

**Priority question for written answer P-003877/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Raquel García Hermida-Van Der Walle (Renew), Anouk Van Brug (Renew)

Subject: Legislative proposal to combat hate speech and hate offences against the LGBTI community

Over the past four years, the Netherlands has witnessed a significant fall in acceptance of the LGBTI community amongst young people. In 2021, 78 % of girls had a positive view of homosexuality, compared to 51 % in 2025. Amongst boys, the corresponding percentage fell from 40 % to 22 %¹.

Social media are mentioned explicitly as a place where young people are exposed to negative views, discrimination and a coarsening of communication surrounding sexual and gender diversity².

In the LGBTIQ+ strategy 2026-2030, the Commission states that it is ‘considering’ a legislative initiative based on the existing areas of crime covered by Article 83(1) TFEU, which include ‘computer crime’, to harmonise the definition of hate offences committed online³. During the legislative process, unanimity is not required in the Council, only a qualified majority.

1. What is the Commission’s reaction to the disturbing news from the Netherlands, and are other Member States experiencing the same trend?
2. What is the status of the preparations for this legislative proposal?
3. Will the Commission include this legislative proposal in its 2027 work programme, so that, after completion of the legislative process, the LGBTI community will soon be able to benefit from better protection against online hate offences under criminal law, so that the decline in acceptance of the LGBTI community can be reversed and so that the ‘Union of equality’ can be brought a step closer?

Submitted: 28.9.2026

¹ <https://nos.nl/artikel/2631939-homo-acceptatie-daalt-sterk-ouders-en-scholen-moeten-gesprek-aangaan>.

² [https://bijlagen.nos.nl/artikel-26108691/HBSC_2025_Gezondheid_en_welzijn_vanjongeren_in_Nederland_\(1\).pdf](https://bijlagen.nos.nl/artikel-26108691/HBSC_2025_Gezondheid_en_welzijn_vanjongeren_in_Nederland_(1).pdf).

³ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/lgbtiq-equality-strategy-2026-2030-0_en.