

What has the European Parliament done for LGBTIQ+ rights in 2019-2024?

In the current parliamentary term, the European Parliament has adopted **over 170 resolutions** concerning LGBTIQ+ issues wholly or in part.

Key resolutions:

General

- In December 2019, Parliament adopted a resolution on public discrimination and hate speech against LGBTIQ+ people, including LGBTIQ+ free zones: [European Parliament resolution of 18 December 2019 on public discrimination and hate speech against LGBTI people, including LGBTI free zones \(2019/2933\(RSP\)\)](#).
- Parliament raised its concern about the lack of explicit prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of a person's gender identity in EU law and about 'the persistence of discrimination, harassment and exclusion from the labour market of LGBTIQ+ people' in January 2021: [European Parliament resolution of 21 January 2021 on the EU Strategy for Gender Equality \(2019/2169\(INI\)\)](#).
- In this resolution, Parliament declared the European Union as an 'LGBTIQ Freedom Zone' and denounced all forms of violence or discrimination against persons on the basis of their sex or sexual orientation: [Resolution of 11 March 2021 on the declaration of the EU as an LGBTIQ Freedom Zone](#)
- [Implementation report on the EU LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025](#): In the report, the EP call for a reinforced mandate of the Equality and Diversity Commissioner, with a strong focus on the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons, as well a new LGBTIQ strategy after 2025. The report also calls on the inclusion of all the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics in the EU anti-discrimination legislation. It highlights that the EU needs to take a common approach for recognising same sex marriages and partnerships, as well as to further the work done on Rainbow families, in line with CJEU and ECtHR case law. Harmful practices, conversion therapies and intersex genital mutilations need to be banned – MEPs reiterated.

Action against EU member state violating LGBTIQ+ rights

- Parliament condemned in the strongest possible terms the Law adopted by the Hungarian Parliament, which restricts severely and intentionally the rights and freedoms of LGBTIQ+ persons: [Resolution of 8 July 2021 on breaches of EU law and of the rights of LGBTIQ citizens in Hungary as a result of the legal changes adopted by the Hungarian Parliament](#)

Rainbow families: calls to recognise parenthood and free movement for LGBTIQ+ families

- In a resolution of September 2021 Parliament expressed its deepest concern regarding the discrimination suffered by rainbow families and their children in the EU. This resolution called for rainbow families to be guaranteed the same family rights as different-sex families and their children in all Member States, in particular the right to free movement within the EU and the mutual recognition of their relationship and of parenthood. The resolution was adopted following several petitions to the Committee

on Petitions raising concerns over the discrimination experienced by LGBTIQ persons in the EU in general and in particular same-sex couples and rainbow families: [European Parliament resolution of 14 September 2021 on LGBTIQ rights in the EU \(2021/2679\(RSP\)\)](#)

- In 2023, the Parliament voted in favour of the cross-border recognition of parenthood within the European Union and the introduction of the European Parenthood Certificate: [Resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition of decisions and acceptance of authentic instruments in the matters of parenthood and on the creation of a European Certificate of Parenthood](#)

Gender-based violence, including against LGBTIQ+ persons as a new area of crime listed in Article 83(1) TFEU

- Parliament also adopted a resolution to identify gender-based violence, including against LGBTIQ+ persons as a new area of crime listed in Article 83(1) TFEU. This would give a legal basis for a new directive, which would be victim-centred, to prevent and combat all forms of gender-based violence, both online and offline: [Resolution of 16 September 2021 with recommendations to the Commission on identifying gender-based violence as a new area of crime listed in Article 83\(1\) TFEU](#)

Combatting hate speech

- In October 2022, Parliament condemned the growing hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ people across Europe, and called on the Commission and the Member States to support civil society at European, national, regional and local levels to strengthen democracy, rule of law and fundamental rights: [European Parliament resolution of 20 October 2022 on growing hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ people across Europe in light of the recent homophobic murder in Slovakia \(2022/2894\(RSP\)\)](#).
- In January 2024, Parliament adopted a resolution on extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crime. The text highlights that there has been a significant increase in anti-LGBTIQ hate crimes and hate speech in Europe and urges the Council to adopt a decision to include hate speech and hate crime among the list of criminal offences: [European Parliament resolution of 18 January 2024 on extending the list of EU crimes to hate speech and hate crime](#)

External Action: condemnation of anti-LGBTIQ+ legislation in Uganda

Parliament adopted a resolution on the universal decriminalisation of homosexuality in April 2023: [European Parliament resolution of 20 April 2023 on the universal decriminalisation of homosexuality in the light of recent developments in Uganda \(2023/2643\(RSP\)\)](#).

Public hearings:

- The ENVI and LIBE committees held [a public hearing on the depathologisation of transgender and non-binary persons](#) in October 2022.
- The JURI committee held a [public hearing on the recognition of parenthood](#) in EU in June 2022
- On 22 March 2021 the Committee on Petitions held a [workshop on LGBTIQ+ rights in the EU](#), during which the [study](#) that the European Parliament's Policy Department on Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs had commissioned on the committee's

behalf on 'Obstacles to the Free Movement of Rainbow Families in the EU' was presented