# ANNUAL REPORT ON ECRI'S ACTIVITIES

covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022





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ECRI

**European Commission against Racism and Intolerance** 

**Council of Europe** 

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### **Contents**

Preface	7
01. Main trends	9
Addressing the consequences of the war of aggression of the     Russian Federation against Ukraine	9
Preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons	11
Preventing and combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma and Travellers	13
4. The need for supporting civil society actors working in areas of relevance to ECRI	14
02. ECRI's activities in 2022	17
1. County-by-country approach	17
2. Work on general themes	19
3. Relations with civil society	20
4. Statement on the consequences of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine	21
5. Cooperation with equality bodies to combat racism and intolerance	22
6. Exchange of views between ECRI's Bureau and a delegation from the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), England and Wales, United Kingdon	m23
7. Other activities	24
8. Communication strategy	24
03. Co-operation with relevant bodies of the Council of Europe and other international organisations	25
04. Fifth monitoring cycle: interim follow-up overview	31
Appendices	
Appendix I – Membership of ECRI	40
Appendix II – Secretariat of ECRI	43
Appendix III – Meetings held by ECRI in 2022	44
Appendix IV – List of publications	46
Appendix V - Fifth-cycle priority recommendations and implementation status	54

### **Preface**

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) is a mechanism which was established by the first Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe member States. The decision to establish ECRI is contained in the Vienna Declaration adopted by the first Summit on 9 October 1993. On 13 June 2002, the Committee of Ministers adopted an autonomous Statute for ECRI and thus consolidated its role as an independent human rights monitoring mechanism specialised in questions relating to racism and intolerance.

ECRI's task is to combat racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance at the level of greater Europe and from the perspective of the protection of human rights. ECRI's action covers all necessary measures to combat violence, discrimination and prejudice faced by persons or groups of persons, on grounds of "race", colour, language, religion, citizenship, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics.

ECRI's members are appointed on the basis of their in-depth knowledge in the field of combating racism and intolerance. They should have high moral authority and recognised expertise in dealing with racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance. They serve in their individual capacity, are independent and impartial in fulfilling their mandate, and do not receive any instructions from their government.

ECRI's statutory activities are: country monitoring; work on general themes; and relations with civil society. ECRI's strategy for constantly enhancing its activities is to take a step-by-step approach, building on the work it has already accomplished by evaluating, consolidating and extending its action.



### 01. Main trends

- 1. Each year, as an introduction to its annual report, ECRI outlines the main trends in the fields of racism and intolerance in Europe to show the context in which ECRI continues its efforts and may further step up its action in the future. The precise characteristics and extent of these trends, observed in the course of ECRI's various activities, vary from region to region and country to country. ECRI's conclusions about trends in policy areas falling under its mandate rely predominantly on findings stemming from its country monitoring visits.
- 2. This year's annual report focuses on four main areas: addressing the consequences of the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine; preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons; preventing and combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma and Travellers; and the need for supporting civil society actors working in areas of relevance to ECRI.

### 1. Addressing the consequences of the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine

- 3. As ECRI highlighted in its statement on the consequences of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, adopted at its 88th plenary meeting (29 March 1 April 2022), the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation on 24 February 2022 was preceded and still is accompanied by an ultra-nationalist political discourse and propaganda, including online. It should be underlined that Russian leaders' false narrative, from the highest political level, describing the democratically elected Ukrainian Government and Ukrainians who did not consider themselves "pro-Russian" as Neo-Nazis was absurd, nauseating and an affront to the memory of the millions of victims of Nazism. It only served as a false, disgraceful and repugnant justification for the war of aggression against Ukraine, as was the case of the use, by the same Russian political leaders, of Russian minority rights issues.<sup>1</sup>
- 4. This war of aggression has resulted in the immense suffering of the Ukrainian people and prompted millions of people to flee the country and seek protection in other Council of Europe member States and beyond. The size of these migration flows across the continent was not seen in Europe since the end of the Second World War and put a strain on the reception capacities of, in particular, neighboring member States, most of which rose to the challenge in an admirable manner, both as concerns the authorities, equality bodies and civil society organisations.

<sup>1</sup> See, in this connection, the **statement** of 20 May 2022 issued by the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

### Equal access of people fleeing their homes in Ukraine to support and protection

- 5. Despite the overall commendable manner in which receiving countries catered for people fleeing Ukraine, the terms of protection stipulated in legislation and in administrative decisions varied depending on the citizenship of those fleeing, among whom there were also many who were not Ukrainians and whose terms of protection appeared to be of a far lower standard. Notwithstanding relative legislative provisions, there were also credible reports about unequal treatment linked to ethnicity. For example, Roma with Ukrainian citizenship seeking protection in other Council of Europe member States were reportedly offered poor accommodation conditions when compared with other Ukrainians in the same situation. In some instances, they were allegedly refused shelter by local authorities. It was not only on the receiving countries' side of Ukraine's borders that unequal treatment was reported, but also at Ukrainian border checkpoints where a number of people with a minority or migration background, notably Roma and people coming from Asian or African countries or perceived as such, were sent to the back of the queue for leaving Ukraine.
- 6. In this context, ECRI refers to its 2022 statement, in which it expressed an expectation that any reports about unjustified differential treatment of Roma and people of African or Asian descent coming from Ukraine will be effectively investigated and that the authorities would ensure that there was no discrimination against any people who should be offered protection and assistance, irrespective of their national or ethnic origin, citizenship, skin colour, religion, language, sexual orientation or gender identity. While commending the authorities, equality bodies and civil society actors in Council of Europe member States on the manner in which they generally provided support and protection to Ukrainians, ECRI also emphasised that such solidarity with people in need should remain the norm, that is the "new normal", in the management of current and future humanitarian crises.

### Preventing and combating hate speech at all times

- 7. As the first outpour of solidarity with people fleeing Ukraine subsided as the battlefront in Ukraine stabilised, and some Ukrainians decided to at least temporarily return home, there were also some critical voices by politicians in some Council of Europe member States concerning the level of support provided to Ukrainians. For example, one leading politician, who later apologised, referred to social "welfare tourism" by Ukrainians who, in some cases, shift between time spent at home and time "enjoying" protection provided abroad.
- 8. Such remarks nonetheless pale against the ultra-nationalist and hateful rhetoric by the Russian leadership and media against all democratically elected representatives of the Ukrainian state institutions and eventually against Ukrainians as a sovereign people. Already about one year before the war of aggression launched by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, ECRI issued a statement on preventing and combating ultra-nationalist and racist hate speech and violence in relation to confrontations and unresolved conflicts in Europe. In its statement, ECRI reaffirmed its condemnation of hate speech and hate-motivated violence in all its forms and at all times and it warned that such phenomena may lead to the most serious crimes, including genocide, crimes

- against humanity and war crimes, a warning which regrettably was not heeded by the Russian Federation, still a member State of the Council of Europe when ECRI's statement was issued, but which remains as valid as can be.
- 9. The war of aggression against Ukraine not only led to massive migration flows consisting of people fleeing their homes in Ukraine, but also to many Russian citizens leaving the Russian Federation as a consequence of the war. For a variety of reasons, including political opposition to the Russian Government or the war against Ukraine, considerations linked to avoiding sanctions against the Russian Federation or the draft, hundreds of thousands of Russian citizens left their country and settled in Council of Europe member States for which they did not require entry visas. Some people in the host country populations resented the arrivals of Russian nationals and some considered the Russian newcomers as potential risks to national security. This has led to at least initial expressions of anti-Russian resentments and instances of discriminatory treatment in such countries, including the refusal of commercial services to Russian citizens. ECRI welcomes the fact that host country authorities and equality bodies have acted promptly to disperse such hostility and against any related hate speech. It nevertheless considers that extra vigilance is required in this area in the future. Reference should be made in particular to ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 15 on combating hate speech and the newly adopted Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on combating hate speech. In this connection, it should be recalled that ECRI is not in a position to look into hate speech and other matters falling within its mandate in occupied territories and the other areas within Council of Europe member States that are under the effective control of the Russian Federation. In addition, ECRI's monitoring of the Russian Federation was terminated in March 2022 (see, in this respect, the section of the present report on ECRI's activities in 2022).

