Together always: united in diversity



INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA & BIPHOBIA

A Worldwide Celebration of Sexual and Gender Diversities

Annual Report 2023

IDAHOBIT



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IDAHOBIT Annual Report 2023

Together always: united in diversity

Developed by **Lukas Berredo** on behalf of the **IDAHOBIT Working Group**

About the name

The International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia is a moment to take action and foster global mobilisation. As a consequence, it receives many different names and acronyms. The Day is not one centralised brand, and everyone is free to communicate it as they wish. More about the name on may17.org/about

Photo credits

Unless otherwise stated, photos in this report were supplied by organisers directly or as a follow up of an event registered on the website.

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INTRODUCTION

The International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (IDAHOBIT) is a global campaign with the goal of raising awareness regarding the discrimination, violence, and challenges experienced by the LGBTQIA+ community. Celebrated annually on 17 May, IDAHOBIT offers a platform for individuals, organisations, and governments to unite and advocate for equality and diversity.

To facilitate participation at all levels in such a relevant day for our communities worldwide, as of January 2023 ILGA World coordinates the IDAHOBIT Working Group and hosts its Secretariat.

In 2023, the focus of the IDAHOBIT campaign revolved around the theme "Together always: united in diversity." This theme underscored the significance of solidarity, allyship, and the acknowledgment that our collective strength lies in the diverse range of identities, experiences, and backgrounds within our communities. It emphasised the need to remain together, support one another, and foster an inclusive society that respects and celebrates the rights of all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression.

The IDAHOBIT campaign aims at having a lasting impact by increasing awareness, facilitating dialogue, and promoting positive change at the local, national, regional, and global levels. To mark the date, individuals, communities, and groups worldwide organise various activities, events, and initiatives that celebrate LGBTQIA+ populations and advocate for equality and respect.

This annual report serves as a concise overview of the IDAHOBIT campaign's accomplishments, impact, and moments from the year 2023. It provides insights into activities, global events, symbolic gestures, and statements issued by national and international agencies all across the world.

Let us unite in reflection, embrace the lessons learned from the challenges faced, and renew our commitment to promoting equality, acceptance, and love for all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or sex characteristics.

Stay tuned as we embark on a journey to celebrate the achievements of the IDAHOBIT campaign in 2023!



CAMPAIGN AND IMPACT

IDAHOBIT 2023 witnessed a wide range of impactful activities and initiatives that contributed to raising awareness, promoting inclusivity, and advocating for the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Campaign activities and initiatives

The campaign helped give more visibility to numerous events worldwide. These activities aimed at engaging diverse audiences, encourage dialogue, and provide educational resources on issues related to homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia.

Social media engagement and reach

Our social media platforms served as powerful tools to spread information, share stories, and encourage participation in the campaign. Through engaging content like videos and illustrations, we connected with a global audience and fostered meaningful conversations. Many individuals and organisations shared their messages, personal stories, and educational resources, amplifying the visibility of the campaign and reaching people around the world.

Vays vays versity vers

The hashtag #IDAHOBIT2023 was used in over 35,000 tweets, and #IDAHOBIT was used in over 88,000 tweets between 15 and 22 May 2023. In May, our own social media accounts had 145,862 tweet impressions on Twitter, reached 24,386 accounts on Facebook, and 15,654 accounts on Instagram. We also experienced a remarkable growth in engagement, with a 510% increase on Instagram and a 495% increase on Facebook. At the end of May, our Facebook page had 50,859 followers, Twitter 11,264 followers, and Instagram 2,055 followers.

The account @may17org was mentioned numerous times by grassroots organisations, international and regional agencies, governments, universities, and private groups.

TWEETS between 15 and 22 May 2023

#IDAHOBIT	more than 88,000
#IDAHOBIT2023	more than 35,000

IMPRESSIONS May 2023

Twitter	145,862
Facebook	24,386
Instagram	15,654

ENGAGEMENT GROWTH May 2023

Facebook	510%
Instagram	495%

Use of campaign illustrations and theme

The theme "Together always: united in diversity" was part of the many statements released by UN and regional agencies, governments, universities, and non-profit organisations.

The official campaign illustrations played a significant role in capturing our message's essence. These illustrations, by Chilean artist Sofía Miranda Van den Bosch, depict people holding a thread that represents connection and togetherness across movements, populations, and identities, which is part of the theme of this year's IDAHOBIT, "Together Always: United in Diversity." The diversity of our communities is beautifully captured, with each image showing the world from a different angle on an abstract background that gives an air of magic and hope.

