

FRA survey 2019

QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS

“ I am currently pregnant; we will marry next year, and I am very happy that both are now possible and legally secured. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 41 YEARS OLD

AUSTRIA



“ My biggest fear is that if something happens to my partner, my child will be taken! She is the biological mother and I don't have any rights. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 36 YEARS OLD

BULGARIA



“ I want my child to feel good when he starts school and my sexual orientation is not an obstacle in his life.

”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 39 YEARS OLD

BULGARIA





“

I was once assaulted on the road by a teenager while walking with my partner even though we did not hold hands or "provoke" in any way. He turned to us and started yelling "stinking lesbians!" to which I asked him to repeat it, and he physically walked toward me, continuing to insult and threaten physical violence. My partner and I turned and quickly left the street. We did not report the case since we did not think then that the police would have done anything more serious except take the report and mistreat us with a bunch of questions. I would like to believe that my child will grow up in a normal environment that will not marginalize him for having two moms ... we know we will certainly love him for protection.

”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 28 YEARS OLD

CROATIA



“I have been living with my partner for 8 years. I would like to start a family, but according to our law I have no right to adopt or marriage. It would be nice to change that.”

GAY MAN, 25 YEARS OLD

CZECHIA



“*Personally, I dare to be open and tell everyone that I have a wife, but it is always difficult and still tense how people react.*”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 36 YEARS OLD

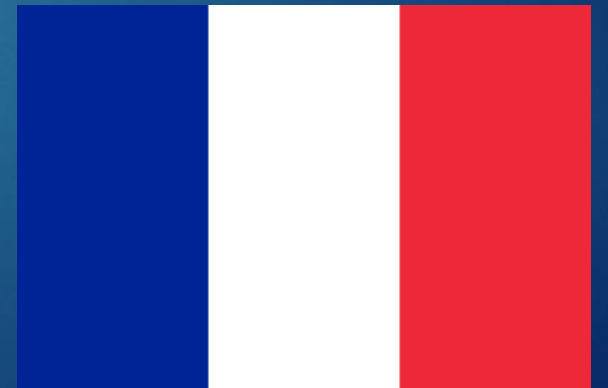
FINLAND



“ Unfortunately, I cannot fully live my love with my husband for fear of verbal or physical aggression ... I wish I could live my love like everyone else. ”

GAY MAN, 27 YEARS OLD

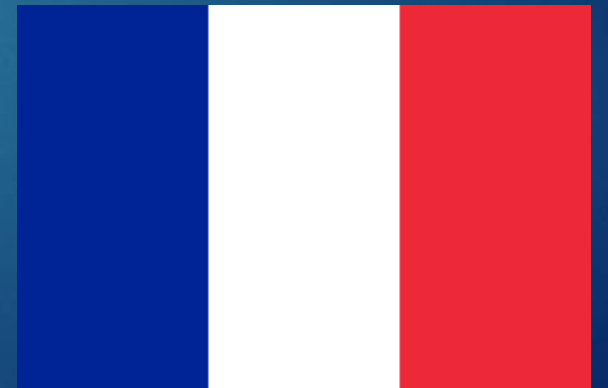
FRANCE



“ In the street, with my husband, we never hold hands, having probably internalized the potential homophobic look of others. And we never kiss in public. ”

GAY MAN, 46 YEARS OLD

FRANCE



“ There is 3 of us who are raising our child and there is no legal basis in Germany. In addition, documents, adoption procedures, etc. are not designed for the parenting of same-sex couples or multiple parents. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 35 YEARS OLD

GERMANY





“ As a rainbow family, we are always experiencing skepticism, rejection, and unreasonably inquisitive questions. For example, we were questioned by the head of a nursery, about the biological origin of our son and she promptly gave us her extensive opinion. She did not agree with it. We often experience this as a parent, and it is very unpleasant.

”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 37 YEARS OLD

GERMANY



“ A hotelier refused to give us (a gay couple) a room in his hotel because, as he explained, there were families staying there. ”

GAY MAN, 30 YEARS OLD

GREECE



“ I dream of having a family and children,
building a house and finding a job; a
daily life that is easy and not made up of
fear, silence and oppression. There is one
love... One set of rights...”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 21 YEARS OLD

GREECE





“ I find it very difficult to help my child understand my current relationship with a woman. Feels entangled. Social models are different from what one experiences at home and does not know how to manage it. At school, these issues are still considered taboo. I don't think that issues like sexuality, diversity, family types, etc. have ever been discussed so that children would accept them as normal. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 41 YEARS OLD

GREECE



“ My rights are not enforced in Hungary, I cannot marry, I cannot adopt as a couple or my identity is at a disadvantage in my future career. We will move to a more tolerant country at the end of my studies. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 23 YEARS OLD

HUNGARY



“ I struggled for a long time to feel equal with the majority, and now that I sometimes have to stand up for the interests of my child, I see that I have not gone far. I am afraid they might take my child away from me, saying that anyone like me is better off than a lesbian. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 41 YEARS OLD

HUNGARY



“ We live in a world where we have to hide and establish fake relationships with all the people we know. Better to die. ”

GAY MAN, 27 YEARS OLD

ITALY





“ During the lesson, the teacher began talking that LGBTQI + individuals are destroying the country, the church and families. It was no evidence-based hate speech. My classmates also contributed to it by talking about the stereotypes surrounding LGBTQI +. We are discriminated against at school and taught that we are bad, not worth the bottom of a good life. ”

BISEXUAL WOMAN, 17 YEARS OLD

LITHUANIA



“ I personally have long had the desire to have children somewhere. That I am gay should not stand in the way. But outside adoption remains little to be desired. ”

GAY MAN, 19 YEARS OLD

LUXEMBOURG





“ Especially in contact with authorities and in the media, I am disturbed by the fact that the traditional heterosexual situation is always used. There is always talk about a mom and dad and if I have contact with agencies or caregivers during my pregnancy, for example, then my husband or father is asked instead of my partner and the possible other parent of my child.

