附錄四 歐盟對LBGTI之政策及反歧視立法簡報







Definitions

A **lesbian** is a woman whose enduring physical, romantic and/or emotional attraction is to other women.

Gay is often used to describe a man whose enduring physical, romantic and/or emotional attraction is to other men, although the term can be used to describe

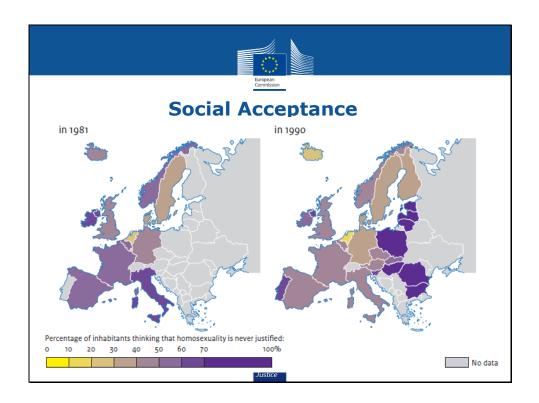
both gay men and lesbians.

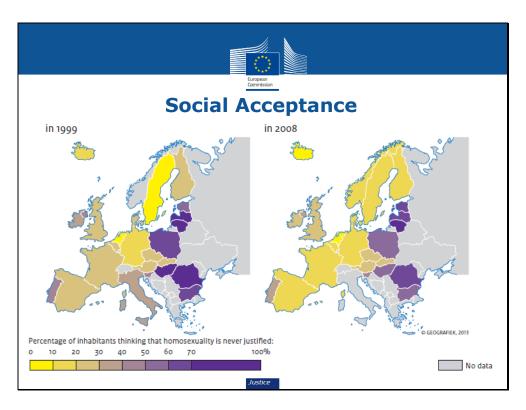
Bisexual describes an individual who is physically, romantically and/or emotionally attracted to both men and women.

Transgender describes people whose gender identity and/or gender expression differs from the sex they were assigned at birth.

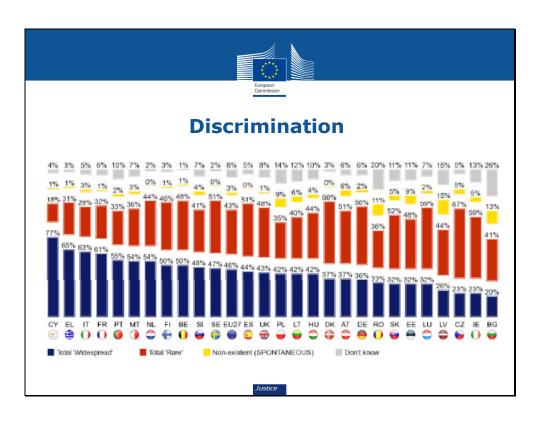
The term **intersex** covers bodily variations in regard to culturally established standards of maleness and femaleness, including variations at the level of chromosomes, gonads and genitals.

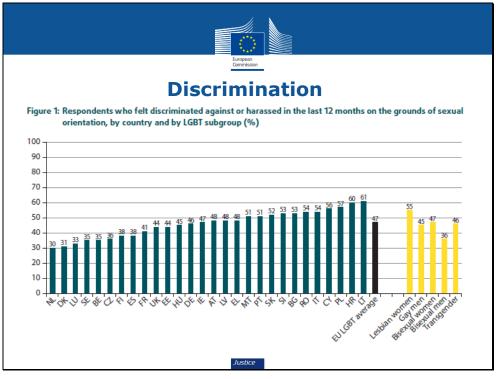
Justice













European LGBTI population

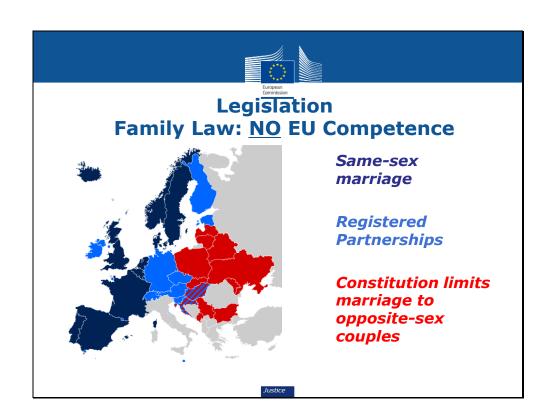
	Estimate %	Estimate #	EUMS Populations	
1 UK NSO Household Survey	1,5%	7,6 million	Bulgaria	7,2 million
2 COMMON USED FIGURE	5%	25,4 million	Romania + Slovakia	25,3 million
3 NL Sexual orientation at work study	5,7%	28,9 million	Benelux (BE, NL, LX)	28,5 million
4 Google Search Results	8%	40,6 million	Poland	38,5 million
5 Kinsey report	10%	50,7 million	Spain	46,5 million
			EU total	507 million

Challenges to identify the exact size of the LGBTI population

- Underreporting
- Self-identification
- Behaviour

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EU Legislation Legal Basis for Action

Art.19 TFEU (former Article 13 Amsterdam Treaty)

" ... the Council acting <u>unanimously</u> on a proposal from the Commission and after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament, may take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation."

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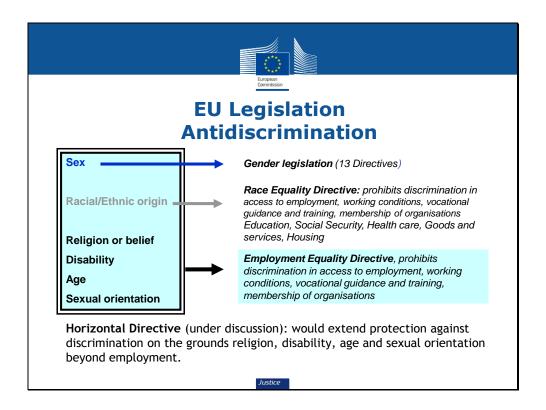


EU Legislation Antidiscrimination

1 Grounds of discrimination: Race, Ethnic Origin, Age, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation, Sex, Disability

2 Areas of protection: employment, social protection (including social security), healthcare, education, housing, and access to good and services.

