



**PRISHTINA  
PRIDE 2025**

# **PRIDE WEEK**

**AGENDA**  
**9-14 June**

# "No Step Back"

## Pride Week // 09 - 14 June 2025

The ninth edition of Pride Week in Kosovo is here!

"No Step Back" represents our commitment to stand strong against global movements that seek to undermine human rights, gender equality, and the fundamental dignity of all individuals. In the face of rising hate, discrimination, and attempts to erase our identities, we will not retreat. We will not be silenced. We will not hide. This Pride Week is a reminder that we, the LGBTQI+ community in Kosovo, have made great resistance and achievements, and despite the obstacles we face, our progress will not be undone.

Our resistance is fueled by unity, and we move forward, together, with the determination that "No Step Back" is as much about maintaining our ground, as it is about refusing to let anyone push us back into the shadows. This year's theme emerges from the current local and global climate, where backlash against LGBTQI+ rights and gender justice threatens the very progress we've fought for. It embodies our promise to stand firm in the face of these threats—our progress is not negotiable. We will not fear, and we will not go anywhere. Our movement is rooted in resilience, in a belief that the fight for equality and justice cannot be reversed.

"No Step Back" is about our unshakable commitment to continue pushing forward, no matter the social or political changes that challenge our existence. It means that we will always fight for our rights, for our societies, and for our collective progress to remain unhindered.

This year's Pride Week is a powerful statement that we will not yield to those who seek to roll back our hard-earned rights. It is our call to action—to stand together, to be unafraid, and to keep fighting for the world we are entitled to. We will continue to rise, to resist, and to fight for a society where everyone can live freely and with dignity.

**Attention:** At the bottom of the brochure you can find information about your safety during this week and our Safer Space Pledge. If you need more information, contact one of the Pride Week volunteers or staff.

# 09 JUNE

## Official Opening of Pride Week 2025

**18:00 / Government Building**

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The official opening of Pride Week is held under the patronage of the Office for Good Governance, Human Rights, Equal Opportunities, and Anti-Discrimination - Prime Minister's Office.

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### Welcome Speech by:

**Habit Hajredini**

Office for Good Governance

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### Keynote Speakers:

**Vjosa Osmani**

President of the Republic of Kosovo (TBC)

**Albin Kurti**

Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

**Blert Morina**

Executive Director, CEL Kosova

**Ambassador Aivo Orav**

Head of EU Office in Kosovo

**Jonas Westerlund**

Ambassador of Sweden in Kosovo

*\*The event is open to the media.*



**09 JUNE**

# **"Let's Pride"**

**20:00 / Bubble Pub**

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The first celebratory gathering of Pride Week has traditionally been loved and long-awaited every year. Where else would we share this love, other than Bubble Pub, celebrating each other and the progress we have made over the past 9 years of Prishtina Pride!

Join us from 20:00 and keep in mind the slogan "No Step Back" - come fully dolled up and don't keep your sparkles hidden.

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**Music by:**

**Vesa Bunjaku** and **Jeta**

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**Opening remarks by:**

**Rajmonda Sylbije**

CSGD

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*\*The event is not open to the media.*



**10 JUNE**

**Art for Pride  
Workshop**

**11:00 - 17:00 / Barabar Center**

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A workshop for queer artists to create and share their work in an Open Exhibition. An invitation to all artists who wish to share a space with other artists and work together on creating pieces based on our slogan “No Step Back” – how they perceive being queer in Kosovo and how this slogan resonates with them.

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**Facilitator:**

**Zana Ramadani**

Artist

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*The event is not open to the media. The event is only open to selected applicants through the open call.*





**10 JUNE**

**Discussion Panel:  
"What Does It  
Mean to Be Queer  
at UP?"**

**11:00 / Activism HUB, YIHR KS**

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Initiated by the Queer Student Movement, this discussion panel is our opportunity to have a deep conversation about the experiences and challenges faced by queer individuals at the University of Prishtina. Together with students, professors, alumni, and allies, we will discuss the spaces the university offers to the queer community and the barriers that still exist in creating an open and supportive environment for everyone.

