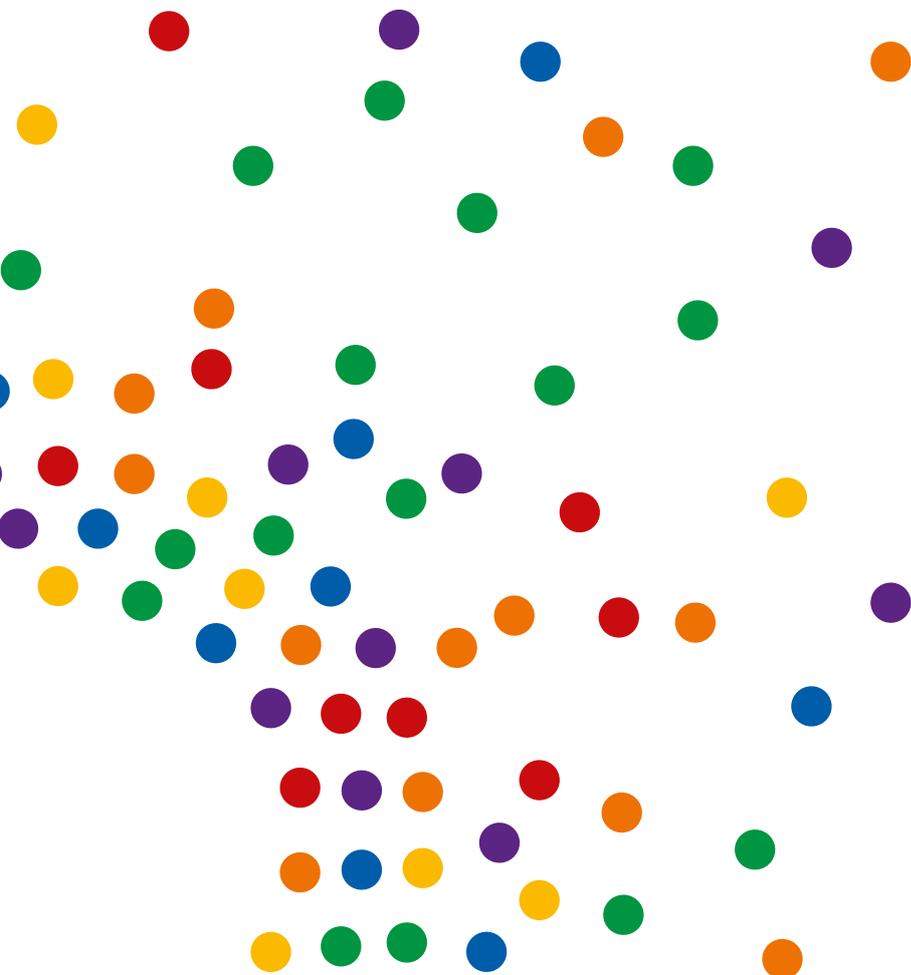




#YouAreIncluded

# Human Rights Forum

## Concept Note



# Introduction

# Copenhagen 2021

**Copenhagen 2021 is taking place from Friday 12 until Sunday 22 August in Copenhagen, Denmark and Malmö, Sweden. The events taking place during Copenhagen 2021 are organized within four interconnected pillars:**

## Pride

Pride is a celebration and a constant reminder of our victories and ongoing battles as people not afforded the same rights as others due to our sexual orientation or gender identity. Dating back to 1969 and the Stonewall uprising in New York City, the Pride movement has walked the streets for equal rights for over five decades growing stronger every year. We will continue to do so until we have the same rights as any other human being.

## Sports

Sport can be a hostile and unsafe environment for LGBTI+ persons, who are often seen discriminated against. This is problematic not only for the athletes, but also for clubs who essentially risk losing talent due to hostile environment.

In Copenhagen 2021 we will create the world's safest place to do sports while inviting major sports federations to join us in the global fight against homophobia and transphobia in sports with EuroGames as our backbone.

## Arts & Culture

Culture reflects our lives and our differences and is an essential part of Copenhagen 2021.

LGBTI+ culture has a history and expression of its own and is not seen or experienced often in mainstream cultural arenas. LGBTI+ culture and art are part of our history and movement and tells untold stories of our battles and victories.

In 2021 art made by or for queer people will be front and center in 2021 to make you learn, feel, and see new shades of the world of art.

## Human Rights

Human Rights are the cornerstone of Copenhagen 2021 and intrinsically linked with Pride, Sports and Arts & Culture.

With our Human Rights Forum consisting of five main events we are aiming for global impact and change for sexual and gender identity minorities.

The diversity and aim of our events create opportunities to target different groups within and outside our community and bring them together to create awareness, understanding and give everybody the possibility to broaden their horizons and take action.

# Patron of Copenhagen 2021



Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Denmark is the Patron of Copenhagen 2021, the greatest and most inclusive LGBTI+ event ever held in Denmark, celebrating WorldPride and EuroGames simultaneously for the first time.

Under her Patronage, the Crown Princess takes on the task of sharing the message that Copenhagen 2021 will host the most significant international human rights event of 2021, which will promote and strengthen equal rights for LGBTI+ people around the world.

# Program description



#YouAreIncluded

## Human Rights Forum

16 - 20 August 2021

	Monday 16	Tuesday 17	Wednesday 18	Thursday 19	Friday 20
Official Opening at United Nations City	●				
Human Rights Conference		●	●	●	
Global Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly					●
Immigration, Borders and Refugees Summit					●
1:1 Democracy Festival	●	●	●	●	●

### The Official Opening of the Human Rights Forum will take place in UN City on Monday 16 August.

The opening event is organized in collaboration with UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency and coordinated with other UN entities. Around 250 participants will be welcomed in the lobby areas of UN City Copenhagen for an inspirational fair before the official 'kick-off' of the Human Rights Forum in the UN City auditorium. The event will have speeches from dignitaries and discussion of dilemmas faced by the LGBTI+ community in obtaining basic human rights; real-life challenges

to the goal of 'leaving no one behind' of the Sustainable Development Goals. Activists, experts, the UN and civil society will be represented in the debates.

The three-day Human Rights Conference, from Tuesday 17 until Thursday 19 August in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The conference focuses on the global LGBTI+ situation and is organized for, by, and with the diverse global LGBTI+ commu-

nity. This conference will explore and discuss the challenges and lives of the diverse community. The conference will start with a plenary day, inviting 2000 participants to witness high-level speeches, panels and discussions followed by two full days of breakout sessions for 1200 participants that will have discussions based on the 10 topics. The conference will end with a closing and feedback ceremony.

