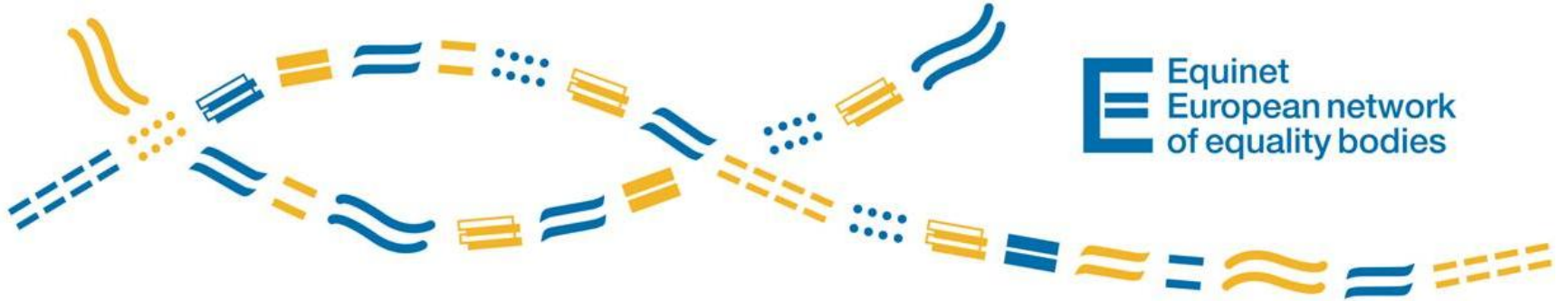


EQUINET EUROPEAN NETWORK OF EQUALITY BODIES

Unlocking the Anti-Discrimination Directive

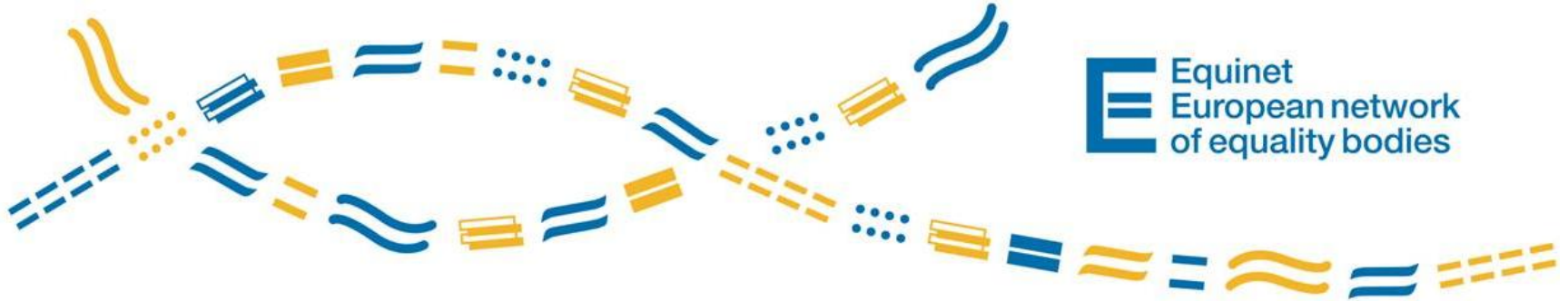
Jozef De Witte, Chair of Equinet





Equinet mission

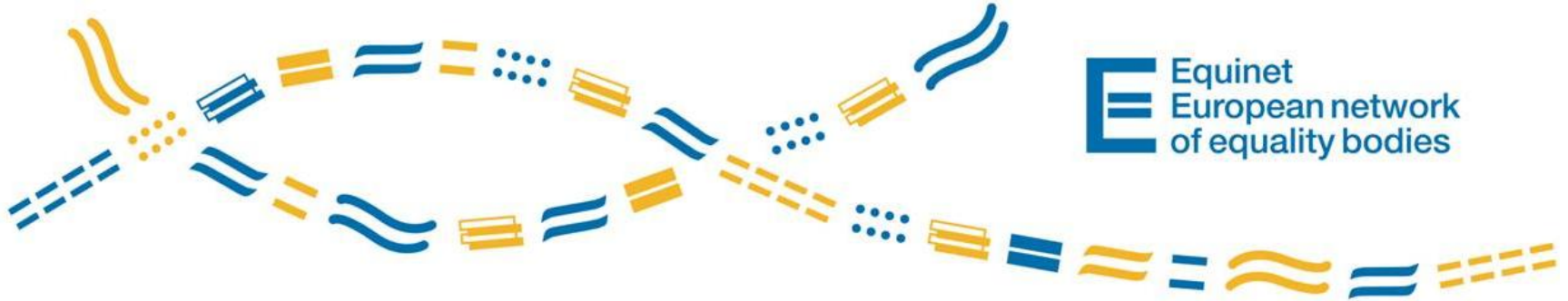
Equinet works to enable equality bodies to achieve and exercise their full potential at Member State level by sustaining and developing a networking between and a platform for equality bodies at European level.



