



**International Conference**

# **BREAKING THE BARRIERS: IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF ANTI-LGBT HATE CRIMES**

**September 20 and 21, 2018**

**French Institute & LGBTI Centre | Sofia, Bulgaria**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**



## Day 0 - Wednesday, 19 September 2018

AFTERNOON	ARRIVALS
19.00-21.00	PRE-CONFERENCE DINNER AND NETWORKING <small>OPTIONAL</small> <i>Registration and payment required</i> LOCATION: <i>TBD</i>



## Day 1 - Thursday, 20 September 2018

8.30-9.30	<p><b>REGISTRATION</b></p> <p><i>Refreshments will be provided</i></p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p>
9.30-10.00	<p><b>SESSION 1: OPENING</b></p> <p><i>Welcome by organizers</i></p> <p><i>Introductory address from National Ombudsman Mrs Maya Manolova</i></p> <p><i>Introductory address from TBD</i></p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p>
10.00-11.00	<p><b>SESSION 2: KEY NOTE SPEAKER</b></p> <p><i>TBD</i></p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p>
11.00-11.15	<p><b>COMFORT BREAK</b></p> <p><i>Refreshments will be provided</i></p>
11.15-12.45	<p><b>SESSION 3: RUNNING THROUGH HURDLES</b></p> <p><i>Obstacles in the access to justice for victims of anti-LGBTI hate crimes: Key findings from the Come Forward project   PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION</i></p> <p>Piotr Godzisz (Lambda Warsaw) &amp; Giacomo Viggiani (University of Brescia)</p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p>
12.45-13.45	<p><b>LUNCH BREAK</b></p> <p><i>Complimentary for all participants</i></p> <p>LOCATION: SOFIA MUNICIPAL LIBRARY</p>
13.45-15.00	<p><b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS 4</b></p>

**Session 4A: Comparative analysis of training experiences and training needs on anti-LGBT hate crime in Europe | PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

Speakers: Jose Antonio Langarita, Pilar Albertín Carbó, Núria Sadurní Balcells and Antonia Dorado Caballero (University of Girona)

Chair: TBD

FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)

**Session 4B: The “I” in LGBTI: What do we know about violence targeting intersex people? | INTERVIEW AND DISCUSSION**

Kitty Anderson (TBD) & TBD

LOCATION: FRENCH INSTITUTE – WORKSHOP ROOM 1

**Session 4C: Knowing communities. How to approach and support LGBTI victims of hate crimes through an intersectional approach | WORKSHOP**

Facilitator: Laura Franceschin (CEJI)

LOCATION: FRENCH INSTITUTE – WORKSHOP ROOM 2

<b>15.00-15.15</b>	<b>COMFORT BREAK</b>
--------------------	----------------------

*Refreshments will be provided*

<b>15.15-16.45</b>	<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS 5</b>
--------------------	------------------------------

**Session 5A: The law is not enough: Anti-LGBTI hate crime in Croatia, Greece, Hungary and Lithuania | PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION**

Speakers: Mia Gonan (Zagreb Pride), Tina Stavrinaki (Racist Violence Recording Network), Tamás Dombos (Háttér Society) and TBD (LGL-Lithuanian Gay League)

Chair: Paolo Leotti (GES-Cabinet of Social Studies)

FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)

**Session 5B: Working with victims of anti-LGBT hate crimes in a nutshell (in Bulgarian only) | WORKSHOP**

Facilitator: Gloria Filipova (BILITIS Resource Centre)

	<p>LOCATION: LGBTI CENTRE – RAINBOW HUB</p> <p><i>Session 5C: Beyond reporting: Exploring victim-centred anti-hate crime NGO interventions   WORKSHOP</i></p> <p>Facilitator: Nick Antjoulé (Galop UK)</p> <p>LOCATION: FRENCH INSTITUTE – WORKSHOP ROOM 1</p>
17.00-18.30	<p><b>SESSION 6</b> <small>OPTIONAL</small></p> <p><i>The legacy of Mikhail Stoyanov (in English only)   FIELD TRIP</i></p> <p>Facilitators: Radoslav Stoyanov and Dimitar Bogdanov (GLAS Foundation)</p> <p><i>1.5 hr of walking</i></p> <p>LOCATION: BORISOVA GARDEN (MEET-UP AT LGBTI CENTRE)</p>
18.30-19.30	<p><b>WINE RECEPTION</b></p> <p><i>Complimentary for all participants</i></p> <p>SIGHT VISIT AT THE RAINBOW HUB – LGBTI CENTRE</p>
19.00-21.00	<p><b>MOVIE SCREENING</b></p> <p><i>Side event with the Sofia Big Gay Film Club</i></p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p>
20.00-22.00	<p><b>CONFERENCE DINNER</b> <small>OPTIONAL</small></p> <p><i>Registration and payment required</i></p> <p>LOCATION: <b>TBD</b></p>



