



EURO  
PRIDE  
2025  
LISBON

BID BOOK

PROUDLY YOURSELVES



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1. LGBTI+ PORTUGAL: A MIXED PICTURE

Since the end of Portugal's dictatorship in 1974 and especially in the last two decades, the country made accelerating progress on LGBTI+ rights — notable for a long-closed and culturally conservative country. In 2022, Portugal ranked #9 on ILGA Europe's Rainbow Map and tied for second in the Spartacus Guide's ranking of LGBTI+ travel destinations<sup>1</sup>. However, Portugal also joins Eastern Europe near the bottom among OECD countries for LGBTI+ social acceptance<sup>2</sup>. Stigma, discrimination, isolation, and victimisation remain the reality for many, with particular social impact now that anti-gender and extremist forces are becoming increasingly more vocal.

### 2. BIDDERS: FOUR CARDINAL DIRECTIONS

The EuroPride 2025 Lisboa bid represents a joint effort by four national LGBTI+ organisations who, besides working together regularly, offer LGBTI+ people and their families a path to self-determination, autonomy, and community in all aspects of life: AMPLOS, the Association of Parents for the Liberty of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity; ILGA Portugal, the country's oldest LGBTI+ organisation; rede ex aequo, the LGBTI+ youth organisation; and Variações, the LGBTI+ Business & Tourism Association of Portugal. The heads of these organisations compose a Steering Committee that consults a Civil Society Advisory Council including local Pride organisers and recognised non-profit groups working on LGBTI+ issues, ensuring the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders.

### 3. CONCEPT: PROUDLY YOURSELVES

Proudly Yourselves (in Portuguese, Orgulhosamente vós) is an invitation to celebrate everyone's uniqueness and our communities' diversity of personal characteristics. It purposely appropriates the former dictatorship of Portugal's defiant, imperialist "Orgulhosamente sós" ("Proudly alone") and subverts it with an outstretched hand to honour individuals in a communal context. With society pulled in opposing directions, with divisions characterised less by "progressive vs. conservative" or "Left vs. Right" than by ideologies versus identities, and with advances in recognising, legitimising and empowering the infinite ways of human being increasingly threatened — on one hand, by mainstream backlash and, on the other, by radical factionalism that fragments LGBTI+ solidarity — Proudly Yourselves breaks down barriers between people by putting the focus on personal dignity.

### 4. AGENDA: 8 DAYS OF SELF-ENCOUNTERS

The core EuroPride 2025 Lisboa agenda will take place Saturday-Saturday, 14-21 June 2025, which coincides with Lisboa's annual Santos Populares that attract locals and tourists to arraial street-festivals celebrating the city's many communities. In this atmosphere, the EuroPride Village and Self Spaces around the city will offer visitors community events organised by members of the Advisory Council and a more international programme set for Wednesday to Saturday, beginning with an International Youth Encounter, which will lead to the Human Rights Conference. EuroPride festivities will culminate with the EuroPride March on Saturday, 21 June, following a route through the city centre to the EuroPride Village for closing speeches, the handover ceremony, and the Arraial Lisboa EuroPride. All week long, movie screenings and cultural exhibitions will take place in venues around Lisboa, contributing to the inclusive and welcoming tone of EuroPride events.

### 5. BUSINESS PLAN: SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

EuroPride 2025 Lisboa public events, including the Human Rights Conference will be free to attend. In addition, our planning includes helping students with accommodations to make youth participation a priority. Communications will take a digital-first, substance-first approach, timed with the calendar of European and worldwide LGBTI+ events from 2022 to 2025. Faithful to our Proudly Yourselves concept, for EuroPride to be a positive force for communities, we will design a social and environmental programme to guide our efforts.

### 6. PORTUGAL: #1 IN LGBTI+ TRAVEL

Renowned for its warm weather and warm welcome, Portugal is among the 20 most visited countries in the world, receiving an average of 13 million foreign tourists annually. Ranked among the five most peaceful countries in the world, Portugal also tied for #1 on the 2019 Spartacus Gay Travel Index. Since five years, Portugal consistently features among Top-10 destinations, on both professional (Monocle, Lonely Planet, Conde Nast Traveller, etc.) and user-generated (TripAdvisor, Airbnb, etc.) lists. While the need for greater LGBTI+ social acceptance and legal equality is acute, openness to foreigners and a culture of respectfulness mean that Portugal remains among the safest, most welcoming places for LGBTI+ visitors.

# WELCOME

## CO-PRESIDENCY

On behalf of the Organising Committee, we are proud to bid to host EuroPride 2025 in Lisboa.

This candidacy is a collaborative effort of LGBTI+ Civil Society in Portugal, with support from diverse Human Rights and LGBTI+ organisations, and local and national government officials. If approved, EuroPride 2025 Lisboa will have a profound impact on how closely these entities work together to support and defend LGBTI+ rights and equality, and how LGBTI+ issues are perceived by society, especially in Portugal and in Portuguese speaking countries.

We live in perilous times, in Europe and elsewhere, when Human Rights are challenged daily and used as populist weapons, targeting our communities politically and decrying identities as threats. The LGBTI+ movement has historically upheld inclusion and diversity to leave no one behind. We want EuroPride 2025 Lisboa to reaffirm this: to address Europe as a whole, to have much-needed and difficult conversations about our individualities and shared spaces and sense of belonging, and to acknowledge the underrepresented impact and contribution of LGBTI+ migrants and cultures. We want EuroPride 2025 Lisboa to engage an interregional, intercommunity dialogue, where we can support each other in our mutual concerns, where “us versus them” becomes only ourselves proudly embracing differing views and diversity.

Portugal currently ranks 9th on ILGA Europe’s Rainbow Map. We stagnated in terms of the recognition of rights and are very much aware of the long road ahead, particularly where there are

no rankings and indicators to guide us: on social perception and acceptance. Thus, we propose to look beyond local and national impact to address broad and persistent gaps: where North and South move at different speeds; where urban and rural speak different languages; where countryside and coast see human dignity differently. And yet, we bring to you a country where Prides are flourishing despite increasingly adverse conditions, and where formal and informal groups are joining forces in order to respond.

So, we want to share with you our concerns, address mutual challenges, and show you that together, being proudly oneself can overcome our individual fragilities to build a stronger, safer, and more diverse world.

Lisboa speaks for itself, with renowned hospitality, delicious food, charming nightlife and gorgeous views. During EuroPride 2025, we’re eager to explore with you its actual diversity: its uphill of successes and downhill of exclusion.

Come feel Proudly Yourselves!

*Marta Ramos*  
Representative of ILGA Portugal



*Diogo Vieira da Silva*  
Executive Director, Variações



## GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL



### LETTER OF SUPPORT

Lisboa, 4 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

It is with great pleasure that we support this bid to host EuroPride 2025, in Lisboa, and we trust your membership to choose this candidacy.

The Portuguese Republic Government, through the area of Equality, has been highly committed in fighting all forms of discrimination and violence against LGBTI+ persons as well as going forward with legislative responses and political measures to address and move forward towards equality for all.

As Secretary of State for Equality and Migration, I strongly value the work of civil society organizations and recognise the important role of ILGA Portugal, rede ex-aequo, AMPLOS and Variações in this common path.

In different fields of action these four organizations have contributed to create awareness and support LGBTI+ persons, materializing public funding in diverse initiatives through education, lobby, visibility, campaigns and, in this joint effort, aim to go a step forward.

As such, we strongly believe that EuroPride will have a major impact on fighting discrimination against the LGBTI+ communities, bring public visibility and awareness and will represent another milestone in our long welcoming and inclusive tradition.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I express my highest support in bringing to Lisboa the EuroPride 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you in Lisboa.

