



LUXEMBOURG

BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

Jean-Baptiste Pouthas, a French gay man was attacked in the Gare district of Luxembourg after a Pride party in July. Despite calling out for help, none of the passerby came to his rescue. Pouthas reported the case to the police.

A few weeks earlier, the Minister of Justice announced that anti-LGBT motives will be considered as aggravating circumstances in an upcoming law reform. Minister Braz reminded that combating violence against LGBT people is part of the country's first LGBTI Action Plan 2018-2023.

EDUCATION

A primary school maths book will be removed from the market because it includes stereotypical portrayals of gay men. The Minister of National Education agreed that the maths exercise including two boys, called Xavier and Étienne, who want to paint their rooms pink, was not appropriate. The exercise refers to the country's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel and Deputy Prime Minister Étienne Schneider, who are both gay.

FOREIGN POLICY

In his speech at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit in New York on 23 September, Prime Minister Xavier Bettel called on world leaders and said everyone had a duty to challenge hate speech.

"I never wanted to be the gay prime minister, but I'm the prime minister and I'm gay. [...] Being gay was not my choice. But not to accept it is a choice. [...] Homophobia is a personal choice. And we have to fight against it." -Xavier Bettel at the UN Climate Action Summit

Earlier in July at the EU-Arab League summit, Bettel spoke to countries where the death penalty is imposed on same-sex relations, pointing out he himself could be killed.

During his visit to Mexico in April, the Prime Minister commended the Mexican government on its progress on LGBT rights and urged for more action.