

Romania



Same-sex couples and their families continued to dominate discussions in Romania – and outside the country's borders too.

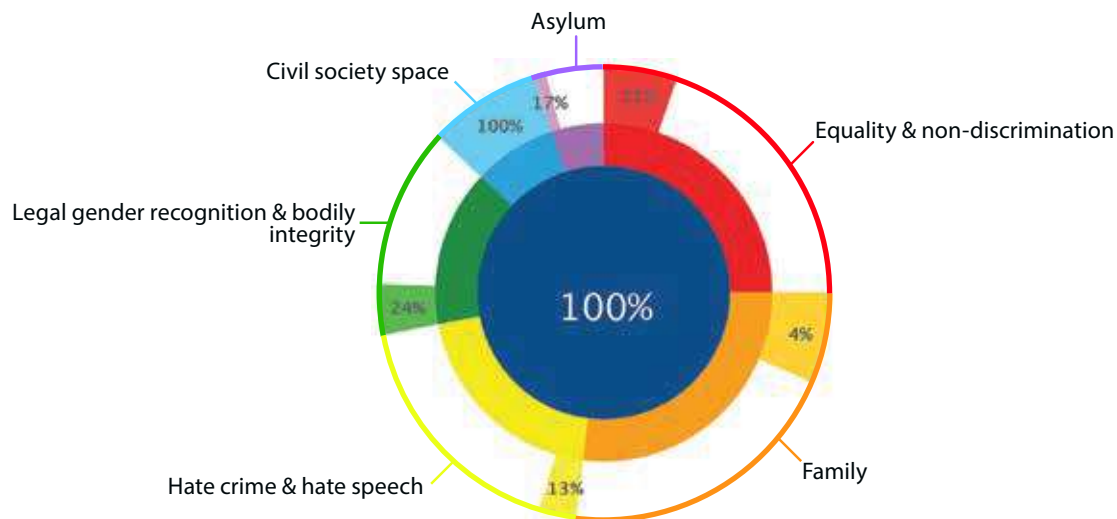
In what promises to be a highly significant case for same-sex couples in Europe, Adrian Coman and Clai Hamilton's request to be recognised as family reached the Court of Justice of the European Union. The couple's case was heard by the Grand Chamber of 15 judges, a sign of the magnitude of the legal principles being argued in the case.

Readers of the Annual Review may also be familiar with the 2013 signature collection campaign, run by anti-equality campaigners. (This initiative proposes holding a referendum on the constitutional definition of marriage, in an attempt to block same-sex couples from being able to marry in the future - in spite of an already existing ban in the country's civil legislation.) The Chamber of Deputies backed the initiative in May; a move that was critiqued by MEPs who pointed out the human rights of LGBTI people would be violated. The ruling Social Democrat party continued to support the idea of a referendum, but no vote was held before the end of the year.

Cluj Napoca made history as the first Romanian city outside the capital to host a Pride march. The event had to be moved following threats from opponents and Cluj's mayor subsequently implied that the city's authorities were not keen to host another Pride event.

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

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



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

- ➡ Adopting legal measures to recognise and protect same-sex couples, such as civil unions or registered partnership.
- ➡ Developing a fair, transparent legal framework for legal gender recognition, based on a process of self-determination, free from abusive requirements (such as sterilisation, GID/medical diagnosis, or surgical/medical intervention).