

Terms of reference of the Committee of Experts on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression and Sex Characteristics (ADI-SOGIESC)

Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with [Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3](#) on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Category: Subordinate body

Duration: 1 January 2024 - 31 December 2027¹

Programme: Acting for equality, diversity and respect

Sub-programme: Anti-discrimination, diversity and inclusion – Roma and Travellers² – National minorities, regional and minority languages – LGBTI - Migrants

Deliverables

Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers and as a subordinate body to the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), the ADI-SOGIESC is instructed to complete the following deliverables, within the following deadlines:

| | Category ▼ | Priority ▼ | Deadline ▼ |
|---|---------------|---------------|--|
| 1. Draft Recommendation on the equality of rights of intersex persons | A | 1 | 31/12/2025 |
| 2. Comprehensive review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity based on a new review methodology | B | 1 | 31/12/2025 |
| 3. Draft Council of Europe strategy for the equality of rights of LGBTI persons (2027-2032), based on the implementation review of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 and, subject to its adoption, on the Recommendation on the equality of rights of intersex persons | C | 1 | 31/12/2026 |
| 4. Study on the risks and impediments to the full access to rights resulting from discrimination and violence on grounds of gender expression | C | 2 | 31/12/2027 |
| 5. Review of thematic dimensions of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 | B | 1 | 31/12/2024 31/12/2026 31/12/2027 |
| <p>Key</p> <p>A: deliverable under preparation (2022-2023 terms of reference or Committee of Ministers' decision) or deliverable foreseen in the terms of reference provisionally approved for 2024-2025 and reviewed where relevant in the framework of the preparation of the draft Programme and Budget 2024-2027</p> <p>B: review of implementation/re-examination foreseen by the recommendation/protocol/convention</p> <p>C: newly proposed deliverable</p> | | | |

Composition

• Members

Governments of member States are invited to designate one or more representatives of the highest possible rank in the fields of policies for equality for LGBTI persons, anti-discrimination or related field.

The Council of Europe will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative each from 26 member States designated by the CDADI according to a method, which shall have due regard to geographical representation and periodic rotation of member States.

Each member of the Committee shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in the voting.

• Participants

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- European Court of Human Rights;
- Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe;
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI);
- Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH);
- Gender Equality Commission (GEC);
- Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF);
- European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ);
- Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ);

¹ These terms of reference are approved for the first biennial period 2024-2025. For the second biennial period 2026-2027, they are approved on a provisional basis, subject to confirmation upon the adoption of the budget for 2026-2027.

² The term "Roma and Travellers" is used at the Council of Europe to encompass the wide diversity of the groups covered by the work of the Council of Europe in this field: on the one hand a) Roma, Sinti/Manush, Calé, Kaale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari; b) Balkan Egyptians (Egyptians and Ashkali); c) Eastern groups (Dom, Lom and Abdal); and, on the other hand, groups such as Travellers, Yenish, and the populations designated under the administrative term "*Gens du voyage*", as well as persons who identify themselves as Gypsies. The present is an explanatory footnote, not a definition of Roma and/or Travellers.

- Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- European Union (one or more representatives, including, as appropriate, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA));
- Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America;
- other international organisations, including the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), United Nations (including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Women, World Bank and other relevant UN agencies), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

• Observers

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- non-member States with which the Council of Europe has a Neighbourhood Partnership including relevant co-operation activities;
- non-governmental organisations (ILGA Europe, Transgender Europe, Organisation Intersex International Europe (OII-Europe), International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex Youth & Student Organisation (IGLYO), EuroCentralAsian Lesbian* Community (EL*C), European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups, European LGBTI Police Association (EGPA) and Rainbow Cities Network).

Observer status may be requested in accordance with Article 8 of [Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3](#) on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Working methods

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by [Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3](#) on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

| Plenary meetings ▼ | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Members incl. Chair | Meetings per year | Days per meeting |
| 2024 | 47 | 2 | 2 |
| 2025 | 47 | 2 | 2 |
| 2026 | 47 | 2 | 2 |
| 2027 | 47 | 2 | 2 |

The Chair of the ADI-SOGIESC will be invited to attend meetings of the CDADI and/or its Bureau to inform them on progress with its work.

The ADI-SOGIESC will appoint from amongst its members a Gender Equality Rapporteur.

Budgetary information*

| | Meetings per year | Days per meeting | Members reimbursed | Plenary in €K | Bureau in €K | Working groups in €K | Secretariat (A, B) |
|------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2024 | 2 | 2 | 26 | 90.0 | - | - | 1 A; 1 B |
| 2025 | 2 | 2 | 26 | 90.0 | - | - | 1 A; 1 B |
| 2026 | 2 | 2 | 26 | ↔ | - | - | ↔ |
| 2027 | 2 | 2 | 26 | ↔ | - | - | ↔ |

*The costs include the per diem, travel costs, interpretation, translation and document printing. These costs are calculated on the basis of standard costs.