

On the Margins: Threats to LGBTIQ Inclusion

SOGIGESC Unit Annual Conference: BIOS

Thursday, 16th September, 2021

Responding to the Anti-Gender Movement

Moderator

Dr Marceline Naudi (she/her)

Marceline Naudi is an activist and an academic. She is a social worker by profession and a member of the Department of Gender and Sexualities, at the University of Malta. She lectures and supervises student research on gender issues, violence against women, LGBTIQ+ and other anti-oppressive issues at Diploma, Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level. She is active on the issues of gender equality and violence against women, LGBTIQ+, as well as wider human rights issues, both in Malta and in Europe. She is also an elected member of GREVIO, the Council of Europe monitoring body of the Istanbul Convention.

Key-note Speaker

Sara Garbagnoli (she/her)

Sara Garbagnoli is a sociologist and feminist affiliated to the Center of Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of Paris. She has already been involved for a long time in research on anti-gender campaigns, first focusing her attention on the Vatican, then analysing activities and discourses of far right parties and actors. In 2017, she published the book *La croisade Anti-Genre* co-written with Massimo Prearo. Her publications on this issue include numerous book chapters and articles in journals such as *Religion & Gender*, *Synergie* and *Open Democracy*.

Panelists

Katrin Hugendubel (she/her)

Katrin is in charge of the overall coordination of the policy and advocacy work of ILGA-Europe. Katrin's task include managing the policy team and as well as leading the advocacy work of ILGA-Europe towards the EU institutions, EU Presidencies, the Council of Europe and the OSCE. Katrin holds a master degree in political science, with a focus on antidiscrimination, feminist politics and gender studies. In her position at ILGA-Europe, Katrin worked for the last seven years with LGBTI organisations, activists and allies on how to counter the anti-gender movement on European and national level.

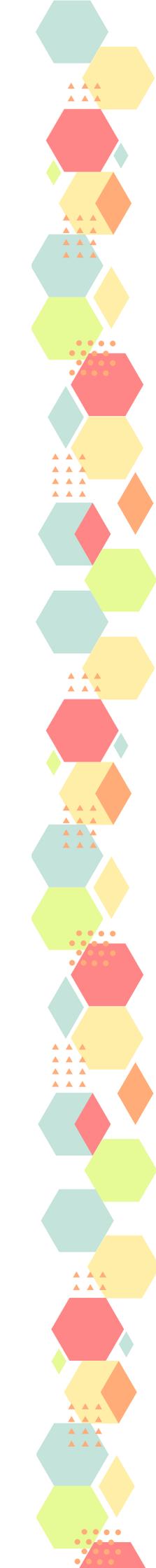
Dr Désirée Attard (she/her)

Désirée Attard is a lawyer, legislative drafter, and human rights activist based in Malta. For the past five years, she has been leading the Human Rights Directorate's legal team, which, together with the rest of the HRD Units, has pushed forward important legal reforms, including the criminalisation of conversion practices, and the introduction of marriage equality. She holds a Doctors of Law degree from the University of Malta, where she successfully defended her thesis, titled *Abortion in Malta: Reviewing the Legal Stance from a Pro-Choice Perspective*.

Christopher Vella (he/him)

Chris Vella is Coordinator of Drachma LGBTI since 2013. He is also founding member and Co-Chair of the Global Network of Rainbow Catholics GNRC since 2017 and founding member and former Board member of the European Network of Parents of LGBTI+ Persons. He works on dialogue with the Catholic Church, and pastoral companionship and support for LGBTI+ persons and their families. He is also a member of the National LGBTIQ Consultative Council since 2014.





Sex Work: Sifting Facts from Fiction

Moderator

Aaron Giardina (he/him)

Aaron Giardina is a manager at the SOGIGESC Unit within the Human Rights Directorate, which he has joined in 2018. As part of the Unit, he is responsible in the monitoring of the implementation of the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2022. He is also currently reading for a Masters in Gender Society and Culture, focusing his research on the perspectives of sex workers on the legislative and social changes required in Malta to ensure their safety. Aaron is an activist primarily focusing his attention on gender equality, body autonomy, LGBTIQ equality, the representation of minorities and wider human rights issues.

Key-note Speaker

Luca Stevenson (he/him)

Luca Stevenson is a male sex worker and coordinator of ICRSE, the International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe, a network of more than 100 organisations working with or led by sex workers in Europe and Central Asia. He leads a multi-disciplinary team which advocates for the rights of sex workers in diverse policy fields such as health, migration, justice or anti-trafficking. Luca has worked extensively across Europe with sex workers from various backgrounds including migrant and LGBTI sex workers. He is also currently responsible of the mission entitled 'Jasmine', a project of Medecins du Monde France which aims to address and reduce violence against sex workers.

Panelists

Ruth Baldacchino (they/them)

Ruth is a trans, genderqueer feminist with 20 years of experience working with national, regional and international philanthropic, non-profit, academic and public sector organisations focusing on social and gender justice, women's and LGBTIQ rights, intersectional advocacy and research. Ruth is Associate Director of Programs at the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice: a feminist and queer public foundation that raises and distributes funds to organisations led by lesbians and queer women, trans and gender non-conforming people, intersex people and people of colour. For the past six years, Ruth has led the Intersex Human Rights Fund, which has given almost US \$2 million in grants to intersex-led groups worldwide. As ILGA World Secretary-General, Ruth led the process that saw ILGA's membership approve a resolution supporting sex workers' rights and decriminalisation. In addition, for the past three years, Ruth has served as Chair of the Prostitution Reform Technical Committee.

Dr Maria Pisani (she/her)

Maria Pisani holds a PhD in adult education, and an MA and a BA in Youth & Community Studies. She is an academic, youth and community worker and an activist, her engagement in the field provides opportunities for ongoing praxis. Maria has published in international journals and contributed to a number of edited books and has been appointed as key expert in a number of inter/national research studies. Her research interests include forced migration with a special focus on borderlands, and the intersectionality of inter alia race/ethnicity, gender, age, legal status, disability; critical pedagogy and critical youth studies. Her academic work is unapologetically political and committed to social justice.

Dr Carla Camilleri (she/her)

Dr Carla Camilleri is a Maltese lawyer specialising in European Law and she is Assistant Director at aditus foundation. Besides her work at aditus, Carla is also a casual lecturer at the University of Malta in the European & Comparative Law Department and lecturers LLM students in the EU Area of Freedom, Security and Justice Law. In her work at aditus foundation, Carla carries out advocacy work in the field of migration, LGBTIQ+ rights, gender equality, access to justice and governance issues. In addition, Carla also provides information, advice, and legal services to a number of clients through aditus' Pro Bono Unit in a number of sectors, which include migration and asylum, citizenship and LGBTI rights with a focus on transgender children.

