

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014



* National Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT*)
Rights Association

2015

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The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official positions by the funders.

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LGL in Brief

National lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT*) rights association LGL is the only non-governmental organization in Lithuania, exclusively representing the interests of the local LGBT* community. Association LGL is one of the most stable and mature organizations within the civic sector in the country, as it was founded on 3 December 1993¹. The main principle, characterizing the activities of the association, is the principle of independence from any political or financial interests with the view of attaining effective social inclusion and integration of the local LGBT* community in Lithuania. Based on its expertise in the fields of advocacy, awareness raising and community building, accumulated during twenty years of organizational existence, LGL strives for the consistent progress in the field of human rights for LGBT* people.

At the moment, the LGL's team constitutes of 5 Board members, 6,5 staff members, 2 international volunteers (participating in the activities of the organization within the framework of the European Voluntary Service) and more than 20 local and international volunteers. Our team is vibrant, dynamic, energetic and always open for new members, ideas and projects. It has to be emphasized that not only homosexual individuals participates within activities of the organization. Together with the members of the local LGBT* community we are proud of our friends and supporters, who first and foremost associate LGBT* rights with the issues of democratic governance and effective human rights protection for all the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania without any exceptions.

The office of the association LGL is located in Vilnius, A. Jak to str. 22-15. This is the space where the LGL's team is implementing various projects, organizing

meetings and constantly inviting the members of the local LGBT* community and their supporters to attend various events. The LGL's office is also home for the sole LGBT* Center in the country. The LGBT* Center hosts a library in relation to the organization's activities, the free internet access is provided and people are always welcome to come by for a cup of coffee or tea. The LGBT* Center is open for all well-meaning visitors, who are willing to know more about the organization's activities and about the situation of the LGBT* human rights in Lithuania.

The association LGL is a member organization of the *National Equality and Diversity Forum* (NEDF, www.nlif.lt) and the Human Rights Coalition (HRC). LGL also takes part in international cooperation within the framework of international umbrella organizations, such as ILGA (*the International Lesbian and Gay Association*), IGLYO (*the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Youth and Student Organization*), EPOA (*the European Pride Organizers Association*) and TGEU (*the European Transgender Network*). We believe that our strategic objectives can be achieved only through positioning the LGBT* rights issue within the broader discourse of human rights, therefore we actively support various initiatives both on national and international levels.

¹ Officially the association LGL was registered in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania on 4 May 1995.

Thanks and Acknowledgments

LGL's individual members, Board and staff all undertake a tremendous workload in both voluntary and paid capacities. Without enthusiasm, dedication and courage of these people LGL would not be in the position it is in today, i.e. the organization that is assertive, dynamic, learning from its own mistakes and boldly looking forward. The special stimulus to our work is provided by our volunteers, friends and supporters – the number of passionate allies of human rights in Lithuania is constantly increasing. Thanks to everyone for their enormous contributions. Particular thanks go to the following:

- the **volunteers** who helped with our *Rainbow Days 2014* and other community events;
- the various national and international **experts** and **consultants** who provided expertise and specialist contribution to publications, reports, seminars and events;
- the organization with the **National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF)** and the **Human Rights Coalition (HRC)** for constructive cooperation and solidarity in field of human rights;
- the **Amnesty International** sections in Denmark, Finland, Norway, Germany and its International Secretariat in London for moral, ideological and expert support in promoting LGBT* human rights in Lithuania;
- the members of the European Parliament **Ulrike Lunacek** and **Sophie in 't Veld** and the **European Parliament's Intergroup on LGBT Rights** for the consistent attention for LGBT* human rights in the European institutions;
- the members of the Lithuanian Parliament Seimas **Dalia Kuodytė**, **Marija Aušrinė Pavilionienė** and **Giedrė Purvaneckienė** for ideological support for the LGBT* movement in Lithuania;
- the **Tolerant Youth Association (TYA)**, the **House of Diversity and Education (HDE)**, the associa-

tion **In Corpore** for the active contribution in developing the discourse on LGBT* rights in Lithuania and for the diversification of the LGBT* movement in Lithuania.

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our committed funders.² Particular thanks go to the following:

- **ILGA-Europe** – the European Region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans & Intersex Association – for the funding of project activities, strategically tailored to the needs of the local LGBT* community, and for the well-rounded support in promoting LGBT* human rights in Lithuania;
- the **Open Society Foundations (OSF)** for the institutional support in the period of 2012-2013;
- the **European Commission** for the financial support within the framework of the PROGRESS programme in implementing the activities of the *National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF)*;
- the **NGO Programme Lithuania of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism (EEA Grants)** for funding the project "Towards Practical Implementation of LGBT* Rights in Lithuania";
- the **diplomatic representations** of LGBT* friendly countries in Lithuania;
- the **individual contributors** and **donors** for their trust in LGL's expertise, knowledge and competences.

² The full list of our funders can be found in the section "Financial Report".

Strategies to Achieve the Strategic Objectives

COMMUNICATION

To provide objective and impartial information to the members of the local community, to the international partners, to the representatives of the mass media and to the general public, to the decision and policy makers (both on national and international levels) is one of the most effective strategies and priorities by the association LGL. We disseminate information regarding the LGBT* human rights through the organization's web-sites (www.lgl.lt and www.atviri.lt), through social media (www.facebook.com/lgl.lt and www.facebook.com/BalticPride), through the organization's newsletter, through public statements in television and radio, printed press and Internet media and through directly communicating with the members of the local LGBT* community.

ADVOCACY

The effective implementation of the international human rights standards, established by the treaties of the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations, on the national level is a voluntarily undertaken commitment by the Republic of Lithuania to its LGBT* citizens. We constantly remind to the representatives of the public authorities, which "homework" still has to be accomplished. There can be no second-class citizens in Lithuania!

STRATEGIC LITIGATION

Identification of the potential legal situations, which have the potential of expanding on the standards of legal protection for LGBT* human rights on the national level, and resolution of these legal situation through the judicial means is one of the priorities within the organization's activities. Strategic litigation is highly effective, but quite demanding strat-

egy for promoting human rights. The participation in this process requires substantial financial, organizational and human resources.

AWARENESS RAISING

One of the most effective strategies in promoting the social inclusion of the local LGBT* community into the Lithuanian society is the increased social awareness about the challenges, faced by the local LGBT* community on a daily basis, through "providing human face to the human rights problem". With regards to this purpose we organize the *Baltic Pride* March for Equality, *Rainbow Days*, various social events, trainings to the general public and we ensure representation of the LGBT* human rights issues in the public discourse. We do not seek to "demonstrate" anything, but we want to live openly both to ourselves and to the others.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

The members of the LGBT* community in Lithuania increasingly become aware of the fact that human rights is not a given constant – there is the need to fight for equal opportunities and this struggle is taking place on a daily basis. With regards to this purpose we seek to equip our community members with the necessary skills and knowledge in this struggle for ours and yours equality. We organize various seminars, trainings, we provide individual consultations and we seek to increase legal awareness by our community members in the field of human right. In addition to this, we seek to build up a motivated team of volunteers, who have all the necessary skills and knowledge. We strive that our volunteers are using LGL as a platform for the implementation of their own ideas and projects.

CAPACITY BUILDING

With the view of effectively implementing our strategic objectives in promoting LGBT* human rights, we seek to acquire additional skills and competences in the fields of advocacy, awareness raising and community building. We want to function better and

more efficiently. Regarding this purpose we participate in various trainings, seminars and discussions, we are actively seeking for additional fundraising opportunities and we want our volunteers to benefit even greater from their time with LGL. We are constantly strengthening the material basis of our LGBT* center, which is accessible to all the members of the local LGBT* community.

LGL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014

Within the framework of the LGL's activities, the key strategic objectives are as follow:

- (a) promotion of human rights and equal opportunities;
- (b) promotion of equal treatment in the fields of employment and occupation;
- (c) promotion of social inclusion and integration;
- (d) promotion of the right to family life and recognition and equality for diverse familial constellations;

(e) education of the members' skills and promotion of participation of the represented social groups within the organization's activities;

(f) development of the organization's skills and competences.

With the view of implementing its Strategic Plan and achieving the above mentioned strategic objectives, the association LGL accomplished various activities in the period of 2014. The summary of these activities is outlined below.

