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## **NELFA PRESS RELEASE:**

# **A new partnership for the benefit of ALL families!**

## **- NELFA is now supporting member of COFACE Families Europe**

The Network of European LGBTIQ\* Families Associations, NELFA, is very pleased to join COFACE Families Europe, a pluralistic network of civil society associations representing the interests of families. COFACE counts 59 organisations in 23 EU Member States and its mission is to contribute to better policy making at EU level, to make a positive change in the lives of the millions of families in Europe. This fits very much with our aims.

NELFA has now the chance to raise its voice especially for LGBTIQ\* parents and their children, to point out special challenges and needs within a new environment of family organisations. In the near future, NELFA and COFACE Families Europe would like to work together on two major topics: diversity and freedom of movement.

**NELFA's President, Dominique Boren**, says, *“The new partnership is a big step for our movement in Europe. So far, many rainbow families lead a shadowy existence: hardly recognised, often unprotected and unequally treated. As supporting member of COFACE we are able to find new allies to empower LGBTIQ\* parents and their children, to overcome prejudices and to increase mutual understanding and respect. At the same time, COFACE wins a new partner and its expertise to promote the well-being of all families.”*

**COFACE's President, Annemie Driessens**, states, *“COFACE Families Europe welcomes NELFA as supporting member in its network. Together we will work towards a family friendly environment, enabling all families and their members to benefit from sufficient financial resources, available quality services and adequate time arrangements in order to live and enjoy their family life in dignity and harmony.”*

### **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 24 organisations in 15 European countries with more than 20,000 members. NELFA is a member of ILGA-Europe, Transgender Europe and COFACE Families Europe. Website: <http://www.nelfa.org>. Leaflet: <http://bit.ly/2rJW0us>. Newsletter: <http://bit.ly/2wAM9pG>.

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