IGNITED-POWER Takes the Next Step in Athens: Strengthening Inclusion and Empowering LGBTQIA+ Youth across Europe

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Athens, Greece – October 2025:
The Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership in Youth project **IGNITED-POWER – Inclusive Gender and Sexual Orientation Navigation for Transformation and Empowerment** held its **2nd Transnational Project Meeting** on **9–10 October 2025** in Athens, Greece, hosted by **XENIOS POLIS – Culture, Science and Action**.

The two-day meeting marked a significant milestone in the 24-month initiative, which aims to **empower LGBTQIA+ youth** and **promote inclusive, informed, and supportive communities** across Europe. Representatives from **six partner organizations** in **five countries** (Spain, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, and Romania) gathered to review project progress, discuss strategic developments, and define the next steps for the creation of the **IGNITED POWER Community Hub** — a digital platform designed to foster inclusion, engagement, and empowerment.

During the meeting, partners focused on **Work Packages 3 and 4**, aligning on methodologies, timelines, and the roadmap for the project's next phase.
Meanwhile, across the consortium, **Capacity Building Workshops** were successfully implemented in all five partner countries. These workshops trained youth workers on key topics such as **legal gender recognition**, **SOGIESC inclusion in the workplace**, and **hate crimes and hate speech**, through **interactive activities and group discussions** aimed at strengthening their ability to support and advocate for LGBTQIA+ youth.

The **next phase** of the project will focus on the development of the **IGNITED POWER Community Hub**, featuring educational materials, open-access resources, and the upcoming **IGNITED POWER Podcast Series**, continuing to advance inclusion, equality, and empowerment across Europe.

IGNITED-POWER directly supports the **EU LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020–2025** and the **EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027**. Over the course of the project, IGNITED-POWER will engage more than **75 youth workers and 180 young people** across Europe, developing **educational materials, podcasts, and digital tools** that promote inclusion, equality, and empowerment for LGBTQIA+ communities.

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