A C T I V I T I E S

AWARENESS RAISING

Rainbow Days 2014

The **Rainbow Days 2014** was a three-week long festival organized by LGL in celebration of IDAHOT (International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia). It started on 7 May 2014 and ended on 30 May 2014. On 7 May 2014 the first event of the Rainbow Days 2014 took place in Vilnius, at the conference hall of the "Neringa" hotel. An activist from Moscow, **Andrey Obolensky**, shared a deeper look at the implementation of human rights in Russia and at the issues faced by human rights activists. He focused on the legal situation for LGBT people in Russia and on the struggles of Russian non-governmental organizations working for the implementation and the protection of LGBT human rights. He also introduced Moscow-based LGBT human rights organization "Rainbow Association" which is led by him. On 13 May 2014 the second event organized by LGL for its Rainbow Days 2014, i.e. **Quiz on Human Rights**, took place at SoulBox, a popular bar in Vilnius. Old and new friends of LGL gathered for

an international, highly competitive quiz on human rights. The questions that saw the eight teams concentrating on finding the right answer were related not only to LGBT* rights, but also to women's rights, Jewish history in Lithuania and rights of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees. On May 15 the third event of the rich programme of the Rainbow Days 2014 took place at Skalvija cinema in Vilnius. Approximately 70 people gathered to watch the internationally acclaimed **movie *Children of God***, by Bahamian director Kareem Mortimer. The movie revolves around the lives of two Bahamian young men who struggle with their sexual orientation and face a high degree of homophobia in society. The screening of the movie was followed by a **debate**, during which human rights activist and free-lance journalist Donatas Palauskas, LGL Head of Advocacy Aliona Polujanova and artist and screenwriter Gabrielė Labanauskaitė discussed issues related to LGBT* activism, visibility and discrimination, freedom of expression and censorship. The moderator for the event was LGL Volunteer Marius Goročovskis. On May 17, the day in which IDAHOT (International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia) is cel-

ebredated worldwide, the LGL team hopped on a yellow open-deck bus and toured the streets of Vilnius **demonstrating against any instance of biphobia, homophobia and transphobia**. The bus started its route at 10 am from the LGL office and drove around Vilnius for approximately three hours. With its music and the colorful flags waving from it, the bus surely brought a good vibe to the centre of Vilnius. Many people encountered on the streets smiled at us, waved their hands, even started dancing, showing their support for the LGBT* cause. Three stops were made in key spots of the city of Vilnius: the Presidential Palace, the City Hall and the Municipality of Vilnius. At each stop LGL volunteers and friends hopped off the bus and unfolded a 100 meter long rainbow flag. On 21 May 2014 **LGL launched the Baltic Pride 2013 photo-album**. LGL team and supporters attended the event that took place at the Contemporary Art Centre in Vilnius. Baltic Pride 2013 was an extremely important moment for the Lithuanian LGBT* community. It gave us visibility as a community, it showed the support we enjoy from many non-LGBT supporters, and it marked a victory in ensuring the effective right to freedom of assembly for all Lithuanian citizens. One year later, the launch of the photo-album was the perfect occasion to remember this important event all together. The book was presented by the Chairman of LGL Vladimir Simonko, the Ambassador of Norway Leif Arne Ulland, who supported the project morally and financially, and photographer Augustas Didžgalvis, whose work is showcased in the photo-album. You can have a look at the online version of the album here. The launch of the book was followed by a **lecture on challenges in queer art** by art critic Laima Kreyvitė. On 22 May 2014 the last event of the Rainbow Days 2014 in Vilnius took place. LGL volunteers, friends and supporters gathered in LGL office for the **screening of Roma Boys**, a movie by Czech director Rozálie Kohoutová on the difficulties faced by Roma homosexuals in Czech Republic. After the movie, **participants debated on the topic of intersectionality and multiple discrimination**, expressing their personal experience and views on the subject. Two exceptional guests were present both for the movie screening and the following debate: the Ambassador of the Czech Republic Radek Pech, who contributed to the realization of the event, and the Director of the Roma Community Center Svetlana Novopol-

skaja. On 23 May 2014, LGL moved its rainbow flags to Kaunas. Two events were organized in the second biggest city in Lithuania for our Rainbow Days 2014. First, Margarita Jankauskaitė, expert from the Center for Equality Advancement, gave a **lecture on social construction of gender**. She focused on some of the historical contexts in which gender was constructed, what are the changes occurring in society and what the implications on transgender issues. The lecture was hosted in Kaunas University of Technology. Following the lecture, **the movie Children of God was screened** at the movie theater Romuva. After the movie, LGL volunteer Marius Goročovskis moderated a **debate** between Neringa Dangvidė, author of books for children, Romas Zabaraukas, film director, and Tomas Marcinkevičius, activist and student at Vytautas Magnus University on topics related to LGBT freedom of expression and visibility. On May 30 the last event of the Rainbow Days 2014 took place in **Klaipėda**. The day started with a **lecture on the multiple and complex relations between communities and social movements**, conducted by human rights activists and LGL staff members Aliona Polujanova and Raminta Biziulevičiūtė. After the lecture, **the movie Children of God was screened**, followed by a **debate** moderated by LGL volunteer Tomas Reves. During the debate Aliona Polujanova, Raminta Biziulevičiūtė and member of the Liberal Movement and of Klaipėda Municipality Simonas Gentvilas discussed about the controversial relation between religion and human rights, with a special focus on Catholic discourse and LGBT rights.

European Parliament Elections

LGL, together with LCHR (Lithuanian Centre for Human Rights), built upon ILGA's and ENAR's demands to the new European Parliament, and implemented the project **Standing Up for Human Rights in Lithuania**. ILGA Europe (International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association) and ENAR (European Network Against Racism) compiled two pledges to be signed by candidates to the European Parliament. The first, *Come Out 2014 European Election Pledge*, is a ten-points document which focuses on LGBTI issues, while ENAR's *7 Key Equality Demands for the New European Parliament* is aimed at protecting the rights of minorities and fight racism in the EU. The idea of the project was born from

the recognition of a strong need to raise awareness among Lithuanian citizens on the importance of participation to the European Parliament elections and to mobilize candidates and urge them to make human rights one of their priorities. The first action taken by LGL and LCHR in the framework of the project *Standing Up for Human Rights in Lithuania* was the compilation of a *Human Rights Pledge* formulated on the models of ILGA's and ENAR's demands. The pledge was sent to every Lithuanian party and candidates for the European Parliament could sign it until May 24. Candidates who supported the initiative promised to follow the eight points contained in the pledge, which all revolve around respect and active implementation of human rights, non-discrimination towards minority groups and refusal of hate speech in any form. You can find the full text of the document here. The pledge was signed by eighteen candidates from five different parties: the Social Democratic Party of Lithuania (7 signatures), the Liberal Movement (6 signatures), the Homeland Union-Lithuanian Christian Democrats (1 signature), the Lithuanian Peasants and Green Union (3 signatures) and the Liberal and Centre Union (1 signature). You can see the list of candidates who signed the pledge at manoteises.lt/ep2014. After the compilation of the pledge and its diffusion among candidates, a campaign started aimed at encouraging Lithuanian citizens to vote for candidates who support human rights. LGL and LCHR produced 200 posters that showed well-known human rights activists, celebrities and other public figures promoting a conscious vote in support of human rights. In addition to this, 1000 buttons with slogans such as "I will vote for the European Parliament and you?" or "It's cool to vote this year" were distributed for free in multiple cities of Lithuania, with the help of various human rights NGOs. In addition to all these initiatives, LGL and LCHR monitored the language used during electoral campaigns by all the parties and candidates and collected data about the use of hate speech. The result of this initiative is a report soon to be published in English and Lithuanian. The most successful in these elections were politicians from the Liberal Movement, who support LGBTI rights openly on a party level. Liberal Movement will have 2 mandates in the European Parliament to come, as well as Social Democratic Party and Homeland Union-Lithuanian Christian Democrats.

Billboard Campaign

The Eurobarometer survey on perceptions of discrimination in the EU shows that only 12% Lithuanians report having an LGB friend or acquaintance, and only 3% know a transgender person. In order to encourage people to realize that there are real people's faces and life stories behind troubling survey results LGL launched a **social campaign *Change it*** on August 13, 2014. More than 100 **billboard posters** appeared in the streets of three biggest cities in Lithuania. The posters, created by photographer Arcana Femina and LGL volunteer Mayina Mukhamadjanova, show faces of real LGBT* people and draw the attention of the viewer on the fact that his/her assumption about the absence of LGBT* persons from his/her life is incorrect. The online version of the poster can be accessed here.

Social Advertising Video Campaign

LGL produced a **video clip aimed at changing the negative attitudes of the public towards the LGBT* community** as a part of the social campaign *Change it* in August, 2014. The video, created by French directors Francois Message and Nathalie Sibille, also depicts real LGBT* people living in Vilnius and invites to an eye-to-eye confrontation with stereotypes. However, the video clip, created to be broadcasted on Lithuanian television channels is only available on LGL's "Youtube" channel due to the application of anti-LGBT* law. On September 15th, 2014 the experts of the Lithuanian Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics decided that the video has detrimental effect on minors. The Lithuanian television channels thus concluded that the social video can only be broadcasted after 11 PM marked with "S" symbol (i.e. "adult content"). The video can be accessed here.

