Press Release

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Acting Secretary General of the Council of Europe Maud de Boer-Buquicchio regrets the cancellation of Gay Pride in Belgrade

Strasbourg, 21.09.2009 - I deeply regret that the Gay Pride in Belgrade had to be cancelled under the threat of violence. This was a sad day not only for the LGBT community, but for everyone in Serbia who believes in democracy, human dignity and human rights. I encourage the Serbian authorities to analyse the circumstances which led to the cancellation and make sure that, in the future, violence, prejudice and hate will not be allowed to prevent the exercise of rights guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights.