

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 [found](#) 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 [failed](#) 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 [vandalised](#) several times this year. A rainbow bench was [vandalised](#) in June in San Donato. Two volunteers were harassed and [threatened](#) 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 [committed](#) 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, [setting out](#) that teachers could be expelled if they are LGBT.

EMPLOYMENT

UNAR’s study [found](#) 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 [spoke up](#) for LGBT rights. The city of Milan [declared](#) itself an ‘LGBTQ+ freedom zone’, also in May. UNAR [launched](#) the #questionediritti 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 [tabled](#) 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 [Torino](#) court [denied](#) a lesbian couple birth registration that would feature both of them as their child’s parents. Torino was the [first](#) city to issue birth certificates to children of gay and lesbian couples, back in 2018. The ruling is due



to a letter sent by the Prefect Raffaele Ruberto of the Ministry of the Interior, who warned the mayor that the birth certificates go against Italian law. The Court of Appeal of Torino also denied the request of a lesbian couple that their son could have both their last names. Another lesbian couple was also denied birth registration for their child, in Rome in April. At the same, the Bari Civil Court ruled in September that the child had the right to two mothers, after one of the mothers tried to have the other mother removed from the registry when they separated.

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

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

In December, the Supreme Court ruled 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 held across Italy between April and September. Following the Pride marches, participants were harassed and assaulted in Bari, Torino, and Naples.

LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION

In December, the group ProVita issued 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 stated 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*, opened in Sicily's Trapani-Palermo area.

ITALY WEB PAGE

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