At this event, we will hear perspectives from students, alumni, and faculty who will share their personal experiences and thoughts on improving university policies to make them more inclusive and supportive for queer individuals. This panel is an excellent opportunity to contribute to a sincere and respectful debate.

Join us to deepen the conversation and help create a more open and inclusive university for all!

**Queer Student Movement**

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*\*The event is not open to the media.*



**10 JUNE**

**Exhibition Opening  
"Art for Pride"**

**18:00 / Barabar Center**

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**Open until 13.06 at 17:00**

The Opening of the Exhibition "Art for Pride",  
showcasing the finished pieces of the  
participants from the "Art for Pride" workshop.

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**Curated by:**

**Zana Ramadani**

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*\*The event is open to the media.*

# 10 JUNE

## Reception for Embassies and Supporters

**19:00 - 21:00**

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As part of Pride Week 2025, we are honored to gather with embassies, allies, and friends in a well thought reception. This evening is a testament to the power of connection and the strength we build through mutual support and solidarity.

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## Welcome remarks:

**Karin Boven**

Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

**Arbër Nuhui**

Executive Director, CSGD

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*\*The event is not open to the media. By invitation only.*







**11 JUNE**

**Masterclass:  
Online Harms**

**10:00 - 13:00 / Kino ARMATA**

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Join communication strategist and Dare to be Grey director Jordy Nijenhuis for an interactive session on combating disinformation, hate speech, and online polarization.

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**11 JUNE**

# **Queer Brunch**

**15:00 - 21:00 / Residenza 17**

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We're gathering at Residenza 17 for a day full of music, dancing, food, yoga and networking. Starting from 15:00 with music selections and throughout the day, participants will have the opportunity to get to know more about some of the organising NGOs of the Pride Week and their services and opportunities. Then from 17:00 there will be an open Yoga class, and then finishing the night the band Mesnata will glaze the space with an amazing live performance.

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## **Music:**

**Mesnata**

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## **Yoga class:**

**17:00-18:00**

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## **NGOs corner:**

**CEL Kosova, CSGD, QIPS**

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*\*The event is not open to the media.*





**12 JUNE**

# **Writing Workshop: "No Step Back"**

**13:00 - 16:00 / Bubble Pub**

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Prishtina Pride 2025 is calling all queer voices! Join artist and activist Uresa Ahmeti for a writing workshop where passion meets pen & paper. This year's slogan is "NO STEP BACK", and we're here to turn those words into action.

This workshop is open to all queer people—no writing experience needed, just your passion and your story. Through creative writing, storytelling, and honest conversation, we'll explore what it means to resist, to love, and to move forward without fear. It's all about embracing your identity, expressing yourself authentically, and building a collective narrative that moves us all toward change.

So, bring your voice, your energy, and your dreams. Together, we'll create something powerful. No step back!

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**Mentor:**

**Uresa Ahmeti**

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# 12 JUNE

## Pride Talk with Vullnet Krasniqi

**19:00 - 20:00 / Barabar Center**

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Join us for a heart-to-heart talk at our  
Prishtina Pride 2025 series with Vullnet  
Krasniqi.

Vullnet, a prominent LGBTQI+ journalist and  
outspoken advocate, will share their personal  
journey in the fight for human rights, especially  
in journalism and media, highlighting key  
struggles and victories. This is your chance to  
engage, learn, and be inspired!

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*\*The event is open to the media.*





**12 JUNE**

**Poetry Night:  
"Only Forward"**

**20:00 - 22:00 / Bubble Pub**

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This is a night where words break free, where our stories—untold and unapologetic—take center stage. It is all about celebrating resilience, love, and progress through poetry.

Writers from the "No Step Back" writing workshop will share their original pieces, showcasing their passion, authenticity, and the power of queer voices. Plus, don't miss a special performance by Uresa Ahmeti, blending spoken word and music to elevate the night to another level.

Whether you're a seasoned poet or new to the mic, this space is yours to speak your truth.

