

AZERBAIJAN

In June, discussing the package proposal being considered by the legal committee of the Georgian parliament on the outlawing of alleged 'LGBTI propaganda', a well-known Azerbaijani lawyer, Akram Hasanov expressed his [support](#) for more prohibitive norms against LGBTI rights. Hasanov claimed that "Azerbaijan should refer to Georgian practice in this matter" and advocated for a similar approach to be implemented worldwide.

In July, Georgia's anti-LGBTI draft law caused [political discussions](#) in Azerbaijan, with pro-government media contributing to the creation of an unofficial network of public officials and relevant figures in the Azerbaijan context who share a same opposition to LGBTI rights.

In September, discussing Georgia's anti-LGBTI draft law being adopted in the 2nd hearing by the Georgian parliament, a well-known Azerbaijani sociologist, Elchin Bayramli, expressed his [support](#). Bayramli, while advocating for legislative and policy measures to counter so-called "LGBTI propaganda," proposed harmful actions targeting LGBTI people, including identifying and forcibly confining them. He also claimed that LGBTI advocacy was directed and financed by Azerbaijan's "enemies" in global circles.

BELGIUM

In September, the Université Libre de Bruxelles released the findings of their [2023 Report on Anti-Gender Campaigns in Belgium](#), highlighting a trend of anti-LGBTI rhetoric and bias-motivated violence across Belgium. The report detailed how opposition to sex education and LGBTI topics has intensified, resulting in demonstrations, media interventions, lobbying and even political vandalism.

In July, Vice-Prime Minister David Clarinval took to social media to [endorse](#) a book noted for its conspiratorial, hateful, and unscientific ideological remarks against trans and non-binary people.

BULGARIA

A [national survey](#) by the Alpha Research agency, commissioned by the GLAS Foundation, established an improved attitude of Bulgarian citizens towards LGBTI people. The survey indicated an overall increase of respondents declaring interest in receiving better information on LGBTI topics and a decline in the acceptance of harmful stereotypes about LGBTI people. For example, 36% of people were reported disagreeing with the idea that homosexuality and trans identities are mental disorders.

CROATIA

The [first survey on attitudes toward trans people in Croatia](#), carried out by kolektIRV, revealed that 38% of citizens would

accept a trans person as a close family member, while only 11% hold negative views; however, 62% believe society perceives them negatively.

CYPRUS

A poll by a research company GPO revealed that a majority of Cypriot citizens oppose both same-sex marriage and same-sex adoption rights. According to the data, 32.2% of respondents strongly support same-sex marriage, while 16.9% are likely in favour, 5.4% are likely against, and 42.9% are firmly opposed. On same-sex adoption, only 16.3% are firmly in favour, 11.9% are likely in favour, 9.5% are likely against, and a significant 60.2% are firmly opposed. The poll further underscored that the proposal of a national referendum on these matters had 36.1% of respondents in favor or likely supportive of the idea, while 60.9% were likely or firmly against it, and 3% being undecided.

ESTONIA

The latest [survey](#) by the Estonian Human Rights Centre revealed increasingly positive attitudes toward LGBTI people in Estonia, with notable shifts among non-Estonian speakers. Over half of respondents (56%) consider homosexuality completely or somewhat acceptable, with 64% of Estonian speakers and 39% of non-Estonian speakers expressing this view. However, 38% of respondents still regard homosexuality as somewhat or completely unacceptable, often citing perceptions of it as abnormal, unnatural, or untraditional.

GEORGIA

The Georgian Dream party lawmakers appealed to the supposedly negative public opinion towards LGBTI people in segments of the Georgian society as a justification for adopting anti-LGBT law. However, the Venice Commission [states](#) that even if the majority was opposed to LGBTIQI equality, this could not be invoked to justify discrimination and hate speech. In truth, there is no recent data to measure public opinion towards the anti-LGBT law or LGBTIQI people. While the last decade has seen an increase in acceptance of LGBTIQI people in Georgia, community organisations fear that the wide distribution of governmental homophobic and transphobic rhetoric could reverse the hard won progress. (See also under Equality and Non-discrimination.)

GERMANY

The [IPSOS Pride Study 2024](#) revealed that 73% of Germans believe LGBTI couples should have the same rights as heterosexual couples when it comes to adopting children, marking a four percentage point increase from three years ago. The report underscored that Germany, along with France and Poland, has seen a slight positive shift in the acceptance of LGBTI identities in recent years, but only 47% of respondents support laws

prohibiting discrimination against LGBTI people, a 3% decrease from 2021.

GREECE

According to the [Gender Divide survey](#), a research project of Eteron in collaboration with the British university King's College London conducted in June, about 60% of Greek people agree or mostly agree with same-sex marriage and 37% agree or mostly agree with adoption by same-sex couples.

