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YW-MED
Youth Workers Network across the Mediterranean Sea

Research Report
YW-MED

The situation of young LGBTQIA+ people in partner countries.

Project "Youth Workers Across the Mediterranean Sea"

2024-1-IT03-KA220-YOU-000243233

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YW-MED
Youth Workers Network across the Mediterranean Sea

Objectives:
YW-MED aims to improve the quality of youth work throughout the Mediterranean, to increase the inclusion of young LGBTQIA+ during Erasmus+ youth exchanges in contexts where the inclusion and defence of LGBTQIA+ rights is still problematic. To do so, it will help a group of 24 youth workers to develop specific working tools and create an international network that encompasses the entire Mediterranean region.

Implementation:
Two mobility activities will be carried out during which the 24 youth workers will work following the participatory design method. They will conduct research, both on the desktop and in the field, in order to highlight the situation of youth associations in the partner countries regarding the inclusion of young LGBTQIA+. Finally, the Network Youth Workers in the Mediterranean will be launched, a virtual space of connections, ideas and international cooperation.

Expected Results:

- LGBT+ rights and good practices report in partner countries and in the Mediterranean
- Survey conducted among Mediterranean youth associations
- Guidelines to better prepare inclusive youth exchanges for LGBT youth
- Mediterranean YW Network
- Awareness-raising campaign
- Monitoring and impact assessment

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1. Introduction

This research report is developed under the Erasmus+ funded project "Youth Workers Network Across the Mediterranean See (YW-MED)". It explores the current conditions of LGBTQIA+ rights and inclusion in seven Mediterranean countries. The core purpose of this report is to provide an academic, evidence-based framework to inform inclusive practices among youth workers and policy-makers while encouraging legal, social, and cultural progress in the region.

The Mediterranean region presents a diverse and complex landscape for LGBTQIA+ individuals. Countries within the region vary widely in their legal systems, levels of economic development, religious and cultural traditions, and political climates. These factors significantly affect the lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ youth, who often encounter unique barriers in accessing healthcare, education, employment, and public spaces. The lack of uniform protection for sexual and gender minorities exacerbates vulnerabilities, especially in countries where homosexuality is still criminalized or heavily stigmatized.

Moreover, geopolitical instability, migration flows, and rising authoritarianism across the region further complicate the prospects for LGBTQIA+ rights. In contexts where national identity is tightly interwoven with religious or heteronormative ideologies, queer individuals are often scapegoated and systematically excluded from civil participation. As such, policy interventions must consider both the formal legal environment and the informal social structures that shape lived experiences.

As youth play a pivotal role in driving social change, the importance of building a transnational network of youth workers who are equipped to support LGBTQIA+ communities cannot be overstated. Youth workers act as key agents of empowerment, bridging institutional gaps and fostering resilience in the face of systemic adversity. This report aims to identify both best practices and persistent challenges in each partner country. It is intended not only as a snapshot of the current situation, but also as a strategic tool to support advocacy, education, and capacity-building activities within the Erasmus+ framework and beyond.

Through a comparative lens, this study seeks to elevate the voices of marginalized youth and provide context-specific insights into how international cooperation can foster inclusion, resilience, and equality. The findings are particularly relevant in the face of rising global populism, anti-gender rhetoric, and regressive legal trends that threaten to undermine progress on LGBTQIA+ rights. Ultimately, this report underscores the necessity of sustained, intersectional, and locally-informed action to achieve real and lasting change across the Mediterranean.

2. Contextual Analysis

At the global level, before delving into the analysis of individual countries, it is important to recall Article 19 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, which states:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression."

In reality, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics continue to be grounds for discrimination and social and economic exclusion in many countries worldwide. The LGBTQIA+ community faces widespread and systemic inequities that impact multiple aspects of both public and private life. These include numerous human rights violations such as stigmatization, physical assaults, criminalization, bullying, workplace discrimination, unequal access to healthcare services, and restrictions on sexual and reproductive rights, including the right to form a family. In some cases, LGBTQIA+ individuals are assaulted, beaten, or even killed simply for who they are.

Globally, it is also essential to reference the **United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, particularly **Goal 5: Gender Equality**. With five years remaining until the 2030 deadline, many of these objectives are still far from being achieved. Nonetheless, they represent critical commitments for governments, local communities, civil society organizations, the third sector, and all global stakeholders striving to contribute positively to improving human living conditions, combating climate change, and protecting the planet's natural heritage.

A significant reference document for this research is the **ILGA-Europe 2025 Report**, published by an independent international NGO that brings together over 700 organizations across 54 countries in Europe and Central Asia. This report helps identify common trends across European states, highlighting both progress made and setbacks encountered in the protection and inclusion of LGBTQIA+ individuals.

To compare the countries included in this study, we adopt the **PESTLE analytical framework**, which considers **Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, and Environmental** factors. This allows for a comparative analysis of existing legislation, protected rights, and discriminatory practices. Additional dimensions—such as the availability of technological resources, broader socio-economic context, and environmental conditions—are also briefly introduced to enrich the analysis. This broader lens helps explore how the socio-economic environment may influence how institutions approach LGBTQIA+ rights.

The following sections will present a comparative overview of national legislation, with a particular focus on the legal and social situation in Italy.

3. Literature Review and Theoretical Framework

Existing literature on LGBTQIA+ rights emphasizes a persistent disparity between legislative advancements and societal acceptance (ILGA-Europe, 2025; FRA, 2024). While several countries have implemented protective legal frameworks, social prejudice and institutional inertia continue to limit the effectiveness of these measures, particularly in conservative or rural regions. Even in contexts where legal protection exists, the cultural and social acceptance required to make such protections effective remains uneven, leading to what scholars refer to as the 'implementation gap' in LGBTQIA+ rights.

Queer theory provides a foundational lens through which to examine gender and sexuality as fluid constructs, challenging normative binaries and highlighting the performative nature of identity (Butler, 1990). This theoretical framework deconstructs the fixed categories of male/female and heterosexual/homosexual, instead emphasizing how identity is constituted through discourse, social expectations, and institutional power. In doing so, queer theory reveals how heteronormativity is embedded in law, language, and daily practices, making it particularly useful for analyzing systemic exclusion.