**No Step Back, Only Forward!**

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**Host & Performer:**

**Uresa Ahmeti**

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*\*The event is not open to the media.*

# 13 JUNE

## Annual Prishtina Pride Conference:

State and LGBTQI+ Rights: Responsibilities in the  
challenging times

**10:00 - 13:00 / Sirius Hotel**

### **Welcome remarks:**

**Rina Braimi**

Program Director, CEL Kosova

### **1st Panel:**

**State responsibility in advancing LGBTQI+ rights**

#### **Moderator:**

**Marigona Shabiu**

Executive Director, YIHR KS

#### **Panelists:**

**Mr. Naim Qela**

Ombudsperson of Kosovo

**Rajmonda Sylbije**

Program Director, CSGD

**Representative from  
the Ministry of Culture  
(TBC)**

### **2nd Panel:**

**Challenging Anti-Gender Movements and Strengthening Global Solidarity**

#### **Moderator: Yilka Soba**

Programme Officer,  
Civil Rights Defenders

#### **Panelists:**

**Luljeta Demolli**

Executive director,  
Kosovar Gender Studies Center (KGSC)

**Lura Limani**

Team Leader for the EU Integration  
and Regional Cooperation Program at  
the Open Society Foundations,  
Western Balkans

*\*The event is open to the media.*



# 13 JUNE

## **Drag Show: ASNJĚ TAKĚ MBRAPA (No Heels Back)**

**21:00 - 01:00 / Oda Theatre**

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Did somebody say outdoor  
drag performances?

We heard you! This year we're bringing a  
different experience with some queens you  
thought you forgot the names of, but they're  
here to prove you wrong.

**Honey, Vulva, Rina, Queen Maggy,  
and Diva** will bring the performances of the  
year at theatre ODA on Friday the 13th.

Joining them are Rebiswan and Gent, making  
sure to keep the hype of the audience before  
and after the performances.

You don't wanna miss this one!

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**Host:**

**Semi**

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**DJs:**

**Arbër  
Gent**

*\*The event is not open to the media.*

**14 JUNE**

# **Pride Parade 2025**

**17:30 / Skanderbeg Square**

The gathering for the Pride Parade will begin at 17:30 at Skanderbeu Square. At 18:00 the pride walk towards the boulevard will begin and will end at the National Library. The parade will end with a concert!

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## **Pride Concert**

**19:00 - 23:00 / National Library**

Pride is a protest and a celebration. After our parade, the resilience continues on the dance floor for our Annual Pride Concert. Be ready for love, fantastic beats, and groovy dancing.

### **Line up:**

**Erleta  
Rebiswan  
Miranda**

### **Host:**

**Semi**

*\*The event is open to the media.*



# Security Measures During the Pride Parade

At the end of the Pride Parade and Concert, all participants are instructed to leave the designated area. Everyone is advised to remove materials symbolizing LGBTQI+ individuals and the Pride Parade (flags, banners, and other promotional materials).

If you have any questions, please refer to the volunteers and/or staff.

The safety of everyone is very important to us.

## Emergency numbers:

192 - Kosovo Police  
194 - Emergency Services

## SAFER SPACE PLEDGE

### **Respect boundaries.**

Always seek consent before engaging in physical or emotional contact. Respect the other person's comfort level and boundaries, and pay attention to non-verbal cues as well.

### **Actively communicate with people around you.**

If you're not sure about something, ask questions, listen carefully, and make sure there are no misunderstandings. Make sure the other person feels comfortable, is of legal age, etc.

### **Only an enthusiastic and clear 'yes' means yes.**

If someone rejects your offer or request, respect their decision without putting further pressure on them. Even if they initially say yes, they can always change their mind and say no later on. Other situations that also do not count as consent: are when the other person is silent, hesitant, or under the influence of a substance that affects their judgment.

### **We do not tolerate any kind of sexism, homophobia, transphobia, racism, discrimination, body/slut shaming or disrespect of any kind**

If you have any concerns while at the event or if someone is spoiling your experience, please approach one of the Prishtina Pride team members or security/Police.

Pride Week events have a list of people who are not allowed in the space.

## ORGANIZED BY:



## PARTNERS:



## SUPPORTED BY:



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