Justice





Policies

- Equal Treatment Directive
- Political statements
- Mainstreaming in all policies and legislation
- Financial support through the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme
- Financial support for Equinet, ILGA, TGEU and IGLYO

Justice



Policies

- Diversity Charter for Businesses 7.000 Companies, 14 Million Employees
- Best practices exchanges
- Data collection and research

Eurobarometer

Business Case

Equality Data Project

Report of Legal Experts

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Legislation **EUCJ Case Law**

- P v S and Cornwall County Council (sex and gender identity)
- Maruko and Römer (same sex civil partnerships)
- Acceptia (public homophobic statements)

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Equality and Diversity Unit

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THREE PRIORITIES

The European Parliament commits itself to pursue three priorities:

- Figurity between women and men
- Employment and integration of disabled persons
- Elimination of any obstacle to recruitment and any potential discrimination









Development of LGBTI rights in the last 25 years

Created by Equality and Diversity Unit, DG PERSONNEL

with a contribution from the LGBTI Intergroup May 2015

Introduction

Significant variation in respect of the rights of LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex) people still exists between States, both in terms of legislation and societal attitudes. Discriminatory practices persist where government policies have direct discriminatory impact or there exists an absence of applicable national legislation. Homophobic and trans-phobic treatment may be physical (including murder, beatings, kidnappings, rape and sexual assault) or psychological (including threats, coercion and arbitrary deprivations of liberty).

Declassification of homosexuality as an illness, will transgender people be next?

May 1990 World Health Organization (WHO) removes homosexuality from its list of disorders

Sexual orientation is no longer considered an illness but an integral aspect of an individual and should not be criminalised.

2014 WHO Working Committee Amendment Recommendation

However, depression and anxiety about being uncertain of sexual identity remain listed as illnesses. The Working Committee recommends the section F66 on 'Psychological and Behavioural Disorders Associated with Sexual Development and Orientation' is also removed from the next publication due 2017. The European Parliament supports this recommendation and also calls for an end to pathologization of trans-identities, meaning that everyone should be able to determine his or her own gender identity, without being labelled mentally ill.

2. Decriminalisation

More than 75 states worldwide still criminalise homosexuality, with at least five having the death penalty (Iran, Mauritania, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen), and some parts of Nigeria and Somalia. In a further four countries it is not entirely clear if the Sharia code stipulating the death penalty is being implemented (Brunei Darussalam, Iraq, Pakistan and Qatar). Twenty states criminalise transgender identities. The European Parliament strengthens its on-going concern that countries continue to criminalise homosexuality and continues in its efforts to repeal such legislation.

1981 <u>Dudgeon v. United Kingdom</u>	1988 Norris v. Ireland
First successful case sets legal precedent that no Member State can criminalise homosexual behaviour.	Criminalisation of certain homosexual acts between consenting adults does not breach Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights.
1993 Madinos v. Cyprus	2001 Sutherland v. UK
Criminalisation of homosexual acts between consenting adults is a violation of an individual's right to privacy.	There is no objective and reasonable justification for maintaining a higher minimum age for male homosexual acts compared to heterosexual acts.

3. Freedom of Expression and Freedom to Assemble

Publication and distribution of 'homosexual propaganda' is Illegal in six states: Belarus, Lithuania, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Tanzania and Uganda. The situation in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan is currently being discussed in Parliament. The European Parliament has at multiple occasions condemned 'arti-propaganda' laws and called on countries to withdraw such legislation. The European Parliament has called for legislation prohibiting free expression to be repealed and condemns any fierce opposition, assaults or violence on LGBTI individuals taking part in Pride activities.

2007 Baczkowski + others v. Poland

Refusal of a permit, made by the Polish Local Authority, for an LGBT Pride March in Warsaw, on grounds of apposition to homosexuality is an infringement of freedom to assemble.

2010 Alekseyev v. Russia

The ban on a Pride Event is disproportionate to the Government's stated aim of protecting children and vulnerable adults from homosexual propaganda. In addition 'it would be incompatible with the underlying values of the Convention if the exercise of Convention rights by a minority group were made conditional on its being accepted by the majority."

4. Employment and Benefits

Discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation is now prohibited in sixty one countries, with variation in the extent of rights covered. Employment rights include equal treatment in appointment to jobs, promotion apportunities, protection against dismissal, parental and family leave, participation in social security schemes such as pension and healthcare.

2000 European Employment Framework

The EU requires Member States to adopt a general framework for equal treatment of individuals in employment. Discrimination on the grounds of religion can be justified for occupational activities within churches/religion-based organisations. This has proved to be a controversial issue in a number of States. The United Kingdom's original blanket non-discrimination exception regarded inter alia sexual orientation in order "to comply with the doctrines of the religion or so as to avoid conflicting with the strongly held religious convictions of a significant number of the religion's followers" proved to be highly controversial. The United Kingdom has amended its implementation to allow exemption only when the job involves actively promoting or practising religion.

Transge	ender widow's pension:	Same-s	ex partner's pension:	Post-op	erative trans-sexual's pension:
transse	Richards v. Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to recognise a male to female wall as a woman and award on at 60 breaches several EU es.	ruling to treatme couples	M. Estevez is Spoin aleas a less proactive approach by the State may make a difference in ent of homosexual and heterosexual when it comes to eligibility in a rights.	gender- right to grant po	Grant v. U.K. e of legislation regulating full reassignment surgery violates the private life. The State is required to crasion to an operative transsexual at same age as other women.
Sicknes	s insurance	Perceiv	ed discrimination:	Work b	enefits:
unmarri Insured	P.B. and J.S. w. Austria s insurance available to the led different sex partner of an person must also be available to a expertner.	respond	Fundamental Rights Agency Report s with legal protection, 20% of LGBT dents still feel discriminated against soking for a job or in the workplace.	Deux-Sé Employ must re employ highest doing so EU law,	Frédéric Hay v Crédit agricale de Charente-Maritime et des byes es in same sex civil partnerships celve the same benefits as married ess-in case civil partnerships are the form of union they can access. Not a constitutes discrimination under which prohibits discrimination in sexual orientation in employment

5. Family Life and Freedom of Movement

Recognition of same-sex relationships and partnership rights varies widely. For example same-sex married couples may enjoy the rights of heterosexual couples but often with the exception of adoption. Access to in vitro fertilization treatment varies. The European Parliament calls on EU member states to recognise civil unions and same-sex marriage as a civil and human right.

