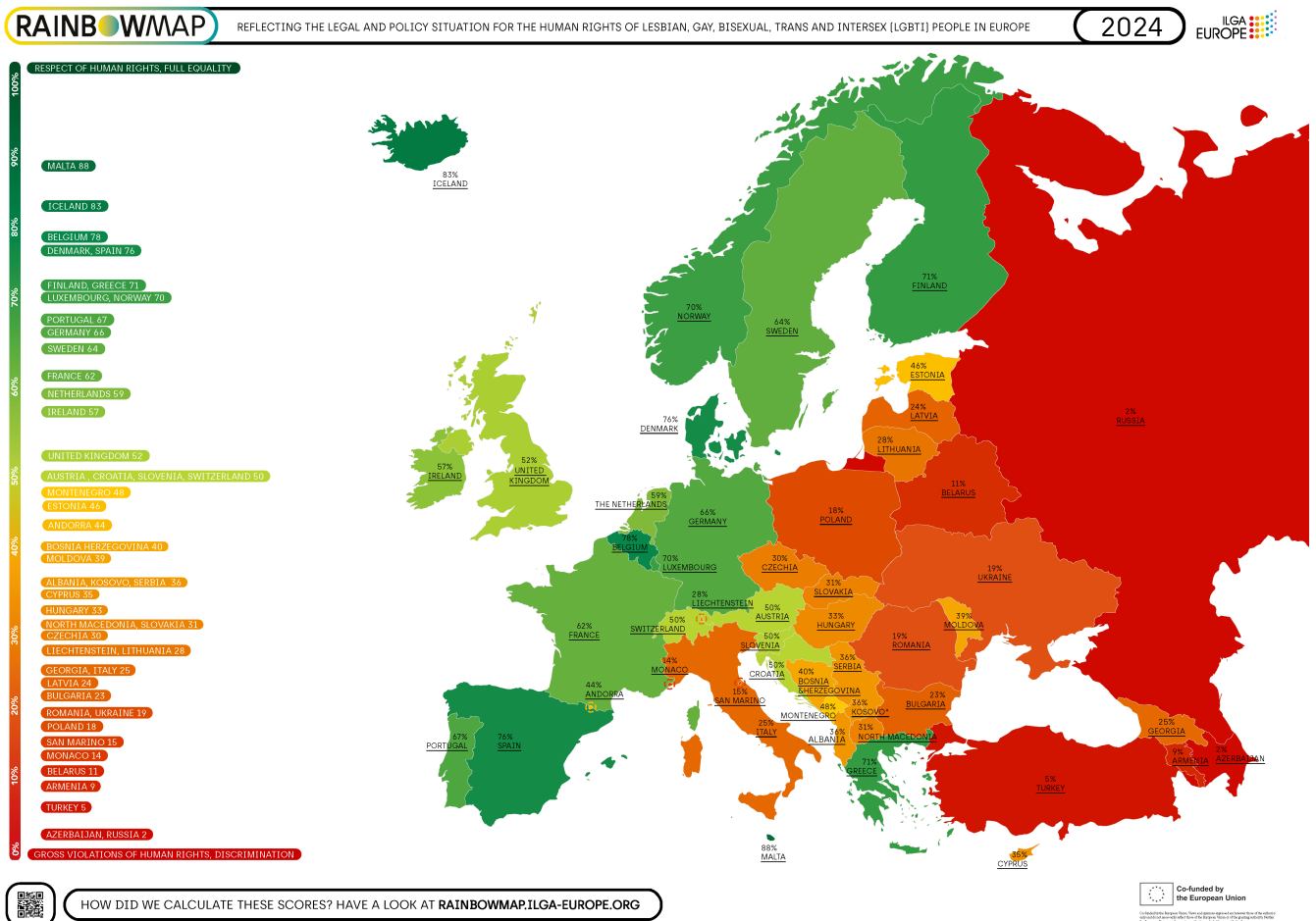


Rainbow Map 2024

With elections looming, Rainbow Map shows Europe is not equipped against attacks from the far-right

[Report, Rainbow Map and Index](#)



[Rainbow Map 2024Download](#)

[Rainbow Index 2024Download](#)

Published on May 15 by Europe's leading LGBTI organisation, ILGA-Europe, the 16th annual Rainbow Map, which ranks 49 European countries on legislative developments in the arena of LGBTI human rights, shows that while authoritarian leaders across Europe continue to use the scapegoating of LGBTI people to divide and mobilise their electorates, others are conversely showing robust political will to honour commitments to advancing and protecting the human rights of LGBTI people. [Read more in our press release.](#)

About the Rainbow Map

The Rainbow Map – ILGA-Europe's annual benchmarking tool – comprises the Rainbow Map and Index and national recommendations. ILGA-Europe have produced the Rainbow Map and Index [since 2009](#), using it to illustrate the legal and policy situation of LGBTI people in Europe.

