



Vienna, Austria

4th International East meets West Conference

FACES OF MODERN DIVERSITY

June 15, 2018

The East meets West Conference is the annual meeting of the East meets West network and interested outsiders, to discuss LGBTI topics, present ideas, realizations, future plans and to create an environment for efficient networking. Join the Conference and listen and network with entrepreneurs, corporate players, NGOs, diplomatic representatives and other inspiring personalities, all with a strong LGBTI interest. The dress-code is **Business casual**.

Program

ERSTE CAMPUS, Am Belvedere 1, 1100 Vienna, Austria

This year hosted by Erste Group, the Conference offers a rich and dynamic full-day program and networking opportunities with people from over 20 European countries and overseas delegations. The program features indisputable LGBTI men and women, who have taken their rightful place in the mainstream society and this way have become iconic representatives of the new phase of social diversity. There is an increasing focus on LGBTI Businesses and their proud owners and inspiring personalities, witnessing and demonstrating the Faces of Modern Diversity.



8:30 – 9:00

Registration

Collect your badge, drink your tea or coffee and start networking.

9:00 – 9:30

Official Opening

Meeting the hosts, greeting the participants of the 4th International East meets West Conference.

- *Gernot Mittendorfer, CFO and Member of the Board at Erste Group Bank AG, Austria*

Message of the Co-Founders

East meets West co-founders welcoming all participants and the theme of the Conference.

- *Ludo Swinnen, Pavel Šubrt, Co-founders of East meets West*

9:30 – 10:30

A Look from the East and a Look from the West

What happened during the last year in the East meets West countries? A panel talk with representatives from the four corners of our network, who share with you their first hand testimonials and offer you an inside view on what's really behind the LGBTI news.

- *Sir Stephen Wall, Chair of The Kaleidoscope Trust Board, United Kingdom*
- *Ana Lok, Co-founder and Director at DOTYK Festival, Belarus*
- *Katarina Zerzanová, Leader of PWD Constituency at IBM, Slovakia*
- *Christophe Margaine, Treasurer and International Affairs Lead at L'Autre Cercle, France*

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 – 11:50

Corporates Showing Colors

Corporates can take their social responsibility role in society seriously and this from the work floor up to the Board level. With passion and relevant budgets, they support LGBTI initiatives as well in their own company as outside their business environment. This way they drive the progress made in making the world a more diverse place.

- *Vera Maria Budway-Strobach, Chief Diversity Officer at Erste Group Bank AG, Austria*
- *Javier Leonor, Global Pride Lead at Accenture, The Netherlands*
- *BRICH, Recently founded, soon to go live initiative of LGBTI ERG Groups, Austria*

11:50 – 12:15

From Subculture to Mainstream

Looking back in time, it is striking how the role that gay men and women play in society has changed. The LGBTI community made an amazing journey from the 60ties until today. We did not only move from Subculture to Mainstream, but we enriched this Mainstream society with our specific LGBTI identity.

- *Andreas Brunner, Co-founder at QWIEN, Austria*

12:15 – 13:00

Networking Lunch

13:00 – 13:50

Meet the New Kids in Town

How does the topic of 'Chambers of Commerce' sound to you? Well established but bureaucratic and not really modern organizations? The newly set up LGBTI Chambers of Commerce have a quite different look and feel and bring some fresh air in this stuffy world. They support the growth of LGBTI businesses and introduce and roll-out the supplier diversity concept. They are really the 'New Kids in Town'!

- *Lucia Urcioli, President of the Italian GLBT Business Chamber, Italy*
- *Tobias Holfelt, President of the Scandinavian Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, Sweden*
- *César Casas Ferrer, President of the Federación Mexicana de Empresarios LGBT, Mexico*

13:50 – 15:00

Meet the Real Faces of Modern Diversity – Part I.

Every new development phase has its trail blazers, real people and activities that change the society. The LGBTI community also has such front-runners, leaving behind them the traditional LGBTI underdog position and living a self-confident, rich and empowered life. These strong individuals we call "The Faces of Modern Diversity".

- *Alberto Padilla, Co-founder and COO at HISKIND, United Kingdom*
- *Amarildo Fecanji, Executive Co-Director at ERA - LGBTI Equal Rights Association for the Western Balkans and Turkey*
- *Vítek Ježek, Founder and CEO at Rekola Bikesharing, Czech Republic*

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee Break

15:30 – 17:00

Meet the Real Faces of Modern diversity – Part II.

The second part of this session brings on stage even more of such strong individuals. We consider them as powerful role-models with a strong impact on the LGBTI community and found them all over our EmW network, covering business, social engagement, political action and many other facets of modern living.

