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NELFA PRESS-INFO

NELFA welcomes decision by Czech Constitutional Court to struck down ban on adoption for individuals in same-sex partnerships

The Network of European LGBTIQ* Families Associations (NELFA) welcomes the recent decision by the Czech Constitutional Court to extend the right to apply for adoption to individuals in same-sex registered partnerships. The Court's argumentation, following a lawsuit brought by a gay man in a registered partnership, stated that the previous ban was discriminatory because a gay man outside a registered partnership met the requirements to apply to adopt, but was denied the same possibility once he entered a partnership. However, according to the ruling registered partners will not be able to apply to adopt jointly.

Maria von Känel, President of the Board of NELFA, said: *"The decision to lift the ban on adoption against individuals in same-sex registered partnerships is a just decision, and one that recognises what experts have been saying all this time, that a person's sexual orientation is not a criterion of good parenting. The capacity to be a good parent is linked to a person's ability to love and educate a child, as well as to a person's reliability. The Czech authorities should go much further and allow registered partners to apply for adoption jointly; only then will all legal discrimination be erased"*.

About NELFA:

NELFA is the European platform of LGBTIQ* families associations, bringing together LGBTI parents and parents-to-be from all over Europe. NELFA currently represents 27 organisations in 18 European countries with more than 25 500 members. NELFA is a member of ILGA-Europe and Transgender Europe. <http://www.nelfa.org>

Our new leaflet:

http://nelfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/NelfaLeafletUpdate2016-05_web.pdf

International Family Equality Day (IFED): www.internationalfamilyequalityday.org

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