

Press Release

20 November 2015
For immediate release

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR)



Rainbow Rose, the LGBT organization of the Party of European Socialists (PES), calls upon all its affiliated structures and politicians to stand on 20th of November – the International Transgender Day of Remembrance. On this day, all global murdered Trans and gender variant persons are commemorated.

Unfortunately, transphobic crime also exists in Europe. Between October 2014 and September 2015, at least 271 transgender were killed worldwide, including at least 11 of them in Europe¹ (including in Turkey, France, Italy, and the Netherlands).

Rainbow Rose **thanks Transgender Europe (TGEU)** for monitoring the situation, and we are glad to have TGEU as a reliable partner at European level. It was a great pleasure to exchange views with one of its representative during our last General Assembly in Berlin.

Last year, the EU's Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) made a report on the situation of transgender people in Europe. Politicians like Daniele Viotti (Italian MEP from S&D Group) were choked by the results of this report.² Rainbow Rose recalls that under-reporting and

¹ http://transrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/EN_TV-TMM-Namelist-TDOR-2015-Oct-2014-Sep-2015.pdf

² <http://www.lgbt-ep.eu/press-releases/eu-report-reveals-alarming-reality-trans-people/>

lack of trust in police result in the vast majority of daily violent incidents not being reported, as stated in the FRA report:

"One in two trans persons were attacked or threatened with violence in the year preceding the survey. Almost half of them (44%) faced repeated violence or threats."

Rainbow Rose calls all the politicians to end gross violation of human rights faced by transgender people by:

- Making everywhere in Europe gender reassignment legally possible, without compulsory sterilization or compulsory psychological and medical intervention;
- Ending medical stigmatisation of transgendered people;
- Fully apply to trans people the EU's gender discrimination directive;
- Fully enforce the EU asylum directives and their provisions on the recognition of gender identity based persecutions, to ensure adequate care for asylum seekers.

As long as the above mentioned points will not have been realized all over Europe, Rainbow Rose will continue to advocate for these changes and stand firm with the commemoration of the victims of the past years and support those who fear for their security.

Carla Antonelli, PSOE (Socialist Party in Spain) openly trans politician, elected in the Madrid Parliament, declared: *"The importance of being in positions of visibility and accountability in political life is another tool for our rights to become laws and to guarantee them. It also opens horizon of hope for survivors and future generations, as too many lives have fallen by the wayside. Let's honour the memory of those who fell victims of transphobic crime."*

Ends

For further information email: contact@rainbowrose.eu or call: +32 495 16 1005

Notes for editors:

1. Rainbow Rose is the network for the LGBT groups of the socialist, social democratic and labour parties across Europe. It gathers 30 structures.
2. Rainbow Rose is affiliated (associate member) to the Party of European Socialists (PES) and works with the Progressive Alliance of Socialist and Democrats (S&D Group) in the European Parliament
3. You can find more about Rainbow Rose on Facebook (www.facebook.com/RainbowRose.eu) its website (www.rainbowrose.eu) and Twitter (@RainbowRose_PES)