



MOLDOVA

BIAS-MOTIVATED SPEECH

On 13 September, several online sources distributed fake news about NGO GENDERDOC-M Information Centre, claiming that they distributed leaflets about gay sex to university students. Hundreds of homophobic comments were posted in response.

station, searched and questioned them and gave them a 'moral' lecture. He also took some of their money in exchange for letting them go. The three victims filed a complaint with the Ministry of Internal Affairs; the case is with the Prosecutor's Office.

EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

GENDERDOC-M expressed concern in a public statement about the re-election of Valeriu Ghilețchi, deputy from the incumbent Parliament, as President of the PACE Commission for the Appointment of new judges to the European Court of Human Rights. Ghilețchi is a firm opponent of LGBTI and women's rights. In the end, Ghilețchi's mandate as parliamentary expired, and he was no longer eligible to be re-elected in the role.

FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

The LGBTI Moldova Pride Festival took place for the 18th time this year, and the Solidarity March was held on 19 May in Chisinau. The March was held under the motto "I am OK" and was attended by hundreds of supporters. A counter-demonstration was organised by prayer groups with the slogan "It's not OK to be gay", but no violent incidents took place. The conservative anti-LGBT 'Family Festival' was held parallel to the march, supported by President Igor Dodon. Moldovan MP Dumitru Alaiba was the first MP to ever participate in the march. He shared a post on social media in support of the Pride events:

"No one, under any pretext, can tell you how to dress, what language to speak, which god to pray for, whom to love. [...] And think well - what's the biggest problem in our country, really: the LGBT community or those who stole a billion dollars?" - MP Dumitru Alaiba

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

On the night of 30 May, a car belonging to GENDERDOC-M's lawyer, Doina Ioana Străisteanu, was set on fire. This is the third time her car was damaged. Străisteanu has been subject to death threats and harassment in the past for her work on LGBT rights. The perpetrators were not found.

POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

On May 22, three young gay men were lured on a fake date by a police officer. The officer met the three men at the Bălți railway