



International Federation of Liberal Youth Newsletter

January 2009

LGBTQ Rights: Discussed Liberally

From February 22 to March 1, IFLRY will be holding the study session "LGBTQ rights: discussed liberally" to be held in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg (France).

By conducting a seminar fighting Homophobia and an discussion of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) rights, IFLRY and its member organization will discuss and identify youth strategies and techniques that will help promote LGBTQ rights globally, nationally, and locally. This IFLRY event is held with the support of the European Youth Foundation and the Council of Europe and with input from the International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth and Student Organization (IGLYO).

Applications are now closed. For questions or more information, please refer to the IFLRY Office (office@iflry.org)

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IFLRY Secretary General in Washington, DC

On the 20th of January, IFLRY Secretary General Bart Woord attended the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States of America, Barack Obama, in Washington, D.C. Subsequently, Bart has held meetings with several organizations concerning future cooperation with IFLRY, among which Freedom House, the Cato Institute and the National Democratic Institute. He also presented the Federation at the monthly International Thursday meeting of the Atlas Economic Foundation, a libertarian think tank.

Contact Bart for any questions or more information: bart@iflry.org

IFLRY's application for UN NGO status deferred

At the regular session of the UN ECOSOC NGO committee in New York, the application for consultative status by IFLRY has once again been deferred. IFLRY Secretary General Bart Woord addressed the representatives of the member states of the NGO committee and responded to questions, but due to obstructions by particularly the Chinese and Cuban delegations, the committee decided to postpone a decision on the status to the next session, which is the third time that the committee has done so. The ECOSOC NGO status would allow IFLRY to observe and participate in multiple UN platforms, among which most prominently the Human Rights Council. More on this topic in this blog: [Bureau Blog item](#).

IFLRY attends Liberal International EC

Liberal International held its Executive Committee in Strasbourg on January 25, 2009. The event was attended by IFLRY Vice Presidents Frederik Ferie and Jelena Spasovic, Executive Director Sarah Wong and intern Sabine Nygrund and several MO representatives. The EC discussed the impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Democracy and Human Rights. IFLRY is Full Member of the Liberal International. For more information, please contact Frederik (frederik@iflry.org).

IFLRY call for venue GA 2009

The IFLRY Bureau is calling upon all member organizations to consider hosting the end-of-year General Assembly (November-December) in 2009. The event is organized by one or more host organizations in close cooperation with the IFLRY Bureau and Secretariat. Preference is accorded to those organizations that are able to raise domestic funds for

the event. There are no geographic requirements for the venue.

If your organization is interested in hosting this event and you would like to receive more information, please contact IFLRY Secretary General Bart Woord (bart@iflry.org).



Postcards from the world - Bureau blogs

The dark side of the UN

The United Nations is the only truly worldwide association of countries and that makes it a wonderful thing. It allows for multilateral discussions and conflict resolution, generally ensuring peace and stability between at least the major powers. It has also been successful in bringing the issue of global poverty and the need for development assistance on the international agenda. Nevertheless, it also has its major downsides.

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Inauguration Celebration

Bart: In one of my more memorable IFLRY endeavors, I was in Washington, DC, for the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States. It was cold and a very early morning, but definitely a great experience.

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Happy Holidays

Holiday e-card and Message from the IFLRY Bureau: The year 2008 has been a year of many revelations, both good and bad....

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Liberal News Centre

NUV: A Victory for Democracy in Iran

The Young Liberals of Norway (NUV) are celebrating the removal of the Iranian opposition movement People's Mojahedin from the EU terrorist list. - This is a victory for democracy struggle in Iran, says vice-president of Young Liberals of Norway, Jonas Stein Eilertsen....

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Freedom in the World 2009

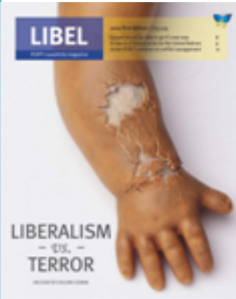
Freedom retreated in much of the world in 2008, the third year of global decline as measured by Freedom House's annual survey of political rights and civil liberties which released today. Sub-Saharan Africa and the former Soviet Union saw the most reversals, while South Asia showed significant improvement....

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IFLRY Alumnus running for EP Presidency

Graham Watson, former IFLRY Secretary General between 1979 and 1981, has announced his candidacy for the presidency of the European Parliament. Mr. Watson has pursued a highly successful political career and is currently a Member of the European Parliament and leader of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe...

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Issues

Want to be published in our magazine?

We welcome contributions from all around the world on a multitude of topics. If you want to write an article for the new edition of the magazine, please contact the Libel's Editor-in-Chief Andy Rivas (andy@iflry.org).

DEADLINE for submission: February 20, 2009

Two special editions will be printed in 2009!



IFLRY, the International Federation of Liberal Youth, is an international political umbrella organisation promoting cooperation among youth and student organisations to spread liberal values.

[Learn more about IFLRY >](#) [Member organizations >](#)

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