



History vs. Today: What's Really Changed?



The Realities of LGBTQI Youth in Europe Today

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IGLYO
The International **(LGBTQI)**
Youth & Student Organisation





Government of the Netherlands






Who are we? About IGLYO

 World's Largest LGBTQI youth and student network

 Founded in 1984, based in Brussels

 120 Member Organisations in over 40 countries across Europe

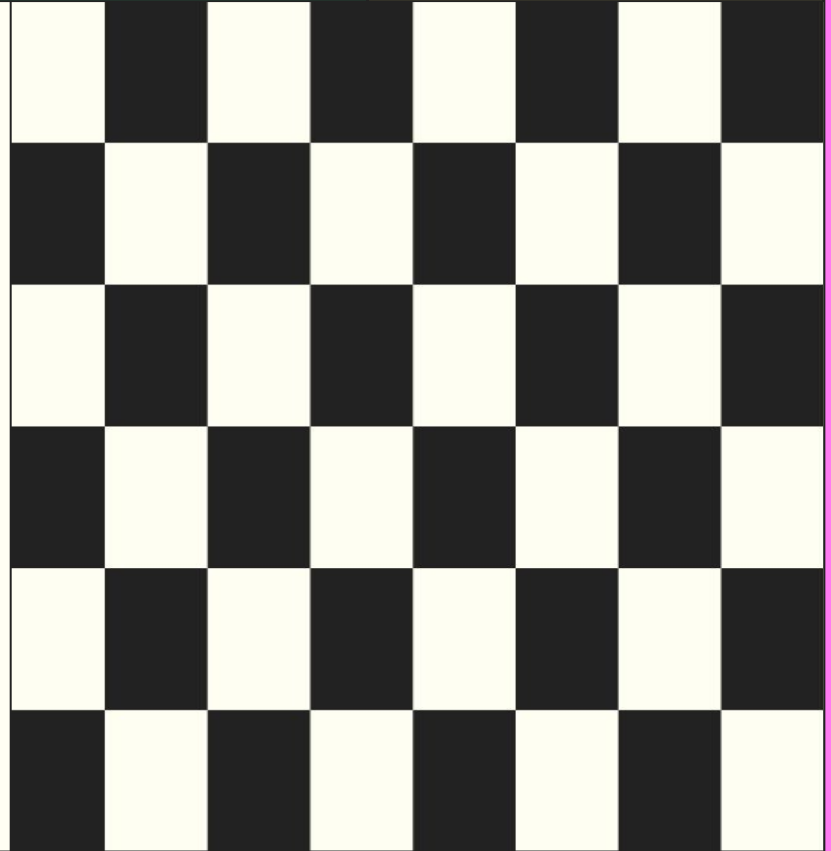
 We do:

-  Advocacy
-  Capacity Building
-  Engagement



Is it really “NEVER AGAIN”?

| Or...Does History Repeat
Itself?



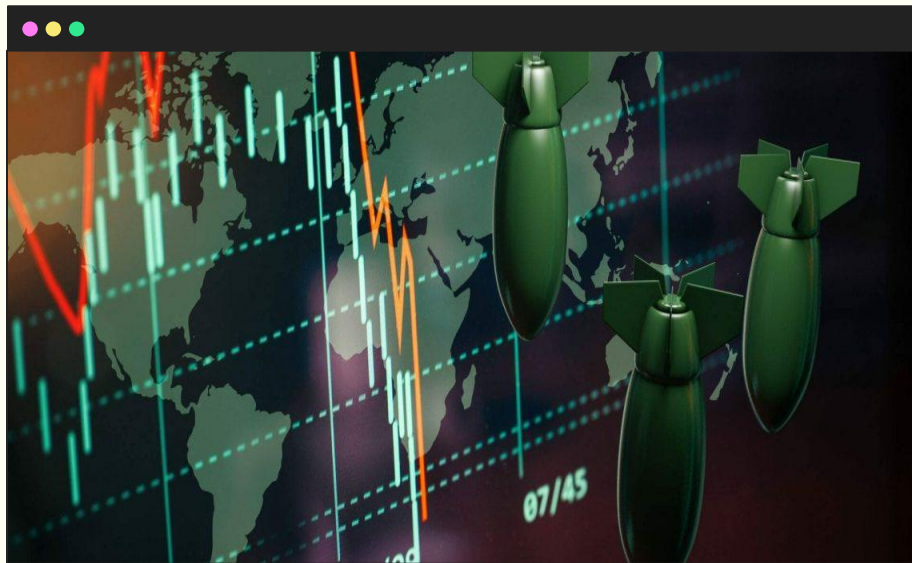
The Playbook

Step 1:

Exploit Crises, Frustrations & Fear

Take people's pain, uncertainty, and anger ... and then reframe it as a national crisis or grievance.

