2022 ANNUAL REPORT





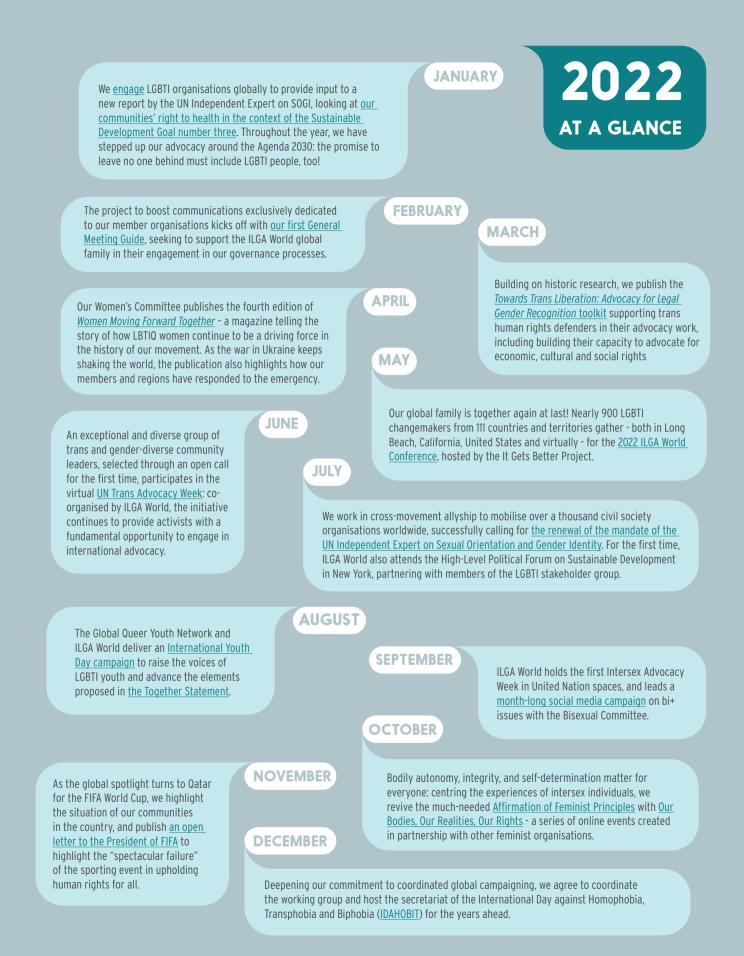
ILGA World is grateful for the support of its member organisations, staff, interns, consultants, Board and Committee members who work tirelessly to make everything we do possible.

A heartfelt shout-out and thank you goes to all the human rights defenders around the world for the time and energy they commit to advancing equality, equity, recognition and protection for persons with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, and sex characteristics everywhere.

Our deepest thanks to those who have committed to financially making our work possible in 2022.



We also thank 3 significant anonymous donors and many other companies. Over 350 individuals made donations in 2022, with an average donation of over 100 CHF, including over 30 donors who donated monthly or quarterly. ILGA World could not provide vital support and programming to the global LGBTI movement without the support of donations from individuals like you. Please consider donating to our efforts at ilga.org/donate



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reetings, esteemed member organisations, friends and valued allies,

We are honoured to share the ILGA World 2022 Annual Report summarising an extraordinary year of remarkable recent achievements, highlighting what we can accomplish when we stand together, and dedicated to uplifting and amplifying the voices of LGBTI human rights defenders worldwide, from the grassroots up to the United Nations.

Let us pause for a moment to reflect on the sheer magnitude of our journey throughout 2022. In the face of both triumphs and trials, we stood unwaveringly alongside our communities everywhere, weathering unexpected outbreaks and the lingering aftermath of a pandemic that seems to have left the world scarred by inequality and division.

True: the path towards the new normal we envisioned often resembled the roads we have travelled before. In many aspects, the new normal that we were hoping for looked a lot like the past.

Civilians bore the weight of escalating conflicts and the upheaval of power transitions, while our communities - who have already been subjected to discrimination in their daily lives - found themselves facing even graver risks and injustices.

The attacks against our LGBTI communities have become more relentless. Old prejudices resurfaced in all their violence. Our human rights work became even heavier. And yet, despite the pushback, 2022 gave us many reasons to rejoice!

Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Antigua and Barbuda decisively decriminalised consensual samesex sexual activity, followed by Singapore in the first days of 2023. Canada, France, Greece, Israel, Viet Nam, and New Zealand championed the banning or regulating 'conversion therapy'. Greece and Kenya took significant strides in curbing harmful interventions on intersex children. In groundbreaking decisions, a UN committee recognised that the criminalisation of consensual same-sex sexual acts between women violates States' obligations towards them. For the first time, another UN committee referenced the ICD-11 (which declassified trans identities as a mental disorder) in its recommendations made to Mongolia concerning trans persons. Moreover, the mandate of the Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation

and Gender Identity was resoundingly renewed for three more years at the United Nations, with resolute support by States and civil society alike.

However, as every movement striving for human rights knows all too well, progress remains perpetually vulnerable to reversal. In these pivotal moments, when anti-rights forces emerge with audacity, the power of solidarity and unity across movements becomes ever more essential. When we come together, as feminist and LGBTI movements have always done, there is no turning back. In times of violent opposition, we need each other to find ways forward together. None of us can be left behind.

In 2022, our global family convened in Long Beach, CA, United States, to commemorate our 30th World Conference. It was a momentous occasion where we fostered fresh avenues of advocacy, shared our inspiring narratives, and empowered our communities. We will long cherish the hugs and the conversations had during this ILGA World Conference: after more than three years of isolation, they have been pure energy for our activism.

