

>THEMES

ACCESS TO GOODS AND SERVICES

ALBANIA

Aleanca offered reimbursement in 14 cases for administrative proceedings for documentation such as ID's, passports, notary services and document issuance.

Aleanca reimbursed internet, electricity and water bills in 46 cases.

Aleanca provided legal counselling, legal representation and administrative support in filing institutional complaints in 52 sessions.

AZERBAIJAN

In May 14, LGBTQ+ activist Ali Malikov reported on his social media that he was subjected to homophobic treatment in the "Friends" cafe located in Baku, having been told to remove a rainbow flag from his table. He filed a complaint with the police.

BELGIUM

Mons became the second city where businesses will receive a label for being welcoming of LGBTQIA+ people, after a training provided by Maison Arc-en-ciel (MAC).

DENMARK

Several trans people continued to report to civil society being denied access to spaces and services and threatened or assaulted.

HUNGARY

(See under Freedom of Expression)

KAZAKHSTAN

In August, the NGO Education Community applied for registration on the employment site Headhunter (hh.kz), mentioning their focus on LGBTQI+ activism. Headhunter initially denied the application, citing terms of use prohibiting associations that could harm the site's reputation. After the request to elaborate on the application denial, the NGO was registered on the platform.

KOSOVO

CSGD published a report on LGBT and Roma people's access to services in Prizren.

KYRGYSTAN

Due to the continued tension at the Tajikistan border and the war in Ukraine, a lot of Kyrgyz internal and external migrants returned home and Russians fled to Kyrgyzstan. The political situation hiked up inflation rates, unemployment, and rent prices.

MOLDOVA

A trans woman was denied service in a bank due to the mismatch between her documents and her gender expression. Her complaint to the Equality Council brought a decision confirming the discrimination and recommendation to the bank to take measures to prevent such situations in the future.

In June, an online news site disclosed the location of GENDERDOC-M's Trans Camp that was planned to take place in July. Following the news and threats to the originally designated hotel, the organisers moved the event to another location.

NETHERLANDS

Several people reported being harassed by Uber and Bolt drivers during Pride.

POLAND

A taxi company decorated some of its fleet with rainbow colours on the occasion of Pride in Białystok, Warsaw, Gdańsk, Zielona Góra and Kielce, despite criticism from drivers and passengers.

ROMANIA

The National Council for Combating Discrimination (CNCD) is investigating a printing house that refused to print leaflets about lesbian rights and another print shop that refused to print a booklet on gender equality.

RUSSIA

A fitness club in St. Petersburg refused to allow a trans man to use the men's changing room even though he had a male gender marker in his documents. The club's administration cited the new transphobic and homophobic legislation and demanded a certificate of gender reassignment surgery.

SLOVAKIA

Following a hate crime terrorist attack that shook the

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community in 2022 (see under Bias-motivated Violence), venues continued to [post](#) rainbow stickers on their doors to signal safe spaces for LGBTI+ people.

SWITZERLAND

A lesbian couple was [denied](#) service and asked to leave a bar in Baden. The couple filed a complaint.

Unlike Bern and Lucerne, Zurich decided not to introduce gender-neutral bathrooms in restaurants.

TAJIKISTAN

Living costs, including goods such as food, medication, or transport have increased significantly, making life difficult also for members of the LGBT community. The cost of flight tickets also went up, which made it difficult for many LGBT people to leave.

Every year, prices for goods and services increase, which worsens the life of LGBT people in the country. In particular this applies to those representatives of the LGBT community who do not have a regular income or have returned from migration from Russia and do not have a regular income in the country

TURKEY

Following the February 6 earthquakes, LGBTI+ people in the disaster area [experienced increased levels of discrimination](#) and barriers to accessing humanitarian aid, including food and sanitation as well as financial, psychological, and housing support. See [here](#) and [here](#).

A report on 'The Situation of LGBTI+ People After the Earthquake' [found](#) widespread discrimination and need for support even months after the disaster.

UKRAINE

Ukrzaliznytsya, the state railway company, [stated](#) that if they introduced separate compartments for women, trans women would also be included. They did not explain how that would be regulated.

Several businesses [put up](#) rainbow symbols for Pride month.

UZBEKISTAN

Samarkand was the 2023 World Tourism Capital and also hosted the 25th General Assembly of the UN World

Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) this year. On these occasions, the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre [surveyed](#) 17 hotels in June. Four of them answered, with one avoiding questions about LGBT guests, two not having any measures in place to ensure non-discrimination based on sexual orientation, and one saying they would not rent rooms to a gay couple.