

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3831/06

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to the Commission

Subject: Concerns about the exclusion from funding of LGBT organisations

This week a Slovenian LGBT organisation, Legebitra, was excluded from government funding on the grounds that another Slovenian LGBT organisation already receives funding under the EC EQUAL programme. It appears that government funding for LGBT organisations is being withheld in Slovenia on the grounds that the organisations are already receiving funding from the EC.

We are very concerned in general about the lack of funding available to combat discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation in various Member States, and these recent developments in Slovenia further highlight the need for urgent action.

1. Is the Commission aware that Community programmes are currently being used as a justification for cutting national funding for LGBT organisations?
2. Does the Commission agree that this runs counter to the principle of additionality?
3. How does the Commission intend to remedy the situation?