

LOVE WITHOUT BORDERS

Our gathering today is more than a march. It is an expression of our outrage at decisions made above our heads. It is an expression of our dissent against forcing us into humiliating concessions.



For years we've been demanding equality, dignity and respect for human rights. We've had enough of being second class citizens. We've had enough of hate crimes, discrimination and living in fear. We've had enough of the over-20-year fight for marriage rights and of promises that are thrown to the bin after elections again and again. We've had enough of the authorities' arrogance and of politicians denying us basic rights. We've had enough of our pain being used for political games. We've had enough of moral crusaders' duplicity.



We feel angry and powerless. We feel the ever-present injustice and hurt. We're afraid for our futures and we're grieving the ones we were promised and never saw. Last year our slogan was „Rainbow, boa, antifascism”. Our joy was eclipsed by anger. We carry our anger and fear, but we don't let it destroy us. This year's Toruń Pride March is an invitation to cooperation and co-responsibility. We believe love can be a real tool in the fight against systemic oppression. We turn our feelings into actions to build strong communities - communities that survive, even when they're surrounded by hatred.



This year we march under the slogan „Love without borders”. We don't look away. We're aware there is a crisis of migration policies. We're aware there are many wars going on around the world. Millions of people face persecution and harm on the basis of their identities. Our queer experiences, often difficult, make it so we can't turn away from other forms of injustice and oppression written into the system. As individuals we don't have a say in migration processes, armed conflicts, genocides and their consequences - we believe in our obligation to get involved anyway. Every action, no matter how small, matters.





We want love without borders. We want solidarity of all oppressed persons. We want each and every one of us to come back from today's March ready to better support migrants and refugees - not only because we are so often targeted by the same hate groups. That's why we asked the Emic foundation for

6 WAYS TO SUPPORT PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

1. Allow everyone to speak for themselves.
2. Support independence and self-sufficiency.
3. Remember that being a person on the move is only one aspect of a complex identity.
4. Integration, not assimilation. Allow everyone to keep their cultural, religious and linguistic identity. We'll all be truer for it.
5. Support local migrant initiatives and organisations.
6. Get your information on migration from reliable sources.

We respond to global pessimism with local activism. Now, more than ever, our voices matter. We won't be terrorised. We are visible and we are everywhere. We are strong, and together we are even stronger in opposing those who deny us our right to exist.

We organise here in Toruń because it's our city, too. We organise the Pride March and make its rules. We choose its voice. We aren't interested in patronages, compromises or assimilation in place of real solidarity. We won't let hope for a better world for all, not just LGBTQ+ people, be taken from us. We believe intersectionality is the roadmap to collective liberation. Our strength is in relationships, community, and care.

We need to focus on what we can do together to oppose the harm affecting marginalised people. Although we have less than we need, we want to build a longer table, not a higher wall. Take with you what you can share and join us in celebrating a common meal.

