT community and its allies to various events. LGL's office contains the only LGBT centre in Lithuania with a library of literature related to the organization's activities, where visitors can enjoy free wi-fi and a cup of coffee or tea. The LGBT centre is open to all well-wishing visitors who want to learn more about the organization's activities and the LGBT human rights situation in Lithuania.

LGL is a member of the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF) and the Coalition of Human rights organizations. LGL also answers to international organizations ILGA (The International Lesbian and Gay Association), IGLYO (The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Youth and Student Organization), EPOA (The European Pride Organisers Association), TGEU (The European Transgender Network) and INACH (The International Network Against Cyber Hate). We believe that we can most effectively pursue our goals by seeing LGBT rights as part of a broader human rights discourse, and by actively supporting various initiatives both at the national and international level.

You can find up-to-date information about LGL's activities and current issues faced by the LGBT community at <a href="www.lgl.lt/en">www.lgl.lt/en</a> and LGL's Facebook page, <a href="www.facebook.com/lgl.lt">www.facebook.com/lgl.lt</a>.

# 2024: LGL'S GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND TASKS



### In 2024, LGL plans to achieve the following goals:

- To reduce the isolation and oppression of LGBT persons in Lithuania by creating information and communication network;
- Disseminate objective information about LGBT people to public institutions in order to reduce discrimination of LGBT people;
- Participate in the preparation of anti-discrimination and registered partnership laws;
- Organize public and cultural events for the LGBT community in Lithuania.

### In 2024, LGL plans to implement the following objectives:

- To develop human rights and freedoms and equal opportunities;
- Carry out activities focused on faster integration of LGBT persons into the labor market;
- To carry out activities aimed at reducing the social exclusion of LGBT people;
- To promote the diversity of families;
- Mobilize members and attract various social groups to participate in the activities of the organization;
- Provide information and advise on issues of equal opportunities at work;
- Organize seminars, trainings, other educational events;
- Organize social and cultural events for the LGBT community;
- Develop the competences of the organization's board members, members, employees, and volunteers.

### In 2024, LGL plans to perform the following tasks:

- To ensure the continuity of the main event of the LGBT community March for Equality – by organizing the Lithuanian Pride festival on 5-8 June, 2024;
- To prepare an application to organize EuroPride festival in Vilnius in 2027;
- To prepare for the Baltic Pride 2025 festival in Vilnius;
- To continue the organization of information technology courses, thereby ensuring LGBT people's integration into the labor market;
- To continue counseling LGBT young people on the platform of emotional support, monitor the situation of LGBT youth in Lithuanian schools, promote inclusive education by organizing the international Lithuanian Pride conference;
- Monitor hate crimes and hate speech on social media;
- Provide shadow reports to international human rights organizations, participate in working groups, to be active in the activities of international and national umbrella human rights organizations;
- Develop the competences of the organization's board members, members, employees, and volunteers;
- To ensure the financial sustainability of the organization by implementing fundraising activities.

# 2023 LGBT RIGHTS OVERVIEW: CHALLENGES AND VICTORIES

2023 was a year of exciting challenges and inspiring victories for the National LGBT rights organization LGL. Last December LGL <u>celebrated</u> its 30th birthday. Thanks to your encouragement and support, LGL was able to take many important steps aimed at improving the LGBT human rights situation in Lithuania.



Last year LGL has implemented several successful projects. We actively provided emotional support to LGBT children and young people and encouraged to pay attention to their needs. LGL organized an international conference to discuss the situation of LGBT young people in Lithuania and presented the data of the survey of Lithuanian students and the research report. Together with the volunteers of LGL's emotional support platform and the representatives of "Beigelių krautuvėlė", we held meetings with school communities and organized trainings for specialists. We strengthened capacities and competences and developed guidelines for professionals working with children.

We have contributed to the opportunities of LGBT persons to develop the necessary skills for employment. We successfully organized free IT courses and organized the first **conference** in Lithuania on LGBTI inclusion at work.

