

## THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

L'Autre Cercle wants to thank the members of its teams in Paris and in Strasbourg who organised this conference. All of them are volunteers who willingly contributed their time and brought to the project their knowledge and experience.

The association would also like to thank the Council of Europe and its Secretary-General Mr.Thorbjørn Jagland for his patronage and for providing us with a conference room in the Agora Building.

L'Autre Cercle is grateful to the City of Strasbourg for hosting the conference and for its financial support and it wishes to extend its special thanks to the Sodexo group, official partner of l'Autre Cercle, for its generous contribution to the conference budget.



With thanks to the Government of the Netherlands for the pre-conference reception.

L'Autre Cercle offers its thanks to the Government of the Netherlands for the pre-conference reception given by its Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe.

Last but not least, the association would like thank our conference speakers from all over Europe for their vital contributions to this important event.

## L'AUTRE CERCLE



Organised by :  
L'Autre Cercle, France

Place :  
Strasbourg

Duration :  
2 days

Date :  
Friday 18  
and Saturday 19  
November, 2011



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ORGANISED IN CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE CITY OF STRASBOURG  
AND WITH THE PATRONAGE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE,  
MR. THORBJØRN JAGLAND

The lack of mutual recognition of same-sex partnerships and marriages in the European Union and member states of the Council of Europe : an obstacle to the freedom of movement of persons ?

VISIT THE CONFERENCE WEBSITE : [WWW.MUTUALRECOGNITION.EU/FR/](http://WWW.MUTUALRECOGNITION.EU/FR/)

Team leader of the conference organisation group : Geoffrey Ross ([compteageoff@yahoo.fr](mailto:compteageoff@yahoo.fr))

L'Autre Cercle website : [www.autrecercle.org](http://www.autrecercle.org)

IN THE AGORA BUILDING  
(Annex of the Palais de l'Europe)

1 quai Jacoutot, quartier de l'Europe in Strasbourg  
Accessible by tram line E, alight at the «Droits de l'Homme» stop

Official partner companies of the «Fédération de L'Autre Cercle»



# DAY 1

**NOVEMBER 18**

In the batiment AGORA  
Annex of the Palais de l'Europe

8h15 9h00	ARRIVAL	45 min	Registration	
9h00 9h50	PLENARY SESSION 1	Opening Speeches		
		5 min	Welcome	Bertrand Eberhardt President of l'Autre Cercle Alsace
		10 min	Welcome	Roland Ries Senator and Mayor of Strasbourg
		10 min	Welcome	Ralf René Weingartner Director of fundamental rights and anti-discrimination, COE
		5 min	Conference organisation	Geoffrey Ross Responsible for International Affairs, l'Autre Cercle
		The Council of Europe		
		5 min	Moderator	Patricia Prendiville Equality Works (Ireland)
		15 min	LGBT issues at the Council of Europe	Dag Robin Simonsen Representative of the LGBT issues unit of the COE
9h50 10h05	BREAK	15 min	Coffee break	
10h10 11h55	PLENARY SESSION 2	The European Union		
		Moderator		Geoffrey Ross Responsible for International Affairs, l'Autre Cercle
		30 min	Combat for the Freedom of Movement Directive of 2004 et outlook for the future	Joke Swiebel Former Dutch member of the European Parliament and former President of its LGBT Intergroup
		20 min	. for the European Parliament	Michael Cashman Co-President of the European Parliament LGBT Intergroupe
		20 min	. for the European Commission	Salla Saastamoinen DG Justice : Head of Unit A1 (judicial co-operation and civil affairs)
		20 min	Observations made by FRA	Matteo Bonini Baraldi Programme Manager, Legal Research, department of Equality and Human Rights at the European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
		15 min	Questions and answers	
12h00	Press Conference			
12h00 13h30	LUNCH BREAK	1h30	Lunch at the Palais de l'Europe Cafeteria	
13h35 13h55	PLENARY SESSION 3	Moderator		Patricia Prendiville Equality Works (Ireland)
		15 min	Current situation : same sex unions in Europe	Silvan Agius Policy Director, ILGA Europe
		5 min	Questions and answers	
13h55 15h15	PLENARY SESSION 3	Results of the Legal Study designed and carried out by Professeur Waaldijk		
		1h05	Legal study : Recognition of foreign same-sex unions in Europe	Kees Waaldijk Professor of Comparative Sexual Orientation Law at the Law Faculty of the University of Leiden, in the Netherlands
15h15 15h30	BREAK	15 min	Tea break	
15h35 17h10	PLENARY SESSION 4	Situation across Europe (case studies concerning countries that are more or less advanced on LGBT rights issues)		
		Moderator		Geoffrey Ross Responsible for International Affairs, l'Autre Cercle
		20min	Same-sex unions in western democracies	Kelly Kollman, Lecturer in political science politique at the University of Glasgow, in Scotland
		20min	Situation on LGBT rights in Italy combat for the DICO	Fabio Chiovini Member of Aricigay, Italy
		20min	Situation in Espagne - LGBT families	José Ignacio Pichardo Galan Professor, department of social anthropology at the Free University of Madrid, in Spain
		20min	Situation in Hungary fighting for a registered partnership	Tamas Dombos Hatter Tarsasag A Melegekert (Hungary)
15min	Questions and answers			
20h00 22h00	DINNER	2h00	Dinner in a typical Strasbourg restaurant (traditional Alsatian cuisine)	