Freedom of movement in the EU for same-sex couples can be problematic. Married or registered partners and their children moving to Member States that do not recognise same-sex marriages or partnerships do not grant the automatic rights as a spouse or dependants in a heterosexual couple would have. Even when a host State does recognise a particular relationship status, all rights afforded in the State of origin may not apply as in the host State.

1989 First registered Civil partnership (Denmark)

Terms used to designate civil unions are not standardized, and vary widely from country to country. Terms include Oxil, domestic have subsequently introduced this ban. or registered pertinerships, significant or reciprocal beneficiary or adult Interdependent relationships, common law marriage, stable unions, cMI solidarity pacts.

First constitutional ban same-sex-marriage (Bulgaria) 1991

Thirty-eight countries (twelve in Europe, of which six are EU countries)

1999 Mouto y Portugal

Refusing child custody to a gay man simply because of his homosexuality is a violation of his right to private and family life.

2001 First legalised same-sex marriage (Netherlands)

To date, 14 European countries have legalised same sex marriage. Finland adopted legislation February 2015, due to take effect March 2017 and Slovenia (first postcommunist European State to do so) in March 2015.

2002 Goodwin v. UK

Under the Convention, transsexual women and men enjoy the right to marry a person of the apposite sex.

2012 European Succession Regulation

Inheritance laws vary considerably from one Member State to another. This regulation facilitates cross-border successions and requires Member States to recognise the wills and succession laws of other states and prohibits all forms of discrimination. For example, two Spanish women are married under Spanish law, have written a will in Spain, and live in Croatia. If one of them dies, Croatian authorities may not argue that the instructions contained in their will are invalid because they don't recognise same-sex marriage.

6. Asylum

2011 European Qualification Directive

This Directive, like the earlier 2004 version, foresees that individuals can claim asylum. In addition, the 2011 Directive now includes gender related aspects, including gender identity, shall be given due consideration, thereby extending the possibility of granting asylum to transgender individuals. This is the first time EU law mentions gender identity.

2013 European Procedures Directive

This 2013 Directive foresees special procedural guarantees may be required due to gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. Consequently tangible measures afforded to LGBT asylum-seekers, including asylum officials trained to understand their issues, the protection of their privacy, and ensuring that physical examinations respect the individual's dignity and integrity will be made.

2013 X. Y. Z v. Minister voor Immigratie en Asiel

People floring their country with a well-founded fear of persecution because of their sexual orientation may qualify for asylum under a 2004 EU Directive. The Court of Justice also stressed that Member States could not reasonably expect gay, lesbian and bisexual asylum-seekers to hide their sexual orientation in their country of origin.

7. Blood Donation

Investigation of the Parliamentary Ombudsman of Finland Directive on blood donor deferrals 2008 The decision on the ban on LGBTI persons being blood donors is Under this Directive, a number of States, including the declared lawful in Finland as it is based on appropriately reasoned UK, replaced life-time ban on blood donations from LGBTI epidemiological information and is related to sexual behaviour rather individuals with one year deferral for males who have had same-sex. than sexual orientation. 2013 Finnish Red Cross Blood Service lifts ban and 2015 Léger v. France introduces a one-year deferral. The European Court of Justice rules that permanently banning men who have had sex with men from blood donation, may be justified, 2015 French Government rejects lifting life-time ban on depending on the situation in the country. blood donation from LGBTI IndMduals.

8. Hate Crime and Victims' Rights

Violence against LGBTI persons tends to be especially victous compared to other bias-motivated crimes and is less consistently documented because of underreporting and a protection gap in terms of existing mandates, for example, the 2008 Framework combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law only specifies higher penalties for racist and xenophobic crime.

2011 Stasi v. France

Homophobia and ill-treatment is unacceptable.

2012 Vejdeland and Others v. Sweden

First case where the ECHAR applies principles relating to hate speech in the context of sexual orientation and rules that criminal conviction of the applicants for the distribution leaflets that contained offensive statements about homosexuals did not breach the Convention.

2012 European Rights of the Victim Directive

This Directive replaces the earlier 2001 Framework Decision and strengthens standards on the rights to access information, support, protection and basic procedural rights in criminal proceedings and obligations for Member States. Victims who are vulnerable due to their sexual orientation or gender identity are guaranteed particular protection that includes the right not to be unnecessarily questioned about their private life during court hearings.

9. LGBTI rights in EU external relations

The development of LGBTI is becoming a component of the EU's foreign policy.

Enlargement

The Commission's annual enlargement reports have increasingly addressed the rights of LGBTI people in accession countries. The new Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance 2014-2020 (€11.5bn) now includes the "promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, enhanced respect for the rights of persons belonging to minorities, including LGBTI persons".

Guidelines

2013 Guidelines to Promote and Protect the Enjoyment of all Human Rights by LGBTI Persons

EU Foreign Affairs ministers adopted binding guidelines to promote and protect the enjoyment of all human rights by LGBTI persons. Intersex is added to the list of prohibited discriminatory actions. The EU must now promote and protect LGBTI people's human rights in all its external action, especially when dealing with third countries bilaterally. Its four priorities are to eliminate discriminatory laws and policies, including the death penalty; combat state or individual violence against LGBTI persons; support and protect human rights defenders; and promote equality and non-discrimination at work, in healthcare and in education.

