

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004183/25
to the Commission
Mélissa Camara (Verts/ALE)
(23 October 2025)**

Subject: Rollback of LGBTQIA + rights in Türkiye under the 11th Judicial Package

In October 2025, a number of international organisations raised concerns about the content of the draft law known as the 11th Judicial Package. The proposed text would criminalise ‘behaviour contrary to biological sex’ or its ‘promotion’, providing for prison sentences lasting between one and three years. It would also bring in criminal charges for anyone taking part in symbolic same-sex marriage ceremonies, tighten the conditions surrounding gender recognition and access to gender-affirming healthcare, and strengthen the audiovisual regulator’s powers of censorship with regard to content deemed to be LGBTQIA+.

If adopted, the provisions would mean a major rollback in fundamental rights and would contravene the obligations stemming from the European Convention on Human Rights, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and Ankara’s commitments to the Council of Europe.

1. Has the Commission assessed the extent to which these provisions are compatible with Türkiye’s commitments under the EU pre-accession process?
2. Does it intend to make certain cooperation or funding programmes conditional on respect for fundamental rights, in particular those of LGBTQIA+ people?

Submitted: 23.10.2025

**Answer given by Ms Kos on behalf of the European Commission
(31 March 2026)**

The Commission is aware of a draft legislative initiative that could undermine the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) persons in Türkiye.

As highlighted in the 2025 Enlargement report on Türkiye ⁽¹⁾, the situation for LGBTIQ+ persons is particularly worrying and their protection is not aligned with the EU *acquis*.

The Commission will continue to monitor the situation closely and expects Türkiye, as an EU candidate country and a long-standing member of the Council of Europe, to uphold its international commitments.

Respect for fundamental rights and the rule of law play a central role in the EU accession process. Accession negotiations with Türkiye are currently at standstill.

Over time, in light of Türkiye’s diminished reforms ambitions and backsliding in key accession criteria, the EU has also reduced the volume of financial support to Türkiye under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and reoriented funding towards civil society, people-to-people contacts, and key EU priorities.

As indicated in the LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026-2030 ⁽²⁾, the Commission remains committed to promoting the rights of LGBTIQ+ people internationally. Protection of LGBTIQ+ persons’ rights is an integral part of EU’s dialogue with Türkiye on the rule of law and fundamental rights.

The Commission will continue to raise these issues in its contacts with the Turkish authorities, including in the context of the relevant sub-committee established under the Association Agreement with Türkiye ⁽³⁾.

⁽¹⁾ https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/turkiye-report-2025_en.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025DC0725>.

⁽³⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:f8e2f9f4-75c8-4f62-ae3f-b86ca5842eee.0008.02/DOC_2&format=PDF.