Intersectionality, as introduced by Crenshaw (1991), enables a comprehensive analysis of how overlapping systems of oppression—based on race, gender, sexuality, class, and religion—interact to shape the lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Intersectional frameworks allow researchers to avoid overly generalized narratives and instead recognize how different forms of discrimination compound and intersect. This perspective is particularly useful in the Mediterranean context, where historical legacies of colonialism, religious orthodoxy, ethnic diversity, and socioeconomic inequality converge to produce unique challenges.

The Yogyakarta Principles (2006), an international framework on the application of human rights law in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity, serve as a normative guide for evaluating country-level compliance. These principles emphasize the universality of human rights and their relevance to gender-diverse and sexually diverse individuals. In the European context, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union further underscores the commitment to dignity, freedom, and non-discrimination for LGBTQIA+ persons, serving as both a legal and moral compass for member states.

Minority Stress Theory (Meyer, 2003) is central to understanding the psychological effects of systemic discrimination on LGBTQIA+ youth. This theory posits that sexual and gender minorities experience chronic social stress arising from stigmatization, prejudice, and expectations of rejection. Internalized homophobia, concealment of identity, and anticipatory stress about potential discrimination are identified as unique stressors that compound general life stress. Such stress contributes to elevated rates of depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and suicidality within

LGBTQIA+ populations, particularly among youth who often lack supportive familial and institutional environments.

Additional literature also points to the importance of visibility and representation in public discourse. The normalization of LGBTQIA+ lives in media, literature, and education has been shown to reduce stigma and foster greater social cohesion. However, such representation often remains urban-centric and fails to capture the full spectrum of intersectional identities and rural experiences. Moreover, emerging studies on digital spaces indicate both their promise for community-building and their risks of exposure to cyberbullying, surveillance, and misinformation.

In sum, the theoretical framework of this study integrates queer theory, intersectionality, and minority stress theory within a rights-based normative structure. This multidimensional approach allows for a holistic understanding of how legal standards, cultural narratives, and psychosocial dynamics influence LGBTQIA+ inclusion and exclusion across diverse Mediterranean contexts. It also lays the groundwork for developing interventions that are not only legally sound but socially transformative, empowering youth workers and policy-makers to act in culturally competent and structurally aware ways.

3. Methodology

This comparative qualitative study employs secondary data analysis, drawing on reports by ILGA-Europe (2025), the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA, 2024), and national NGOs operating in the Mediterranean region. These sources were selected for their credibility, regular data updates, and alignment with international human rights standards. In addition to desk research, primary insights were gathered through structured and semi-structured interviews, participatory workshops, and field reports facilitated by the youth workers involved in the YW-MED project.

The study adopts a PESTLE framework (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal, Environmental) to systematically compare LGBTQIA+ inclusivity across the selected countries. This framework enables a multidimensional understanding of how macro-level forces shape the experiences of LGBTQIA+ communities and allows the comparison of institutional, legal, and societal factors on a standardized basis. Within each PESTLE category, qualitative indicators such as the presence of hate speech laws, access to gender-affirming healthcare, digital inclusion, and freedom of expression were analyzed. This approach also allowed for the exploration of national policy coherence, civil society engagement, and environmental conditions affecting LGBTQIA+ mobility and safety.

To ensure rigor, data triangulation was employed. Information obtained from institutional reports, academic literature, and grassroots organizations was cross-referenced with anecdotal and observational data collected during workshops and local engagements. This process ensured consistency in findings, allowed the identification of contradictions or gaps, and provided a multi-

perspective validation of key issues. The use of triangulation not only bolstered the credibility of the research but also facilitated a richer, more comprehensive understanding of national and subnational dynamics.

Additionally, the study applied purposive sampling in the selection of youth workers, ensuring diversity in gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, and socio-economic background. Interviews and workshop discussions included participants from urban, peri-urban, and rural settings to reflect a wide range of lived experiences. Special attention was paid to including voices from marginalized subgroups, such as trans individuals, refugees, and youth with disabilities. This inclusiveness in data sources and participant representation enhances the reliability, relevance, and applicability of the findings to both policy and practice, while also reflecting the intersectional ethos that underpins the study's theoretical framework.

4. Country Profiles and Comparative Findings

4.1 Italy

Despite partial progress, Italy continues to rank low on the ILGA-Europe Rainbow Index. Recent legislative efforts such as Law 169/2024 have been critiqued for restricting reproductive rights for LGBTQIA+ families (CENSIS, 2024). The law, which criminalizes the use of surrogacy even if carried out abroad, represents a regression in family rights and has raised concerns among human rights organizations regarding its discriminatory impact on same-sex couples and individuals who are unable to conceive biologically.

In addition to legislative stagnation, Italy lacks comprehensive anti-discrimination protections in critical sectors such as education, employment, and healthcare. The omission of explicit references to sexual orientation and gender identity in national anti-bullying campaigns and workplace equality policies perpetuates a climate of vulnerability for LGBTQIA+ individuals. Reports of homophobic and transphobic bullying in schools are common, and teachers often lack the training or institutional support to address such issues effectively.

Socially, omotransphobia remains entrenched in many parts of the country, with public discourse often influenced by conservative religious ideologies and far-right political rhetoric. Pride events are frequently met with counter-protests, and LGBTQIA+ individuals in rural and small-town settings face significantly higher risks of marginalization and violence. These social dynamics hinder the implementation of inclusive policies and obstruct the visibility of LGBTQIA+ identities in public life.

Despite these challenges, civil society organizations in cities like Rome, Milan, and Bologna continue to lead grassroots efforts to support LGBTQIA+ communities through legal aid, psychological counseling, youth mentorship, and advocacy. However, the impact of these initiatives is often limited by uneven regional funding and a lack of national coordination.

The combination of legislative gaps, cultural resistance, and inconsistent public support underscores the urgent need for systemic reforms in Italy to achieve meaningful LGBTQIA+ inclusion.

4.2 Greece

Greece legalized same-sex marriage in 2024, a major achievement for an Orthodox-majority country. This legislative milestone reflects a broader, albeit gradual, shift in political will and public discourse concerning LGBTQIA+ rights. The law provides legal recognition to same-sex couples, including inheritance rights, medical decision-making authority, and access to joint taxation frameworks. It has been hailed as a step toward aligning Greek law with European Union human rights standards.

