

Statement from meeting of Nordic LGBTQI organisations in Copenhagen

We, 9 different organisations organising LGBTQI individuals in the Nordic countries, have met in Copenhagen to explore ways to strengthen cooperation and solidarity throughout the Nordic region and beyond.

During the meeting, numerous issues, such as asylum rights, the rights of young and elderly LGBTQI individuals, hate crimes, family rights and threats from the far right were discussed. We agreed that it is of utmost importance that the Nordic region continues to improve the circumstances for LGBTQI individuals in its legislation and in society as a whole.

Although huge improvements have been made over the past decades, we still have to be aware of the challenges that LGBTQI individuals in the Nordic region face in their everyday lives. The rights in particular for transgender and intersex people need to improve throughout the region regarding access to legal recognition and gender affirming healthcare based on self-determination and self-identification.

The participating organisations also expressed particular concern about how the Faroe Islands are currently not living up to the legal standards set by the Nordic region concerning family rights and protective labour market laws. We strongly urge the authorities in the Faroe Islands to ensure equal rights for all LGBTQI individuals and to take active measures to ensure the safety and well-being of all its inhabitants.

We call on all Nordic governments to enhance the status of LGBTQI individuals in the Nordic region and to remove the cross-border obstacles regarding family recognition and self-determination that LGBTQI individuals face in the region today.

Copenhagen, January 2020

FPES (Sweden)

FRI (Norway)

LGBT+ Danmark (Denmark)

LGBT Asylum (Denmark)

LGBT Føroyar (Faroe Islands)

Samtökin 78 (Iceland)

RFSL (Sweden)

Finnish Rainbow Families Association (Finland)

Seta Lgbtiq Rights in Finland (Finland)