



Parliamentarians *for Global Action*
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي

International parliamentary support to promote the human rights and
inclusion of LGBTI people:

UNDP/PGA's Handbook for Parliamentarians

www.pgaction.org

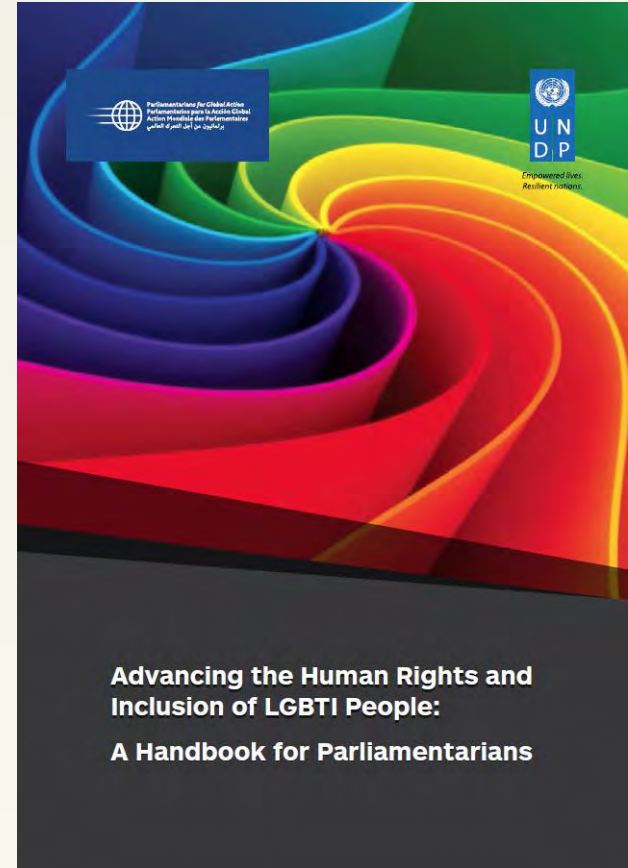
Ms. Petra Bayr, Member of
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Member of PACE Committee on
Equality and Non-Discrimination

HANDBOOK FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS



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- Produced by PGA and UNDP
- It contains:
 - Background information about LGBTI people and their situation
 - Principles of international human rights law
 - Concrete actions that parliamentarians can take to promote the human rights of LGBTI people
 - Advice and practical tools
 - Successful case studies from different countries around the world
- Available at www.pgaction.org/inclusion, where you can find other useful resources



TAKE ACTION



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Advancing the rights and inclusion of all individuals, including LGBTI people, is the **responsibility of all parliamentarians.**

MPs can take action to safeguard the rights of LGBTI people in our different roles and in different contexts:

- In our legislative role
- In our representation role
- In our oversight role
- Working within parliament
- Working within and across political parties
- Reaching out to civil society

EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS IN OUR LEGISLATIVE ROLE



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- Enact laws that specifically **prohibit discrimination** on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics.
- **Prioritize access** to justice, housing, employment, healthcare, education and legal recognition for LGBTI people.
- Protect individuals from homophobic, lesbophobic and transphobic violence by adopting **hate crime laws**.

EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS IN OUR REPRESENTATION ROLE



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- Reach out to **civil society organizations** to learn about violations of human rights to LGBTI people and the best way to tackle them.
- Share **best practices and lessons learned** from our countries with colleagues worldwide.
- Support the **events** of the LGBTI organizations and participate in Pride parades.
- Use your access to **mass media and social media** to disseminate positive messages about LGBTI people.

EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS IN OUR OVERSIGHT ROLE



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- Ensure that national **budgets** allocate adequate resources to programs and policies that address the needs of LGBTI people.
- **Monitor** and oversee public institutions (including the police) on their training and actions related to LGBTI rights and inclusion.
- Call on the governments to **protect** LGBTI activists facing threats of violence or death.

EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS WITHIN PARLIAMENT



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- Promote **sensitization** campaigns among fellow parliamentarians.
- **Challenge** other parliamentarians who advocate for exclusionary language or actions and take concrete steps to counter these actions.
- Ask organizations like PGA, UNDP and other relevant agencies for **technical assistance** and facilitation of **networking** opportunities with parliamentarians in other countries who are also working for equality.



EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS WITHIN AND ACROSS POLITICAL PARTIES



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- **Encourage** LGBTI people to join the political party, run as candidates and vie for leadership positions within the party.
- Influence the platform of your political party to ensure that LGBTI people are regularly **consulted and take part** in the design, implementation and monitoring of policies that affect them.
- Establish or participate in **cross-party caucuses** to advance LGBTI rights and inclusion.

EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY



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- Build and maintain a **working relationship** with civil society organizations that serve LGBTI communities.
- Advocate for **education campaigns** with constituents to combat prejudice against LGBTI people.
- Build broad-based **civil society coalitions** with LGBTI organizations, youth organizations, women's groups, etc. to challenge discrimination against LGBTI people.

HOW TO SPEAK ABOUT LGBTI ISSUES



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- Make a point that this is about everyday people who want the same chance as everyone else.
- Assess the audience.
- Tell emotionally compelling personal stories.
- Use the self-definitions and pronouns preferred by people.
- Illustrate concrete harms that discriminate against and exclude LGBTI people.
- Frame the discussion within the specific context.