### 2. Preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons

10. While legislative progress and action for better LGBTI equality were observed in some European countries, the backlash against the human rights of LGBTI people continued in some other countries.

### **LGBTI** equality

11. Some countries amended legislation to strengthen the human rights of LGBTI people, including by making it possible for same-sex couples to live in a registered partnerships or by allowing them to adopt children. However, in other member States, parliaments failed to adopt legal amendments put forward to this end. In yet other countries, greater obstacles to LGBTI equality were initiated, including plans to amend constitutional provisions to explicitly define marriage as an act possible only between a man and a woman or to anchor bans on adoption by same-sex couples in the Constitution or Fundamental Law.

- 12. At the same time, LGBTI people and supporters of their human rights in several European countries continued to face severe difficulties in exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly, as pride marches were banned or delayed by attempts to prevent them.
- 13. Several member States of the Council of Europe introduced legal bans on sexual orientation and gender identity conversion practices (also referred to as "conversion therapies"), which aim at changing or suppressing LGBT persons' actual sexual orientation or gender identity in cases where it is not in accordance with what is construed by some as the social norm. In the eyes of ECRI, the adoption of such bans constitutes an important step forward and should be further encouraged in other member States.
- 14. As concerns legal gender recognition, the picture remained mixed. While some countries abolished or even explicitly forbid any sterilisation requirements, other countries were preparing explicit bans on legal gender recognition for transgender persons.
- 15. So-called sex-normalising surgeries on intersex children before an age at which they would be mature enough to consent or object remained common across Europe, with only a handful of Council of Europe member States formally prohibiting them in 2022. ECRI had to make specific recommendations to abandon such a practice in most of its recent country reports.
- 16. While the year 2022 saw both progress and backsliding in Council of Europe member States as concerns the human rights of LGBTI people, ECRI notes that there are several European countries in which the very existence of LGBTI people is considered a taboo. It follows that there is no data collected on LGBTI people and no or little legislative and other action specifically aimed at protecting their human rights. Some of ECRI's key recommendations concern equality data collection about the situation of LGBTI people while applying appropriate data protection and other safeguards, followed by strong awareness-raising activities and more effective legislative measures meant to address discrimination against such persons.

### Preventing and combating hate speech and violence against LGBTI people

- 17. As regards LGBTI-phobic hate speech, there were frequent reports of such hate speech by politicians and, to less extent, by religious representatives against LGBTI people. The hate rhetoric was at times directed at only parts of the LGBTI communities, such as gay men and lesbians or transgender people. In several instances, such rhetoric prompted counter-speech by leading political figures in defense of LGBTI persons; this is a positive development. Such action is in line with the above-mentioned recommendations on combating hate speech.
- 18. Several Council of Europe member States also saw attacks against LGBTI people, including young people, and activists supporting them. In the worst cases, such attacks took the form of deadly shootings at locations associated with LGBTI people. These are stark reminders that far more needs to be done across Europe to prevent and combat discrimination, hate speech and hate-motivated violence against LGBTI people across Europe. ECRI is committed to adopt its future General Policy Recommendation on intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI people in 2023.

### 3. Preventing and combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma and Travellers

19. Antigyspysism and hate speech targeting Roma remains rife around Europe, as does discrimination against Roma and Travellers, including in the form of persisting or increasingly segregated Roma school classes and the absence of improved housing conditions. Failure to address antigyspyism in policing is also of particular concern. Reference should be made in this regard to ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 13 on combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma.

### Antigyspyism and hate speech against Roma

20. Roma continued to be negatively depicted in media, including online. Media self-regularory mechanisms often fail to react or apply appropriate sanctions. Anti-Roma messages by politicians in election campaigns regularly occurred and remain all too often unchallenged. In this regard, ECRI considers that national political parties should sign the Charter of European political parties for a non-racist and inclusive society, as endorsed by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in its Resolution 2443 (2022) and which was drafted in co-operation with ECRI.

### Discrimination against Roma and Travellers in the key areas of education and housing

- 21. The share of Roma pupils increased in many school classes in a number of Council of Europe member States and at times reached 100%, partly as part of a continued practice by school authorities to put Roma pupils in "special needs classes" for children with learning difficulties, and partly because of parents of non-Roma children moving their children to schools without Roma children, or with a lower share of them.
- 22. The housing conditions of Roma and Travellers remain very poor in many European countries. In a number of instances, ECRI did not gain the impression that the relevant authorities at national or local level were doing much to improve the situation. Roma with an itinerant lifestyle and Travellers were faced with unfavourable encampment regulations for their "mobile homes" / camping cars, which are not considered as qualifying for housing rights in some countries, while yet being treated less favourably than parking and other rules applied to camping cars used by tourists. Furthermore, fixed structures inhabited by Roma at times do not meet the authorities' criteria for registered residences, leaving Roma without associated rights or inclusion in urban planning. Regrettably, evictions of Roma from irregularly erected dwellings remained "popular" among voters in many European countries, prompting local authorities to be disposed towards such evictions, without proper safeguards being implemented, notably arrangements for suitable alternative housing for the evicted Roma.
- 23. At the same time, ECRI observed progress in some countries with regard to compensation to Roma for past wrongs committed against them in the form of illegal and often forced sterilisation.

### **Antigyspsyism in policing**

- 24. In several member States of the Council of Europe, Roma have reportedly been the subject of racist police abuse. In a few instances, police action led to the death of Roma people, in particular youngsters, and the relevant authorities have failed to hold the police officers concerned accountable. In some other countries, information pointing to illegal police surveillance schemes targeting at Roma populations came to light.
- 25. On a more positive note, ECRI noted some instances in which Roma obtained compensation for past police abuse.
- 26. In the opinion of ECRI, it is high time to take effective action to encourage Roma victims and witnesses of police abuse to come forward, provide them with appropriate support and ensure better police accountability in cases involving antigypsyism in policing. Council of Europe member States should make further efforts to organise police training on issues affecting Roma populations, recruit and train adequate mediators to ensure the liaison between Roma and the police, promote Roma recruitment to police services and ensure that Roma police officers enjoy equal opportunities for career development.

### 4. The need for supporting civil society actors working in areas of relevance to ECRI

27. The trend of civil society organisations and activists working in support of groups of concern to ECRI, be that migrants, LGBTI people, religious or ethnic minorities having less and less space to conduct their activities as a result of restrictions or actions by government or other public authorities continued and seemed to increase in intensity. The means by which the relevant NGOs were discouraged or hindered in their activities varied. The reason for these obstructions, in some Council of Europe member States, is that the work of these NGO and other actors in areas of concern to ECRI is often not "compatible" with the policies the authorities in those countries are pursuing.

### A legal and administrative shrinking space for civil society actors

28. In some countries, the authorities introduced legislation that made it more difficult for NGOs to register or to keep their registration. In other cases, recent legislation imposes additional tax payments on NGOs working in support of migrants, for instance, special audits of such NGOs with somewhat more significant sources of funding from abroad or further undue restrictions preventing funding from abroad. In several member States, legislative or other measures were taken against facilitating irregular migration, which could be used to prosecute civil society actors supporting migrants, irrespective of their status, who have already arrived in the country. Certainly, a common feature of such measures is that it is applied selectively, or rarely applied. However, this is kept as a "Sword of Damocles" hanging above the civil society actors concerned.

