



EQUAL PARENTHOOD FOR ITALIAN SAME-SEX COUPLES

Pietro Grasso - President of the Senate of the Republic

Laura Boldrini - President of the Chamber of Deputies

Paolo Gentiloni - President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic

Donatella Ferranti - President of the Justice Committee within the Chamber of Deputies

Nico D'Ascola - President of the Justice Committee within the Senate of the Republic

We, the undersigned members and supporters of Wake Up Italia - London, the association of Italian LGBT+ people in London, signed in support of full joint parenting rights and adoption for same-sex couples.

We believe in equality and support the Italian LGBT+ movement for the achievement of equal rights, including equal marriage, same-sex adoption, and a law against homophobia.

As for the current Italian legislation, Italian same-sex couples are not eligible to adopt. In addition to this, the Italian law does not extend step-child parental responsibilities to same-sex couples who share a civil partnership.

Considering that Italian children with same-sex parents are currently being denied an equal legal protection, the current status of the law represents a limit for them to enjoy full rights. While we are aware that the Justice Committee within the Chamber of Deputies has already started debating on the above subject matter, it has now become a priority to live up to the expectations.

We, therefore, ask the Italian Parliament to take urgent action to protect everyone's children by legislating on full joint parenting rights and adoption for gay and lesbian couples.

In particular, we ask the Parliament to introduce:

- **eligibility to adopt for same-sex couples;**
- clear and enforceable **rights for children** of same-sex couples;
- recognition of **parenthood for non-biological step-parents** in same-sex relationships;
- recognition of parenthood for non-biological parents of surrogate-born children.

We really hope you will take this matter into serious consideration and will support us putting an end to children and families' discrimination, by recognising the parental status of non-biological parents.