

To:
David Maria SASSOLI
President of the European Parliament

Cc:
Helena DALLI
EU Commissioner for Equality

Věra JOUROVÁ
EU Commissioner for Values and Democracy

25th October 2021

Dear President Sassoli,
Dear Commissioner Dalli,
Dear Commissioner Jourová,

The European Youth Event (EYE) took place in Strasbourg on 8 and 9 October. This year's edition was particularly important because its conclusions were to feed into the discussions on the Conference on the Future of Europe. This place of meeting, reflection and debate was particularly important because young civil society could participate directly in the construction of the European project.

Unfortunately, this space has been sullied by the attitude and behaviour of the extreme right, which has made attacks on the fundamental rights and freedoms of participants. Some colleagues brought to your attention the xenophobic and racist attacks on some groups of young people and, by means of this letter, we would like to add to this denunciation the attacks against the LGTBIQ+ community. In one of the discussion sessions precisely on LGTBIQ+ rights, lgbtiqphobic proclamations were made and the event was boycotted. In the video of this [link](#) you can see what happened in the room and the denunciation of one of the participants who were there.

The European Union strives to uphold values and fundamental rights, but it often fails to ensure that they are respected and fulfilled. The permissiveness of such speeches is completely intolerable, especially on the premises of the European Parliament. Any attack on human rights has no place in democracy, least of all in the seat of European sovereignty.

We therefore call on President Sassoli and the Commissioners to make a public statement on the attacks on LGTBIQ+ during the European Youth Event and to launch an investigation to hold those responsible for these proclamations accountable for their actions.

Safeguarding fundamental rights in the European Union will depend on how strongly we react today.

Sincerely,

Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)	Salima Yenbou (Greens/EFA)
María Eugenia Rodríguez Palop (The Left)	Sarah Wiener (Greens/EFA)
Ernest Urtasun (Greens/EFA)	Evin Incir (S&D)
Sira Rego (The Left)	Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield (Greens/EFA)
Manu Pineda (The Left)	Dimitrios Papadimoulis (The Left)
Kira Peter-Hansen (Greens/EFA)	Jordi Solé (Greens/EFA)
Marisa Matías (The Left)	Bas Eickhout (Greens/EFA)
José Gusmão (The Left)	Tineke Strik (Greens/EFA)
Marc Angel (S&D)	Carles Puigdemont (Non-attached)
Nils Ušakovs (S&D)	Antoni Comín (Non-attached)
Monika Vana (Greens/EFA)	Clara Ponsatí (Non-attached)
Bettina Vollath (S&D)	Kim van Sparrentak (Greens/EFA)
Diana Riba (Greens/EFA)	Chris MacManus (The Left)
Cyrus Engerer (S&D)	Anne-Sophie Pelletier (The Left)
Stelios Kouloglou (The Left)	Javi López (S&D)
Robert Biedroń (S&D)	Alviina Alametsä (Greens/EFA)
Alicia Homs (S&D)	Younus Omarjee (The Left)
Rosa D'Amato (Greens/EFA)	Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana (Greens/EFA)
Rasmus Andresen (Greens/EFA)	Malin Björk (The Left)
Dietmar Köster (S&D)	Liesje Schreinemacher (Renew)
Saskia Bricmont (Greens/EFA)	Tilly Metz (Greens/EFA)
Leïla Chaïbi (The Left)	Josianne Cutajar (S&D)
Irena Joveva (Renew)	Fabio Massimo Castaldo (Non-attached)
Maria Arena (S&D)	
Cornelia Ernst (The Left)	
Nikolaj Villunsen (The Left)	
Izaskun Bilbao (Renew)	
Hilde Vautmans (Renew)	
Özlem Demirel (The Left)	
Manuel Bompard (The Left)	
Manon Aubry (The Left)	
Fred Matić (S&D)	
Sylwia Spurek (Greens/EFA)	
Andreas Schieder (S&D)	