



MAYOR OF BUDAPEST

Ms. Femke Halsema
Mayor of Amsterdam

Budapest, 12 May 2025

Dear Mayor Halsema,

We appreciate your support for the LGBTQ+ community in light of the government's latest attacks against them. As you are aware, on April 14th, the Hungarian Parliament adopted a constitutional amendment which, together with recently passed legislation, severely restricts fundamental civil liberties - chief among them, the right to assembly. While the explicit target of these changes is the LGBTQ+ community, the ban on the Budapest Pride March marks an alarming step backward for civic freedoms and poses a serious threat to the foundations of democracy and the rule of law in Hungary.

Despite these challenges, Budapest remains steadfast in its commitment to European values, including human rights and the dignity of all people. Yet the political environment in which we must uphold these principles is becoming increasingly hostile. The Hungarian government's ability to impose such sweeping restrictions raises pressing questions about the resilience of the European project and our collective commitment to fundamental rights.

In the face of these attacks on civil liberties, Budapest continues to support the annual Pride events. We stand firmly with the LGBTQ+ community and all those who champion freedom and equality. We still trust that the remaining independence of the Hungarian judiciary will allow us to host the 2025 Budapest Pride March safely and openly.

Therefore, I would like to invite you to Budapest on June 28th, 2025, to join us for the 30th Budapest Pride March, as a show of solidarity and collective strength. We would also be delighted to welcome you to the annual Pride reception at Budapest City Hall on the evening of June 27th.

Your presence would send a powerful message - not only to our citizens, but to those all across Europe who believe in the values of democracy, inclusion, and freedom.

Kindly confirm your participation by contacting ^{5.1, 2, e} 5.1, 2, e, e at 5.1, 2, e [@budapest.hu](mailto:5.1, 2, e@budapest.hu). She will be happy to assist you with any questions or further arrangements.

We look forward to welcoming you to Budapest.

Yours sincerely,

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