

>THEMES

POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT**ALBANIA**

In March, Aleanca LGBTI and Pro-LGBTI held a training for police officers on LGBTI issues. Civil society and the police launched an informative brochure on policing anti-LGBTI hate crimes.

In September, Aleanca LGBTI co-organised a training with Dutch CSOs, for judges and prosecutors on handling anti-LGBTI hate crime cases.

PINK organised a consultation between the Chiefs of Police Stations in Tirana with the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination and the Diversity Contact Point at the National Police Authority, to discuss better cooperation between LGBTI CSOs and the police, including through training and support.

On 24 November, the Council of Europe in cooperation with the police and LGBTI NGOs held meetings about the rights of the LGBTI+ community with the police in Vlora, Gjirokastra, Korca, Elbasan, Kavaja, and Fier. LGBTI contact points were established in each town.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Sarajevo Open Centre trained police officers in the Sarajevo and Tuzla cantons on freedom of assembly and LGBTI rights. SOC continued advocating for LGBTI rights to be a mandatory part of police training.

CYPRUS

The police made an official and in-person apology, upon the request of the Minister of Justice, to a trans person who was subjected to police harassment in May. The case was referred to the Minister by the Advisor to the President on Multiculturalism and Diversity.

In June, Accept held a seminar for police officers on LGBTI rights.

GEORGIA

WISG held trainings for the police, the Prosecutor's Office, the State Care Agency and legal service providers this year on anti-LGBT hate crimes, discrimination, and victim support.

GREECE

Following the intervention of GTSA, the Naval Registry reversed its denial to amend the gender and name of

a trans marine following her legal gender recognition process.

The police and security forces continued to reject trans people's applications to the police academy.

MALTA

The Malta Police Force introduced new recruitment policies that removed differential selection criteria based on gender, and which will ensure an equal playing field for trans applicants.

MOLDOVA

18-year-old soldier Marin Pavlescu suffered homophobic harassment and mockery, and a phone call with his boyfriend was circulated at the army base he is stationed at. Pavlescu released a statement online vowing not to return to the army, for which he could be fined or face up to five years in prison. In the meantime, the Ministry of Defense found no proof of homophobic harassment or discrimination, but wants to press charges against Pavlescu for having a relationship with a 17-year-old. GENDERDOC-M is alarmed by the Ministry's failure to protect Pavlescu and reminded that the age of consent is 16.

MONTENEGRO

The new head of police, Zoran Brđanin met with LGBTI CSOs, committing to keep LGBTI people safe and work on internal capacity building in the police.

Queer Montenegro organised first education on Human Rights of LGBTIQ persons for members of the Military of Montenegro and Ministry of defence.

Juventas, Queer Montenegro and Spectra organised trainings for police officers, judges, prosecutors as well as police academy cadets on human rights of LGBTIQ persons.

NETHERLANDS

The Army State Secretary presented a brochure on trans people in the military.

NORWAY

Norway's first Prison Pride was organised by Røverradion in Eidsberg prison.

PORTUGAL

On 20 November, the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality, the Inspectorate-General of Home Affairs, the Secretariat-General of Home Affairs and the three police forces in Portugal (PSP, GNR and SEF) signed a memorandum of understanding on capacity building on LGBTI issues, including preventing hate crimes and improving investigation and support to LGBTI victims.

SLOVENIA

Legebitra continued its cooperation with the police on hate crime training this year, and the establishment of LGBTI liaison officers. Legebitra reported that the training is going well and hopes that leadership within the police will maintain and strengthen its commitment to the program.

SPAIN

A military court in A Coruña has ruled against four members of the Guardia Civil, a police force which is part of the military, for slandering and humiliating a gay colleague for four years.

Following the brutal murder of Samuel Luiz, the Ministry of Interior called the Monitoring Committee for the Action Plan against Hate Crimes, chaired this time by the Prime Minister. As an outcome, two hate crime groups were set up in the civil guard and the police, Spain's two law enforcement bodies.

SWITZERLAND

The Swiss Competence Center for Prisons published guidance and recommendations on LGBTIQ+ prisoners, marking the first time the cantons worked on this issue.

TAJKISTAN

Activists reported again this year that the police continue to threaten, blackmail, harass, and detain LGBT people.

TURKMENISTAN

Following the news about the police raids against gay men in Turkmenistan that became viral on the Internet in September, some news outlets continued reporting about more incidents of gay men being targeted by the authorities. On 2 October the news outlet Mediazona reported that the police detained and interrogated group of men convening in teahouses. The police were also

interrogating men spotted together inside vehicles.

UNITED KINGDOM

The High Court ruled in July that trans women are lawfully housed in women's prisons.

UZBEKISTAN

The police continued to be the main perpetrators of anti-LGBT violence.