However, the transformative impact of this legislation is uneven. Digital inequality and conservative cultural values limit the reach and efficacy of such reforms, particularly in rural and island communities where access to inclusive education, healthcare, and media is limited (Green Tank, 2024). Traditional gender norms and the influential role of the Orthodox Church in public life contribute to ongoing stigma and resistance to change. The Church has publicly opposed LGBTQIA+ visibility and marriage rights, framing them as threats to "traditional family values."

LGBTQIA+ individuals in rural Greece frequently report higher levels of isolation, discrimination, and fear of disclosure. School environments in these areas often lack adequate resources and trained personnel to address homophobic or transphobic bullying. Youth from these regions often migrate to urban centers such as Athens or Thessaloniki in search of safer spaces and greater community support.

Despite these challenges, local NGOs and youth-led organizations have begun to fill the gaps left by limited state intervention. Initiatives promoting peer education, inclusive cultural events, and mental health support are slowly gaining traction. These grassroots movements are essential in creating a more equitable and inclusive society, but they require greater institutional backing and long-term investment to achieve sustainable change.

4.3 Spain

Spain remains a forerunner in LGBTQIA+ rights. The country has implemented progressive legislation, including the legalization of same-sex marriage in 2005, comprehensive anti-discrimination laws, and gender identity protections. Public institutions are generally supportive of LGBTQIA+ inclusion, and visibility in media, politics, and education has increased significantly over the past two decades.

Despite these achievements, the impact of national protections does not extend uniformly across all regions. Rural populations continue to lag in acceptance due to entrenched traditionalism, religious conservatism, and limited access to diversity education. In many smaller towns and conservative

provinces, LGBTQIA+ individuals report experiencing social ostracization, microaggressions, and institutional neglect.

Hate speech, both online and in physical communities, remains a significant issue, particularly targeting transgender and non-binary individuals. Although Spain has enacted laws to combat hate crimes, enforcement is inconsistent, especially in areas with low LGBTQIA+ visibility. School-based bullying is also a pervasive concern. Studies indicate that LGBTQIA+ students in rural schools face higher rates of verbal abuse, exclusion, and even physical harassment, while support systems such as affirming counselors or anti-bullying programs are often absent.

In response, a number of regional and municipal initiatives have sought to bridge these disparities by fostering inclusive school curricula, offering teacher training, and supporting peer-led workshops. NGOs play a crucial role in advocating for LGBTQIA+ rights and creating safe spaces, especially in regions underserved by national policies. Nonetheless, greater coordination between national and local governments is required to ensure that legal protections translate into real-world safety and belonging for LGBTQIA+ youth in all parts of the country.

4.4 Albania

Legal frameworks exist in Albania that nominally protect the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals, including anti-discrimination provisions in employment, education, and public services. However, the implementation of these laws is weak, sporadic, and often dependent on the discretion of local authorities. Enforcement agencies lack the necessary training and political will to actively uphold LGBTQIA+ rights, resulting in a legal environment that fails to guarantee safety and dignity in practice.

Social hostility toward LGBTQIA+ individuals remains pervasive. Deeply ingrained patriarchal values and religious conservatism shape public opinion, with many Albanians perceiving non-heteronormative identities as foreign, immoral, or pathological. This has led to widespread stigma and discrimination in family settings, schools, workplaces, and religious institutions. Coming out often results in ostracism, psychological abuse, or even physical violence, particularly in rural and conservative areas where community surveillance is strong and anonymity is limited.

Queer individuals in Albania face heightened risks of targeted violence, often with little recourse to justice. Victims of hate crimes are frequently discouraged from reporting incidents to law enforcement due to fear of secondary victimization or lack of institutional support. Legal protections exist on paper but are rarely translated into meaningful interventions or judicial outcomes.

Safe spaces for LGBTQIA+ people are limited to a few urban centers such as Tirana, where grassroots organizations work to provide psychosocial services, legal assistance, and educational programming. However, these organizations operate under constrained resources and are often subjected to political pressure or public hostility. Youth in particular face acute vulnerabilities, as

they are more likely to be economically dependent on family members and lack access to affirming educational or social environments.

Addressing these challenges requires not only legal reforms but also sustained public education efforts, visibility campaigns, and international support to build a culture of acceptance and accountability throughout Albanian society (YW-MED, 2025).

4.5 Malta

Malta offers an exemplary model with comprehensive legal and healthcare protections. The country consistently ranks at the top of the ILGA-Europe Rainbow Index due to its robust legislative framework, which includes gender recognition laws based on self-determination, a ban on conversion therapy, same-sex marriage, and inclusive education policies. Malta's Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics Act (2015) is considered one of the most progressive laws of its kind in Europe, affirming the right of individuals to legal recognition of their gender without invasive medical procedures or psychiatric diagnoses.

Public institutions have generally supported LGBTQIA+ rights, with the government integrating equality measures into national health strategies, educational programs, and media campaigns. LGBTQIA+ topics are addressed in the national school curriculum, and inclusive language is increasingly adopted in public discourse and administrative documents. Additionally, Malta hosts a thriving civil society with numerous advocacy groups, health clinics, and community centers dedicated to LGBTQIA+ wellbeing.

Despite these successes, challenges persist, particularly in reaching migrant communities and individuals within faith-based environments. Migrants and asylum seekers who identify as LGBTQIA+ often face dual marginalization due to xenophobia and homophobia, compounded by language barriers and limited access to legal assistance or psychosocial services. Furthermore, religious conservatism remains influential in certain segments of society, and LGBTQIA+ youth from devout families may encounter resistance, emotional distress, or rejection.

While Malta has achieved a model legal framework, the social implementation of these rights requires continuous monitoring and inclusive outreach efforts. Specific policy measures aimed at training service providers in cultural competence, expanding LGBTQIA+ services in detention and refugee centers, and ensuring the inclusion of diverse voices in policymaking processes are necessary to maintain Malta's leading status in LGBTQIA+ equality (ILGA-Europe, 2025).

4.6 Jordan

Jordan provides no formal protection for LGBTQIA+ individuals. Although same-sex conduct is not criminalized under Jordanian law, the absence of anti-discrimination legislation leaves LGBTQIA+ individuals without legal recourse in cases of harassment, violence, or unequal

treatment. The country's legal framework is silent on issues such as gender identity, hate crimes, and access to gender-affirming healthcare, creating a structural vacuum that enables systemic marginalization.

