

## **A NOTE ON DATA COLLECTION AND PRESENTATION**

This is our ninth Annual Review and we always strive to develop our rigorous data collection system. However, a number of limitations remain.

The use of terminology around LGBTI issues is often not harmonised across Europe and Central Asia. Nonetheless, all information within the Annual Review has been verified using original documents and the best available local knowledge. Where possible, information was checked against institutional and national reports, and reliable news sources.

In terms of language and terminology, we have tried to avoid causing confusion. For comparative reasons, the language within the Annual Review has been kept in line with ILGA-Europe's standards, and moves away from country-specific legal terms that may have a different meaning elsewhere. At the same time, we respected the variety of terms used by LGBTI communities to self-identify in different countries. For example, this is why the Annual Review does not exclusively refer to LGBTI but also to 'LGBT', 'LGBTQ' and other formulations.

Of course, the Annual Review cannot cover every development in all 54 countries in intricate detail. When the development was not adequately reported, or the reports were confusing or contradictory, ILGA-Europe verified them with national experts' inputs. They are independent human rights defenders or legal experts in each country.

We have also collaborated with regional LGBTI NGO's for their expertise on particular sub-regions or specific work areas such as intersex rights or rainbow families.

Finally, we have reports from Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan for the first time of the Annual Review history. With the inclusion of three countries, we now cover all Central Asian countries in our report.

Do you have questions? Reach us out at [info@ilga-europe.org](mailto:info@ilga-europe.org)