# **SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**



## FRANCE

In December 2023, Marseille inaugurated its first <u>LGBTI centre</u> designed to provide support and resources to anyone exploring or questioning their sexual orientation and gender identity.

## HUNGARY

In a 2023 case regarding a trans woman's access to preferential pensions for women, the Veszprém Regional Court in Hungary upheld the authorities' practice of recognising her as a woman only for the period following her legal gender recognition, stating it was consistent with the law. A similar ruling was issued in another trans woman's case in December 2024. The decisions are currently under judicial review.

In 2023, a trans woman's case regarding access to preferential pensions for women was heard in court. The court upheld the authorities' practice of recognising her as a woman only from the date of her legal gender recognition, stating that this was consistent with the law. A similar ruling was issued in another case involving a trans woman, G.V.A., in December 2024. In this case, the court dismissed her application for access to the "Women 40" pension benefit, which would allow her to retire after 40 years of work. These decisions are currently under judicial review.

#### IRELAND

In September, the Professional Association for Trans Health Ireland (<u>PATHI</u>) was officially launched. Funded by the Irish Research Council, PATHI is a new multidisciplinary organisation that brings together professionals from various fields, including healthcare, law, policy, advocacy, community organising, and education, all working towards advancing the health, rights, and wellbeing of trans and gender-diverse communities in Ireland.

#### MALTA

In November, the Malta's Nationalist Party(PN)<u>reaffirmed</u> its commitment to strengthen LGBTI rights in Malta, to ensure the LGBTI community continues to benefit from legislation that promotes inclusivity.

#### MONTENEGRO

The recent economic reform, which removed the employee-side tax for the pension system and made it optional for employers, has sparked significant debate regarding the sustainability of the social protection system. This follows an earlier reform that also eliminated the healthcare fund tax. Civil society organisations have raised concerns about the government's proposed fiscal strategy, warning that it could disproportionately affect the most vulnerable communities, including women, Roma people, the elderly, and LGBTI people.

## TURKEY

In April, Again Welfare Party (Yeniden Refah Partisi) became the third party in the local elections held on 31 March 2024 and won 65 municipalities. In the 24-point <u>'moral municipalism' protocol</u> of the Again Welfare Party, it is stated that "The LGBT project, which threatens our generations, will be fought in the most effective way, and necessary work will be carried out to protect our youth and children from this disaster."

#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

A group of nearly 1,300 individuals filed a class action civil lawsuit against the US-owned dating app Grindr for improperly using and sharing users' private information, including HIV status and testing history, with third parties for commercial gain, violating UK data protection laws.