

FRA Report on Being Intersex in the EU

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News

On 17 September 2025, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) published a [new report](#) examining the discrimination, harassment, violence, and non-consensual medical interventions experienced by intersex persons in 30 European countries. Building on the outcomes of the LGBTIQ Survey III, which collected the life experiences and views of 1920 respondents identifying as "intersex", the report highlights distinct results and trends compared with the previous survey conducted in 2019. It revealed, among other things:

- Alarming lack of free and fully informed consent before interventions are carried out to modify sex characteristics;
- Four in ten intersex respondents have experienced "conversion" practices", which are interventions designed to modify a person's sexual orientation or gender identity;
- There is a concerning high with regard to hate crimes and hate speech against intersex people, with the proportion of intersex respondents who have experienced harassment increasing from 42%, according to the EU LGBTI Survey II results in 2019, to 74%;
- Intersex individuals face significant barriers to accessing healthcare, with alarming findings of suicidal thoughts and attempts.

According to FRA, the results point out that the EU institutions and EU countries need to act in a number of areas. The key recommendations of the report are:

- Adopt and implement laws that protect intersex persons by putting an end to Intersex Genital Mutilation (IGM) and non-vital "sex normalizing" treatments and surgeries;
- Ban conversion practices;
- Include sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics as aggravating bias motivations in criminal law, and add hate crime/hate speech against intersex people to the list of EU crimes;
- Adopt anti-discrimination legislation that explicitly includes sex characteristics among its protected grounds, extending protection beyond employment to all areas of life;
- Provide that all educational settings provide safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environments free from harassment, bullying, and violence;
- Ensure that intersex persons enjoy equal access to good-quality, affordable, preventive, and curative healthcare;

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- Raise public and professional awareness through training across the judiciary and education, health-care, social services, and law enforcement environments, working in partnership with intersex and LGBTIQ organisations to ensure a rights-based and participatory approach.

Overall, the report showed that intersex persons continue to face serious challenges across many areas of life.

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