**Isabel Rodrigues**  
Digitally signed by Isabel Rodrigues  
Date: 2022.08.04 14:52:25 +01'00'

Isabel Almeida Rodrigues  
Secretary of State for Equality and Migration



## SUCCESSSES AND OBSTACLES

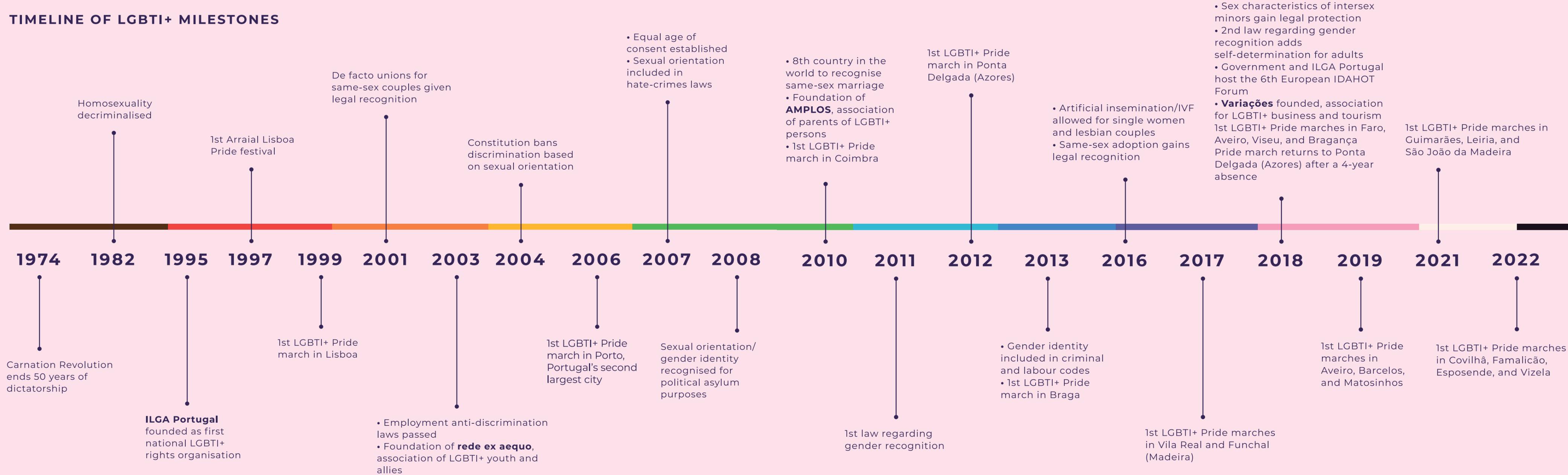
While Portugal's LGBTI+ Civil Society fosters best practices and achieves legal and political advances, pernicious shortcomings remain, such as much-needed protection from discrimination in access to goods and services, including adequate and competent healthcare. In addition, many laws remain fragmented and incomplete, either by seeing only sexual orientation as equivalent to LGBTI+ personal characteristic or by explicitly ignoring LGBTI+ issues entirely. Moreover, Portugal still does not understand that LGBTI+ issues are, at their core, about gender equality. Recent studies highlight that anti-LGBTI+ bullying is frequent in Portuguese schools and that educational curricula largely ignore Human Rights and LGBTI+ issues. This has significant impact, especially outside the cities of Lisboa and Porto, leaving much work to overcome cultural inertia and prejudice that hamper LGBTI+ security, equality, access, and inclusion.

Portugal thus bridges more- and less-advanced European countries in terms of LGBTI+ equality. On one hand, Portugal's successes can inform and empower political activism in other conservative societies, where progress is most urgent. On the other, Portugal's lapses remind even its more progressive peers to translate policy achievements into lived experience.

Hosting EuroPride in Lisboa would show Portugal the value, beauty, and power of diversity. EuroPride would federate the emerging crop of local Prides and LGBTI+ initiatives across the country, giving sustenance and permanence to a national movement that will inspire others. EuroPride would help ensure that headline progress does not remain confined to paper.



## TIMELINE OF LGBTI+ MILESTONES



## 2. BIDDERS: FOUR CARDINAL DIRECTIONS

The EuroPride 2025 Lisboa bid represents a joint effort by four national LGBTIQ+ organisations who, besides working together regularly, offer LGBTIQ+ people and their families a path to self-determination, autonomy, and community in all aspects of life:

- AMPLOS is the Association of Parents for the Liberty of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. It provides spaces for parents of LGBTIQ+ people to meet and share fears, strengths, and resources to better help and protect their children.
- ILGA Portugal is the country's oldest LGBTIQ+ organisation fighting discrimination and promoting equality for LGBTIQ+ people and their families through community-building, specialised services, and advocacy strategies.
- rede ex aequo is the LGBTIQ+ youth organisation. It supports LGBTIQ+ youth through nationwide networks and organises community-based events to inform about issues of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sexual characteristics.
- Variações is the LGBTIQ+ Business & Tourism Association of Portugal. It promotes LGBTIQ+ economic empowerment by federating LGBTIQ+-owned and -focused small businesses across the country, and employees and associations at larger firms.

The heads of these organisations compose a Steering Committee that consults a Civil Society Advisory Council including local Pride organisers and recognised non-profit groups working on LGBTIQ+ issues, ensuring the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders.



STRATEGY

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
Civil Society & Government



**CO-PRESIDENCY**  
(Policy Directors)



PLANNING

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES**



**STEERING COMMITTEE**  
(Heads of Bidding Organisations)



**INDEPENDENT PARTICIPANTS**  
Business & Culture

IMPLEMENTATION

**SECRETARIAT STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**

**VENDORS**

**EXHIBITORS**

**MEDIA**

**PUBLIC**



Founded in 1995, ILGA Portugal is an ILGA and ILGA-Europe member (also of its Advocacy Network), a founding member of NELFA, a member of TGEU, a supporting member of OII-Europe, a member of FRA's Fundamental Rights Platform, and a member of the Advisory Council of the Portuguese Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality.

Based in Lisboa, ILGA Portugal is a community-based, service provider and advocacy organisation with key initiatives including:

- **Political intervention:** Lobbying Portuguese political parties and the Government, building alliances with private and public institutions, organising conferences and promoting petitions, among other activities.

- **Arraial Lisboa Pride:** The largest annual LGBTIQ+ Pride event in Portugal. Integrated in the Festas de Lisboa municipal festival, the party takes place on Lisboa's main square. Live performances, DJ's and a Pride village including stands for NGOs and LGBTIQ+ businesses — in 2022 ALP drew 100.000 attendees to Terreiro do Paço.

- **LGBTIQ+ Centre:** The first LGBTIQ+ community centre in the country, gathering services for the community such as the LGBTIQ+ helpline, psychological and legal counseling, victim support, HIV and STI prevention, social integration assistance for LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers and refugees, a documentation centre on LGBTIQ+ issues; as well as many cultural and political events, and opportunities for supervised training and volunteer work.

- **Prémios Arco-Íris:** Annual Rainbow Awards ceremony honouring people or institutions whose work throughout the year promotes the fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender expression and identity, and sex characteristics.

- **Information:** Publications on LGBTIQ+ rights and access to resources, multimedia campaigns against LGBTIQ+ discrimination, education, and training of professionals to ensure LGBTIQ+ access to public services.



President - Ana Arestas (She/Her)

Lesbian, feminist, and Human Rights activist, Ana Aresta is President of the ILGA Portugal board since October 2019. Her connection with ILGA Portugal began in 2011 as a volunteer at the LGBTIQ+ Center. Since 2014 she actively collaborates in defining the community, political and strategic vision of the organisation. In addition to volunteering at ILGA Portugal, she practices professionally in the areas of Political Science and Communication, focusing on public policy, social and ecological commitments, reputation management, and crisis communication.



Representative - Marta Ramos (Co-President of EuroPride 2025 Lisboa) (She/Her)

With a background in Law and a major in Human Rights, Marta Ramos is the former Executive Director and a current member and volunteer of ILGA Portugal. In her previous position, she developed specific work and expertise on combating and raising awareness of anti-LGBTIQ+ hate crimes, particularly via projects such as the Observatory on Discrimination and UNI-FORM. She is an independent Human Rights consultant and previously worked in the Office of the Council for the European Commissioner for Human Rights, in the European Parliament, and at the Portuguese Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality.



Founded in 2018, Variações: the LGBTIQ+ Business & Tourism Association of Portugal unites more than 90 firms in a non-profit association that supports LGBTIQ+ economic empowerment in Portugal. The core membership consists of LGBTIQ+-owned, -managed, and -focused small businesses working with LGBTIQ+ NGOs, large firms, and public authorities to support diverse and inclusive workplaces, labour and business practices, and legislation.

Variações is responsible for Proudly Portugal — the first campaign to position Portugal as a destination for LGBTIQ+ travel, residence, and investment. This project reinforces the importance of local Pride and LGBTIQ+ initiatives across the country, giving sustenance and permanence to a national movement that will inspire people to visit. Promoting Portugal abroad thus promotes a culture of inclusivity domestically by using economic incentives to advance social goals.



President - João Passos (He/Him)

João Passos is President of Variações since 2020. With more than 13 years as a Real Estate Consultant at RE/MAX, and a Team Leader under the slogan "Homes for Everyone" since 2015, he specialises in serving LGBTIQ+ homebuyers nationally and internationally. He is an active leader in Portugal's LGBTIQ+ community, and his agency both serves as a hub for the LGBTIQ+ community in Lisboa and sponsors cultural, social, athletic, and charity events during the year.



Executive Director - Diogo Vieira da Silva (Co-President of EuroPride 2025 Lisboa) (He/Him)

Diogo Vieira da Silva is a co-founder and Executive Director of Variações since 2018. He became an LGBTIQ+ activist at a young age, having joined several projects, including leading Portugal in the European coordination of the It Gets Better Project from 2017 to 2018. As a business analyst passionate about Diversity and Inclusion, he serves as a curator for the Culturgest Foundation's international conference on **Diversity & Inclusion** issues. He holds degrees in International Trade, Hospitality Management and Digital Marketing, and a Master of Business Administration.



