

Question for written answer E-002091/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Tackling harmful practices, such as 'conversion therapies', against LGBTQIA+ people

It is important for the EU to unequivocally defend LGBTQIA+ rights. Therefore, the presentation by the Commission of a 'LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025' is a step in the right direction. Unfortunately, conversion therapies are still used in the European Union to 'cure' LGBTQIA+ people, so to speak.

A report from 2020¹ by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) showed that drugs and psychotherapy, as well as exorcism and ritual cleansing were being used in several EU Member States. So far in the EU, only Malta, Germany and France have banned conversion therapies.

Given that these harmful practices towards LGBTQIA+ people are based on the false premise that they are sick, and that they also cause severe pain and suffering:

1. Will the Commission urge Member States to ban harmful practices such as 'conversion therapy' throughout the EU and take an initiative at EU level?
2. What types of funding has the Commission already made available for initiatives to combat harmful practices against LGBTQIA+ people, in line with the 'Equality Strategy'?
3. How does the Commission support victims of 'conversion practices', including in psychological and legal terms?

¹ https://irct.org/uploads/media/IRCT_research_on_conversion_therapy.pdf