There is no registration fee for this conference. However hotel rooms and midday and evening meals are payable by conference attendees.

**NOVEMBER 19**

In the batiment AGORA  
Annex of the Palais de l'Europe

# DAY 2

9h00 10h35	PLENARY SESSION 5	Legal action and actions targetting national and European institutions			
		Moderator		Patricia Prendiville Equality Works (Ireland)	
		15 min	How the European Parliament works and what are the actions of its LGBT Intergroup	Bruno Selun Secretary of the European Parliament LGBT Intergroup	
		15 min	Role of the European Court of Human Rights	Judge Françoise Tulkens Belgian judge at the European Court of Human Rights	
		15 min	Role of strategic litigation	Caroline Mecary French lawyer at the Paris bar.	
		15 min	Questions and answers		
		20 min	PANEL DISCUSSION Role of European Equality Bodies	Domenica Ghidè Ina Vandenberghe Chrysoula Malisianou	Commissie Gelijke Behandeling (Netherlands) Centre pour l'Égalité et contre le Racisme (Belgium) Mission de lutte contre les discriminations du défenseur des droits (France)
		15 min	Questions and answers		
10h35 10h50	BREAK	15 min	Coffee break		
10h55 12h00	PLENARY SESSION 6	Actions taken by Businesses and Public Organisations			
		Moderator		Geoffrey Ross Responsible for International Affairs, l'Autre Cercle	
		50 min	International mobility policies of businesses and public organisations	Jean-Michel Monnot Jeanine van Barlingen Lt-Col Jan Stinessen	Sodexo Shell Netherlands Ministry of Defense
		15 min	Questions and answers		
12h00 13h30	LUNCH	1h30	Buffet lunch at the Palais de l'Europe		
13h35 14h55	PLENARY SESSION 7	Government actions			
		Moderator		Patricia Prendiville Equality Works (Ireland)	
		20 min	Irish Civil Partnerships	Dara Breathnach Irish Ministry of Justice and Equality	
		20 min	Actions taken by the government of the Netherland	Jeannette van Borselen-Struijlaart Gender and Equality Departement, Netherlands Ministry of Culture, Education and Sciences (OCW)	
		20 min	«Focal Points» Intergovernmental meetings	Ben Baks Gender and Equality Departement, Netherlands Ministry of Culture, Education and Sciences (OCW)	
20 min	Questions and answers				
14h55 15h10	BREAK	15 min	Tea break		
15h15 16h30	PLENARY SESSION 8	Socio-démographique impact/Individual testimonies			
		Moderator		Geoffrey Ross Responsible for International Affairs, l'Autre Cercle	
		15 min	Lesbian testimony : Finland-France	Kaisa Parental rights of a binational couple in respect of the children of one of the partners	
		15 min	Homosexual testimony : France-Netherlands	Frédéric Minvielle Loss of nationality following a mariage franco-Dutch same-sex marriage	
		15 min	Homosexual testimony : Poland-Spain	Tomasz Szypula Obstacle to same-sex marriage in Spain posed by the refusal of a Polish certificate of non-marital status	
		15 min	Theme of socio-demographic pan-European, to be announced	Maks Banens Sociologist, lecturer in démography at the University of Lyon 2, specialist on same-sex couples in Europe	
15 min	Questions and answers				
16h30 17h20	PLENARY SESSION 9	How to move forward : What actions are required for the future ?			
		30 min	PANEL DISCUSSION «Summing-Up» what actions are required for the future ?	Patricia Prendiville Pierre Serne Bruno Selun Darren Rosenblum	Equality Works, Ireland (moderator) Member of the ILGA-Europe Board European Parliament LGBT Intergroup Professor, Law Faculty at Pace University (USA)
		10 min	Closing speech	Gaël Martin-Micallef Head of the «Equality in Diversity Group» (Council of Europe LGBT group)	
		10 min	Closing speech	Philippe Orillac National President of l'Autre Cercle	

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