### Stigmatisation and intimidation of civil society actors

- 29. In some countries, legislation against terrorism or extremism as well as various other forms of legal measures imposing restrictions in times of crises appear to have been disproportionately used against groups of concern to ECRI, notably Muslims, and civil society organisations providing them with support. In the same vein, some civil society organisations have been accused by the authorities of not doing enough to moderate the discussions on social media, an ostensive shortcoming that has been used to restrict unduly or even terminate their activities.
- 30. Another example of how NGOs working in support of groups of concern to ECRI have found themselves in a hostile working environment is when they have been the subject of ultranationalist, defamatory or hateful remarks by some government officials, representatives of other public authorities, members of parliament or media professionals. In such cases, NGOs are often accused of betraying the purported interests or "values" of the country concerned. In the view of ECRI, the fact that not all relevant protected grounds, such as religion, sexual orientation or gender identity, are included in hate speech and hate crime legislation in some member States makes it virtually impossible for the civil society actors concerned to defend themselves against racist or anti-LGBTI hateful rhetoric targeting them as a result of their support activities. In addition, it sometimes appears that even where the necessary legislation exists, police and prosecution services are reluctant to take action.
- 31. It also emerged that civil society organisations working in areas of relevance to ECRI were intimidated and as some of ECRI's partners put it "harassed" for their efforts to support vulnerable groups through the imposition of unjustified administrative fines on individual members of the organisations concerned (e.g. for non-existent road traffic violations) or, in the most serious cases, the initiation of criminal proceedings on dubious or unfounded charges against their representatives. In the latter cases, while the accused civil society actors were usually eventually acquitted by courts, the persons concerned were kept in fear during lengthy and costly judicial proceedings.
- 32. ECRI deplores the shrinking space in which civil society actors performing valuable work in support of groups of concern to ECRI, promoting appreciation of diversity and functioning in a responsible manner, are left to operate in some countries and the undue interferences from the authorities they are confronted with in those member States. It underlines that these civil society actors, which are essential partners of ECRI in its work and share ECRI's goals, should instead be supported and encouraged to make available their services and activities to persons who are particularly exposed to discrimination, hate speech and violence due to personal characteristics or status. An open and democratic space should be secured for these organisations to discuss the phenomena of racism and intolerance, notably against Muslims, Roma, migrants and LGBTI people, together with representatives of state bodies, local authorities and other actors from the private sector.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> See, in this context, general policy recommendations No. 5 (revised) on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination, No. 9 (revised) on preventing and combating antisemitism, No. 13 on combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma and No. 16 on safeguarding irregularly present migrants from discrimination.

# Page 16

### 02. ECRI's activities in 2022

### 1. Country-by-country approach

- 33. ECRI's statutory activities comprise firstly country monitoring work. ECRI closely examines the situation in each of the member States of the Council of Europe and draws up suggestions and proposals as to how the problems it has identified might be overcome. The aim is to formulate helpful and well-founded recommendations, which may assist governments in taking concrete and practical steps to counter racism and intolerance.
- 34. ECRI's reports are first sent in draft form to the member States concerned for confidential dialogue. Their contents are reviewed in the light of the national authorities' comments. They are then finally adopted and transmitted to the governments of the member States concerned, through the intermediary of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers.
- 35. ECRI's country-by-country approach concerns all Council of Europe member States on an equal footing. The reports for the first round were completed in late 1998. From January 1999 to the end of December 2002, ECRI worked on the second cycle of its country-by-country approach. From January 2003 to the end of December 2007, ECRI worked on the third cycle of its country-by-country approach. From January 2008 until September 2017, ECRI worked on its fourth cycle of country monitoring. This cycle differed from the previous ones in that it introduced the interim follow-up mechanism: ECRI requested priority implementation for up to three recommendations and asked the member State concerned to provide information in this connection within two years from the publication of the report.
- 36. In 2013, ECRI began its fifth cycle of country monitoring. ECRI's final fifth-round reports were published in 2019. Therefore, in 2022 ECRI published the last in the series of its fifth-cycle interim follow-up conclusions on the implementation of the priority recommendations it had made in its reports on Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Romania and Slovenia, thereby completing its fifth cycle of country monitoring.

- 37. In 2019, ECRI started work on its sixth cycle of country monitoring. This cycle focuses on strengthening equality and access to rights, in particular through promoting the independence and effectiveness of equality bodies, inclusive education, access to rights of irregularly present migrants and LGBTI equality; combating hate speech and hate-motivated violence and promoting integration and inclusion, particularly for migrants and Roma, and more specifically for children; highlighting and promoting good practices in the fight against racism and intolerance; taking account of cross-cutting issues where the intersection of national or ethnic origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and other grounds can lead to further discrimination and including a gender perspective. The reports also deal with topics specific to each country, including follow-up of the priority recommendations adopted in the fifth monitoring cycle.
- 38. In order to obtain as full a picture as possible, a contact visit is organised before the drafting of each new report. The visits provide an opportunity for ECRI Rapporteurs to meet officials from the various ministries and public authorities dealing with issues within ECRI's remit. They also allow Rapporteurs to meet NGO representatives, as well as independent experts and other persons concerned by the fight against racism and intolerance. Finally, they provide Rapporteurs with a unique opportunity to make direct observations in places where groups of concern to ECRI live.
- 39. In 2022, ECRI published six sixth-round monitoring reports on Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Greece and Monaco.
- 40. All reports published in 2022 have been translated into the national language of the country concerned and steps have been taken to ensure that they are circulated as widely as possible among stakeholders at domestic level.
- 41. In addition, ECRI published the first of its sixth-cycle interim follow-up conclusions in 2022, on Albania, Austria, Belgium, Germany and Switzerland.
- 42. ECRI's reports and conclusions received considerable media coverage. Reactions to these publications show how topical the issues discussed therein are and how urgent it is to ensure follow-up to ECRI's recommendations.
- 43. In 2022, ECRI carried out eight contact visits for the preparation of its sixth-cycle country monitoring reports, to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Georgia, Iceland, Luxembourg, North Macedonia and Poland (thereby surpassing the number of visits carried out in 2019, 2020 and 2021). The visit to Georgia had been postponed from 2021 because of the health crisis. In some cases, a practice found to be useful during the Covid-19 pandemic was maintained and some of these visits were preceded by online meetings, thereby widening the number of interlocutors consulted by ECRI and enabling those who could not attend in person to contribute.
- 44. Due to the health crisis and the impossibility of some members to travel as a result of the war in Ukraine, ECRI continued to organise hybrid plenary meetings to ensure full participation, but the vast majority of members attended in person in 2022.

### 2. Work on general themes

### **General Policy Recommendations**

- 45. ECRI's General Policy Recommendations, the second part of its statutory activities, are addressed to the governments of all member States; they cover important areas of current concern in the fight against racism and intolerance. They are intended to serve as guidelines for policymakers when drawing up national strategies, programmes and projects.
- 46. ECRI has adopted 16 General Policy Recommendations and made crucial revisions to better reflect evolving situations to three of these. It has also produced abridged versions of most of them (containing the key points and presented in an attractive format for use by the general public in particular).
- 47. On 1 March 2022, ECRI published its revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5 on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination, which was initially adopted on 16 March 2000 and revised on 8 December 2021. ECRI's revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5 takes into account the trends observed over the last two decades. These include stigmatization and discrimination in various areas of life as well as anti-Muslim hate speech, including online, and hate crime. ECRI's General Policy Recommendation provides comprehensive guidance to governments on addressing anti-Muslim racism and discrimination in four specific areas: policies and institutional coordination, prevention, protection, prosecution and law enforcement.
- 48. The launching of the revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5 was accompanied by explanatory video published on ECRI's website, including an interview with the Chair of ECRI's Working Group on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination.
- 49. ECRI promoted its revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5 at various external events in 2022.
- 50. For example, on 6 May, the Chair of ECRI's Working Group on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination participated in an exchange of views with the Rapporteur on raising awareness of and countering Islamophobia in Europe of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE). ECRI also participated in a hearing on the same theme organised by the Committee of Equality and Non-Discrimination of the PACE held in Stockholm on 12 May.
- 51. On 7 June, the Chair of this Working Group participated as a key-note speaker in a seminar on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination, which was organised by the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Antisemitic, anti-Muslim and other forms of religious intolerance and hate crimes under the Irish Presidency of the Committee of Ministers.