- *Annemie Gulickx, Content Manager at KetNet TV, Belgium*
- *Rebecca Fox, Member of the Board at SeriesQ and founder of Gray Blue, United Kingdom*
- *Matuš Novota, Entrepreneur, Novota Art, Slovakia*
- *Dawn River, MA Program Director at University of Birmingham, United Kingdom*
- *Fabienne Stordiau, Managing Director at Allround Team, Germany*
- *Queer Base, Welcome and Support for LGBTIQ Refugees, Austria*

17:00 – 17:15

The European Commission Stands for Modern Diversity

The European Commission stands for Diversity, Non-Discrimination and Equality, at all times and at all places. With the publication of the List of Actions to Advance LGBTI Equality, the Commission entered a new phase of promoting these principles. During this session, the Commission will focus on the concrete measures it takes to advance equality, also in businesses, which it sees as one of the key actors to further advance the equality of LGBTI people.

- *Heinz R. Miko, Spokesperson of the Representation of the European Commission in Austria*

17:15 – 17:30

East meets West Entering a Next Phase

As next year we celebrate the 5th EmW Conference, it deserves in 2019 a real jubilee glance. We want East meets West to become a real reference for the LGBTI community, not only in Austria and its current region, but Europe-wide. You ain't seen nothing yet!

- *Pavel Šubrt, Ludo Swinnen, Co-founders of East meets West*

Transfer

18:00 – 21:00

Reception

The Swedish Embassy invites you to celebrate the unique experience of the 4th International East meets West Conference. In this refined environment you can meet and network with an international LGBTI, straight ally crowd and as special guests the EuroPride 2018 organization team from Sweden.

- *By invitation only or with East meets West Conference Pass*

The Hotel of EmW Preference

International guests can make use of the special conditions at one of the two hotels of the Accor Group. Opened only in 2017 in Vienna, directly at the Vienna main train station, right in the heart of the Belvedere district, experience either the 4-star comfort of the Novotel or the contemporary comfort of the IBIS. Book directly at one of the two hotels and refer to East meets West Conference. For further questions, you can contact us under events@eastmeetswest.eu.



Ibis Wien Hauptbahnhof*** starting from 93,00 € per room and night

Novotel Wien Hauptbahnhof**** starting from 139,00 € per room and night

(room prices include buffet breakfast as well as all taxes and service charges)



Conference Venue

ERSTE CAMPUS VIENNA

AM BELVEDERE 1, 1100 VIENNA

AUSTRIA

The 2018 East meets West Conference is hosted by Erste Group at their Vienna headquarters Erste Campus. Erste Group is one of the largest financial services providers in Central and Eastern Europe. The Campus stands out through its open, flowing architecture that fits smoothly into the historic and natural spatial context of the city, and stands out for its difference from the usual hermetic design of bank headquarters. Read more interesting facts about [Erste Campus](#).



More about Vienna

When planning your participation, why not prolong it with few extra days and enjoy the unique Vienna atmosphere and of course, not to forget, the Vienna Pride on Saturday, June 16th. As an appetizer, we add here very useful links from the Vienna Tourist Board:

<https://www.wien.info/media/files/gay-lesbian-guide-wien-de-en.pdf>

<https://www.wien.info/en/vienna-for/gay-lesbian>

<https://www.wien.info/en>

VIENNA
NOW ♦ FOREVER

Registration

The Conference Pass entitles you to enjoy the rich full-day program filled with interesting speakers and unlimited networking opportunities. Food & beverages are included. Register at <https://eastmeetswest2018.eventbrite.com>

49 €

East meets West understands that sometimes the participation of an NGOs or an individual might need an extra support. Contact us under info@eastmeetswest.eu to find out more about conditions to enjoy our **fee-waver program**.

Supporting Partners

Organizing the 4th International East meets West Conference in Vienna would not be possible without the kind support of the following partners:

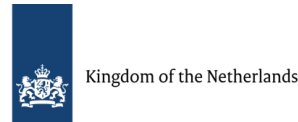
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About East meets West

Founded in 2013 in Vienna, Austria, East meets West is a network of LGBTI professionals From Western & (primarily) Eastern Europe. East meets West facilitates the exchange of ideas, the sharing of best practices and generates mutual inspiration to improve the social acceptance of LGBTI men and women in the different countries. The East meets West brand has two pillars. East meets West Social has a catalyst function in the LGBTI organizational ecosystem by connecting NGOs, diplomatic representatives, officials, corporate players, entrepreneurs and variety of other inspiring personalities. East meets West Business is the facilitator of awareness on LGBTI businesses and that LGBTI men and women can be successful entrepreneurs and become role models inside and outside the LGBTI community.



Ludo Swinnen
Pavel Šubr
Co-founders



www.eastmeetswest.eu



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