The illustrations were widely shared and used by individuals, organisations, and institutions to raise awareness about the campaign and show solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ community. They provided a vibrant and visually striking representation of our collective commitment to embracing and celebrating the beautiful diversity within the LGBTQIA+ community.

The illustrations were available in 32 languages for download and use.













Video messages

The individuals featured in our twelve campaign videos brought diverse perspectives to the global IDAHOBIT campaign.

Esan Regmi, Executive Director of Campaign for Change and Co-chair of ILGA Asia, underscored the significance of solidarity in the fight for intersex rights. Erika Castellanos, Executive Director at GATE, highlighted the importance of active solidarity between social justice movements to dismantle systems of oppression. Ymania Brown and Luz Elena Aranda, Co-Secretaries General of ILGA World, emphasised the importance of collaboration and forming alliances with other movements fighting for justice and equality to amplify our collective impact. Farah Abdi, Policy Officer of TGEU, spoke about the power of intersectional activism in creating a better

world for all. **Franco Fuica**, Public Policy Advisor at OTD Chile, stressed the importance of visibility and commemoration of significant dates like the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia.

Alexa Santos, Board member of EL*C, raised awareness about the dangers of lesbophobia and the necessity of ensuring that lesbians are not left behind. Jeremy Gobin, Communications Officer at IGLYO, called for the inclusion of young voices to safeguard the progress we have made. Nhuun Wannapong Yodmuang, Senior Human Rights and Advocacy Officer at APTN, reminded us that discrimination and violence against trans people exist globally, but they manifest differently in various cultures and contexts.

Tashnuva Anan,

Chair of the Trans
Steering Committee
of ILGA World,
highlighted the
role of visibility
in breaking down
stereotypes and
driving social and
political change for
the trans community.

Rachael Moore,

co-founder
of Rainbow
Nation Brussels,
emphasised the
increasing number of
bisexual individuals
coming out,
demanding inclusion,
and advocating
for representation.
Midnight

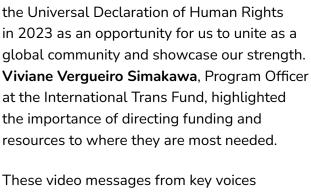
Midnight
Poonkasetwattana,
Executive Director of
APCOM, mentioned











the celebration of the 75th anniversary of

These video messages from key voices of LGBTQIA+ advocates underscored the importance of collaboration and inclusivity in achieving equality and justice. Their contributions, along with others, showcased the importance of unity, visibility, intersectionality, and collaboration in driving positive change for LGBTQIA+ individuals worldwide.





EVENTS

In the following sections, we will explore some events and initiatives organised by civil society organisations, individuals, human rights bodies, embassies and institutions from across the globe. Additionally, we will showcase a photo album capturing the vibrant displays of solidarity through rainbow flags and lights in iconic landmarks. Lastly, we will highlight powerful statements issued by international agencies, including the United Nations, the European Commission, and various national and regional bodies.

Events around this year's IDAHOBIT happened in at least 56 countries and territories. From all corners of the globe, communities have come together to organise a wide range of activities such as panel discussions, workshops, film screenings, art exhibitions, and virtual rallies.





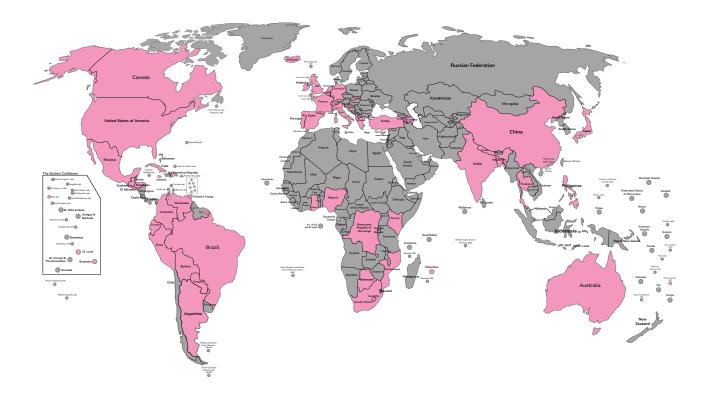








¹ Events and activities were registered on our website from Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Cook Islands (first time), Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, DR Congo, El Salvador, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saba (first time), Saint Lucia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and Venezuela.



The collective efforts and dedication of event organisers have truly resonated across borders worldwide, and the IDAHOBIT campaign saw a diverse range of events.