10. The EU 'Horizontal Directive'

EU non-discrimination law now works through a series of EU Council Directives that give varying levels of protection against harassment and discrimination across protected groups based sexual orientation, gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability or age. To harmonise equality of provision for LBGTI people and the other groups, the EU Commission has been developing an Equal Treatment Directive, which is referred to as the "Horizontal Directive". This is a proposed Directive, adopted by the European Parliament in 2009, and is still under discussion in the Council for almost 7 years. The horizontal anti-discrimination Directive would forbid discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in access to goods and services, education, and social benefits.

Commentary

In the last twenty-five years, there has been significant progress on the rights of LGBTI individuals, despite setbacks in some regions. The European Parliament remains committed to equality in treatment for all including for LGBTI individuals and actively encourages all States to adopt practices that respect an individual's human rights.

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Transgender people in the EU Social and legal issues

Transgender people constitute a varied, yet distinct group facing specific social and legal problems.

It has been reported that in most EU Member States (MS) transgender people do not enjoy adequate access to healthcare.

The unemployment rate of transgender people is high when compared to general society. When employed, they are often discriminated against at the workplace.

Changing gender is subject to many conditions and the acquired gender is not automatically recognised. Questions arise as to whether relevant procedures do not entall breaches of fundamental rights.

Throughout the EU, the protection of transgender people against discrimination is based on sex, sexual identity or has no specific legal basis. Only two MS recognise gender identity as a discrimination ground. In EU law, gender identity is not a distinct ground for discrimination. However, the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) has held that the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex is applicable to some transgender people.

The European Parliament has taken steps to raise awareness of transgender-related problems, most recently illustrated by a resolution on the Roadmap for Equality.



In this briefing:

- Context
- Health-related issues
- Transgender people on the labour market
- Legal aspects of the change of gender
- Fundamental rights of transgender people
- · Third-country transgender people
- EU law and policy
- Main references

Context

The notion of transgender people covers a wide range of identities, from people who cross-dress to **transsexuals** who feel the need to or already have altered their bodies so as they match their preferred gender.

All these individuals have, however, one thing in common, and that is their **gender** identity, characterised by some degree of discomfort with their biological sex. The category of **gender** is different from biological sex assigned at birth, as it includes

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a social aspect of difference between sexes. It should not be confused with **sexual orientation**, i.e. attraction to members of the same, the opposite or both sexes.

When the discrimination of transgender people is addressed, they are often considered as a part of a larger lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. There are, however, some social and legal problems specific to them, which justifies separate analysis.

Health-related issues

Gender identity disorder

The two major international classifications of mental health illnesses – the American <u>DSM</u> and the WHO <u>ICD</u> – use the term 'gender identity disorder' in relation to people feeling persistent discomfort with their biological sex. These classifications are reflected in national medical classifications all around the world, including the EU MS.

As both DSM and ICD are currently under review, some voices have advocated the 'depathologisation' of transsexuality. It is argued that diagnosing individuals as having a mental disorder 'labels' them and leads to their stigmatisation. Other diagnostic structures should therefore be considered, for example within endocrinology (the study of hormones) or surgery.'

However, so far, such proposals have not gained support either within the bodies drafting these classifications, or among psychiatrists in general. Moreover, many transgender people fear that the change could hamper their access to transgender health care. This is because healthcare systems require the diagnosis of a disorder as a condition for receiving medical or psychological treatment.

Gender reassignment therapy

From a medical point of view transgender identity is thus a mental disorder, but one which is incurable by psychological therapy. The therapy leading to a change of gender is therefore the treatment of choice. This is a

very untypical situation as this form of therapy is about physically modifying the body so as to align it with one's perception of gender, the perception considered to be a disorder.

The therapy **involves** hormone treatment, which may be extended to gender reassignment surgery (that can include phalloplasty or vaginoplasty) and other medical interventions (e.g. speech therapy and permanent hair removal).

Transgender people differ in their attitude towards this therapy. Whereas for some this is the only way to lead a meaningful life, others would like to live in their preferred gender without having to undergo such farreaching treatment, which has (in case of surgery) irreversible effects.

The quality of surgery varies from one Member State to another. There are few surgeons with the level of expertise required to perform adequately this kind of surgery. As a result some transgender people seek healthcare abroad.

Reimbursement

National healthcare systems in the EU differ with respect to their coverage of gender reassignment therapies.

Overall, available data suggests that it is not reimbursed in the majority of cases. 79% of transgender people surveyed in 2009 were refused state funding for hormone treatments, and 82% were refused state funding for surgery to change their sex. 51% of respondents undergoing such surgery covered the entire cost of the procedure themselves.²

General healthcare

The available data on the overall state of health of transgender people is inconclusive. For example, while a Swedish study showed that their state of mental health is worse than that of heterosexuals, homosexuals and lesbians, a UK study found that there are no differences in terms of major health problems between LGBT people and the general population.³

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Several studies revealed however a high rate of suicide attempts among transgender people, ranging from a quarter to one-third of the trans population.⁴

Transgender persons often suffer negative experiences with healthcare systems. Some healthcare professionals are uninformed, biased, or rude towards them. Roughly a quarter of respondents to an <u>EU-wide study</u> reported adverse treatment by healthcare professionals because they were transgender.⁵ As a result many transgender people tend to avoid doctors' visits.

When seeking private medical insurance, the applications of transgender people are refused on a regular basis.

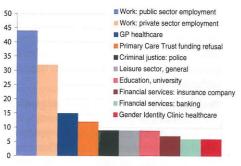
Transgender people on the labour market

The situation of transgender people on the labour market appears to be very problematic when compared to the non-transgender population.

Unemployment figures are high for this group. For example, 31% of respondents in a <u>UK survey</u> were in full-time employment (40% of transgender women and 36% of transgender men). In the general population the respective figures were 57% for women and 72% for men.⁶

Evidence suggests that when employed, transgender people are **discriminated** against **at work** more than in any other sphere of life (see figure 1). This includes harassment by co-workers and employers, as well as refusal of use of the toilet of one's choice and even dismissal from work. While some transgender people feel forced to resign from their jobs, others choose not to reveal their gender identity to their employer and colleagues. 42% of respondents of the same UK survey did not live in their preferred gender out of fear of losing their job.

