

Commission : Cour de justice européenne

Problématique : UE 2030 objectif zéro violence: Comment éradiquer à échelle européenne les conflits de genre, homophobes, xénophobes, racistes et antisémites ?

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As an active member of the European Union since 2004, the Republic of Slovenia is committed to promoting security, equality and the protection of fundamental rights. Slovenia is a parliamentary republic currently led by the President of the Republic Nataša Pirc Musar, the first woman to hold this post, which she has held since 23 December 2022. Robert Golob is President of the Movement for Freedom party and has also been President of the Slovenian Government since 2022. He is the head of a coalition government formed with the centre-left Social Democrats and the eco-socialist party Levica (The Left). The Slovenian government is in line with the principles of the European Union and recognises the importance of the 'zero violence' target set by the EU for 2030.

The Republic of Slovenia recognises that gender-based violence, discrimination based on sexual orientation, xenophobic, racist and anti-Semitic acts are major challenges for European society as a whole. These phenomena have a major impact on the fundamental rights of individuals and undermine the values of inclusion and respect upheld by the European Union. Our country is one of the most advanced in terms of fundamental rights and individual freedoms compared with the rest of the countries of the former communist bloc in Eastern Europe. But although progress has been made in the fight for equality and the promotion of diversity since the country's independence in 1991, challenges remain and require effective, coordinated action at European level.

Slovenia firmly supports the goal of zero violence, and reaffirms its commitment to protecting human rights and combating all forms of discrimination and violence. To guide its policies and judicial actions in this area, our country relies on international principles and standards, as well as on European treaties and agreements ratified by our government, such as the Istanbul Convention, which aims to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence. We firmly believe in the importance of European cooperation in tackling these challenges, which are common to all member states.

In Slovenia, a number of legislative measures have been put in place to combat violence and discrimination, including tougher penalties for perpetrators of violence. The ratification of the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention in 2015 was an important step, strengthening the national legal framework for protecting the rights of women and victims of domestic violence. Awareness-raising programmes have been launched to promote gender equality, social inclusion and tolerance. We have also invested in education programmes to raise awareness of discrimination and diversity issues among professionals. In addition, the Criminal Code of the Republic of Slovenia has been amended several times over the years to protect victims of racism or discrimination by comprehensively defining hate speech and applying harsher penalties for situations of racist violence or violence based on religion or ethnicity. With regard to the rights of LGBTIQ+ people, in July 2022 the Constitutional Court recognised the legality of same-sex marriage and adoption for same-sex couples, supported by the President of the Government Robert Golob. Slovenia supports inclusive policies for minorities, including Roma and Gypsies. We encourage legal recognition of names and chosen gender. Access to surgery and the simplification of administrative procedures for transgender people are currently being worked on and improved throughout our country. Slovenia is in favour of establishing a European criminal court to try crimes related to discrimination and violence. This would strengthen cooperation between Member States and ensure uniform application of the law.

In conclusion, the Republic of Slovenia remains committed to promoting fundamental rights and combating violence and discrimination. Our country supports a coordinated approach at European level to meet these challenges, while respecting national specificities and priorities. The Republic of Slovenia remains resolutely Europhile. We believe that European cooperation is essential to combat violence and promote a fair and egalitarian society. Our commitment to the goal of zero violence is firm, and we are ready to work with our European partners to achieve it.