Activism is heavily restricted, with the government monitoring and often suppressing LGBTQIA+-related activities. NGOs that attempt to support LGBTQIA+ individuals operate under constant threat of closure or censorship, and are often denied registration or funding. Public demonstrations or events that advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights are effectively banned, and media coverage of queer topics is minimal and frequently negative.

Societal taboos, shaped by conservative religious values and patriarchal social norms, prevent open discourse on sexuality and gender diversity. LGBTQIA+ individuals are frequently portrayed as immoral or deviant in mainstream media and religious sermons, further entrenching public hostility. These cultural dynamics make it difficult for LGBTQIA+ youth to seek support from their families or educational institutions.

Discrimination in education, healthcare, and employment is widespread. Teachers and healthcare professionals often lack awareness or training on LGBTQIA+ issues, leading to misdiagnosis, stigmatization, or outright denial of services. Many LGBTQIA+ individuals resort to concealing their identities to avoid social and institutional repercussions. Access to mental health care is limited, and fear of exposure prevents many from seeking help.

Despite these barriers, underground support networks and a small number of human rights organizations continue to provide vital services such as confidential counseling, legal assistance, and safe housing. However, these efforts are limited in scope and remain highly vulnerable to political repression. For any substantial progress to occur, Jordan would require not only legal reform but also a concerted effort to shift cultural attitudes and expand civil liberties (FRA, 2024).

4.7 Türkiye (Turkey)

Türkiye presents one of the most repressive environments for LGBTQIA+ individuals in the Mediterranean region. State-sponsored crackdowns on LGBTQIA+ events, including bans on Pride parades, raids on queer community centers, and censorship of LGBTQIA+ content in media and education, reflect an official posture of hostility. These actions are often justified through nationalistic and religious rhetoric, portraying LGBTQIA+ identities as threats to Turkish family values and sovereignty (Yılmaz, 2025).

Societal stigma toward LGBTQIA+ individuals is widespread and reinforced by political discourse, which frequently frames LGBTQIA+ activism as a foreign agenda or moral deviance. Queer youth face not only rejection from families and communities but also institutional neglect in schools, healthcare systems, and law enforcement. Transgender individuals, in particular, face disproportionately high levels of discrimination, unemployment, and violence.

Mental health outcomes among LGBTQIA+ youth in Türkiye are alarmingly poor. Studies and qualitative reports indicate elevated rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation, often exacerbated by a lack of access to affirming mental health services. Emigration has become a coping strategy for many queer youth who see no future for themselves within national borders, contributing to a growing LGBTQIA+ diaspora.

Activism remains a lifeline despite the risks. Grassroots organizations and informal networks persist in offering legal advice, psychological support, and community-building activities. However, their operations are frequently undermined by police surveillance, funding restrictions, and administrative closures. Many activists report burnout and trauma, further highlighting the urgency of international solidarity and intervention.

To address these systemic issues, Türkiye would require not only comprehensive legislative reforms but also a profound cultural shift in public discourse, media representation, and institutional practice. Without these changes, the gap between legal status and lived reality for LGBTQIA+ individuals will continue to widen, making youth particularly vulnerable to both domestic repression and forced displacement.

5. Good practices in the countries of the partnership

This section highlights effective and replicable practices supporting LGBTQIA+ inclusion from each of the YW-MED partner countries. These practices reflect a blend of grassroots initiatives, institutional strategies, and youth-driven innovations that offer concrete models for inclusive youth work and advocacy.

5.1 Italy

Despite socio-cultural resistance, Italy has introduced significant initiatives aimed at countering LGBTQIA+ discrimination:

- **National Strategy LGBT+ 2022–2025**: Developed by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, this strategic document aligns with EU directives and international conventions. It promotes local LGBTQIA+ help centers offering psychological support and legal advice for youth aged 14–35 who experience omolesbobitransphobic violence.
- **Municipal Innovations**: Cities like **Turin** and **Naples** have established permanent bodies such as the *Municipal Observatory on LGBTQIA+ Realities* and an inter-institutional *Anti-Discrimination Task Force*. These platforms coordinate local resources to monitor, study, and counter homotransphobia.
- **Sports Inclusion**: Initiatives like the *We All Play* documentary and UISP's *Futura 2024* seminar highlight how LGBTQIA+ athletes—such as Valentina Petrillo, a trans Paralympian

—are reshaping narratives in sports through inclusive programming and anti-discrimination education.

- **Youth-Driven Networks**: The association **Progeu** launched *EQUALLYU4ALL*, a transnational project fostering solidarity between LGBTQIA+ and cisgender communities. It hosts workshops across Europe to dismantle stereotypes and improve access to education and employment.
- **Media and Cultural Interventions**: The book *Come Amano gli Italiani* (How Italians Love), born from the journalistic project *Italia che Cambia*, uses interviews and personal stories to challenge taboos and broaden public understanding of love, sexuality, and identity.

5.2 Greece

- **Neanikoí Orízontes (Youth Horizons)**: Based in Megara, this NGO creates local and international opportunities for marginalized youth through volunteering, environmental education, and cultural exchange programs. LGBTQIA+ youth are specifically encouraged to engage in identity-affirming initiatives.
- **WE ARE HER Project**: Hosted in Thessaloniki and involving youth leaders from Greece, Albania, Turkey, Egypt, and Lebanon, this transnational project combats gender-based violence through capacity-building workshops and national action plans developed by participants.

5.3 Spain

- **Euro Mirada**: This nonprofit promotes human rights and LGBTQIA+ inclusion through civic education, cultural expression, and active youth participation. Despite being recently established, its leadership team brings extensive experience in youth work and anti-discrimination advocacy.
- **Rural Outreach**: Several regional initiatives in Spain address the urban–rural divide by training local leaders, promoting inclusive curricula, and facilitating LGBTQIA+ storytelling projects in conservative areas.

5.4 Albania

- **Open Mind Spectrum Albania (OMSA)**: OMSA works to enhance the legal and social status of marginalized communities, including LGBTQIA+, Roma, and persons living with

HIV/AIDS. Through awareness campaigns, legal monitoring, and vocational training, OMSA increases visibility and resilience.

- **Community Empowerment**: OMSA also supports professional development workshops and offers legal services, aiming to reduce institutional discrimination and improve employment outcomes for queer youth.