Figure 1 - Areas of life in which transgender people experience discrimination



Source: Press for Change (2007)

This 'escape strategy' may however be impossible when a transgender person wishes to undergo gender reassignment. This is because, as a condition for the change of gender, transgender people are often asked to prove they have lived in their preferred gender for some time. They are also assessed on their ability to maintain employment. Transition at work is thus likely to become a trigger point for discrimination.

Following retirement, the access of transgender people to **pensions** is in some cases problematic. For example, in MS where the retirement age is different for men and women, transgender women are refused pensions despite reaching the required age. This happens both before and after reassignment and is contrary to established CJEU case law (K.B. and Richards cases).

Unemployment or precarious employment result in limited access to public health insurance and the lack of income to pay for specialised transgender care. It may also contribute to social exclusion of a person, the process that in some cases starts as early as school time. Following a series of unsuccessful attempts to 'live a normal life' some transgender people turn to illegal activities or work in the sex industry.⁷

Legal aspects of the change of gender

Access to gender reassignment therapy

Access to therapies leading to the change of gender and in particular to surgery is restricted: the life history of the patient is analysed and they are asked to prove that

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their will to change gender is permanent. This should be confirmed by so-called 'real life experience' i.e. having lived for a long time in a way corresponding to the preferred gender. In some MS, prior judicial authorisation is needed.

The conditions for acquiring a new gender

The conditions of gender reassignment – the process of legally acquiring a new gender – vary throughout the EU. In some MS it is not necessary to undergo hormonal treatment or surgery to have the change of gender recognised by the state. This group includes Finland, Hungary, Spain, Sweden and the UK. In these countries it is enough to prove to a competent authority that the person has permanently lived with transgender identity.

In some MS, hormonal treatment and/or

surgery are required. The person must then prove that they have:

- followed a medically supervised process of gender reassignment
- been rendered surgically irreversibly infertile (sterilisation), and/or
- undergone other medical procedures, such as hormonal treatment.

The third group is composed of MS where the matter is not regulated by law.8

The consequences of the new gender's recognition

As the consequence of legal

recognition transgender people expect to have their sex and first name changed in identity documents and administrative documents. This is indispensible for everyday life, where one cannot do without documents like a driving licence or an educational certificate (e.g. when looking for a job).

There is no uniformity in MS as to procedures for the change of first name. Whereas in

some countries the process is relatively easy (as in Belgium), in others it is lengthy and sometimes can only be done after medical intervention. In Ireland such a possibility does not exist at all.

Marriage and divorce

Divorce as a condition or the consequence of gender reassignment

In married couples a change of gender would lead to a same-sex marriage, which is not recognised by a clear majority of MS (all but four).

Therefore, in a number of countries there is an obligation for them to **divorce** (e.g. UK and Poland). In others, gender reassignment leads to the marriage being automatically dissolved (Bulgaria and Hungary). This may be against the will of the married couple

wishing to remain a legally recognised family. In some countries gender reassignment means losing custody rights to children.

The right to marry following the change of gender

17 MS allow persons who have undergone gender reassignment to marry a person of the opposite gender to their acquired gender. In Ireland and Portugal this is not possible. In the remaining MS it is not regulated by law.

Free movement of transgender people

Transgender people may find it difficult to exercise rights to freedom of movement within the EU.

Firstly, following the change of gender, it is often problematic to obtain new identity documents indicating the appropriate name and sex. This can render travelling abroad impossible.

Secondly, the recognition of the new gender in another Member State is not guaranteed, as there is no mutual recognition in this area.

Finally, when a person's physical appearance does not match the name or sex indicated in their identity papers, they risk abuse by border guards.

Fundamental rights

of transgender people

The way transgender issues are addressed by authorities, health professionals and other bodies has raised human rights concerns. Seen from this perspective, the very definition of transsexuality as a mental disorder is arguably problematic, especially when such a diagnosis is used to restrict

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one's legal capacity or choice of medical treatment.9

Various international organisations and bodies have pointed to breaches of the human rights of transgender people. These include the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), the Parliamentary Assembly and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (CoE), as well as a group of experts which, under the United Nations' auspices, drafted the so-called Yogyakarta Principles.¹⁰

Access to gender reassignment therapy

In its 2003 van Kück v. Germany ruling, the ECtHR stated that CoE MS were obliged to provide the possibility to undergo surgery leading to full gender reassignment. In addition, this surgery should be covered by insurance plans as 'medically necessary' treatment.

Legal recognition of the preferred gender *Burdensome procedures*

The process of gender reassignment is often very lengthy and complicated. In some MS it combines legal and medical procedures, arguably including unnecessary elements, some of which – like genital examinations by psychiatrists – may amount to non-respect of the physical integrity of the person. Transgender people who do not wish to undergo these procedures, but who at the same time would like to have their preferred gender recognised by law, are denied such a possibility.

This approach of the state has been characterised as a 'one size fits all' attitude and an unacceptable interference with the private lives of individuals.¹¹

In particular, the requirements for divorce and sterilisation are questioned by human rights bodies. According to the <u>CoE Human Rights Commissioner</u>: "only unmarried or divorced transgender persons who have undergone surgery and become irreversibly infertile have the right to change their entry in the birth register. In reality, this means that the state prescribes medical treatment for legal purposes, a requirement which

clearly runs against the principles of human rights and human dignity." It is argued that transgender people are thus the only group in Europe subject to legally prescribed, state-enforced sterilisation.¹²

This is contrary to Yogyakarta Principle no 3 stating that "(...) no one shall be forced to undergo medical procedures, including sex reassignment surgery, sterilisation or hormonal therapy, as a requirement for legal recognition of their gender identity (...)".

Change of sex in identity documents

Whereas for a long time the ECtHR considered this issue as being at the discretion of the CoE MS, it then came to overrule its case law, ruling¹³ that the CoE states were obliged to recognise the change of sex in identity documents. It stated that the failure of a state to modify the birth certificate of a person so that it reflects the preferred gender is a violation of Article 8 ECHR, according to which everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life.

