

## INVITATION TO A TALK & DISCUSSION

# Evan Wolfson: Winning the Freedom to Marry

The historic U.S. Supreme Court ruling on June 26, 2015 paved the way for the freedom to marry nationally. Marriage licenses are now being issued across the United States. **Evan Wolfson**, Founder and President of *Freedom to Marry*, the campaign that won equal marriage rights in the U.S., will discuss his decades-long, hard-fought fight for the freedom to marry and the lessons for the work ahead.

### Panel Discussion:

**Marijana Grandits**, Bruno Kreisky Human Rights Award winner 2015; University of Vienna

**Helmut Graupner**, President of *Rechtskomitee LAMBDA* (RKL), Austria's LGBT-rights-organization; spokesperson of the citizens' initiative *Ehe Gleich!*

**Evan Wolfson**, Founder and President of *Freedom to Marry*

Moderated by **Robert Greenan**, U.S. Embassy Vienna

### AMERIKA HAUS

Monday, October 12, 2015

6:00 p.m.

Friedrich-Schmidt-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna

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**Evan Wolfson** wrote his Harvard Law School thesis on gay people and the freedom to marry. During the 1990s he served as co-counsel in the historic Hawaii marriage case that launched the ongoing global movement for the freedom to marry. He authored the book, "Why Marriage Matters: America, Equality, and Gay People's Right to Marry," published in July 2004. Citing Wolfson's national leadership on marriage and his appearance before the U.S. Supreme Court in *Boy Scouts of America v. James Dale*, the *National Law Journal* in 2000 named Evan one of "the 100 most influential lawyers in America." *Newsweek/The Daily Beast* dubbed Evan "the godfather of gay marriage" and *Time Magazine* named him one of "the 100 most influential people in the world." In 2012, Mr. Wolfson received the Barnard Medal of Distinction alongside President Barack Obama.

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