

**Van:** Ken Roth, Human Rights Watch <news@hrw.org>  
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**Onderwerp:** They're counting on you

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Dear Supporter,

Never again.

That's what we promised when we watched Vladimir Putin take the world stage in February, as he tried to hide human rights abuses in Russia behind the splendor of the Sochi Olympic Games.

And thanks to you, our words now ring true:

After years of targeted advocacy led by our own Minky Worden—alongside a broad coalition of LGBT groups—the International Olympic Committee (IOC) finally adopted an anti-discrimination clause in September, furthering the protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities and supporting the rights of women to participate in sports worldwide.

[You make it possible for human rights defenders like Minky to transform justice into reality for countless people each day. Help us continue. Support Human Rights Watch.](#)

Minky worked closely with Human Rights Watch researchers to expose rights abuses around the 2008 Beijing and 2014 Sochi Olympics—applying unrelenting pressure on the IOC to put in place human rights standards at every turn. Just this month, the IOC held a vote to adopt almost all of Human Rights Watch's recommended reforms, including adding sexual

orientation to the Olympic Charter.

Her team also steered the way for the addition of a ground-breaking human rights clause to host city contracts. This will help ensure that future Olympic host countries are held accountable to respect the rights of their people—upholding principles of human dignity and non-discrimination across the globe.

[Continue to stand with Minky and our researchers by making your gift today.](#)

Putin used the Olympics to distract the world from Russia's rights violations, but Minky didn't look away.

Our researchers didn't look away.

You didn't look away.

[Can I count on you now? Make your gift to Human Rights Watch now.](#)

Thank you,



**Kenneth Roth**  
*Executive Director*

**DONATE NOW**

*Photo Caption: Riot Police guard gay-rights activists who were beaten by anti-gay protesters during an authorized gay rights rally in St. Petersburg, Russia, on June 29, 2013.*

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