Fuel the narrative: *"You're struggling, and it's someone else's fault."*



Step 2:

Find Someone to Blame ...Then Dehumanise

- Target a vulnerable group.
- Turn individual actions into group stereotypes.
- Fuel conspiracy theories.
- Claim it's about protection:
Protect the children. Protect women. Protect your culture. Your job. Your faith. Your country.
- Create fear. Then offer yourself as the "solution."



💣 Step 3:

Start the Purge...Quietly at First

- Once fear has taken hold, start tightening the grip.
- Shrink civic space.
- Attack freedom of expression, association, and assembly.



🦴 Step 4: Final Step

Criminalise Identity.
Dismantle Protection.
Erase Existence.

The goal becomes simple: **make people disappear.**



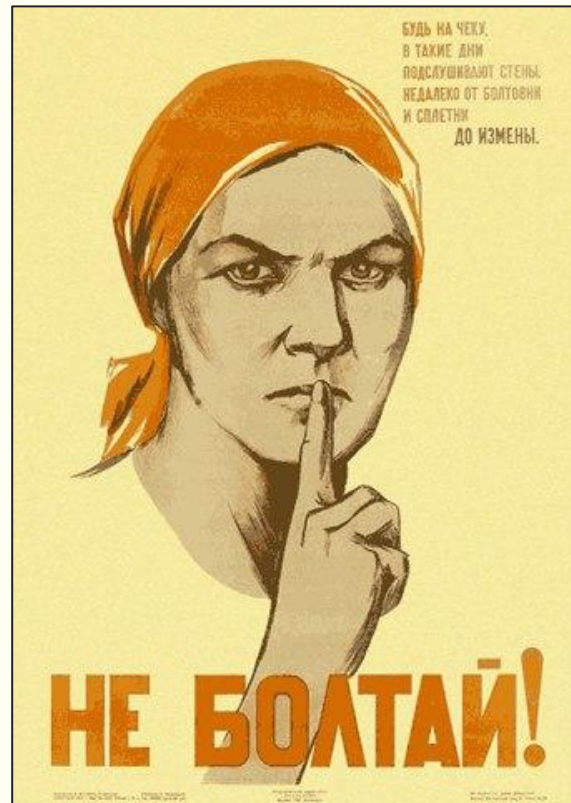
⊘ Criminalise Who People Are

- Ban or restrict identities through laws and policy.
- Use imprisonment, torture, or killing to intimidate and suppress.



Attack the Protectors

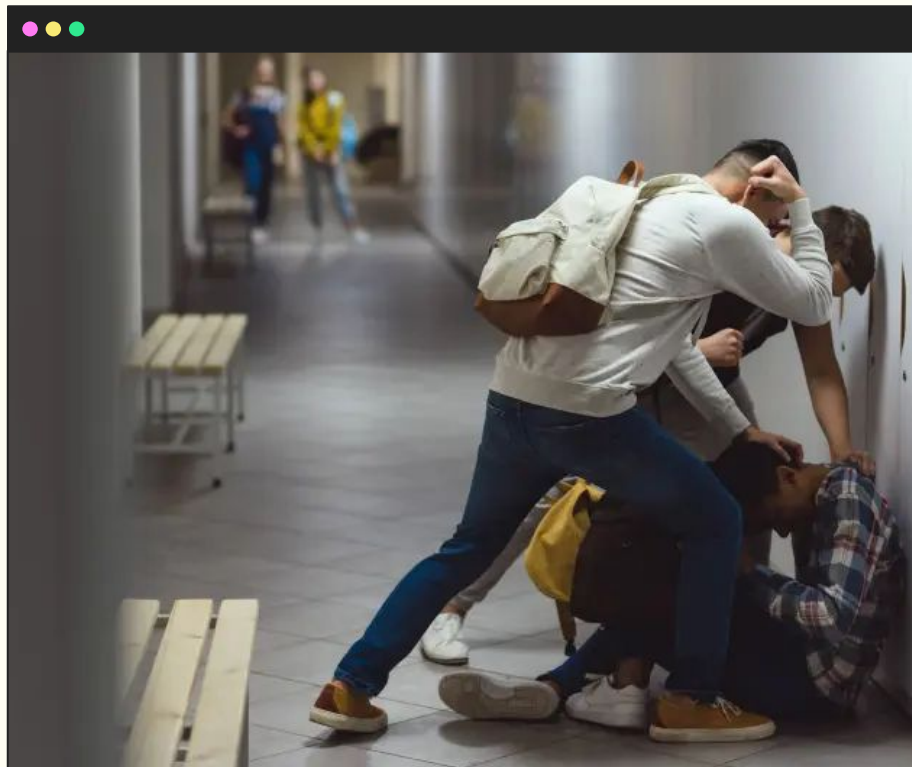
- Target NGOs, activists, and journalists.
- Cut funding for human rights organisations.
- Demonise their work. Call them “foreign agents” or “traitors” or “enemies of the state.”
- Make expressions of solidarity dangerous.





