

Connecting People. Living Diversity and Tolerance.

MANEO – the gay anti-violence project in Berlin – is an independent project of the Mann-O-Meter association and has existed for 27 years. It is Germany’s oldest, best-known and most experienced gay anti-violence project. A large number of people committed to MANEO’s goals work for the project on a voluntary basis. MANEO receives enough funding from the Berlin Senate to pay for 2¼ posts and an office.

MANEO’s focus is on four core areas: first and foremost **psychosocial victim support**: gay and bisexual youths and adult men who have become victims of discrimination and violent crime are given professional counselling and support. The service is also available to victims of domestic violence, sexual attacks, forced marriage, robbery and theft. The MANEO-hotline “Schwules Überfalltelefon” is available every day from 5–7pm. It offers contact and initial counselling, and provides information about one-to-one counselling and support. More than 10,000 victims have taken us up on our support offer since 1990, 700 of them in the past year. MANEO has wide-ranging experience and has been working with experienced victim support centres in Germany and Europe for more than 20 years. In 2016 we extended our services to the needs of refugees. MANEO’s other core areas include **recording acts of violence**: particularly anti-gay hate crime in Berlin. The results are evaluated and published in an annual report (see: www.maneo.de). **Violence prevention**: the public is informed about homophobia and hate-crime, gay scenes are informed about possible risks, and multipliers are networked and mobilised. We are regularly visible on Berlin’s gay scenes, including the City Festival and CSD. MANEO promotes dialogue with the police and public prosecutor’s office in Berlin. **Collaboration and engagement**: civic engagement is strengthened and mobilised (empowerment) and voluntary work at MANEO encouraged. We currently have around 50 volunteers.

The services that MANEO provides cost far more than the funding provided by the Senate. Figures in our annual report show that the work in our four core areas as well as the many other projects that MANEO has launched and continued are only made possible thanks to the commitment of our many voluntary workers and sponsors.

MANEO stands for diversity and tolerance in Berlin, takes a strong stand against all forms of prejudice-motivated hate violence and does so competently and creatively. MANEO



MANEO-Report 2015
(in German only)
http://www.maneo.de/fileadmin/user_upload/dateien/dokumentationen/MANEO-Report_2015.pdf



13.05.14 In support of the international day against homophobia and Trans*-phobia the Governing Mayor of Berlin in cutting MANEOs “Kiss Kiss Berlin Rainbow-Cake” in Berlins City Hall.

shows solidarity and brings people together – people who bring the joint vision of a tolerant, cosmopolitan city to life.

We have established networks and alliances, we mobilise civic engagement and we attract public attention. We have launched **district forums**; founded the **Lesbian and Gay City Festival** in the Schöneberg rainbow district in 1993, an event that attracts 400,000 guests each year and is today a fixture in Berlin’s event calendar; organised Berlin’s CSD event in 1994 and put it on a firm footing; contributed to the establishment of the Sexual Diversity Initiative (SDI) in Berlin via our **MANEO Tolerance Campaign** (2006-2009); and developed the **Berlin Tolerance Alliance** via the **MANEO Violence Protection Campaign** (2010-2011). The alliance now has 130 partners, both businesses and events, and has paved the way for new joint initiatives in the city, for. ex. the **Dome of Lights** in 2013 when the dome of Nollendorfplatz U-Bahn station in the “rainbow neighbourhood” was lit up in rainbow colours. Our regular annual events include **Kiss Kiss Berlin** (between the International Day Against Racism on March 21 and the International Day Against Homophobia and Trans*-phobia on May 17).

The **MANEO Nachtflugbegleiter** (night-flight stewards), our team of on-site volunteers who go out on the gay scene at night to pass on useful tips for dangerous situations and promote increased awareness and security, have become an established part of MANEOs regular activities. A **social spot** was choreographed and filmed with the support of the Friedrichstadtpalast theatre and students from the Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin (dffb). The video clip can be seen on the *Berliner Fenster* (the advertisement service on the U-Bahn). As part of the football World Cup in Germany in 2006, we launched a **campaign against homophobia in football** under the patronage of the Governing Mayor of Berlin. The campaign reached a wide audience well beyond the city’s geographical limits. At the start of 2014, we developed two further **social spots on the theme of homophobia in football** with the dffb and Hertha BSC. They were premiered during the league match between Hertha BSC and VfL Wolfsburg at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin on 16 February.

Other key initiatives include scientific **surveys** on the topic of homophobia and victimisation in Germany, and we made a considerable contribution to the establishment, in 1992, of **contact person at Berlin police** for same-sex lifestyles – the only full-time post of its kind in Germany – while a position of **contact person at the Berlin state prosecution office** was created and filled 2012.



Illumination of the dome of the metro station U-Bahnhof Nollendorfplatz by rainbow colors since 18.12.14 – which will last for the next 4 years.



The District Mayor of Tempelhof-Schöneberg, Angelika Schöttler, and the District Mayor of Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf, Reinhard Naumann, have been patrons of the Berlin Tolerance Alliance since 20/10/2014.



03.05.2013: Die Berliner Polizei tritt dem von MANEO organisierten Berliner Toleranzbündnis bei, das bereits 130 Mitglieder zählt. Übergabe der beitragsurkunde an Polizeipräsident Klaus Kandt.

We are always looking outside the box, hence our international commitment and transnational solidarity. In 2011, we carried the large **MANEO kiss bear** around Berlin's gay areas. It was kissed by more than 1,000 people in different lipstick colours before being sent to **Moscow** as a tolerance ambassador to mark the 20th anniversary of the Berlin-Moscow town twinning arrangement. As part of our **Tolerance Campaign** (2006-2009), we strengthened our **EU partnerships** with organisations in Poland and France. The **Rainbow Bridge** project encourages relations between Germany and Israel while the **Building Bridges** initiative establishes further international co-operation agreements. An **EU-funded project** (2010-2011) allowed us to promote partnership working among organisations and police forces in eight EU states. There have been good contacts between MANEO and both the **EU Commission** and **OSCE** for many years. We have organised several **international conferences** on the theme of homophobia and hate violence since 2006, the most recent event being an international conference on the subject of rainbow neighbourhoods and involving more than 130 experts from capital and major cities from around the world.

The eleventh annual **TOLERANTIA AWARDS** ceremony since 2006 took place in Belfast in October 2016. The European community prize is presented in partnership with our Polish, French, Swiss and Northern Irish partner organisations. It is awarded to outstanding personalities and projects in Europe that have made a significant contribution to combating homophobia, trans*phobia and hate violence in society, Europe and beyond.

We have won many awards for our work. We owe our success stories, big and small, not least to the many people who have supported us to date. MANEO has had a voluntary advisory council since 2005, a body of 20 women and men – lesbian, gay and heterosexual people. Current members include **Klaus Wowereit**, the former Governing Mayor of Berlin; **Lala Süsskind**, the former Chair of the Jewish Community in Berlin; **André Schmitz**, the former Cultural Secretary for the State of Berlin; **Werner Gegenbauer**, President of Hertha BSC; and **Peter Kurth**, former Senator for Finance of Berlin.



TOLERANTIA AWARDS 2008 winners (f.l.to r.) Dr. Theo Zwanziger, President of the German Soccer Association DFB, Tanja Walther-Arens und Philipp Lahm, Captain of Germany's national soccer team and MANEO Director Bastian Finke, at LTU-Stadion Düsseldorf.



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