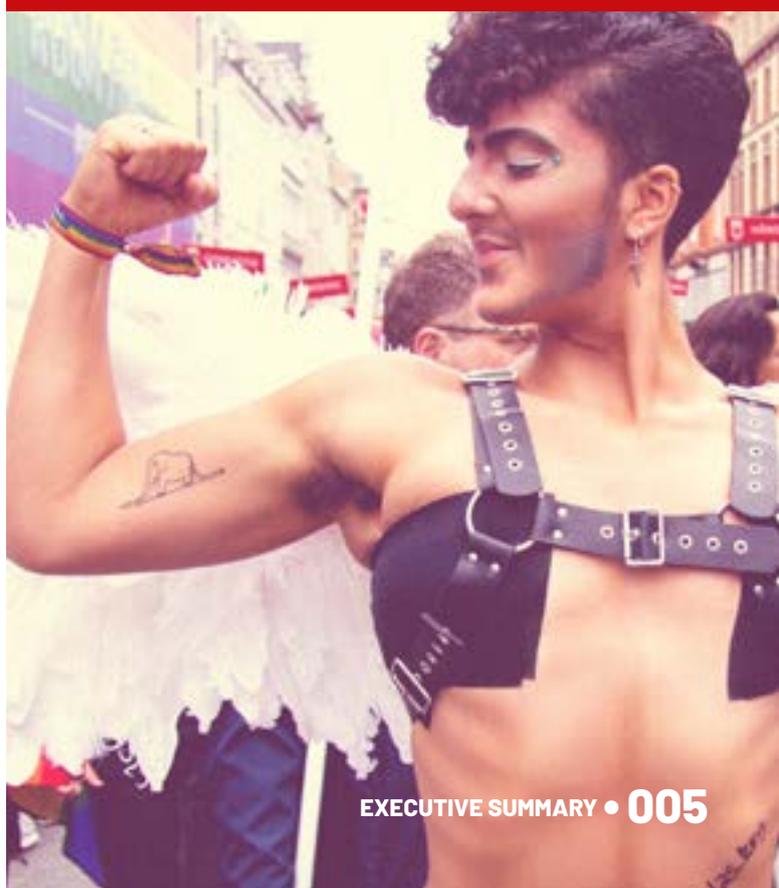
The **Global Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly**, On **Friday 20 August** will invite up to 220 elected officials from all over the world to gather for an LGBTI+ Global Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly at Christiansborg Palace, the seat of the Danish Parliament. The attending elected officials, coming from diverse ideologies, regions, backgrounds and beliefs, will make this event an impactful learning and networking experience. In collaboration with our executive partners, we aim for inclusion of elected officials from every continent.

The **Refugees, Borders and Immigration Summit** will take place in **Malmö, Sweden on Friday 20 August**. Malmö is located just a short train ride over one of the most famous bridges in Europe that connects centuries-old Scandinavian partners, Denmark and Sweden. Around 400 activists, politicians and other interested people will discuss the challenges and situation of LGBTI+ Immigration, Borders and Refugees in the region, on the continent, and in the world. This event is the official closing event of the Human Rights Forum.

The **1:1 Democracy Festival**, inspired by the Scandinavian 'Peoples Meeting' (Folkemødet) will run during all five days of the Human Rights Forum from **Monday 16 to Friday 20 August**. This event will take place in front of the Øksnehallen conference center, the

venue for the Human Rights Conference. During this event we will invite the general public to come and go into discussions with community members, politicians and activists and talk about human rights. Two large tents will provide space for debates, panels and workshops and there will be an important presence of civil society organizations hosted in various smaller tents. Although a strong focus on the LGBTI+ cause, we cannot talk about inclusion, acceptance and discrimination without involving and inviting other minority groups to the square to actively participate. Furthermore, culture, as an important form of expression, will be programmed on a stage, located on the square.

**The diversity and aim of the different events create opportunities to target different groups within and outside our community, including politicians, activists, media, government officials and the general public, and bring them together to create awareness, understanding and give everybody the possibility to broaden their horizons and take action.**



# Ten thematic topics

The LGBTI+ Human Rights Forum will center around 10 broadly defined topics that will give direction and bring focus to the different events:



**Politics and Law**



**Education, Labor Market and Civil Society**



**Intersectionality and Global Trends**



**Borders, Decolonisation and Racism**



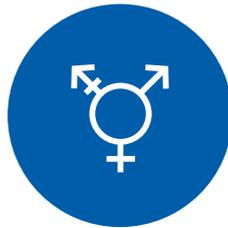
**Technology and Online Communities**



**Arts, Sports and Culture**



**Pride as a global Human Rights Movement**



**Breaking the Binary**



**Sexual well-being and Health**



**Open for the undefined**



# Inclusivity, representation and accessibility

There will be a number of key elements to ensure **inclusivity, representation and accessibility** during the Human Rights Forum.

- We are aiming to make **the venues** accessible for people with disabilities, guaranteeing wheelchair accessibility and psychological support.
- We facilitate a number of **intersectional work groups** that give input on program elements: indigenous peoples, people of colour, people with hearing impairment, refugees, youth and older people.
- It is our ambition to have international **sign-language interpretation** available at plenaries and designated sessions, furthermore, at the 1:1 Democracy Festival, sessions can be organized in different **languages**, depending on the event and the number of participants speaking the language. The Human Rights Conference and the Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly will feature **translations** into Spanish and French and the Refugees, Borders and Immigration Summit will be translated in other languages on the basis of need and availability.
- We will designate **safe and quiet areas**. In these areas, trained volunteers will be available to guide participants that need support.
- The Human Rights Forum will be an **alcohol-free space** where experiences are lived without being influenced by alcoholic substances.
- A key aspect of the Human Rights Forum is the use of **participation rules** as a means to build a safer environment during all events. For this reason, there will be rules meant to strengthen respect for one another and sending a clear message that **hate, shaming and aggressive behavior will not be tolerated**.

# Partnerships

The five events taking place during the Human Rights Forum will be delivered in close collaboration with our 12 official executive partners\* with whom we signed Memoranda of Understanding to outline and shape the collaboration.



“ At Copenhagen 2021 we believe in the importance of meaningful collaborations in order to build a Human Rights Forum that is both targeting the right topics, inviting the right individuals, strengthening the international agenda of the LGBTI+ Community and creating sustainable and impactful output. Our official executive partners have an important role in the preparations and execution of the events and the follow up afterwards. The outlines of the partnerships take different shapes and forms, but all add in a meaningful way to the Copenhagen 2021 Human Rights Forum.

