

Infosheet

on Diversity & LGBTQI+

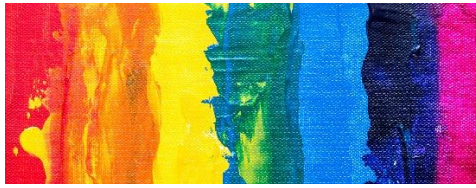


Image by Steve Johnson (adapted) from Pixabay

Within the European Union, human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights are considered as fundamental values. Since the signing of the Treaty of Lisbon in 2009, these rights have been established by the EU in the **Charter of Fundamental Rights**. Article 21 ("Non-discrimination") states: 'Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership or a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.' (European Union, 2010, Art. 21). This includes respect for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) European citizens (Leinenbach, 2013) as well as individuals (including UASC) from the LGBTQI+ community, who face specific challenges on their migration journeys and after their arrival in the European Union.

Organisations for LGBTQI+ refugees

- The Queer European Asylum Network (QUEAN) is an umbrella organisation founded in 2019 that brings together NGO practitioners, LGBTQI+ refugees and activists and academics working on LGBTQI+ migration and asylum in Europe" - <https://queereuropeanasylum.org/>
- ILGA-Europe is an umbrella organisation (international, independent, and non-governmental) bringing together more than 700 organisations in Europe and Central Asia that collectively work towards more equality, inclusivity, and accountability for the LGBTQI+ community - <https://www.ilga-europe.org>

Publications and policy guidance for LGBTQI+ refugees

- The UNHCR Integration handbook provides basic information and practical guidance such as a checklist for LGBTQI+ sensitive integration programs - [LGBTIQ+ refugees | UNHCR Integration Handbook](#)
- Introduction to the 'Berlin Model' for reception and integration: a strategy that respects and considers the particular vulnerability of asylum seekers who identify as LGBTQI+ - [LGBTIQ+ refugees and the 'Berlin Model' - Eurocities](#)

Personal accounts by LGBTQI+ refugees

- [Spotlight on THE EU AND LGBTI EQUALITY \(europa.eu\)](#)
- [Making education safer and more inclusive for LGBTQ+ youth | OHCHR \(USA\)](#)
- [Life Stories | SOGICA](#)

References

European Union (2010). Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. In *Official Journal of the European Union* C303 (17). Brussels: European Union.

Leinenbach, M. (2013). Europa im Spannungsfeld zwischen Gleichstellung und Tradition, FORUM Sozial (3), 45-49.



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

