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News, Legal Protection, Freedom of Assembly, Romania, Strategic Litigation

We welcome today's judgment from the European Court of Human Rights in the case of <u>Association ACCEPT and Others v. Romania</u>.

The Court found a violation of Article 8 (right to private and family life) and 11 (freedom of association and assembly) together with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination).

The <u>case</u> concerned a protest against a screening of a film involving a same-sex family during the applicant association's LGBT History Month in February 2013. The protesters were carrying far-right paraphernalia and cinemagoers had been verbally abused.

Court found that the authorities had failed to offer adequate protection in respect of the individual applicants' dignity and private life, and to effectively investigate the real nature of the homophobic abuse directed against them. Importantly the Court pointed out that "in doing so, the authorities showed their own bias towards members of the LGBT community".

• You can download the judgment here.