LGL carried out LGBT human rights advocacy at the national and international level. We held an inter-institutional <u>discussion</u> on the needs of a national LGBTIQ rights plan, submitted comments for the 2020-2025 LGBTIQ equality strategy mid-term review, organized intersectional <u>discussion</u> on hate crime victim support, renewed efforts to end LGBT censorship in Lithuania with a <u>petition</u> signed by 16360 people and a <u>protest</u> aimed at urging decision-makers to repeal the discriminatory provision of the Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information. We participated in the high-level <u>conference</u> on LGBTIQ equality in the EU in Stockholm, the practical learning mobility <u>program</u>, the IDAHOT <u>forum</u> and the Nordic LGBTI conference in Reykjavík, the Baltic Pride 2023 <u>festival</u> in Tallinn, CoE Parliamentary Assembly <u>hearing</u>, the <u>discussion</u> on LGBTIQ rights ahead of the 2024 elections at the European Parliament, annual IGLYO <u>conference</u> in Podgorica and annual ILGA-Europe <u>conference</u> in Ljubljana.

LGL paid special attention to the prevention of hate crimes and hate speech against LGBT people. Together with international partners, we carried out a **research** on improving support measures for victims of hate crime and prepared training materials for specialists. We have been continuously **monitoring** social networking sites for hate speech comments based on sexual orientation. Last year we reported 500 anti-LGBT hate speech comments to social media platforms.

We also dedicated the year 2023 to the preparations for the LT Pride 2024 festival, which will take place on June 5-8 in Vilnius next year. We are sure that the opportunity to bring the community together for the Pride every year will contribute to increasing the visibility of the local LGBT community and raising awareness on important LGBT human rights issues in society.

# LGL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

LGL pursues the following objectives through its activities:

Promoting human rights and equal opportunities

Promoting human rights and equal opportunities

Promoting equality in the employment and professional spheres

Promoting social inclusion and integration
Promoting family rights, as well as equality and
recognition of diverse family structures

Encouraging participation in activities that educate and develop the skills of community members

Building the skills and competence of the organization

In order to implement its strategic plans and achieve the above-mentioned objectives, LGL carried out a range of activities in 2023, the most important of which are briefly summarized below.

# ACTIVITIES

### LGL's 30th Anniversary Celebrated in the SOHO club



Along with the first day of winter, LGL <u>celebrated</u> its 30th anniversary and invited to celebrate it together at the SOHO club. Friday night was hot not only because of DJ Ptychka, who came to the DJ booth especially on the occasion of LGL birthday, but also a special guest from sunny Brazil – Favela Lacroix!

Thank you to everyone who celebrated our anniversary together!

# LGL Organized the First Ever Conference on LGBTI Workplace

Inclusion in Lithuania

On 29 March 2023 the National LGBT rights organization LGL organized the first-ever in-person conference in Lithuania specially designated to the topic of LGBTI inclusion in the workplace, "Direction: Employment. Strengthening LGBTQ Workplace Inclusion".



The event explored topics of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), its recent trends, challenges, and good practices, as well as the importance of openness in the workplace. It highlighted how inclusion creates benefits in terms of attracting talent and its retention, better bottom lines, overall performance, and contributing to the work culture and trust between companies and their stakeholders.

The conference was moderated by Andrius Francas, Partner of Alliance for Recruitment, Board Member of the Swedish Chamber of Commerce. Welcoming speeches were given by Aušrinė Armonaitė, Minister of Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania, Robert S. Gilchrist, H.E. Ambassador of the United States of America to Lithuania and Richard Martin-Nielsen, Chargé d'affaires, Embassy of Canada to Lithuania.

The event's keynotes and discussions explored the importance of an open and safe work environment for LGBTI employees, implementing a trust-based culture and promoting diversity and human rights equality in modern business strategies and models.

During the conference, representatives of Moody's Corporation, Western Union, and Strategic Staffing Solutions delivered presentations. In the first part of the event, a discussion on the promotion of an inclusive workplace "Open at Work" took place. Representatives of "Bitė Lietuva", the Nordic Council of Ministers, and Accenture Baltics participated in the discussion.

In the second part, representatives of the LGBTI community were invited to learn about career opportunities in the LGBTI friendly IT sector.

## LGL Organized a Conference on Bullying Prevention



On 7 November 2023 the National LGBT rights organization LGL <u>organized</u> an international conference for the project "Nothing About Us Without Us: Empowering LGBT youth in the fight against bullying".

