

Equality for Sexual Minorities

Justice in the Balkans: Equality for Sexual Minorities

Prime Minister Mr. Igor Luksic
Government of Montenegro
E-mail: igor.luksic@gov.me

Dear Prime Minister:

I am the Chair of the Conference Council for Justice in the Balkans: Equality of Sexual Minorities. We are a group of international experts in the area of human rights law who helped design and deliver the program at our successful first conference held in Podgorica in 2009. We also helped organize, in cooperation with the Government of Montenegro, the LGBT sensitivity training of a group of Montenegrin Police Officers in Toronto, Canada and Los Angeles, USA last year. We commend the Government of Montenegro for finally passing an anti-discrimination law last year that included sexual orientation, an important step on the path to European integration.

We have been informed of a very positive development for your country, the formation of LGBT Forum Progress. This group has been formed in Montenegro to advance the rights of sexual minorities. We understand that this group is currently organizing Podgorica's first Pride parade. Such parades are a vital part of the international LGBT rights movement. The right to hold such parades is well recognized under both European and international human rights law as part of the rights of all people to freedom of association, freedom of expression and the right to equality.

We urge your government to follow the example of governments around the world, including the Government of Serbia, in ensuring that the LGBT citizens of Montenegro are able to hold their Pride Parade. I am sure that many of our Council members will be there to march in solidarity with them.

Yours truly,



R. Douglas Elliott LSM
Chair, Advisory Committee
Justice in the Balkans: Equality for Sexual Minorities

cc. Mr. Ivana Pajevic, Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister, ivana.pajevic@gsv.gov.me
Mr. Ferhat Dinosa, Minister for Human and Minority Rights, blanka.marovicr@mmp.gov.me
Mr. Zdravko Cimbaljevic, Executive Director of LGBT Forum Progress, info@lgbtprogres.me



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Conference Organizer

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Partners

Leipzig University – Department of European, Public International and Public Law, Germany
Lund University – Department of Sociology of Law, Sweden
UCLA School of Law – The Williams Institute, United States
Warsaw University - Human Rights Chair, Faculty of Law and Administration, Poland
European Commission on Sexual Orientation Law (ECSOL)
Civil Rights Defenders
ILGA Europe
Rechtskomitee LAMBDA (RKL), Austria
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