Create a Hostile Environment

- **Enact laws** that make LGBTQI, Roma, or migrant lives unliveable.
- **Make everyday life unsafe** – people feel watched, targeted, unwelcome.
- Youth are **forced to hide** , unable to come out, connect, or grow.
- **Isolation deepens** – help, friendship, communities and support vanish.





Deportation. Migration. Erasure.

- If you can't break them down, push them out.
- Society grows colder, harsher, more violent.
- The message is clear: You don't belong here.
- People start to think: *"Maybe I need to leave."*
- But even leaving feels unsafe — hate is spreading everywhere.



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What's Happening Today?

Populist Rhetoric on the Rise

- Leaders stoking fear and anger.
- Minorities blamed for national problems.
- Hate becoming a political strategy.





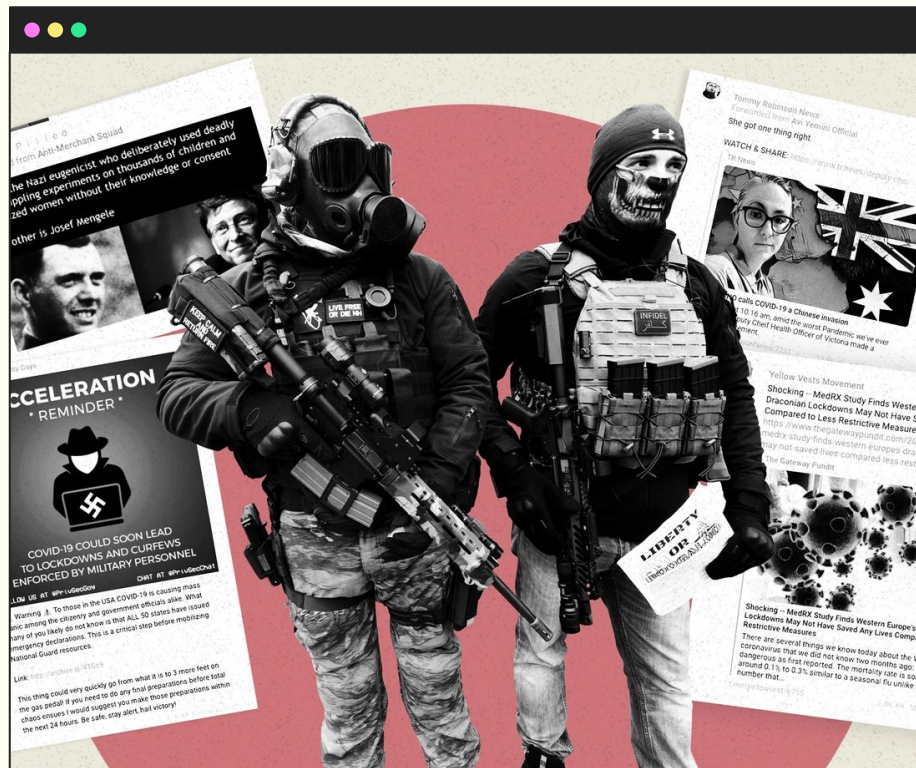
Rise of the Right

- Nationalism, purity, “traditional values.”
- Religion becomes a weapon.
- Harsh rules around masculinity, femininity, and gender roles.
- LGBTQI people, migrants, Roma — painted as “threats” to the nation.



! This Isn't the Fringe Anymore

- Racial supremacy.
- Replacement theory.
- Antisemitism, anti-refugee, anti-LGBTQI rhetoric — mainstreamed.
- Hate speech floods social media.
- Algorithms amplify it. Adults ignore it.



