

**JURIST, WRITER**

# **Karl Heinrich Ulrichs**

**Karl Heinrich Ulrichs is a pivotal figure in the history of gay and lesbian rights, recognized for his groundbreaking advocacy during the late 19th century. In 1867, Ulrichs publicly addressed the Congress of German Jurists in Munich, marking the first instance of an openly gay individual advocating for legal rights for homosexuals.**

**His speech was met with hostility, and he was unable to complete it. Despite this, Ulrichs went on to publish a series of influential booklets in which he articulated a scientific theory of homosexuality, laying the groundwork for future activism and inspiring later movements and leaders - including the establishment of the first gay rights organization in 1897. His courage and writings have continued to resonate, shaping discussions around LGBTQ+ rights and identity.**

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