

Hungary



Hungary's existing laws and policies position it towards the middle of the Rainbow Europe country ranking – but that only reveals part of the experience for LGBTI people living in the country. The rhetoric around human rights and LGBTI equality must be examined alongside what exists in the statute books.

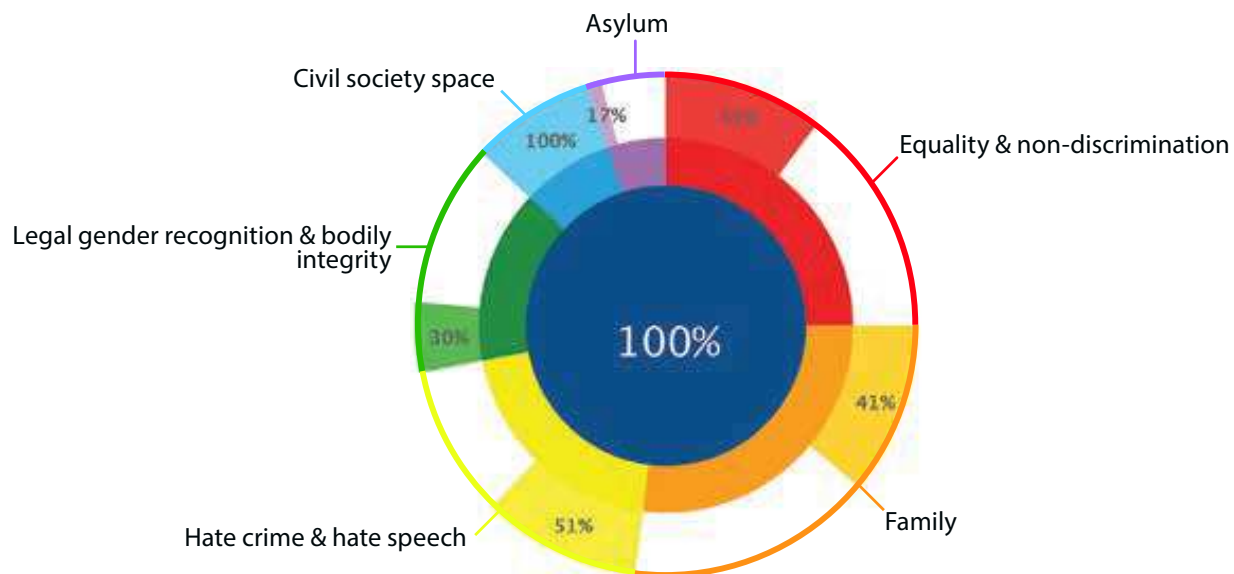
In 2017, the Hungarian government continued to openly vilify NGOs and activists. A controversial new law, imposing additional requirements on NGOs that receive funding from abroad, was condemned as discriminatory and disproportionate by human rights groups. This specific piece of legislation also elicited a reaction from the European Commission, as it stepped up legal proceedings against Hungary for breach of the EU's treaty provisions.

Several politicians drew attention during the course of the year – but not for their support of LGBTI equality. Prime Minister Viktor Orban spoke at the International Organisation of the Family's annual conference in Budapest, while the mayor of Asotthalom's attempt to introduce 'anti-propaganda' regulations was annulled by the Constitutional Court.

Towards the end of 2017, a new decree was added to the national birth registry regulations. This means that applications for legal gender recognition have a legal basis for the first time in Hungarian law. LGBTI activists point out that the procedure still needs to be improved, echoing their recommendation (contained in last year's Annual Review) to introduce a clear framework, free from abusive requirements.

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

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



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

- ➡ Removing obstacles to the effective exercise of freedom of assembly, association and expression.
- ➡ Developing a fair, transparent legal framework for legal gender recognition, based on a process of self-determination, free from abusive requirements (such as GID/medical diagnosis or medical intervention).
- ➡ Explicitly including all SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) grounds in an equality action plan, accompanied by specific measures of progress.