International Bisexuality Visibility Day 2014

To celebrate International Bisexuality Visibility Day, LGL sent **postcards** to Lithuanian Members of Parliament. The postcards, which included an expla-

nation of bisexuality along with key facts, reached the mailboxes of all 140 MPs on September 23d, 2014. LGL sought greater representation for bisexual people and breaking the prejudices and myths surrounding bisexuality in society. LGL volunteers helped make and distribute free postcards and buttons for Bisexuality Visibility Day. The event caught media attention and was publicized on the national media channels. LGL also organized a **workshop** for volunteers and guests of LGBT* center on September 23d, 2014. During the event LGL tackled some of the less familiar and talked-about topics related to bisexuality, as well as introducing the local situation. Participants enjoyed sushi, „bisexual Bingo“, interactive discussions, games, and exchanged personal stories. The postcards and pictures from the workshop can be seen here.

International Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR) 2014

On November 20th, 2014 LGL encouraged to **memorialize those killed due to anti-transgender hatred** and prejudice by lighting a candle of remembrance. LGL urged to express respect for the lives of transgender people in the face of national indifference and hatred through a **vigil**. LGL reminded that every person might be a relative or acquaintance of a transgender person. Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR) gave a chance to step forward and stand together in a vigil, memorializing those killed as a result of transphobic violence. On November 22th, 2014 LGL organized **poetry readings** in a non-formal setting. Members of LGL Board, staff and volunteers read their favorite poems related to self-identification and experiences of being transgender.

ADVOCACY

Meetings with International Partners

On 24 January 2014 LGL welcomed the representatives of the LGBT network of the **Norwegian Social Democrats** at the LGL office in Vilnius. As a role model for LGBT rights in many European countries,

Norway was following the current events in Lithuania, and therefore incited to pay a visit. During the meeting, LGL presented the most significant recent events and developments to the 10 board members of the Norwegian "Homonettverket". The restrictions of the Baltic Pride 2010 video and some of the LGL experiences that were shared clearly pointed out how the LGBT people's daily life here still differs from the one in Scandinavia. Although, the main emphasis of the meeting and the actual reason of the visit was the current political development in the parliament, succeeding to propose and introduce one homophobic law after another. If the final voting for the new "defiance of family values"-amendment approves the article revision in the Code of Administrative Violations of Law, it would mean the introduction of even stricter anti LGBT laws in Lithuania than in Russia. On the other hand, LGL shared pleasant experiences with the guests: the success of the Baltic Pride that took place in summer, the community that supports them both locally as well as internationally, and the growing number of volunteers and people who support and contribute to LGBT human rights protection in Lithuania. The Norwegian Social Democrat representatives invited LGL to join their activities during the Euro Pride which will take place in Oslo in June 2014.

On 21 February 2014 a **delegation of 21 employees from the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science** visited LGL office, with the aim of improving awareness on the history and contemporary societal achievements and challenges in the new EU member-states. LGL welcomed them and presented its work and all the challenges in Lithuania for gaining equal rights for LGBT people.

On 22-26 February 2014 LGL members met **five other organizations participating in the QuPiD project**. The meeting under the topic "LGBT*Q – together, side by side or against?" took place in Warsaw, Poland. QuPiD, **Queer Paths into Diversity** is an international project aiming at the cooperation of organizations fighting the discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The project is meant to share the best practices and to implement adequate political adult education into the organizations' agenda. Project partners are encouraged to take a critical look at the representation of

various sexual orientations and gender identities in theory and in practice, and to seek for an appropriate education in regard to those issues for community members and the general public. Six partners involved in the QuPiD project are the following: Kampania przeciw homofobii, KPH (Poland), Lithuanian Gay League, LGL (Lithuania), Verein Niedersächsischer Bildungsinitiativen e.V., VNB (Germany), Akademie "Waldschlösschen", AW (Germany), Gay Older Brothers and Sisters, G.O.B.S. (United Kingdom) ir Malta Gay Rights Movement, MGRM (Malta). During the meeting the representatives of all six organizations presented the histories of LGBT movements in their countries, the existing legislation defending LGBT*IQ people's rights and discussed the lack of certain knowledge and agreements among the community and general public. The participants were discussing the ways in which bi-, trans* and inter* issues are represented in their organizations' agendas and daily work. They concluded that though the five countries participating in the project are fairly different on many levels, they share common grounds in terms of how bisexual, trans* and inter* people are underrepresented in legal system, policies and society in general in all the countries. However, some of the countries participating in the project are in a better position – for example, the discussions showed that the cooperation between LGBT*IQ communities, activists and the police is implemented on a considerably higher level in UK than in Lithuania. Project participants from Malta, Germany, Poland and UK shared some truly useful experiences with the Lithuanian delegation.

On 28 February 2014 **Robert Biedroń** participated in a press conference at the Lithuanian parliament. R. Biedroń is the general rapporteur on the rights of LGBT people of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). He is a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and its Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination since 2011, as well as a member of the Polish Sejm, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee of Justice and Human Rights and a member of the committee of Foreign Affairs at the Sejm. Before the press conference, on 27 February 2014, R. Biedroń had a meeting with Lithuania's NGO representatives at the LGBT centre in Vilnius. Members of Lithuanian Gay League, Tolerant Youth Association, Lithuanian

Centre for Human Rights and the Centre For Equality Advancement participated in the meeting. At the meeting R. Biedroń gave an overview of his tasks at the Council of Europe as the general rapporteur and presented what he sees as the priority areas at the moment: necessity to abolish the newly adopted Russian Federation's legislation on the so-called homo-propaganda; necessity to fully implement decisions of the European Court of Human Rights; necessity to eliminate discrimination against transgender people, i.e. discrimination on the grounds of gender identity; the need to increase the visibility of lesbian and bisexual women in Europe. R. Biedroń's presentation was followed by questions and a brief discussion on the strategies for fighting inequality and discrimination.

Six teachers from the **Orestad gymnasium (Denmark)** were visiting the LGBT center in Vilnius on March 6th. The aim of their visit was to find out how widespread is homophobia in Lithuania and what is the scope of homophobic tendencies in everyday life. During the meeting LGL staff members presented the situation of LGBT people in Lithuania. Participants discussed the homophobic legislation projects in Lithuania, the challenges of reporting and tracing hate crimes. Danish teachers wanted to know about the general situation of LGBT people in the Baltics and about Baltic Pride 2013 which took place in Vilnius. Guests from Denmark were especially interested in the background of the homophobic trends in Lithuania and how LGBT topics are covered in the media, TV, movies and literature, how young LGBT people are being supported at schools, how does homophobic legislation influence their lives.

LGL has actively cooperated with various **foreign embassies** in Lithuania, providing and updating information on LGBT and human rights situation in Lithuania. On May 16, a joint reception organized by 14 embassies took place at the French Residence in celebration of IDAHOT (International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia). As stated by the French Ambassador Maryse Berniau during her speech, it is very important to celebrate this day in a country like Lithuania, where it is still difficult for LGBT* people to openly live their sexuality. On this occasion, children books author Neringa Dangvidė received the Rainbow Award as a recognition of her

fight for freedom of expression in Lithuania. Nerin-ga published a book of fairy tales for children which was banned because of its depiction of same-sex love and relationships.

Life stories and confessions of intersex activists, professional experiences of counseling and therapy, insights into UK based LGBT*IQ organizations, best practices, brainstorming sessions and a number of other formal and non-formal activities – all of this happened on July 2-6, 2014, when representatives of LGL participated to a **QuPiD Project partners meeting in Carlisle, UK**. The focus of the meeting was on professional and peer-to-peer counseling and on the analysis of differences and similarities between different contexts, especially when it comes to a professional code of ethics, experience, skills, and training. During the discussions on the subject many differences between countries and contexts emerged. For example, while the UK saw the development of a state-supported assistance system and of a network of support for LGBT*IQ people, as well as many formal or informal services through which LGBT*IQ persons are directed to medical institutions when necessary, Lithuania lacks both public and private institutions providing a similar system of support. Read more about the meeting here.

From June 2 to 8, the **Baltic Pride 2014** took place in **Tallinn and Tartu** in the form of a week-long festival filled with a number of events. LGL actively participated in the Baltic Pride 2014 organizing a **discussion on the situation of LGBT people in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania**. This event took place on June 5 and was supported by the Dutch Embassy in Latvia. On this occasion LGL also presented its recently issued Baltic Pride 2013 photo album, which showcases some of the most salient moment of last year's Baltic Pride in Vilnius. The photo gallery from the event can be accessed here.

On June 28, 2014, the **EuroPride** March took place in **Oslo**, the capital of Norway. The event gathered international LGBT people as well as many of their supporters. The official number of participants still has to be confirmed, but it is likely to have exceeded last year's participation to the Oslo March, which was attended by approximately 12,500 people. The representatives of the national LGBT rights organi-

zation LGL and Lithuanians living in Norway have also attended the EuroPride March. The Oslo LGBT community and their international guests were met by passers-by with enthusiastic support, applause and smiles. The marchers did not need the presence of the police forces on their sides, as it was the case for last year's Baltic Pride 2013 held in Vilnius. No real threat by the opposition was perceived, and the police participated to the march with the LGBT activists, waving rainbow flags. Representatives of **LGL joined the March together with Lithuanian families living in Norway**. The photo gallery of the event can be accessed here.

