

ITALY

BIAS-MOTIVATED SPEECH

Hate speech remained common this year, including from politicians (see here) and particularly since the September elections (see more under Equality and Non-discrimination). Federico Mollicone, Brothers of Italy culture spokesman Said in September that "in Italy homosexual couples are not legal, are not allowed" and that same-sex parenting was not "normal". Lucio Malan of Brothers of Italy said in November that the Bible Considered same-sex relations an "abomination".

Two trucks with messages against "LGBT propaganda" appeared outside the Sanremo Festival in February.

The court <u>found</u> doctor Silvana de Mari guilty of hate speech for her repeated anti-LGBT statements.

BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

In the follow-up of the Zan law having <u>failed</u> in 2021, anti-LGBT hate crimes continued (see a list of attacks here and here). Three migrant sex workers, including a trans woman, were murdered in Rome in November. Arcigay's office in Pavia was <u>vandalised</u> several times this year. A rainbow bench was <u>vandalised</u> in June in San Donato. Two volunteers were harassed and <u>threatened</u> at an Arcigay HIV testing site in Napoli in October. Several of these attacks were condemned by political parties, MPs, and local mayors.

In June, a trans woman who was suspended from her teaching job after socially transitioning <u>committed</u> suicide.

The national observatory on lesbophobia published its report documenting one lesbophobic hate crime per month between 2011 and 2021. Non Una Di Meno's monitoring work identified 112 lesbophobic and transphobic murders nationwide in 2022.

Domestic violence, particularly against young people, continued to increase this year. A 19-year-old trans girl, Chiara committed suicide in October. Another trans woman, also called Chiara, took her own life in June.

EDUCATION

In March, the Congregation for Catholic Education

released new guidance for Catholic educational institutions, <u>setting out</u> that teachers could be expelled if they are LGBT.

EMPLOYMENT

UNAR's study <u>found</u> that one in four LGBT people have experienced discrimination at work.

EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

On the occasion of IDAHOBIT in May, President Sergio Mattarella <u>spoke</u> up for LGBT rights. The city of Milan <u>declared</u> itself an 'LGBTQ+ freedom zone', also in May. UNAR <u>launched</u> the #questionedidiritti campaign with a TV and radio commercial.

The September 2022 parliamentary elections brought victory to the far-right Brothers of Italy and Giorgia Meloni, who has since formed Italy's first far-right government since World War II. Meloni is known for her openly anti-LGBT views, routinely uses the phrases "LGBT lobby" and "gender ideology", and has advocated for a ban on sex education in schools and the inclusion of LGBT people in children's books. Meloni's Brothers of Italy also opposed the Zan law, which would have protected LGBT people from hate crimes. The community fears the consequences of the detrimental election.

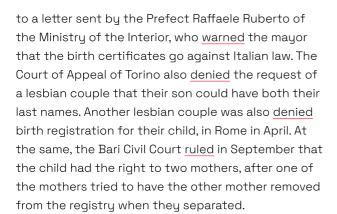
In early October, the outgoing government adopted a National LGBT+ Strategy for the period of 2022-2025. The Strategy features six key areas, work, safety, health, education and sport, culture and media, monitoring and evaluation, but some have highlighted gaps in terms of indicators, deadlines, and resources. The new government condemned the adoption.

FAMILY

In March, Senator Maiorino <u>tabled</u> a proposal on marriage equality. Civil society noted that the bill is unrealistic in the present moment, but welcomed that the issues are staying on the agenda.

Following a number of successful court decisions over the past few years, the <u>Torino</u> court <u>denied</u> a lesbian couple birth registration that would feature both of them as their child's parents. Torino was the <u>first</u> city to issue birth certificates to children of gay and lesbian couples, back in 2018. The ruling is due





Incoming Prime Minister Meloni (see under *Equality* and *Non-discrimination*) had previously <u>talked</u> about her stance on family rights, saying LGBT people <u>should not be allowed</u> to have children, and that surrogacy should be <u>criminalised</u>. (see also under *Bias-motivated Speech*).

A Rome court <u>ruled</u> in November that same-gender parents have the right to be named as 'parent', instead of <u>'mother' and 'father'</u>, on their child's birth certificate.

In December, the Supreme Court <u>ruled</u> that only the biological father, the one who donated sperm in a surrogacy procedure, can be registered in the civil registry as a parent. The other parent must go through step-child adoption.

FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

48 Pride marches were <u>held</u> across Italy between April and September. Following the Pride marches, participants were harassed and assaulted in <u>Bari</u>, Torino, and Naples.

LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION

In December, the group ProVita <u>issued</u> a warning notice to all schools that grant alias careers to their students. An "alias career" entails a different identity connected to the registered one, valid only within the school or university, that enables trans students to be featured in class registers and participate in their education according to their gender identity.

POLICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

A recruitment note from the police in July <u>stated</u> that those with a trans diagnosis are excluded from applying.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

The first safe house for trans and intersex victims of violence opened in Rome in November.

The first LGBT centre, *Protego*, <u>opened</u> in Sicily's Trapani-Palermo area.

ITALY WEB PAGE

MORE INFORMATION ON WWW.RAINBOW-EUROPE.ORG