- 52. ECRI was also able to raise awareness of its revised General Policy Recommendation by participating in events organised by local authorities, such as the Seminar and Peer-Learning Session "Culture and Antiracism" organised by the City of Malmö (Sweden) and the United Cities and Local Governments Culture Committee on 21 September and the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism (ECCAR)'s Working Group on Anti-Muslim Racism on 19 September.
- 53. With regard to disseminating its revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5 to equality bodies, ECRI's Chair took part in a workshop entitled "Equality bodies tackling discrimination and intolerance against Muslims" organised in Berlin (Germany) by the European Network of Equality Bodies (Equinet) and the German national equality body, the Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency, on 15 September.
- 54. In addition, the Chair of ECRI's Working Group on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination participated on 20 May as a key-note speaker in the 21st General Assembly of the European Network against Racism (ENAR), which discussed the theme "Decolonising Justice A vision for the future of racial justice in Europe".
- 55. At its 87th plenary held on 7-10 December 2021, ECRI elected members of a Working Group tasked with drawing up its next General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons. The Working Group met nine times in 2022, in order to discuss the structure and contents of its future General Policy Recommendation, as well as appointing an expert consultant and holding written consultations and exchanges of views, for example with the Rapporteur of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe who drafted the report and resolution on combating rising hate against LGBTI persons in Europe. ECRI held a general discussion and an exchange on specific issues raised by the working group at its 90th plenary meeting (6-9 December 2022).

### 3. Relations with civil society

- 56. Combating racism and intolerance can only be effective if the message filters down to society in general. Awareness-raising and a communication strategy are, therefore, essential. ECRI attaches great importance to this third part of its statutory activities.
- 57. In addition to the events mentioned above, which provided an opportunity to promote ECRI's revised General Policy Recommendation No. 5, in 2022 ECRI shared its expertise and its message at several other events.
- 58. On 24 June and 2 December, ECRI's Working Group on Relations with Civil Society and Equality Bodies held two online NGO hearings (involving five civil society actors from different countries) on contemporary legislative and political working environments for civil society in Europe.

- 59. Concerning events organised by civil society, on 16 February and 9 March, ECRI participated in an Informal Dialogue on Rehabilitation organised by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. On 6 April, ECRI participated in an event entitled "Combating antisemitism in Finland and in Europe", organised by the Finnish Human Rights Centre together with the Holocaust Victims Remembrance Association, which provided an opportunity to present ECRI's revised General Policy Recommendation No. 9 on preventing and combating antisemitism. A similar opportunity was provided by the online participation of ECRI's Chair in an International Conference entitled "Fighting Antisemitism and Holocaust Distortion and Denial on the Digital Battlefield", organised by the Greek Delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) on 7-8 October in Ioannina, Greece.
- 60. On 17 November, ECRI took part in person in the third WASP-HS (the Wallenberg AI, Autonomous Systems and Software Program Humanities and Society) Conference on AI, Humanity and Society: Dreams, Realities, and Futures: Risks and Consequences of AI in Formative Times, held in Stockholm.
- 61. In 2022, ECRI participated in several events involving civil society organisations, which were generally organised by other international organisations (see below under the section "Cooperation with relevant bodies of the Council of Europe and other international organisations"). Civil society organisations, academics and victims of intersectional discrimination also participated in ECRI's 2022 annual seminar with equality bodies dedicated to the "Prohibition of discrimination: can a focus on intersectionality contribute to effective equality?" and working group consultations to prepare its General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons.

### 4. Statement on the consequences of the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine

- 62. On 5 April, ECRI published a statement condemning the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine in the strongest terms and noting the Committee of Ministers' decision to end the Russian Federation's membership in the Organisation from 16 March, which also terminated ECRI's monitoring work regarding racism and intolerance in the Russian Federation. ECRI further expressed its full support to the Ukrainian people fighting for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and its solidarity to the millions of Ukrainian people forced to flee or to take refuge within and outside Ukraine.
- 63. ECRI commended the authorities, equality bodies and civil society actors of the Council of Europe member States offering protection to people fleeing from Ukraine and helping them to ensure access to their rights to health care, social welfare, housing, education and employment. Furthermore, ECRI expressed the hope that reports about unjustified differential treatment of Roma and people of African or Asian descent coming from Ukraine would be effectively investigated.

- 64. ECRI called on all Council of Europe member States to ensure that such exemplary solidarity with people in need remain the norm in the management of current and future humanitarian crises. All people fleeing war and other emergencies, irrespective of their national or ethnic origin, citizenship, skin colour, religion, language, sexual orientation or gender identity, should be promptly offered adequate protection.
- 65. ECRI also recalled that in times of conflict or other crisis, just as in ordinary times, politicians and other public figures must refrain from any form of ultra-nationalist and racist hate speech and should challenge any such manifestations of hatred.

### 5. Cooperation with equality bodies to combat racism and intolerance

- 66. On 26 September, ECRI held its Annual Seminar with national Equality Bodies, its strategic partners. This year's seminar was dedicated to the concept of intersectionality the interaction between two or more forms of discrimination creating different layers of inequality.
- 67. ECRI has been using an intersectional approach in its country monitoring work, which highlights the specific vulnerabilities experienced by, for instance, Roma women, Black men or Muslim women, as well as in its new standards, as was the case in its General Policy Recommendation No. 5 (revised) on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination and General Policy Recommendation No. 9 (revised) on preventing and combating antisemitism. In its General Policy Recommendation No. 2 (revised) on equality bodies to combat racism and intolerance at national level, ECRI considered that the mandate of equality bodies should also cover intersectional discrimination.
- 68. The Chair of ECRI, the European Union (EU) Commissioner for Equality, the Council of Europe's Director of Anti-Discrimination and the General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe emphasised at the opening of the seminar that it was time to make the best use of the concept of intersectionality to combat discrimination and hate speech more effectively and achieve greater equality.
- 69. During the seminar, two victims shared testimonies on intertwined discrimination they experienced on grounds of sexual orientation, religion, gender and ethnicity, which helped participants to discuss in depth the challenges and potential responses in the areas of law and policy making, prevention, victim protection and support and strategic litigation.
- 70. Representatives of international bodies such as the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), the EU Commission and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) also shared their views during the seminar.

- 71. ECRI's Annual Seminar was organised in consultation with the European Network of Equality Bodies (Equinet) and brought together over ninety participants from equality bodies and selected national human rights institutions of Council of Europe member States, ECRI members, representatives of key European and national civil society organisations.
- 72. As mentioned above, ECRI's Chair participated in the Workshop "Equality bodies tackling discrimination and intolerance against Muslims" co-organised by the European Network of Equality Bodies (EQUINET) and the Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency (Germany), in Berlin, on 15 September.
- 73. In 2022, ECRI also took part in several events organised in co-operation with or by national equality bodies. For example, on 4 April, ECRI members participated in a meeting held in Skopje of the Equality Bodies of Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia, organised within the European Union/Council of Europe Joint Programme "Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey 2019-2022 Phase II" project.
- 74. On 27 May, ECRI's Chair took part in the 2022 Conference of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) entitled "Ombudsman Reloaded: Mandate and Operational Framework in a post modern era", organised by the Greek Ombudsman and the IOI.
- 75. At ECRI's 88th plenary meeting (29 March-1 April), representatives of the England and Wales Equality and Human Rights Commission presented a new searchable online tool ("human rights tracker") aimed at tracking how well the United Kingdom is putting its human rights duties into practice.

6. Exchange of views between ECRI's Bureau and a delegation from the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), England and Wales, United Kingdom

76. On 10 February, ECRI's Bureau held an online exchange of views with a delegation from the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC), England and Wales, United Kingdom. The discussions focused on the IOPC's ongoing thematic work on discrimination in the context of its oversight of the police complaints system and its investigations into serious allegations of police misconduct in England and Wales. The meeting was part of ECRI's consultations with bodies and experts specialised in policing.