– Director of Human Rights,  
Aron le Fevre

\*Amnesty International, Athlete Ally, European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Freemuse, Human Dignity Trust, Human Rights Watch, Outright Action International, Parliamentarians for Global Action, Rainbow Railroad, United Nations Population Fund, Victory Institute, Workplace Pride.

In addition to the 12 executive partners, we are collaborating more informally with a number of different international organizations working for and with the community internationally but also regionally, nationally and locally.

# Danish, Nordic, European and Global Support

Our ambitions are high and the support from the Danish politicians and authorities is strong. Meetings with different government ministers (Foreign Affairs, Development and Equality), other ministries and parliamentarians of the Danish Parliament have been taking place and will be followed up on a regular basis. National civil society organizations are involved through consultations and feedback sessions and are represented through the governing board. National sup-

port is also evidenced by Copenhagen 2021's financial support through the Government Finance Act, by the Capital Region, and by a number of municipalities.

Conversations about collaborations with the European Union, Nordic Council, the Council of Europe and the United Nations as well as other international organizations and governments are ongoing.

## Aims and Impact

Copenhagen 2021 aims to welcome a large and diverse group of people from every part of the LGBTI+ acronym, to partake in the Human Rights Forum, discussing inclusion and discrimination. Copenhagen 2021 wants to create awareness and change and focus points are essential.

Our **core aims** are a universal decriminalization of same-sex relationships by 2030, a worldwide ban on conversion therapy and protection against bodily and psychological harm are the main goals we want to see addressed in 2021 and beyond by governments, politicians, activists, media and all other attendees.

As of July 2020, **72 jurisdictions criminalize private, consensual sexual activity between**

**adults of the same sex.** All 72 criminalize men and 44 criminalize women. **Eleven jurisdictions can or do impose the death penalty for same-sex activity.** Furthermore, **15 jurisdictions criminalize the gender identity and/or expression of transgender people.**

In some parts of the world we see a decline of the rights of the community and all these jurisdictions need to be confronted.<sup>1</sup>

**Conversion therapy** exists out of a range of **dangerous practices that falsely claim to change a person's sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.** These practices have been **rejected by every mainstream medical and mental health organization,** including the World Health Organization, for decades, but because of continuing discrimination against LGBTI+ people, some

<sup>1</sup> See for a detailed map the website of our executive partner Human Dignity Trust: <https://www.humandignitytrust.org/lgbt-the-law/map-of-criminalisation/>

'practitioners' continue to conduct conversion therapy. **Young people** are especially vulnerable, and conversion therapy can lead to a **multitude of mental and physical health problems, homelessness, self-harm and suicidal ideation**. As a world community, we have to fight and call for an end to these harmful practices.

Furthermore, the **killings of, and violence against the LGBTI+ community** needs to be highlighted. The community is entitled to equal protection from bodily and psychological harm. **The community is not asking for any exceptions, the community is merely asking for the same rights as any other person enjoys.**

For Copenhagen 2021, it is of importance to pay extra attention to **minorities and intersectionality within our community.**

We cannot talk about inclusion if we do not make space for different voices to be heard when discussions shaping human rights take place. We identified a number of intersectional communities that will be given extra space and attention during Copenhagen 2021. These intersectional community spaces will be work groups and focus groups comprising members from these communities. The intersectional communities highlighted below will have an extra focus during Copenhagen 2021.

We also want to highlight the importance of interregional collaborations. Many organizations, parliamentarians and governments are working on improving the situation of the LGBTI+ community. We often have a common agenda and we have to show unity in order to move forward in an ever-changing world. We collaborate with different organi-

- 1. Refugees** are a minority often overlooked and marginalized by governments dealing with the influx of foreign citizens or stateless persons. We will bring the topic of forced displacement and the refugee situation into the spotlight and discuss it during the forum at large ending the five days of events with the Refugees, Borders and Immigration Summit.
- 2. People of colour** have been marginalized and oppressed for centuries through colonialization, discrimination and violence. In recognition of the fact that the rights of people of colour are human rights and the intersection of the needs of this population with forced to adhere to the masses those of the LGBTI+ community, we will create a dedicated space in 2021. The global reaction to the death of George Floyd, Tony McCabe and others has shed a long overdue light on the challenges facing this population.
- 3. Indigenous people** can be found on every continent and have been marginalized and forced to assimilate. We want to bring together a group of indigenous people creating spaces to talk about their cultures, heritages and possible similarities.
- 4. Young people's** voices are the voices of the future. They are breaking down institutions and rebuilding the world for their future. Young people will have an important place during 2021, and their voice needs to be heard and taken into account.
- 5. Older people's** voices are the voices of those that paved our way through fight and struggle. We cannot forget their needs and voices during the discussions in 2021.
- 6. People with disabilities** are present in every community and should be visible and celebrated. Events need to be assessable and their needs will be discussed.



zations to work on content and agenda setting for the Human Rights Forum and deliver a thorough follow-up to maximize impact and sustainability. Parliamentarians will have an essential role in different events, and their role for change will be a point of focus in 2021.

Inclusion in sport and the Pride movement will have a special place during Copenhagen 2021. It is the first time in history that the EuroGames and WorldPride are being held at the same time. We want to show that Pride is not merely a celebration, it is a human rights movement that, for the past five decades, has brought together hundreds of millions of people; these people and their requests cannot be ignored. Copenhagen 2021 will focus on exploring and establishing the parallels and convergence of the Pride movement and universal human rights. Many community members experience discrimination and exclusion in the area of sports, and so we need to discuss the need for more and better policies and programs to include our community in sports.

At a European level we will focus on backlashes in Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria, amongst other European Union countries. Furthermore, as the enlargement of the European Union is imminent, we need to stay critical and push for more accountability and change in candidate and accession states. On a broader scale we see the difficult situation of our community in for example Turkey, Russia and other countries of the European Union Eastern Partnership.

## Contact:

Please, direct your questions regarding the program to the Human Rights team, using the email address:

[humanrights@copenhagen2021.com](mailto:humanrights@copenhagen2021.com)



# Event descriptions

# Human Rights Forum

## Opening

**Date & time:** Monday 16 August 2021, afternoon event

**Venue:** UN City, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** 250

In 2015, the **United Nations** launched a set of global goals to end poverty and inequality by 2030. The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, were ratified by **193 governments** on the basis that **they apply to everyone, everywhere and that they will 'leave no one behind'**. Equality groups strongly pushed for the rights and needs of lesbian, gay, bi, trans and inter-sex individuals to be taken into account. **Six years later** we meet at Copenhagen 2021 to evaluate the progress, discuss challenges and opportunities, and suggest a way forward that advances the rights of LGBTI+ people through the global SDG framework.

