



# LIECHTENSTEIN

## EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

In its monitoring report published in May, the European Commission against Racism (ECRI) called on the government to implement its previous recommendations and commission a study about the issues that LGBT people face, along with measures to address those.

## FAMILY

As Switzerland's September referendum ended in a win for marriage equality, debates on the topic continued in Liechtenstein as well. Liechtenstein legalised civil unions back in 2011, but with limited rights, including and in particular in the area of adoption and access to assisted reproduction. Liechtenstein's head of State, Prince Hans-Adam II stated in an interview in February that while same-sex couples should be allowed to marry, adoption should not be legal. The statement was widely criticised, including by LGBTI civil society.

The topic of marriage equality was discussed in interviews in print and on the radio several times this year.

On 29 September, the parliament expressed its support for marriage equality, but promised broad public debate before making any legal changes. Two former presidents of NGO Flay are currently serving as MPs and contributed to the positive discussions. Civil society reports that 23 out of the 25 MPs serving in the parliament support marriage equality. The only party opposing the legal change is Democrats for Liechtenstein.

On 10 May, the State Court of Justice repealed Article 25 of the Partnership Act, which had banned stepchild adoption for same-sex couples. Civil society applauded the ruling, but hopes that other limitations on adoption rights for same-sex couples will also be lifted as well. The parliament was requested in September to amend the Partnership Act in line with the State Court's position, within the next year.

## FOREIGN POLICY

Liechtenstein, alongside Norway and Iceland, cancelled grants to Poland to show its firm stand against Poland's 'LGBT-free Zones'.

## FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

Liechtenstein's first Pride will take place on 11 June, 2022. In the autumn, the organisers received a permit to hold the event in a central location in the capital of Vaduz.

## HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

FLAY's main annual event, which is always held on the national holiday in August, was cancelled again this year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FLAY's membership meeting in June and its annual general meeting in August were able to take place.

## PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL LIFE

FLAY celebrated Coming Out Day in October with a screening of a Swiss movie about gay football players, a queer book fair, and an after party.



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