Functions of Equality Bodies

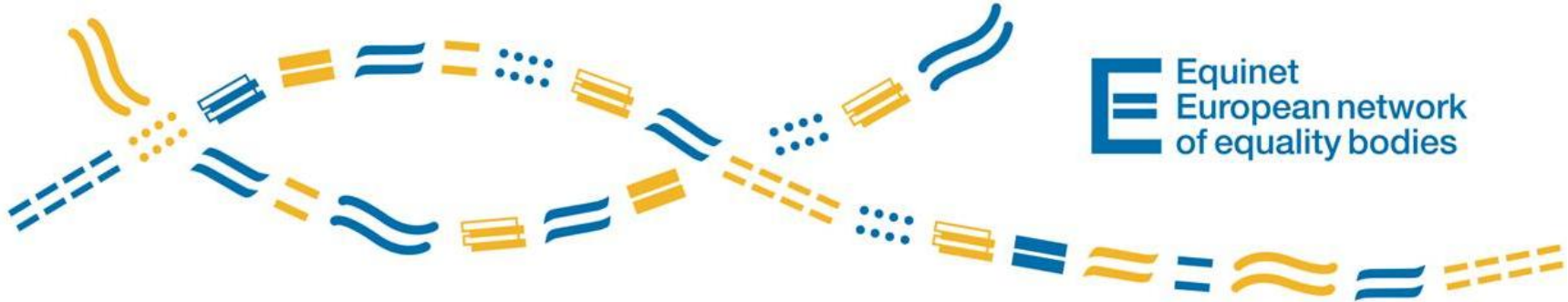
- **Independent assistance to victims of discrimination**
- **Independent surveys and reports on discrimination issues**
- **Recommendations** on discrimination issues
- Exchange of information with European bodies

Wider functions taken on by Equality Bodies:
awareness raising, promotion of good practices