## rede ex aequo

associação de jovens lésbicas, gays, bissexuais, trans, intersexo e apoiantes

rede ex aequo began informal activities in 2002 through the Descentrar Project of ILGA Portugal, funded by the Portuguese Institute for Youth. It was formally organised in 2003 and attained legal status in 2004. rede ex aequo's mission is to:

- Fight discrimination, and promote social integration and recognition of the needs and specificities of LGBTI+ youth
- Implement strategic scientific, social, cultural, and political interventions on behalf of LGBTI+ youth and education
- Create and foster the development of local support, social and working groups for LGBTI+ youth and supporters

The association runs youth support groups, activism and social programmes throughout the country. rede ex aequo also organises discussions and clarification sessions in schools about sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. Victims can report instances of homophobic or transphobic bullying to the association's Observatory. In addition, rede ex aequo also offer support and information for family and friends of LGBTI+ young people.

rede ex aequo is a member of the National Register of Youth Associations, of the Advisory Council of the Portuguese Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality, of the National Youth Council, the Forum for the Rights of Children and Youth, and the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex Youth and Student Organisation (IGLYO).



**President - Isaac Rodrigues (He/Him)**

Born in France and living in Lisboa, Isaac Rodrigues began his path in activism in 2014 at rede ex aequo, coordinating a local LGBTI+ youth group in Cascais. Before becoming President of the organisation he was its Vice-President and Treasurer.



**Vice-President - Noah Leão (They/Them)**

Born in Setúbal, Noah Leão studies Computer Engineering and is currently developing their Master's thesis on "Digital Tools for the Curation of LGBTQ Cultural Heritage". They started their activist journey in 2018, including volunteer work at ILGA Portugal and QueerIST.



AMPLOS is a group for parents who fight for a more just society, opposing all forms of discrimination, and a founding member of the European Network of Parents of LGBTI+ Persons (ENP). AMPLOS focuses on combating discrimination related to sexual orientation and gender identity so that LGBTI+ people are accepted, can express their identity and affections, enjoy equal treatment, and fully exercise their rights and citizenship.

AMPLOS recognises that acceptance by parents is one of the most striking, and fundamental, moments of LGBTI+ people's self-acceptance. AMPLOS experience finds that many parents react brutally to this reality due to expectations they have created and prejudices that abound in society owing to the lack of information that results from the taboos against open discussions of LGBTI+ topics.

AMPLOS wants to be a group of parents who listen, clarify, and support each other — a platform for information and specialised support, responding to the individual and social needs of parents to perform civic action alongside their children and other organisations to defend LGBTI+ rights.



**President - Manuela Ferreira (She/Her)**

Mother of AMPLOS since 2010, Vice-President until 2013 and President since 2019, Manuela Ferreira embraced the LGBTI+ cause when she learned that one of her children is gay and has since then worked with families of LGBTI+ people in the fight against discrimination and for the protection of LGBTI+ rights in Portuguese law. A member of ENP, her work at AMPLOS leads her to participate in events and conferences in Portugal and abroad.



**Vice-President - Alexandra Teixeira (She/Her)**

Alexandra Teixeira is the mother of a young adult who happened to be born in a body with which he did not identify, and of a teenager who relatively recently announced that he is not heterosexual. She is a member of AMPLOS since 2016 and Vice-President of the Executive Board since 2019.

## CIVIL SOCIETY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Civil Society Advisory Council has a three-fold role to:

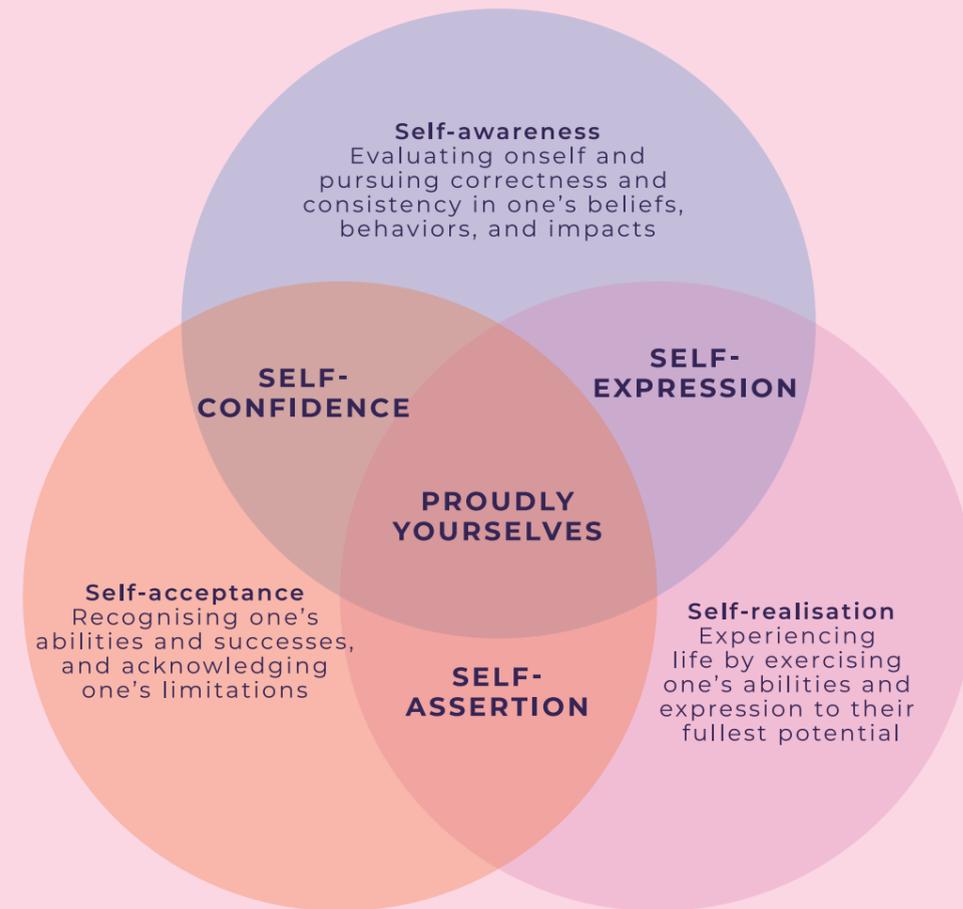
1. include perspectives from the full spectrum of groups based on identity, issues and geography across Portugal
2. engage the community beyond major cities and established LGBTI+ Civil Society issues and actors in a collective effort behind EuroPride
3. facilitate EPOA membership among new, local, Pride organisers across the country

In so doing, the Council will empower activism at local level nationwide, and connect individual efforts into a nationally visible and consolidated LGBTI+ movement. .



### 3. CONCEPT: PROUDLY YOURSELVES

Proudly Yourselves (in Portuguese, Orgulhosamente vós) is an invitation to celebrate everyone's uniqueness and our communities' diversity of personal characteristics. It purposely appropriates the former dictatorship of Portugal's defiant, imperialist "Orgulhosamente sós" ("Proudly alone"), and subverts it with an outstretched hand to honour individuals in a communal context. With society pulled in opposing directions, with divisions characterised less by "progressive vs. conservative" or "Left vs. Right" than by ideologies versus identities, and with advances in recognising, legitimising and empowering the infinite ways of human being increasingly threatened — on one hand, by mainstream backlash and, on the other, by radical factionalism that fragments LGBTI+ solidarity — Proudly Yourselves breaks down barriers between people by putting the focus on personal dignity.





## HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

EuroPride will include a Human Rights conference and an international youth encounter organised by *rede ex aequo* (see box). The conference will be free to attend, and present keynote speakers, panel discussions, roundtables, informational presentations, and practical workshops. The conference will be conducted by a renowned Portuguese TV host and followed by two LGBTI+-specialised rapporteurs who will attend workshops and collect notes on key messages. The sessions will cover a spectrum of inter-connected topics that span the varied needs of multi-speed progress on LGBTI+ rights evident across Europe.

**It's (not) an Age Thing** looks at the specific needs of LGBTI+ youth and how they are too often neglected by misconceptions about age. It recognises that today's young people are tomorrow's leaders and family heads, and those who will shape the society of the future. It looks beyond education to acknowledge the full experience of being young and LGBTI+.

• *Proposed speakers: IGLYO; SALTO-Youth Inclusion Resource Centre; International Partnership for Queer Youth Resilience (INQYR).*

**Seeking Sanctuary** looks at debunking the historical social misconception that belonging to faith communities and identifying as LGBTI+ are mutually exclusive. In today's European contexts where LGBTI+ identities are being contested by anti-gender movements, using alleged spiritual and religious standards, it aims at fostering a space to explore what it's like to be LGBTI+ and have a religion, faith or belief. It proposes to have an open, straight-forward interfaith debate informed also by discussions held during the Vatican's World Youth Day, which Portugal hosted earlier in 2023.

