

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2653/05

by Giusto Catania (GUE/NGL), Ole Krarup (GUE/NGL), Martine Roure (PSE), Claude Moraes (PSE), Michael Cashman (PSE), Giovanni Fava (PSE), Lilli Gruber (PSE), Kathalijne Buitenweg (Verts/ALE), Monica Frassoni (Verts/ALE), Sophia in 't Veld (ALDE), Alexander Alvaro (ALDE), Emma Bonino (ALDE) and Marco Pannella (ALDE)  
to the Council

Subject: Ruling on sexual orientation by the Catania Regional Administrative Court

A few days ago the Regional Administrative Court of Catania upheld an appeal by a young homosexual whose driving licence had previously been withdrawn on grounds of 'sexual identity problems'.

In upholding the appeal, the Court stated that 'sexual preferences have no bearing whatsoever on the ability to drive a motor vehicle safely', since they are 'merely a personality disorder'.

Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union prohibits any discrimination based on sex or sexual orientation. Article 13 of the EC Treaty provides that the Council may take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

Does the Council not consider it to be vital and urgent for the European Union to take measures to prevent any possible discrimination and prejudice based on sexual orientation?

What action will it take on this matter in the coming months?