

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	232
Land:	Aserbajdsjan
Kilde:	ILGA
Titel:	Europe Annual Review of the human rights situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and intersex people in Europe
Udgivet:	Maj 2018
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	9. januar 2019

Azerbaijan



Being a human rights activist or a member of the LGBTI community in the country that lies at the bottom of Rainbow Europe's country ranking is undoubtedly challenging. In 2017, life for the community became even more precarious, with police raids against LGBTI people hitting global headlines.

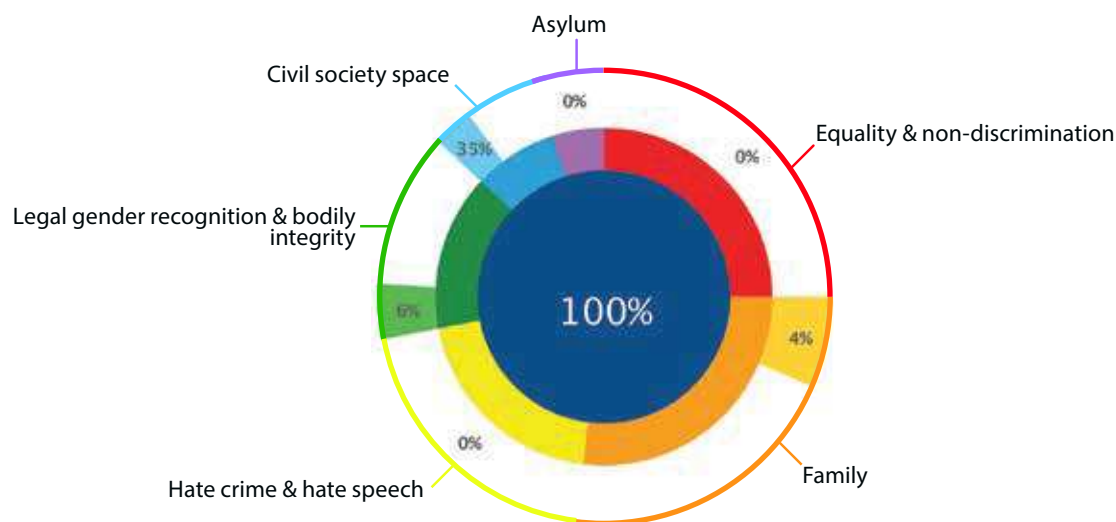
NGOs and activists in Azerbaijan had received reports of raids in previous years (for example, last year's Annual Review noted incidents in the capital). But while being targeted by the police was not a new experience for LGBTI people, the scale of the arrests in September was unprecedented. News of assaults, forced medical exams and blackmail by police emerged, while the authorities attempted to justify the detentions for public health reasons.

In addition to the Baku raids, there were other examples of how space for activists and dissenting voices is being consistently reduced. Journalists were placed in detention, news websites were blocked and politicians continued to make anti-LGBTI public statements.

On the legal and policy front, there were no positive developments to report under any of the Rainbow Europe criteria, in a year that proved to be increasingly difficult for LGBTI people and their allies.

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

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



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

- ➡ Introducing anti-discrimination law to expressly protect LGBTI people against discrimination on the grounds of SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) in employment.
- ➡ Introducing hate crime laws that explicitly cover all bias-motivated crimes based on SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics).
- ➡ Explicitly including SOGISC (sexual orientation, gender identity, sex characteristics) in the mandate of a national human rights institution/equality body.