**// The widespread violence, discrimination and exclusion faced by LGBTI+ people and their families constitute serious human rights violations and impede efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and their promise of leaving no one behind. UNFPA is committed to addressing the specific needs of LGBTI+ people. Around the world, we support health, comprehensive sexuality education and advocacy initiatives that help marginalized communities and lift up young people, including the LGBTI+ youth often left behind.**

– Dr Natalia Kanem,  
Executive Director of UNFPA  
the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency



The opening event is organized in collaboration with **UNFPA**, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, and coordinated with other UN entities. It will be a public event at the iconic star-shaped UN City at the harbor front, but also streamed online to a broader audience.

## Program Outline

Participants to the opening event will be welcomed to an inspiring fair with exhibitions, information stands and an international cultural program.

**The Human Rights Forum** will commence with official opening speeches from **HRH Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, Minister for Development Cooperation**, Rasmus Prehn and **UNFPA Executive Director**, Dr. Natalia Kanem.

The discussions that follow will take as a starting point the real-life dilemmas faced by the LGBTI+ community in obtaining basic human rights, putting a focus on challenges in reaching the goal of 'leaving no one behind' of the Sustainable Development Goals. Three dilemma dialogues will take place between activists, experts, UN entities and civil society based on different SDGs.

The day will be summarized by the **Independent Expert on the protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity**, Victor Madrigal-Borloz.

## Objectives:

1. Giving an overview of what has been done so far across the different SDGs with an LGBTI+ focus.
2. Present ongoing SDG work and achievements.
3. Identify current LGBTI+ situations and challenges to reach the SDGs, including the disproportionate impact of COVID19 on LGBTI+ groups, and present solutions.
4. Suggest a way forward for global implementation of the SDGs that secures the inclusion of LGBTI+ people.



# Human Rights Conference

**Date & time:** Tuesday 17 August – Thursday 19 August 2021

**Venue:** Øksnehallen, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** 1200 – 2000 participants

The Human Rights Conference will be the most significant LGBTI+ conference in 2021. The conference is open for human rights defenders and activists, elected officials, academics, NGOs, media, Pride organizers and sports leaders in the field of LGBTI+ rights, and anybody else interested in the more in-depth LGBTI+ cause. Our goal is to include all representations under the LGBTI+-acronym in the program and to be highly aware of intersectionality in our planning. This includes representation in relation to geography, racialization, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, gender identity, gender expression, sexuality, religion and appearance. The Human Rights Conference is organized in close cooperation with our 12 executive partners.



African born LGBTI+ activist and community member **Omayra Issa** will be the host of the Human Rights Conference. Omayra Issa is a bilingual (French and English) journalist and TV host with experience working across a wide range of media platforms. Based in Saskatoon, she works for Canada's public broadcaster, Radio-Canada/CBC, where she is currently leading a national initiative on diversity and inclusion. In 2019 she was named one of Canada's top 100 Black Women to watch and was nominated for a YWCA Women of Distinction Award.

## Program Outline

Over the course of three full days, starting with a **high-level plenary day** with space for up to **2000 participants**, followed by **two days of breakout sessions and self-organized spaces** with place for between **800 – 1200 participants**, we aim to program an inclusive and relevant conference following the 10 topics.

## The plenary sessions will cover the following discussions:

- Decriminalization by 2030
- Parliamentary cooperation
- Conversion therapy
- Sports and inclusion
- Forced displacement
- Interregional collaborations
- Different intersectional and minority statements

For the plenary sessions we expect **prominent activists and other known speakers** to take the stage and discuss the topics in diverse and dynamic formations.



### Speakers that already confirmed their presence include:

- HRH Crown Princess Mary of Denmark
- Danish Prime Minister, Mette Frederiksen
- Director of the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency, Michael O'Flaherty
- UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Victor Madrigal-Borloz
- OAS Rapporteur on the Rights of LGBTI Persons, Commissioner Flavia Piovesan
- LGBTI+ activist and former Vice-President of the European Parliament, Ulrike Lunacek
- Professor on Gender Studies, Jack Halberstam

There will also be a high-level representation from the Nordic region, and we are aiming for a broad international presence on both activist as well as government level. The Plenary Day will welcome up to 200 sports leaders, taking part in a Sports Leader Conference organized for the EuroGames 2021, an integral part of Copenhagen 2021.

### Objectives:

1. Creating a space to have in-depth discussions about different topics amongst people with a special interest in LGBTI+ inclusion.
2. Facilitating high level discussions focused on globally relevant topics.
3. Enabling executive partners to showcase and discuss their work and disseminate knowledge to participants.
4. Arrange spaces for intersectional minorities within our community to convene and discuss their status, needs and opportunities.

For the two **break-out** days, we expect around **75 hours of sessions**, existing out of workshops, debates, panels, talks, round tables and discussions proposed through an **open call for sessions** assessed by a professional selection committee. We will also look into the possibility to set up **live streaming** for certain sessions, depending on safety considerations. We will strive to set up well-balanced panels with clear objectives and a diverse representation. We will also work with moderators. It is of importance to Copenhagen 2021 to **engage the attendees** through for example live-polling and storytelling and questions through social media. During the afternoon breaks, break-out session rooms can be used as **caucus rooms**, where intersectional groups in our community can collaborate together. The afternoon breaks also give an opportunity for the participants to visit the 1:1 Democracy Festival where a special **cultural program** will be curated.

**The conference will end with a structured closing session with the possibility to receive feedback.**

The conference will use the Danish tradition by appointing two Ombudspersons who are trained in dialogue and conflict de-escalation to deal directly and swiftly with any disagreements, incidents of disrespect, or other discomfort experienced by participants to hopefully clear up misunderstandings and resolve potential conflicts before they become more serious.



# Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly

**Date & time:** Friday 20 August 2021

**Venue:** Christiansborg Palace, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** 220 elected officials

One day after the Copenhagen 2021 Human Rights Conference, up to 220 elected officials from all over the world will be invited to gather for an LGBTI+ Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly (IPA) at Christiansborg Palace, the seat of the Danish Parliament. We will invite a diverse group of elected officials from different parties, regions, backgrounds and beliefs, to make this event an impactful networking and learning experience.

It is the goal of Copenhagen 2021 to establish a legacy by organizing a political plenary assembly in coordination with the host of WorldPride 2023, Sydney, Australia, after the example of WorldPride 2017 in Madrid, Spain.

We work together closely with our executive partners, the European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Parliamentarians for Global Action and the Victory Institute. This event is coordinated with the support of different other organizations and structures working with LGBTI+ parliamentarians and allies.

Together, we aim to put together an ambitious program including elected officials and speakers coming from all over the world, including challenging regions. In practice that means that we aim for a participation from the Global South and Eastern Europe of at least 20%, discussing topics relevant to all.

