

# We put Love in our name because Love Does Not Exclude



We want all couples and families to be equally protected by Polish law.

In 2009 we began our work on **protecting, strengthening, and representing LGBT+ community in Poland.**

In 2013 we dared to demand marriage equality in Poland.

In 2019 we were targeted by a hate campaign orchestrated by the government, public media, and the Catholic Church.

In 2020 our political allies announced they will be introducing our bill to the parliament.



see what  
we do  
→



**miłość  
nie wyklucza**  
STOWARZYSZENIE

[mnw.org.pl/en](http://mnw.org.pl/en)

## Love Does Not Exclude Association – About us



We have been working to protect, strengthen, and represent the LGBT+ community in Poland since 2009. Our main goal is to ensure the right to marry for all, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

**We believe** that full equality means marriage equality for all.

**We believe** that all families have the right to be happy, safe and respected.

**We believe** that Love Does Not Exclude.

# Our long-term strategy for equality pays off

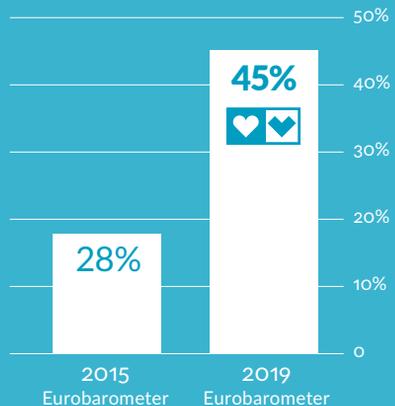
Poland remains one of the last EU countries with almost no legal protections for LGBT+ people. This includes a ban on discrimination and the so-called “conversion therapies”, penalization of hate crimes, regulations of gender reassignment procedures, accurate education and recognition of same-sex marriage and parenthood.

Main political parties either ignore or openly oppose necessary legislation.

As a result it is up to us to educate, rally support and lobby for legal solutions.

Despite these obstacles we managed to steer the public conversation towards marriage equality with polls showing a steady rise in support for change.

## Changes in support for marriage equality in Poland



# What we do



## We help people understand

We give voice to the LGBT+ community via our social media, reaching an audience of 50k+ followers.

We made the first documentary about marriage equality in Poland, telling stories of same-sex couples with children who left Poland looking for happiness and security.

Together with Warsaw Pride, we built an unbreakable rainbow made of water and light at Warsaw's city center and organized an equality prom dance where highschool students danced in same-sex pairs as a sign of solidarity with LGBT+ community.



## We change the law

We wrote, negotiated, and lobbied the Warsaw LGBT+ Declaration – the first document of its kind in the region. Signed by Mayor of Warsaw it promises to tackle bullying and homelessness, and help strengthen the LGBT+ community in the city.

We successfully lobbied for an extensive bill on same-sex civil unions which was submitted to the parliament by our political partners, and we prepared a draft of a bill on marriage equality.



## We build the LGBT+ community in Poland

We organize regular meetings of 25+ LGBT+ organizations from all over Poland, sharing knowledge and good practices, providing support, and coordinating advocacy and self-organization initiatives.

We also conduct regular social research, run a strategic litigation at the European Court of Human Rights, and cooperate with diversity employee networks at several companies.

see what  
we do



# **Three pillars of our strategy for marriage equality**

# We help people understand

educating ♥ campaigning ♥ storytelling



# ARTYKUŁ OSIEMNASTY

film o Polsce

Former judge of the Constitutional Court explains there is no ban on marriage equality in Poland.

[watch online](#)

## Article 18

„Article 18” is the first documentary (on the lack of) marriage equality in Poland. It is also the article of the Polish constitution which is usually interpreted as a ban on marriage equality. The film follows two Polish same-sex couples who had emigrated to the United

Kingdom, got married, and raise their children. Parallel to their stories experts explain the political, societal, and religious background of Polish homophobia and the growing gap between ideals of freedom and equality after the fall of communism.





## Marriage Equality. Beginner's Guide

Available in print and online, this free book covers all major topics related to marriage equality. From people and their stories, through legal matters and social attitudes, to a FAQ section with a readymade conversation toolkit.