On October 1-5, 2014 LGL hosted in Vilnius the fourth **meeting of the QuPiD project**, which revolved around the topic of **legal and policy implications on LGBT*IQ adult education**. QuPiD, Queer Paths into Diversity is an international project aiming at the cooperation of organizations fighting the discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The project is meant to share the best practices and to implement adequate political adult education into the organizations' agenda. Throughout the project, partners are encouraged to take a critical look at the theoretical and practical work methods they apply in their work in order to achieve an adequate level of education in their communities and in the heteronormative majority in society. The four days of activities saw the partners involved in sharing their experiences, best practices, ideas and thoughts on how to tackle legal and policy barriers on LGBT*IQ adult education, as well as how to benefit from incentives provided by legal provisions, funding opportunities and political developments. Despite the huge difference among the contexts that the partners experience in their home country, everyone had the chance to widen their perspective and to get external inputs that might be useful in overcoming the obstacles that their organization faces in its daily work. The photos from the event can be accessed here.

Latvian capital Riga hosted an annual international **conference** of the LGBTI rights organization ILGA-Europe on October 8-11, 2014. Four representatives of the national LGBT* rights organization LGL engaged actively in the program of the conference. Collaborating with their colleagues LGL team has

organized **workshops on legal gender identity recognition** and **presented a documentary "We Can Be Gay Today. Baltic Pride 2013"** that captures moments of last year Pride events in Vilnius. LGL representatives also participated in several workshops of ILGA-Europe annual conference. In the meeting "Achieving legal gender recognition in different contexts" LGL board member Ing Stankė defined the consequences of the absence of legal gender identity recognition in Lithuania. Meanwhile, during the workshop „LGBTI equality in newest EU countries: post-accession fatigue, common challenges and way forward" LGL board chair Vladimir Simonko spoke about the impact of negative legislative initiatives on LGBT* human rights situation in Lithuania.

LGL representatives participated in **ILGA's 27th World Conference, "De-colonizing our bodies"** on October 27 - 31, 2014, in **Mexico City**. The conference provided an opportunity to strengthen the LGBTI movement among affiliated organizations in the world. More than 400 representatives of civil society organizations from around the world came together for one week, where public officials, legislators, academics, directors of cooperative institutions and representatives of offices of the United Nations also participated in enriching analysis and discussions.

Lobbying Activities

LGL encouraged **the Social Democrats fraction of the Parliament to disapprove the legal amendments** that were considered on 21 January 2014. The legal amendment and its intention do not differ from the human rights impairing so called "homosexuality propaganda" restrictions that are valid in Russia. By carrying out public speeches, demonstrating goods, posters, slogans and audiovisual means, as well as organizing public events such as gay prides and other kind of actions, one would act against the law. 46 MPs voted in favor of the amendments to the Code of Administrative Violations of Law, 10 voted against it and 22 abstained. It is worth noting that none of the Social Democrats voted for the amendment.

In relation to the conference of the EU parliament speakers which took place in Vilnius on the 6-8

April 2014, LGL sent out letters to the members of national delegations. **LGL requested them to seize an opportunity to express disapproval of the draft amendments restricting LGBT persons' rights which were to be considered in the spring session of the Lithuanian Parliament.** In the letter sent to the members of the delegations, LGL spotlighted five homophobic amendments proposed by the members of the Lithuanian Parliament which are alluding to V. Putin's recent law on the so-called "gay propaganda" law. "We believe that the stances of certain Lithuanian Parliamentarians which made them to propose such amendments are in conflict with the international human rights standards and therefore have to be reconsidered in order to ensure better protection of the human rights of all citizens of the European Union. Therefore we kindly ask you to use the opportunity of the Conference of Speakers of European Union Parliaments to raise the issue of LGBT persons' human rights protection in Lithuania during the discussions and meetings with Lithuanian Members of Parliament" – stated LGL in the letter. Given the current situation in Lithuania, various U.S and EU politicians have expressed their support for the national LGBT rights organization LGL on repeated occasions.

LGL initiated a meeting with the Speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament Seimas and the leader of the Lithuanian Labor Party Loreta Graužinienė on September and November in 2014. Both times were unsuccessful. The Office of the Lithuanian Speaker of the Parliament claims that Ms. Graužinienė has **no time for a meeting with the representatives from LGL.** The Executive Director of LGL Vladimir Simonko believes that the politician simply avoids meeting with LGBT* advocates. LGL identified 8 draft legislative proposals in the course of the Lithuanian Parliament's Autumn Session that directly violate LGBT* rights. LGL invited the Speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament to have a conversation about very specific issues that need to be addressed. The Senior Legal Adviser of the Speaker of Lithuanian Parliament Egidijus Rumbutis acknowledged that the speaker has received LGL's invitations to discuss LGBT* issues. However, the adviser informed that it is impossible to arrange a meeting. Still, the Speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament could not set a specific date for a meeting this year. The Speaker's of Lithu-

anian Parliament decision was publicized by Lithuanian media. Following the publications the Deputy Speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament initiated a meeting with LGL's representatives on November 19, 2014. 8 draft legislative proposals in the course of the Lithuanian Parliament's Autumn Session that directly violate LGBT* rights were discussed.

The Council of Europe has warned Lithuania over its failure to adopt laws that would allow gender reassignment surgeries. In September, 2014 the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers, which monitors the implementation of rulings of the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights, applied the so-called "enhanced supervision procedure" for Lithuania. The decision was taken after all earlier attempts to adopt laws necessary for gender reassignment were unsuccessful. Lithuania's Civil Code allows change of sex, but the provision is ineffective, as the parliament has failed to adopt a law that would regulate such procedure for more than a decade. Lithuania lost a case at the European Court of Human Rights because of the legal gap back in 2007. LGL was **closely involved in the case**. LGL executive director Vladimir Simonko told Lithuanian news agency BNS that the Council of Europe sent a "powerful message" to the Lithuanian society and government, which, in his words, have abandoned some of the people of Lithuania, with no right to take advantage of medical methods: "After joining the Council of Europe back in 1993, Lithuania took on the obligation of executing the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights. However, Lithuania has not been doing that. This is one of the most problematic cases in the history of Lithuania." However, the proposal to amend the code and include the regulation of gender reassignment was postponed on October 7, and has to be enhanced before next consideration. Therefore the legal situation remains in stagnation and rights of transgender people still are not backed in the Parliament.

Shadow Reports

In April 2014 LGL submitted a **report on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**, regarding article 12 on the right to protection of health. In the report

LGL commented on the current situation in Lithuania regarding access by transgender persons to gender reassignment treatment. In the report LGL stated that for those Lithuanian transgender persons who need gender reassignment treatment, access is effectively prevented by three separate factors: an absence of legislation regulating gender reassignment procedures; an absence of medical facilities in Lithuania; and a failure by the state to contribute to the cost of reassignment treatment. The absence of legislation regulating comprehensive gender reassignment procedures was the subject of a judgment by the European Court of Human Rights in *L v. Lithuania* case. The Court concluded that the applicant's inability to complete gender reassignment treatment in Lithuania as a consequence of the lack of the subsidiary legislation violated his right to private life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights. Regarding the absence of medical facilities for gender reassignment treatment in Lithuania, the European Court of Human Rights commented in *L v. Lithuania* that until the subsidiary legislation discussed above is enacted, "no suitable medical facilities appear to be reasonably accessible or available in Lithuania". Since no law has been adopted that would establish gender reassignment conditions and procedures, there is no legal basis for transgender persons to lawfully access endocrinological or surgical treatment. So far as recovery of costs is concerned, while access to psychiatric care for transgender persons may be covered, the coverage of costs of other medical services related to gender reassignment (e.g. hormonal or surgical treatment) is not possible without the adoption of the subsidiary legislation. In its report LGL concluded that the concomitant failure of the Lithuanian authorities to provide adequate medical facilities for gender reassignment treatment (or the alternative of such treatment abroad), and to ensure that medical insurance covers, or contributes to the coverage of important elements of such medically necessary treatment, on a non-discriminatory basis, are further evidence that Lithuania does not meet the requirement to provide effective access to health care for all, without discrimination. You can access the full text of the report here.

In June, 2014 LGL published a **Submission on the 5th Periodic Report by Lithuania** on the implementation of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Dis-

crimination against Women (CEDAW) to the United Nation's Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 58th Session (30 June – 18 July 2014). In the report LGL stresses that the refusal of Lithuanian authorities to put in place subsidiary legislation, as required by the European Court of Human Rights in the *L v. Lithuania* judgment, effectively **prevents the access of transgender persons to reassignment treatment**, and is a flagrant and willful violation of the right to health of those transgender persons needing such treatment. The concomitant failure of Lithuanian authorities to provide adequate medical facilities for gender reassignment treatment (or the alternative of such treatment abroad), and to ensure that medical insurance covers, or contributes to the coverage of important elements of such medically necessary treatment, on a non-discriminatory basis, are further evidence that **Lithuania does not meet the requirements to provide effective access to health care for all, without discrimination**. Full report can be accessed here.

