

Cunningham Gerry HQ-POLITICAL

Subject: FW: To See: UK to host global LGBT Special Envoy & conference in 2022

From: Cunningham Gerry HQ-POLITICAL
Sent: Tuesday 18 May 2021 08:00
To: #HQ-POL Directors Office <POL.DirectorsOffice@dfa.ie>
Subject: To See: UK to host global LGBT Special Envoy & conference in 2022

PD

To see regarding appointment of UK Special Envoy on LGBT rights and plans for a global conference in 2022 to mark the 50th anniversary of the official London Pride march

Gerry

From: Mullen Raymond LONDON EM <Raymond.Mullen@dfa.ie>
Sent: Monday 17 May 2021 17:20
To: #HQ-POL Human Rights <POL.HumanRights@dfa.ie>
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Subject: UK to host global LGBT conference in 2022

- Countries will be invited to participate in the UK's first global LGBT conference, 'Safe To Be Me', which will be held in June 2022.
- The conference aims to be the largest event of its kind and will focus on making progress on legislative reform, tackling violence and discrimination, and ensuring equal access to public services for LGBT people.
- Conference Chair Nick Herbert has been appointed by the PM as the UK's Special Envoy on LGBT rights to promote the conference and champion LGBT equality, both domestically and internationally.

Colleagues,

For information, if not seen, the UK Minister for Women and Equalities, Liz Truss, and Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab announced yesterday, 16 May, the 'Safe To be Me: A Global Equality Conference' which will take place 27-29 June 2022, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the first official London Pride marches. It is planned that the conference will take place in person and virtually.

The Conference will be delivered with the UK's co-chair of the Equal Rights Coalition, Argentina and Cyprus, co-host of the Council of Europe's LGBTI Focal Points Network IDAHOT+ Forum.

Announcing the conference, Minister Truss said:

I want everyone to be able to live their life free from prejudice, malice, or violence, regardless of their background or who they choose to love. People should be judged on the basis of their individual character and talents alone, and we want to ensure that this message is heard around the world. This conference will take aim at the prejudices LGBT people still face, and look at the collective action we can take to tackle those injustices alongside our international friends and partners."

Foreign Secretary Raab said:

The right to live life without fear and persecution are the bedrock of inclusive and open societies and the UK, as a force for good, will protect and promote these values at home and around the world. As co-chair of the Equal Rights Coalition, we are already working with 41 countries to defend the rights of LGBT people. We are urging every country to make sure LGBT people can live free from the discrimination and violence that persists today.

The Prime Minister has today announced that Conference Chair [Nick Herbert] will also take on the role of the United Kingdom's Special Envoy on LGBT Rights. He will promote the conference internationally and lead efforts to champion LGBT equality at home and abroad. He will also be working with the Minister for Women and Equalities to coordinate a year of domestic action on LGBT issues, in the run up to the global conference.

Details of speakers and delegates for the conference will be announced in due course. Further details, including a statement by Nick Herbert, can be found [here](#).

Kind regards,
Raymond

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