Right to marry

The Court has also confirmed the postoperative transsexuals' right to marry a person of the sex opposite to their acquired sex (Article 12 ECHR).

While the law of most EU MS is in accordance with the above judgments, there are exceptions, as well as countries where there is legal uncertainty in this respect due to the lack of relevant provisions.

No state response to hate crime

The limited official statistics available suggest that crimes against transgender people represent a significant proportion of violent hate crimes overall. Moreover, they are characterised by serious physical violence that in some cases exceeds the levels of violence present in other types of hate crimes. Transphobia as a motive for crime is however disregarded in most MS and is not considered an aggravating circumstance. One could argue that transgender people's right to physical integrity, as well as the right to life and

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security for every person are thus put into question.

Third-country transgender people

Transgender asylum seekers

Qualification as refugees

Whereas there are cases of transgender people being granted refugee status in some MS, there is no EU-level act aligning MS practices in this respect.

According to <u>UNHCR</u>, asylum claims relating to gender identity may be recognised under the 1951 <u>Geneva Convention</u>. Transgender persons fall under the Convention definition of refugees as members of a 'particular social group'. However, there are differences between MS and only some of them explicitly define transgender people as a distinctive social group.

It is also argued that an 'act of persecution of gender-specific nature', the term used in the <u>Qualification Directive</u> covers severe harm experienced by transgender persons.¹⁶

Detention

The lack of access to adequate healthcare – which is likely in detention centres – could lead to an interruption of the continuous hormonal treatment some transgender persons need. Similar problems are faced by transgender people in prison who run the risk of discontinuing hormone therapy. This may cause serious health problems or physiological changes, such as osteoporosis and baldness.

Moreover, when held in detention centres transgender people also run the risk of ill-treatment, including sexual violence, by other asylum seekers, especially if they are not placed in detention areas corresponding to their preferred gender.

Family reunification

Under the <u>Family Reunification Directive</u>, in case of divorce MS have no obligation to grant an autonomous residence permit to the spouse of a third-country national. Therefore when a couple is forced to divorce because of a spouse's change of gender, one

partner may be precluded legally from joining their former spouse in a Member State or even staying there with them.

Discrimination and hate crime in neighbouring countries

There are numerous cases of discrimination and hate crime in countries neighbouring the EU, such as <u>repeated killings</u> of transgender people in Turkey. The EU has limited legal means to influence the situation in these countries. Some political pressure is possible though, with respect to candidate countries and potential candidate countries.

The Commission's reports on progress towards accession for Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey indicate both positive and negative developments in the situation of the LGBT community in these states. The 2009 Turkey progress report points to the fact that the principle of 'unjust provocation' is applied by courts in favour of perpetrators of crimes against transgender people. Moreover, provisions of the criminal code on 'public exhibitionism' and 'offences against public morality' are used against LGBT people in a way that the report qualifies as discriminatory. The law on misdemeanours is in turn used to impose fines against transgender persons.

Finally, administrative obstacles are used against the registration of LGBT associations, the legality of which is conditional on not "encouraging lesbian, gay, bisexual, transvestite and transsexual behaviour with the aim of spreading such sexual orientations".¹⁷

EU law and policy

EU legal framework

EU law does not provide for a specific prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of gender identity.

However, in 1996 the CJEU held that discrimination arising from gender reassignment is a form of sex discrimination (case P. v. S). The Court affirmed that EU

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directives on equal treatment in employment and occupation were thus applicable to transsexuals. In this case the prohibition of discrimination applies on the basis of the acquired gender and not of the sex given at birth. The Court's reasoning was that discrimination arising from gender reassignment is based, essentially, or even

MS

exclusively, on the sex of the person concerned. Where an individual is dismissed from work because of their intention to undergo or having undergone gender reassignment, they are treated unfavourably in comparison with persons of their biological sex.

Further case law confirmed this approach. For example in the <u>K.B.</u> case the Court stated that a woman-to-man transsexual was entitled to a survivor's pension in case

of the death of his partner whom he could not marry due to non-recognition of his new gender in the birth certificate. In the <u>Richards</u> case, the CJEU held in turn that a transsexual worker who had undergone male-to-female gender reassignment surgery had the right to collect her retirement pension as a woman (at the age of 60 and not 65).

According to the EU Fundamental Rights Agency and various stakeholders this prohibition of discrimination should be extended to all transgender people.¹⁸

Today, in EU law the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex covers several areas, such as employment and occupation, social security, social advantages, and access to and supply of goods and services. It has an extensive legal basis in the Treaties (including Article 19 TFEU) and in several directives. The most recent sex discrimination directive – the 2006 Gender Recast Directive – was the first

EU legal act to make an explicit reference to discrimination based on 'gender reassignment'. Recital 3 of its preamble quoted the CJEU's PvS ruling.

European Parliament's actions

Prohibition of discrimination in

MS address discrimination of

transgender people in various ways.

Only Hungary and Sweden

recognise gender identity as a

distinct discrimination ground.

Thirteen MS consider it as sex

discrimination. In Germany and

Spain it is treated as discrimination

on the basis of sexual orientation.

In eleven remaining MS it falls

under none of these categories. In

these MS transgender people can

only rely on a general prohibition of

discrimination enshrined in the

Constitution or legislation.

Parliament has so far adopted only one resolution on discrimination against

against transsexuals.19 In this September 1989 text, Parliament expressed the belief that human dignity and personal rights should include the right to live according to one's gender identity. It therefore called on MS. Commission and Council to guarantee actual enjoyment of this right through adequate legislation and funding.

Recently, transgender issues have re-emerged on the EP agenda, when Parliament adopted the Figueiredo report on the Commission's 2006-2010 Roadmap for Equality between women and men.