- Panel discussions, workshops, and conferences addressed the unique challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ communities, promoted dialogue, fostered solidarity, and raised awareness.
- Human rights conferences and seminars tackled crucial topics such as legal advancements, healthcare access, and LGBTQIA+ inclusion in public policy.
- Research projects focused on the human rights of LGBTQIA+ people released valuable data and findings, providing important insights into different regions and contributing to the body of knowledge on LGBTQIA+ issues.
- Artistic performances played a vital role in amplifying queer narratives and challenging societal norms. Theatre plays, musicals, poetry readings, drag shows,

- and film screenings provided a platform for creative expression and sparked conversations.
- Awareness campaigns in schools, universities, and workplaces played a pivotal role in combating discrimination and creating inclusive environments. These campaigns aimed to educate and foster acceptance.
- Collaborations between governments, embassies, and civil society showcased support for the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons. Rainbow flags and lighting landmarks in rainbow colours symbolised solidarity and demonstrated the collective effort to promote equality.

As we look back at this year's IDAHOBIT, it is essential to recognise the invaluable contributions of individuals, organisations, and allies. Their dedication, resources, and voices have been instrumental in driving positive change and fostering a culture of acceptance and equality.



United Kingdom



Ecuador



Argentina



Bolivia





Brazil



France



DEMOCRACIAPARATODES Inicio 1:30 p.m. | TODES SON BIENVENIDES



Guatemala

Cook Islands



Colombia

Nepal

MAY 17 Together always:

United in diversity

#IDAHOBIT2023

Thailand



Netherlands

Fórum nacional





Paraguay



Portugal



Mozambique



Malta



Venezuela



Peru



Armenia



Canada

Barbados



Dominican Republic



Brazil



El Salvador



Cook Islands



France



Germany



Iceland



Mozambique



Nepal



Paraguay



Saint Lucia



Trinidad and Tobago



Venezuela

Embassies and consulates

In addition to the diverse range of events and initiatives organised by LGBTQIA+ organisations and activists, several embassies and consulates around the world played a significant role in commemorating the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia. These diplomatic missions demonstrated their commitment to the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons by hosting events and bringing together activists, policymakers, and community members to exchange ideas and share best practices.

These events held at embassies and consulates exemplify the commitment of these diplomatic missions to fostering inclusivity and promoting The rights of LGBTQIA+ persons on a global scale. Their engagement with local communities and collaboration with local organisations contributed to the success of IDAHOBIT.

Landmarks and symbolic gestures

Throughout the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia, numerous landmarks and institutions worldwide proudly displayed rainbow flags and lights as powerful symbols of solidarity and support for the LGBTQIA+ community. These colourful displays adorned iconic landmarks, public buildings, and cultural sites, serving as a visible reminder of the global movement for equality and inclusion.



Mexico's Senate



Government of Kosovo



Parliament in Portugal



Sinaloa Congress, Mexico



Vilnius Town Hall, Lithuania



EU mission in China



National Tower, Canada



European Commission



Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Estonia



German Bundestag



European Parliament



British Diplomatic mission in Trinidad and Tobago



High Commission of Canada to Barbados and the OECS



British High Commission in Jamaica



United States Embassy in Latvia



British Diplomatic mission in Barbados

STATEMENTS

The International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia has garnered the attention and support of numerous international agencies, who issued statements of solidarity and commitment to promoting the human rights of LGBTQIA+ people. Notable bodies, agencies and groups such as the <u>United Nations</u>, <u>UNAIDS</u>, <u>UN Special</u> Procedures and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, and <u>IOM</u>, as well as regional and national institutions such as the European Commission, Council of Europe, Organization of American States, U.S. Department of State, and USAID, highlighted the importance of combating discrimination and fostering inclusivity. These statements carry immense significance and serve as a catalyst for policy changes and societal acceptance.

Here are some excerpts from statements issued by key institutions:

66

In keeping with this year's theme — 'Together Always: United in Diversity' — I call on the world to speak with one voice to eliminate the stigma, discrimination, harmful practices, and often deadly violence endured by LGBTQI+ people. [...] Let's continue working to build a peaceful, just world in which all people are free and equal in dignity and rights."

UN Secretary General



We call on States to uphold the inherent dignity of all persons, without any distinction, by adopting measures to eradicate racial discrimination, exclusion, intolerance, hatred, bigotry, violence, and stigmatisation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender diverse (LGBT) persons."