It is important to Copenhagen 2021 to involve a broad coalition of Danish parliamentarians from different political ideologies in the preparations of the IPA. Some of these have a personal connection with the community, others have worked for the advancement of LGBTI+ rights. The following parliamentarians, all former ministers, are the official inviting presidium of the Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly.

<b>Henrik Dam Kristensen</b>	Speaker	Socialdemokratiet
<b>Pia Olsen Dyhr</b>	Party Leader	Socialistisk Folkeparti
<b>Søren Pape Poulsen</b>	Party Leader	Det Konservative Folkeparti
<b>Uffe Elbæk</b>	Parliamentarian	Green Independent
<b>Ellen Trane Nørby</b>	Parliamentarian	Venstre

The event is officially supported by the following European Union Parliamentarians, representing Denmark at the European Union level.

<b>Karen Melchior</b>	MEP	RE	Radikale Venstre
<b>Marianne Vind</b>	MEP	S&D	Socialdemokratiet
<b>Kira Marie Peter-Hansen</b>	MEP	G/EFA	Socialistisk Folkeparti
<b>Pernille Weiss</b>	MEP	EPP	Det Konservative Folkeparti
<b>Nikolaj Villumsen</b>	MEP	GUE/NGL	Enhedslisten

### Program Outline:

The morning will be opened by a number of **official speakers**, including HRH Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, and the Speaker of the Danish Parliament, Henrik Dam Kristensen and Minister of Equality of Denmark, Mogens Jensen. Ulrike Lunacek, political activist and former Vice-President of the European Parliament will be the Master of Ceremonies.

The United Nations Independent Expert on the protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, Victor Madrigal-Borloz, will lead the first **interactive dialogue on the role of elected officials to create change through**

**cooperation on an international level**, followed by statements from elected officials from different regions in the world.

The morning session will end with an official group photo and lunch with sufficient time for networking with other elected officials.

The afternoon will start with two rounds of **break out sessions** in different rooms at Christiansborg Palace. During these sessions, organized in close collaboration with the executive partners, smaller groups of elected officials will discuss the challenges of the community and their work.

After these afternoon sessions we will continue the day with a high-level speaker followed by the presentation and adoption of the **Øresund Declaration**, ending the day with **closing remarks** from different continents.

In the late afternoon, the parliament will host a **private reception** for the invitees to the Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly and guests.

To the extent that **safety considerations** allow it, Copenhagen 2021's media partners will get the opportunity to conduct interviews and film elements of the Interparliamentary Plenary Assembly. There will be designated areas for elected officials that do not wish to engage in media coverage.

**Copenhagen 2021 aims to facilitate a global and diverse representation.** Together with our executive partners and supporting organizations, we are looking to **facilitating the presence of a group of elected officials from countries with limited rights for the community that have limited resources to attend LGBTI+ inclusion events.**

We are motivating all invited elected officials to take advantage of their presence through active participation during other events taking place during Copenhagen 2021, including the Human Rights Conference, the 1:1 Democracy Festival and the WorldPride Parade.

## Objectives:

1. Facilitating an opportunity for elected officials to share best practices and learn about methods to advance the right of the LGBTI+ community nationally and internationally.
2. Giving an opportunity to elected officials to connect and build a larger network.
3. Strengthening the efforts of organizations to build strong parliamentary networks.

# LGBTI+

## Refugees, Borders and Immigration Summit

**Date & time:** Friday 20 August, 2021

**Venue:** Malmö, Sweden

**Participants:** 250 – 500

The **Summit on Refugees, Borders and Immigration** will take place in the city of Malmö, Sweden. Malmö can be reached taking a short 25-minute train over one of Europe's most famous bridges, the **Øresund Bridge** which is connecting Denmark and Sweden. The theme of the Summit falls within the topic **Borders, Decolonialization and Racism**, one of the 10 topics of the Human Rights Forum, described in the executive summary to this concept note.

Malmö is **home to 184 nationalities** that create the **diverse and international DNA** of the city. Copenhagen 2021 and **Malmö Pride** decided to organize the Summit in Malmö because of its **long history of immigration and resettlement**, which bring with it both challenges and opportunities. When **World War II** ended, the Swedish Red Cross and the Danish government drove survivors from concentration camps through Denmark to Malmö in the well-known white buses. Survivors of the holocaust found refuge in the 15th century castle Malmöhus. Furthermore, numerous people fled the former Yugoslavia during the last **Balkan Wars** and found their new home in Sweden. In the last decade, thousands of **Syrian people** had to flee their home country because of war, and many relocated to Sweden. Most people arrived in Malmö where, with great effort, civil society

worked together with authorities and other organizations helping refugees to resettle.

Although the Summit is taking place in Malmö, the **focus of the event itself is international and will target transnational situations**. In close cooperation with executive partners **Rainbow Railroad, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch** with the strong support of regional organizations working with the LGBTI+ refugee community, **we are aiming for an inclusive event, covering contemporary situations and discussions**. We aim for a diverse range of speakers and participants existing out of individuals with lived experiences (mainly refugees), activists, elected officials from different parts of the world, government ministers from the Nordic region and officials from international organizations.

Immigration is a subject which generates significant public debate all over the world, including in Denmark and Sweden. These discussions are often seen as separate from discussions about LGBTI+ inclusion. **LGBTI+ immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees are often marginalized in discussions about the challenges facing the LGBTI+ community**. Dedicating a full day to the topic will create space for in-depth exchanges and discussions.

## Program Outline

**In the morning**, an opening program open to a broader, pre-registered public. This part of the program will bring the topic to a wider public, and give an overview of challenges and situations, with different high-level speakers, following up on discussions taking place in other events during Copenhagen 2021.

**In the late morning and afternoon** there will be different discussions and panels, organized for and by the refugee community, open to professionals, activists and people who are or who have been refugees. The exact set-up will be determined in the months

to come, with the close involvement of the executive partners. As part of the afternoon program, there will be facilitated exchanges between NGOs, individual activists, lawyers and legal-aid workers in the immigration field and others working in both origin countries and typically asylum-providing countries, creating a platform to share experiences and forming networks and alliances across borders.

It is of great importance to enable online presence for participants that cannot travel to Malmö in person. This will strengthen the inclusion and diversity of the summit.



In conversation with the executive partners, the following six **tentative focus points** have been identified.