In August, 2014 LGL published **ECRI CBC Monitoring pro forma on LGBT issues**. In the report LGL details existing legislative framework as regards hate speech targeting sexual orientation / gender identity; homo/transphobic violence; legislative and policy measures taken to deal with violence and hate speech, including forms of expression that should be criminalized and **policies to combat discrimination and intolerance against LGBT persons**. Full report can be accessed here.

Strategic Litigation

On June 24th, 2014 an **explosive device was thrown at singer** Ruslanas Kirilkinas during his performance in Linksmakalnis village. Fortunately, the incident experienced by the singer did not have serious consequences. The explosive went past R. Kirilkinas' face, and he was not hurt. Even though he did not contact the police, an investigation was started by the Kaunas Police Department. Two reports were issued on the basis of Article 176, Paragraph 1 of the Administrative Code of the Republic of Lithuania on civilian acquisition of pyrotechnics and its misuse. They were applied to the male offender, born in 1988. Another protocol was administered in accor-

dance to Article 174 on minor hooliganism. The act of bullying was evaluated by LT 150 (43 EUR) fine and the misuse of pyrotechnics added another LT 75 (22 EUR) to it. Unfortunately, it is not a first time when Kirilkinas became a victim of a homophobic attack. R. Kirilkinas was performing at a concert held in the Lithuanian town of Aukštadvaris on the 23rd of February 2014 when eggs were thrown at him from the audience, resulting in lip, chin and ear wounds. The singer was taken to hospital by ambulance and his injuries were treated. LGL urged people to report about hate crimes to Law enforcement officers or to fill out the LGL's anonymous **crime report form**.

Two Lithuanian commercial channels **refused to air a video clip**, produced by LGL, which is a part of a social campaign "Change It". This video aims at challenging negative attitudes towards the local LGBT* community. On September 15th, 2014 the experts of the **Lithuanian Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics** decided that the video has detrimental effect on minors. The Lithuanian television channels thus concluded that the social video can only be broadcasted after 11 PM marked with "S" symbol (i.e. "adult content"). The video can be accessed here.

On October 23rd, 2014 **LGL appealed to Vilnius Regional Administrative Court**, requesting to revoke the decision by the Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics that social video on LGBT* issues should be restricted under the controversial Lithuanian Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effects of Public Information. In the appeal to Vilnius Regional Administrative Court, the National LGBT* rights organization LGL states that, based on the conclusion, the TV3 channel agreed to air the ad only after 11 PM and marked with a sign indicating content unsuitable for minors. The appeal also states that the conclusion of the inspector of journalist ethics "makes information on LGBT people completely inaccessible to minors" although "minors are the ones who bully and use physical or psychological violence against their peers and other people of other sexual orientations". On October 24th, 2014 **Vilnius Regional Administrative Court** passed an order to **dismiss LGL's complaint**, stating that the document, issued by the Lithuanian Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics', which argues that the video has a detrimental effect on minors, is a recommendation and do not cause

any rights or obligations. Read more about LGL's appeal to the court [here](#).

On October 25th, 2014 the national LGBT* rights organization **LGL applied to the European Commission (EC)** under the European Union (EU) directive infringement process. A formal complaint, prepared in collaboration with the European LGBTI organization "ILGA-Europe", states that the Lithuanian authorities have violated the EU Treaty, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) while disproportionately limiting the LGBT* community's right to freedom of speech and freedom of expression. This right is guaranteed to every European citizen, regardless of, inter alia, sexual orientation, and the protection of minors cannot constitute a disproportionate infringement of this principle. Guided by the relevant provisions of the Treaty of the European Union, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, in accordance with international human rights obligations and, in this case, the Directive 2010/13/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council (Audiovisual Media Services Directive), the EU is committed to respecting, protecting and promoting the freedom of opinion and expression within its borders. The Audiovisual Services directive establishes the duty to ensure appropriate protection of minors in Article 27, and Recital 60 indicates that this must be balanced with freedom of expression. In addition to implementing their duties under the scope of the Article 27 of the Directive 2010/13/EU, the Lithuanian authorities need to comply with the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the implementation of the EU law as well. The broadcasting restrictions of the above mentioned video are excessively restrictive, i.e. contrary to the Articles 11 and 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights. Read more about LGL's appeal the European Commission [here](#).

On November 5th, 2014 the national LGBT* rights organization LGL **applied to Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania** under Vilnius Regional Administrative Court's judgment to reject LGL's appeal against social video censorship. In the appeal to Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania the national LGBT* rights organization LGL specifies a loophole the Lithuanian Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effects of Public In-

formation creates. Given the current legal context the document, issued by the Office of the Inspector of Journalist Ethics, has specific legal consequences for the providers of public information (LGL) and its broadcasters (Lithuanian television channels). "Non-compliance to this document obliges to limit positive information about LGBT* people and entails legal responsibility," – states the appeal. Read more about LGL's appeal to the court [here](#).

TRANS* Advocacy

The invisibility of the legal problems of transgender people in Lithuania inspired national LGBT* rights organization LGL and organization "Transgender Europe" (TGEU) to hold **a series of public events "Being Trans* in Europe – Attitudes, Perspectives and Challenges"** on the 27th-28th of August 2014 at the premises of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) in Vilnius, Lithuania. A panel discussion with distinguished international and local human rights experts was organized on the 27th of August 2014. Issues discussed in public meetings ranged from international law to personal experiences of transgender individuals and their families. Executive Director of association LGL Vladimir Simonko delivered a presentation at EIGE on the most vulnerable group of people in the LGBT* community on the 28th of August 2014. The personal perspective of the legal challenges was disclosed by Oskaras, who represented transgender people of Lithuania in sharing his personal experience. Oskaras stressed the legal, emotional and financial insecurities of transgender people. Still a series of public events "Being Trans* in Europe – Attitudes, Perspectives and Challenges" gave an impulse for a lively debate among a variety of policy and decision makers, representatives of non-governmental organizations and transgender people. The photos from the event can be accessed [here](#).

International Conference on Homophobic and Transphobic Bullying

National LGBT* rights organization LGL organized an **international conference "Tackling Homopho-**

bic and Transphobic Bullying: Challenges and Effective Responses", which took place in Vilnius on October 2, 2014. The presentations on homophobic and transphobic bullying were given by a team of international experts: Marinus Schouten (GALE – the Global Alliance for LGBT* Education, the Netherlands), Michael Barron (BeLongTo – Youth Services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender People in Ireland), Jurgita Smiltė Jasiulionė (psychologist at helpline "Child line"), Ausma Sakalauskaitė (teacher and volunteer at "Youth line") and Rugilė Butkevičiūtė (Women Information Centre). The speakers from the Netherlands, Ireland and Lithuania introduced current anti-discrimination strategies and programmes for LGBT* youth in Europe and shared their best practices in tackling homophobic and transphobic bullying. Members of Lithuanian parliament, representatives of The Office of Equal Opportunities Ombudsman and Lithuanian Ministry of Social Security and Labour, Ambassadors of the Czech Republic, Ireland, Austria, Italy, and the Netherlands and the First secretary of the Embassy of Sweden were among many honorable participants of the conference. The presentations made it clear that psychological violence based on sexual identity or orientation has an impact on those who are bullied, those who bully, and everyone in the hostile environment of bullying. Therefore, National LGBT* rights organization LGL has introduced participants of the conference with a **resolution, urging** Lithuanian Minister of Education and Science Dainius Pavalkis **to develop and implement a national anti-bullying plan**. The photos from the conference can be accessed here.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Development of the Volunteering Sector

On 25-26 January 2014 LGL organized a **volunteer training weekend**. Activists and volunteers who wished to become a part of the goals and activities of the organization were invited to join. During the event participants had the chance to learn more about LGL activities, non-formal education methods, participate in team forming and leadership development activities. The workshop was conducted by Ashley Fowler, the director of Elon University

leadership program along with then LGL volunteer coordinator Aliona Polujanova. The training was attended by 32 members of the local community, 11 of those coming from towns outside of Vilnius.

In April 2014, **EVS volunteers** from Italy and Czech Republic joined LGL and started their EVS Projects in LGL Office.

LGL has hosted **volunteer meetings** on a monthly basis, and during the reporting period 6 meetings have occurred, and 8 new local volunteers have joined LGL. Since August 2014, LGL has a new **volunteer coordinator**, Gabija Morkūnaitė.

Every two Thursdays LGL volunteers organize and invite community members to **film screenings** and **game evenings** at LGBT* centre. In September, 2014 LGL volunteers helped make and distribute free **postcards** and buttons for Bisexuality Visibility Day. LGL also organized a **workshop** for volunteers and guests of LGBT* center on September, 23d, 2014. During the event LGL tackled some of the less familiar and talked-about topics related to bisexuality, as well as introducing the local situation. Participants enjoyed sushi, „bisexual Bingo“, interactive discussions, games, and exchanged personal stories. LGL volunteer Nadežda Petručina helped prepare and systemize a **digital catalogue** of books, periodicals and foreign publications of LGL public library.