### 7. Other activities

- 77. On 23 February, the Committee of Ministers decided to grant the United States of America observer status in ECRI. This decision was based on a request made by the United States in 2021 and a favourable opinion of ECRI. Clarence Lusane, observer in respect of the United States of America and from Howard University (Washington, DC), participated as an observer in ECRI's 90th plenary meeting (6-9 December 2022). As a result of the cessation of the membership of the Russian Federation in the Council of Europe on 16 March 2022, Sergey Sokolovskiy, ECRI member in respect of the Russian Federation, ceased to be a member of ECRI as from that date.
- 78. At its 88th plenary meeting (29 March-1 April), ECRI re-elected by acclamation Sara Gimenez Gimenez and Anhelita Kamenska as members of the working group on relations with civil society and equality bodies.
- 79. At its 90th plenary meeting (6-9 December), ECRI held elections to the positions of two Vice-Chairs from the Bureau. Reetta Toivanen (member in respect of Finland) was elected 1st Vice-Chair for one year. Bertil Cottier (member in respect of Switzerland) was elected 2nd Vice-Chair for one year. ECRI held elections for two positions of members of the working group on relations with civil society and equality bodies. Els Keytsman (member in respect of Belgium) and Michael Whine (member in respect of the United Kingdom) were elected. ECRI also held elections for one position of a member of the Working Group in charge of the drawing-up of future General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons. Kristina Pardalos (member in respect of San Marino) was elected. The terms of office of the elected persons started on 1 January 2023.

### 8. Communication strategy

80. Activities such as the publication of ECRI's country reports and interim follow-up conclusions, round tables and webinars attracted considerable media attention. ECRI has also been referred to in national policy discussions. Approximately 263 press articles covering ECRI's work were identified over the year and approximately 4 100 Twitter followers.



# 03. Co-operation with relevant bodies of the Council of Europe and other international organisations

81. ECRI participated in and contributed to many events as part of its co-operation with relevant bodies of the Council of Europe and other international organisations, in addition to those already referred to in the activities section above.

### Council of Europe

- 82. ECRI continued co-operation with the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI). At its 90th meeting (6-9 December), it held an exchange of views with the Chair of CDADI on issues of common interest. The newly elected Chair of the CDADI, whose term of office begins on 1 January 2023, participated in the exchange through videoconference. In addition, ECRI participated in all the meetings of the CDADI held in 2022. ECRI participated and its Chair made an intervention in the CDADI's 5th plenary meeting held in Rome on 15-17 March and ECRI participated in the 6th plenary meeting of the CDADI held on 29 November-1 December in Strasbourg.
- 83. Furthermore, ECRI attended meetings organised by the CDADI's substructures in the course of the year. For example, on 16-17 February, ECRI participated in the 1st meeting of the Committee of Experts on Hate Crime (PC/ADI-CH) and in its second meeting held on 29-30 September in Strasbourg. On 4-5 April, ECRI participated in the 1st plenary meeting of the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI) and in its 2nd plenary on 21-23 September. ECRI took part in the 5th Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM) held on 17-18 May in Strasbourg and in the 6th Meeting held in Galway, Ireland, on 14-15 September. On 28 October, ECRI took part in the 2nd meeting of the Working Group of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity, and Inclusion (CDADI) on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics (GT-ADI-SOGI) held in Dublin, Ireland.
- 84. Concerning events organised in the framework of the Committee of Ministers Presidency, ECRI's Chair participated as speaker in an informal meeting of the Ministers' Deputies on "Strategies to promote tolerance and combat hate" held on 18 October.

- 85. In addition to ECRI's participation in Parliamentary Assembly activities to raise awareness of and counter Islamophobia mentioned above, ECRI's working group members responsible for the preparation of ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI people participated in an exchange with PACE's Rapporteur on combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe.
- 86. At its 88th plenary meeting (29 March-1 April), ECRI examined the draft Charter of European Political Parties for a non-racist and inclusive society, which was prepared by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination of the Parliamentary Assembly, and adopted an opinion, with concrete proposals for amendments, on the text.
- 87. ECRI also continued its co-operation with other relevant intergovernmental bodies of the Council of Europe during 2022.
- 88. ECRI's Chair participated as a keynote speaker at the Conference #SportSpeaksRespect, organised on 31 May by the Council of Europe Sport Division to launch a joint project "Combating Hate Speech in Sport" funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe.
- 89. At its 88th plenary meeting (29 March-1 April), ECRI appointed two new Gender Equality Rapporteurs, Renee Laiviera (ECRI member in respect of Malta) and Michal Vašečka (ECRI member in respect of Slovakia). Michal Vašečka participated in the Training Course on Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming for Council of Europe's Gender Equality Rapporteurs provided by the Gender Equality Division on 29-30 November.
- 90. At its 89th plenary meeting (28 June-1 July), ECRI held an exchange of views with the President of the Group of experts on action against violence against women and domestic violence (GREVIO) on subjects of common interest.
- 91. In general, ECRI is regularly updated on the work of other Council of Europe bodies dealing with issues related to racism and intolerance. ECRI's Secretariat provides these bodies with information on ECRI's activities.

### **United Nations**

### **UN Conventions**

92. ECRI reports make regular reference to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). ECRI also calls upon Council of Europe member States that have not yet made a declaration under Article 14 of ICERD, enabling individuals and groups of individuals to file petitions before the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), to do so.

### Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

- 93. ECRI is regularly invited to participate in various meetings organised by the OHCHR and to submit contributions based on its monitoring and thematic work. Similarly, OHCHR staff members are regularly invited to ECRI's events.
- 94. In April, ECRI produced a written submission requested by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a report on the implementation of Human Rights Council Resolution 47/21 on the "Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers through transformative change for racial justice and equality", presented at the Human Rights Council's fifty-first session, which took place in September 2022.
- 95. In October, ECRI's Secretariat contributed to a call for inputs from the secretariat of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee for the study of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on patterns, policies, and processes leading to incidents of racial discrimination and on advancing racial justice and equality (HRC resolution 48/18).

### **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

96. ECRI has a close working relationship with UNHCR, facilitated by the UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg. ECRI regularly receives input from UNHCR concerning its country visits, round tables and various legal issues.

### Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

- 97. ECRI and the OSCE continue to involve each other in their conferences and meetings. The OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is systematically invited to and attends ECRI's national round tables and ECRI contributes regularly to OSCE/ODIHR meetings.
- 98. ECRI and ODIHR continue to work closely on improving state and civil society responses to hate crime, an area of common interest also in the context of ECRI's sixth monitoring cycle, which focuses inter alia on hate speech and hate-motivated violence. The two bodies co-operate and benefit from each other's expertise and initiatives in this area. ODIHR systematically refers to ECRI's country-by-country reports and General Policy Recommendations. ECRI uses ODIHR's hate crime data in all its country monitoring reports.
- 99. On 22 March, ECRI participated in the conference "Towards a Better Future for Hate Crime Victim Support" within the framework of the Enhancing Stakeholder Awareness and Resources for Hate Crime Victim Support (EStAR) project organised by the OSCE/ODIHR.

100.On 11 April, ECRI's Chair and two other members of ECRI participated in a meeting with the OSCE's Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office.

### **European Union**

### **European Commission**

- 101.ECRI's Chair and the Chair of ECRI's Working Group on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination took part in the 2022 European Anti-Racism Summit organised by the European Commission, in co-operation with ECRI and the European Parliament Anti-racism and Diversity Intergroup (ARDI) on 21 March (international day for the elimination of racial discrimination).
- 102.On 14-15 June, ECRI was represented in the EU High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime.
- 103.On 24 June, ECRI's Working Group on Relations with Civil Society and Equality Bodies held an exchange of views with Michaela Moua, Anti-Racism Coordinator at the European Commission. The exchange concerned the drafting of EU legislation on equality bodies.
- 104.ECRI participated in the 6th meeting of the European Commission Working Group on Equality meeting on fighting discrimination (Thematic session 1: Tackling discrimination on the basis of ethnic and racial origin), held on 22 September in Brussels, Belgium.
- 105. On 9 November, ECRI's 1st Vice-Chair participated in the Workshop on Structural Racism organised in Brussels by the European Commission.
- 106. The Directorate for Fundamental Rights and Rule of Law of the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers of the European Commission and ECRI's Secretariat keep each other informed of important developments in their work and exchange information on subjects of common interest.
- 107.Helena Dalli, European Union Commissioner for Equality, participated in ECRI's 2022 Annual Seminar with Equality Bodies on 26 September.