- **The assessment of vulnerability and hierarchy of oppression through which LGBTI+ asylum seekers' requests are either legitimized or dismissed.** A discussion on the shortcomings of the UN asylum mechanisms.
- **Aid and special support for transgender and intersex people after resettlement.** How can countries support intersex and transgender refugees mentally and physically?
- **The problematic notion of 'safe countries' through which LGBTI+ asylum seekers are denied refuge.** This notion overlooks the subjective intersection of socioeconomic and political positionality for each individual and their subsequent marginalization, even in countries considered 'safe'.
- **Governments' aid programs, evident most recently in the COVID19 pandemic, which have overlooked refugees and asylum seekers, including LGBTI+ people who had escaped persecution in their countries of origin.**
- **Integration of LGBTI+ asylum seekers and migrants/refugees in host countries.** What does it look like? In which countries are rights respected and which countries further alienate LGBTI+ people?
- **Discrimination in employment and access to livelihood (socio-economic rights) for LGBTI+ asylum seekers and migrants.** How do we collectively work to safeguard access to socioeconomic rights before, during, and beyond resettlement?

## Objectives:

1. Facilitating a space for in-depth discussions about this often-sidelined topic.
2. Creating awareness amongst the larger public regarding intersectional minorities.
3. Generating an opportunity for elected officials and governments to be informed by people with lived experiences.

# 1:1 Democracy Festival

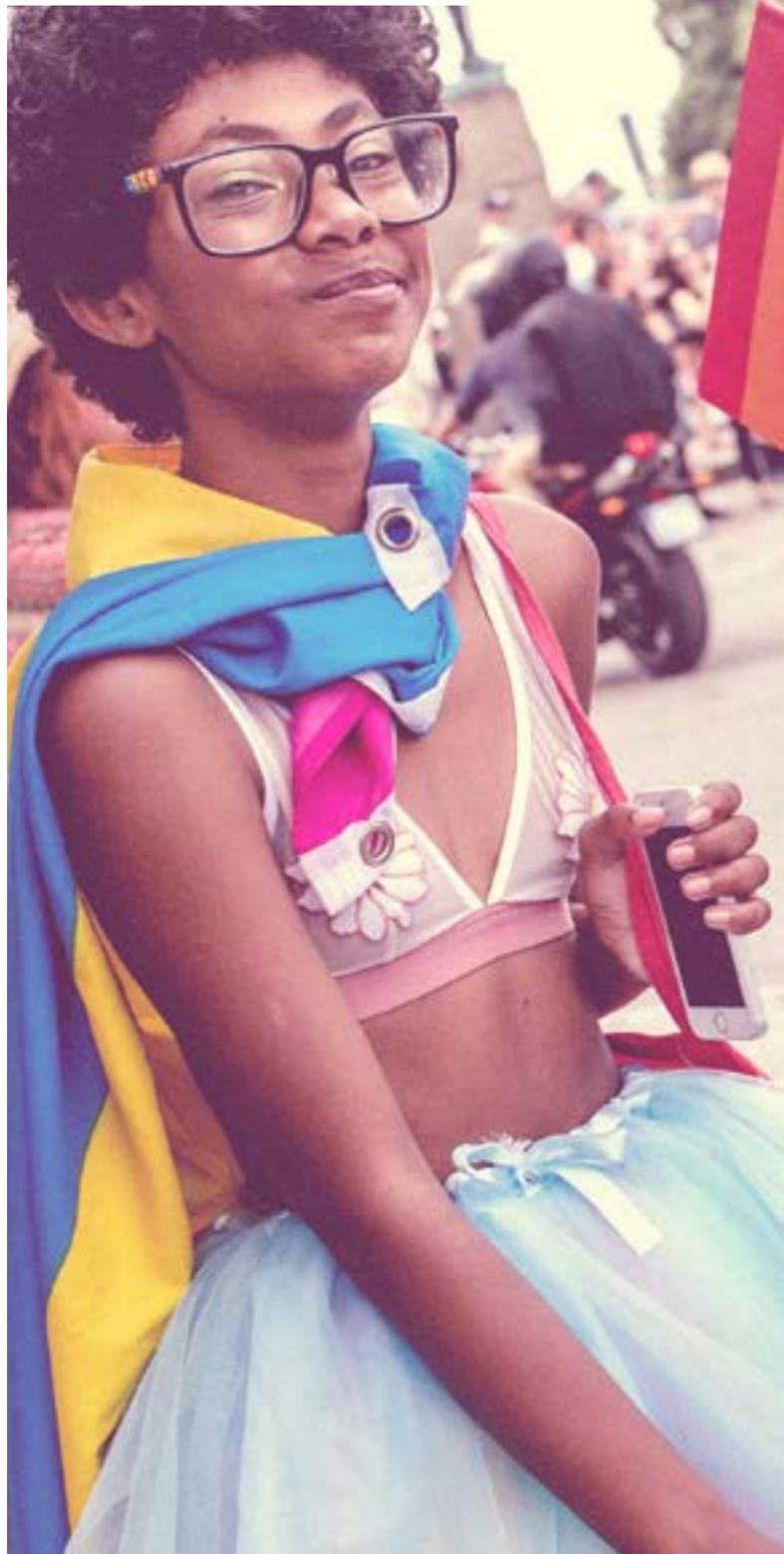
**Date & time:** Monday 16 Friday – 20 August, 2021

**Venue:** Meatpacking District, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Participants:** 25,000

Inspired by the Scandinavian model of 'Folkemødet', the 1:1 Democracy Festival aims to bring together politicians, activists and members of the general public in an informal and open setting to create a space for awareness and an understanding of issues and challenges faced by different (intersectional) minorities around the world. On the square we will discuss LGBTI+ inclusion but will also create spaces for a broader discussion on inclusion and anti-discrimination. We need to collaborate with other minority groups and allies in order to move forward.

Over the five days we expect 25,000 people to visit the square and participate in different ways. There will be special timeslots during which we will attract younger and older people through program elements specifically curated for them. The 1:1 Democracy Festival will give participants to the other events the chance to interact with local and international activists and visitors of the square in a less formal setting. It will thereby provide the space for open discussions about different topics. It will enable the general public to have their voices heard by directly addressing policymakers and give activists a platform to draw the attention of politicians and the public to inclusion related challenges around the globe.



## Program Outline

The 1:1 Democracy Festival will have two main tents for activities in which there will be a broad range of formats ensuring a diverse and inclusive program over the course of five days.

**Panels and discussion** will allow for in-depth discussions that will facilitate dialogue between participants and the audience.

**Seminars and workshops** will enable active learning and understanding about community experiences and thereby enhance awareness about LGBTI+ related challenges.

**Civil Society Fair** with tents for organizations working with minorities to present themselves and get into dialogue with visitors.