With respect to transgender people Parliament:

- called on Commission, Council and the MS to launch a campaign to raise awareness of discrimination against them and improve their access to legal remedies
- advocated accessibility of gender reassignment procedures and their reimbursement by public health insurance schemes
- stressed that gender identity should be explicitly covered by the new EU gender equality strategy.

Main references

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<u>Transgender EuroStudy: Legal Survey and Focus on the Transgender Experience of Health Care</u> / TGEU, April 2008.

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Endnotes

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- Ibid pp 9–10.
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- See e.g. Transgender EuroStudy (30 %), <u>Engendered Penalties: Transgender and Transsexual People's Experiences of Inequality and Discrimination</u> / S. Whittle, L. Turner, M. Al-Alami, Wetherby: The Equalities Review, 2007, (34,4 %), Attempted suicide among transgender persons: The influence of gender-based discrimination and victimization/ K. Clements-Nolle, R. Marx, M. Katz, Journal of Homosexuality, 2006 51(3): pp.53-69 (33.2% of transgender youth).
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- ⁷ As described in <u>'Cruel and unusual'</u>, documentary / Janet Baus, Dan Hunt and Reid Williams, 64 min. 2006.
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- ⁹ Ibid, p. 7.
- E.g. CoE resolution 1728 (2010) and recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5.
- 11 Human Rights and Gender Identity, Issue Paper p. 19.
- 12 Ibid.
- 13 B. v. France case and the groundbreaking Christine Goodwin v. UK case.
- 14 2008 Hate Crime Survey: Lgbt / Human Rights First.
- The term is defined as "irrational fear of gender non-conformity or gender transgression, such as a fear of, or aversion to, masculine women, feminine men, cross-dressers, transgenderists, transsexuals and others who do not fit into existing gender stereotypes about their birth gender." (FRA report, part II: The Social Situation, p. 109).
- ¹⁶ Human Rights and Gender Identity, Issue Paper p. 38.
- ¹⁷ The Turkey 2009 Progress report, p. 19.
- 18 FRA report, part I: Legal issues, pp. 131-132.
- Resolution on discrimination against transsexuals, 12/09/1989, OJ C 256/34.

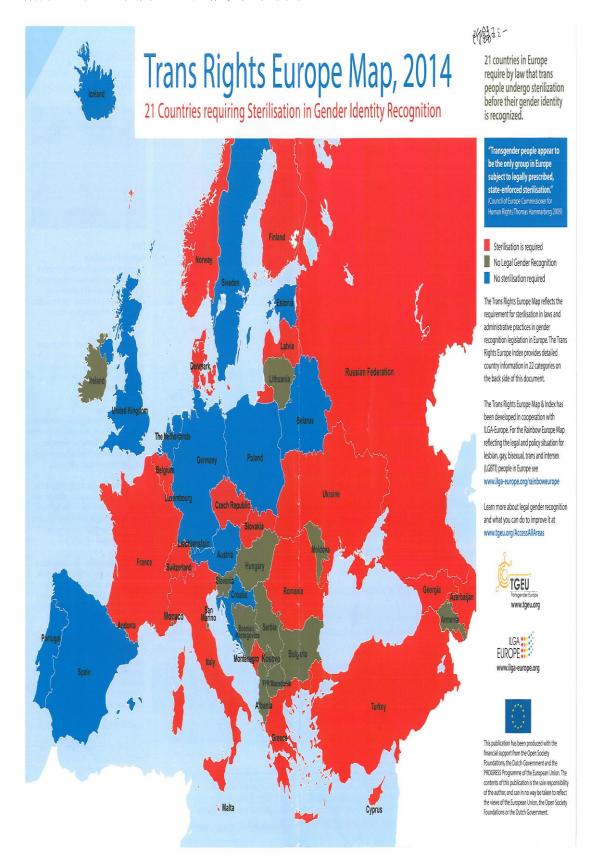
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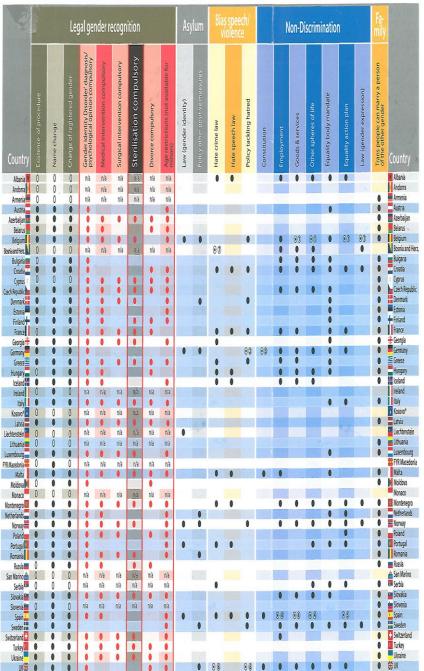
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附錄五 歐盟各國對LBGTI人權狀況示意圖2014-2015



Trans Rights Europe Map, 2014





Facts

Equality and Non-Discrimination

Trans people are disproportionally affected by unemployment and suffer from negative attitudes and discrimination in public and in private. Transgender people are protected against discrimination according to the European Court of Human Rights. However, only 15 states have explicit legal protections.

Protection from Violence

There is no safe country for trans people. In the last six years 87 murders of trans people have been documented in Europe. Nearly every trans person who is visible as transgender experiences harassment, abuse and violence. Only 12 states protect trans pepple against transphobic violence.

Legal Gender Recognition

Only 35 countries in Europe have legal provisions to recognize a trans person's gender identity. Trans people's existence is de focto illegal in 14 countries as these provide for no recognition. 21 countries in Europe require by law that trans people undergo sterilization before their gender identity is recognized.

Other requirements may include diagnosis of a mental disorder, medical treatment and invasive surgery, assessment of time lived in new gender identity, being single or divorced. Such requirements violate a person's dignity, physical integrity, right to form a family and to be free from degrading and inhuman treatment.

Key Terms

Trans or transgender people have a gender identity which is different to the gender assigned at birth. This includes people who intend to undergo, are undergoing, or have undergone gender reassignment as well as those who prefer or choose to present themselves differently to the expectations of the gender assigned to them at birth.