5.5 Malta

- **International E-Learning Institute (IELI)**: This organization leverages its ICT expertise to deliver accessible, inclusive higher education programs. It supports LGBTQIA+ and disadvantaged youth with digital tools, remote mentorship, and professional development in fields like cybersecurity and biotech.
- **Higher Education Innovation**: IELI is currently pursuing national accreditation to offer inclusive tertiary-level courses that integrate equity and gender diversity principles into technical and entrepreneurial training.

5.6 Jordan

- **AL-EMAD ALKABEER for Training and Development**: Known for its non-formal education and volunteer programs aligned with the UN 2030 Agenda, this organization fosters cross-cultural learning. Its youth empowerment model indirectly supports LGBTQIA+ individuals by creating inclusive community spaces focused on shared educational goals.

5.7 Türkiye

- **Rainbow Against Discrimination**: As Türkiye's largest LGBTQIA+ platform, this organization strengthens grassroots capacity by uniting LGBTQIA+ associations and providing them with training, legal aid, and public outreach tools.
- **IYSEDA (International Youth, Sport, Environment and Development Association)**: Originating from university networks, this NGO focuses on international relations and youth empowerment, offering safe platforms for queer youth to engage in sports, politics, and cultural exchange.
- **Uluslararası Dijital Girişimcilik Derneği**: This association fosters digital entrepreneurship among marginalized youth, including LGBTQIA+ individuals, by bridging policy, academia, and industry to support employability and innovation.

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6. Cross-National Analysis

Trends suggest a positive correlation between institutional support and the lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Progressive laws (e.g., Malta, Spain) enhance visibility, safety, and civic engagement among queer youth, fostering environments in which identity can be expressed with dignity and legal protection. These legal frameworks often include gender recognition laws, anti-discrimination statutes, educational reforms, and access to healthcare, all of which collectively reduce systemic barriers.

Conversely, the absence of legal protections and the presence of state repression—as seen in Jordan and Türkiye—exacerbate vulnerability, fear, and psychological stress. In such settings, queer youth are not only denied rights but are also subjected to social erasure and institutional violence. This often leads to internal displacement, forced emigration, or marginalization in the informal economy. The lack of state support also inhibits the operation of LGBTQIA+ organizations, which are critical for community resilience and advocacy.

However, even in countries with progressive legislation, such as Spain and Malta, rural and conservative communities continue to present major challenges. Youth in these regions frequently encounter social isolation, lack of information, and limited access to mental health services. Comprehensive sex and relationship education that is inclusive of LGBTQIA+ realities remains unevenly implemented, contributing to misinformation and prejudice.

Moreover, invisibility in mainstream public discourse perpetuates a lack of awareness among non-LGBTQIA+ populations, limiting the effectiveness of legal reforms. Media representation tends to center urban, cisgender, and male perspectives, often sidelining the experiences of trans, non-binary, and rural individuals.

A cross-national analysis thus underscores the importance of not only enacting laws but also fostering inclusive public narratives, expanding outreach to marginalized groups, and ensuring equitable distribution of resources. Institutional support must be complemented by societal recognition and community-based strategies if meaningful and lasting inclusion is to be achieved.

6. Discussion

The results affirm that legal frameworks are essential but insufficient without cultural transformation. While progressive legislation may lay the groundwork for equality, it is ultimately the societal reception, institutional implementation, and cultural narratives that determine whether these rights are fully realized in practice. Youth workers, often positioned as intermediaries between

institutions and communities, are critical agents of change, especially in marginalized and rural contexts where formal support systems are weak or non-existent.

These professionals have the capacity to act as educators, advocates, and safe contacts for LGBTQIA+ youth. Their proximity to local realities allows them to identify gaps in service provision, challenge harmful stereotypes, and facilitate access to psychosocial and educational resources. In areas where legal protections are absent or weak, youth workers often become the frontline responders to issues of discrimination, mental health crises, and social exclusion.

However, their effectiveness is frequently constrained by broader sociopolitical conditions. The intersection of religion, national identity, and conservatism creates persistent barriers that policy alone cannot dismantle. In many countries analyzed, religious institutions wield considerable influence over public life and moral discourse, often reinforcing binary gender roles and stigmatizing non-normative identities. Similarly, nationalist rhetoric frequently positions LGBTQIA+ rights as threats to cultural sovereignty, labeling them as "Western imports" incompatible with national values.

To counter these narratives, culturally sensitive and locally rooted strategies are necessary. Peer education—where LGBTQIA+ youth are empowered to share their experiences and knowledge—has proven to be an effective tool for deconstructing prejudice. Storytelling and visibility campaigns humanize abstract policy debates and build emotional connections that can shift public opinion. Furthermore, international collaboration, including knowledge exchange and joint advocacy initiatives, strengthens local efforts by offering solidarity, resources, and comparative insights.

In essence, sustainable inclusion requires more than legal change—it demands the cultivation of empathy, visibility, and grassroots empowerment. This is where youth workers, equipped with training, institutional backing, and cross-border solidarity, can have the most transformative impact.

7. Recommendations for Inclusive Youth Work

- **Develop intersectional training for youth workers**: Training programs should integrate intersectional frameworks that address how sexuality, gender, ethnicity, religion, and class intersect in the lives of LGBTQIA+ youth. These trainings must be both theoretical and practical, equipping youth workers with culturally competent communication skills, trauma-informed practices, and tools to navigate complex socio-political landscapes.
- **Implement inclusive education curricula across all educational levels**: Inclusive education should be mandated from primary to tertiary levels. Curricula must include diverse sexual and gender identities, LGBTQIA+ history, and critical discussions on prejudice and human rights. Teacher training, school-wide anti-bullying policies, and age-appropriate pedagogical materials are essential to normalize diversity from an early age.

- **Support local LGBTQIA+ organizations in rural and conservative areas**: Grassroots LGBTQIA+ groups in underserved regions must be prioritized for funding, legal recognition, and logistical support. These organizations are vital lifelines for isolated youth and often operate under threat. Providing them with sustainable resources can amplify their reach, resilience, and capacity to build safe, affirming environments.

- **Create regional platforms for sharing good practices and lived experiences**: Establishing Mediterranean-wide digital and in-person platforms can facilitate the exchange of strategies, success stories, and peer learning. Such forums should center youth voices and include multilingual resources to ensure accessibility and transnational dialogue.

- **Enhance funding and recognition for transnational youth exchanges**: Cross-border exchange programs should be expanded and fully funded to include queer-inclusive themes, mentorship opportunities, and follow-up action plans. These exchanges foster solidarity, expose youth workers to diverse realities, and catalyze long-term collaborations that transcend national barriers.