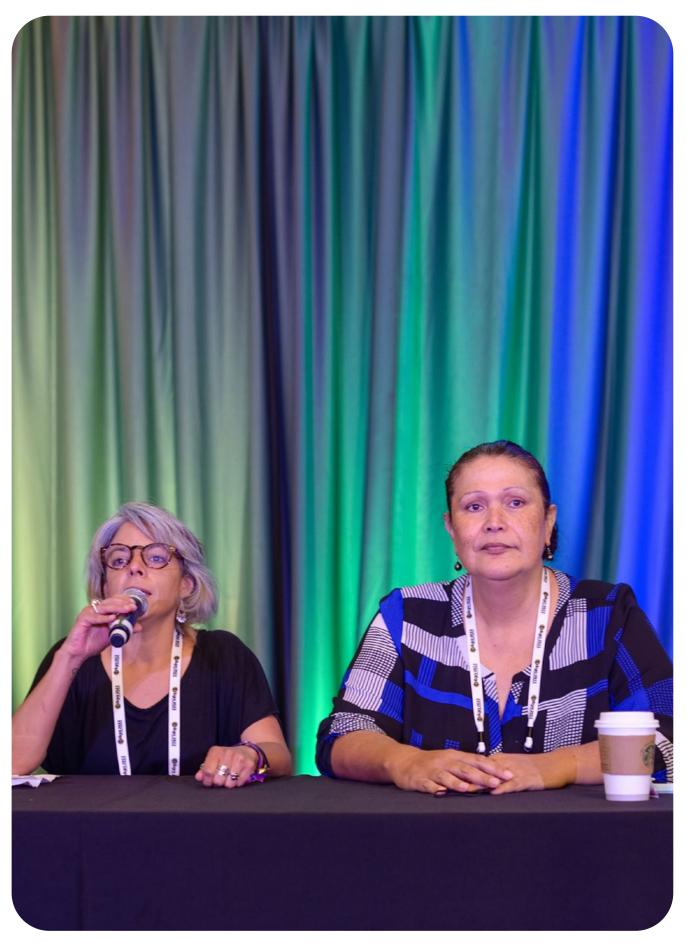
At the Conference, we were deeply honoured to be re-elected as Co-Secretaries General for one final term. As a testament to our unwavering commitment, a bisexual woman and a trans woman of colour from the Global South are again steering the helm of a diverse family of hundreds of incredible organisations from across the world.

To all of you, our esteemed members: we extend our boundless gratitude for your unwavering dedication: we cannot thank you enough for what you do.

For speaking out even when your safety is on the line. For providing a lifeline to our communities. For showing the world that diversity is beautiful and worthy of respect. Your existence fills us with hope and gratitude. ILGA World will continue to be there for you, always.

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Luz Elena Aranda - Tuisina Ymania Brown Co-Secretaries General



World Conference in a time of global travel restrictions. The renewal of a United Nations mandate. Facing antigender and anti-trans narratives as they increasingly take up space.

Navigating all of the above, interwoven with the evershifting landscape of a pandemic, was certainly no small feat for ILGA World. And yet, 2022 was another landmark year in the history of our organisation: grounded in our mission to advance equality worldwide, we stood alongside our incredible member organisations, celebrating positive change and resisting setbacks.

The experience of the 2022 World Conference was inevitably shaped by the beginning of the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. The organisation took a considerable risk when deciding in late 2021 to go ahead with the planning of our World Conference for May 2022, and organising this global gathering has been very challenging but incredibly rewarding. For months, our movement had longed for in-person interaction, and being together again felt like rain after drought. Almost 900 persons took part in our World Conference, both in person and online: more than 600 of them came together in Long Beach, California, United States, hosted by the It Gets Better Project, where our teams prepared a programme featuring 137 sessions, 17 pre-conferences, a rich cultural programme, and many side events.

The extraordinary energy we mustered at the event propelled our communities worldwide to advocate for the renewal of the UN mandate of the Independent Expert on SOGI. ILGA World and the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) played a vital role in the advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns around the mandate renewal, activating hundreds of civil society organisations from every corner of the world. The mobilisation of our communities worldwide was key to our success: this crucial mandate was renewed for three more years, despite facing fierce hostility from several member States and small – yet highly vocal – online fringes.

2022 as well showed that there is a growing wave of anti-rights movements and discourses. The relentless targeting of LGBTI persons, particularly trans and gender-diverse populations, is rooted in the same increasing pushback against gender equality at large. Arguments based on baseless prejudice are used to revoke advances in protecting our communities from violence and discrimination. We can't help but notice how it is trickling down even into international human rights spaces, trying to pit the rights of some groups against those of others.

The most efficient response to those developments is an agile, adaptable, resilient and well-connected LGBTI movement: one that joins forces with feminist and all human rights movements that recognise the common root causes of our oppressions and move forward together. We do welcome dialogue with everyone, provided it is grounded in evidence and respect of human rights for all.

Throughout the year, our global family got stronger than ever. Our membership has now reached 1,860 organisations from every corner of the world: together with our regions, we continue to work alongside them and provide advocacy and capacity-building opportunities and resources to conduct their work.

ILGA World has continued its strategic, institutional, and financial support to our regions, with both ILGA-Europe and ILGA Asia holding their first in-person conferences since the start of the pandemic towards the end of the year. Our North America & Caribbean region is also seeking a staff person for the first time, tasked with supporting the Board in developing an office structure.

Meanwhile, we continue to grow. By the end of the year, we could count on a staff of 20 people and on a budget that has doubled within the past three years. This growth must be balanced with evolving strategies and structures: ILGA World has begun developing its new strategic plan for 2025 to 2029, and the membership has mandated the Board to review our governance structure to make it more sustainable. However, some things will never change: ILGA World has always been an instrument in the hands of marginalised communities to make their struggle visible - from the grassroots to international fora. This crucial voice of the LGBTI movement is more necessary than ever, and I am honoured to work with our dedicated Board and to lead an outstanding staff team to amplify it. Together we will continue to translate ILGA World's strategic vision into positive impact and lasting change for the communities that we serve.

Julia

Julia Ehrt Executive Director





OUR 2022 WORLD CONFERENCE: REUNITED, AT LAST!

For almost three years, everyone in the big chosen family that is ILGA World was forced apart from one another. And yet we continued to do the work, pushing ourselves to the limit to keep supporting our communities even during a pandemic. But we needed the possibility of sharing the same room with our communities - the hugs, physical connections, and face-to-face dialogue that bring so much joy to our lives.

We could not wait for the opportunity to be reunited and heal together. At ILGA World, we have been incredibly proud to have created such a moment: our 2022 World Conference in Long Beach, CA, United States, has been one of the first occasions in which our global LGBTIQ community could gather together again, share their best energies, and reconnect with fellow human rights defenders from all around the globe. The hugs, the happy tears, and the conversations that started to flow spontaneously again during this ILGA World Conference are all memories that we will treasure for a long time to come. During the Covid-19 pandemic, we had to find new, digital ways to unite our communities. This experience has also inevitably shaped the 2022 World Conference: for the first time, we offered possibilities for digital participation for those who could not be physically present at the event.

And what a success it has been! Held under the theme "LGBTIQ youth: future present change" and hosted by the <u>It Gets Better Project</u>, our global gathering saw the participation of almost 900 people either in-person or through their screens back home. We made a large majority of sessions available also for online participation, and we ensured the safety and well-being of those in Long Beach both through a comprehensive Covid-19 protocol and the presence of a support team.

