

EN
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Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.5.2026)

Equality and non-discrimination are founding values of the EU, enshrined in the EU Treaties, the Charter of Fundamental Rights¹ and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

As outlined in its replies to previous written questions², the Commission firmly believes that the protection of children and the safeguarding of the fundamental rights of LGBTIQ+³ persons are not mutually exclusive and remains fully committed to both.

The LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026–2030⁴ aims to ensure that all individuals are treated equally and can live free from discrimination, building on the previous strategy⁵ in place since 2020. The Commission fully respects the competences of Member States.

The protection and promotion of the rights of the child is a core EU objective. In accordance with Article 24 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, the child's best interests must be a primary consideration in all actions concerning them. Children have the right to express their views freely, and these must be taken into account in line with their age and maturity⁶. The EU strategy on the rights of the child⁷ promotes a rights-based, inclusive and participatory approach, ensuring that all children are protected and treated with dignity.

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/char_2012/oj/eng.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2025-004175_EN.html;
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004108_EN.html;
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004040_EN.html;
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004172_EN.html;
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004740_EN.html.

³ Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, non-binary, intersex and queer.

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/b4952371-4308-47ad-b995-02c539b75dda_en?filename=JUST_template_comingsoon_standard.pdf.

⁵ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/d9e23ccc-4032-41d0-b208-68650103ef8a_en?filename=Report%20LGBTIQ.pdf.

⁶ In line with Article 12 of the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child>.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021DC0142>.