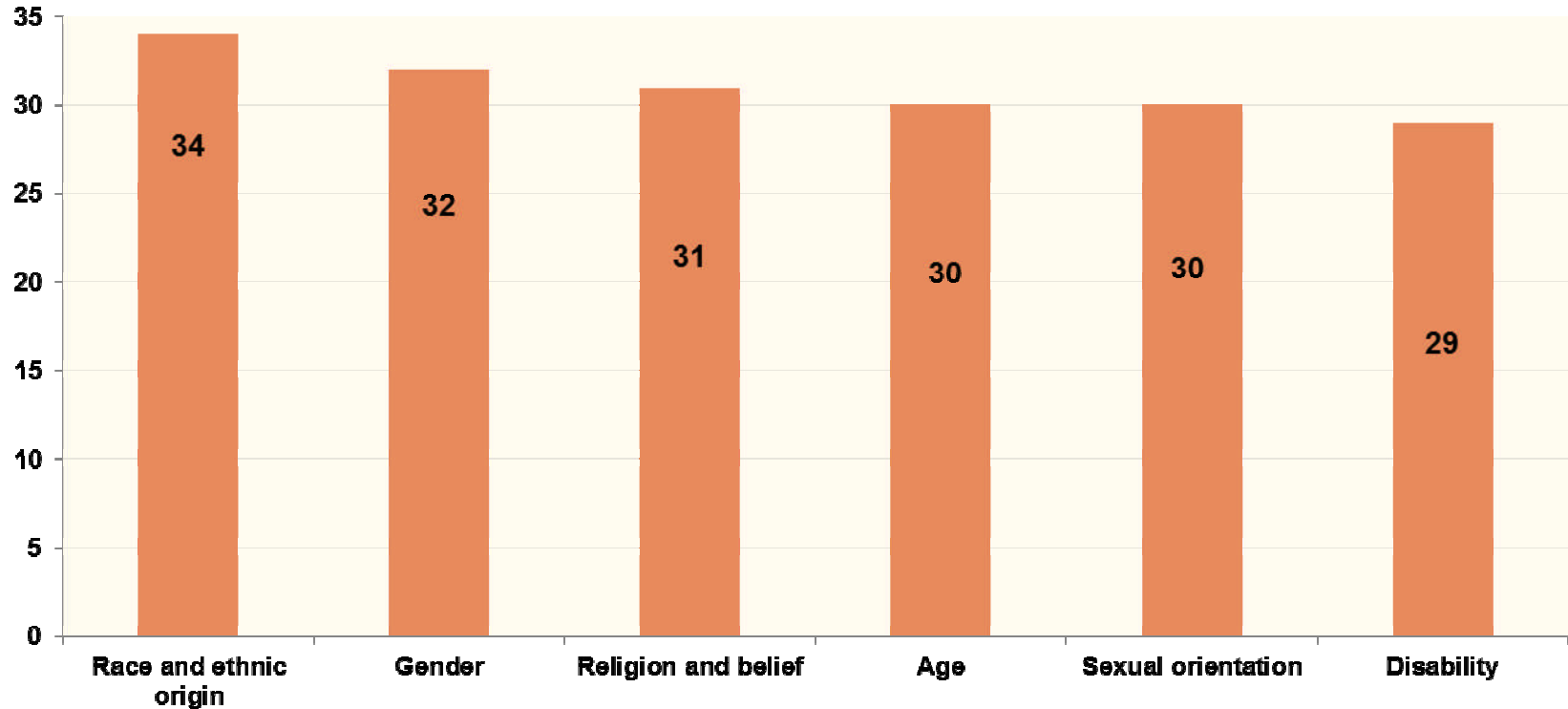
Equinet Members

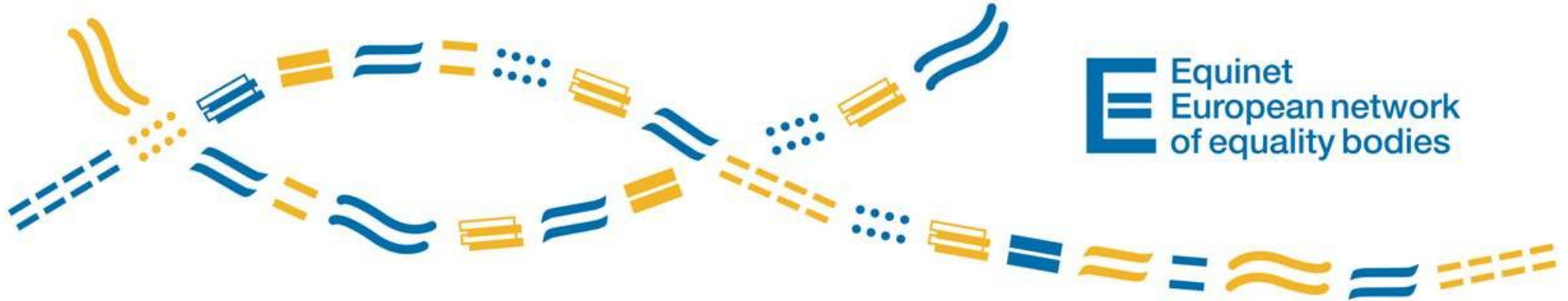
- **Network of specialised equality bodies** (37 members from 30 European countries)
- Specialised equality bodies on the basis of **EC Equal Treatment Directives** (2000/43/EC; 2004/113/EC; 2006/54/EC)
- **Diversity among national equality bodies** in terms of size, mandate, grounds, structure and experience