With 137 sessions in five days – some of them marking an absolute first at ILGA World, such as the pre-conferences addressing family diversity, media representation, research, and the realities of LGBTI people with disabilities – together, we took a deep dive



into our common struggle to power progress for all. For the first time, the experiences and the driving force for change of LGBTIQ youth were front and centre in our global gathering. For the first time in the history of our event, three States' Special Envoys on LGBTIQ human rights were in attendance. Three Special Procedures mandate holders from the United Nations and the Youth Envoy joined the conference, too. In a moment of increased, concerted attacks against our rights, such statements of commitment and solidarity are more important than ever.

2024: RETURNING TO AFRICA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 25 YEARS!

When we unite, something beautiful happens. In Long Beach, our global family also had to choose where to meet next, and decided it was finally time for our World Conference to return to Africa for the first time since 1999. Even competing bidders invited everyone to vote in favour of this proposal! Twenty-five years ago, the conference in Johannesburg marked a pivotal moment for our communities across the continent. and it also made history as it saw one of the first celebrations of Bi Visibility Day at the international level. In 2024, the conference will be hosted by two organisations led by and working for - lesbian, trans, and intersex persons: Iranti and Gender DynamiX. We look forward to meeting you there! Find out more information on worldconference.ilga.org.



AT A GLANCE

891 partecipants

69% joining for the first time

137 sessions **75%** of which made available online

countries and territories represented

articles on media outlets globally about the ILGA World Conference

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

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ILGALAC ALTERNATES



David Aruquipa - Danna Galán Comunidad Diversidad Bolivia

Marlin González Hombres v Muieres Nuevos de Panama Panama

Board members and alternates as of 31 December 2022. Follow this link to access the latest members of the Board.

In 2022, following World and regional conferences, ILGA World said goodbye to various of its Board members and alternates. A big word of thanks for their service to:

Board members:

Rawa Karetai Wood-Bodley (Bisexual Committee Chair); Tony Briffa (Intersex Committee Chair); Jabulani Pereira (Trans Committee Chair); Cristina González Hurtado (Women's Committee Chair); Candy Yun (ILGA Asia co-Chair); Shadi Amin (ILGA Asia co-Chair); Stephen Seaborn (ILGANAC co-Chair); Vanessa Lee Ah-Mat (ILGA Oceania co-Chair).

Board alternates:

ILGA Asia alternates Charbel Maydaa and Ngo Le Phuong Linh; ILGA-Europe alternate Annika Ojala; ILGANAC alternates Winnie Luk and Justin Tindall; ILGA Oceania alternates Miki Wali and Iru Tau

ILGA-EUROPE ALTERNATE



Yves Aerts Cavaria Belaium

ADVOCACY: WITH OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY



There can be no speaking truth to power that isn't rooted in the lived experiences of people on the ground. This is why, year after year, ILGA World continues to make space for grassroots LGBTI activists to raise their voices within global fora – be it at the United Nations, or in sports or business environments, and in any system where our communities belong.

At the core of what we do at ILGA World, international advocacy stands connected to regional and national efforts to affirm the rights of LGBTI people. Throughout 2022, even against the sinister backdrop of anti-rights and anti-gender discourse spreading everywhere, we strengthened our support to grassroots communities with key new projects. Our Global LGBT Decriminalisation by 2030 initiative saw us engaging with movements across the Caribbean and the Pacific regions to better understand how to support their fight to get rid of colonial-era laws that still criminalise consensual same-sex sexual acts. Connecting the local to the global, we keep engaging with both global civil society organisations and State representatives, ensuring that advocating for decriminalisation continues to be rooted in a "do no harm" principle.

Throughout 2022, we continued to assist dozens of grassroots activists and organisations in their engagement with United Nations human rights mechanisms and we strengthened our support to them also once they return home. The crucial recommendations obtained in Geneva must be implemented on the ground to ensure change can happen! This is why we started a national implementation project, supporting civil society organisations to track the recommendations made to countries by UN bodies and providing consultations on how to best move forward.

Although LGBTI people are not explicitly mentioned in the Agenda 2030, one thing is very clear to us: if the world is serious about "Leaving no one behind", our communities must be included. In 2022, we strengthened our advocacy work around the Sustainable Development Goals. We attended the High-Level Political Forum for the first time and worked with the LGBTI stakeholder group throughout the year. We also organised informative webinars for human rights defenders to engage with the SDGs, supported activists to produce spotlight reports on the implementation of the Goals in their own countries, and began an advocacy assessment process with Communities of Action involved in the <u>Free To Be Me</u> initiative.

In the year of its first world conference focused on LGBTI youth as a driving force for positive change, ILGA World continued to support the development of the <u>Global Queer Youth Network</u>, and concluded the Queer Youth Dialogues year-long campaign in partnership with the UN Envoy on Youth and the Independent Expert on SOGI. With our youth programming, we participated in the annual conference of the International AIDS Society, and engaged with UN Women and young leaders in dialogues about digital feminist spaces and the role of gender equality in technology and innovation.

As our team continues to grow, so did the collaboration with our United Nations and Gender Identity & Expression and Sex Characteristics programmes, ensuring that also trans and intersex persons can have opportunities to raise their voices within international human rights fora.





At the UN Human Rights Council, we continued to highlight how discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics often adds an additional hurdle for people to fully enjoy their rights. Working with our communities on the ground, we mobilised civil society worldwide for the renewal of the mandate of the Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (find more details in our website section dedicated to the renewal). We coordinated side events to have LGBTI voices heard in UN spaces, and we delivered statements on a range of issues - including to highlight how people with ancestral and diverse SOGI might be accepted by their own communities while facing violence both from state and non-state actors, or to point out how climate change adversely affects women at the receiving end of systemic discrimination, or to raise the voices of more than 80 civil society organisations calling for the rights of intersex people to be respected.

at a glance

civil society organisations involved in the renewal of the mandate of the Independent Expert on SOGI

human rights defenders trained on Treaty Bodies advocacy

246

SOGIESC recommendations obtained by States represented at our UPR Advocacy Weeks or dedicated training

54

factsheets released on Special Procedures and their SOGIESC work

10

organisations/mechanisms engaged on sports and human rights After being forced into the virtual world for more than two years due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our Advocacy Weeks around the <u>Universal Periodic</u> <u>Review</u> returned to be held in person: 20 activists worldwide were able to meet with 25 permanent missions at the United Nations in Geneva, and to advocate meaningful recommendations to ensure change on the ground can really happen!

MAKING AN IMPACT

#RENEWIESOGI: THE MANDATE IS HERE TO STAY!

In July 2022, States <u>voted to renew the mandate of</u> <u>the UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation</u> <u>and Gender Identity</u> for a further three years. For our communities worldwide, this was more than a victory: it was a confirmation that human rights mechanisms are committed to combatting discrimination and violence against LGBT and gender-diverse people, and that the Human Rights Council will keep reminding all States of their obligations to do so.