Public Relations

Some of LGL's work is out in the open, receiving much media attention, while other equally important work goes on only behind the scenes. The latter includes meetings with politicians, writing complaints to the prosecutor's office, and providing emotional, social, and legal support to LGBT* people in need. In addition to being a strong human rights advocacy organization, LGL has become an LGBT* community centre. It is of great importance to LGL to reach all people of different sexual orientations and sexual identities, from all regions of Lithuania, and all socio-economic groups. Likewise, it is imperative that LGL communicate with foreign organizations, institutions, politicians, etc. to attract their attention to Lithuanian problems. In September, 2014 LGL initi-

ated a **fundraising campaign** to encourage public contributions.

Community Work

To ensure continuity and consistency of organization's work, national LGBT* rights organization LGL held a **strategic planning session**, attended by LGL staff, board members, and volunteers on October 18th, 2014 in Vilnius. Considering the changes of social, cultural and political context in which organization carries out its activities, the main challenges and guidelines were discussed and the concept for a Strategic Plan of the year 2015-2018 was purified during the session. The meeting provided an opportunity for everyone taking part in LGL's activities to contribute in shaping organization's vision for the future. The participants took part in both individual and collective tasks. Working together they defined LGL's vision, mission, its key values and objectives. LGL's priorities thus became even clearer: implementing LGBT* rights and fostering respectful social environment for LGBT* people in Lithuania.

TOWARDS PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF LGBT* RIGHTS IN LITHUANIA

- Implementation Period: January 2014 – June 2015;
- Funding Source: the European Economic Area (EEA) Grants;
- Implementing Organization: the association LGL;
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=4667.

The main purpose of the project was to mainstream the LGBT* equality into the Lithuanian politics through addressing the practical challenges, faced by the local LGBT* community on a daily basis.

The objective of the proposed project was to achieve more comprehensive social integration of the local LGBT* community by taking into account its specific needs.

The goals of the project were as follows: (a) to identify and raise awareness among the general public, legislators, policy makers and the LGBT* community itself about the practical problems, which are faced by the local LGBT* community on a daily basis; (b) to develop and to propose specific measures, strategies and methodologies, which would aim at mainstreaming the LGBT* equality in the decision making process in Lithuania; (c) to apply specific measures, which would cause the actual change in the LGBT* lives in accordance to their specific needs.

QUPID: QUEER PATHWAYS INTO DIVERSITY

- Implementation Period: September 2013 – July 2015;
- Funding Source: Grundtvig Lifelong Learning Programme;
- Implementing Organization: the Campaign Against Homophobia, KPH (Poland), Lithuanian

Gay League, LGL (Lithuania), Verein Niedersächsischer Bildungsinitiativen, VNB e.V. (Germany), Stiftung Akademie Waldschlösschen, AW (Germany) Gay Older Brothers and Sisters, GOBS (United Kingdom) and the Malta Gay Rights Movement, MGRM (Malta);

- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=6387.

“QuPiD. Queer Pathways into Diversity. Being different as a key factor in LGBT*IQ European Adult Education” is Grundtvig lifelong learning partnership program. Six organizations from five countries (Lithuania, Poland, Germany, Malta and UK) are participating in this project. QuPiD focuses specifically on political education, which critically deals with heteronormativity and the issues surrounding it.

The project partners consider LGBT*IQ adult education as a key element in combating how non-heteronormative ways of living have been marginalised and stereotyped, and we seek to sensitise and inform the heterosexual majority of society on these issues.

The six project partners aim to discuss the needs, resources, topics, target groups, approaches and objectives in LGBT*IQ adult education through an exchange of experiences and best practices.

CONSOLIDATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FORUM (NEDF)

- Implementation Period: October 2014 – October 2015;
- Funding Source: the European Economic Area (EEA) Grants;
- Implementing Organizations: the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF), consisting of 7 organizations, i.e. the Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled, the association LGL, the Women’s Issues Information Centre, the House of National Communities, the New Religions Research

and Information Centre, the Vilnius Community of *Bočiai* (the Lithuanian Union of Retirees) and the Lithuanian Youth Council;

- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=7474.

The purpose of this project is to strengthen NEDF through ensuring its sustainable development by increasing the capacities of the participating organizations and building upon the cooperation potential.

The goals of this project are: to increase the effectiveness, skills and public visibility of the NEDF through the application of internal measures; to improve the skills of the participating organizations with the view of taking part in the policy-making and decision-making processes in order to represent the general priorities of NEDF efficiently.

CHANGING ATTITUDES: INCREASING POLICE PARTICIPATION IN TACKLING HOMOPHOBIC AND TRANSPHOBIC CRIMES

- Implementation Period: November 2014 – March 2015;
- Funding Source: ILGA-Europe;
- Implementing Organization: the association LGL;
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=7506.

The main aim of the project was to start a dialogue with police authorities for cooperation in tackling homophobic and transphobic crimes. While governmental authorities may agree there is a problem, the actual practitioners of law enforcement, i.e. police authorities and police forces that are subordinate to police authorities have shown very little if any interest and recognition of the issue at all. Therefore this project was the first step taken towards cooperating with police forces and working together with the law academics and other community-based NGOs will serve as a good and effective starting point for such cooperation.

Therefore this project sought to: (1) Establish a relationship and long term cooperation with police

authorities and police forces in tackling hate crimes and dealing with their outcomes efficiently and objectively; (2) Create and develop an exchange platform among human rights NGOs (ones that deal with the topic of hate crime), police authorities and the academics working in the area of law and hate crime in particular; (3) Ensure the successful continuation of LGL work in the area of hate crime prevention, monitoring and practical work together with victims of hate crimes.

DIVERSITY LT

- Implementation Period: March 2013 – February 2014;
- Funding Source: the European Community Programme PROGRESS for Employment and Social Solidarity (2007-2013);
- Implementing Organizations: the Office of Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson, partner organizations – the Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled and the association LGL; the project is implemented in cooperation with the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF);
- Website: <http://nlif.lt/en/projects/diversity-lt>.

The main purpose of the project is to raise awareness about the problems in relation to the negative phenomenon of discrimination and to promote the ideas of tolerance and diversity. The project encompasses anti-discrimination measures on five different grounds, i.e. gender, age, religion, disability, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

The project activities include (a) active informational campaign *Diversity Days 2013* in all 10 regions of Lithuania, (b) launch and implementation of *Diversity Awards 2013*, (c) employment of Roma Teacher Assistants, (d) training on multiple discrimination for experts and representatives of NGOs, (e) studies in the field of equal opportunities and (f) development of the web-site for the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF).

Further information on the project activities is available on the newly launched NEDF's web-site www.nlif.lt (both in Lithuanian and in English).

CODE: COMING OUT FOR DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY

- Implementation Period: May 2014 – May 2015;
- Funding Source: the European Community Programme PROGRESS for Employment and Social Solidarity (2007-2013);
- Implementing Organizations: the Office of Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson, partner organizations – the Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled and the association LGL; the project is implemented in cooperation with the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF);
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=7513.

The project was implemented by the partnership of the Lithuanian Equality Body – the Office of the Equal Opportunities Ombudsman (OEEO) – and two non-governmental organisations the association “Lithuanian National Forum of the Disabled” (LNF) and the Association “Lithuanian Gay League” (LGL). The project was developed in accordance with the priorities of the call and with the national strategic document for 2013-2014. To strengthen and disseminate good practice results of the PROGRESS programme implementation in Lithuania, project partners implemented the project in cooperation with the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF), members of which are non-governmental organisations representing vulnerable groups of residents that experience discrimination.

The main objectives of the project were: to strengthen the NEDF through ensuring its sustainable development and to utilize the strengthened capacities of the Forum in the field of non-discrimination mainstreaming through practical integration of equality issues in national policies; to document and to monitor the instances of discrimination and stigmatization in various settings with the view of developing evidence-based advocacy strategies; to implement targeted interventions with the view of empowering and building acceptance of the most socially vulnerable and stigmatized groups within the Lithuanian society (e.g. the disabled, Roma people and LGBT* community); to raise awareness around equal opportunities in general and about specific challenges, faced by various minority groups, through the appli-

cation of innovative and interactive strategies and methods.

NATIONAL EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FORUM (NEDF) COOPERATION PROJECT OF EFFECTIVENESS DEVELOPMENT

- Implementation Period: July 2014 – January 2015;
- Funding Source: Ministry of Social Security and Labor;
- Implementing Organizations: the Office of Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson, partner organizations – the Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled and the association LGL; the project is implemented in cooperation with the National Equality and Diversity Forum (NEDF);
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=7594.

This project was intended to enlarge NEDF, which includes LGL association, operational efficiency and strengthen the capacity while preparing NEDF's 2015 – 2016 m. strategy and action plan, which includes such objectives and activities as: actively expressing the needs of discriminated groups and representing them; assisting for discrimination victims while seeking for justice; spreading the ideas of equality and diversity in the society and including it in a political agenda; pursuing to consolidate the standards of non-discriminated behavior, based on equality in politics, other areas of public life and society; government institutions, prompting private companies and calling to take action against discrimination; observing the cases of discrimination, documentation and publicizing. The trainings, organized throughout the project also improved NGOs', taking part in NEDF activity, abilities and cooperation skills as well as experience, publicizing activity was aimed to inform about NEDF's activities to policy makers, other target groups and the general public.

The main aim of this project was to consolidate the abilities of the National Equality and Diversity Forum in Lithuania with the effectiveness of non-governmental institutions, representing the rights of socially vulnerable groups and cooperation to

spread tolerance, to develop respect for the human rights, to reduce the manifestations of discrimination, to raise the level of perceiving the level of discrimination problem in the society and work in the field of ensuring equal opportunities.

STRENGTHENING THE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF LGL

- Implementation Period: January 2013 – July 2014;
- Funding Source: the NGO Fund of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme;
- Implementing Organization: the association LGL;
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=1985.

The aim of the project is to strengthen the institutional capacity of LGL in order to achieve its aims and fulfill its mission (i.e. set out in the Strategic Plan 2011-2014), promote human rights, equal opportunities and social inclusion of the LGBT community in Lithuania.

The project objectives are as follow: 1) to strengthen the capacity of the LGL's staff and volunteers to represent the interests of the community in the field of public policy; 2) to develop human resources through the development of a volunteering programme and strengthening the only LGBT* center in the country; 3) to increase the financial independence of LGL by diversifying its funding sources; 4) to increase the organization's visibility in the civil society.

The project objectives were implemented in the framework of four main groups of activities. The first group of activities encompasses documentation, preparation of a report on the implementation of the recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and advocacy. The second group of activities sought to develop the volunteering programme and to strengthen the material basis of the LGBT* center. The third group of activities was dedicated to the development of the Fundraising Feasibility Study and its implementation. The fourth group of activities sought to increase

the organization's visibility among the members of the general public.

The LGL's Fundraising Feasibility Study, the Volunteering Programme and other related publications and informational materials are freely accessible on the organization's web-site www.lgl.lt.

ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY OF LGL AS A NATIONAL LGBT* ORGANIZATION

- Implementation Period: December 2014 – December 2015;
- Funding Source: the Open Society Foundations;
- Implementing Organization: the association LGL;
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=7530.

The main goal of the project was to ensure the sustainability of the LGL as a national LGBT* organization and its on-going awareness raising, advocacy, strategic litigation and community building efforts in tackling discrimination and social exclusion of the local LGBT* community in Lithuania.

The main objectives of the project were identified within the framework of the four proposed pillars of the activities of the project, namely awareness raising, advocacy, strategic litigation and community building:

- To increase public visibility of the local LGBT* community in general and the specific challenges with regards to homophobia and transphobia in the Lithuanian society in particular through organizing large-scale awareness raising campaigns.
- To apply both reactive and proactive advocacy strategies with the view of ensuring effective protection and implementation of the human rights of the LGBT* individuals on the national level within the particular spheres of combating homophobic and transphobic legislative initiatives, developing national policies on social inclusion of LGBT* groups and addressing the is-

sues of transgender rights and homophobic and transphobic bullying.

- To challenge the discriminatory application of the Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effect of Public Information with regards to the LGBT-related public information before the national courts with the view of amending or abolishing the Law in a long-term.
- To contribute to the strengthening of the LGL within the local LGBT* community as an open, inclusive and responsive to the community's needs organization through the development of the volunteering sector and engagement with the community work.

PROJECTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE (EVS): „CROSSING BORDERS FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIETY“ AND „EMPOWERING YOUTH TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE EUROPE“

- Funding Source: the European Voluntary Service (EVS) within the framework of the programme "Youth in Action";
- Implementing Organization: the association LGL.

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) provides young Europeans with the unique chance to express their personal commitment through unpaid and full-time voluntary activities in a foreign country within or outside the EU. In this way, seeks to develop solidarity, mutual understanding and tolerance among young people, thus contributing to reinforcing social cohesion in the European Union and to promoting young people's active citizenship.

EVS projects have enabled the association LGL to combine its organizational capacity with the ideas and cultural initiatives by the newly arrived international volunteers through engaging into activities with the local LGBT* community, encouraging ac-

tive participation in the LGL's activities, events and programs and promoting regional cooperation in Europe. Through these projects it was also sought to introduce international volunteers to the social and cultural realities of Lithuanian society, to provide them with the necessary skills and competences, to generate opportunities for them to learn and develop personally. In the period of 2014 the association LGL has implemented two EVS projects and hosted four international volunteers.

„CROSSING BORDERS FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIETY“

- Implementation Period: June 2013 – August 2014;
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=3866.

In the course of implementing this project LGL hosted two EVS volunteers – Rocco from Italy and Maksy from Finland. The volunteers contribute to the accomplishment of everyday administrative tasks, to organizing various events, to communicating with international partners and to carrying out other important tasks within the organization's activities. The volunteers have also taken upon several their own initiatives in the course of the project.

„EMPOWERING YOUTH TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE EUROPE“

- Implementation Period: April 2014 – February 2015;
- Website: http://www.lgl.lt/en/?page_id=7502.

The project Empowering Youth towards an Inclusive Europe took place in Vilnius, at Lithuanian Gay League's office, which serves as the only LGBT Center in Lithuania. Within a 10-month project two volunteers, one from Czech Republic and one from Italy, carried out their voluntary service. An overall objective of the project Empowering Youth towards an Inclusive Europe was to combine our knowledge and experience with the volunteers' fresh ideas and creative initiatives in order to develop new tools for

overcoming homophobia and social exclusion both in Lithuania and Europe. Project aimed at encouraging active participation of LGBT youth in the European Parliament election, 2014, promoting critical thinking and civic awareness. One volunteer was responsible for assistance on LGL's international projects and was involved in administrative tasks related to ongoing projects and supported the work of the

Coordinator of LGL Youth Group. Another volunteer carried out communication activities using various communication tools e.g. Facebook, blogs, YouTube channel, LGL's websites, newsletters etc. in order to strengthen and develop international communication and cooperation. They also took part in preparation of Baltic Pride 2014, which will take place in Tallinn.

PUBLICATIONS

“HATE CRIMES” FOR LITHUANIAN POLICE OFFICERS, 2014

- publication in Lithuanian (<http://www.lgl.lt/assets/policijai-leidyns-internet.pdf>).

In October, 2014 LGL prepared and published a **methodological publication “Hate Crimes” for Lithuanian police officers**. This publication provides information on hate crimes against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT*) individuals. Although it is primarily designed for the interest of the police officers, it might be useful for all interested parties, who work with the victims of a hate crime, i.e. doctors, prosecutors, human rights activists and lawyers. The methodological publication “Hate Crimes” is a new addition to the LGL’s public library and website. It will be disseminated to the Lithuanian public libraries and to the institutions, which train police officers. LGL anticipates that the book will complement the knowledge of Lithuanian police officers and assist in quick and transparent investigation of hate crimes against LGBT* individuals..

A SIGNIFICANT VOTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, 2014

- publication in Lithuanian (<http://www.lgl.lt/assets/Reik%C5%A1mingas-balsas.pdf>) and English (<http://www.lgl.lt/assets/Significant-vote.pdf>).

On March 1, 2014 the association Lithuanian Gay League and the Lithuanian Human Rights Centre started the campaign “A significant vote for human rights”. During this campaign the candidates to the European Parliament were encouraged to promise to act for the sake of human rights and voters were asked to choose responsibly whom to vote for. On March 19, 2014 some of the largest political groups in the European Parliament signed an obligation to run political campaigns without any discrimination or intolerance. Candidates who pri-

oritized equality and human rights on their political agendas were invited to sign the Human Rights Pledge. At the same time voters were asked to cast a conscious vote. During the project a **monitoring of the public space was conducted**. The aim of the monitoring was to record any instance of political campaign of candidates to the European Parliament that infringed the principles of respect and human rights. This report reflects the results of the monitoring process. The report is especially interesting to those who are interested in the situation of human rights in Lithuania. The project, which encompassed the whole territory of the European Union, was implemented by the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) and the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA-Europe).

BALTIC PRIDE 2013 (PHOTO ALBUM)

- publication in Lithuanian (<http://www.lgl.lt/en/files/BALTIC-PRIDE-2013-internet.pdf>) and English (<http://www.lgl.lt/en/files/BALTIC-PRIDE-2013-internet.pdf>).

On 21 May 2014 LGL launched the *Baltic Pride 2013 photo-album*. LGL team and supporters attended the event that took place at the Contemporary Art Centre in Vilnius. Baltic Pride 2013 was an extremely important moment for the Lithuanian LGBT* community. It gave us visibility as a community, it showed the support we enjoy from many non-LGBT supporters, and it marked a victory in ensuring the effective right to freedom of assembly for all Lithuanian citizens. One year later, the launch of the photo-album was the perfect occasion to remember this important event all together. The book was presented by the Chairman of LGL Vladimir Simonko, the Ambassador of Norway Leif Arne Ulland, who supported the project morally and financially, and photographer Augustas Didžgalvis, whose work is showcased in the photo-album.

