



## PERMANENT DELEGATION OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE

### STATEMENT IN REPLY TO ATTACK ON LGBTI IN F.Y.R. MACEDONIA

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile  
to the Permanent Council  
Vienna, 6th November 2014

Thank you, Mr Chairman, for giving me the floor. I shall be very brief.

I want to join my US colleague in condemning the violent attack on an LGBTI event last month in Skopje.

Mr Chairman,

Intolerance towards LGBTI people is – as we all know – widespread. Attacks on LGBT events are an expression of such intolerance and must be met with robust responses.

The attack on the event in Skopje is unfortunately not unique. A similar event in St. Petersburg in September – the so-called Queer-Fest 2014 – was also disturbed by people with homophobic attitudes.

Lack of appropriate response to such incidents may be interpreted by some as a signal that harassment of LGBTI people is condoned by our societies.

Thank you.