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New report on LGBT-inclusive legislation and policies in OECD countries

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(<http://www.regjeringen.no/no/dep/kud/id545/>)

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The report is the first of its kind and assesses the development and level of LGBTI-inclusive legislation and policies in the OECD's 35 member countries.

The OECD has looked at the period 1999-2019 and the report provides an overview of how the development has been and what the status was in 2019.

Main features

The report shows that all countries have a positive development, but in different ways and at different rates. At the same time, it is stated that there is a long way to go before full inclusion of LGBTI people in OECD countries.

In the report, the countries are divided into three groups.

- 14 countries are placed in the group that performs the worst, and which has had the least development.
- 4 countries are located in the middle. These perform in line with the OECD average.

- 17 countries are in the group that has shown *great* progress and development over time. Norway is among these.

The best ranked are France, Portugal and Canada.

Full reports: <http://www.oecd.org/social/over-the-rainbow-the-road-to-lgbti-inclusion-8d2fd1a8-en.htm> (<http://www.oecd.org/social/over-the-rainbow-the-road-to-lgbti-inclusion-8d2fd1a8-en.htm>)

About Norway

Norway is in a shared 10th place together with Belgium and Luxembourg. Part of the explanation is that other countries have had a larger and faster development recently - even though Norway is among the countries that were first out with much of the legislation listed.

Norway has also introduced changes after 2019:

- From 1 January 2020, gender incongruence will no longer be categorized as a psychiatric diagnosis.
- On 8 June 2020, the Storting passed several amendments to the Biotechnology Act.
- The Ministry of Culture has initiated a study on conversion therapy to assess the need for legislative changes.
- In the spring of 2020, the government presented a proposal to abolish criminal protection against discrimination.
- The government will prepare a new LGBTQ action plan, which will be Norway's third plan in a row.

- The report reminds us that even though we have come a long way in Norway, there is still a way to go before we achieve full inclusion of LGBTQ people. These are suggestions we take with us further down the road. **When the OECD calls for leadership in the countries that are at the forefront, it is a challenge that Norway is willing to take on, says Minister of Culture and Gender Equality Abid Q. Raja.**

The report will be presented during Oslo Pride on 24 June at 18.00 by Minister of Culture and Gender Equality Abid Q. Raja. Subsequent panel discussion by Rolf Angeltvedt, Mina Skouen and Lars Arnesen.

The event is streamed: <https://vier.live/acts/over-the-rainbow-lhbti-rettigheter-i-europa> (<https://vier.live/acts/over-the-rainbow-lhbti-rettigheter-i-europa>).

Ministry of Culture

THEME

Gender equality and inclusion

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