• *Proposed speakers: European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups; Confederation of Associations of LGBTQI European Muslims (CALEM) and Rainbow Jews.*

**Counter Erasing Gender** looks at the growing anti-gender, anti-LGBTI+ and anti-sexual and reproductive rights formal and informal movements in Europe and its ramifications in other regions of the world. It aims to address the flows of the so-called dark money and to equip the movement and individual LGBTI+ persons and allies with accurate and factual information that will enable active protection against these perilous threats.

• *Proposed speakers: Transgender Europe; European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights; openDemocracy; Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy.*

**Be Ok to Not Be OK** looks at mental health issues for LGBTI+ persons. It considers the impact that homophobia, transphobia, biphobia and interphobia have on the well-being of LGBTI+ persons, on top of the daily negation of living in a cis, white, heteronormative media environment. It analyses existing services and options for more adequate and appropriate healthcare.

• *Proposed speakers: Mental Health Europe; Pink Therapy; EPATH.*

**Body Feinting Gender** looks at LGBTI+ bias in sports and how it particularly affects trans, non-binary and intersex athletes. It also reflects on the underlying masculinity culture of sports and which opportunities athletes are given to come out as LGBTI+.

• *Proposed speakers: GaySurfers; Manchester Laces; FARE network; Outsports Project; Sports Fit All.*

**The Purpleconomy** looks at LGBTI+ economic empowerment and at its socioeconomic impact around us. It recognises that LGBTI+-owned, -run, and -friendly businesses offer opportunities and influence for people who may not have access to them elsewhere. It examines how business can continue to improve LGBTI+ autonomy, self-determination, and community, in particular by addressing acute problems in the LGBTI+ community like youth unemployment, mentoring, and retirement and eldercare. It also addresses negative effects like gentrification, hyper-tourism and persistent economic exclusion within the LGBTI+ world.

• *Proposed speakers: The European LGBTIQ Chamber of Commerce; MyGwork; Nova School of Business; B Lab; L'Autre Cercle; OECD; Schwulen Beratung; Rainbold; MisterB&B.*

We encourage diverse voices, including those on narrow and even controversial topics in an open environment that can structure and channel the passionate, sometimes chaotic but always fundamental process of activism. In addition to the official conference, we will list and promote sessions organised by others and connect them with the resources they require, including dedicated 'Self Space' areas in the EuroPride Village as venues for events.

## INTERNATIONAL YOUTH ENCOUNTER

The International Youth Encounter, organised primarily by *rede ex aequo*, will happen in Lisboa as a one-day event that will lead to the Human Rights conference to enable broader youth participation. The main purpose of this encounter is to connect youth organisations and individual young LGBTI+ activists to establish a stronger and more participated European youth network.

Young people have less budget to travel and participate in events like EuroPride, and their professional and activist networks tend to be limited. As today's young activists will become tomorrow's leaders, it is vital to provide them with the safe spaces, tools, knowledge, experiences and networking to empower them from the earliest. The International Youth Encounter thus aims to integrate more young people into EuroPride. We will work with donors and hostels to provide scholarships and accommodation for the encounter and to participate in the March and Arraial Lisboa EuroPride.

Young people from all over Europe will find a safe environment to share their experiences, deconstruct prejudices surrounding gender and sexuality, and build their skills and broaden their networks as activists.

## FESTIVALS, MARCH, AND ARRAIAL LISBOA EUROPRIDE

The EuroPride 2025 Lisboa week of activities is set to occur immediately following Lisboa's Patron Saint festivities. The city will be vivid with colour, music, neighbourhood celebrations and the aroma of grilled sardines. The EuroPride week is therefore envisaged as broadening from local to global scope, enabling participants to first get to know Lisboa while attending smaller, more community-focused events and, as of Wednesday, to centre their attention on the EuroPride Village and its programme of activities. During the entire week, cultural activities such as art exhibits and movie screenings will be available in different neighborhoods. Similarly, Lisboa student, nightlife, and LGBTI+ neighbourhoods will offer an array of popular restaurants, bars, clubs, and boutiques for different crowds, tastes, and budgets, all in close proximity to the EuroPride venues.

The EuroPride Village will reside in a main squares of the city centre. Several dozen stands will offer products, catering, information, and meeting places. As a political, cultural, and social forum, the EuroPride Village will dedicate areas for caucuses on youth, families, elders, women, and/or geographic regions, who will be the object of proactive outreach. The mainstage will feature daily performances to honour the festive side of Pride.

On the last day of EuroPride 2025, the March will follow Lisboa's central avenues, it's final leg down 2.5-kilometre Avenida da Liberdade to an enfilade of plazas that lead to the EuroPride Village for the closing speeches, handover ceremony and special edition of Arraial Lisboa Pride.lead to the EuroPride Village for the closing speeches, handover ceremony and concert.

## FROM SAFE SPACES TO SELF SPACES

All week, the EuroPride Self Space, open to the public, will inform people about LGBTI+ history with a retrospective exhibition about the European Pride movement's work and accomplishments. EPOA member organisations will be invited to provide multimedia content about the LGBTI+ history and current situation of their countries. Local media, schools, associations, and the public will be invited to events at the EuroPride Self Space or to visit them on their own.

As the hub of the larger EuroPride 2025 festival, the EuroPride Self Space will also hold official receptions and other events, and live-stream video links to conferences and other events happening in other places around Portugal and Europe. Furthermore, the space will be available for recognised, independent groups to reserve as a venue for their own presentations, meetings, and workshops organised to complement the EuroPride official schedule.

To extend the Proudly Yourselves concept across the city, EuroPride 2025 Lisboa will also offer a network of permanent and pop-up Self Spaces at key locations to host independently 'Self-organised' exhibitions, performances, meetings and events by groups in affiliation with EuroPride. These will range from specific booths within the EuroPride Village to the centre for the Human Rights conference, to other public and private facilities identified by the EuroPride 2025 Lisboa organisers or proposed by others.

Revenue-making initiatives that wish to appear on the 'Self-organised' calendar would be required to present their bi-lateral agreement to provide an LGBTI+ organisation, association or project financial benefit from the event.

## THE CULTURAL AGENDA

Physical, performed and literary artworks enables underrepresented communities to express themselves and spotlight their social and political needs. General perception is backed up by empirical evidence that LGBTI+ art and culture are often ignored and targeted for oppression and repression, including in many European contexts.

EuroPride 2025 Lisboa aims two showcase LGBTI+ artists. A 2019 meeting of Portuguese curators made clear the widespread desire to include LGBTI+ narratives in artistic and cultural programming. EuroPride Village and other venues, such as museums, galleries, and cultural associations will therefore be invited to develop and exhibit materials and programming during the month of June and beyond. This is an opportunity to debate the need to continuously include LGBTI+ narratives in cultural spheres and cross-cultural sectors.

In addition, during EuroPride week, we intend to organise festivals of public LGBTI+ movie screenings, and inclusive sporting events for LGBTI+ athletes different abilities. We will also invite, encourage and enable smaller and independent entities to develop programming, which could be presented in the EuroPride Self Space and/or other municipal facilities located throughout Lisboa.

## ARRAIAL LISBOA EUROPRIDE

Arraial Lisboa EuroPride is a special edition of the annual Arraial Lisboa Pride, Portugal's largest LGBTI+ event. Since 1997, it has been organised by ILGA Portugal in partnership with the Lisbon City Council, EGEAC and the civil parishes of Misericórdia and Santa Maria Maior. This event has consistently given visibility to the LGBTI+ population, their families and allies in a celebration of pride in equality. In 2022, it hosted an estimated 100,000 participants over 10 hours of stage programme.

For 2025, a special version of the event, which usually occurs one week after the Lisboa Pride March, will be organised on the same date the march traditionally occurs, to serve as the closing party of EuroPride. It is and will maintain its open-air, free-entry nature.

## 4. AGENDA: 8 DAYS OF SELF-ENCOUNTERS

The core EuroPride 2025 Lisboa agenda will take place Saturday-Saturday, 14-21 June 2025, which coincides with Lisboa's annual Santos Populares that attract locals and tourists to arraial street-festivals celebrating the city's many communities. In this atmosphere, the EuroPride Village and Self Spaces around the city will open to visitors the evening of Saturday, 14 June with a variety of small-scale opening events around Lisboa to celebrate self-expression and foster the safe-space environments.

From Sunday to Tuesday, community events organised by members of the Advisory Council will kick-off the movement towards a more international programme set to happen from Wednesday to Saturday. During that week, movie screenings and cultural exhibitions will take place in venues around Lisboa, contributing to the inclusive and welcoming tone of EuroPride events.

The internationally-focused programme will start on Wednesday evening with an official reception. Thursday will be dedicated to the International Youth Encounter, which will lead participants to the Human Rights Conference, contributing to intergenerational dialogue and intersections. The Human Rights conference will have a full-day, high-level programme on Friday.