UN Special Procedures and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights



On International Day against
Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia,
UNAIDS is calling on all countries
to remove punitive laws and tackle
prejudices against lesbian, gay, bisexual,
transgender and intersex people.
A more just, equitable and kind world
is a healthier one, for everyone."

UNAIDS

Statements of support and commitment poured in from national and regional agencies and states around the world. Here are a few excerpts showcasing their dedication:



As we mark the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this year's theme for the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT) – 'Together Always: United in Diversity' – is a timely reminder that all human beings, regardless of who they are, whom they love, and how they see and define themselves, are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

European Commission



As we ask ourselves what more should be done, this year's IDAHOT theme appears to hint at the key ingredients: 'together always, united in diversity.'"

European Council



NATO's strength is our diversity, so it is important that we reflect and celebrate the extraordinary diversity of our populations."

NATO Secretary General



We fully support the IDAHOBIT 2023 theme "Together Always: United in Diversity". We are united in our strong recognition of the value of diversity, and our shared commitment to empowering those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer. We celebrate and support inclusive societies that respect the dignity and human rights of LGBTIQ+ persons and bring people together through open dialogue where all voices are heard."

Diplomats for Equality²



We urge all OSCE participating States to uphold their OSCE commitments and international obligations and protect and respect the human rights, and address the needs, of all, including LGBTI+ individuals."

Joint statement to the OSCE³

² Delivered by the Ambassador of Iceland to the OSCE on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

³ Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, and the diplomatic missions of Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uruguay, as well as the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), the Delegation of the European Union to the International Organisations, UN-GLOBE, and the Vienna School of International Studies.



Equality. Diversity. Inclusion. Today we celebrate freedom. The European Parliament is proud to join the world in marking IDAHOBIT. We will continue our fight against discrimination, hatred and prejudice."

President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola



For the first time in Brazil, this date has the prominence it deserves. As Minister of State for Human Rights and Citizenship of Brazil, I reinforce my unrestricted support and commitment to public policies to promote and protect the rights of LGBTQIA+ people."

Brazilian Minister for Human Rights and Citizenship, Silvio Almeida



We urge Member States to continue to advance in the adoption of legislation and public policies to eradicate violence and discrimination against LGBTQIA+ persons in the region and guarantee their rights."

OAS General Secretariat and the LGBTTTI & Sex Workers Coalition



Everyone should be able to be who they are and love who they love, free from discrimination and hate. This year's theme for the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia, 'Together Always: United in Diversity', emphasizes that when we all come together – from different gender identities, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, and backgrounds of all kinds – we can make the world a better place for 2SLGBTQI+ people in Canada and around the world."

Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau



On the Day against Homophobia and Transphobia, we reaffirm our commitment to collectively advance in building a society with social justice, free from all forms of discrimination, harassment and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity."

President of Bolivia, Luis Arce



Everyone in Germany should be able to be what they want. That is freedom!

Vice President of the German Bundestag, Katrin Göring-Eckardt



It is a fundamental right to live and thrive authentically without fear, judgment, threat, or discrimination."

Prime Minister of Kosovo, Albin Kurti



May this day give expression to the hope for a more inclusive, more open country, without hate and violence."

President of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa



Love is love, it does not discriminate. LGBTIQ rights are human rights. I wish to see a world where everyone can love a person of their choice without fear as we are all united in diversity.

President of Slovakia, Zuzana Čaputová



Slovenia, through its activities in international institutions, calls on all countries that criminalise homosexuality and where the death penalty is being introduced or is already in force for consensual same-sex relationships to put an end to discriminatory practices and to abolish regulations that discriminate and perpetrate violence against LGBTI people."

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia



Everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity and equality—no matter whom they love, or how they identify. [...] Let us renew our work to combat homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia—and put an end to the harmful violence and discrimination that stems from it."

United States President, Joe Biden



We reaffirm that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) persons are entitled to recognition of their universal human rights."

United States Secretary of State

A SELECTION OF TWEETS







UN Free & Equal © Sfree equal



UN Women © @UN_Women

Today we celebrate the diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics across humanity.











UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency © © Refugees



Winnie Byanyima *

@Winnie Byanyima

Ending homophobia, transphobia and other forms of prejudice would help create more safe, healthy & just societies for everyone.

On today's #IDAHOBIT, like "every" day, LGBTQI+ rights are human rights.

We are all fighting for the right to be who we are.



On #IDAHOBIT2023, @IOMChief highlights the importance of taking a stand with the LGBTIQ+ community.

















