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## NELFA PRESS RELEASE

### **Resounding support to the rights of Rainbow Families – NELFA welcomes the recent #AllofUs-event in the European Parliament**

NELFA, the Network of European LGBTIQ\* Families Associations, is delighted by the #AllofUS Mobilizing for Rainbow Families declaration which was signed today in the European Parliament by the following four political groups: Socialists and Democrats (S&D), Liberals and Democrats (ALDE), The Greens/EFA and United Left (GUE/NGL).

Joint declaration of Members of the European Parliament: [http://nelfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Rainbow-Families-Joint-declaration\\_ALLofUS.pdf](http://nelfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Rainbow-Families-Joint-declaration_ALLofUS.pdf)

The aim of the event in the European Parliament was to raise attention to the lack of protection that Rainbow Families are still facing, especially when moving from one EU Member State to another. Many LGBTIQ\* citizens are discriminated and experience great difficulties when registering their partnerships and their children in the EU.

NELFA took this opportunity to present some real-life cases and to underline that fundamental rights have to be respected. NELFA Board Members focussed in particular on the right of Rainbow Families to ‘freedom of movement’ which, regrettably, is not guaranteed yet.

NELFA’s Vice-President of the Board, Luís Amorim, said: ‘Our families are not concepts, they are about real people and real lives. It is fundamental to bring children’s rights to the core of this debate. Children should not lose their legal protection when crossing a border inside the European Union.’

Giuseppina La Delfa, Board Member of NELFA, added: ‘LGBTIQ\* parents and their children are also EU citizens and they have to be protected by all the EU institutions. We should not have to go to court and fight for several years to have our rights recognized.’

See the live streaming here:

[https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/rainbowfamilies?source=feed\\_text&story\\_id=1036380893105980](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/rainbowfamilies?source=feed_text&story_id=1036380893105980)

**About NELFA:** NELFA is the European platform of LGBTIQ\* families associations, bringing together LGBTIQ\* 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](http://nelfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/NelfaLeafletUpdate2016-05_web.pdf)

Our newsletter June 2016 : <http://bit.ly/1Ww0HQ5>

International Family Equality Day (IFED): [www.internationalfamilyequalityday.org](http://www.internationalfamilyequalityday.org)

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