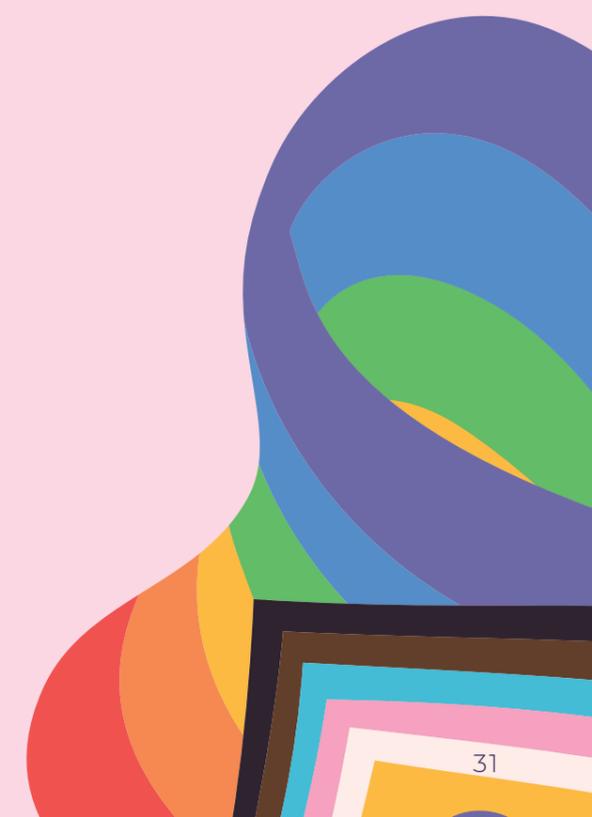
During all this time, the EuroPride Village and selected venues will offer formal talks/panels and informal networking events. EuroPride festivities will culminate with the EuroPride March on Saturday, 21 June, following a route through the city centre to the EuroPride Village for closing speeches, the handover ceremony, and the Arraial Lisboa EuroPride.

### HIGHLIGHTS

1. Crescendo of events culminating in the EuroPride March, handover and concert
2. **Extends LGBTI annual youth camping retreat and activism workshops by rede ex aequo** with accommodation support in Lisbon for student participants
3. **QueerLisboa Film Festival**, showing 100+ LGBTI-themed feature, short and documentary films from around the world
4. **EuroPride Self Space** venue to host public exhibitions, events, and livestream to allow remote event attendance
5. **Three days of Human Rights Conference**
6. Promoted agenda of independent cultural and social events to attract LGBTI tourists during conference period
7. Ten days of EuroPride Village
8. **Three days of EuroPride Village** in Lisbon
9. EuroPride Festivities concurrent with **Pitch Beach sports festival**, with teams of LGBTI athletes from over a dozen countries

## SCHEDULE

Saturday 14 June	Sunday 15 June	Mon-Tue, 16-17 June	Wednesday 18 June	Thursday 19 June	Friday 20 June	Saturday 21 June	Sunday 22 June
<b>EuroPride Village opening</b>	<b>EuroPride Self Space Opening</b>	<b>EuroPride Village and Self Space events</b>	<b>EuroPride Reception</b>	<b>International Youth Encounter</b>	<b>Human Rights Conference</b>	<b>EuroPride March, Closing ceremony &amp; Arraial Lisboa EuroPride</b>	<b>Hangover after closing</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EuroPride Village opening</li> <li>• Media event TBC</li> <li>• Official Opening Ceremony &amp; Concert</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EuroPride Self Space exhibition opening</li> <li>• Queer movies screening</li> <li>• Independent social and cultural events TBC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGO partner workshops</li> <li>• Queer movies screening</li> <li>• Independent social and cultural events TBC</li> <li>• EuroPride Self Space exhibit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official Reception by the Government and Lisboa Municipality</li> <li>• Media event TBC</li> <li>• Independent social and cultural events TBC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Workshops and Networking</li> <li>• Queer movies screening</li> <li>• Sports festival opening party</li> <li>• Independent social and cultural events TBC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keynote speeches</li> <li>• Panel discussions</li> <li>• Closing addresses</li> <li>• Media event TBC</li> <li>• Sports festival day</li> <li>• Queer movies screening</li> <li>• Independent social and cultural events TBC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EuroPride Village</li> <li>• EuroPride Self Space exhibit</li> <li>• EuroPride Parade</li> <li>• Closing Ceremony</li> <li>• Arraial Lisboa EuroPride</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Informal activities for EPOA late stayers</li> <li>• Queer movies screening</li> <li>• Independent social and cultural events TBC</li> <li>• Sports festival closing</li> </ul>

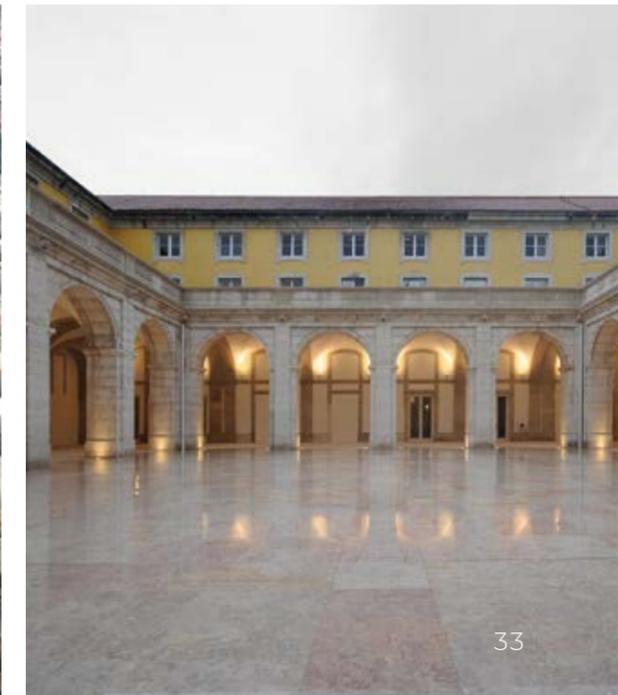
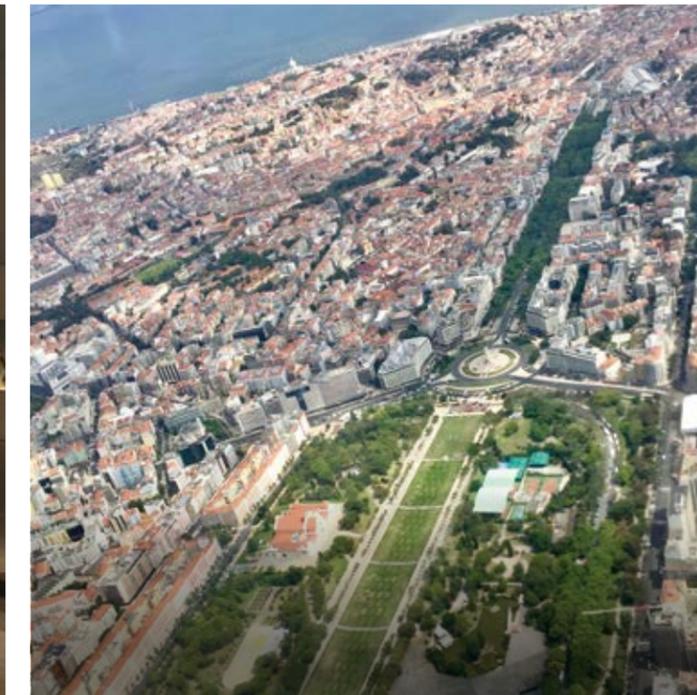




## VENUES

As the country's largest city, and its political, social, cultural and economic hub, Lisboa welcomes a constant stream of conventions, festivals and other events. The city hosts the annual Web Summit attracting as many as 70,000 people to the city each year since its move from Dublin in 2016. Lisboa also hosted the EuroVision Song Contest in 2018, receiving more than 50,000 attendees from abroad. Annual music festivals like NOS Alive, Superbock Super Rock, MEO Outjazz attract international headliners and their thousands of fans every summer.

Praça do Comercio is the main city square of 3.5 hectares on the shores of the Tagus river where it widens to form Lisboa's harbour. Here, the annual Arraial Lisboa Pride village and concert hosted 100,000 people in 2022. The ornate City Hall is across the street. Tree-, fountain-, and commerce-lined Avenida da Liberdade runs north 2.5 km to Marques de Pombal plaza — the gateway to the old city centre and site of football victory celebrations — where it branches into broad avenues towards newer parts of the city.



## MOBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

EuroPride venues were selected for their proven ease of access for people with accessibility restrictions: ramp entrances, accessible toilets, wheelchair-suitable elevators, priority services and other features.

Lisboa infamously hilly areas with steep and narrow alleys give character to certain older neighborhoods. But the heart of the city comprises large, flat, easily navigable zones served by wheelchair-accessible mass transit and free public lifts to higher elevations. Where these are not available, taxis and ride-share services offer a nimble, abundant, safe and inexpensive alternative.