→ [mnw.org.pl/biblioteczka](https://mnw.org.pl/biblioteczka)

**We change the law**

advocacy ♥ research ♥ litigation



## **Warsaw LGBT+ Declaration**

In February 2019 Rafał Trzaskowski, the Mayor of Warsaw, signed the LGBT+ Declaration, the first document of its kind in Central-Eastern Europe. Written and negotiated by our association the document aims to address some of the basic needs of the LGBT+ community on the local level, bypassing hostile national

government. Declaration points include the creation of a shelter for teenagers experiencing homelessness, a community center self-governed by the LGBT+ community, and a “Lighthouse Keeper” project preventing and helping victims of bullying at schools.



## Draft of a Marriage Equality Bill

In 2015 we employed lawyers specializing in family law and legislation drafting who prepared our bill on marriage equality along with necessary legal commentaries. We regularly update supporting documents adding latest social polls, court rulings, and international developments in order to keep the bill parliament-ready at any given time.

In 2019 our marriage equality bill got support from the third largest political block in the Polish parliament.

In 2020 our political allies announced they will be introducing our bill to the parliament.



## Suing Poland for Human Rights Breach

Together with a coalition of LGBT+ and human rights organizations, as well as law firms, we initiated strategic litigation by supporting the case of several Polish same-sex couples who were refused the right to marry and **sued the Polish state in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.**

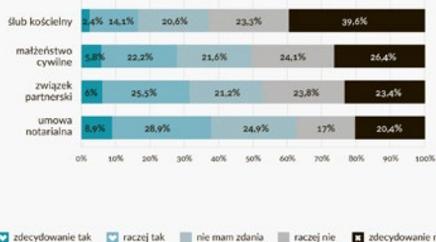
## Hate Speech Legal Action

We have initiated a **lawsuit of 16 LGBT+ people** against a prominent anti-choice activist, also known for extremely homophobic language. It is the first instance of strategic litigation being used against hate speech in Poland.



## Poparcie dla formalizacji związków osób tej samej płci

2018



## Social Research

We conduct **biannual nationwide social polls** tracking support for marriage equality, civil unions, and adoption rights for same-sex couples. We also develop qualitative reports on the LGBT+ community in Poland.

# **We build the LGBT+ community**

networking ♥ support ♥ cooperation



## Unbreakable rainbow

Day before the Warsaw Pride 2018, the iconic Rainbow monument, previously removed after being burned down by homophobic vandals, has returned to the city center for one evening! The event organized by Love Does Not Exclude Association, Equality Parade, and Ben&Jerry's Poland was a symbol of love, equality, and hope. It was a manifesto

of a wish for Warsaw to become a city where everyone can feel safe and respected.



## Wedding Allies

Each year an average of 58 straight couples wear our blue “marriage for all” badges during their weddings as a sign of support for equality.



## We Tell How It Is

Underreporting of hate crimes (which are not penalized under Polish law) is a huge problem especially among young LGBT+ people who face bullying. Our “Tell It How It Is” campaign attempts to change this by sharing life stories

of homophobia survivors, providing contacts to people who can help youth in distress, and advocating pride as a remedy for fear.

→ **mowiejakjest.eu**



## Diversity Employee Networks

We work with corporate partners and employee networks organizing workshops, giving presentations, and providing know-how for diversity support activities at their workplace. We can already see the change in corporate diversity policies and gradual shift to more open support for the LGBT+ community.

## Pride Network and Congress

We keep in touch with all LGBT+ groups and organizations in Poland, supporting their activities, organizing study visits and local events, and providing them with educational materials. We also organize regular meetings coordinating advocacy and educational activities throughout the year.

# Love Does Not Exclude Association Contact

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## website

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## Make a donation for Love!

Help us protect, strengthen,  
and represent LGBT+ community  
and introduce marriage equality  
in Poland!



see how you  
can support  
us  
→

## Support Love!

In order to work effectively we need to be independent. This means we rely on community donations. Right now more than 60% of our budget comes from individual donors. We employ a team of 2 full-time and 2 contract workers supported by 15 volunteers.

**Support us and help us grow to bring the change in Poland!**

Support  
us with



[kontakt@mnw.org.pl](mailto:kontakt@mnw.org.pl)

Bank transfer details:

Stowarzyszenie Miłość Nie Wyklucza  
ul. Wspólna 61/102, 00-687 Warsaw, Poland

Bank BNP Paribas

SWIFT/BIC: PPABPLPK

IBAN: PL61 2030 0045 1110 0000 0357 3360



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