During the international conference, data from a survey of Lithuanian students and a research report was presented. The experience of the partner organizations implementing the project "Nothing about us without us: Empowering LGBT youth in the fight against bullying" waas shared in discussions with members of school communities, Norway's, and Iceland's good experience in the field of bullying prevention was reviewed.

At the event, we also discussed the need to abolish the discriminatory provision of the Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information, which has repeatedly been applied to restrict information related to the LGBT community.

The conference was hosted by Rugilė Butkevičiūtė co-founder of "Ribologija".

# LGL Conducted Trainings for Professionals Working with Children



In April 2023 the National LGBT rights organization LGL conducted training for professionals working with children. Child rights specialists from Vilnius and Kaunas and teachers from Radviliškis participated in the training.

During the training, the challenges faced by LGBT students, the situation of LGBT students in Lithuania, the legal framework, and ways to prevent bullying and violence were discussed.

# Intersectional Workshop on Hate Crime Victim Support took place at the Ministry of Justice



On 28th of July, 2023, LGL organized intersectional discussion on hate crime victim support with the cooperation of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania.

A group of experts discussed the challenges of providing support to victims of hate crimes and the opportunities for improving the system of providing assistance. The meeting focused on the current situation of hate crimes in Lithuania and the main challenges for an effective response to hate crimes at national level as well as existing good practises in other European Union member states.

Experts highlighted that hate crimes in Lithuania are very often not properly identified and assessed, which contributes to the secondary victimisation of victims and discourages them from seeking help and well as contributing to the underreporting of hate incidents.

### LGBTI Protesters in Vilnius Harassed by Marginal Groups, Police does not Intervene



A **protest**, aiming to support the proposal of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania to repeal the **provision** of the Lithuanian Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information as well as to highlight the need for inclusive education, was scheduled by the National LGBT rights organization LGL to take place on the 28th of September from 12 noon. The permit for the protest was coordinated in advance with the Vilnius Municipality and Police, in accordance with the Law of Meetings of the Republic of Lithuania.

A counterprotest by a group of "traditional family values" promoters took place early on the 28th of September in the same venue. However, at 12, it did not end but instead was joined by more forces only to interrupt the protest organized by LGL and harass the peaceful protesters.

# LGL Representative Participated at a Conference on LGBTIQ Equality



On 12 April 2023 Eglė Kuktoraitė, Communication Manager at the National LGBT rights organization LGL, <u>participated</u> at a high level Conference on LGBTIQ Equality in the European Union, hosted in Sweden by the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union in cooperation with the European Commission.

LGL representative had an opportunity to meet Helena Dalli, EU Commissioner for Equality, and presented here with the Baltic Pride 2022 photo album.

# LGL Representatives Participated in a Practical Learning Mobility Program in Reykjavik



On 17-24 April 2023 Eglė Kuktoraitė, Communications Manager at the National LGBT rights organization LGL, and Violeta and Lina, volunteers of the LGL emotional support platform for LGBT students, parents and teachers, participated in a practical learning mobility program in Reykjavík (Iceland).

LGL representatives were interested in the good practices applied in Iceland in the field of bullying prevention and support for LGBT youth, and got acquainted with the activities of the Samtokin 78.

The purpose of the practical learning mobility program was to strengthen the competences of LGL employees and volunteers of the emotional support platform for LGBT students in providing emotional support to young people facing bullying, to promote the exchange of best practices between LGL and Samtokin78, and to identify possible directions for further cooperation in the field of bullying prevention.

## LGL Team Participated in the IDAHOT Forum in Reykjavik



On 8-12 May 2023 representatives of the National LGBT rights organization LGL <u>visited</u> Reykjavik (Iceland), where they had a chance to participate in meetings with representatives of the "Samtökin '78" and attend the international IDAHOT forum.

On 9 May LGL representatives attended Samtokin78's 45th birthday party, where they had the opportunity to meet Iceland's Minister of Foreign Affairs Þórdís Kolbrún Reykfjörð Gylfadóttir. LGL representatives thanked the Minister and the people of Iceland for their support for LGBTI human rights in Lithuania.

