



ERATO

Stockholm November, 2007



ILGCN (International Lesbian & Gay Cultural Network) Information Secretariat

Tupilak/Hallongrottan Arranging Follow-up Session in Stockholm, Blogg in Action

Nordic Baltic Rainbow Network Meets in Sweden



Swedish, Latvian delegates

Gothenburg -- The 4-day discussions of the Nordic Baltic Rainbow Network at the giant Gothenburg Book Fair and the nearby Museum of World Culture between September 27-30, 2007 in this west coast Swedish city launched enthusiastic plans to increase rainbow co-operation across the Baltic Sea.

"This was a real boost to the work both of the Nordic Rainbow Council and the Swedish Pol-Baltic Network," says Bill Schiller of the council and of the conference's co-organizer, Tupilak (Nordic rainbow cultural workers).

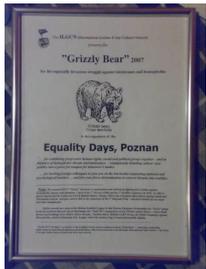
"Thanks to financial support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Baltic Unit in Visby on Gotland, we were able to bring colleagues from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Norway for concrete, face-to face discussions on how we can build permanent rainbow bridges in the future," he adds.



Expanding Rainbow Co- operation

Discussions covered increasing information exchange between Network members, developments in arranging Prides (still banned in Lithuania) and other rainbow activities in each country involved, increasing efforts to encourage all Prides to include a Nordic Baltic rainbow seminar or other events as well as using rainbow culture as a powerful and visible complement... ([Cont. on page 2](#))

Special Effort for the Faroese, Diplomas to Stockholm Cultrul Center, Films, Writer



Awards to Students, Poznan, Global Solidarity Network

Stockholm/Poznan -- ILGCN and Tupilak (Nordic rainbow cultural organization) awards were recently handed out both in the Swedish capital and this western Polish city during its successful Equality Days ending years of bans and homophobic violence. ([Continued on page 3](#))



Nordic students on Faroes
(Photo by Linda Elstad)

ILGCN September Dates Set for Minneapolis, Helsinki

([see page 4](#))

NORDIC BALTIC RAINBOW NETWORK -- GOTHENBURG...



Latvian, Lithuanian delegates at the stage of the International Square in Gothenburg

(from page 1)to the political struggle. The network will also be open to continuing support from the humanist movement to help combat religious intolerance and take active steps to increase co-operation with other colleagues living in such countries as Russia and the Eastern European dictatorship of Belarus as well as the Russian Baltic enclave of Kaliningrad.

The attendance at some of the discussions of two gay activists from Singapore - where printed magazines and cultural exhibits on homosexuality are banned - indicated the enormous value of keeping such discussions open even to enthusiastic "outsiders." The Singapore gays have joined the ILGCN (International Lesbian & Gay Cultural Network) and are eager for co-operation with the Nordic Baltic Rainbow Network.

Double Program at Book Fair, World Museum

Through strong co-operation with the book fair's "**International Square**" – joining 65 Swedish solidarity groups together," Network colleagues were given several chances to reach the public through speeches and panel presentations at the main and smaller stages about the rainbow struggle in the region as well as from their information stand.

Blogg in Action, Next Meeting & Cultural Evening Set for Stockholm

Delegates in Gothenburg agreed to share the work load with the following:



1. **Estonia Pride (Krissu):** creating a **Nordic Baltic Rainbow Network blog.** ((Aledy in action)
2. **Tupilak/Hallongrottan** (rainbow culture center): offering to host an "**intermediate**" meeting and rainbow cultural evening in Stockholm on November 30.
3. **RFSL:** seeking funding for a large Network meeting in **Warsaw** next spring.
4. **Mozaika-Latvia/ Tupilak** checking out funding for a **Baltic Rainbow Boat Cruise** around Baltic ports, as well as rainbow ship journeys between **Sweden/Finland/Estonia/ Latvia.**
5. **Tupilak:** checking out the possibility of arranging a Network conference or cultural event in Visby (halfway point in the Baltic. Boat line between Latvia-Gotland).
6. **Tribades Festival (Helsinki)/ ILGCN Information Secretariat** - Stockholm: organizing **Nordic Baltic Network conference/cultural event** during ILGCN world conference stage in Helsinki in September, 2008 as part of the Tribade Festival 2008.
7. **Lithuania LGL:** searching for colleagues in **Kaliningrad** wanting to join the Network.
8. **Tupilak/Nordic Rainbow Council:** working on Network **web site** page, links.
9. **ILGCN East European Secretariat** - Warsaw: increasing contacts with Russia, Belarus, other East European countries.
10. **Tupilak:** contacting all Nordic Baltic Prides to encourage the inclusion of a Network seminar/event (giving latest information of new developments to Tallinn.).
11. **ILGCN Film Secretariat - Riga:** continuing to help Baltic organizers with film festivals.
12. **Tupilak/ILGCN - Stockholm:** continue to expand the **Tupilak/ILGCN Travelling Art & Photo Exhibit** to include more artists from the region, and make the exhibit available to more Nordic Baltic events.
13. **Nordic Rainbow Humanists:** to increase contacts with organizers of Prides, festivals and other events to provide LGBT speakers, information, etc. as has been the case in Gothenberg, Poznan and other Nordic/Baltic cities.