Further, the recent tourism and property boom has fuelled investment to redevelop antiquated buildings. Accommodation and facilities that were once inaccessible by dint of age now conform to modern standards of accessibility, safety and egress. This travel guide highlights Lisboa's accessibility facilities and organisations for more information: <https://www.handiscover.com/en/content/post/why-visit-lisbon-wheelchair-access>.

In addition, all major events events and public speeches will offer Portuguese and English Sign Language interpretation, and audio components of multimedia materials will be created to secure participation of blind, low vision and visually impaired people.



## 5. BUSINESS PLAN: SUSTAINABLE SUCCESS

EuroPride 2025 Lisboa public events, including the Human Rights Conference will be free to attend. In addition, our planning includes helping students with accommodations to make youth participation a priority.

Communications will take a digital-first, substance-first approach, timed with the calendar of European and worldwide LGBTI+ events from 2022 to 2025. Social-media platforms will serve for audience capture and as extensions of the EuroPride 2025 website and app. By going beyond promotion and information to deliver added-value knowledge, we will position EuroPride 2025 as a must-attend event.

Faithful to our Proudly Yourselves concept, for EuroPride to be a positive force for communities, we will design a social and environmental programme to guide our efforts. We will aim to meet B Lab standards for sustainability and inclusivity the full length of our supply and value chains, and encourage our vendors and partners to do the same.

Project Revenues (EUR)		Projected Expenditures (EUR)	
Sponsors	395,000	EPOA license	10,000
Portugal Tourism Agency	375,000	Administration 2022-2025	246,000
National Government	270,000	Staff costs	25,000
Local Governments	175,000	Volunteer costs	16,000
Participation fees (floats/stages)	95,000	Marketing/communications	75,000
Stand/booth rentals	95,000	Venue rentals	30,000
Merchandise sales	45,000	Stages, sound and light	650,000
Catering sales	35,000	Equipment rental	95,000
Donations	32,000	Production	55,000
Variações	25,250	Performers	76,500
		Insurance	10,000
		Travel	54,500
		Accommodation	75,500
		Utilities	11,750
		Security	46,000
		Catering	31,000
		Cleaning and sanitation	35,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,542,250</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,542,250</b>

## MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

EuroPride 2025 Lisboa will be marketed as a single, contiguous, 8-day festival. ILGA Portugal will lead in communicating with LGBTI+ social and political action and Human Rights networks across Europe. rede ex aequo will engage with youth organisations involved in LGBTI+ issues. Variações will be responsible for broader LGBTI+ consumer marketing and promotion, with the aid of Proudly Portugal (see box).

Consistent with the pillars of Proudly Yourselves, EuroPride 2025 Lisboa marketing and communications will aim to foster:

- **Awareness:** Inform people about EuroPride 2025 Lisboa about the dates, events, travel and accommodation options, and key news about the preparations (e.g. high-profile speaker/performer appearances, etc.)
- **Acceptance:** Inspire people to attend EuroPride 2025 Lisboa with information about EuroPride's spirit of community, contribution, and celebration, as well as about the opportunities visitors will have to express Pride and experience Portugal
- **Realisation:** Initiate people's engagement in support of EuroPride (viral effects) with ways to participate in and contribute to the build-up through interactivity (polls, games, contests) and user-generated content.

Communications will follow a digital-first, substance-first approach, timed with the calendar of European and worldwide LGBTI+ events from 2022 to 2025. Social media will serve for audience-capture and as interfaces to disseminate news, information, entertainment and other content from the EuroPride 2025 website and app. Content will lead with stories and issues to introduce and highlight the importance of the people, topics, and other elements of the EuroPride 2025 programme. By going beyond promotion and information to deliver added-value knowledge, we will position EuroPride 2025 as a must-attend event.

While online multimedia content and interactivity drive audience engagement, print formats, influencer outreach, and events will add durable, personal, and tangible reach where digital is less effective. We will focus on advertising and press coverage in key European and international LGBTI+ media, and by leading bloggers/vloggers, with emphasis on reaching underrepresented audiences within the larger LGBTI+ community. Finally, EuroPride 2025 Portugal will feature prominently in the Proudly Portugal presence at LGBTI+ travel expos ITB Berlin, FITUR, BTL Lisboa, IGLTA and others, and during events in Portugal, such as the Queer Lisboa Film Festival, community Prides, Web Summit, and others.

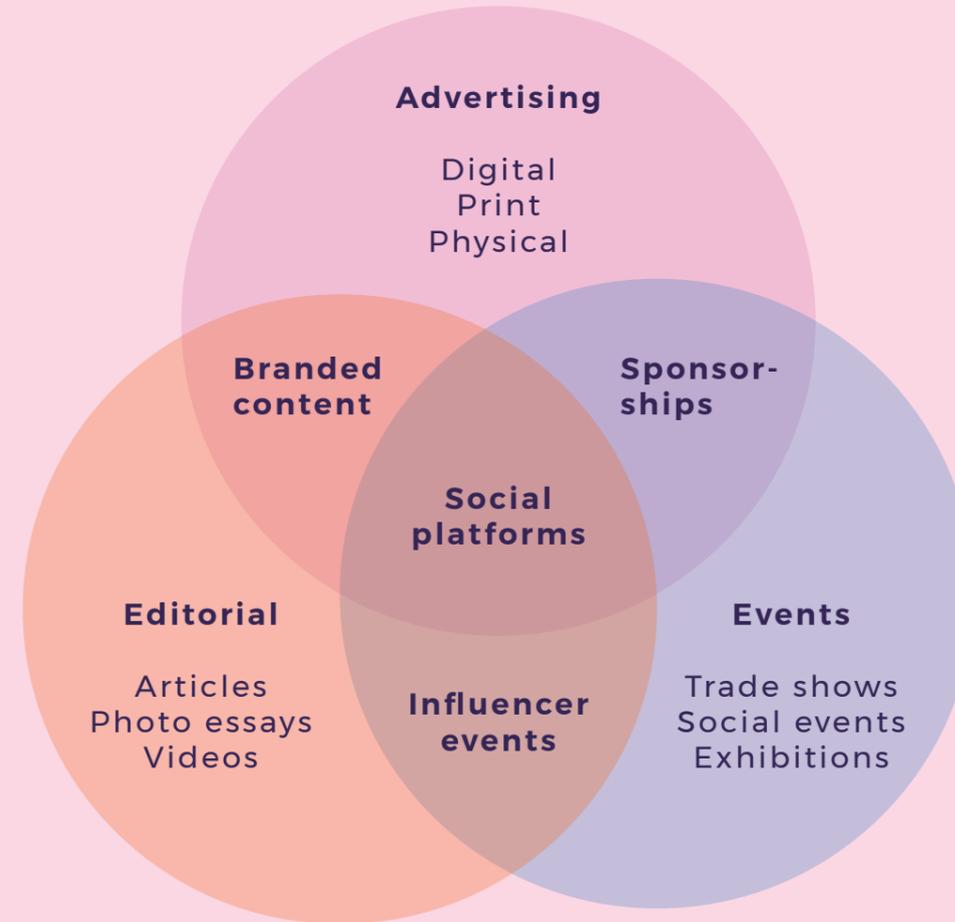
## #PROUDLYPORTUGAL

Marketing and communications for EuroPride 2025 Portugal will benefit from the resources of Proudly Portugal. Proudly Portugal seeks to establish Portugal as a place where LGBTI+ tourists, residents, and investors are welcome. EuroPride would naturally be an opportunity for Portugal to demonstrate these values in action.

Proudly Portugal asserts, on the one hand, that economic empowerment is a Human Right and an essential part of LGBTI+ equality. On the other hand, it maintains that diversity and inclusion bring opportunities for all. It thus uses economic incentives to achieve social goals.

Proudly Portugal launched in 2019, financed by a grant from Portugal's Ministry of Economy Secretary of State for Tourism, and implemented by Variações. This aligns the needs of EuroPride organisers and Portuguese LGBTI+ organisations with those of the Government to ensure buy-in across stakeholders and at all levels.

## COMMUNICATIONS FRAMEWORK



## SUSTAINABILITY

Being Beyond Proud also means being exemplary in our impact on the world. That is why EuroPride 2025 Lisboa will make controlling its environmental, socioeconomic impact a priority.

The operational specifics will be elaborated with technical experts such as B Lab (see box) to reduce the event's environmental footprint and create positive social externalities where possible. This includes, but is not limited to: reducing/eliminating event swag; prioritising recycled/recyclable materials; prioritising mass transit, rail travel, and ride-sharing; prioritising clean and renewable energy; rules and raising awareness about pollution and waste disposal; prioritising local sourcing, contracting and human resources to anchoring economic benefits in the community; raising awareness about local issues and coordination with housing and social welfare advocates.

Furthermore, the Code of Conduct we establish will apply to our relations with suppliers, partners, and practitioners in order to broaden its impact through network effects.

