

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

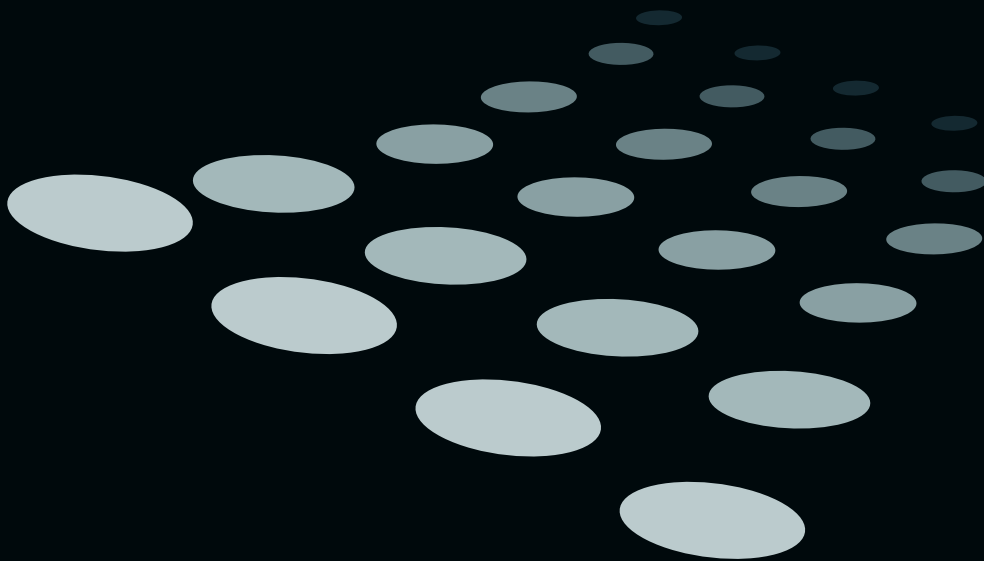
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ILGA-Europe

**Annual Review of the Human Rights Situation of
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex People
in Europe**

2018



Belarus



LGBTI people in Belarus continued to be omitted from laws and policy in the country. There is a lack of legal protection against discrimination, bias-motivated incidents and there is no recognition of rainbow families.

This absence of legal backing became even more apparent when several people were detained following raids on two LGBT clubs in Minsk. This also coincided with the shutdown of a gay dating site and raised questions among the LGBTI community about the motives behind these actions.

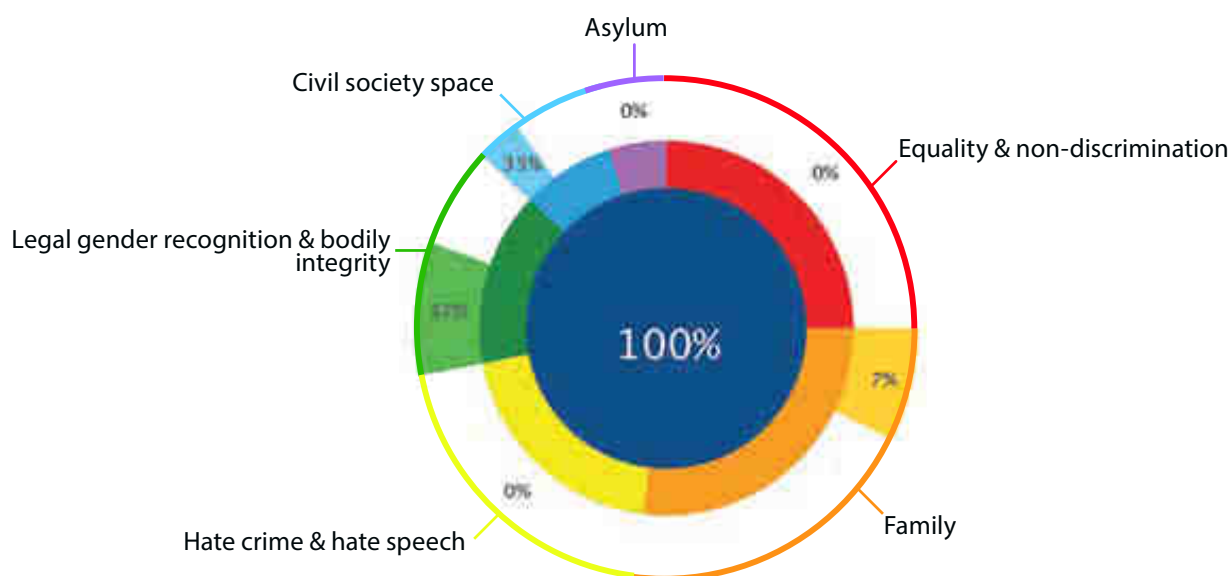
Another area of law that overlooks LGBTI people is hate crime and hate speech. Widespread hate speech was one of the issues raised as an ongoing concern by Belarusian LGBTI activists during a meeting with their counterparts from Lithuania and Norway in 2017. One notable example was an MP's assertion that anything other than a married man and woman with children was an attempt to destroy the notion of family.

There was no progress to report on the recommendations for policymakers contained in last year's Annual Review – laws on hate crime, anti-LGBTI speech or greater protection for the trans community were not forthcoming.

This lack of leadership from policymakers – either in terms of law or visible public support of LGBTI equality – means that changing entrenched social attitudes is more challenging for activists. Despite the fact that many respondents to an opinion poll felt that tolerance was an essentially Belarusian characteristic, 70% of those surveyed said they would not like to live next to an LGBT person.

All Rainbow Europe information is available online at www.rainbow-europe.org

Legal and policy situation in **Belarus** as of 31 December 2017



In order to improve the legal and policy situation of LGBTI people, ILGA-Europe recommend:

- ➡ Introducing anti-discrimination laws to expressly protect LGBTI people against discrimination on the grounds of SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) in employment.
- ➡ Including express mention of all SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) grounds in policies designed to tackle hate crime.
- ➡ Including express mention of all SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) grounds in policies designed to tackle hate speech.