



NELFA Press Release, 25 March 2015

Towns and Regions of Europe promote family diversity through International Family Equality Day (IFED)

The Network of European LGBT Families Associations (NELFA) participated, for the first time, in the 28th Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

On 25 March 2015, the Congress adopted by majority vote a resolution on "Guaranteeing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people's rights: a responsibility for Europe's towns and regions". The resolution was put forward on the basis of Yoomi Renström's report to the Current Affairs Committee.

The resolution invites local and regional authorities to commit to diversity policies inclusive of LGBT rights, to work closely with LGBT advocacy organisations and human rights NGOs, to promote good practice through networks such as the "Rainbow Cities" and to ensure the delivery of discrimination-free policies and services. The report mentioned for the first time the importance of celebrating International Family Equality Day (IFED), a NELFA initiative, under local activities aimed at raising awareness to promote a tolerant and cohesive society.

NELFA president Maria von Känel was present at the event; she said: "This is a fantastic day for NELFA and for rainbow families across Europe. I am very happy that the representatives of local and regional authorities in Europe recognise the importance of celebrating diversity, including family diversity, and that they have included IFED among the list of activities that can be developed locally to promote a culture of acceptance in our towns and regions."

IFED 2015 celebration in the European Parliament (European Union)

In Cooperation with the European Parliament's Intergroup on LGBT Rights for the first time the International Family Equality Day (IFED) will be celebrated in the European Parliament on 5 May 2015.

About NELFA:

NELFA is the European platform of LGBT families associations, bringing together LGBT parents and parents-to-be from all over Europe. NELFA currently represents 23 organisations in 15 European countries with more than 23,000 members. NELFA is a member of ILGA-Europe and Transgender Europe.

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www.nelfa.org / www.facebook.com/nelfa.aisbl

Our leaflet: <http://www.nelfa.org/index.php/nelfa-aisbl-leaflet>

NELFA 2014 European Family Meeting and IFED Video 2014:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRphppkEg0g>

IFED: <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalFamilyEqualityDay>

www.internationalfamilyequalityday.org

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