

# Loveæct

## MANIFESTO MANIFESTO

### MANIFESTO OF THE BELGIAN LOCAL COUNCIL ON COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION- THE SQUARE DOT TEAM

#### *Brief description of the council*

The Local Council is a Brussels-based territorial network committed to promoting Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) as a pivotal measure to prevent gender-based violence (GBV) and combat discriminatory behaviours. The Council consists of 11 dedicated members, including educators, community leaders, youth advocates, and professionals from health and social services sectors. The Council was established in response to a growing demand for a collaborative and inclusive approach to sexuality education, aiming to cultivate a safer, more equitable society.

Our mission is to address the structural causes of gender-based violence by dismantling patriarchal norms that prioritize male dominance, heteronormativity, and rigid binary conceptions of gender. The Council's work aligns with international standards, including those promoted by WHO and UNESCO, to provide an educational response that builds healthier, more conscious relationships while protecting sexual and reproductive health.

## VISION

The Brussels Local Council envisions a society where:

- Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is integrated within school curricula in a systematic manner, recognizing the crucial role of schools in combating gender-based violence.
- CSE is promoted in various educational settings beyond the classroom, reaching young people through community centers, youth clubs, and public awareness campaigns.
- Territorial networks thrive across the country, ensuring that practices, experiences, and resources are shared and adapted to reflect the specificities of diverse local contexts.
- Professional standards for CSE experts are established and enhanced, empowering educators, counselors, and health professionals to effectively conduct sexuality education activities.
- Teacher training programs are robust, equipping educators across primary and secondary schools with the skills and knowledge necessary to engage with CSE topics confidently and inclusively.
- Participatory mechanisms empower youth to take an active role in shaping their own sexuality education, creating spaces for dialogue, reflection, and meaningful action.
- CSE is recognized not only as a tool to reduce sexual health risks, but as a means to explore and embrace social, cultural, emotional, and relational dimensions of human experience, fostering a sex-positive culture.
- Intersectionality and transfeminism are central tenets of our approach, ensuring inclusivity and recognition of diverse identities, orientations, and lived experiences.

## DECLARATION OF INTENT

The Brussels Local Council is dedicated to sustaining the momentum for Comprehensive Sexuality Education to ensure long-lasting impact. Inspired by lessons learned and achievements made through local-level initiatives, we commit to advocating for CSE policies that advance equality, promote healthy relationships, and dismantle harmful norms that perpetuate violence. We will continue to build partnerships, share knowledge, and push for systemic change to protect future generations and cultivate a society founded on mutual respect and human dignity.