Estonian, Swedish delegates.
(Gothenburg photos by Heide Terinen)

ILGCN Culture, Awards at Stockholm Ceremony...



Poznan Parade at Freedom Square 2007) (photo by Lukasz Palucki)

(continued from page 1) Poznan's Equality Days received the 2007 ILGCN "Grizzly Bear" for the "enormous struggle against especially ferocious intolerance and homophobia" – an award named after Tupilak's Polar Bear award for film makers and festivals -- a prize which was born at the Berlinale film festival which hands out Teddy Bears along with the Golden and Silver bears of the international festival.

International and Local Rainbow Solidarity

In Stockholm, this year's ILGCN "Rainbow Iceberg" for special international solidarity went to the international network launching the August 4th "International Day of Rainbow Solidarity" plus the "Gays over Borders Network" as well as the Stockholm book shop and cultural center, Hallongrottan (Raspberry Cavern) for arranging international programs of discussion, exhibitions, film screenings, poetry and guest appearances of foreign activists – boosting international rainbow culture and awareness on a local level.

Also at a ceremony at Hallongrottan, the 2007 ILGCN "Arco Nordica" award was presented to the Nordic LGBT Student Organization for their outstanding work over Nordic borders and especially for this year's on-the-spot solidarity actions with colleagues in Torshavn, the capital of the Faroe Islands located just north of Scotland and the scene of fierce religious intolerance, homophobia and violent attacks and death threats against young gay activists.

Greek-born Activist, Uppsala Film Festival Honored

Receiving Tupilak's Nordic "Thor's Hammer" award for outstanding male contributions (the 2007 female award winners are listed in the last Erato) was handed out to Greek-Swedish Tasso Stafilidis, former Left Party parliamentarian, gay activist, writer, actor, and singer.

Finally receiving in person their 2005 Tupilak Polar Bear for outstanding efforts to include rainbow films and the work of foreign rainbow film festivals was presented to Niclas Gillberg, director of the Uppsala International Short Film Festival – Sweden's official short film festival – taking place annually in this university town just north of Stockholm.

ILGCN Annual Awards:

(Proposals welcomed at all Secretariats)

Rainbow Iceberg (international work)

Orfeo Iris (research in Nazi 6 neo Nazi persecution of homosexuals)

Grizzly Bear (work in ferocious homophobic situations)

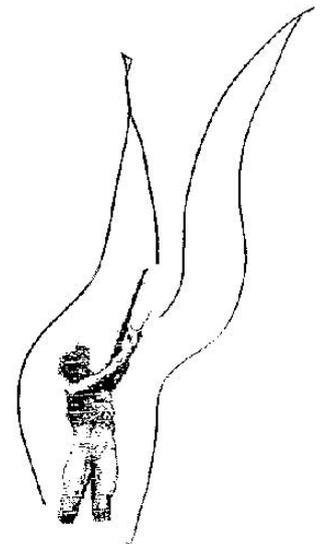
Orfeo Musica (international musical co-operation)

Sappho in Paradise (libraries, publishing)

Arco Nordica (Nordic co-operation)

Orfeo Imago (graphic art & photography)

Clio's Silver Cup (LGBT history)



ILGCN & Tupilak Travelling Art Exhibit in Poznan



Bill Schiller, Dominik Herberholz, Lukasz Palucki, Sergiusz Wróblewski at ILGCN/Tupilak art exhibit in Poznan.



Canadian transgender singer, Rae Spoon, at popular Poznan café during Equality Days with Tupilak art screened in the background.



ILGCN World Cultural Conferences

Toronto “Iranians in Exile,” Canada – February 2008

Helsinki, Finland -- September 14, 2008

Minneapolis/St. Paul, USA – September 19-21, 2008

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The work of the Amsterdam-based APU Theater (ILGCN cultural ambassadors) again in Italy, discussing gay male sexuality and dilemma of unsafe sex in the 21st century.