The Rainbow Map and Index ranks European countries on their respective legal and policy practices for LGBTI people, from 0-100%.

In order to create our country ranking, ILGA-Europe examine the laws and policies in 49 countries using [75 criteria](#), divided between seven thematic categories: equality and non-discrimination; family; hate crime and hate speech; legal gender recognition; intersex bodily integrity; civil society space; and asylum.

The Rainbow Map and Index presents a picture of the current policy landscape, while country-specific recommendations attempt to answer the question “what's next?” These recommendations are intended to encourage policymakers to address the most pressing legal and policy priorities within the framework of our Rainbow Map and Index. The recommendations were gathered following an online consultation with a wide range of LGBTI organisations in the various countries. As a result, the recommendations are tailored to the needs of activists working on the ground.

This year, the [Rainbow Map website](#) has been relaunched with a new look and includes features that allow for an improved visualisation of the data, as well as a more agile and user-friendly access to the information.

Executive Summary

For the ninth year in a row, [Malta](#) continues to occupy the number one spot on the Rainbow Map, with a score of 88%.

With 83 points, [Iceland](#) jumped to second place with a rise of three places as a result of the new legislation banning conversion practices and ensuring the trans-specific healthcare is based on depathologisation.

[Belgium](#) also banned conversion practices and now comes third place on the ranking with a score of 78.

The three countries at the other end of the Rainbow Map scale are [Russia](#) (2%), [Azerbaijan](#) (2%), and [Turkey](#) (5%). Russia lost 7 points and dropped 3 places because of the federal legislation banning legal gender recognition and trans-specific healthcare.

[Poland](#) still sits at the end of the EU ranking with 18% points, followed by [Romania](#) (19%) and [Bulgaria](#) (23%).

[Germany](#), [Iceland](#), [Estonia](#), [Liechtenstein](#), and [Greece](#) are the countries with the biggest jumps in scores. Germany prohibited hate crimes based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics. While both Estonia and Greece amended their laws to allow same-sex couples to marry and adopt children, Greece also filled the gaps in their anti-discrimination legislation to fully protect LGBTI people. Liechtenstein extended adoption rights to same-sex couples.

[Montenegro](#) lost the most points (-13%), dropping 9 places because it failed to adopt a new equality action plan or introduce updated policies on asylum and hate crime.

Alongside Montenegro, governments in [Spain](#), [Slovenia](#), [Finland](#), [Sweden](#), and many other countries failed to renew their action plans. [France](#), [Malta](#), [Scotland and Wales](#) adopted effective and comprehensive equality action plans.

In many countries, legislative proposals that have been on the table for years are not moving forward. This includes the hate crime legislation and proposal for recognition of same-sex partnership in [Ukraine](#), which despite endorsement by several ministries and support throughout society is still being stalled. It also includes a draft law on legal gender recognition in [Czechia](#) that would finally get rid of the sterilisation requirement. After five years of delay, the [UK](#) government still hasn't followed its promises on banning conversion practices. And despite many court cases and recommendations from international institutions, [Lithuania](#) didn't progress on recognition of same-sex couples.

[Belarus](#) began categorising LGBTI content as "pornography", restricting freedom of expression of LGBTI people. [Bulgaria](#) and [Greece](#) failed to protect LGBTI public events, thus lost points in relation to civil society space.

Both in [Denmark](#) and [Poland](#), administrative procedures were improved for minors' access to legal gender recognition (LGR). Although [Germany](#) and [Sweden](#) adopted new regulations for LGR, the laws have not come into effect yet, so they are not reflected on the map.

In many countries, legislative processes for new [LGR](#) procedures have been stalled this year. Similarly, no country prohibited unnecessary medical interventions on [intersex](#) children.

Most European countries still don't include sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics as qualification criteria for [asylum](#). In an overall climate of governments increasingly undermining the international right to asylum, this ongoing omission is very worrying. This year's only progress in this area was Czechia adding SOGI in their asylum law and Ireland providing a consistent training framework for their asylum caseworkers.