(English version)

Question for written answer E-002934/25
to the Commission
Carolina Morace (The Left)
(16 July 2025)

Subject: Potential abusive use of Article 206 of the Moldovan Criminal Procedure Code to target the LGBTQIA + community

According to a number of reports from human rights organisations and prison inmates in Moldova, the LGBTQIA + community is one of the targets of the arbitrary and discriminatory use of an article of the Moldovan Criminal Procedure Code which sanctions child trafficking.

The abusive use of Article 206 is occurring in a social and legal landscape marked by widespread systemic discrimination. There are also reports that ambiguous laws are being used to formally charge members of sexual minorities with other crimes.

Though Moldova has been granted the status of candidate country for accession to the European Union, it must uphold the rule of law and fundamental rights and comply with the European Convention on Human Rights if this process is to continue.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of reports of Article 206 of the Moldovan Criminal Procedure Code being used to discriminate against members of the LGBTQIA + community?

2. Will it monitor the human rights situation for LGBTQIA + inmates in Moldovan prisons, potentially by working together with independent NGOs and the Council of Europe?

3. Does the Commission believe that further progress in Moldova's accession process should be made conditional on a judicial reform which eliminates all forms of legal abuse against vulnerable minorities, including the LGBTQIA + community?

Submitted: 16.7.2025

Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(9 September 2025)

The Commission takes note of the reports regarding the potential misuse of legal procedures to target the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) persons in the Republic of Moldova.

To ensure accountability, the EU is closely monitoring prison conditions and the rule of law in the Republic of Moldova, working with the Council of Europe and with civil society and independent non-governmental organisations to uphold human rights standards and transparency.

Progress in the Republic of Moldova's EU accession process remains conditional on meaningful judicial reforms, as highlighted in the Commission's 2024 Enlargement Report ([1]), to eliminate legal abuses and safeguard the rights of vulnerable persons, including from the LGBTIQ community.

The EU remains committed to supporting the Republic of Moldova on its European path and the Commission will continue to raise the rights of vulnerable persons in the political dialogue.

The Commission will continue supporting measures to tackle violence, hatred and discrimination against LGBTIQ people. Further steps in the accession process will depend on demonstrable progress in strengthening the rule of law, tackling discrimination, and ensuring equality for all citizens.

([1]) https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/moldova-report-2024_en.