Together with the International Service for Human Rights, ILGA World played a key role in the global multilateral #RenewIESOGI advocacy campaign, significantly contributing to mobilising the 1,256 non-governmental organisations from 149 States and territories who called for the renewal of the mandate. Dozens of human rights defenders participated in an awareness campaign that made waves across social media, showing up to tell the world how the existence of this mandate is making a difference for LGBT and gender-diverse persons everywhere.

During the 50th Human Rights Council, the LAC7 (a Core Group of seven Latin American countries – Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Uruguay) introduced the resolution to renew the mandate, co-sponsored by 60 countries from all regions of the world.

Despite such strong backing both from States and civil society at large, the resolution still faced 13 hostile amendments, all of which but one got defeated in their attempt to water down the scope of the mandate.

In a defining 23-17 vote, with 7 abstentions, the Human Rights Council confirmed the existence of the Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity for three more years. Thanks to language included in the resolution, the vote also marked the first time that the Council adopted a document explicitly condemning legislation that criminalises consensual same-sex sexual acts and diverse gender identities, calling on States to amend discriminatory legislation.

The Independent Expert assesses the implementation of international human rights law by talking to States and working collaboratively with other UN and regional mechanisms to address violence and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. Since its creation in 2016, the world has heard more about the impact of criminalisation of same-sex sexual acts between consenting adults, the need to legally recognise a person's gender, the barriers to social inclusion and the importance of collecting data related to LGBT lives, the harm caused by socalled 'conversion therapy', and more. The Expert has also shed light on good practices to prevent discrimination, and conducted visits to Argentina, Georgia, Mozambique, Tunisia, Ukraine, and the United States.

The work of the mandate has proven to be crucial, and ILGA World continues to actively engage with it: supporting civil society and the Independent Expert ahead of country visits, providing inputs to reports, and using the recommendations made by the mandate in our own work.

In 2023, the term of the current mandate holder, Victor Madrigal-Borloz, will come to an end. We are grateful for the work he has done over the years – one that has never wavered, even while facing continued attacks by anti-rights movements. We will continue to advocate for the existence of this mandate and to support its work for the benefit of our communities across the globe. We also kept engaging with several <u>Special Procedures</u> mandate holders, both by providing inputs for their thematic reports and by supporting local groups interacting with them. We supported local groups as human rights experts visited their countries, making sure LGBTI communities were not left behind, As the <u>monkeypox</u> health emergency was developing, we engaged with various mandate holders on the matter, while calling on rejecting stigma and ensuring equal access to vaccines and healthcare.

Our advocacy work also continued with the <u>Treaty</u> Bodies, a context in which we began to pilot ways to expand our advocacy work to all mechanisms. In 2022 we saw a record-high number of 218 references to SOGIESC issues in concluding observations to States. Some truly ground-breaking developments took place within those mechanisms: CEDAW found that the criminalisation of consensual same-sex sexual acts between women violates States' obligations in relation to women's rights, and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights made the first Treaty Bodies reference to the ICD-11 - the latest International Classification of Diseases - calling on Mongolia to uphold the human rights of trans persons. Compared to only a few years ago - when sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics seemed taboo subjects within the United Nations, we are witnessing a seismic shift, and we are proudly at the forefront of it as we keep supporting grassroots movements pushing for change.

Our advocacy, however, doesn't stop at the United Nations. We ensured that LGBTIQ issues were high on the agenda in key international spaces. Partnering with the <u>Sport and Rights Alliance</u>, the <u>Centre for Sport and</u>. <u>Human Rights</u>, and the <u>LGBTIQ+ Human Rights Sports</u> <u>Coalition</u>, we raised awareness of the intersecting human rights failures connected to the <u>FIFA World</u> <u>Cup in Qatar</u>, and continued pushing to make <u>sports</u> a safer and more accessible environment for all.

Our presence in the Partnership for Global LGBTI

Equality made sure we kept advancing equal rights also in the world of business, and we trained hundreds of corporation employees to ensure they fully understand why this is important.

In every aspect of our work, we keep weaving networks to ensure LGBTI people are included in the global human rights discourse. We advocate *with* our communities, not just *for* them!



LOOKING AHEAD

During years of advocacy, we saw many important developments and some historic firsts. We have been standing alongside incredible grassroots activists who kept changing the world with their work. But equality remains far from reach for too many of us, and we are witnessing a distressing, mounting wave of anti-rights pushback. This is why we will persevere, continuing to work alongside activists at the United Nations and engaging in international spaces to keep mobilising and advancing support for LGBTI people globally. We will continue strengthening our dialogues and alliances with feminist movements, as we know all too well that the ongoing attacks against our communities are rooted in the same growing pushback against gender equality at large. The power of solidarity has never been more needed than right now. As we build bridges towards a better future for all, we must reject fabricated conflicts among historically allied movements and build on the extraordinary advances we created for our communities. United, in our beautiful diversity.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING



ILGA World is a convenor of our LGBTI movement, and our work is shaped to serve our communities worldwide. Our resolve hasn't faltered even during the very complicated years of the Covid-19 pandemic, in which screens were the only means to remain connected.

In 2022, organising any convening required us to assess international travel restrictions and the additional challenges that some in our communities would have faced in such a peculiar time.

Considering all these hurdles, the International Intersex Forum was postponed multiple times, and the 2022 UN Trans Advocacy Week took place only virtually for the third year in a row. Nevertheless, this latter event continued growing to be a pivotal moment for many trans human rights defenders worldwide. Together with co-organising partners, we ensured that 19 activists – selected through an open call for the first time - could participate in workshops on UN Treaty Bodies, Special Procedures and UPR processes, deliver statements at Human Rights Council sessions, and take part in closed-door meetings with senior officials, including Special Procedures mandate holders.

During the year, we continued to provide digital security training through our membership with the ProtectDefenders.eu consortium, and we supported our regions in their own capacity-building initiatives. Raising awareness of LGBTI realities beyond the activism sphere, we continued partnering with a selected number of corporations and supported their diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives by providing training to almost 4,000 of their employees. Our virtual events, often organised in partnership with LGBTI and feminist organisations alike, served as powerful community-building moments, marking significant days for our diverse populations and reiterating alliances with other movements.

Whenever in-person meetings were possible, we immediately created opportunities for our members and communities to be reunited in person at last. Our World Conference, the regional conferences held by ILGA Asia and ILGA-Europe, and the many workshops we hosted during the year have been incredibly energising moments for our global family to share the same space, reconnect with fellow human rights defenders, and build capacity.

