

**Dear residents of Krakow,**

**We are all equal before the law.**

**We all have the right to equal treatment by public authorities**

**- this is what Article 32 of the Constitution reads.**

Equality, freedom, solidarity, respect and openness are the values that have accompanied us since the establishment of the Equal Treatment Council at the Mayor of Krakow. Therefore, we cannot remain silent in the face of the events of the recent days. We want to be and we are in solidarity with those whom politicians and hierarchs of the Catholic Church dehumanize, call names and humiliate, LGBT people, i.e. lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgender people are our friends, relatives, and colleagues. LGBT is also us. Politicians and publicists who spread hate speech thus exclude several million citizens from society, not only LGBT people, but also their relatives and families: there is and there will be no to this.

As members of the Krakow Council for Equal Treatment, we are standing for equality, freedom and openness. We believe in dialogue and cooperation but based on respect.

Dear lesbians, dear gays, bisexual and transgender people: you are not alone, we are with you, we are supporting you and we will do everything to make you feel at home in Krakow - because here is your home. Krakow is the city full of life and diversity - and you and your story are an essential part of it. A few weeks ago, we prepared a guide for socially excluded people, it also included pages about LGBT. As the rainbow we have in not only in the logo, but also in our hearts.

We have agreed that, within the framework of the Equal Treatment Council, we want to mainstream equality issues in urban policy, taking steps to develop a model for equal treatment and anti-discrimination at the local level. Recent events have shown how important and significant such initiatives are - because LGBT is not an ideology. LGBT people are people of Krakow, they also deserve respect and the right to a safe and dignified life.

Today we are also appealing to the residents of Krakow, not to be indifferent. Look around, take care of yourself and others, support each other. We also want to thank those who have already expressed their support.

The vision of the Equal Treatment Council reads that "we want an open and solidary Krakow in which all residents are free, equal, as well as committed ". Let it be a vision also for the whole of Krakow.