ILGA WORLD
code of conduct

ILGA World values the diversity of identities, backgrounds, views and experiences of all the people taking part in our events.
We are committed to the fullest possible participation of everyone, and we want to make sure that no one is put off by the actions, language and attitude of others.

To ensure that, please follow the following guidelines:

Be respectful

All our bodies, gender identities, gender expressions and sexual orientations are valid and equal. Address people with the name and pronoun they use.
If you don't know their pronoun, use 'they' or simply their name and find a time to ask them politely.

Avoid prejudiced comments

Respectful debates are always encouraged. However, participants and speakers should avoid generalisations and prejudiced comments. Jokes based on prejudice and stereotypes can be offensive and are not tolerated.

Respect privacy

Do not ask people about their former names, medical procedures, private parts, sexual practices or personal life without their explicit consent. Attending an ILGA World event does not mean that a person is out to everybody, and exposing them may compromise their safety.

Photos, videos and social media

Always ask for permission and obtain explicit consent before taking a picture, shooting a video or including a person's name in any report, article or social media post you plan on writing.

Create safe spaces

From plenary assemblies to workshops, from meals to social activities: every moment of an ILGA World event is meant to be a safe space for all participants, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, sex characteristics, sex, gender, age, indigeneity, disability, HIV status, ethnic or social background, or any other status. Do your best to make everybody feel welcome.

Don't make assumptions

Don't assume that you can read a person's gender identity, status or sexual orientation, or their preferred pronoun, from the way they present.
Names and preferred pronouns are indicated on people's badges, but respect the fact that someone may still be questioning their identity: if you're still not sure about how to address them, ask them politely.

Be patient when facing language barriers

English and Spanish are the official languages of ILGA World, but they're not the first languages of many people taking part in it: please be aware of that and be patient when communicating with others. Please speak slowly, clearly and avoid using jargon - especially speakers and workshop presenters!

No means no

No one at any ILGA World event should be put under any pressure to be involved in activities they do not want to join. This includes any non-consensual sexual behaviour or physical contact, taking part in any activity, or discussing sensitive information. If someone says "no," all you must do is respect their will.
ILGA World takes any complaints of bullying and harassment very seriously. If someone is found to be bullying or harassing an individual, appropriate sanctions will be imposed.

Challenge bullying and oppressive behaviour

The language we use can reflect society's power imbalances and can sometimes be harmful to LGBTI persons - even when we are not aware of that, and if we ourselves are part of the LGBTI community.
If you witness oppressive behaviour during an ILGA World event, or conversation that is in any way disrespectful to other participants on the grounds of their race, class, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, sex characteristics, HIV status, immigration status, age, physical and/or intellectual ability, or any other identity and experience, don't be afraid to challenge it in a constructive manner.

Contact us: we're here to help

If you feel unsafe, or have experienced or witnessed any inappropriate behaviour, please contact a staff member or a volunteer. We are always here to help.

This code of conduct extends to attitudes, language and behaviour directed towards guests, visitors, staff, support staff, volunteers and facilitators. ILGA World reserves the right to ask any person who does not observe the guidance to leave the event.