HUNGARY

Háttér Society has commissioned a [representative poll](#) on public attitudes towards LGBTI people, with a special focus on LGBTI women. According to the study, 49% are supportive of same-sex marriage, 72% of legal gender recognition, and 60% would allow lesbian women access to assisted reproduction in healthcare institutions. Nonetheless, only 18% of respondents would rely on self-identification with regards to the access to bathrooms and changing rooms for trans people and 8% would allow intersex and trans women to continue playing in women's sports. The study also highlighted that 62% of respondents would open a new category for intersex sportspeople.

IRELAND

In March, after two recent referendums – one concerning legal definition of family in the Constitution and one concerning the introduction of more inclusive language in the definition of family duties – were rejected, Fine Gael Minister of State Peter Burke [stated](#) that the government must assess whether the views of campaigning NGOs reflect those of broader Irish society. Burke pointed out the significant involvement of state-funded organisations in promoting the 'Yes' votes in both campaigns.

In April, research from Trinity College Dublin and Belong To shared that public attitudes towards the LGBTI community in Ireland are mostly positive, with areas for consideration including one fifth of adults agreeing that being LGB is a phase, a choice, or that people can be convinced to be LGB, and 19% stating that accepting trans people is difficult.

KAZAKHSTAN

In February, members of the Zheltoksan 86 movement organised a [protest](#) in Almaty against LGBTI rights, calling on Kazakhstan to enact [legislation](#) banning LGBTI activities and to prevent upcoming LGBTI demonstrations.

In July, travel blogger and trans activist [Devin Halbal](#) visited Almaty and held a fan meeting, which drew a large crowd. Despite the support from many fans, the visit sparked controversy online.

MOLDOVA

A recent [survey](#) conducted by the Centre for Sociological Analysis and Investigations CIVIS, commissioned by the Lex XXI Association, revealed significant gaps in understanding the LGBTI community among residents of Balti. Carried out from June 20 to July 11, 2023, the findings indicate that 90% of respondents lack awareness and comprehension of the issues faced by the queer community in the region. Furthermore, the social distance index towards the LGBTI community registered an average score of 5.1 on a scale of 0 to 7, with 7 signifying a very high level of distance or exclusion from society.

In December, the GENDERDOC-M Information Centre, in collaboration with Magenta Consulting, conducted a study titled "Evaluation of the Perceptions of Residents of the City of Chisinau About LGBT+ People." The research surveyed 723 respondents aged 25-45 years. The results showed that only 9% of respondents held a positive attitude towards LGBTI people, while 44% had a negative opinion, a six percentage point increase compared to the 2023 survey. Overall, 55% of respondents were neutral or supportive. The Social Distance Index, which measures the level of acceptance towards various minority groups, revealed that LGBTI people continue to have the lowest level of acceptance, with an index of 1.75.

MONTENEGRO

Spektra's 2023 research on public attitudes toward trans, intersex, and gender-variant people in Montenegro revealed that 15-20% of the population, primarily young, educated women, are supportive of the LGBTI community. The research further uncovered significant gaps in understanding about gender identity and sexual orientation. For instance, 68.7% of respondents admitted they were unsure of or did not understand the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity, while 69.1% were similarly confused about the distinction between gender and gender identity. Additionally, 28.6% of respondents did not know how to define the term "transgender person," and, 22% incorrectly defined it as a "disease, hormonal disorder, or psychological disorder."

ROMANIA

The 2024 Presidential and Parliamentary electoral campaigns highlighted deep societal divisions, with far-right rhetoric dominating political discourse. Anti-LGBTI propaganda surged after candidate Călin Georgescu advanced to the presidential election's second round. His platform's emphasis on "traditional family values" and opposition to LGBTI rights intensified online hate speech and led to direct threats against organisations.

The controversy surrounding Imane Khelif's participation in the Olympics caused a rapid spread of disinformation and transphobia

in media and online spaces. False claims that Khelif, a female athlete, was “actually a man” gained traction, amplified by influential foreign figures such as J.K. Rowling and Elon Musk.

SWITZERLAND

In May, Nemo, a non-binary Swiss singer, won the Eurovision Song Contest, creating intense visibility for non-binary people and their lack of legal recognition. In a poll by YouGov, 75% of respondents thought this win would have a positive impact on the queer community. Polls before and after Nemo’s win, by the Gottlieb Duttweiler Institut, showed an increase in positive attitudes towards non-binary people and a decrease in negative attitudes.

In November, following a referendum, the Canton of Basel-Stadt held a public vote on the expenditure for hosting the Eurovision Song Contest 2025. Opponents’ arguments included anti-non-binary rhetoric but the expenditure was supported by a majority of 67% of voters.

TURKMENISTAN

The topic of same-sex relations remains a taboo subject in media and education, preventing any formal acknowledgment or protection of LGBTI rights.

UZBEKISTAN

Political figures in Uzbekistan have made derogatory remarks against the LGBTI community. Alisher Kadyrov, leader of the National Revival party and vice-speaker of the Legislative Chamber, suggested stripping LGBTI people of citizenship to force them to emigrate. Rasul Kuserbayev, an adviser to the Minister of Natural Resources, declared that legalising same-sex relationships would mark “the day of our death.”