## Day 2 - Friday, 21 September 2018

9.00-9.30	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
	<i>Refreshments will be provided</i>
9.30-11.00	<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS 7:</b>
	<p><i>Session 7A: Leading the way in countering anti-LGBTI hate crime: Cases of Belgium, Spain and the UK   PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION</i></p> <p>Speakers: Kenneth Mills (Çavaria), TBD (GES-Cabinet of Social Studies) &amp; TBD (Galop UK)</p> <p>Chair: Mia Gonan (Zagreb Pride)</p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p> <p><i>Session 7B: Working with report centres and authorities (in Bulgarian only)   WORKSHOP</i></p> <p>Facilitator: Monika Pisankaneva (BILITIS Resource Centre)</p> <p>LOCATION: LGBTI CENTRE</p> <p><i>Session 7C: Hate crime laws in Europe</i></p> <p>Speakers: Natalie Alkiviadou (University of Central Lancashire Cyprus), Elena Mujoska Trpevska &amp; Konstantin Bitrakov (Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts)</p> <p>Chair: Thanasis Theofilopoulos (Colour Youth)</p> <p>LOCATION: FRENCH INSTITUTE – WORKSHOP ROOM 1</p>
11.00-11.15	<b>COMFORT BREAK</b>
11.15-12.45	<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS 8:</b>
	<p><i>Session 8A: Action without laws? Anti-LGBTI hate crime in Bulgaria, Italy and Poland   PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION</i></p>

Speakers: Giacomo Viggiani (University of Brescia), Monika Pisankaneva (BILITIS Resource Centre) and Piotr Godzisz (Lambda Warsaw)

Chair: Kenneth Mills (Çavaria)

FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)

*Session 8B: Community outreach: legal consciousness raising and enhancing the reporting of hate crimes. Good practices and ideas | WORKSHOP*

Facilitators: Szelim Simándi & Bea Sándor (Háttér Society)

LOCATION: FRENCH INSTITUTE – WORKSHOP ROOM 1

12.45-13.15	<b>CLOSING COMMENTS AND WAYS FORWARD</b>
	<p>Piotr Godzisz (Lambda Warsaw) &amp; Giacomo Viggiani (University of Brescia)</p> <p>FRENCH INSTITUTE (PLENARY)</p>
13.15-13.30	<b>COMFORT BREAK</b>
13.30-14.30	<p><b>LUNCH</b> <small>OPTIONAL</small></p> <p><i>Registration and payment required</i></p> <p>LOCATION: <b>TBD</b></p>



## Field visits

Field visits will be a way to address the issue of homophobic hate crime in a way that is different from sitting in a conference room. The trip will take participants to the area of Borisova Gardens park, a site of the 2008 murder of Mihail Stoyanov (see below). During the trip, the facilitator will describe the case and speak of Stoyanov's legacy today.

### *The murder of Mihail Stoyanov*

The 25-year old medicine student Mihail Stoyanov was murdered in 2008 in Borisova Gardens Park in Sofia, which is a cruising area. In 2010, two young men were arrested as suspects. In their testimony to the police, they admitted that they were “clearing the park from gays” and were regularly assaulting gay men meeting there. The two defendants were found guilty on 13.07.2017 by the Sofia Appellate Court, and the latter ruled that their initial verdicts from June 2015 have been unreasonably diminished. In the motives of its decision, the Sofia Appellate Court recognized – for the first time - the anti-gay motive of the crime, stating that the perpetrators were driven not by hooligan motives, but by strong and unreasonable hate against the victim's perceived identity and their own feeling of superiority over those they consider to be different. (Appellate Court Sofia, Decision № 330/12.072017 r. on appeal, criminal case of general nature № 84/2016 r.)





## Descriptions of sessions

To be added [TBD](#)



## Social media

You are encouraged to use social media to share information about the conference. You can freely post pictures and quotes from plenary sessions. If posting quotes or pictures from group sessions, please ask the quote author / photographed persons if this is OK.

Please use the hashtags **#ComeForward** and **#hatecrimeEU**.

## International Network for Hate Studies

The International Network for Hate Studies is a cross-jurisdictional and interdisciplinary organisation that aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge about the study of hate and hate crime. Run by academics and practitioners, it seeks to not only understand the root causes of hate and hate crime, but to understand ways in which it can be combated in society.

The Network has four key aims and objectives: information sharing, public policy engagement, collaboration in research and understanding hate.

If you work in the area of hate studies, and wish to be part of the Network, contribute to the Blog, attend one of our events or simply receive the latest news, publications and events straight into your inbox, join the network today!

Find us at: **@IntHateStudies** and [internationalhatestudies.com](http://internationalhatestudies.com).





## About Come Forward

The project *Come Forward: Empowering and Supporting Victims of Anti-LGBT Hate Crimes* is implemented over two years between 2016 and 2018. It is developed by a consortium encompassing [22 partners](#) from 10 European countries. It aims at:

- increasing the number of dedicated front-line reporting centres by building capacity of civil society and official partners on local and national levels,
- improving the access to specialised support by building capacity of victim support service providers,
- sharing good practices,
- strengthening cross-border and multi-agency partnerships, and
- strengthening cross-border and multi-agency partnerships, and
- raising awareness and empowering victims.

Over 1000 professionals from across Europe will be trained within the framework of the project by the end of 2018 with the use of a specially prepared training curriculum.

The project is co-funded by the European Commission's REC programme (JUST-REC-DISC-AG-2016-04-764731).



# Come FORWARD

## Organizers



## Partners