Listening to the priorities of the movement remains paramount for us: closing off the year, we partnered with ILGA North America & the Caribbean to meet with actors who are pursuing decriminalisation across the region, and better understand the priorities of the movement on the ground.

MAKING AN IMPACT

OUR FIRST INTERSEX ADVOCACY WEEK

ILGA World is no stranger to convening activists and opening doors for them in international human rights fora. In collaboration with other partners, we have long organised advocacy weeks around the Universal Periodic Review and on trans-specific issues, or focused our work on lesbian, bisexual, and queer women.

In 2022, however, we partnered with other organisations to pilot a new project: an Intersex Advocacy Week within United Nations spaces. The time was right: thanks to the tireless work of human rights defenders, momentum around sex characteristics issues and their visibility has been building up constantly since the Human Rights Council passed its first resolution to specifically include <u>the</u> <u>rights of intersex persons</u> in 2019.

Three years after that pivotal moment, we supported six intersex activists for a week of advocacy in Geneva, in which they hosted <u>a side event on intersex</u> <u>people's right to health and mobilised 82 civil society</u> <u>organisations</u> to demand a global investigation on the violations that intersex people face. In a powerful moment, intersex people addressed the Human Rights Council in their own voices, calling upon States to "ban non-vital, medically unnecessary surgeries, forced hormonal treatments, and other harmful interventions in infants and children."

LOOKING AHEAD

Our member organisations are the core and the driving force of what we do at ILGA World. In 2023, we will continue to empower them with our capacitybuilding initiatives, assist them as they engage with human rights mechanisms, and connect them with one another. Virtual and in-person opportunities will continue to coexist in our world: we will welcome our first cohort of activists who will take part in our online Treaty Bodies Academy, but we will also support our communities of action as they follow up locally on the recommendations obtained in international human rights spaces.

We will return to convenings, too: we are co-organising a global gathering of feminist and LGBTI defenders working together to address the damages caused by the anti-gender movement and find ways forward. Stay tuned, and be on the lookout for updates also regarding <u>our upcoming World Conference</u>: it won't be long until our global family will be reunited!



AT A GLANCE

3

pre-conferences held by ILGA World staff during the 2022 World Conference

28

workshops held by ILGA World staff on advocacy matters

685 participants during ILGA regional conferences

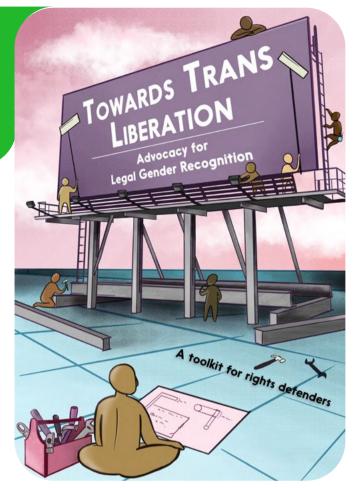
4,000 corporate employees attending DEI workshops supported by ILGA World

RESEARCH: OUR CREDIBLE TOOL FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

We hoped we were over that. And yet, we see it repeatedly: reactionary forces use LGBTI persons and other minorities as political pawns. Whenever crises ensue, our communities become convenient public enemies. Our lives are questioned. Old prejudices return in allegedly presentable clothes. Heated debates have the potential to turn into actual violence. Advances long fought for always risk being taken away.

Our lived realities, stories and activism are all we have to counter this new tidal wave of hostility. But we also need data and evidence-based research to back them up, dismantle barriers, challenge misconceptions, and promote social change.

Accessing data about LGBTI populations has always been difficult. However, at ILGA World, we can count on more than four decades of experience in compiling this kind of information and putting it at the service of our global communities. Our landmark reports have shaped public opinion, informed laws and policies, and encouraged decision-makers to take action. Over the past few years, we have been working behind the scenes to revolutionise how we present our research, and 2022 made no exception. Throughout the year, we worked to finalise the ILGA World Database - a virtual, interactive platform compiling laws, news, and references to human rights bodies and advocacy opportunities with the United Nations related to LGBTI people worldwide. The database, which premiered during the World Conference in Long Beach, will finally be accessible to everyone in March 2023. During the same event, we hosted our first-ever pre-conference dedicated to research on LGBTI issues.



We also continued to release publications to support the advocacy efforts of our members and communities. Together with ISHR, we <u>examined the work of 54</u> <u>UN Special Procedures over the last eleven years</u> to compile factsheets listing the references and recommendations made by these experts regarding LGBTI persons and SOGIESC issues. Expanding on historic research, we also released <u>Towards trans</u> <u>liberation: advocacy for legal gender recognition</u>: a toolkit to help trans human rights defenders identify gaps in the current state of legal gender recognition in their country, with guidance to build a concrete advocacy roadmap.

We significantly expanded our legal reviews of laws affecting people on the grounds of their gender identity and expression and sex characteristics: all this work will add new depths to the ILGA World Database and result in new, ground-breaking reports that we will release in 2023.

MAKING AN IMPACT

PROVIDING TOOLS TO MONITOR LGBTI NEWS

In an era of misinformation and alternative reality, meaningful progress on LGBTI human rights can only happen when accurate and reliable journalism, research and storytelling centre our lived realities and cast a light on the inequalities we face.

But how is the world reporting on LGBTI news? And how are SOGIESC issues addressed in academic papers? After months spent building the infrastructure, in 2022 our research team gradually began providing controlled external access to the ILGA World Monitor: a media monitoring tool that captures various public news, publications, and other information about LGBTI people and issues, based on 153 keywords in 70 languages. The research team approved over 200,000 data entries to the Monitor throughout the year: the information collected started to significantly inform the publications currently in preparation and our team's advocacy and communications work. In 2023, part of this monitoring mechanism will now be integrated into the ILGA World Database for everyone to access!





LOOKING AHEAD

The work done by the research team behind the scenes over the past years is finally ready to see the light of day. Launched in March 2023, the **ILGA** World Database is set to become a ground-breaking resource for human rights defenders, policymakers, researchers, media and the general public alike: a free, interactive, and collaborative platform, allowing everyone can track current progress and backlash around SOGIESC issues in 193 UN member States and 47 non-independent territories.

Moreover, our research work will combine familiar projects and brand-new initiatives: analyses of the work of UN Treaty Bodies, a legal mapping of intersex human rights protections worldwide, studies on how criminalising laws are enforced, and deep dives into Special Procedures and Sustainable Development Goals will all be part of the picture. In addition, we will close off the year with a seismic shift within our landmark publication. We cannot wait to show you!