On 10 May representatives of LGL participated in meetings with representatives of Samtokin78 and discussed the possibilities of further cooperation.

### LGL took part in the Baltic Pride 2023 in Tallinn



On 8-10 June 2023 representatives of the National LGBT rights organization LGL participated in the Baltic Pride 2023 festival in Tallinn, Estonia.

Representatives of LGL took part in the Rainbow Heroes gala, the international conference "A diverse environment, a safer Estonia!" and, of course, the Baltic Pride March.

On 9 June LGL Executive Director Vladimir Simonko had a privilege to accept the Rainbow Heroes award, presented to LGL by Signe Riisalo, Minister of Social Protection of Estonia, and Christian Veske, Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner of Estonia.

On 10 June a Lithuanian delegation composed by representatives of LGL and Moody's Lithuania took part in the Baltic Pride March.

# LGL Executive Director Participated at the CoE Parliamentary Assembly Hearing



On 22 June 2023 Vladimir Simonko, Executive Director at the National LGBT rights organization LGL, <u>participated</u> at Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination joint hearing with the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI people in Europe in Strasbourg, France.

The Executive Director of LGL gave a presentation on attempts to limit the freedom of expression and assembly of the LGBT community in Lithuania, starting with the ban on unfurling the rainbow flag in Vilnius in 2007 and ending with the Kaunas City Municipality's refusal to issue a permit for the LGBT community's march in 2021.

The report also reviewed the history of the discriminatory application of the provisions of the Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information in relation to the LGBT community.

# LGL Executive Director Participated in the Discussion on LGBTIQ Rights Ahead of the 2024 Elections



On 29 of June 2023, Vladimir Simonko, Executive Director of the National LGBT rights organization LGL, participated in a discussion on LGBTIQ rights ahead of the 2024 elections, organized at the European Parliament in Brussels.

What has the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy changed in practice? What issues were advanced, and which still need to be addressed? What will be the future of LGBTIQ rights in a forthcoming Parliament, when its composition is unclear and its majority uncertain? What is missing from the EU's legislative and policy toolbox to really make the EU an LGBTIQ Freedom Zone in practice?

These and other issues were discussed at an event drawing guidelines for future LGBTIQ human rights policy with members of the European Commission, the European Parliament, and international and civil society organizations.

# LGL Volunteer Participated in the Annual "IGLYO" Conference in Podgorica



On 19-23 October, 2023 Violeta Tamelytė, volunteer of the National LGBT rights organization LGL, <u>participated</u> in the annual conference organized by the international LGBTI youth and student organization "IGLYO" in Podgorica (Montenegro).

During the annual "IGLYO" conference, members of the organization had an opportunity to discuss the future goals for "IGLYO", admit new members, participate in various workshops, share valuable experience, partake in film screenings and, of course, participate at the Podgorica Pride.

"I am happy to be able to represent LGL at the IGLYO conference for the second year in a row. It is good to meet so many young human rights activists, to be a part of important decision-making process and to participate in the Podgorica Pride march. Be proud of who you are and never forget that you are important," says Violeta.

# LGL Executive Director Participated in ILGA-Europe Annual Conference



On 25-28 October 2023 Vladimir Simonko, Executive Director of the National LGBT rights organisation LGL, participated in the ILGA-Europe Annual Conference under the theme of "Rising to the moment". It was organised in close cooperation with the local host organisations: Legebitra, Ljubljana Pride, ŠKUC, and TransAkcija.

There were 450+ activists and allies in attendance in the Annual Conference in Ljubljana (Slovenia). 23 workshops, 19 self-organised sessions, 9 connecting spaces, 25 social events were organised.

LGL Executive Director used this opportunity to say farewell to Evelyne Paradis, long-time Executive Director of ILGA-Europe, who contributed to organisation's growth for 14 years.

# **PROJECTS**

#### **Direction Employment**

### "DIRECTION EMPLOYMENT"



**Duration:** October 2018 – March 2023

Financial supporter: EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment

The project will unleash the potential of NEET youth, suffering from multiple discrimination (i.e. Roma, LGBTI, refugees, single mothers, disabled) by applying an experimental model for youth education, based on progressive pedagogy, integral and gamified methodologies. It will contribute to promoting the values of diversity and inclusion in the labor market concerning race/ethnicity, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and global and digital citizenship.