8. Conclusion

The Mediterranean region is characterized by divergent trajectories in LGBTQIA+ rights and inclusion. Countries like Malta and Spain showcase how comprehensive legal reforms, when coupled with public education and institutional support, can foster relatively inclusive environments. In contrast, nations such as Jordan and Türkiye continue to suppress LGBTQIA+ expression and advocacy, resulting in heightened marginalization and psychological distress among queer youth.

Legal advancements, where present, must be reinforced through cultural change, institutional training, and cross-border cooperation. Laws are only as effective as the societal willingness to uphold them, and without consistent enforcement and cultural legitimacy, legal protections can remain symbolic rather than substantive. Public discourse, media representation, and the education system play a critical role in shaping attitudes and dismantling prejudice.

In this context, youth workers are more than facilitators—they are catalysts of inclusion. Equipped with the right tools and knowledge, they are capable of transforming local environments, challenging discriminatory norms, and building bridges between institutions and marginalized youth. Their proximity to communities allows them to foster trust, provide psychosocial support, and advocate for systemic change from the ground up.

Therefore, a multi-level approach is essential: one that combines legislative advocacy, grassroots mobilization, and international solidarity. The future of LGBTQIA+ inclusion in the Mediterranean

depends on sustained investment in youth leadership, intersectional training, and collaborative frameworks that center the lived experiences of queer individuals across all socio-political contexts.

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RAINBOWMAP INDEX

REFLECTING THE LEGAL AND POLICY SITUATION FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANS AND INTERSEX (LGBTI) PEOPLE IN EUROPE

2024

EQUALITY & NON-DISCRIMINATION

COUNTRIES	CONSTITUTION (Sexual orientation)	EMPLOYMENT (Sexual orientation)	GOODS & SERVICES (Sexual orientation)	EDUCATION (Sexual orientation)	HEALTH (Sexual orientation)	CONVERSION PRACTICES BAN (Sexual orientation)	EQUALITY BODY MANDATE (Sexual orientation)	EQUALITY ACTION PLAN (Sexual orientation)	CONSTITUTION (Gender identity)	EMPLOYMENT (Gender identity)	GOODS & SERVICES (Gender identity)	EDUCATION (Gender identity)	HEALTH (Gender identity)	CONVERSION PRACTICES BAN (Gender identity)	EQUALITY BODY MANDATE (Gender identity)	EQUALITY ACTION PLAN (Gender identity)	LAW (Gender expression)	CONSTITUTION (Sex charachteristics)	EMPLOYMENT (Sex charachteristics)	GOODS & SERVICES (Sex charachteristics)	EDUCATION (Sex charachteristics)	HEALTH (Sex charachteristics)	EQUALITY BODY MANDATE (Sex charachteristics)	EQUALITY ACTION PLAN (Sex charachteristics)	BLOOD DONATION
ALBANIA		●	●	●			●			●	●	●			●				●	●	●		●		●
ANDORRA	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●								
ARMENIA																									●
AUSTRIA	●	●	◉	◉	◉		●		●	●	●				●										●
AZERBAIJAN																									
BELARUS																									●
BELGIUM		●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●		
BOSNIA&HERZEGOVINA		●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	◉
BULGARIA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●										
CROATIA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●								
CYPRUS		●				●	●							●											●
CZECHIA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●										
DENMARK		●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		
ESTONIA	●	●		●			●	●		●	●	●	●		●										●
FINLAND	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
FRANCE		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●									●
GEORGIA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●								
GERMANY	◉	●	●	◉	●	●	●	◉	◉	●	●	◉	●	●	●	◉								◉	●
GREECE		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HUNGARY		●	●	●	●					●	●	●	●												
ICELAND		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	
IRELAND		●	●	●	●		●	●								●								●	●
ITALY		●																							●
KOSOVO*	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●										
LATVIA		●					●																		●
LIECHTENSTEIN			●																						●
LITHUANIA		●	●	●	●		●																		●
LUXEMBOURG		●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	●		●	●								●	
MALTA	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	●
MOLDOVA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●										
MONACO																									
MONTENEGRO		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●		●
NETHERLANDS	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●
NORTH MACEDONIA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●										
NORWAY		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●								
POLAND		●					●			●					●								●		●
PORTUGAL	●	●		●		●	●			●		●		●	●		●				●				●
ROMANIA		●	●	●	●		●																		
RUSSIA																									
SAN MARINO	●																								
SERBIA		●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●				●	●	●	●			
SLOVAKIA	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●										
SLOVENIA	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●								●
SPAIN		●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●	●			●		●	●	●	●			●
SWEDEN	●	●	●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●		●		●								
SWITZERLAND	●		●	●	●		●		●	●		●	●		●								●		●
TURKEY																									
UKRAINE		●								●															●
UNITED KINGDOM	●	●	●	●	●			◉	●	●	●	●	●			◉								◉	●

