

Council of Europe

One of the main goals of the Council of Europe is to promote human rights and democracy. Among the institutions that contribute to the Council's human rights work, some can be important for submissions on bias violence by LGBT NGOs. The Human Rights Commissioner has a mandate to promote the awareness of and respect for human rights in all the Member States. The current Commissioner, Thomas Hammarberg, has been open to work with our organisations, and ILGA-Europe considers it is worth informing him of the submissions that we and our members send to other institutions of the Council of Europe.

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

The Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly has the mission to report to the Assembly on the progress of new Member States in meeting their human rights commitments. Reports on hate incidents provide important information that can enable the Assembly to make specific recommendations to the national government on measures to address homophobic or transphobic behaviour.

For questions about the work programme of the Monitoring Committee and possible submissions, contact ILGA-Europe's office: joel@ilga-europe.org.

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

ECRI carries a country-by-country monitoring work, and in that frame it examines the situation concerning manifestations of racism and intolerance in each of the Council of Europe member States. Homophobia and transphobia are not explicitly mentioned in ECRI's mandate, and for this reason are not included in its work yet. However, the monitoring mission of ECRI could be of crucial interest for all groups facing discrimination problems and bias violence: ECRI's findings go along with recommendations as to how each country might deal with the problems identified.

Since the Council of Europe also addressed recommendations to tackle other forms of discriminations, and since the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly are currently working on recommendations on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, sending submissions to ECRI seems an appropriate way to further raise awareness and to advocate for and expansion of its field of competence.

ECRI's findings and recommendations are published in country reports. These reports are drawn up after a contact visit to the country in question and a confidential dialogue with the national authorities. The country-by-country monitoring deals with all member States on an equal footing and takes place in five-year cycles, covering nine or ten countries per year.

| Elements of calendar 2010 | | |
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| For questions about the time frame of the submissions, their shape and the possibility of joint submissions, contact ILGA-Europe's office: joel@ilga-europe.org | | |
| Country reports to be expected in 2010 | ECRI contact visits organised in 2010 | Countries: Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Poland, Sweden, FYROM, Turkey, UK |
| Country reports to be expected in 2011 | ECRI contact visits organised in 2011: February March April | Countries: Montenegro Luxembourg Ukraine Latvia |

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| | 2nd semester | Iceland Andorra Croatia Denmark Slovenia Sweden |
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