#### **JUST EU**



Duration: March 2020 - July 2023

Financial supporter: The Justice Programme (JUST) of the European Union

JUST EU aims to enforce the equality principle (Art. 21 of the Charter) regarding SOGI, with a focus on discrimination in employment, access to goods and services, the recognition and protection of the family life of LGBTI EU citizens enjoying their freedom of movement, combating hate speech and crime and ensuring rights for LGBTI victims of violence.

### IT Academy for Economic Relief: Inclusive Digital Marketing and Programming Courses for Those in Need



Duration: September 2021 - September 2024

Financial supporter: Google.org

The project will be implemented by the National LGBT Rights Organization LGL in cooperation with the Code Academy.

While implementing the project we will organize free digital marketing and programming courses to help people from socially vulnerable groups, including members of the LGBTI community, realize their potential in the IT sector. The 3-month course will be organized online and will seek to promote social inclusion and empowerment, contribute to economic recovery and resilience. Participants will be able to choose a course topic that interests them: digital marketing or programming.

At least 180 people affected by the economic downfall of the COVID-19 pandemic will complete digital marketing or programming courses. It is hoped that these courses will enable participants to use technology to develop their business or find employment in the IT sector. Career days will be organized for course participants, during which career opportunities in the IT sector will be presented. Participants will not only gain digital marketing or programming skills but will also better understand the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

#### **Colourful Childhoods**



Duration: February 2022 - February 2024

Financial supporter: CERV-2021-DAPHNE Programme of the European Union

The project Colourful Childhoods focuses on violence against LGBTIQ children in vulnerable contexts. Colourful Childhoods aims at preventing and combating all forms of violence against LGBTIQ children in vulnerable contexts related to the Covid-19 pandemic. A child-centred perspective and intersectional approach will be key to increase children's empowerment, as well as their resilience.

#### "Nothing about us without us: Empowering LGBT youth in the fight against bullying"



**Duration:** July 2022 – December 2023

**Financial supporter:** Active Citizens Fund, financed by the European Economic Area (EEA) and the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms.

When LGBT students face bullying, it is necessary to create a support system, increase the awareness of parents, school staff and peers about the harmful effects of bullying on the emotional health of LGBT young people. To improve the situation of LGBT young people in Lithuania it is especially important to adopt good practices of foreign countries, exchange good practices, promote intergenerational cooperation and establish intercultural dialogue, enabling different vulnerable groups to share their experiences and actively defend their rights.

The aim of the project "Nothing about us without us: empowering LGBT youth in the fight against bullying" is to enable LGBT young people to actively defend their right to access education without discrimination, strengthen their resistance to bullying by providing improved emotional support services, and actively involve them in advocacy. The project also aims to involve the entire school community in the support network for LGBT students.

#### Counter-Hate



**Duration:** May 2022 – May 2024

Financial supporter: CERV Programme of the European Union

Counter-Hate project contributes to the assistance to victims of hate crimes, by guaranteeing that legislation and policies establish a victim-centered and intersectional approach. The Counter-Hate project fully address the objectives and priorities of the Justice Programme 2021.

Its main priority is to contribute to the effective and coherent application of EU criminal law in the area of the rights of victims of crime, especially the effective application of the Victims' Directive.

Counter-Hate directly addresses most of the basic principles established by the EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia, and other forms of intolerance: ensuring quality, sustainability and coordination of the victims' services; targeting support to hate crime victims' needs; facilitating effective access to support services; ensuring sustainability of civil society and/or community-based organizations providing support.

### INCLUSIVE universities leading to inclusive SocietIES: INCLUSIES



Duration: November 2022 - November 2024

Financial supporter: Erasmus+ programme of the European Union

INCLUSIES aims at contributing to the incorporation of the notion of diversity and inclusiveness in higher education institutions and the enhancement of active bystandership when it comes to discriminative incidents on the basis of SOGISC, in Italy, Greece and Lithuania. The active role and engagement of university staff and students will eventually lead to active citizens and more inclusive societies, free of discrimination on the basis of SOGISC, while promoting core European values.