”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 29 YEARS OLD

THE NETHERLANDS



“ Our son has been in the hospital a lot since his birth (last year). We must always explain that he has two mothers, otherwise I would just be ignored. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 40 YEARS OLD

THE NETHERLANDS



“ In hotels my partner and I are sometimes not allowed to sleep in the same bed, even though we have explicitly stated that. Then there is often ‘a misunderstanding’, or we come to the room and there are still 2 separate beds. ”

BISEXUAL MAN, 26 YEARS OLD

THE NETHERLANDS



“ I consider it important that in Slovakia LGBT people are allowed to be registered partners (they do not have to be married). So that people who have lived together for years could settle their property and other human rights, which now cannot be settled. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 32 YEARS OLD

SLOVAKIA



“ At present, there are few doctors (psychiatrists or sexologists) in Slovakia who would be willing to help transients in their transition. It would be better to simplify the process and shorten the time or list of conditions for access to hormones and official sex change. The worst is mandatory sterilization. I understand that doctors want to avoid "men giving birth", but sterilization should be voluntary, not an obligatory part of a tranche without which neither name nor sex can be officially changed. ”

TRANS MAN, 23 YEARS OLD

SLOVAKIA

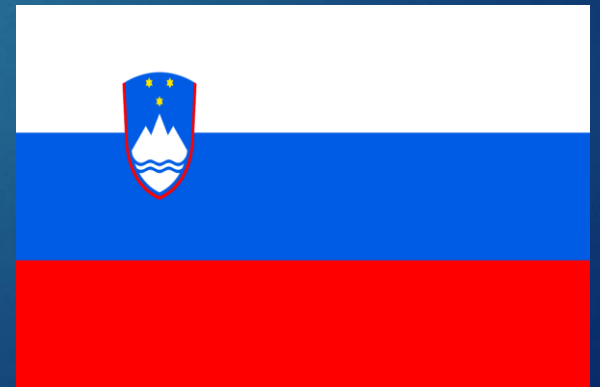


“ When my girlfriend checked me in to a gynaecologist, they refused to accept me at the reception when she said I was her girlfriend. She was first asked if she meant that I was a daughter, but when she answered that, the receptionist said to all the partners: This will not work, I cannot report her.

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LESBIAN WOMAN, 32 YEARS OLD

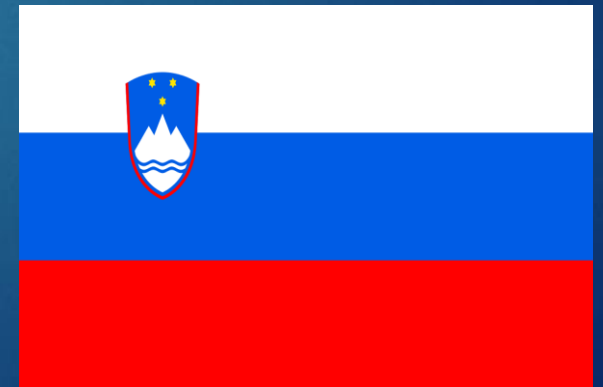
SLOVENIA



“ Since the fall of the family referendum in 2015, when same-sex marriage was rejected, homophobia has increased dramatically. The worst part is that no one in power does anything about it, despite the fact that incitement to hatred against minorities is forbidden. In the last couple of years, there have also been physical attacks on several LGBT organizations. ”

GAY MAN, 29 YEARS OLD

SLOVENIA



“ It is very difficult to be honest with the owner of the apartment in which I live with my partner, since it creates insecurity by not knowing if we would continue renting the apartment to know it, so we always say that we are friends. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 21 YEARS OLD

SPAIN



“ I consider that in the schools or at least when I was going, there was no sexual education, nor anyone who explained to us that they were the acronym lgtbqi, so in the absence of information for many years I felt misunderstood. ”

GAY MAN, 28 YEARS OLD

SPAIN



“ Certain government institutions seem to be less willing to process documents and applications for same sex couples than for hetero couples. (...) Six months for a marriage license compared to four weeks for a hetero couple of an otherwise similar background applying at roughly the same time. ”

GAY MAN, 28 YEARS OLD

SWEDEN





“ The biggest problem in Sweden is the tone and jargon at school, mockery and gibberish are not taken seriously by the adults. Also during my schooling there was no form of teaching that raised LGBTI issues, the subject was avoided. Few dared to be open at a young age, I was one of those, in my case, it led to mental illness that I hid for everyone. ”

GAY MAN, 26 YEARS OLD

SWEDEN



“ Having a young child from a marriage to a man and then raising a child as a gay single parent I feel that the UK can do much for on educating children about how different families are set up. Education is the only way to create tolerance, no prejudice and equality. ”

LESBIAN WOMAN, 31 YEARS OLD

UNITED KINGDOM





“ LGBT+ education in schools is non-existent and needs to become law in the EU. People will keep being abused and dying in homophobic/transphobic attacks unless we educate our kids. There is no sex ed for LGBT people. ”

GAY MAN, 20 YEARS OLD

UNITED KINGDOM