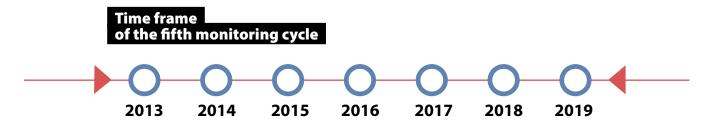
### **Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)**

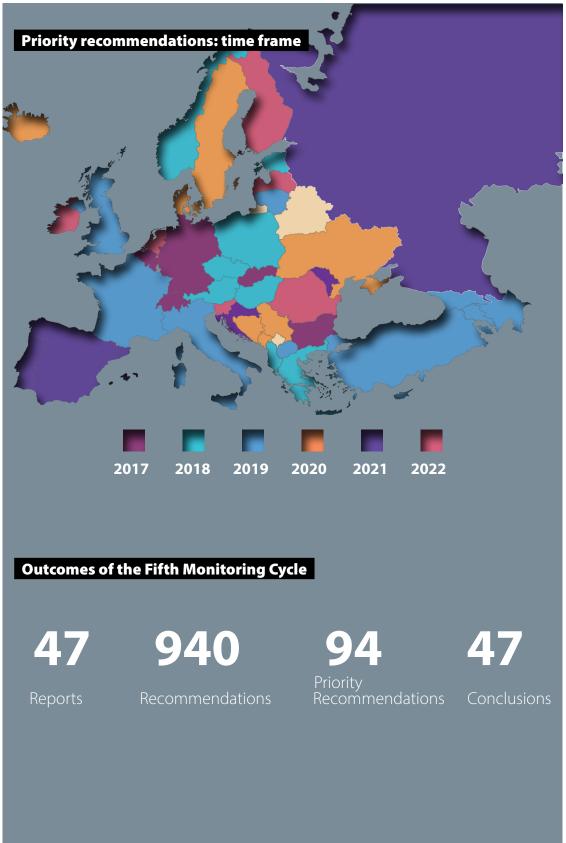
108.Cooperation between ECRI and FRA continued in 2022. ECRI's reports make regular reference to FRA's work. ECRI continued to provide inputs to the preparation of FRA's annual report and to consult FRA materials in the preparation of its country reports.

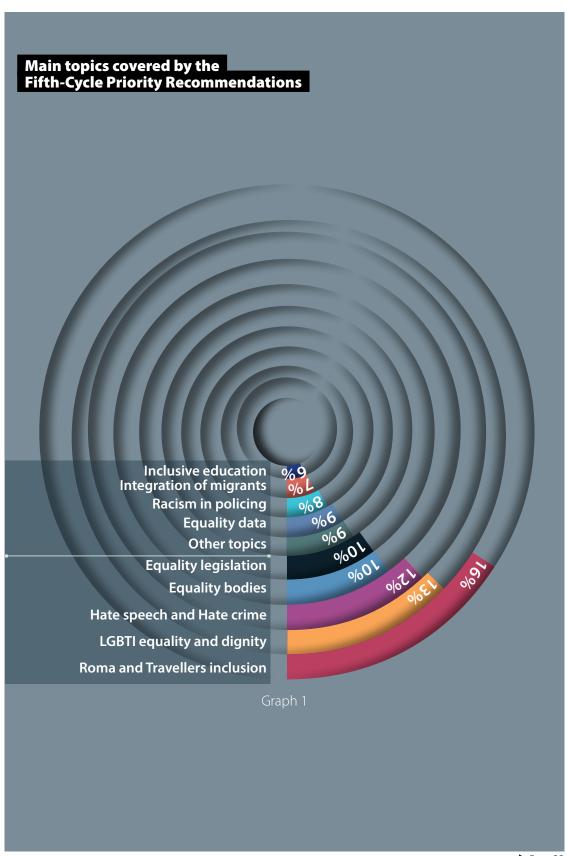
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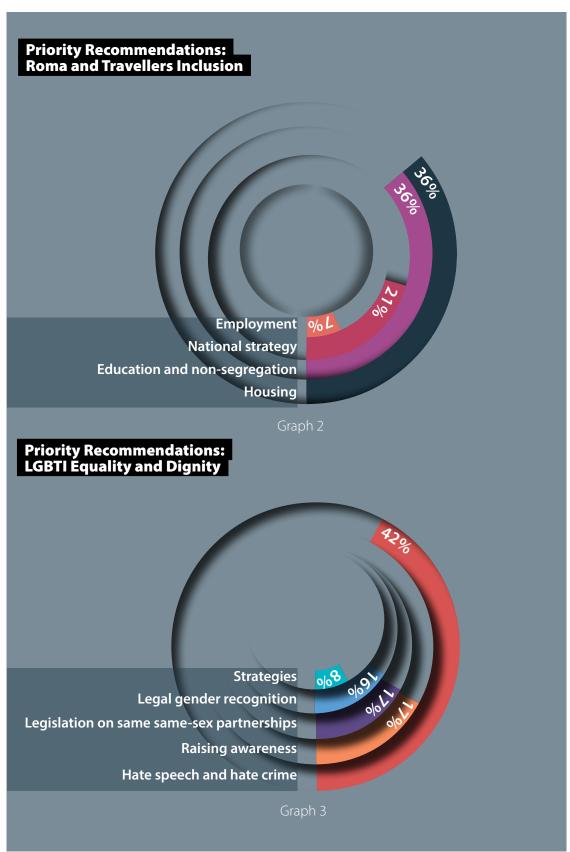
## 04. Fifth monitoring cycle: interim follow-up overview

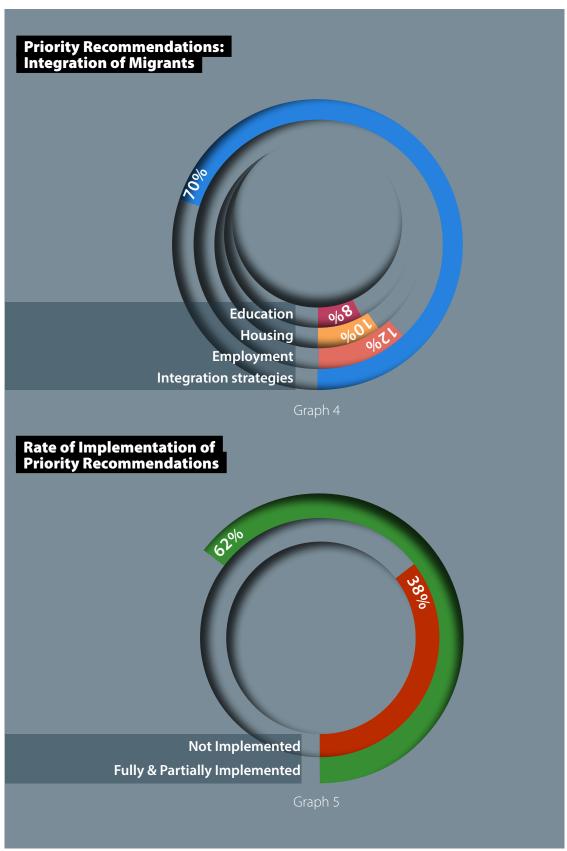
- 109. ECRI began its fifth cycle of country monitoring in 2013. Its last fifth-cycle reports were published in 2019. No later than two years following the publication of each country report, ECRI initiated an interim follow-up process that addressed communications to governments asking what had been done in respect of the specific recommendations for which priority implementation was requested. At the same time, ECRI itself gathered relevant information from other sources. Based on this information and government responses, ECRI drew up conclusions on how its recommendations had been followed up and considered action taken (or not taken) under three categories:
  - ▶ full implementation;
  - partial implementation;
  - ▶ non-implementation.
- 110. ECRI's conclusions only concerned specific interim follow-up recommendations and did not aim at providing a comprehensive analysis of all developments in the fight against racism and intolerance in Council of Europe member States. The first fifth-cycle conclusions were published in 2017 and the last ones were published in 2022.
- 111. A detailed overview of the recommendations concerned and the implementation status is available in Appendix V.