EU Council ©

■ #Love is love. On the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia, the EU reaffirms the right of all individuals to be free to be who they are & love whom they want without fear. That's the only way we can all build a true #UnionOfEquality #IDAHOT #IDAHOBIT





Today we celebrate freedom. earl EN is proud to join the world in marking #II



















Comissão Europeia em Portugal 🌣





(M) UNHCR

LGBTIQ+ refugees' rights are human right

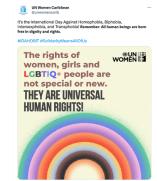
Equal dignity should be granted to all people and everyone should have equal opportunities to reach their potential in society.

















RIAS IAS - the International AIDS Society giasociety



Canada in Barbados and the OECS ©
GEANHCBarbados

On #IDAHOBIT and every day, let's come together to end violence and discrimination against #LGBTOI+ persons.

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UNFPA Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean @UNFPACaribbean

Our diversity as a human race shouldn't be used to exclude and harm people who may live or love differently. We're all entitled to the same rights - Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director UNFPA



Oxfam in the Pacific @oxfampacific mark the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, phobia & Transphobia, and it's clear, now more than ever, that stand in solidarity with people of diverse SOGIESC.



Across this country & around the world, #Queer people are having thei rights & even their lives endangered. That's why we are here. To be a Refuge for those who society mistreats. #IDAHOBIT



Malta UN Geneva @MaltaUNGeneva



Luis Alberto Arce Catacora (Lucho Arce) ©

En el Día de Lucha contra la Homofobia y Transfobia reafirmamos nuestro compromiso de avanzar de manera colectiva en la construc de una sociedad con justicia social, libre de toda forma de discriminación, acoso y violencia basada en la orientación sexual e



Albin Kurti 🌣 @albinkurti



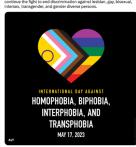
Katrin Göring-Eckardt
@GoeringEckardt

Alle sollen in Deutschland so sein können, wie sie wollen. Das ist Freiheit! Deswegen weht auch am heutigen #IDAHOBIT wieder die Regenbogenfahne am Reichstagsgebäude. Happy pride!



Department of State © @StateDept

LGBTQI+ rights are human rights. Today on #IDAHOBIT, we pledge to continue the fight to end discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual,



All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights! On #IDAHOBIT2023 we celebrate sexual and gender diversity.









Embajada Argentina en Perú 🗇 ©Emb\_Arg\_Peru







MFEA Slovenia @



Hirschfeld-Stiftung



Vladimír Bärtl @VladimírBaertl This year marks the 75th ann Human Rights.







Ottawa Catholic School Board



Today is International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia

And the work must go on to ensure that LGBTQIA+ rights are civil rights!





Valérie Plante 🜣 Montréal est fière d'être une métropole ouverte et inclusive, où la diversité est célébrée et respectée! **■♥** #polmtl 🚵 Sylvain Légaré



Bonita Zarrillo 👶 🐡 Today I recognize and acknowledge the long journey to end discrimination. I raise my hands to the #LGBTQ community that should not have to carry the biggest share of this work. End Homophobia, Transphobia and Bijhobia. #eraseHate #standForLove



Consortium @LGBTConsortium Today is International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia & Transphobia (#IDAHOBIT) This year's theme is "together always: united in diversity". We have created an IDAHOBIT page on our website with lots of information and International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia & Transphobia

City of Cambridge © Scityofcambridge Today is International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. We're committed to creating an inclusive community free from discrimination and prejudice.

We want to acknowledge again how sorry we are for any harm that was caused today by the error that occurred 1/2





Wherever, whenever, whomever, forever: Love is Love. Happy #IDAHOBIT2023 ♥





Fox Fisher @theFoxFisher 



### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia campaign is a result of the collective efforts of many individuals and organisations. We extend our gratitude to all who played a significant role in making this campaign a success.

We thank the dedicated members of the IDAHOBIT working group, LGBTQIA+ organisations, activists, and individuals who shared their stories. We appreciate the embassies, consulates, and diplomatic missions that organised events.

Our work doesn't end here. We count on your ongoing support as we continue the fight for equality and justice. Together, we can build a world where everyone is celebrated and respected.

Explore the highlights and engage with the events and resources shared by these regions on the official IDAHOBIT website and social media channels. Let's keep working towards a world free from discrimination and violence.

Thank you for being part of this journey.





#### INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA & BIPHOBIA

A Worldwide Celebration of Sexual and Gender Diversities