



# Portugal

## BIAS-MOTIVATED SPEECH

In May, two contestants on the reality show 'Big Brother' made a series of homophobic, racist and sexist comments, see [here](#) and [here](#), including towards one of the show's gay characters. The two were allowed to stay on the show.

A mayor in Azores entered an outside-court settlement in a hate speech case and [paid](#) 2,000 euro for insulting a well-known LGBT+ rights activist in 2018. The activist donated the money to an LGBT+ NGO.

In December, the Sports Arbitration Court [upheld](#) the Football Federation Disciplinary Council's decision that fans during four futsal games engaged in homophobic speech, and fined the sports associations for failing to prevent this. The ruling is a historic step in sexual orientation-based discrimination cases in sports. It resulted in the sport association being fined 1,000 euro and banned from four games.

## BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

ILGA Portugal documented 48 hate crimes against LGBTI+ people this year.

In June, the Public Prosecutor [charged](#) 27 neo-Nazis from the group 'Portugal Hammerskins' for 82 crimes they committed against people of colour, LGBTI people, and communist organisers. The charges include attempted murder, possession of weapons, and hate crimes. The group is also responsible for painting racist and xenophobic slogans on a number of secondary schools and a refugee camp this year.

## EDUCATION

In February, NGO Plano i [launched](#) an online survey on bullying, asking victims and witnesses to share their experiences.

In November, It Gets Better Portugal launched an e-book for teachers called '[Come to the Rainbow School: Guidance for Inclusive Teachers](#)', which aims to provide tips and tools for teachers to address topics of sexual education and affection.

In December, the LGBTI+ youth organisation rede ex aequo [published](#) the results of their 2019 Education Project, finding that 79% of young people had witnessed incidents of anti-LGBT bullying and that 86% thought that schools should better address LGBTI+ topics. The organisation gathered responses during the 162 awareness raising sessions they held in schools.

## EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

ILGA Portugal published its annual monitoring report in June, [documenting](#) 41 cases of discrimination and 48 instances of hate crimes against LGBTI+ people in the previous 12 months.

## FOREIGN POLICY

In August, ILGA Portugal [urged](#) the government to stand with the Polish LGBTQI community and use its influence to prevent further crackdowns in Poland. The LGBT Community Centre put a rainbow flag up to show support.

## HEALTH

A study on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on LGBT+ youth [found](#) that 60% of the respondents experienced emotional distress during lockdowns and 35% felt "extremely suffocated" by not being able to express themselves as LGBT+ people.

## HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Local civil society launched fundraisers to support those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of housing, food, and healthcare access. The Lisboa Pride Parade organising committee launched the "[Donating is also marching](#)" fundraiser for social support.

As of mid-September, ILGA-Portugal received 180 requests for immediate support in cases of violence at home, loss of income, and evictions. A total of [630](#) cases of domestic violence and assault have been reported overall, since the start of the pandemic.

## INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT


In August, the parliament [approved](#) a resolution recommending the Government to provide financial support to organisations providing services to vulnerable groups during the pandemic. The government has yet to follow up.

## LEGAL GENDER RECOGNITION

The 200 euro fee for name change was [struck down](#) in February, which was welcomed by civil society.

## PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL LIFE

In January, ILGA Portugal [launched](#) a video campaign on the importance of coming out.



In July, the League of Clubs adopted a set of regulations, sanctioning discriminatory acts on the grounds of gender and sexual orientation on football fields, by both players and spectators.

The Queer Lisboa International Film Festival took place between 18 and 26 September.

The movie *Variações*, focusing on the life of António Variações, Portugal's first gay icon, was the most watched film in 2019 and received seven Sophia awards in September.

In October, Ikea Portugal launched a podcast to promote equality and diversity, hosted by Rui Maria Pêgo, an openly gay public figure.

## **SOCIAL SECURITY AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**

A group of organisers started a fundraiser to establish a shelter for trans migrants in Lisbon, called 'Casa T'. The group is not formally registered, and as such it cannot access state funding.



[PORTUGAL WEB PAGE](#)

[MORE INFORMATION ON WWW.RAINBOW-EUROPE.ORG](http://WWW.RAINBOW-EUROPE.ORG)