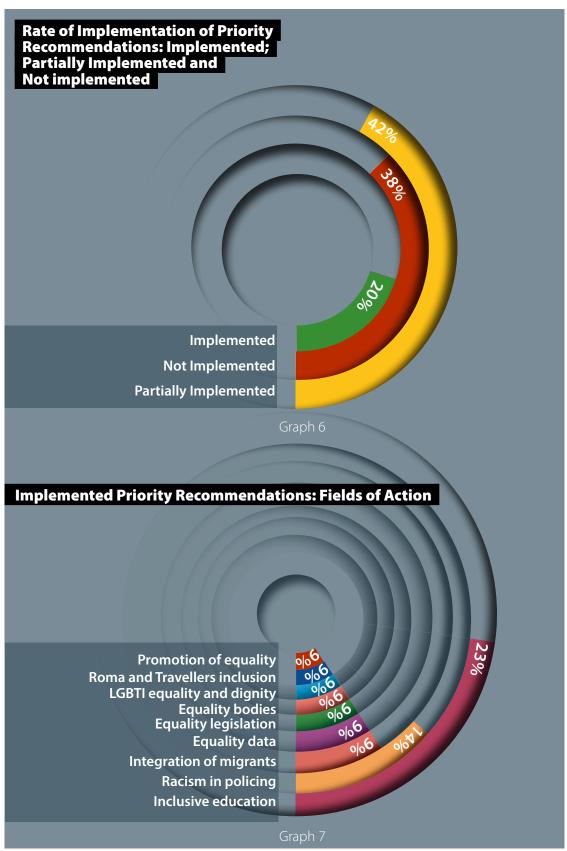






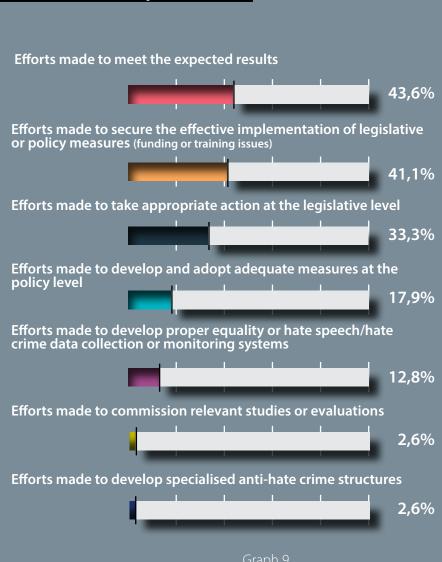






### **Reasons for Non-Implementation** Failure to take appropriate action at the legislative level 48,6% Failure to develop and adopt adequate measures at the policy level 27,2% Failure to develop proper equality or hate speech/hate crime data collection or monitoring systems 13,5% Failure to take action due to unforeseen circumstances 13,5% Failure to meet the expected results 13,5% Failure to secure the effective implementation of legislative or policy measures (including problems of funding or training) 8,1% Failure to sign/ratify Council of Europe binding instruments 5,4% Failure to develop specialised anti-hate crime structures 5,4% Failure to commission relevant studies or evaluations 5,4% Other reasons

#### **Reasons for Partial Implementation**



### **Appendices**

## Appendix I – Membership of ECRI<sup>3</sup>

Name and Surname	Member in respect of	Term of office expires
Arzu AGHDASI-SISAN	Azerbaijan	31 December 2022
Mladen ANTONIJEVIĆ PRILJEVA <sup>4</sup>	Serbia	6 November 2027
Sinisa BJEKOVIĆ	Montenegro	9 December 2023
Bertil COTTIER	Switzerland	31 December 2023
Patrice DAVOST	Monaco	6 December 2025
Vitaliano ESPOSITO	Italy	31 December 2022
Michael FARRELL	Ireland	29 November 2026
Inês FERREIRA LEITE	Portugal	25 September 2023
Saša GAJIN	Serbia	6 November 2022
Domenica GHIDEI BIIDU	Netherlands	7 October 2025
Sara GIMÉNEZ GÍMENEZ	Spain	31 December 2022
Marin GURIN	Republic of Moldova	26 March 2024
Helena HOFMANNOVÁ	Czech Republic	31 December 2022
Vasilika HYSI	Albania	31 December 2022
Irena IVIEVA	Bulgaria	31 December 2022
Barbara JOHN	Germany	31 December 2022
Ögmundur JONASSON	Iceland	31 December 2022
Imre JUHÁSZ	Hungary	31 December 2022
Cristian JURA	Romania	31 December 2022
Anhelita KAMENSKA	Latvia	25 October 2026
Elżbieta KARSKA	Poland	2 May 2022
Els KEYTSMAN	Belgium	31 December 2022
Vigen KOCHARYAN	Armenia	11 February 2025
Neža KOGOVŠEK ŠALAMON	Slovenia	31 December 2022
Volodymyr KULYK	Ukraine	10 December 2023
Renee LAIVIERA	Malta	17 November 2024

<sup>3</sup> All tables in this appendix reflect the situation on 31 December 2022. Sergey Sokolovskiy ceased to be a member of ECRI and the position of ECRI member in respect of the Russian Federation no longer exists as from the moment the Russian Federation ceased to be a member State of the Council of Europe on 16 March 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Member in respect of Serbia as of 7 November 2022. The term of office of the previous member, Saša Gajin, ended on 6 November.

Name and Surname	Member in respect of	Term of office expires
Jean-Paul LEHNERS	Luxembourg	8 February 2026
Šarūnas LIEKIS	Lithuania	31 December 2022
Anna-Sara LIND	Sweden	20 October 2025
Ülle MADISE	Estonia	31 December 2022
Maria Daniella MAROUDA	Greece	4 November 2025
Elena MIHAJLOVA STRATILATI	North Macedonia	9 May 2024
Kristina PARDALOS	San Marino	11 December 2023
Andreas PASCHALIDES	Cyprus	31 December 2022
Karin QUADERER	Liechtenstein	28 May 2024
Jacint RIBERAYGUA CAELLES	Andorra	26 September 2026
Elene RUSETSKAIA	Georgia	31 December 2022
Gerald SCHÖPFER	Austria	27 February 2025
Tena ŠIMONOVIĆ EINWALTER	Croatia	1 July 2024
Aslak SYSE	Norway	31 December 2022
Kadri Ecved TEZCAN	Türkiye	31 December 2022
Anne-Françoise TISSIER	France	15 February 2026
Reetta TOIVANEN	Finland	1 July 2024
Michal VAŠEČKA	Slovakia	31 December 2022
Jens VEDSTED-HANSEN	Denmark	31 December 2022
Michael WHINE	United Kingdom	25 September 2023
Vacant seat	Bosnia and Herzegovina	

### **Deputy to ECRI members**

Name and Surname	Member in respect of	Term of office expires
Costanza HERMANIN	Italy	31 December 2022
Ketevan KHUTSISHVILI	Georgia	31 December 2022
Alexis MARQUET	Monaco	6 December 2025
Marie-Anne MATARD-BONUCCI	France	15 February 2026
Aránzazu MORETÓN TOQUERO	Spain	31 December 2022
Fabienne ROSSLER	Luxembourg	8 February 2026
François SANT'ANGELO	Belgium	31 December 2022
Monika SARGSYAN	Armenia	11 February 2025
Gjergj SINANI	Albania	31 December 2022

#### **Observers to ECRI**

#### Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

- Petra BAYR
- Ann Brit ÅSEBOL
- ► Ahmet YILDIZ

#### Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

► Harald BERGMANN

#### Holy See

Guillaume DRAGO

#### **European Commission (European Union)**

► Michaela MOUA

#### Mexico

- ▶ Irasema ZAVALETA, National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination (CONAPRED)
- Claudia Olivia MORALES REZA, CONAPRED, as of 1 December 2022

