



*Bergen, February 27, 2017*

**Letter of support – EuroPride 2020**

Dear Bergen Pride,

The Rafto Foundation for Human Rights is proud to support the bid for hosting EuroPride 2020.

The Rafto Foundation for Human Rights is a non-profit and non-partisan organization dedicated to the global promotion of human rights. Our main activity is to award the annual Professor Thorolf Rafto's Prize for Human Rights work. We also support the work of the laureates by contributing to the funding and organization of projects, and we offer human rights education to local and international audiences.

In 2011 the Rafto Prize was awarded Frank Mugisha for his for brave struggle for LGBTI rights in Uganda. The Rafto Foundation has continued to support Mugisha and his advocacy work. This has included co-facilitating the social media campaign #tacklehomophobia.

We are happy to hear about Bergen Pride's effort to bring the celebration of EuroPride to Bergen in 2020, and will proudly endorse this application.

The city of Bergen is known for its openness, kindness and inclusion, and is always working to maintain and improve these values. Bringing EuroPride here would be a perfect way to celebrate this, as well as remind both the government and the citizens of their duty to preserve these values.

Bergen, as the only Norwegian city in the «Rainbow Cities Network», is in many ways a pioneer in this country's political work for sexual and gender diversity. Bergen seeks to lead by example, and bringing the festival here would strongly strengthen both the political and social work for issues regarding sexual and gender diversity in Norway, as well as abroad.

Bergen Pride has made its mark as an important contributor to the cultural scene in the city, and if Bergen will be awarded the license to host EuroPride 2020 we believe that the organization, as well as the local community, will help make this an unforgettable event.

Welcome to Bergen in 2020!

Sincerely,

Executive Director  
Rafto Foundation for Human Rights