



Iceland

ACCESS TO GOODS AND SERVICES

In January, all of Reykjavík's public swimming pools received Rainbow Certification. The certification aims to make workplaces and public services more inclusive for LGBTI people, both as employees and service users, and to prevent direct and indirect discrimination. All workplaces under the city's administration are eligible to apply. The process includes mandatory staff training on LGBTI issues, an assessment of workplace policies and conditions, and the development of an action plan to improve inclusion and awareness.

ASYLUM

In January, Iceland's national LGBTI organisation Samtökin '78 reported a surge in inquiries from people in the United States seeking information on relocating to Iceland following the election of Donald Trump as president.

EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

In February, Hinsegin kórinn, the Reykjavík Queer Choir, announced that it would withdraw from its scheduled performance at World Pride in Washington, D.C., citing concerns for the safety of trans and non-binary people in the United States.

DATA COLLECTION

In 2025, the results of The Health and Well-being of LGBT+ People research project were published, examining key factors affecting the health and wellbeing of LGBTI people in Iceland and highlighting the health-related challenges faced by the community. The study found that LGBTI people generally experience poorer health and lower levels of wellbeing than non-LGBTI individuals, underlining the need for targeted measures to address these disparities. The project was carried out as a collaboration between Reykjavík City and Samtökin '78, the National Queer Organisation of Iceland.

In August, a Gallup National Poll found that most Icelanders consider their communities welcoming for LGBTI people. The survey showed that 89% of respondents who expressed an opinion felt their area is a good place for LGBTI people to live, up slightly from 86% a decade earlier. Younger Icelanders were

the most positive, with 99% of 18- to 29-year-olds agreeing, compared with 76% of those aged 60 to 69. Over a third of participants either did not know or had no opinion.

FOREIGN POLICY

In March, Iceland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the preparation of travel guidance specifically for LGBTI people, with an emphasis on personal safety. Foreign Minister Þorgerður Katrín Gunnarsdóttir said the initiative reflects the need for greater caution in the current international climate. The chair of Samtökin '78 also underlined the importance of being alert when travelling abroad, particularly to the United States.

PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC, CULTURAL, AND POLITICAL LIFE

In September, the new Icelandic Queer Film Festival took place at Bíó Paradís from September 4 to 7. The inaugural festival showcased documentaries, feature films, and short films, combining new releases with curated classics.