



**ETHICS  
& HUMAN RIGHTS  
DEFENDERS PROTECTION  
POLICY**

RIGHTS  
DEMOCRACY

**RECLAIM**

## Ethics:

RECLAIM's Helpdesk is dedicated to supporting your work ethically and responsibly.

**Demand-Driven Support:** Our interventions are always based on your needs and co-created with local human rights defenders. We won't impose top-down solutions or release legal analysis or statements without your explicit consent.

**Confidentiality:** All sensitive information you share with us will always remain confidential to protect you from retaliation. If you're unable to take a public stance due to security or capacity issues, RECLAIM can advocate on your behalf.

## Backlash – Reducing Threats

If our joint advocacy leads to backlash from governments or anti-rights actors, RECLAIM has a "solidarity safety belt" to minimize risks. Should retaliation occur, here's what you can expect:

### **Outreach to European Decision Makers & Media Campaigns:**

RECLAIM will engage EU and Member State authorities with legal briefs, advocacy, and awareness-raising campaigns to generate diplomatic and legal responses at EU and Member State levels. We will also mobilize media to raise public awareness about the retaliation against you or the communities you serve. For LGBTIQ organizations, we will coordinate these efforts with our partners at Forbidden Colours and United4Diversity.

### **Solidarity Briefings & Networking:**

We will bring together NGOs, legal experts, and political actors across the EU to form a unified response, increasing political pressure and ensuring that the cost of retaliation outweighs any perceived benefits. For LGBTIQ organizations, we will coordinate these efforts with our partners at Forbidden Colours and United4Diversity.

### **Trial Monitoring & Diplomatic Support:**

If you face fabricated charges, RECLAIM will work to secure trial monitoring through EU Ambassadors and other diplomatic channels. We will also address any concerns about judicial independence to ensure you have a fair trial and access to legal redress.

### **Donor Referrals for Emergency Support:**

RECLAIM will refer your case to trusted donors for urgent emergency assistance if necessary.

### **Mental Health & Well-being:**

We understand the toll human rights defence can take on mental health, especially concerning burnout. RECLAIM will encourage you to prioritize your well-being and suggest Rest & Respite opportunities if needed.

### **Security Support:**

We will connect you with trusted partners of Justice for Prosperity for digital and physical security advice, ensuring your protection from both online and offline threats.

***This policy was adopted on July,1 2024 and is subject to periodic review.***

For any concerns or feedback related to the implementation of this policy, please refer to RECLAIM's complaints mechanism available on our website.