## B LAB CERTIFICATION

B Lab is a non-profit organisation that serves a global movement of people using business as a force for good. B Lab's vision is of an inclusive and sustainable economy that creates a shared prosperity for all. Criteria go beyond product- or service-level certification to measure social and environmental performance. The B Impact Assessment evaluates how operations and business model impact workers, community, environment, and customers. From supply chain and input materials to charitable giving and benefits, B Lab certification protects the highest standards of verified performance, supported by transparency and accountability requirements.

## 6. PORTUGAL: #1 FOR LGBTI+ TRAVEL

The ultimate measure of Pride is its long-term impacts. The short-term measure of Pride is size: how mass a statement it makes and how many individual lives it lifts. Size is the product of substance and style.

Renowned for its warm weather and warm welcome, Portugal is among the 20 most visited countries in the world, receiving an average of 13 million foreign tourists annually. Ranked among the five most peaceful countries in the world, Portugal also tied for #1 on the 2019 Spartacus Gay Travel Index. Since five years, Portugal consistently features among Top-10 destinations, on both professional (Monocle, Lonely Planet, Conde Nast Traveller, etc.) and user-generated (TripAdvisor, Airbnb, etc.) lists.

While the need for greater LGBTI+ social acceptance and legal equality is acute, openness to foreigners and a culture of respectfulness mean that Portugal remains among the safest, most welcoming places for LGBTI+ travelers. Portugal has a dynamic, visible LGBTI+ presence, and initiatives in smaller cities are multiplying rapidly as evidenced by the local Prides and EPOA members emerging in the last two years.

### GETTING THERE

Located in the southwest corner of Europe, Lisboa is no more than a medium-haul direct flight from any European country. At the same time, its location makes Lisboa the closest European capital to much of the Americas and Africa. Once arrived, Portugal's small size and well-developed transportation systems make travel within the country easy, quick and inexpensive.

### AIR

Lisboa is Portugal's main airport and international point of entry. It offers short- and medium-haul non-stop service to most European cities on a wide array of traditional and low-cost airlines, as well as direct long-haul service to cities in Africa, the Americas and the Middle East. Located mere minutes from their city centres, they both feature easy and safe rapid-transit to downtown or to rail, road and sea hubs for onward travel.

### ROAD & RAIL

Portugal boasts one of the world's most modern and comprehensive transport networks. Congestion is rare and distances short, allowing travelers either to move easily along an itinerary or remain in one location with day-trips nearby. Portugal's main rail line runs north-south connecting to the Capital City. High-speed tilt-technology trains make the run almost hourly, with First and Second Classes, and on-board dining. Less expensive conventional trains run only slightly slower.

## HIGHLIGHTS

Lisboa, the colourful capital of Portugal, known for its diverse atmospheres, dramatic landscapes and year-round sun. In 2018, Lisboa won the World Travel Awards for Best Destination City and Best Destination City Break. The city is a contrast study between ancient tiled palaces and modern museum buildings, labyrinthine alleyways and grand avenues, traditional shops and high-concept boutiques, street food and Michelin-star dining, all bound together by centuries of literary tradition and the haunted tones of Fado. Outside the city, from the mountaintop castles of Sintra, to the uninterrupted 30 km curving beach of Caparica, including many LGBTI+-friendly and nudist areas, from glittering nightlife to forest yoga classes there is fun for every taste and budget.

## ACCOMMODATION, DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

As any European city, Lisboa offers a vast array of accommodations. Dozens of lodgings, from award-winning youth hostels to international-brand luxury hotels, fill the city centre. In addition to these, serviced and self-catering holiday flats are available throughout the city at a range of prices. With evolving regulations these are becoming less disruptive to local housing and neighbourhood dynamics.

Portugal's economic recovery and tourism boom have brought a cornucopia of dining options, from street food to artisanal organic to Michelin-starred gourmet, blending local classics with contemporary reinterpretations and fusions of international influences. And of course wine traditions are ever-present.

At night, Lisboa's action is up the hill, around Bairro Alto, whose sleepy daytime alleyways explode in an extended street party that goes long into the night. The hardiest among us can go on from there to the clubs of Principe Real or down along the water-perfect to watch the sunrise. Several streets of the historic centre comprise the "gayborhood" with cafés, restaurants and bars where every identity can find their niche.

## COSTS

While Portugal's economic recovery and popularity with tourists caused certain prices to rise, it also brought an expansion of options to suit all budgets. It remains one of the EU's lowest-cost travel destinations. At the same time, the country is known to offer good value for money, with high-end restaurant meals rarely exceeding EUR 50/person and mid-price lodging in the EUR 100 range even in high season. Taxis and ride-sharing, and mass transit, including long-distance rail and bus are similarly economical.



# LETTERS OF SUPPORT





**MAYOR'S OFFICE**  
City Hall of Lisbon

Subject: Letter of Support to Variações & ILGA Portugal to EuroPride 2025

Dear EPOA Members,

I am truly inspired to witness the great number of applications to the EuroPride 2025.

As Mayor of Lisbon, I am therefore honoured to support Lisbon's application to host the EuroPride in 2025. Since its Foundation, in 1992, EuroPride represents freedom, diversity and happiness.

And I believe Lisbon is the right choice to host the EuroPride in 2025.

Lisbon is a city with vast experience in organizing major events like Eurovision Final or the Websummit, showcasing our leadership in leading the diversity and the tech agendas.

Lisbon has a long tradition of inclusiveness, shared knowledge and cooperation that justifies the organization of such an event.

As the most southwestern capital of Europe, Lisbon is the gatekeeper to wider inclusiveness. Lisbon is connected to the Americas by the Ocean. Lisbon has a longstanding successful relationship with Africa and is the closest European capital to the African continent.

We want to celebrate Lisbon's diversity by bringing together the LGBTIQ+ community. Yet, we still encounter many barriers at the social, political and economical levels.

Therefore, I express the city's and my personal commitment in endorsing this application.

Warmly,

Lisbon City Hall, February 25th, 2022

The Mayor

Carlos Moedas



**CIG**  
COMISSÃO PARA A CIDADANIA  
E A IGUALDADE DE GÉNERO  
Membro da Coligação Internacional Sida

**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisboa, 2 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

It is with great pleasure that the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality supports this bid to host EuroPride 2025 in Lisboa.

We consider that EuroPride, as a Human Rights and gender equality promoting event, is an excellent opportunity for Portugal to share its expertise and experience and to learn from other best practices on LGBTI+ rights.

Hosting EuroPride would be a great honour and responsibility to Portugal, and the next natural step after hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> European IDAHOT Forum in 2018. This is a sign of our commitment to Human Rights, gender equality and LGBTI+ rights.

We look forward to receiving you in 2025.

Sandra Ribeiro

President of the Portuguese Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality

SEDE  
Rua Almeida Bramilão, 7 – 1200-602 Lisboa  
Tel: (+351) 217 983 000  
e-mail: cig@gov.pt

DELEGAÇÃO DO PORTO  
Rua Ferreira Borges, 69, 3<sup>a</sup> fase – 4050-253 Porto  
Tel: (+351) 222 074 370  
e-mail: cignorte@cig.gov.pt



**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisbon, 2 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

GAT – Group of Activists in Treatments, founded in 2001, is a Portuguese non-governmental, not-for-profit, membership-driven organization of cooperation among people from different communities affected by HIV and AIDS. GAT is managed by people affected and infected by HIV/AIDS and advocates for legal and policy changes that will positively affect the health, rights, and quality of life of people living with or at increased risk of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

GAT provides services in Portugal targeting different key populations more vulnerable to HIV, viral hepatitis, and STIs, including Lisbon Checkpoint focusing on gay and bisexual men and other men who have sex with men and Espaço Intendente working mostly with trans people and sex workers.

Though GAT acknowledges substantial progress for LGBTI+ rights recognition in Portugal, the organisation still considers that there are unmet and urgent needs to be addressed. It stresses the lack of access to adequate and competent healthcare services for LGBTI+ people.

Therefore, GAT strongly supports Lisboa application to host EuroPride 2025.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Fernandes  
Executive Director

GAT – Grupo de Ativistas em Tratamentos  
Av. Paris, 4 – 1º direito 1000-228 Lisboa NIF 506 248 259 E-mail: [geral@gatportugal.org](mailto:geral@gatportugal.org)  
Tel: 210 967 826 Fax 210 938 216 Móvel 913 606 295 Registada como I.P.S.S. com o n.º 11/2004



**ASSOCIAÇÃO  
PLANO i**  
PARA A IGUALDADE E INCLUSÃO

**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisboa, 2 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

Plano i Association is a social solidarity institution and a non-profit non-governmental organisation created in 2015 and based in Oporto.

Since its foundation, it has been responsible for the advancement of several pioneer projects in the field of promoting gender equality and preventing and combating gender and domestic violence. Some of these projects focus particularly on LGBTI+ issues, namely: 1) Gis Centre: care and support services for LGBTI+ victims of gender and domestic violence in a specialised structure; 2) Roving Health Office: consultations, screenings, information campaigns and prevention of STIs for LGBTI+ people in mobile units; 3) Rainbow House: emergency shelter for LGBTI+ victims of gender and domestic violence; 4) Advisory Council for LGBTI+ issues: consultative body of pedagogical and scientific character represented by civil society organisations, associations, collectives and individuals.

Plano i, is also responsible for the organisation of the yearly event Matosinhos Pride, which first took place in 2019.

Therefore, Plano i strongly supports Lisboa's application to host EuroPride 2025.

Sincerely,

Mafalda Ferreira  
Secretary of Plano i Association



**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisboa, 3 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

"Associação aeQuum – Apoio à Inclusão LGBTI+" is a non-profit non-governmental organisation created in 2021 and based in Faro. Our current mission is to promote and improve the inclusion of the LGTBI+ community in the Portuguese society, by offering various services and by advancing with innovative social actions.

To achieve that goal we set ourselves to work on the creation of a social insertion flat and a LGBTI+ community centre for the Algarve Region. We seek social transformation through non-formal education and awareness raising in various fields. Our presence and participation in social networks, innovation think-tanks and conferences is closely coordinated with our current mission and adding the extra effort to influence local and national policy makers.

The relevance of such an impactful event as EuroPride would have on our community and society would be highly welcomed. It would deliver a message of hope to all of us, and most importantly, it would present a collective effort for unity and mutual strength. It would also put in question the most recent transphobic behaviour of our media channels. Therefore, and considering the relevance of events such as EuroPride to uphold and secure LGBTI+ visibility and progress, aeQuum is proud to support Lisboa's application to host EuroPride 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you,

João Henrique Duarte

President of the Board of Associação aeQuum



**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisboa, 2 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

APF – Associação para o Planeamento da Família, was founded in 1967 and aims to help people make free and conscious choices in their sexual and reproductive lives and to promote positive parenting.

APF is the Portuguese member of IPPF – International Planned Parenthood Federation, the federation that brings together family planning associations in almost every country in the world.

Though APF acknowledges substantial progress for LGBTI+ rights recognition in Portugal, the organisation considers Portugal still has a long road to achieve adequate and discrimination-free access to sexual and reproductive rights for women and LGBTI+ people.

Therefore, APF strongly supports Lisboa application to host EuroPride 2025.

Sincerely,

Rita Tavares Fonseca  
Executive Director



**Letter of Support to Portugal's Candidacy to EuroPride 2022**

Porto, July 11, 2019

Dear Kristine Garina,  
President of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

Plano i Association is pleased to strongly support Portugal's application for EuroPride 2022.

Plano i Association is a social solidarity institution and a non-profit non-governmental organization created in 2015 based in Porto.

Since its foundation, it has been responsible for the advancement of several pioneer projects in the field of promoting gender equality and preventing and combating domestic and gender violence, some of which are specialized in LGBTI issues, namely: 1) Centro Gis (funded in the first phase by the State Department for Citizenship and Equality, and Matosinhos City Council and currently also by POISE) - care and support for LGBTI victims of gender and domestic violence in a specialized structure; 2) Roving Health Office - consultations, screenings, information campaigns and prevention of sexually transmitted infections for LGBTI people in mobile units; 3) Casa Arco-Iris [Rainbow House] - emergency shelter for LGBTI victims of gender and domestic violence; 4) Advisory Council for LGBTI issues - creation of a consultative body of pedagogical and scientific character represented by civil society organizations, associations, collectives and individuals.

Plano i is also responsible for the organisation of the first Pride in Matosinhos, in the north of Portugal, that will take place in 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2019.

Best regards,

Paula Almeida  
Vice-President of Plano i Association



**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisbon, 4 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

Opus Diversidades, founded in 1997 is Portugal's second oldest LGBTI+ organisation and is a not-for-profit non-governmental organisation striving to defend the Human Rights of sexual and ethnic minorities, particularly focusing on the eradication of stigma against LGBTI+ older persons.

Opus Diversidades provides psychological, social, legal, autonomisation and empowerment, and other support services to the LGBTI+ communities and runs a temporary emergency shelter (CATE) for people who are in an acute social vulnerability situation - CATE is primarily devoted to LGBTI+ people but also provides protection to other marginalized communities, such as migrants and asylum seekers or sex workers.

We believe in the added value of hosting EuroPride in Portugal in 2025, and on its positive impact in community empowerment, pro-Human Rights policies, institutions, and companies. Fighting discrimination and promoting equality for LGBTI+ people and their families means promoting visibility and supporting outspoken, straightforward, and pedagogical events as this candidacy.

We look forward to welcoming you to Lisboa.

Sincerely Yours,

Helder Bértolo

President of the Board of Directors

Obra Gay Associação  
Rua da Ilha Terceira, 34-2º, 1000-173 LISBOA

NIPC – 504 455 311

IPSS (Instituição Particular de Solidariedade Social) e ONG (Organização Não-Governamental), sem Fins Lucrativos, reconhecida como Pessoa Coletiva de Utilidade Pública, cujo registo foi efetuado pela Segurança Social, registada sob o nº 35/11, a fls 106 verso e 107 do Livro nº 13 das Associações de Solidariedade Social, a 24/04/2009

[www.opusdiversidades.org](http://www.opusdiversidades.org) | [geral@opusdiversidades.org](mailto:geral@opusdiversidades.org) | [www.facebook.com/opusdiversidades](http://www.facebook.com/opusdiversidades) | Tel.: 92 446 74 85



**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisboa, 3 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

The Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV) is a private charitable organisation, recognised by law with statutory objective to inform, protect and support citizens who have been victims of crime. It is a non-profit organisation, which supports victims of crime in a personal, sensitive, and professional way, through the provision of free and confidential services.

Bearing in mind that APAV's work focuses on the support of victims of crime, its commitment with the promotion of tolerance and respect for diversity, by recognising it as a fundamental step in increasing the sense of friendliness and safety for LGBTI+ people, APAV supports Lisboa's application for EuroPride 2025. APAV recognises the positive impact the event may have in strengthening the environment of tolerance and respect for diversity in the Portuguese and European countries and their respective migrant communities.

Furthermore, APAV is committed to contribute to EuroPride's programme, by suggesting debates/conferences on how to raise awareness on attitudes, behaviours and/or speeches promoting intolerance and violence and to, instead, develop counternarratives to promote tolerance and foster respect for diversity and Human Rights.

Sincerely,

Lisboa, 2 August 2022



**Letter of Support**  
**Lisboa's Candidacy to EuroPride 2025**

Lisboa, 3 August 2022

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

The Portuguese Association for Diversity and Inclusion (Associação Portuguesa para a Diversidade e Inclusão - APPDI) is a national non-profit association whose mission is to promote diversity and inclusion (D&I) in organizations and civil society, through the promotion of several initiatives, such as:

- the **Portuguese Diversity Charter** (an initiative from the European Commission that aims to put the European Union's strategy into practice through the implementation and development of D&I internal policies and practices);
- the **Engineers for a Day Program** (an initiative of the Portuguese Government that aims to raise awareness of STEM career options for female-identified students up to 18 years of age);
- and, the **Project Diverse and Active: Promotion of Diversity and Non-Discrimination in the Workplace** (which promotes diversity and tolerance, combating discrimination at work with human resources professionals and labor inclusion professionals).

Therefore, and considering the relevance of events such as EuroPride to uphold and secure general equality and non-discrimination, and particularly, LGBTI+ visibility and progress, APPDI is proud to support Lisboa's application to host EuroPride 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you,

*Mónica Canário*

APPDI's Team



**Letter of Support**

Being the legacy airline that connects the World with Portugal since 1945, we are truly proud to be part of our country's history and to represent its values of inclusion and hospitality.

At TAP, we embrace diversity and we welcome onboard every client and employee, continuously working to create a safe space where different thoughts, beliefs, and sexual orientation can be freely expressed, alongside with gender equality.

Because together we win.

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that TAP Air Portugal supports EuroPride 2025 in Lisbon and will be honored to bring the World to our beautiful and friendly country.

Kind regards,

Lisbon, 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2022



Christine Carmières-Widener  
CEO



Lisboa, 5 August 2022

**Ref: Lisbon's Candidacy to host EuroPride 2025**

Dear members of EPOA – European Pride Organisers Association,

The Embassy of Canada to Portugal very much welcomes Lisboa's bid to host EuroPride 2025.

Portugal is a country renowned for its commitment to human rights and diversity, with international best practices and ground-breaking policies on LGBTI+ issues.

The Embassy of Canada has had longstanding constructive engagement with local LGBTI+ civil society organisations and has had the privilege to organise specific events and to be present and support LGBTI+ events organised by various partners.

We believe that hosting EuroPride 2025 in Lisbon would have an important impact on further mainstreaming LGBTI+ rights and strengthening efforts to combat discrimination against LGBTI+ communities in Portugal, in other European countries, and internationally.

We look forward to considering further engagement in support of this initiative should Lisboa's bid be successful.



Lisa Rice Madan  
Ambassador of Canada to Portugal