FAMILY / HATE CRIME & HATE SPEECH

COUNTRIES	MARRIAGE EQUALITY	REGISTERED PARTNERSHIP (Similar rights to marriage)	REGISTERED PARTNERSHIP (Limited rights)	COHABITATION	NO CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITATION ON MARRIAGE	JOINT ADOPTION	SECOND-PARENT ADOPTION	AUTOMATIC CO-PARENT RECOGNITION	MEDICALLY ASSISTED INSEMINATION (Couples)	MEDICALLY ASSISTED INSEMINATION (Singles)	RECOGNITION OF TRANS PARENTHOOD	HATE CRIME LAW (Sexual orientation)	HATE SPEECH LAW (Sexual orientation)	POLICY TACKLING HATRED (Sexual orientation)	HATE CRIME LAW (Gender identity)	HATE SPEECH LAW (Gender identity)	POLICY TACKLING HATRED (Gender identity)	HATE CRIME LAW (Intersex)	POLICY TACKLING HATRED (Intersex)
ALBANIA					●							●	●		●	●			
ANDORRA	●	●	●		●	●	●					●							
ARMENIA										●									
AUSTRIA	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●						
AZERBAIJAN																			
BELARUS										●									
BELGIUM	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	
BOSNIA&HERZEGOVINA					●							●	◉		●	◉			
BULGARIA										●		●	●						
CROATIA		●		●		●	●			●		●	●		●	●			
CYPRUS		●			●					●		●	●		●	●			
CZECHIA			●	●	●														
DENMARK	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
ESTONIA	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●			●						
FINLAND	●			●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	●			
FRANCE	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	●			
GEORGIA										●		●			●				
GERMANY	●				●	●	●					●	●	◉	●		◉	●	◉
GREECE	●	●		●	●	●	●			●		●	●		●	●		●	
HUNGARY		●		●						●		●	●		●	●			
ICELAND	●				●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	
IRELAND	●			●	●	●	●		●	●			●	●			●		
ITALY		●		●															
KOSOVO*					●							●	●		●	●			
LATVIA										●		●							
LIECHTENSTEIN		●			●	●	●	●					●						
LITHUANIA												●	●	●			●		
LUXEMBOURG	●	●			●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●		
MALTA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
MOLDOVA										●		●	●		●	●			
MONACO				●	●								●						
MONTENEGRO			●									●	●		●	●			
NETHERLANDS	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●			●						
NORTH MACEDONIA					●							●			●				
NORWAY	●			●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●		●	●			
POLAND																			
PORTUGAL	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●			
ROMANIA												●							
RUSSIA										●									
SAN MARINO			●	●	●							●	●						
SERBIA												●	●		●				
SLOVAKIA												●	●						
SLOVENIA	●				●	●	●				●	●	●						
SPAIN	●	◉	◉	◉	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		●	●		◉	
SWEDEN	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●			
SWITZERLAND	●			●	●	●	●		●				●						
TURKEY																			
UKRAINE																			
UNITED KINGDOM	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●		◉	◉		◉	

LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION / INTERSEX BODILY INTEGRITY

COUNTRIES	NO LEGAL FRAMEWORK MAKING LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION IMPOSSIBLE	EXISTENCE OF LEGAL MEASURES	EXISTENCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES	NAME CHANGE	NO AGE RESTRICION, NAME CHANGE	SELF-DETERMINATION	NON-BINARY RECOGNITION	NO 'GENDER IDENTITY DISORDER' DIAGNOSIS/PSYCHOLOGICAL OPINION REQUIRED	NO COMPULSORY MEDICAL INTERVENTION REQUIRED	NO COMPULSORY SURGICAL INTERVENTION REQUIRED	NO COMPULSORY STERILISATION REQUIRED	NO COMPULSORY DIVORCE REQUIRED	NO AGE RESTRICTION	LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION PROCEDURES EXIST FOR MINORS	DEPATHOLOGISATION	PROHIBITION OF MEDICAL INTERVENTION WITHOUT INFORMED CONSENT (Intersex)	UNIVERSALITY OF PROHIBITION OF MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS	EXISTENCE OF EFFECTIVE MONITORING MECHANISM	ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS AND REPARATIONS
ALBANIA	●																		
ANDORRA	●	●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●		●					
ARMENIA	●			●															
AUSTRIA	●		●	●	●				●	●	●	●	●	●					
AZERBAIJAN	●																		
BELARUS	●	●	●	●					●	●	●								
BELGIUM	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●		●					
BOSNIA&HERZEGOVINA	●	●	●	●	●														
BULGARIA																			
CROATIA	●	●	●							●	●			●					
CYPRUS	●		●	●															
CZECHIA	●	●	●	●	●														
DENMARK	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●					
ESTONIA	●	●	●	●	●					●	●	●	●	●					
FINLAND	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●							
FRANCE	●	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●							
GEORGIA	●			●															
GERMANY	●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●		●			
GREECE	●	●	●	●			●		●	●	●	●	●			●	●		
HUNGARY																			
ICELAND	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
IRELAND	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●							
ITALY	●	●	●	●						●	●		●	●					
KOSOVO*	●		●	●															
LATVIA	●	●		●															
LIECHTENSTEIN	●		●																
LITHUANIA	●		●							●	●								
LUXEMBOURG	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●					
MALTA	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
MOLDOVA	●		●	●					●	●	●								
MONACO	●																		
MONTENEGRO	●	●	●	●	●									●					
NETHERLANDS	●	●	●	●					●	●	●	●							
NORTH MACEDONIA	●			●															
NORWAY	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●					
POLAND	●	●	●	●	●					●	●			●					
PORTUGAL	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●		●		●			
ROMANIA	●	●																	
RUSSIA																			
SAN MARINO	●																		
SERBIA	●	●								●									
SLOVAKIA	●	●		●															
SLOVENIA	●		●	●	●					●	●	●	●	●					
SPAIN	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●		●			
SWEDEN	●	●	●	●	●					●	●	●							
SWITZERLAND	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●					
TURKEY	●	●		●															
UKRAINE	●	●	●	●						●	●	●							
UNITED KINGDOM	●	◉	◉	●	●				◉	◉	◉	◉							

CIVIL SOCIETY SPACE / ASYLUM / TOTAL SCORE %

COUNTRIES	PUBLIC EVENT HELD, NO STATE OBSTRUCTION OF FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY (Last 3 years)	PUBLIC EVENT HELD, THERE IS ENOUGH PROTECTION (Last 3 years)	ASSOCIATIONS OPERATE, NO STATE OBSTRUCTION OF FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION (Last 3 years)	LGBTI HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ARE NOT AT RISK	NO LAWS LIMITING EXTERNAL FUNDING	NO LAWS LIMITING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION (National/Local)	ASYLUM LAW (Sexual orientation)	OTHER POSITIVE MEASURES (Sexual orientation)	ASYLUM LAW (Gender identity)	OTHER POSITIVE MEASURES (Gender identity)	ASYLUM LAW (Intersex)	OTHER POSITIVE MEASURES (Intersex)	TOTAL SCORE %
ALBANIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				36
ANDORRA	●	●	●	●	●	●							44
ARMENIA			●		●	●							9
AUSTRIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●			50
AZERBAIJAN						●							2
BELARUS													11
BELGIUM	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		78
BOSNIA&HERZEGOVINA	◉	◉	●	●	●	●							40
BULGARIA	●		●		●	●							23
CROATIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				50
CYPRUS	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				35
CZECHIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				30
DENMARK	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●			76
ESTONIA	●	●	●	●	●	●							46
FINLAND	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●			71
FRANCE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●			62
GEORGIA			●		●	●							25
GERMANY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			66
GREECE	●		●	●	●	●	●		●				71
HUNGARY	●	●	●	●	●		●						33
ICELAND	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●			83
IRELAND	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			57
ITALY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				25
KOSOVO*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				36
LATVIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●			24
LIECHTENSTEIN	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				28
LITHUANIA	●	●	●	●	●								28
LUXEMBOURG	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			70
MALTA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		88
MOLDOVA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●						39
MONACO	●	●	●	●	●	●							14
MONTENEGRO	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●		48
NETHERLANDS	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			59
NORTH MACEDONIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				31
NORWAY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		70
POLAND					●		●			●			18
PORTUGAL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			67
ROMANIA		●	●	●	●	●	●						19
RUSSIA													2
SAN MARINO			●	●	●	●							15
SERBIA		●	●	●	●	●	●		●				36
SLOVAKIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				31
SLOVENIA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●				50
SPAIN	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	76
SWEDEN	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		64
SWITZERLAND	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		●			50
TURKEY					●								5
UKRAINE	●		●	●	●	●							19
UNITED KINGDOM	●	●	●	●	●	●	●						52