**A rally stage** with the possibility to give speeches and express sentiments.

**Dialogue meetings** will strengthen bonds and mutual understandings across minorities and communities.

**Performances and cultural events** will show different perspectives on the concept of human rights and allow for reflections on how activism and culture can be used as a means to generate global equality across minorities.

**A small number of sponsors** will showcase best practices regarding inclusion and will debate corporate presence, challenges and opportunities.

## Objectives:

1. Facilitating a space for informal discussions on LGBT+ and human rights related issues.
2. Enabling both policy makers, industry representatives, activists and civil society organizations to have both set and open discussions with the possibility to include the audience and creating a dialogue across all layers of society.
3. Creating awareness amongst the larger public regarding a broad spectrum of different topics within human rights.



# Outreach & People



# Outreach Program

The Outreach Program is an essential part of the Human Rights Forum. This should be tangible both in themes, content, presenters, and participants. Approximately 8% of the budget of Copenhagen 2021 will be dedicated to enabling LGBTI+ people and human rights activists from countries with restrictive legislation, limiting economic conditions

or marginalized communities, to participate in the events. The pool must ensure that approximately a fifth of the conference participants (between 200 – 250) consist of LGBTI+ representatives meeting these prerequisites. We therefore set an ambitious goal for an outreach program, to be awarded as full, half, or quarterly scholarships.

## Scholarships will be awarded in accordance with the following principles:

- A desire to advance the representation and geographical diversity of the forum participants.<sup>2</sup>
- A desire to advance the representation of young activists.
- A desire to advance diversity of the LGBTI+ acronym at the forum.
- A focus on community members that do not identify with the male or female gender.
- Participants who have made a unique and special contribution to the advancement of sexual and gender diversity.



Scholarships are awarded after written applications to the board of Happy Copenhagen.

Scholarships can be granted to cover full or partial expenses for travel, accommodation (including living expense) and registration fees.

The Scholarship Committee may ask grant recipients to perform certain tasks, for example to participate in a discussion panel, as a speaker or to write a text to be published, as a requirement for the scholarship. Nevertheless, in all cases, the safety of the participant in question will be of paramount importance when performing an official role.

<sup>2</sup>Please note that it is less likely that participants from for example Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Western Europe, USA, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Israel are being granted scholarships under this program unless they represent marginalized communities within these geographical areas.



# Visa applications

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs will allocate an employee to help ensure that LGBTI+ persons, human rights activists, and other delegates who for security reasons must travel incognito, or whose ID papers do not correspond to their gender identity, will get visas and be able to come to Denmark. This has a particular significance in relation

to participants from countries with restrictive legislation and for specific groups, such as trans and intersex persons, whose ID papers do not always correspond. This support is important for the success of the outreach program and the possibility to invite a diverse group of people to attend the summit.

# Project Management

## Human Rights Forum

Happy Copenhagen's Administration is responsible for the execution of the events taking place during Copenhagen 2021, closely collaborating with Malmö Pride. Aron le Fèvre is Director of Human Rights and is heading the Human Rights team in Copenhagen and Malmö working on the human rights program and a Governing Board and International Advisory Board. Below you will find more information about the individuals organising the program.



### Aron le Fèvre

He | Him | His - Director of Human Rights

Is a passionate and multilingual champion of Human Rights, with experience of international politics and a solid knowledge of the global LGBTI+ and Pride Community. He holds bachelor's degrees in Law and Business Administration from the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands and a double master's degree in Eu-

ropean and International law from the KU Leuven, Belgium and Universität Zürich, Switzerland. Working in international affairs, politics and law on five continents equipped him with a worldwide vision and made him confident in new and foreign environments.



### Lars Henriksen

He | Him | His - Political Liaison

Has been part of Copenhagen Pride since 2006 and is the chairperson since 2013. He has participated in international LGBTI+ advocacy work through the European Pride Organisers Association and InterPride and has been actively participating in prides around the world. Lars has a broad background in advo-

cacy, teaching and political advocacy as well as the arts. Lars has been one of the key figures getting WorldPride to Copenhagen and is using his network in the Danish political spectrum to engage politicians and parliamentarians to be actively visible and participating during and leading up to 2021.



## Søren Christensen

He | Him | His – Human Rights Officer

Holds an M.A. in Cross Cultural Studies with a background in Religious Studies. Through his academic work he specialized in social identity and cultural differences, with a focus on intersectionality and power structures in Western society. His thesis investigated perspectives of happiness and shame in late modern so-

ciety and different discourses of diversity in the engagement between the private sector and Pride Movements. He has previously done work on religions unity and diversity in Nepal and Sri Lanka and collaborated with Action Aid Denmark on creating a refugee welcoming program.



## Anna Tenfält

She | Her | Hers – Project Manager Malmö Pride

An advocate for human rights, inclusion and indigenous rights. Anna has a bachelor's degree in leadership and organization as well as Music & Event management from the Linné University in Sweden and has a background in festival management. As a manager for artists/bands she brings knowledge about the

event- and music industry. She is also the founder and owner of the artist management company T Management. Anna has close to 20 years of working experience in the music and event industry. For the Human Rights Forum, she is coproducing the Refugee, Borders and Immigration Summit.



## Micaela Ibis Kallaris

She | Her | Hers – Producer Malmö Pride

Is following a Bachelor of Leadership and Organizational studies at Malmö University. She is one of the founders of the Swedish branch of LesWorking, an organization working towards lesbian visibility by creating an international network through conferences, lectures and mingles. Micaela has been a part

of the Malmö Pride for the past four years, working with Pride House. Her work mainly focuses on developing and producing a safe educational space for the LGBTI+ community by hosting events as a part of the Malmö Pride program and is working on the Refugee, Borders and Immigration Summit.



## João Nuno Mendes

He | Him | His – Project Assistant Human Rights

Holds an M.Sc. in Innovation and Business Development from Aarhus Universitet, Denmark. Besides his experience in organizing large events within a focus on tackling some of the social, cultural, and educational issues in the world, he brings to the team his communication skills which will be valuable in partnering

with organizations and/or activists in the Lusophone and Spanish speaking countries. He is very eager to contribute with his knowledge on a variety of projects, as long as they are purpose driven. Moreover, he has a genuine interest in the LGBTI+ community and he strives to bring equal rights to all citizens.

# The Governing Board

The Governing Board is the voluntary executive board and consists of different people coming from different parts of the Danish and Swedish civil society and meets around eight times a year with the Director of Human Rights and are regularly asked to deliver input on different parts of the program inside meetings and consultations.

## The board is tasked with:

- Co-planning for Human Rights events.
- Appointing Advisory board.
- Identifying speakers.
- Promoting the conference.
- Co-creating and disseminating calls for content.
- Co-selecting speakers and interventions for the conference.

