



European network of legal experts
in gender equality and non-discrimination

Non-discrimination country report 2025: highlights



Lithuania





Advances and remaining gaps:

Despite several important legal amendments in recent years, including 2024, significant gaps remain notably regarding enforcement and the equality body.



Law on Equal Treatment (LET):

The main anti-discrimination law (2003) prohibits discrimination on all grounds but does not explicitly cover social protection and social advantages, and fails to prohibit multiple and intersectional discrimination. Important amendments have been pending since 2019.



Disability rights reform:

A new Law on the Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities entered into force in January 2024, shifting from a medical to a needs- and barriers-based approach and strengthening access to support.



Inclusive education:

Amendments to the Law on Education (September 2024) require schools to admit all children, regardless of disability. Over 2,000 more children with special needs enrolled in mainstream schools in the first year.



Protection at work:

Legal changes in 2024 strengthened measures against violence and harassment in employment, with fines for employers who fail to prevent or address such violations.



Court rulings:

In December 2024, the Constitutional Court struck down restrictions on information about LGBTIQ families as unconstitutional, following the ECtHR's earlier judgment in *Macatė v. Lithuania*.



Public attitudes:

Eurobarometer 2023 showed relatively low perceived discrimination based on ethnicity or religion, but high on grounds of Roma origin, sexual orientation, age, disability, and transgender identity.



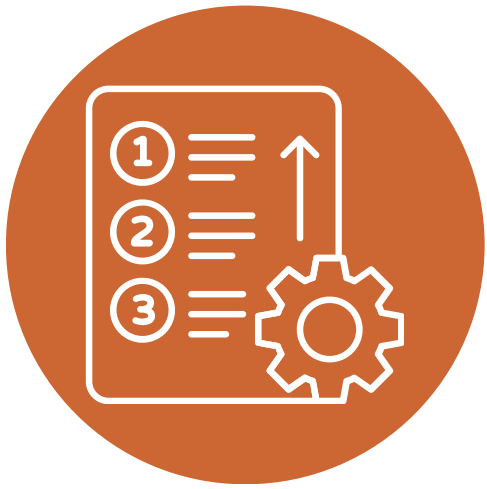
Persistent challenges:

Prejudice against LGBTIQ people remains strong; attempts at statutory reforms to protect LGBTIQ rights have repeatedly failed due to political and religious opposition.



Equality body:

The Equal Opportunities Ombudsperson remains the key body but faces gaps, notably regarding its powers on sanctions, and provision of victim support.



Future priorities:

A government programme (late 2024) pledged to adopt an action plan against antisemitism, xenophobia and hate speech, but by early 2025 no plan was adopted.