



Dear colleagues and friends,

May 17th is the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT).

As active members within the international [Equal Rights Coalition](#), the German Foreign Office and its LGBTIQ initiative “Rainbow” & the Dutch Embassy in Berlin want to bring representatives of civil society, the diplomatic community and civil servants in Berlin together to underline our commitment to advance the human rights of all people, and to ensure their inclusive development, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and sex characteristics. Advancing these rights, but also protecting these rights in every day’s life remains a pressing issue around the world. Recent incidents of homophobia, biphobia but especially transphobia, make this painfully clear.

We are happy to host a conversation on this important topic with **Helga Barth** (Director for Human Rights, German Federal Foreign Office), **Andre Lehmann** (Member of the National Board of the Lesben- und Schwulenverband Deutschland - LSVD) and **Irene Hemelaar** (human rights activist, former chair of Pride Amsterdam and former Women’s Representative in the NL delegation to the UN General Assembly), moderated by journalist **Kriss Rudolph**. In addition to talking about our international efforts for equal rights, we also want to address the continued need for IDAHOBIT in our own countries.

Location:

Botschaft des Königreichs der Niederlande in Berlin, Klosterstraße 50, Berlin

Registration:

Please register yourself before Monday May 15th via bln-pa@minbuza.nl and bring identification.

We hope to be able to welcome many of you and look forward to a meaningful discussion.

Rainbow & the Dutch Embassy in Berlin

Programme

17:30-18:00	Informal gathering
18:00-19:00	Opening remarks by Mira Woldberg <i>Dep. Ambassador at the Dutch Embassy in Berlin</i> Panel discussion Closing remarks
19:00-19:30	Network reception