LGBTI persons' h

AT A GLANCE

languages information was collected in

200,000 entries in our ILGA World Monitor

153 data categories informing our research

human rights defenders consulted

COMMUNICATIONS TO UPLIFT LGBTI VOICES

Spotlight on our member organisations



Enfoque en nuestras organizaciones miembras

In many parts of the world, LGBTI persons have been very present in the public discourse lately, but often not in the way we would have hoped for. Jubilant reporting about positive change and affirming life stories were often outnumbered by news of hostile legislation or blatant misinformation muddying the waters.

Especially in such a confusing time, it is essential to wonder whose stories we hear and uplift those that remain silenced. With its communications, ILGA World continues to make sure that thoughtful, grounded, and inclusive LGBTI voices are listened to as they speak their truth.

Harnessing the power and the beauty in being reunited in person with our global family at last, our World Conference became the filming set for many of the awareness campaigns we released throughout the year – including those to <u>celebrate Pride around the world</u> and to reflect on the meaning of the <u>International Day</u> <u>against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia</u>. For the first time, we also created <u>a documentary to show</u> <u>everyone what an ILGA World Conference is about</u>: joy, solidarity, and moving forward together.

The 2022 World Conference also marked the first time for the communications team to host a media pre-conference, inviting journalists and activists to reflect on LGBTI representation in various parts of the globe. During the year, we connected with journalists from leading media outlets worldwide. We contributed to numerous publications, exposing a potential readership of hundreds of millions to LGBTI-respectful perspectives, stories, and data.

Working closely with our Steering Committees, we raised bisexual, intersex, trans, women and youth issues, with campaigns that involved our communities worldwide and made waves on social media. Our communications work also played a vital role in the #RenewIESOGI process – joining forces with organisations worldwide to make sure that our multilateral campaign could tell the world <u>why the</u> <u>existence of a UN mandate on sexual orientation and</u> <u>gender identity matters</u>.

Following the indications of our membership, we also began to outline communications spotlighting their work or dedicated exclusively to them: more Instagram takeovers, dedicated newsletters and engagement opportunities will follow throughout 2023!

We also continued to look at how the digital divide is affecting LGBTI people, organising workshops both at the ILGA World and ILGA Asia conferences to hear directly from our grassroots communities: the diverse inputs that emerged from these conversations will feed into a research project on the topic that the communications team will embark on during the next two years. Stay tuned!

MAKING AN IMPACT

EXPOSING LGBTI HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AHEAD OF THE QATAR WORLD CUP

The world turned to Qatar around the end of 2022 as the country prepared to host the FIFA Men's Football World Cup. However, ILGA World had long been paying attention, working in close allyship with global organisations, local activists and regional partners to raise concerns about the human rights situations for people on the ground.

Despite months of meetings with stakeholders and authorities, those concerns remained both ahead and into the event, including for LGBTQ persons in a country with laws criminalising people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions.

Ensuring accurate and respectful reporting was essential, as the unwanted attention could have backfired against people in Qatar. Therefore, our communications team developed <u>a briefing note</u> dedicated to media, with an overview of laws affecting our communities, key actors' statements around the World Cup, and recommendations to journalists covering LGBTQ issues in Qatar.

The document was extensively referenced both by media worldwide and sports and human rights coalitions that ILGA World was involved in, ensuring that our communities were not forgotten in the reports on <u>the human rights failures of the global</u> <u>sporting event</u>.

LOOKING AHEAD

We know how important it is for human rights defenders to be aware of the resources that we offer and for our members to feel they are part of a truly global family. Our communications team is planning large campaigns to inform the world about the ILGA World Database and the many advocacy and research projects we will release throughout 2023.

After many years of preparation, our research looking at how the digital divide is affecting LGBTI people will see the light of day, and we will <u>become</u> <u>more involved in the International Day against</u> <u>Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia at the</u> <u>global level</u> – by coordinating the IDAHOBIT working group and hosting its secretariat.

But communications do not only look outwards: throughout the year, we will increasingly feature our member organisations and create specific projects for them while starting to pave the way for our 2024 World Conference.



Qatar

and LGBTQ human rights: an overview ahead of the World Cup

ilgo

AT A GLANCE

3,778 articles in media outlets worldwide referencing ILGA World and its work

546,267 sessions on ilga.org

26 awareness campaigns +28% followers on social media

OUR ILGA REGIONS

The following pages of this report provide an overview of our regions' activities in 2022 and a list of organisations that joined our membership during 2022. The complete list of ILGA member organisations is available at <u>ilga.org</u>.





Between the start of 2022, marked by the launch of a report assessing the funding needs of LGBTI organisations, and a year-close premiering four new programmes, ILGA-Europe found itself addressing pressing issues from many ends. A considerable amount of immediate time, resources and energy was required to respond - practically, financially and strategically - to the needs of LGBTI organisations, both in Ukraine and across the region, following the full-scale invasion perpetrated by Russia. On the other end, how-ever, ILGA-Europe continued to conduct political advocacy and support strategic legislation to advance cases on the European level. Throughout the year, the region continued to provide input to EU policy and legislative developments while supporting LGBTI organisations across Europe and Central Asia through regranting and capacity-building initiatives - including by growing The Hub, ILGA-Europe's free online resource centre for our movement. Read more

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Throughout the year, ILGANAC conducted a series of meetings and dialogues with members, particularly from across the Caribbean, to increase collaboration and networking within the region. ILGANAC focused on operational capacity-building to hire its first staff and fully implement the Global LGBT Decriminalisation by 2030 Initiative and a regional capacity-building project. In addition, it worked to finalise its strategic plan, and began efforts to conduct advocacy within regional and international human rights mechanisms - including the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and United Nations bodies in New York.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

2022 was a year of renewal for ILGALAC: the Board hired a new Executive Director (Bianka Rodriguez, from El Salvador) and Operations Coordinator (Gustavo Coutinho, from Brazil). To-gether, Board and staff worked to establish a new regulatory framework for the region and to organise the ninth regional conference in Bolivia in April 2023.

During this period, the Electoral Observatory of the region also published a report on the presidential elections in Brazil to inform the public about the candidates' stances on LGBTI issues, and formalised new communications strategies to include all official languages of the region. In 2022, ILGA Asia brought together over 400 activists and allies to Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, for its 9th regional conference, hosting 14 pre-conferences (including the first-ever non-binary pre-conference in the history of ILGA conferences), 29 break-out sessions, and a Queer Arts Festival. During the year, ILGA Asia represented the voices of Asian communities in

international advocacy spaces. It also received the <u>2022 Ardhanareeswara</u> <u>Pride Award</u>, and joined Pride marches in <u>Bangkok</u>, <u>Seoul</u> and <u>Taipei</u>.

