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EPSILON E-NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 | June 2017

Welcome to the 1st issue of our Epsilon project newsletter! Epsilon works to improve the lives of LGBT refugees, migrants and asylum seekers, whom research has identified as one of the most vulnerable groups in modern Europe. Epsilon e-newsletter, circulated quarterly will present the project's latest findings, tools and courses as well as opportunities for involvement and collaboration.

Funded under Erasmus+ and delivered by a pan-European consortium, Epsilon is a unique LGBT-led project that aims to develop a set of highly innovative educational tools and training courses (face to face and online) informed by the real needs of LGBT migrants and refugees addressing issues of dignity, respect, inclusion and discrimination.

E-BOOK: SUPPORTING AND INCLUDING LGBTI MIGRANTS: NEEDS, EXPERIENCES AND GOOD PRACTICES, IARS PUBLICATIONS, LONDON, UK

The partnership is pleased to launch an e-book that incorporates the findings of the first phase of the Epsilon project that follows in depth fieldwork involving LGBT migrants, refugees and professionals that was carried out in 5 countries in Greece, the UK, the Netherlands, Italy and Cyprus. [Download the e-book here.](#)



CELEBRATING LGBT PRIDE MONTH THEIR STORIES

June, LGBT Pride Month presents us with a chance to celebrate sexual and gender diversity around the globe. It recognises grassroots movements and activism among the LGBT community and commemorates the Stonewall riots, a series of demonstrations by members of the LGBT community that took place in June 28, 1969 in Stonewall, considered to constitute the single most important event leading to the gay liberation movement and the modern fight for LGBT rights. We spoke to our beneficiaries who shared their experiences and journeys presented below:



ARMIN

Armin, an LGBTI refugee arrived in the Netherlands more than four years ago seeking asylum. Once settled in a new house, Armin was able to become a part of the Dutch LGBT community and eventually formed the LGBT Asylum Support Foundation with his new contacts. Armin also reflects on the impact working as a member of the Epsilon Project advisory board has had on him. [Read the full story](#)

AMIRPDS

Amirpds is an LGBT Iranian refugee who arrived in the Netherlands seeking asylum. He faced considerable challenges with the immigration process and finding acceptance in asylum seeker centres, but also highlights positive actions from groups such as the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA).

[Read the full story](#)

HANAA

A woman from east Africa became an LGBT refugee after she finished school. With hopes to reach Norway, she first had to experience an isolating life in an Italian reception facility. Eventually she arrived permanently in Norway and now hopes to work with other LGBTI migrants in Europe.

[Read the full story](#)

‘EPSILON’ PROJECT AT THE CYPRUS PRIDE MAY 2017

Over 6000 people marched on Sunday 28th of May at the fourth Pride Parade in Nicosia, waving hundreds of rainbow flags and supporting this year’s slogan #SpeakLove. Cardet participated in the Cyprus Pride 2017 in the framework of ‘Epsilon’ Project, one of the most prominent LGTBI-led projects in the island, which aims at improving the lives of LGBTI refugees and migrants. [Read more](#)

EPSILON 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE | ‘LGBT REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS: THE SITUATION IN GREECE AND EUROPE’

Epsilon 1st International conference was held on 9th May 2017 in Athens, Greece. The event, hosted by the Greek partner Family and Child Care Centre (KMOP) brought together over 130 experts, professionals working with LGBTI groups as well as LGBTI migrants and refugees to discuss the current situation and ways forward to improve outcomes for these vulnerable and marginalized groups. Conference materials can be downloaded [here](#).

EPSILON, A UNIQUE LGBT-LED PROJECT

Epsilon is a unique pan European, LGBT-led project supported by an Independent User Advisory Group that has a leading role in the project. The advisory group consists of LGBT migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, professionals, academics and researchers from the UK and Europe working together to scrutinise the quality of the project and lead on its delivery and implementation.

[Find out more about the group and get involved](#)

GET INVOLVED

If you wish to get involved contact us at contact@iars.org.uk

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