



# SLOVENIA

## BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

Legebitra launched the Ni Prav/“It’s not right” online platform as part of the “Call it Hate” campaign, where victims of anti-LGBTI discrimination and violence can report cases, get information about the reporting process, or seek support on these sites. TransAkcija launched a similar site, where they received nine reports, three of which were anonymous. Legebitra documented 10 cases.

On the morning of 1 November, one of Slovenia’s few LGBTI spaces, Tiffany Club in Ljubljana, was violently attacked by a group. The door, windows and walls were smashed, and some of the employees inside were threatened with hateful shouting. By the time the police arrived, the attackers had fled. The community held a protest outside the club and Prime Minister Marjan Sarec condemned the attack. The police investigation is ongoing.

In October, a gay man was beaten up in Murska Sobota and in November a gay man was thrown out of club and targeted with homophobic threats. A police are investigating.

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (see under **Health**) also found that Slovenia has failed to regularly publish information on the number of hate crimes and that there is no guidance given to officers on how to collect data.

## BODILY INTEGRITY

In March, an INTERcoalition was formed, upon the initiative of TransAkcija including NGOs Amnesty International Slovenia, Legebitra, Ljubljana Pride, Association DIH and Association ŠKUC. On 30 September and 1 October, a two-day visit of six intersex representatives from OII Europe took place, during which several events were held, including an Intersex 101 lecture for medical students at the Faculty for Medicine of the University of Ljubljana; a community event with the local LGBTI community; and meetings with various political parties, the Ministry of Health, the Advocate of the Principle of Equality. As well as a lot of media work resulted in the largest media presence of intersex persons in Slovenia to date. TransAkcija and OII Europe also created a new intersex awareness raising video: “What Intersex people want you to know”. The next steps of the INTERcoalition is gathering more data from medical practitioners about how intersex persons, especially infants and children are being treated

with the Slovene healthcare system, continuing with awareness raising events and advocacy.

As part of its third UPR review, Slovenia received recommendations to ban non-consensual surgeries on intersex children.

## EDUCATION

In June, Legebitra published “Rainbow in the pocket”, the first manual in Slovenia for youth workers and teachers on LGBTI issues.

## EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

The city of Ljubljana was awarded the Emerging Europe Award for its project, Equality-Friendly Initiative of the Year: LGBT Friendly, which grants certificates to organisations that have created an LGBT-friendly environment.

As part of the UPR, Slovenia was recommended to combat anti-LGBTI prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination, and hate crimes, and to put in place awareness raising campaigns.

## FAMILY

This year for the first time, newborns of lesbian couples were granted a birth certificate featuring two women as legal parents. In all of these cases, the parents had been living in a civil partnership.

## FOREIGN POLICY

On IDAHOT on 17 May, the Foreign Ministry called for the decriminalisation of same-sex relations around the world.

## FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

The first Pride march was held in Slovenia’s second largest city, Maribor on 30 June. The event was attended by roughly 800 people and took place without any incidents. On the evening of the march, however, several groups of LGBTI people were harassed in the street.

## FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

TransAkcija, Slovenia’s first and only trans organisation celebrated its fifth birthday in the summer.



## HEALTH

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) published its report on Slovenia in June. The ECRI recommended Slovenia to establish clear guidelines on gender affirming healthcare. Following a petition sent to the Ministry of Health last year, the Ministry has been in correspondence with TransAkcija and Legebitra, and in November the organisations received the information that the consilium for gender affirming healthcare will be formally recognised. However, the Ministry will not initiate a protocol of services to be developed. The Ministry also claimed that trans healthcare in Slovenia is well organised. Slovenia received UPR recommendations to ensure the availability of specific health services for trans persons.

## HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

In April, a rock was thrown through the window of the LGBTI association DIH. The police are investigating.

## LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION

The ECRI (see under **Health**) recommended Slovenia to put in place a law regulating the change of name and gender. The government reported during its UPR review in Geneva that the working group mandated to prepare a draft law had been set up, but does not currently include civil society representatives. In November, TransAkcija was in contact with the Ministry of labour, family, social affairs and equal opportunities where the group is based and they explicitly said no NGO representatives will be included, regardless of a clearly expressed willingness to cooperate.

Slovenia received UPR recommendations to put in place human rights based gender recognition legislation.

## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Slovenia received UPR recommendations to promote the access of same-sex couples to sexual and reproductive health programmes.