

# EUROPEAN HIV/AIDS ARCHIVE

## PRESS RELEASE

December 1, 2019

### European HIV/AIDS Archive launched

A living memory of the diverse struggle against the epidemic.

The **European HIV/AIDS Archive** (EHAA) is an **online collection** of stories and materials of the past, present and imagined futures of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Europe. Comprising oral history interviews from countries including Germany, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Russia and the UK, the archive allows us to delve into the complex history of the European HIV epidemic. The online EHAA recently launched, marking the end of the international research project *Disentangling European HIV/AIDS Policies: Activism, Citizenship and Health* (EUROPACH). By the end of the year the archive will contain more than 100 interviews with more to come.

Serving as a living chronicle of the HIV epidemic in Europe, the EHAA shows the plurality of ways in which HIV/AIDS has been experienced, lived through, acted upon and challenged. The collection includes the personal accounts of people living with HIV/AIDS, representatives of communities impacted by the virus, advocates and activists, politicians and policy-makers, health care workers, employees of aid organisations, and artists. The archive demonstrates how AIDS activism has been built upon and led to unique forms of solidarity, empowerment, political intervention and organisations among people and groups with unequal access to rights and recognition. Learning from the past, is a task not often taken seriously enough, and in some quarters may be argued to have been actively resisted. as self-evident as it may feel, is something to which peoples have proven resistant - perhaps increasingly so in recent years. This archive provides a valuable resource for appreciating and learning from a diversity of persons and groups who have been at the epicenter of the epidemic.

While international and national health governing bodies call for the “end of AIDS” by 2030, the World Health Organisation found the European region to have the second highest rate of new HIV infections in the world. With infection rates varying significantly across Europe and most affected populations, such disparities urge us to call into question the dominant narrative

of a successful fight against the epidemic. Instead, they make us acknowledge an increasingly divided political landscape and a multiplicity of civil society responses to HIV/AIDS by sex workers, migrants, people who use drugs, prisoners and many more.

### Further information and contact

The archive is hosted by Humboldt-University zu Berlin and accessible online:

<https://www.euroethno.hu-berlin.de/de/institut/einrichtungen/european-hiv-aids-archive-ehaa>

For further information please contact: [ehaa.euroethno@hu-berlin.de](mailto:ehaa.euroethno@hu-berlin.de)

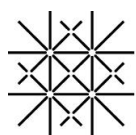
The EHAA is a cooperative project of the two research projects *Disentangling European HIV/AIDS: Activism, Citizenship and Health* (funded by Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA) under the programme "Uses of the past") and *"Don't criminalize passion!" The Aids Crisis and Political Mobilization in 1980s and early 1990s Germany* (funded by DFG), and the Working Group *AIDS History into the Museum* (AKAIM) located at Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe. The research project *Disentangling European HIV/AIDS: Activism, Citizenship and Health* was a collaboration between Humboldt-University zu Berlin, Jagiellonian University, Basel University and Goldsmiths, University of London between 2016 and 2019 under the leadership of Prof. Beate Binder. For more information about the project, please visit the website:

[www.europach.eu](http://www.europach.eu)

**Principle Investigators:** Beate Binder, Agata Dziuban, Peter-Paul Bänziger, Martin Lengwiler, Marsha Rosengarten

**Postdoctoral Researchers:** [Zülfukar Çetin](#), Friederike Faust, Emily Jay Nicholls, Todd Sekuler, Justyna Struzik

**Research Assistant:** Lina Bonde



University  
of Basel



Goldsmiths  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



