

NELFA

ACTION PLAN 2020-2022

Drafted by Björn Sieverding. Approved by the Annual General Meeting on 28th of March 2020

The members of the incoming NELFA BOARD shall be focused on and committed to implement the following action plan, in addition to carry on the ongoing actions engaged prior to the AGM 2020:

UMBRELLA FOR EAST AND WEST

We are the European Rainbow Families Network and will continue to work across the continent, with a special focus on countries and/or regions where LGBTIQ* families are particularly deprived of their rights, equality and general acceptance. This means solidarity and support for (new) groups, organisations and regional networks, especially in Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

- **new contacts to LGBTIQ* (family) activists and organisations**
- **participation at national conferences/seminars/projects**
- **expertise and ideas for new regional initiatives**
- **establishing i.e. a webpage with Russian content**

UMBRELLA WITH FUNDING

In its professionalisation process, NELFA will need more money. The Board must continue to identify and solicit (private) funds providers for obtaining financial support. Therefore, we should agree on a clear strategy (including short- and long-term goals, a sponsorship policy, promotion material for fund providers). At least, Board member costs (for NELFA travels) should be covered.

UMBRELLA FOR THE EU IN BRUSSELS

We will follow-up our advocacy efforts at EU level, especially towards the main institutions (Parliament, Commission, Council of the EU). This includes steady data processing (laws, court decisions etc.), its presentation (as THE rainbow family reference) and to encourage politicians, EU staff and other stakeholders to propose/change legislative measures (i.e. freedom of movement).

- **monitoring the legal LGBTIQ* development in Europe**
- **participation at internal and external EU meetings (also: CoE collaboration)**
- **stimulating our legal expert group, creating a researcher's network**
- **continuing the close cooperation with ILGA-Europe and other LGBTIQ* networks**

UMBRELLA FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Our drive is the well-being of our children. Therefore, we need to focus more and more on this perspective when we frame our messages. We should forge alliances with children's rights experts and organisations (like Eurochild or Child Rights International Network [CRIN] etc.) and continue our collaboration with family organisations (like COFACE). Our children need to get involved.

- **advancing the membership (or at least exchange) in Eurochild and others**
- **close relationship to COFACE, the International Foster Care Organisation and others**
- **capacity building for Board members and volunteers in children's rights**

UMBRELLA FOR THE MEMBERSHIP

The Board needs to ensure a good relationship to all member organisations, but this is not a one-way street. NELFA is the sum of national ideas, best practices, campaigns and initiatives. Means: The Board itself does not need to organise big events but should be available for feasible contributions (for example to provide a dedicated online space for rainbow families to exchange [RAF.TEENS]; IFED etc.).

- **establishment of connecting spaces (via Email or online platforms like SLACK)**
- **involvement of former Board members and activists in an alumni network**
- **promoting national campaigns and projects, family meetings and exchanges**
- **implementation of the RAF.TEENS project and possible adjustments over time**

UMBRELLA FOR CAPACITY BUILDING

Within the last years, NELFA members were grateful to attend adult education trainings and job shadowing opportunities via Erasmus+ projects. As long as the Board accepts the burdens involved (and the financial risks), those undertakings (and other possible projects) should be considered. NELFA doesn't need to manage projects on its own but could be also partner [see REC program with Deystvie and others, or the possible project for adolescents via Famiglie Arcobaleno].

- **management of a new KA1-project with our partner In Dialogue**
- **continuing the Rainbow shield project (legal toolkit for Bulgaria)**
- **supporting Famiglie Arcobaleno for a common project with teens**