We are here to support LGBTI+ rights and to participate to the 25th Istanbul Pride Week. We are here to join the LGBTI+ Pride March and to stand in solidarity with the Istanbul Pride Week Committee. This year, in its 15th year of anniversary, the Pride March was banned by Istanbul Governor's Office, a day before its occurrence. The freedom of expression and the right to organize demonstrations have been put on hold by the Turkish state, this year for the third time in a row.

We condemn this decision of Istanbul Governorship, because we believe the peaceful Pride March in Istanbul should be protected instead of being oppressed, and it should be freed instead of being banned. We invite Turkish authorities to protect Pride goers' constitutional and human rights and to provide the necessary safe ground for a serene and beautiful Pride March to take place today, on June 25th 2017.

International Delegation of Istanbul LGBTI+ Pride 2017

The Dutch Delegation

Nevin Özütok- RozeLinks/GroenLinks (Member of Dutch Parliament) Sep Servaz van Berkum- RozeLinks/GroenLinks Amsterdam (Member of provincial council) Tania Barkhuis - RozeLinks/GroenLinks Amsterdam (Chairperson) RozeLinks/GroenLinks Amsterdam (Group Chairperson) Dirk van Bergen- RozeLinks/GroenLinks Amsterdam (Board of directors)

The EU Delegation

Terry Reintke – Greens/EFA (Member of European Parliament) Caroline Drüten – Greens/EFA (Assistant) Felix Banaszak - Greens/EFA (Assistant)

Evelyne Paradis, Executive Director ILGA-Europe, Olena Shevchenko, Member of the Board, ILGA-Europe

The Danish Delegation

Annemette Vedel Augustesen - Copenhagen Pride Loren
Stiteler Anne Mette Lorentzen - Copenhagen Pride & Female
Oxygen Lars Henriksen - Copenhagen Pride Thomas Kim
Rasmussen - Copenhagen Pride Abdurahman Oskan - Copenhagen
Pride