

Mr. Joël Le Déroff  
ILGA-Europe  
rue Belliard straat 12  
Brussels B-1040  
Belgium

Brussels, 19 February 2014

Dear Mr. Le Deroff,

Let me express our gratitude regarding the declaration of good conduct and for your commitment to ethnic, religious and sexual minorities' rights. The EPP has always clearly positioned itself against discrimination and defended the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Europe is about diversity – we want people to feel at home and accepted, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. Therefore, on behalf of the EPP, I would like to express my support for your demand to see an election campaign without materials or statements that could incite racism, homophobia, transphobia and all forms of discrimination and intolerance.

The EPP has always supported an inclusive policy for minorities. In addition to this, we encourage positive measures and policy tools to be implemented for the purpose of defending minority persons and groups from harm and prejudice. However, I did not sign your declaration since the EPP has already reconfirmed its commitment to upholding minorities' rights in our platform, which was adopted in Bucharest on 17 and 18 October 2012:

'All human beings enjoy equal rights because they are endowed with the same dignity based on human nature. In relationships with others, each person's freedom is, therefore, limited by a respect for others' freedom and dignity deriving from the recognition of that fundamental equality. Notwithstanding their differences in terms of gifts, talents and abilities, each person must be able to achieve personal development in freedom and equality regardless of his or her origin, sex, age, race, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, conviction, social status or state of health.'

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Daul', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Joseph Daul MEP  
EPP President