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SYMBOLS: ● National/federal application ◉ Applicable in some region only

* Included in this Map as a separate jurisdiction following UNSCR 1244/1999

ILGA EUROPE

RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, FULL EQUALITY

100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%

MALTA 88

ICELAND 83

BELGIUM 78
DENMARK, SPAIN 76

FINLAND, GREECE 71
LUXEMBOURG, NORWAY 70

PORTUGAL 67
GERMANY 66
SWEDEN 64

FRANCE 62

NETHERLANDS 59

IRELAND 57

UNITED KINGDOM 52

AUSTRIA , CROATIA, SLOVENIA, SWITZERLAND 50

MONTENEGRO 48
ESTONIA 46

ANDORRA 44

BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA 40
MOLDOVA 39

ALBANIA, KOSOVO, SERBIA 36
CYPRUS 35

HUNGARY 33

NORTH MACEDONIA, SLOVAKIA 31
CZECHIA 30

LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA 28

GEORGIA, ITALY 25
LATVIA 24
BULGARIA 23

ROMANIA, UKRAINE 19

POLAND 18

SAN MARINO 15

MONACO 14

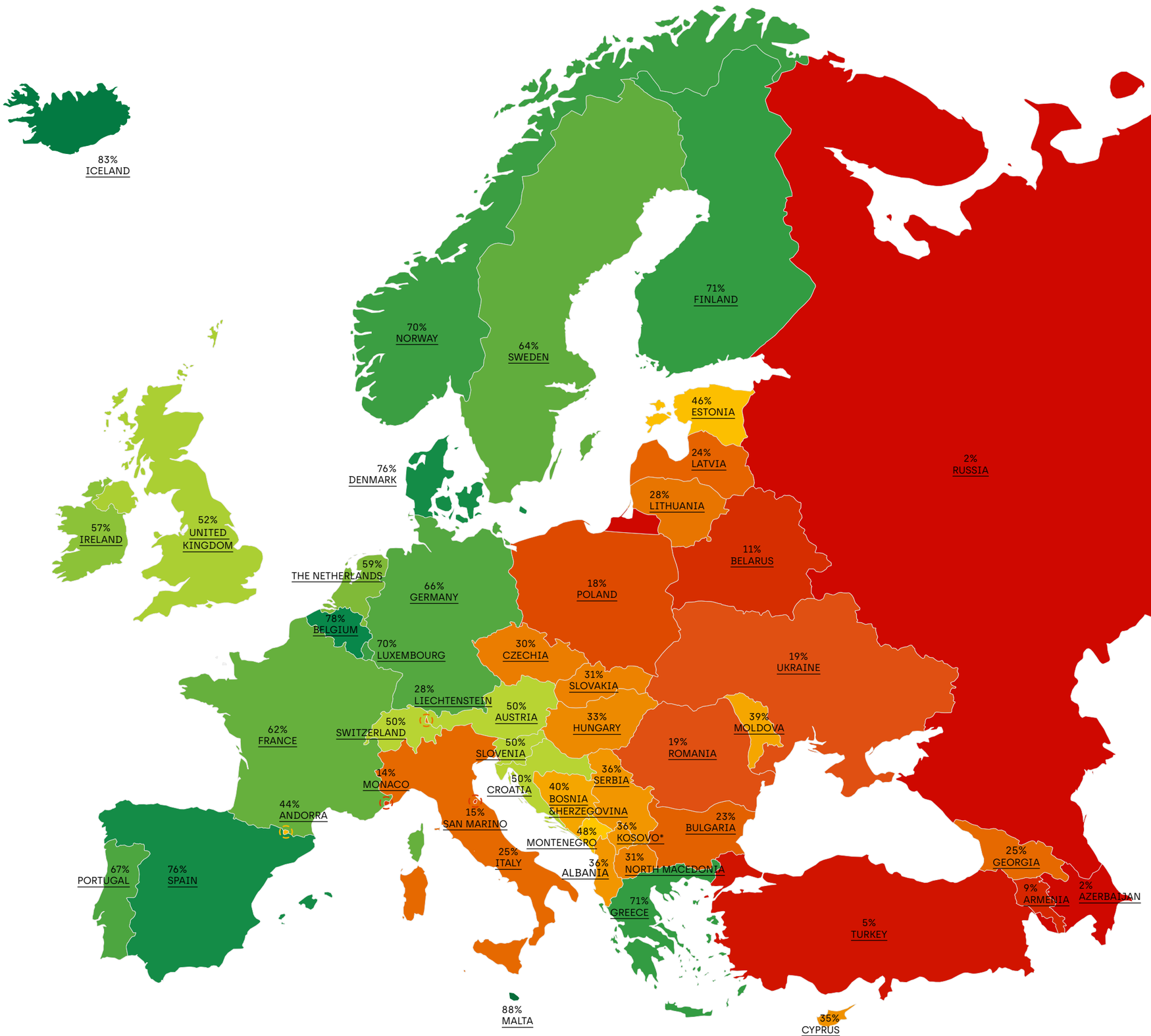
BELARUS 11

ARMENIA 9

TURKEY 5

AZERBAIJAN, RUSSIA 2

GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, DISCRIMINATION



HOW DID WE CALCULATE THESE SCORES? HAVE A LOOK AT **RAINBOWMAP.ILGA-EUROPE.ORG**

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