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# 'Open Up!' Project Factsheet

<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Open Up! European LGBTI History Out Of The Closet!</b>
<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Digitisation of LGBTI archives</b>
<b>Geographical Focus:</b>	<b>Central and Eastern Europe, Cyprus, Malta, Turkey</b>
<b>Project Period</b>	<b>September 2011 – January 2012</b>
<b>Funder:</b>	<b>Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science</b>
<b>Budget:</b>	<b>€299,275.00</b>

## About the Project

Emancipation and advocacy for equality and human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (LGBTI) experienced a surge in most Central and Eastern European countries as regimes changed during the late 1980s and early 1990s. Many LGBTI movements and organisations emerged and some have notably expanded and increased their outreach and leverage over the years. Numerous LGBTI publications, especially magazines, were also launched, and some remain in circulation today.

To provide valuable insight into the historical development of LGBTI rights in primarily the Central and Eastern Europe region and to facilitate access to it, the International Homo/Lesbian Information Centre and Archive (IHLIA) is implementing the Open Up! Project. The aims of this project are twofold: (i) to digitise a substantial archive of LGBTI periodicals and organisational documents, and (ii) to create a web-based user interface to make this collection accessible as far as possible to policy-makers, LGBTI movements and organisations, activists, researchers, social historians, journalists and the general public.

Specific objectives of the Open Up! project are to:

- Digitise and provide access to an existing archive of periodicals (magazines, newspapers, journals) from 14 countries in Central and Eastern Europe and Turkey (over 680 items).
- Digitise and provide access to organisational archives mostly from the early 1980s to late 1990s of ILGA, IGLYO, ILGA-Europe and other international LGBTI organisations. These include newsletters, conference papers, project files, press releases, Eastern Europe Desk reports, pamphlets, flyers, analytical reports and advocacy letters.
- Digitise and provide access to organisational archives of up to 30 local LGBTI organisations in Central and Eastern Europe, Cyprus, Malta and Turkey.
- Acquire new archives of LGBTI-related periodicals and literature from target countries and more recent archives of international LGBTI organisations for IHLIA's permanent archive collection.

## Project Collaboration

- International Institute of Social History (IISH)
- International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA)
- International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association – Europe (ILGA-Europe)
- International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Youth and Student Organization (IGLYO)

## About IHLIA

IHLIA is an international gay/lesbian library, archive, information and documentation centre on homosexuality and sexual diversity, with its main location in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. IHLIA aims to collect, catalogue and supply all LGBTI materials from the Netherlands and the rest of the world. IHLIA currently boasts the largest LGBTI library collection in the Netherlands and Europe.

**For further information** contact the Project Manager, Sally Johnson, [sally@ihlia.nl](mailto:sally@ihlia.nl), +31 (0) 625 371 143