

# Ending complacency Taking action against rising hate and violence

October 2<sup>nd</sup> marks the International Day of Non-Violence. Unfortunately, this year, there's no reason to celebrate.

The statistics are getting worse. Hate crimes are increasing year after year. Femicide is on the rise. Racist and xenophobic violence is on the rise. LGBTphobic attacks are on the rise.

Disinformation is rampant in political circles and in the media, fuelling fear and moral panic. Discriminatory language circulates freely in the workplace. Educational workshops promoting inclusion in schools are disrupted. Flags and spaces that represent the most marginalized communities in our society are vandalized. Protests that openly seek to undermine the rights of trans and non-binary people are multiplying.

We, members of the **Coalition Against Hate**, have mobilized our community network, intensified our efforts on the ground, and developed our expertise in research and intervention. However, without the Quebec government's collaboration and support, our actions will remain insufficient.

The Quebec government needs a clear vision and a comprehensive strategy to address this surge in violence. It has done so in the past with its action plan [La radicalisation au Québec](#) (2015-2018), which focused on the fight against terrorism and violent political extremisms. This plan must be renewed and adjusted to the ideological and political transformations of radical movements, to their evolving communication and recruitment strategies, and to new technologies.

We are joining forces to demand that the Quebec government:

- launches an interdepartmental government action plan against the proliferation of hate and violence toward marginalized groups;
  - This plan should include concrete measures against online hate and violence;
  - This plan should apply concrete measures against disinformation that feeds hate and violence;
- coordinates its actions with our Coalition Against Hate to better understand their concerns and what they experience as first-hand witnesses;
- funds autonomous community action against hate and violence.

Quebec wants to promote and protect the values of inclusion and mutual respect, as announced in Bill J-1.001 proclaiming the International Day of Non-Violence. The government's inaction in the face of rising hate and violence threatens these cornerstones of our society. Let's put an end to such inaction together and forge an inclusive, egalitarian and safer future for all.

## About the Coalition

The **Coalition Against Hate** is a Conseil Québécois LGBT (CQ-LGBT) initiative. The CQ-LGBT is a collective advocacy group for LGBTQIA2+ rights with more than 80 LGBTQ+ member organizations across Quebec.

The Coalition Against Hate brings together community, public, and private organizations from many sectors. They all are preoccupied with rising hate and are asking for additional governmental action to counter it.

[To sign, click here](#)