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT LGL, 2014

- publication in Lithuanian (<http://www.lgl.lt/assets/Kas-yra-LGL-internet.pdf>) and English (http://www.lgl.lt/en/files/Everything_you_want_to_know_LGL.pdf).

In 2014 LGL released a publication which briefly introduces the work and community related activities LGL implements. The publication is aimed at raising interest in the participation in LGL's activities, provides details for joining the organization for volunteering and contributing to the LGL's work in other ways. In this publication LGBT* community and the general public can find such information as: brief history of the National lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights organization LGL; true impressions from LGL team members; information on volunteering and community work at LGL; main goals and activities of the organization; answers to the question "Why do we need LGL?" and other.

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION AND SITUATION OF LGBT PERSONS IN LITHUANIA: OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISM, 2014

- publication in Lithuanian (<http://www.lgl.lt/assets/Jungtines-Tautos-ir-LGBT-internet.pdf>).

In January LGL issued the publication "**United Nations Organization and situation of LGBT persons in Lithuania: opportunities provided by international human rights mechanisms**". The purpose of this publication is to introduce the mechanisms of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and of periodic reviews under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) clearly and comprehensively. A special attention is given to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The first report in the framework of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in 2011 and the third peri-

odic report for the implementation of ICCPR in 2012 revealed that, according to the assessment by the international stakeholders, human rights of LGBT people are not ensured to the full extent in the Republic of Lithuania. UN institutions provided Lithuania with a significant number of recommendations, related to the human rights of LGBT people, which the Lithuanian Government had committed to implement to the national level. The analysis in the publication of the national implementation process indicates that the State is not putting sufficient efforts in ensuring the full enjoyment of human rights for its LGBT citizens. The publication is based on the experience by the national LGBT rights association LGL in participating within the framework of the UN human rights protection mechanisms, i.e. preparing shadow reports and attending the sessions of the UN human rights bodies.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012-2013 LGL, 2014

- publication in Lithuanian (<http://www.lgl.lt/assets/2012-2013-ataskaita-internet1.pdf>) and in English (<http://www.lgl.lt/en/files/2012-2013-ataskaita-ANGLU-internet.pdf>).

In May 2014 LGL published its **2012-2013 Annual Report**. Those were very important years for our organization: a lot of events and initiatives were organized and implemented, giving LGL new visibility in the Lithuanian society and contributing to raising the awareness of Lithuanian citizens on issues related to LGBT rights. Two of the greatest achievements of LGL in that period were the organization of the Rainbow Days 2012 and the Baltic Pride 2013. In both occasions our organization was able to overcome obstacles imposed on our constitutionally recognized right to peaceful assembly, ensuring its exercise not only by the LGBT community, but by Lithuanian society as a whole. In the same period 13 projects were implemented, 15 publications issued, 3 shadow reports were sent to international human rights protection mechanisms. Meetings with various institutional personalities were successfully conducted, our web-site improved and our social media presence was constantly implemented. 68 newsletters were sent to friends and supporters all around the world.

ECRI CRC MONITORING PRO FORMA ON LGBT ISSUES, 2014

- publication in English (www.lgl.lt/en/files/ECRI-CBC-Monitoring-Pro-Forma-on-LGBT-Issues_LITHUANIA_LGL_13-August-2014.doc).

In August, 2014 LGL published **ECRI CBC Monitoring pro forma on LGBT issues**. In the report LGL details existing legislative framework as regards hate speech targeting sexual orientation / gender identity; homo/transphobic violence; legislative and policy measures taken to deal with violence and hate

speech, including forms of expression that should be criminalized and **policies to combat discrimination and intolerance against LGBT persons**.

LGL SUBMISSION TO CEDAW, 2014

- publication in English (<http://www.lgl.lt/en/files/CEDAW-2014-Lithuania.pdf>).

In June, 2014 LGL published a **Submission on the 5th Periodic Report by Lithuania** on the implementation of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) to the United Nation's Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 58th Session (30 June – 18 July 2014). In the report LGL stresses that the refusal of Lithuanian authorities to put in place subsidiary legislation, as required by the European Court of Human Rights in the *L v. Lithuania* judgment, effectively **prevents the access of transgender persons to reassignment treatment**, and is a flagrant and willful violation of the right to health of those transgender persons needing such treatment. The concomitant failure of Lithuanian authorities to provide adequate medical facilities for gender reassignment treatment (or the alternative of such treatment abroad), and to ensure that medical insurance covers, or contributes to the coverage of important elements of such medically necessary treatment, on a non-discriminatory basis, are further evidence that **Lithuania does not meet the requirements to provide effective access to health care for all, without discrimination**.

Staff

Vladimiras Simonko

Executive Director

Works in organization since 1995

Eduardas Platovas

Programmes Director

Works in organization since 1995

Sigita Rukšėnaitė

Advocacy Coordinator

Works in organization since 2009

Tomas Vytautas Raskevičius

Policy Coordinator

(Human Rights)

Works in organization
since 2009

Aliona Polujanova

Volunteer Coordinator/

Fundraising Officer

Worked in organization between
2012 and 2014

Šarūnas Sodonis

Advocacy Coordinator

Worked in organization
between 2012 and 2014

Rūta Ruolytė-Verschoore

Communications Coordinator

Worked in organization in 2014

Raminta Biziulevičiūtė

Communications Coordinator

Worked in organization in 2014

Dainius Dikšaitis

Volunteer Coordinator

Worked in organization in 2014

Marius Goročovskis

Communications Coordinator

Worked in organization
between 2014 and 2015

Gabija Morkūnaitė

Volunteer Coordinator

Worked in organization
between 2014 and 2015

Samanta Matuizaitė

Volunteer Coordinator

Works in organization
since 2015

Eglė Kuktoraitė

Communications Coordinator

Works in organization since 2014

VOLUNTEERS

The team of volunteers is one of the key pillars within the framework of the organization's activities. Our volunteers come both from Lithuania and from abroad, i.e. Italy, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, etc. All of them contribute their time, ideas, skills and experiences with the view of implementing LGL's objectives and enriching the association's activities.

It is cool to volunteer at LGL, because you can:

- join your activist forces in the field of LGBT* human rights, thus becoming part of human rights history in Lithuania;
- participate in various conferences, workshops, trainings both nationally and internationally;
- get to learn how LGL functions, i.e. what methods it uses in promoting human right and what kind of projects it implements;
- gain valuable professional experience, skills and feedback;
- improve your English language skills;
- meet tons of inspiring and interesting people and broaden your social network.

The spectrum of activities for LGL's volunteers is very broad. It consists of activities such as writing articles, performing daily administrative tasks in the office and engaging with the local LGBT* community (organizing various workshops, lectures, meetings, movie screenings, etc.).

LGL is very proud of its volunteers. It is amazing how their individuality, ideas and commitment magnificently contribute to the success of the organization's activities. Our volunteers support each other. In addition to that our Volunteer Coordinator is always ready to help our volunteers in overcoming arising challenges, acknowledging the plethora of organization's project activities and keeping up with their motivation to volunteer.

With the view of providing comprehensive information on volunteering at LGL, we have developed the list of frequently asked questions (FAQ), which can be assessed online at:

<http://www.lgl.lt/prisijunk/savaronoryste/duk/>

In case you cannot find an answer to your question, you want to make a remark, a comment, or a suggestion or you want to join our team right away, contact the LGL's Volunteer Coordinator directly:

e-mail: volunteers@gay.lt

Financial report

REVENUE & EXPENSE TABLE FOR 2014		
Unused balance of project funds 31 12 2013	61608.26	
REVENUE	€	%
Amnesty International	10,563 €	4
EEA Grants and Norway Grants	37,615 €	13
Embassy of Canada	1,051 €	0
Embassy of France in Vilnius	633 €	0
European Commission, Progress 2012 & 2013	101,247 €	35
European Commission's Youth in Action Programme	19,286 €	7
European Gay & Lesbian Sport Federation EGLSF	762 €	0
European Social Fund in Lithuania	50,915 €	18
General Representation of the Government of Flanders in Poland and Baltic States	250 €	0
Gaysir AS, Norway	1,200 €	0
ILGA Europe	14,358 €	5
Individual support	370 €	0
NGO Fund of the Lithuanian - Swiss Cooperation Programme	6,169 €	2
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	1,460 €	1
Ministry of Social Security and Labor of the Republic of Lithuania	2,544 €	1
Open Society Foundations	37,435 €	13
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Vilnius	869 €	0
Solar Association, Germany	100 €	0
Annual income:	286,828 €	100
Total:	348,436 €	
EXPENSES	€	%
Balance of the ongoing projects 2014.12.31	104,548 €	30
Total wage bill	112,598 €	
Paid mandatory taxes	53,760 €	15
Gross wages	58,839 €	17
LGBT center expenses	26,693 €	8
Project activities	104,596 €	30
Total:	348,436 €	100

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2014



*** National Lesbian, Gay,
Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT*)
Rights Association**

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