## The following people will be part of the governing board:

### Amir Ashour

#### He | Him | His

Amir Ashour is a Human Rights defender with 10 years of experience working with Iraqi and international organisations. He is the founder and executive director of IraQueer, Iraq's first and only LGBTI+ organisation which focuses on education and advocacy for LGBTI+ Iraqis. He has a Masters degree in Human Rights from Columbia University. He was an honouree at the QX Gay Gala in Sweden and has been nominated to other awards including the Raoul Wallenberg Academy Prize and The David Kato Voice and Vision Award.

### Susanne Branner Jespersen

#### She | Her | Hers

Holds an M.A. in Anthropology, and a Masters degree in Conflict Resolution and Mediation. Throughout her career, she has sought the realization of projects addressing social injustice. Since 2011, she has worked intensely within the global LGBTI+ movement by starting up the international work of LGBT+ Denmark, fundraising and implementing programs in North and East Africa and lobbying the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a more inclusive LGBTI+ policy and practice. She works at the Danish Centre for Conflict Resolution and works as the director of LGBT+ Denmark.

### Ida Damgaard

#### They | Them | Theirs

Queer activist whose main focus is on gender diversity and abolishing cis normativity. They also have intersectionality and representation as focus points, particularly in their work with Copenhagen Pride's Human Rights programme which this year has a 100+ events. Board member of Copenhagen Pride.

### Jannick Friis Christensen

#### He | Him | His

Postdoctoral Researcher at Copenhagen Business School and Theme Lead for Gender and Sexuality in the CBS Diversity and Difference Business in Society Platform. Focusing on norm-critical approaches to organising and researching diversity, Jannick has in recent years studied conventional work organisations from queer perspectives in collaboration with Danish labour unions. He also engages with alternative organisations, for example Roskilde Festival, where he explores the phenomenon of transgressive behaviour, as well as practices for creating diverse and inclusive volunteer communities. His current project investigates pride parades as a public ritual and socially integrative civil religion.

## **Martin Iversen Christensen**

### **He | Him | His**

Has been working with international LGBTI+-issue for almost 20 years. From 2006 – 2016 he was co-chair of ILGA-Europe and from 2012 – 2018 European Representative to the board of ILGA World. Has also served on the GLISA Board and was involved in organising the international Human Rights Conferences of World OutGames in Copenhagen in 2009 and Antwerp in 2013. Now he is an international Spokesperson for the Danish organisation LGBT Komiteen.

## **Helle Jacobsen**

### **She | Her | Hers**

Is Program Manager for Gender at Amnesty International, Denmark. She has been doing international research trans and intersex rights as well as other gender related topics as well as co-authored several international Amnesty reports. She has worked on LGBTI+ rights in the Baltic Countries, The Balkans, Denmark and East Africa.

## **Steffen Jensen**

### **He | Him | His**

Has been LGBTI+ activist in Denmark since 1980 and internationally since 1986 – mainly in ILGAs European chapter until 1996 and then in ILGA-Europe, where he served as a board member and treasurer 1996 – 2000. He was part of the planning of World Outgames in Copenhagen in 2009 and have taken part in all World Outgames Conferences (Montreal, Copenhagen, Antwerp and Miami) – and in 40+ ILGA Conferences. He has been working as head of division in the Danish Ministry of Education, retired some years ago and is now a private consultant.

## **Nico Miskow Friborg**

### **They | Them | Theirs**

Has been involved in queer and trans activism and organizing for about 10 years and is co-founder of TransAktion – an organization for and by trans people that with an intersectional and depathologizing approach does counseling, support groups, community-building, activism and policy work. Nico recently started as a PhD candidate at the Centre for Gender Studies at UiS where they will be doing community-based research on trans and queer activism in Denmark from 1990 until present day.

## **Sara Louise Muhr**

### **She | Her | Hers**

Is Professor at the Copenhagen Business School. She is also Academic Director of the CBS Business in Society Platform 'Diversity and Difference'. Her research focuses on critical perspectives on management and organisation, especially in relation to issues around diversity.

## **Fahad Saeed**

### **He | Him | His**

Fahad is the co-founder of Sabaah, Denmark's only organization for ethnic minority LGBT+ persons. For the last 14 years he has been advocating intersectional perspectives, and bridged the gaps between mainstream society and marginalized communities addressing homophobia and racism. As a community leader, he has played a major role in changing attitudes and raising awareness about the conditions of ethnic minority LGBT+ persons in Denmark. He is a TEDX-speaker, and holds a master's in communications. He has worked as a communications officer in The Danish Center for Conflict Resolution, and as Chief of Projects in Mino Danmark as well as a short experience with the European Parliament as assistant to MEP Karen Melchior.

# The International Advisory Board

The International Advisory Board has been appointed with care to represent not only the different regions in the world, but also the different parts of our diverse community and is tasked with the following responsibilities:

- To qualify the contents of the Forum and by lending their name and credentials, to ensure the professionalism, quality and impact of the forum.
- To identify speakers and activists for the conference and activate their network to make the summit a success.
- Co-selection of workshops.
- To participate in and promote the Forum.
- To be actively present during the Forum.

## The IAB exists out of the following people:

<b>Kitty Anderson</b>	Iceland	Co-Chair OII Europe
<b>Luz Elena Arroyo</b>	Mexico	Co-Secretary General of ILGA World
<b>Tuisina Ymania Brown</b>	Samoa/Australia	Co-Secretary General of ILGA World
<b>Hadi Damien</b>	Lebanon	Organizer Beirut Pride
<b>James Felton Keith</b>	USA	Running for election to the U.S. House
<b>Kristine Garina</b>	Latvia	President EPOA / Chair Mozaika
<b>Carlos Idibouo</b>	Ivory Coast	Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Activist
<b>Kevin Haunui</b>	New Zealand	LGBTQ Community Leader
<b>Deepak Kashyap</b>	India	LGBTQ Activist and Mental Health Expert
<b>Doug Kerr</b>	Canada	Director, Dignity Network Canada
<b>Ulrike Lunacek</b>	Austria	Politician and Activist
<b>Chrissy Taylor</b>	Canada	Trans/Non-Binary, healthcare worker
<b>Welton Trindade</b>	Brazil	Organizer Pride Brasília Orgulho
<b>Ripley Wang</b>	China	LGBTI+ Activist

# 1:1 Democracy Festival Human Rights Focus Group

Jax Jakshøj	Copenhagen Pride	Head of Human Rights
Cecilie Fryland Appeldorff	Copenhagen Pride	
Line Kristensen	Copenhagen Pride	
Silas Christensen	Copenhagen Pride	
Katrine Raaby	Copenhagen Pride	

