



Luxembourg



Progress towards Luxembourg's adoption of the marriage equality law continued to be slow, mainly due to lack of agreement around whether adoption rights should be accorded to same-sex couples. Following the splitting of the bill into two (one bill for marriage, and the other for adoption) a renewed effort for the passage of the marriage equality bill was launched.

Education

- In September, the *Gender Normativity and its Effects on Childhood and Adolescence* conference was organised under the patronage of the Minister of Health. The programme of the conference, which was prepared in cooperation with Transgender Luxembourg, focused on the manifestation of gender norms during children's education, and addressed the interpretation of the 'best interest of the child', including in the context of social inclusion of gender non-conforming youth.

Family

- In May, the draft law on marriage equality started being discussed in Parliament, after a pre-existing bill covering both marriage and adoption equality was modified and split into two different bills: a marriage equality bill (N°6172 A) and a draft bill on equal access of same-sex couples to joint adoption (N° 6172B).
- In December, the Council of State which is an advisory body, published an opinion on the marriage and adoption equality bill which has been before the national parliament since 2010; the opinion was required by the Prime Minister. The Council of State considered that it was "impossible to establish a full consensus on such a question", and called for a broader debate to be held before any decision be made. This opinion was justified by the Council of State's reasoning that such a reform "would be a fundamental change of the anthropological basis of marriage".

Health

- In June, the Minister of Health declared that "sexual orientation cannot be a reason to ban blood donation. Sexual orientation is not a risk in itself." However, the government did not lift the ban on blood donation by gay men, which Rosa Lëtzebuerg later pointed out to be a contradiction.

Public opinion

- According to Eurobarometer 2012, 32% of Luxemburgers believe sexual orientation discrimination is widespread. This is slightly below the EU27 average (46%).

35% believe gender identity discrimination is widespread. This is slightly below the EU27 average (45%).

Luxemburgers scored 8.5 on a scale from 1 ('totally uncomfortable') to 10 ('totally comfortable') when asked how comfortable they would feel with an LGB individual in the highest elected political position in their country.

This is significantly above the EU27 average (6.6).

Luxemburgers scored 7.2 on a similar scale when asked about a transgender/transsexual person in the highest elected political position in their country. This is slightly above the EU27 average (5.7).

Member organisations of ILGA-Europe

Rosa Lëtzebuerg Asbl
www.rosa-letzebuerg.lu