

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002903/26
to the Commission**

Șerban Dimitrie Sturdza (ECR), Claudiu-Richard Târziu (ECR), António Tânger Corrêa (PFE), Sebastian Tynkkynen (ECR), Volker Schnurrbusch (ESN), Sander Smit (ECR), Irmhild Boßdorf (ESN), Geadis Geadis (ECR), Fernand Kartheiser (NI), Georgiana Teodorescu (ECR), Dominik Tarczyński (ECR), Aurelijus Veryga (ECR)
(14 July 2026)

Subject: Transparency and subsidiarity safeguards for LGBTIQ-related funding under AgoraEU and CERV+

In accordance with the Commission's proposal, recent calls under the citizens, equality, rights and values (CERV) programme include priorities aimed at combating discrimination against LGBTIQ persons. The CERV-2025-EQUAL call covers educational actions, including guidance for national authorities and education providers, the promotion of positive representations of LGBTIQ diversity in schools, and measures concerning transgender, intersex and non-binary children.

While combating discrimination is a legitimate objective consistent with the EU's values, education remains primarily a Member State competence under the Treaties. EU-funded activities involving schools or minors should therefore fully respect the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, national education systems, parents' rights and Europe's cultural diversity. Ensuring transparency regarding the use of EU funds in these sensitive areas is equally essential.

In this context, can the Commission clarify the following:

1. Will it publish an annual breakdown of AgoraEU and CERV+ funding related to LGBTIQ issues, gender identity and sexuality, including beneficiaries, Member States, funding amounts, activities and target groups, particularly where minors or schools are involved?
2. What safeguards will ensure that such funding fully respects Member States' competences in education and parents' rights?
3. Will it clearly distinguish between anti-discrimination measures and funding that promotes contested concepts of gender and sexuality in educational settings?

Submitted: 14.7.2026

Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(25 August 2026)

1. The Commission is fully transparent about the funding provided: information on funding granted to beneficiaries is available on the Financial Transparency System ⁽¹⁾ (FTS) of the Commission and information about funded projects can be found on the Funding and Tenders Portal ⁽²⁾ (F&T portal).
2. The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) ⁽³⁾ programme, adopted by the European Parliament and the Council aims, under the equality, rights and gender equality strand, at combating discrimination and all forms of intolerance, including homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and interphobia. The programme is implemented through work programmes approved by representatives of the Member States and through open calls for proposals. The 2025 Equal call ⁽⁴⁾ aims at fighting discrimination against LGBTIQ ⁽⁵⁾ people in various sectors including the education sector. This is in line with the EU fundamental values of equality and non-discrimination, enshrined in the Treaties and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, as well as under the European Pillar of Social Rights and the commitments taken by the Commission in the LGBTIQ equality strategy 2020-2025 ⁽⁶⁾, as renewed in the LGBTIQ+ equality strategy 2026-2030 ⁽⁷⁾. Member States remain responsible for their education systems and the Commission respects the principle of subsidiarity in all its actions in this area.
3. Under the CERV, proposals are evaluated against pre-announced selection and award criteria, among which quality and relevance to the objectives of the programme. Only the best ranked proposals and those ensuring adequate financial and operational capacity are selected for funding.

⁽¹⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/budget/financial-transparency-system/index.html>.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-results?order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=10&sortBy=es_SortDate.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/692 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EU) No 390/2014, OJ L 156, 5.5.2021, p. 1-20, ELI: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/692/oj/eng>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/reference-documents?programmePeriod=2021-2027&frameworkProgramme=43251589>.

⁽⁵⁾ Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, non-binary, intersex and queer.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0698>.

⁽⁷⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/b4952371-4308-47ad-b995-02c539b75dda_en?filename=JUST_template_comingsoon_standard.pdf.