

# URGENT ACTION

## POLICE FAIL TO PROTECT KYIV LGBTI PRIDE MARCH

**The lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) Pride march that took place in Kyiv on 6 June was marred by violence, as police failed to adequately protect the participants.**

The Kyiv Pride march, attended by about 250 people including some French, American, Dutch and Swedish diplomats who joined in their personal capacities, on Saturday, 6 June was marred by homophobic violence. Despite there being about 1,500 police officers present during the Pride march, the lack of coordination with the event organizers, and the police's failure to put an evacuation plan in place, resulted in attacks from counter-demonstrators. Ten protesters and five police officers were injured during the march. One police officer was left in critical condition.

Ahead of the event, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko publicly backed the activists' constitutional right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, and Kyiv City Council did not seek a ban on the event in court, as had been the case in the past. Amnesty International members penned about 20,000 signatures urging Ukraine authorities to protect the march.

Amnesty International issued a press release on the violence that occurred during the Kyiv Pride march <https://www.amnesty.org/en/articles/news/2015/06/homophobic-violence-mars-gay-pride-rally-in-kyiv/>

A detailed report on the march will be produced soon. A video of the event will also be available soon.

**No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.**

This is the first update of UA 119/15. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur50/1750/2015/en/>

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