



The European Parliament's

# Intergroup on LGBT Rights

Working for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people in the European Parliament

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## Presidents

The Presidents lead the Intergroup, and represent it both inside and outside of the European Parliament. Co-presidents take daily decisions on the Intergroup's work, and both Co-presidents and Vice-presidents decide on the Intergroup's priorities and work programme.

### Our Co-Presidents



#### Michael Cashman

Member State: United Kingdom

Group: Socialists & Democrats

Previously an actor and playwright, Michael founded and chaired the [Stonewall Lesbian and Gay Rights Group](#) in the United Kingdom. An active member of the [Labour Party](#) since 1975, he helped establish a key campaigning unit and took a high profile across most elections. He was appointed Commander of the British Empire in 2013.

Michael is currently Member of the European Parliament for the UK's West Midlands region. He was first elected in 1999, and currently fulfils his third mandate. He is the [European Parliamentary Labour Party Spokesperson on Development](#), a full member of the [Committee on Petitions](#), a substitute member of the [Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs](#), as well as the European Parliament's standing rapporteur on transparency and access to documents.

He is also the Chair of the [European Parliament Delegation for Relations with South Africa](#), and a substitute member of the Africa Caribbean Pacific-European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly ([ACP-EU JPA](#)).

Staff member in charge of LGBT issues: Bruno Selun

Read more: [Michael Cashman's profile on the European Parliament website](#)



#### Ulrike Lunacek

Member State: Austria

Group: Greens/European Free Alliance

Ulrike Lunacek has been a Member of the European Parliament since July 2009. She is Head of the Austrian Delegation to the European Parliament, and Spokesperson of Austrian Greens for European Affairs.

In the European Parliament, she is the [Greens/EFA Group Coordinator for Foreign Affairs](#), a member of the [Subcommittee on Security and Defense](#), and substitute member of the [Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee](#). She is also standing rapporteur on Kosovo.

She has been a Member of the Austrian Parliament for the [Austrian Green Party](#) for ten years, during which she was Vice-President of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Member of the European Committee, the Human Rights Committee and the Sports Committee, as well as Spokesperson of the Green Group on Foreign Affairs and Development Issues and on Equal Rights for LGBT persons.

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Staff member in charge of LGBT issues: Hanna San Nicolo

Read more: [Ulrike Lunacek's profile on the European Parliament website](#)

## Our Vice-Presidents



### Sophie in't Veld

Member State: the Netherlands

Group: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats in Europe

A member of [Democraten 66](#) in the Netherlands and the [Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe \(ALDE\)](#) in the European Parliament,

Sophie in't Veld has been a Member of the European Parliament since 2004. She graduated with a higher degree in History, and completed a post-doctoral training in management and public administration.

Sophie is Vice-chair of the [Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs](#), and a member of the [Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee](#), and of the [Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee](#). Sophie founded and currently chairs the [European Parliament Platform for Secularism in Politics](#), and she is also Chair of the European Parliament Working Group on Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS and Development since 2009.

Staff member in charge of LGBT issues: Khalid Boufadiss

Read more: [Sophie in't Veld's profile on the European Parliament website](#)



### Raül Romeva i Rueda

Member State: Spain

Group: Greens/European Free Alliance

Originally from Barcelona, Spain, Raül Romeva i Rueda graduated in International Economics and obtained his Ph.D. in International Relations. Before joining the European Parliament, Raül was Senior Analyst and Consultant on armed conflicts and post-war contexts, worked with the United Nations, and gave lectures at different universities on armed conflicts, peace building and post-war rehabilitation.

In June 2009, Raül Romeva i Rueda was re-elected to the European Parliament as Head of the list of [Iniciativa per Catalunya Verds](#). Presently, Raül Romeva is Vice-Chair of the [Greens/EFA political Group](#), member of the [Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality](#), and member of the Delegations to the [Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly](#) and the [Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly](#). Raül is also substitute member of the [Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee](#), as well as the [Fisheries Committee](#).

Staff member in charge of LGBT issues: Pilar d'Orey

Read more: [Raül Romeva's profile on the European Parliament website](#)



### Sirpa Pietikäinen

Member State: Finland

Group: European People's Party

With a long history as a politician, Sirpa Pietikäinen is a Finnish Member of the [European People's Party](#). As a Member of the European Parliament, she replaced Alexander Stubb in 2008, and was re-elected in 2009. She was Finland's Minister of Environment in the 1990s.

In her parliamentary work, she is a member in the [Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee](#), and a substitute member in both the [Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee](#) and the [Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee](#). In addition to environmental, economic and equality issues, she is also interested in development, human rights and democracy, which feature prominently in her cooperation with civil society.

In addition to the Intergroup on LGBT Rights, Sirpa is Vice-president in the Animal Welfare Intergroup. She is also a member of the [Parliamentary Delegation to Armenia](#),

Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Staff member in charge of LGBT issues: Aino Valtanen

Read more: [Sirpa Pietikäinen's profile on the European Parliament website](#)



### Dennis de Jong

Member State: Netherlands

Group: Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left

A Member of the European Parliament since July 2009, Dennis de Jong represents the [Socialist Party](#) of the Netherlands. He belongs to the Confederal Group of the United European Left ([GUE/NGL](#)).

In his parliamentary work, Dennis is a member of the Committee on [Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs](#), and a substitute member of the Committees on [Internal Market and Consumer Protection](#), and [Budgetary Control](#). He was also a substitute member of the ad-hoc Committees on the [Financial, Economic and Social crisis](#), and on [Policy Challenges \(Multi-annual budget\)](#).

He is one of the Vice-Presidents of the Anti-Racial Discrimination Intergroup, and devotes part of his time to the fight against discrimination in general, with a particular emphasis on LGBT rights.

Staff member in charge of LGBT issues: Femke Reudler Talsma

Read more: [Dennis de Jong's profile on the European Parliament website](#)

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