Gender identity is understood to refer to each person's deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond with the sex assigned at birth, including the personal sense of the body (which may involve, if freely chosen, modification of bodily appearance or function by medical, surgical or other means) and other expressions of gender, including dress, speech and mannerisms. (Yogyakarta Principles)

Legal Gender Recognition is the official recognition of a person's gender identity including the registered gender and name(s) in public registries and key documents. The European Court of Human Rights has repeatedly ruled on gender identity recognition and its conditions, strengthening the human rights of trans people.

Data as of 15 April 2014 No warrantee for completeness or accuracy.

 Existing legal measure () No existing legal measure • Regional application only

(2) 4 of 16: Action plans in Berlin, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, Baden-Württemberg

(5) 1 out of 17: City of Barcelona 6 3 out of 4: England & Wales and Scotland

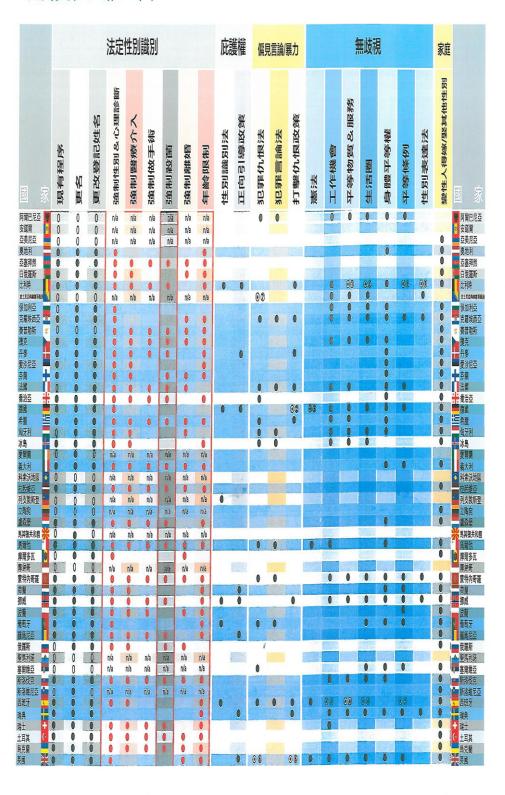
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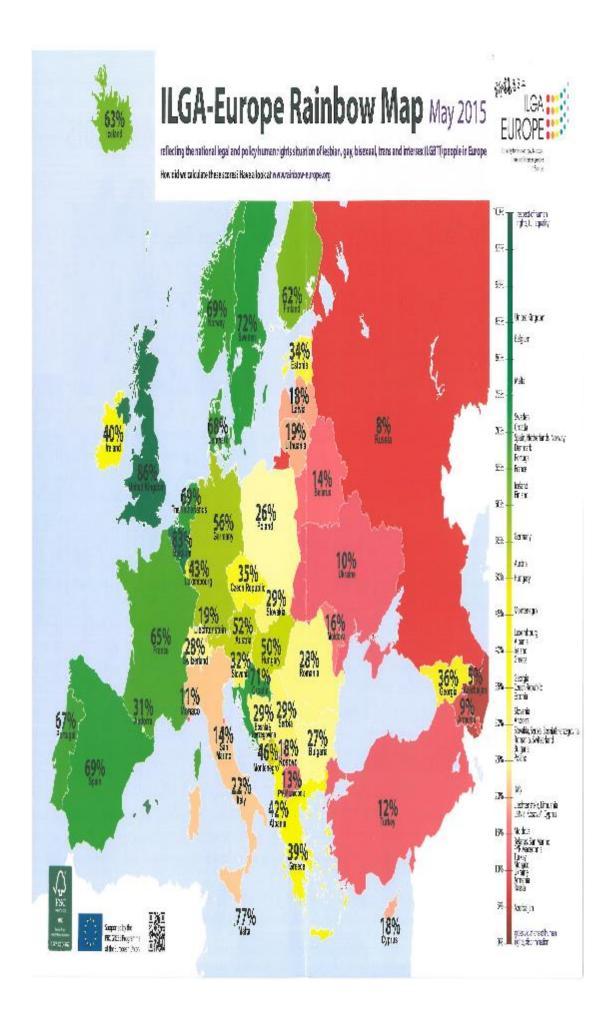
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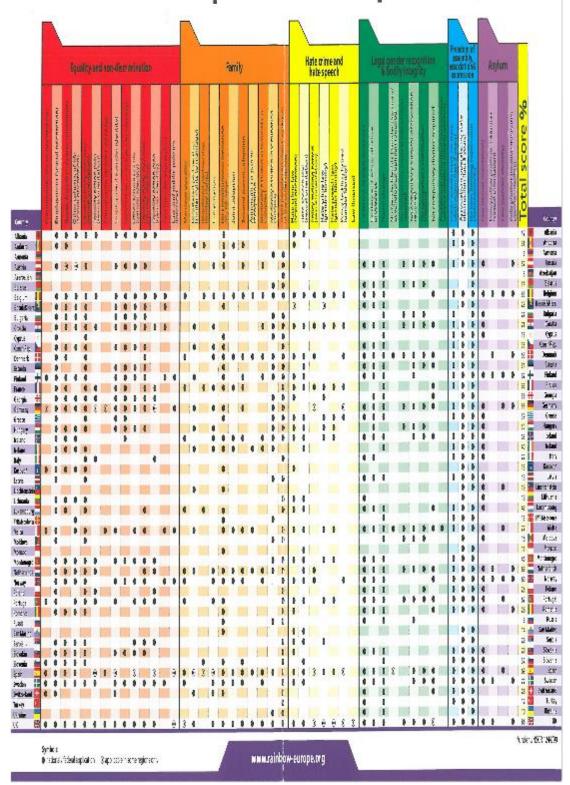


歐洲變性人權益圖 2014





EUROPE ILGA-Europe Rainbow Map (Index) May 2015



ILGA 歐洲彩虹地圖 2015 五月

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