Equinet Members

Grounds of discrimination covered

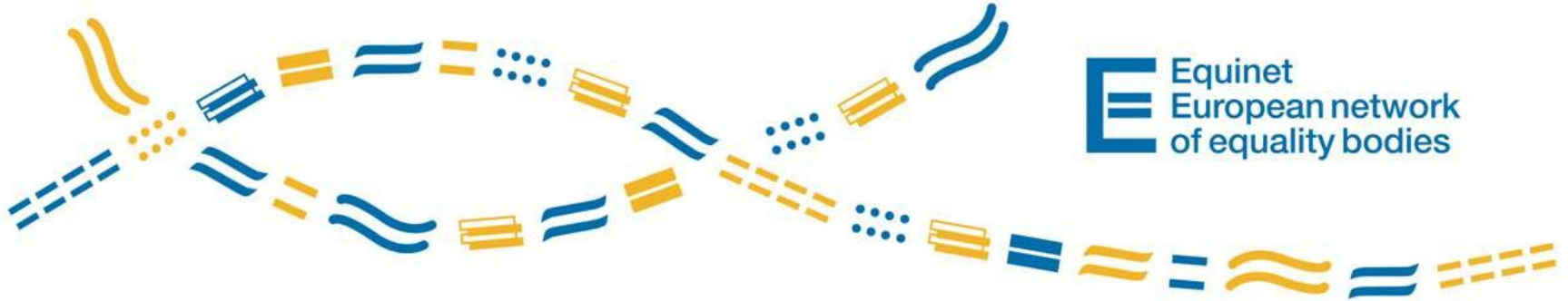




Added Value

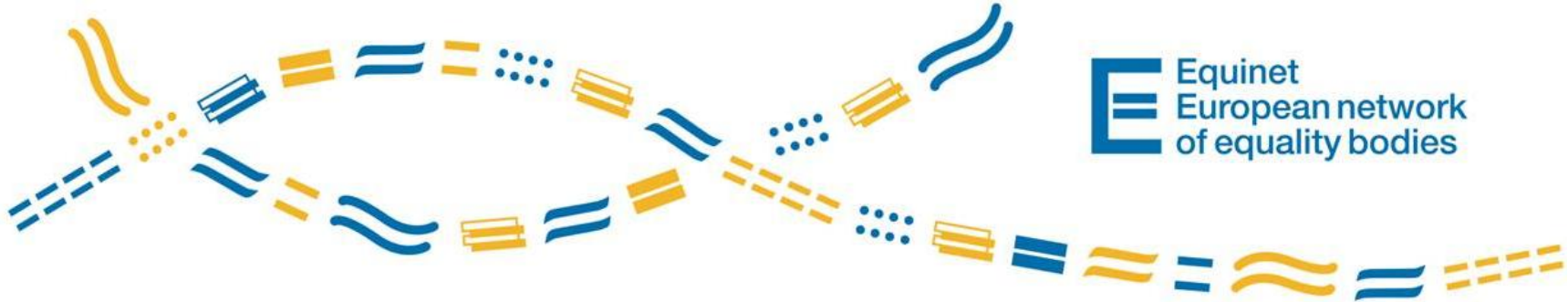
- Address **hierarchy of grounds** and multiple discrimination
- **Many national legislation go beyond EU Directives** covering goods and services across grounds
- Evidence of **discrimination in goods & services across the grounds**

Range of cases - examples



Overcoming Obstacles

- **Assistance to victims:** many cases already reported in goods & services
- **Accessibility / reasonable accommodation – UN CRPD**
- Address not only **hierarchy of grounds** but also **hierarchy of protection**
- **Equality a driver to economic recovery**



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