

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-004175/25
to the Commission
Branko Grims (PPE)
(22 October 2025)**

Subject: LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026-2030 in clear breach of basic acts protecting the rights of the child

The Commission has published a document entitled 'Union of Equality: LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026-2030'. No part of this text is consistent with the provisions of basic international acts on the protection of fundamental human rights safeguarding the rights of the child: the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (in particular Articles 16 and 26), the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child (preamble, principles 2, 6, 7 and 9) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Articles 3 and 18).

Parts which are in clear breach of those acts include:

- the Commission's commitment to support legal gender recognition based on self-determination 'free from age restrictions';
- prohibiting and penalising activities aimed at persuading a child not to undergo gender reassignment;
- the Commission's support for so-called 'Pride marches'. Every staging of these marches, which often seem to include 'simulations' of even the most extreme sexual practices, with the participation or presence of minors, is a clear violation of the above-mentioned international acts. In addition, this support is clearly in contravention of the penal codes of countries which explicitly prohibit and sanction any display of extreme sexual practices to children, even if they are 'only a simulation'.

When will the Commission withdraw this contentious LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy 2026-2030, which is in clear breach of basic human rights acts protecting children?

Submitted: 22.10.2025

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(11 December 2025)**

The Commission adopted a new LGBTIQ+ ⁽¹⁾ equality strategy 2026-2030 ⁽²⁾ on 8 October 2025.

The Commission firmly believes that the protection of children and the safeguarding of the fundamental rights of the LGBTIQ+ community are not mutually exclusive, remaining strongly and equally committed to both.

Equality and non-discrimination are founding values and fundamental rights enshrined in the EU Treaties, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union ⁽³⁾ and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

The new LGBTIQ+ equality strategy is precisely about ensuring that all people, including LGBTIQ+ people, are treated equally and not discriminated against in Europe. It builds on the current Strategy ⁽⁴⁾ which has been in place since 2020.

The Commission fully respects the competences of Member States, and it is for them to determine the conditions under which legal gender recognition is granted.

The protection and promotion of the rights of the child is a core EU objective. In accordance with Article 24 of the Charter, which guarantees the protection of the rights of the child by the EU institutions and by Member States when they implement EU law, the child's best interests must be a primary consideration in all matters concerning them, and have the right to express their views freely, with those views taken into account in accordance with their age and maturity ⁽⁵⁾.

The EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child ⁽⁶⁾ promotes a rights-based, inclusive and participatory approach, ensuring that every child enjoys the same rights and be able to live free of discrimination, recrimination or intimidation of any kind.

⁽¹⁾ Lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, non-binary, intersex and queer.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/b4952371-4308-47ad-b995-02c539b75dda_en?filename=JUST_template_comingsoon_standard.pdf.

⁽³⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/treaty/char_2012/oj/eng.

⁽⁴⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/5100c375-87e8-40e3-85b5-1adc5f556d6d_en?filename=lgbtiq_strategy_2020-2025_en.pdf.

⁽⁵⁾ 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>.

⁽⁶⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/rights-child/eu-strategy-rights-child-and-european-child-guarantee_en#the-eu-strategy-on-the-rights-of-the-child.

Finally, the right to gather peacefully is a fundamental right to be ensured across the EU. It is enshrined in the Charter and a core element of our democracies.
