



Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire

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Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination
Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination



Strasbourg, 13 December 2013

Dear Ms Riisager

I am writing to inform you that a role of General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people has been established within the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and that I recently had the honour of being elected to this function.

It will be my responsibility to intervene in the area of the protection and promotion of human rights for all, and against all forms of discrimination and hostility on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. My main priorities will include raising awareness on violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Europe, promoting compliance with the principles upheld by the Parliamentary Assembly and the execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights. In this respect, the legislation on so-called homosexual propaganda in force or under discussion in some Council of Europe member states will be among my main concerns. In addition, I intend to draw public attention to the situation of specific groups, such as LGB women and transgender people.

In my capacity as General Rapporteur, I will endeavour to follow relevant legal and policy developments within Council of Europe member states so as to ensure that international human rights standards are taken into account. Developing working relations with external bodies and institutions active in combating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity and promoting equal rights for LGBT people is therefore a priority.

I should be very grateful if you could keep me informed of developments in this area in your country. I look forward to establishing our cooperation.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Giorgio Loddo, Co-Secretary of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination (tel. + (33) 3 90 21 59 08, fax + (33) 3 90 21 56 52, email giorgio.loddo@coe.int) for further information.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Biedroń

General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBT people
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