The Attack is Organised

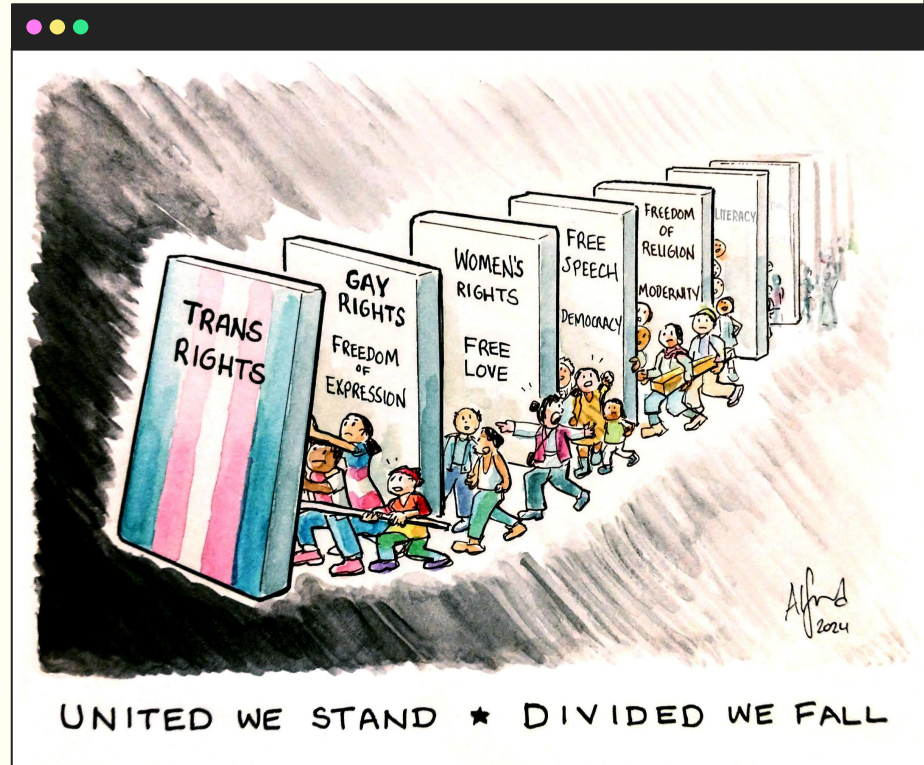
- Cut funding for support organisations.
- Demonise human rights work as conspiratorial, “foreign,” or treasonous.
- Undermine solidarity by making diversity itself the enemy.







It Doesn't Stop with One Group

- Authoritarian movements don't stop at one target.
- They come for everyone who doesn't fit their idea of the "ideal citizen." Anyone seen as "undesirable".





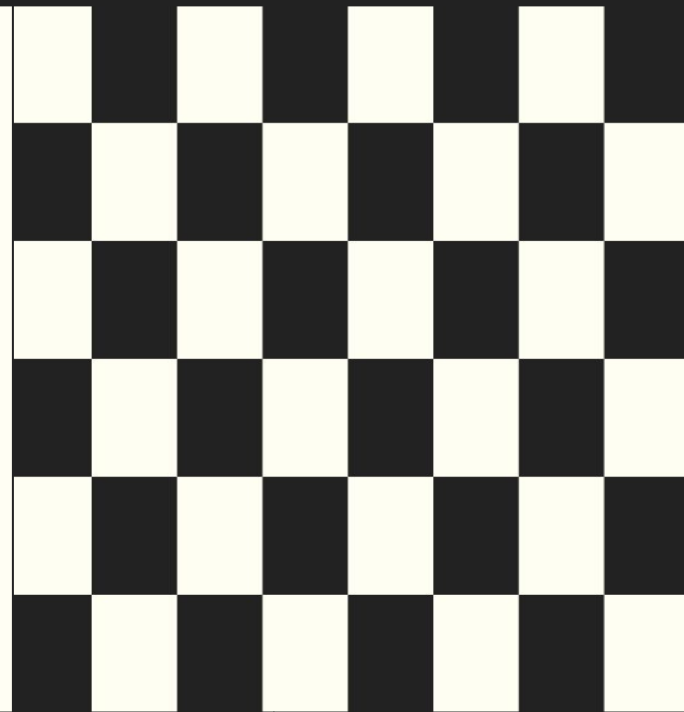
 This Is Already
Happening Here

 Case Study: Turkey
Today

Thank you



To get in touch, drop me a line at
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