Development of LGL and Samtokin78 Partnership: Exchange of Best Practices and Identification of Strategic Partnership Directions



**Duration:** December 2022 – May 2023

**Financial supporter:** Active Citizens Fund, financed by the European Economic Area (EEA) and the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms.

The aim of the initiative is to strengthen the partnership between LGL and Samtokin78 by exchanging best practices in the field of LGBTI human rights and identifying strategic partnership directions.

The main target group of the initiative is LGL and Samtokin78 employees. As a result of the activities carried out during the project implementation period, representatives of the general public will indirectly benefit, who will be better informed about Iceland's good experience in the field of ensuring LGBTI human rights and the situation of LGBTI people in Lithuania during the implementation of the project activities.

#### SafeNet: Monitoring and Reporting for Safer Online Environments



**Duration:** January 2023 – December 2024

Financial supporter: CERV Programme of the European Union

The 24-month project Monitoring and Reporting for Safer Online Environments seeks to apply a comprehensive and intersectional approach in prevention and fight against intolerance, racism and xenophobia online. It joins 21 partners, members of the International network against cyber hate (INACH) and the roof organisation itself. Many are trusted flaggers and have taken part in the monitoring exercises within the scope of the Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online.

The project will focus on two priorities being 1. continuous monitoring and reporting hate speech content to the IT companies and responsible authorities and 2. awareness raising by regular advocacy towards the social media companies, providing consolidated and interpreted data to national authorities as well as running national bi-monthly information campaigns involving different stakeholders, including IT Companies, public authorities, civil society organisations and media.

### Protecting LGBTI youth by Repealing the Discriminatory Provision of the Lithuanian Law on the Protection of Minors



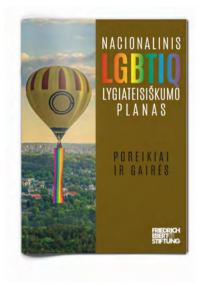
**Duration:** May 2023 – November 2024

Financial supporter: European Union, with the support of IGLYO

Through this project, LGL aimed to take advantage of their strong research and awareness-raising background to engage in national and international advocacy efforts to make the Lithuanian Government aware of the direct negative impacts of the Lithuanian "Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information" on the LGBTI students in Lithuania.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### National LGBTIQ Equality Plan. Needs and Guidelines, 2023





The document contains an overview of the challenges of ensuring LGBTIQ rights in Lithuania, the legal and social conditions for ensuring LGBTIQ equality, and recommendations for the content of the National LGBTIQ Equality Plan.

The Roadmap to the National LGBTI Equality Plan recommends targeted measures in five policy areas, covering legal recognition, LGBTIQ inclusion, security, health, and international relations.

LGL would like to thank the Friedrich Ebert Foundation for its support in developing the guidelines for the National LGBTIQ Plan.

## The crucial role of intersectional and victim-centred approaches to confronting bias-motivated violence. Report, 2023



The COUNTER HATE project, aimed at improving the assistance of victims of hate crimes through a victim-centered and intersectional approach, has completed its research in 6 European countries – Spain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Slovenia, and Lithuania – aiming to map and evaluate national legislation and policies regarding hate crimes. The results of the research also provide valuable insights into the experiences of victims and key professionals, as well as the viewpoints of civil organisations.

The research included a mapping of the national legal and political frameworks regarding hate crimes, as well as assistance to victims. Additionally, qualitative and quantitative research was conducted, including in-depth interviews and a survey, to analyse the experiences and opinions of victims and key professionals.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

#### **INCOME AND EXPENDITURES IN 2023**

REMAINING PROJECT FUNDS (2022-12-31)	294.215 €	
INCOME	€	%
European Union	24.369 €	11
EEA and Norway Grants	133.648 €	61
Active Citizens Fund, funded by the EEA and Norway Grants	30.762 €	14
Other funders	29.849 €	14
YEARLY INCOME:	218.628 €	100
EXPENDITURES	€	%
Salaries (gross)	143.731 €	38
LGBT centre expenses	19.841 €	5
Project implementation	210.681 €	56
YEARLY EXPENDITURES:	374.252 €	100
REMAINING PROJECT FUNDS (2023-12-31)	133.758 €	