

Copenhagen, 15 August 2024

**JOINT PRESS RELEASE ON THE CELEBRATION OF LGBTQI+ PRIDE FROM THE PARTICIPATING EMBASSIES OF DIPLOMATS FOR EQUALITY COPENHAGEN**

For the second year in a row, foreign diplomats in Copenhagen from the embassies and representations of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czechia, Cyprus, Estonia, the European Commission, the Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Greenland, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States are joining forces under the “Diplomats for Equality” initiative to affirm the importance of LGBTQI+ rights. Despite progress toward equality, LGBTQI+ persons in many countries continue to face discrimination and danger for who they are and whom they love, including laws criminalizing LGBTQI+ persons and violent attacks.

During this Pride Week we celebrate the diversity and achievements of LGBTQI+ persons. We also recognize the ongoing struggle for full recognition of LGBTQI+ persons’ dignity and human rights around the world. Pride is a time to promote visibility, raise awareness, and advocate for equality and acceptance for all people. LGBTQI+ people exist in every country, in every culture, in every religious tradition. Respecting their full humanity lives up to the principle – enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – that all people are born free and equal.

Partnerships like Diplomats for Equality help ensure that like-minded nations can stand together in support of the human rights of LGBTQI+ persons today and in the years to come. Founded in Vienna in 2019, Diplomats for Equality groups also exist in London, Dublin, Brussels, and Washington, D.C., among others.