ILGA Asia has also significantly stepped up its research, policy, and campaigning work. It published a <u>briefing note on the use of the death penalty</u> to punish LGBTIO+ people, amplified the importance of <u>strategic litigation</u> for advancing SOGIESC rights and released <u>statements</u> on legal and political developments across Asia. Through its global advocacy programme, ILGA Asia continues to be present in UN human rights and sustainable development follow-up and review mechanisms, and supports member organisations to engage with them.

In 2022, ILGA Asia also launched a <u>campaign training</u> for over 40 LGBTIQ+ activists from 12 countries focusing on increasing their capacity to spearhead national advocacy campaigns. Through its <u>Afghanistan</u> Program, ILGA Asia carried out multiple fundraising campaigns, provided humanitarian assistance to LGBTIQ+ individuals, and launched a <u>mini-podcast</u> to raise awareness on SOGIESC-based violence in the country post the Taliban takeover in 2021.



OCEANIA

In 2022, the organisation completed elections of new board members, worked with ILGA World to hold a regional convening during the ILGA World Conference and conducted follow-up activities to their convening on decriminalisation in Pacific Island States.

With the support of capacity-building efforts provided by ILGA World, ILGA Oceania will hire its first staff and consultants in 2023 to fully implement the Global LGBT Decriminalisation by 2030 activities targeting the region.

AFRICA

In a time when harmful anti-rights narratives are spreading from the Global North, Pan Africa ILGA (PAI) focused on strengthening the capacity of LGBTI organisations across the continent. Its efforts aimed to empower them to engage with regional and international human rights mechanisms. Throughout the year, PAI provided training to approximately 35 activists, equipping them with the necessary skills to participate in these spaces. Additionally, PAI supported the participation of 14 activists in the 73rd session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. To ensure its continued impact, Pan Africa ILGA is currently developing a new strategic plan, with the current one being extended until December 2023.

Recognising the importance of accountability and learning, PAI is also working on establishing internal monitoring, evaluation, and learning mechanisms. These will enable the region to closely monitor the progress of its programs and ensure their alignment with its organisational goals. Through these strategic endeavours, Pan Africa ILGA remains committed to promoting and safeguarding the rights of the LGBTI community in Africa.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

These are the organisations that have joined the ILGA World membership in 2022

AFRICA

ALGERIA

• Sans Tabous

BENIN

- Affirmative Action Benin
- Coexistence entre Freres
- Jeunes Dynamiques
- Les Flambeaux

BURUNDI

- 1 anonymous organisation
- CAMEROON
- Plateforme Unity
- Positivé Vision
- Reseau Independant des Trans* Africains

CONGO, REPUBLIC OF THE

Association des Femmes Egales

CONGO, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE

Savie Asbl NGO LGBT Pgel Drc

• Weka organisation

- EGYPT
- Cairo 52 Legal Research Institute
- Rainbow Egypt

GHANA

6 anonymous organisations

KENYA

- Arms To Lean On
- Nafasi Yangu Cbo
- OneVoice Nakuru

LIBERIA

- journalRAGE
- Liberia Equality Network

MALAWI

- ASKE Mw
- Community Health Rights Advocacy (CHeRA)

MOROCCO

Trans Dynamics

NIGERIA

- Community Health Initiative for Youth in Nigeria
- Creme Dela Creme House Of Fame Foundation Nigeria
- Equilibrium Initiative for Youth Rights And Health Nigeria
- Global Women's Health, Rights and Empowerment Initiative (GWHREI)
- Initiative for Community Empowerment and Vulnerable Support
- Initiative for Gender Equality And Sexual Reproductive Health
- Intersex Nigeria (Center for Healthcare Development and Youth
- Empowerment)
- No Hate Initiative Nigeria
- Pride Health Initiative for Dignity and Rights
- Save the Dream Initiative
- Society for Equal Health and Right
- WaveMakers Initiative for Health and Youth Empowerment
- Youth Health and Right Initiative for Advocacy and Empowerment

RWANDA

- Ndabaga's Sisters Organization
- Feminist Action Development Ambition
- Health and Equal Rights Organization
- Thriving Inclusive Community Organization

SENEGAL

- Collectif Free Sénégal
- 1 anonymous organisation

SOUTH SUDAN

- African Trans Network
- Network Of Refugees & Asylum Seekers -LGBTQI+ South Africa

TANZANIA

• Bridge Initiative Organisation

UGANDA

• 8 anonymous organisations

ZAMBIA

- Latu Human Rights Foundation
- Titandizeni Umooyo Network Limited

ZIMBABWE

Trans Research Education Advocacy and Training

ASIA

- BANGLADESH Pathchola Foundation INDIA • Gandhinagar Queer Pride Foundation **JAPAN** • Broken Rainbow - Japan LEBANON Oorras MALAYSIA • Jaringan Kebajikan Komuniti
- 1 anonymous organisation

NEPAL

• Mitini Nepal PAKISTAN PINK Center **PHILIPPINES** · Babavlanes, Inc. • Bahaghari Center for SOGIE Research, Education and Advocacy, Inc.

THAILAND

• Young Pride Club

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

CZECH REPUBLIC

• Afghan LGBT

- GERMANY
- Queeres Netzwerk Niedersachsen e.V.
- The LGBT Life e.V

ITALY

- Gaynet
- Osservatorio di Genere
- LUXEMBOURG

Centre LGBTIQ+ CIGALE

THE NETHERLANDS

- Natural Foundation
- COC Haaglanden

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

• 2 anonymous organisations

- SERBIA
- Rainbow Ignite

SPAIN

- Asociación Española contra las Terapias de Conversión
- Federación Plataforma Trans
- Kifkif, Asociación de Migrantes y Refugiados LGTBI (Lesbianas, Gays, Trans,
- Bisexuales e Intersexuales
- No Binaries Espana
- Proud LGTBI Ripollet
- **TAJIKISTAN**
- •1 anonymous organisation
- TÜRKIYE
- Muamma LGBTI+ Association
- UNITED KINGDOM
- Frontline AIDS
- Human Dignity TrustUNISON Lothian Health Branch
- UZBEKISTAN
- 1 anonymous organisation

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA

- Familias Diversas Asociación Civil
- Corriente por la Liberación, la Igualdad y el Kambio
- BOLIVIA
- Colectivo de las Diversidades Sexuales y de Género del Beni

1 anonymous organisation

- BRAZIL
- Associação Mais LGBT
- COLOMBIA
- Fundación Grupo de Acción y Apoyo a Personas Trans

COSTA RICA

• Fundación Gente Positiva CR

MEXICO

• Red de Madres Lesbianas en México

PANAMA

- Fundación Convive Panama
- Hombres Trans Panamá

OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA

- BlaQ Aboriginal Corporation
- Brimbank Community Initiative Inc

Invictus Health

- **NEW ZEALAND** • Intersex Aotearoa
- PALAU
- Living All Inclusive In Belau Organization

NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

CANADA

- AGIR: Action LGBTQ+ avec les immigrantes et réfugiées
- Fierté Canada Pride
- Mindset Social Innovation Foundation
- Morgane Oger Foundation
- Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project Society
- Ontario Public Service Employees Union
- Pride at Work Canada
- Rainbow Faith and Freedom
- Rainbow Refugee Society
- The Enchanté Network
- United Steelworkers

UNITED STATES

- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Gays and Lesbians Living in a Transgender Society INC
- LYRIC Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth
- Palm Beach County Human Rights Council
- Pride Nation LC
- Prime Timers Worldwide
- Safe Place International
- St. Paul's Foundation for International Reconciliation
- The Advocates for Human Rights
- UC Davis Health

OUR STAFF full name withdrawn AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2022 for security reasons Julia Ehrt Gurchaten Sandhu **Executive Director Director of Programmes** N. V.* K. K.* Director of Finance and Support Services UN Programme Manager **Gabriel Galil Guillermo Ricalde** Programme Coordinator UN Programme Consultant (Special (UN advocacy, Human Rights Council and UPR) Procedures and SDGs) Denn Ix G. M.* Consultant Programme Manager - Gender Identity, UN Programme Consultant (National Gender Expression, and Sex Characteristics (GIESC) Advocacy Engagement) Chamindra Weerawardhana Eli Rubashkyn Senior Consultant - Gender Identity & Consultant - Gender Identity & Expression Expression and Sex Characteristics Programme and Sex Characteristics Programme Stephanie Leitch Lucas Ramón Mendos Senior Officer - Decriminalisation project **Research Coordinator** and ILGA regions engagement

J. Andrew Baker Manager - Donor relations and MEL

> Suelle Anglin Communications Consultant

Demet Gümüş Consultant - Membership and Administration





Paula Klik Events Senior Officer



Vasilis Balasis Finance Assistant (consultant)

Polyxeni Kallini Finance Coordinator, Grants and Reporting

ALSO WITH US IN 2022

A special shout-out also to the 11 junior consultants that worked with us this year:



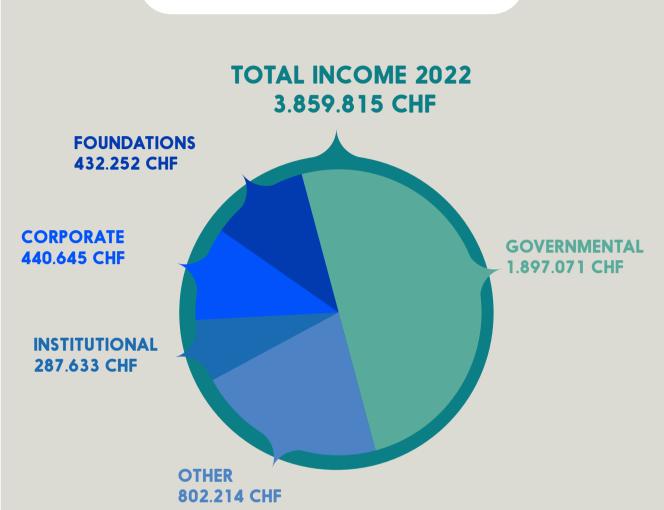
During 2022, our team has continued to expand.

In March, we welcomed Gurchaten Sandhu, our new Director of Programmes. Over the year, more people joined us to make sure we could redouble our efforts within the UN programme (Guillermo Ricalde and another colleague whose name is withheld for security concerns), the Gender Identity & Expression and Sex Characteristics programme (Denn Ix), on communications (Suelle Anglin), membership (Demet Gümüş), and finances (Vasilis Balasis). Moreover, our new project on decriminalisation and support to ILGA regions has just started, led by Stephanie Leitch!

Our deepest thanks also go to all the consultants who have made our work possible!

Throughout 2023, our team will continue to grow – you may already have e-met some of them during the past few months. Together, we will continue making sure to serve our communities as best as we can!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION



HOW DO ILGA WORLD ENGINES KEEP RUNNING SMOOTHLY?

ILGA World is led by – and works with - its member organisations from across the world to advance the human rights of LGBTI persons.

This work would not be possible without the support of individuals, foundations, governments, member organisations, and other institutional funders. We are grateful to everyone who generously contributed to our work throughout 2022!

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO? 4.380.875 CHF

WORLD CONFERENCE 1.276.011 CHF

went to convene our global family in Long Beach, CA, United States for the 2022 World Conference

FUNDRAISING 188.493 CHF

were used to raise new funds

SUPPORT TO REGIONS 270.124 CHF

went to ILGA's six regions in their support of grassroots organisations

GOVERNANCE 310.261 CHF

ensured we follow our policies and values in implementing best governance practices

PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES 2.335.987 CHF

went to support ILGA World's direct work on the human rights of LGBTI people: conducting advocacy and supporting grassroots in their endeavours, organising convenings and trainings, researching laws impacting our communities, and creating awareness campaigns

ARE YOU READY TO GIVE? DONATE!

With a donation, you will help ILGA World continue to support LGBTI communities worldwide working for a better future: supporting activists as they speak at the United Nations and other international spaces to call for equal rights; backing our research into laws and attitudes affecting LGBTI persons around the globe; making our conferences, training programmes and advocacy campaigns sustainable.

We know that change is unstoppable when we're united! We are here to do our part: will you chip in?



HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Becoming a member of ILGA World provides access to the global and regional network of over 1,800 organisations working towards a stronger LGBTI movement.

We elevate the voices of our communities in multilateral international spaces, including the United Nations, and we support our member organisations in their advocacy efforts through capacity building. Our members receive dedicated communications and have the opportunity to be involved in the awareness campaigns that we run. In-person and virtual gatherings, both at the regional and global levels, are essential components that help us build strength for our global fight for equality worldwide. Our member organisations can benefit from reduced rates to attend the event; eligible representatives are prioritised when assigning scholarships or reserving seats for events with limited capacity.

But that's not all: full members play a vital role in formulating the direction and work of ILGA World by proposing changes to its governing documents, casting their votes to elect (nominated) candidates, choosing the next World Conference host, and holding office in the highest governing body of ILGA World.

Join us: together, we are stronger!



ILGA World's 2022 Annual Report was coordinated and edited by **Daniele Paletta** Texts by **Daniele Paletta** and **J. Andrew Baker**

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For more information about our work, or to download our publications, please visit our website: <u>ilga.org</u> or contact us at <u>info@ilga.org</u> Access the ILGA World Database at <u>database.ilga.org</u>

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