

14.

LESBIAN ORGANISING IN EUROPE: WHERE IS THE STATE OF PLAY FOR THE LESBIAN MOVEMENTS?

TAGS: lesbian movement / women / feminism / network

SPEAKERS: **Anastasia Danilova** (Gender Doc-M, Moldova);

Nika Yuryeva (Coming Out, Russia), **Olena Shevchenko**

(Insight, Ukraine); **Maria von Känel** (NELFA, Switzerland);

Alice Coffin (Lesbiennes d'intérêt général, France)

MODERATOR: **Dragana Todorovic** (ERA – LGBTI Equal

Rights Association for Western Balkans and Turkey)

METHODOLOGY: Moderated discussion

DESCRIPTION: Being on the crossroads of mainstream women's movements and LGBTI movements, lesbian political agenda, issues and concerns often lack visibility

and recognition. As spaces for lesbian organizing are shrinking in some European countries, lesbians in other European countries are at the forefront of social and political change. This workshop will look into the European landscape of lesbian organising, and will address key issues, such as:

- What is happening with lesbian movements in Europe? What are current developments, trends, challenges on how lesbians are organising in Europe?
- How do we assess the role of lesbians within the wider LGBTI movement at the moment?
- Where is lesbian organising stronger at the moment? What can we learn from different parts of the region? What are best practices emerging in Eastern Europe and elsewhere? Where is it weaker and why?
- Feminism and lesbian movements (politics, sexuality, ideology, identity, diversity): What are the opportunities and challenges of joining forces with the women's movement at the moment?
- How can we strengthen lesbian organising and networking across Europe and on the sub-regional level?

WHO IS IT FOR? Anyone interested in lesbian movements and issues.



WOMEN'S CAUCUS

The Women's Caucus is a safe space for self-identifying women at the ILGA-Europe Annual Conference.

Over the years, the Caucus has represented a "bonding space" where LGBTI women could meet and connect with each other, and a place to talk about women in the LGBTI movement. Over the past few years, we have explored barriers to the participation and visibility faced by LGBTI women activists, conversations which have led us to redefine the caucus as a space aimed at empowering women.

Building on last year's caucus, we will continue to explore the theme of women's leadership and how it can be strengthened and enabled. We will ask ourselves: What is unique and specific about women's leadership style? How can women's leadership contribute to the European and the global LGBTI movements, and beyond, how women's leadership can contribute to positive trends in today's world? Throughout the conversation, we will ask ourselves how we can work to ensure that all women gain more access to power and resources.

WHO IS IT FOR? Self-identified women.