

Greece



There were several significant legislative developments in Greece in 2017 – most notably in the areas of family and gender recognition laws. However, LGBTI activists pointed out that there is still room for improvement in terms of LGBTI equality. The legal gender recognition process was firmly in the spotlight during the year. In the last edition of the Annual Review, policymakers were instructed to make reform of the existing outdated process a priority.

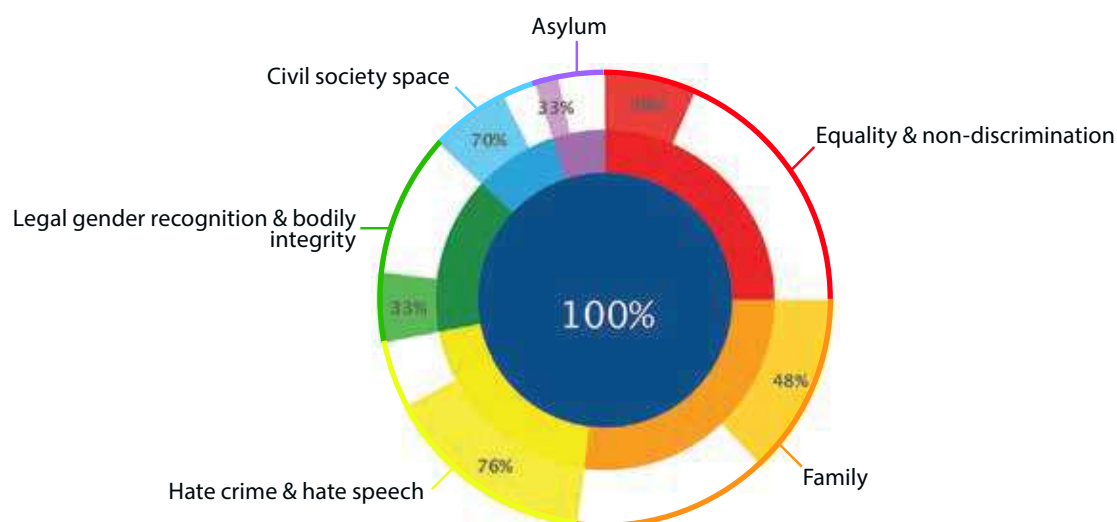
Self-determination was the key request from the trans community and activists alike. However when the final legislation was passed in October it fell short of this overall goal, as a judge will have to decide if the person's gender expression/presentation matches their gender marker before legal recognition is granted. Thankfully, sterilisation was removed as a requirement but difficulties remain for trans people who are currently married, for younger trans people and non-binary trans people.

One same-sex couple received some negative news; they had been married by the mayor of Tilos in 2008 but had their union annulled by the Supreme Court in 2017.

Another recommendation put forward in last year's Annual Review was the introduction of anti-discrimination laws in the area of education. While legislation was not forthcoming in 2017, the Ministry of Education did commit to updating school textbooks in order to promote diversity and eradicate LGBTIphobia. In a first for a serving prime minister, Alexis Tsipras gave an interview to a popular LGBTI magazine.

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

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



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

- ➡ Updating the existing legal framework for legal gender recognition, to ensure the process is based on self-determination, and is free from abusive requirements.
- ➡ Drafting and adopting legislation that expressly protects against discrimination on all SOGISC grounds (sexual orientation, gender identity sex characteristics) in education.
- ➡ Specifically including all SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) grounds in legislation prohibiting discrimination in the field of health.