#### **United States of America**

► Clarence LUSANE, Howard University, Washington DC

#### **ECRI's Bureau**

- Maria Daniella MAROUDA Chair member in respect of Greece
- Reetta TOIVANEN
   1st Vice-Chair
   member in respect of Finland
- ► Tena ŠIMONOVIĆ EINWALTER 2nd Vice-Chair member in respect of Croatia
- Michael FARRELL Bureau member member in respect of Ireland
- Domenica GHIDEI BIIDU Bureau member member in respect of the Netherlands
- Irena ILIEVA Bureau member member in respect of Bulgaria
- Cristian JURA Bureau member member in respect of Romania

## Appendix II – Secretariat of ECRI<sup>5</sup>

- ▶ Johan FRIESTEDT, Executive Secretary of ECRI
- ► Thobias BERGMANN, Administrator
- ► Mats LINDBERG, Administrator
- ► Elena MALAGONI, Administrator
- Zeynep USAL KANZLER, Administrator
- ▶ Ioulietta BISIOULI, Policy Advisor
- ► Sophie KURT, Researcher/Project Officer
- ▶ Paula ECK-WALTERS, Administrative Assistant
- ► **Robert RUSTEM,** Outreach Officer
- ► Aida-Diana FARKAS, Researcher/Project Officer
- loana PASTINARU, Assistant
- ► Catherine THEREAU, Assistant

#### **External Relations (European Union and OSCE)**

► Stefano VALENTI, Administrator

#### Secretariat's address

Directorate General II - Democracy Directorate of Anti-discrimination Council of Europe 67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX France

Tel.: +33 (0) 3 90 21 46 62 E-mail Secretariat: ecri@coe.int

<sup>5</sup> This appendix generally reflects the situation on 31 December 2022. However, Elena Malagoni left the Council of Europe on 1 November and Aida-Diana Farkas was transferred to the Secretariat of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) on 1 December.

## Appendix III – Meetings held by ECRI in 2022

#### Plenary sessions

- ▶ 29 March-1 April
- ▶ 28 June-1 July
- ► 6-9 December

#### Bureau meetings

- ▶ 10 February
- ≥ 28 March
- ▶ 27 June
- > 5 December

### Meetings of the Working Group on relations with Civil Society and Equality Bodies

- ≥ 28 March
- ▶ 27 June
- ▶ 5 December

Meetings of the working group in charge of the drawing-up of the General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons

- ▶ 18 January
- ► 17 February
- ► 6 April
- 23 May
- ► 6 July
- ≥ 28 September
- ≥ 20 October
- ▶ 15 November
- ▶ 19 December

### Seminar with the equality bodies: can a focus on intersectionality contribute to effective equality?

Strasbourg, 26 September (hybrid format)

#### **Meetings of CBC Working Groups**

#### Preparation of contact visits (through visioconference):

Cyprus: 3 February, 8 March

Armenia: 13 April
Georgia: 7 April

Azerbaijan: 7 April, 10 June

Luxembourg: 22 June, 15 September
 Poland: 5 September, 19 October

North Macedonia: 6 SeptemberIceland: 14 September

#### **Amendments:**

Bulgaria: 29 March
Greece: 29 March
France: 29 March
Hungary: 28 June
Cyprus: 29 June

#### Interim follow-up:

Belgium: 29 April
Germany: 12 May
Switzerland: 13 May
Albania: 4 April
Austria: 25 May
Czech Republic: 25 October
Slovak Republic: 3 November

#### **Contact visits**

Cyprus: 14-18 March
Armenia: 30 May-3 June
Georgia: 16-20 May
Azerbaijan: 13-17 June
Luxembourg: 20-23 September
Iceland: 10-13 October
North Macedonia: 17-21 October
Poland: 24-28 October

## Appendix IV – List of publications<sup>6</sup>

- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.1: Combating racism, xenophobia antisemitism and intolerance (Strasbourg, 4 October 1996)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.2: Equality Bodies to combat racism and intolerance at national level (Strasbourg, 7 December 2017)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.3: combating racism and intolerance against Roma/Gypsies (Strasbourg, 6 March 1998)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.4: National surveys on the experience and perception of discrimination and racism from the point of view of potential victims (Strasbourg, 6 March 1998)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.5: Preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination (Strasbourg, 8 December 2021)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.6: Combating the dissemination of racist, xenophobic and antisemitic material via the Internet (Strasbourg, 15 December 2000)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.7: National legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination (Strasbourg, 13 December 2002 and revised on 7 December 2017)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.8: Combating racism while fighting terrorism (Strasbourg, 17 March 2004)
- ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.9: Preventing and combating Antisemitism (Strasbourg, 1 July 2021)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.10: Combating racism and racial discrimination in and through school education (Strasbourg, 15 December 2006)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.11: Combating racism and racial discrimination in policing (Strasbourg, 29 June 2007)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.12: Combating racism and racial discrimination in the field of sport (Strasbourg, 19 December 2008)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.13: Combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma (Strasbourg, 1 December 2020)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.14: Combating racism and racial discrimination in employment (Strasbourg, 22 June 2012)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.15: Combating Hate Speech (Strasbourg, 8 December 2015)
- ► ECRI General Policy Recommendation No.16: Safeguarding irregularly present migrants from discrimination (Strasbourg, 16 March 2016)

<sup>6</sup> Publications that are out of date are no longer on this list. The dates appearing in the list of General Policy Recommendations are dates of adoption. The dates appearing in the list of reports and conclusions are dates of publication.

#### **ECRI's country-by-country approach:**

#### First round:

- Volume I (Strasbourg, September 1997)
- ► Volume II (Strasbourg, March 1998)
- ► Volume III (Strasbourg, 15 June 1998)
- ► Volume IV (Strasbourg, 26 January 1999)
- Volume V (Strasbourg, 13 March 1999)
- Volume VI (Strasbourg, 24 May 1999)
- ➤ Volume VII (Strasbourg, 9 November 1999)

#### Second round:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 3 April 2001)
- Andorra (Strasbourg, 15 April 2003)
- Armenia (Strasbourg, 8 July 2003)
- Austria (Strasbourg, 3 April 2001)
- Azerbaijan (Strasbourg, 15 April 2003)
- Belgium (Strasbourg, 21 March 2000)
- ► Bulgaria (Strasbourg, 21 March 2000)
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- Portugal (Strasbourg, 4 November 2002)
- Romania (Strasbourg, 23 April 2002)
- ► Russian Federation (Strasbourg, 13 November 2001)
- San Marino (Strasbourg, 4 November 2003)
- Slovakia (Strasbourg, 27 June 2000)

- ➤ Slovenia (Strasbourg, 8 July 2003)
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- Sweden (Strasbourg, 15 April 2003)
- ➤ Switzerland (Strasbourg, 21 March 2000)
- North Macedonia (Strasbourg, 3 April 2001)
- ► Türkiye (Strasbourg, 3 July 2001)
- ► Ukraine (Strasbourg, 23 July 2002)
- ► United Kingdom (Strasbourg, 3 April 2001)
- Compilation of second round reports (Strasbourg, February 2004)

#### Third round:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 14 June 2005)
- Andorra (Strasbourg, 12 February 2008)
- Armenia (Strasbourg, 13 February 2007)
- Austria (Strasbourg, 15 February 2005)
- Azerbaijan (Strasbourg, 24 May 2007)
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- Türkiye (Strasbourg, 15 February 2005)
- ► Ukraine (Strasbourg, 12 February 2008)
- ► United Kingdom (Strasbourg, 14 June 2005)

#### Fourth round - reports:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 2 March 2010)
- Andorra (Strasbourg, 22 May 2012)
- Armenia (Strasbourg, 9 February 2011)
- Austria (Strasbourg, 2 March 2010)
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#### Fourth round - conclusions:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 19 February 2013)
- Andorra (Strasbourg, 9 June 2015)
- Armenia (Strasbourg, 25 February 2014)
- Austria (Strasbourg, 19 February 2013)
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- United Kingdom (Strasbourg, 19 February 2013)

#### Fifth round - reports:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 9 June 2015)
- Andorra (Strasbourg, 28 February 2017)
- Armenia (Strasbourg, 4 October 2016)
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#### Fifth round - conclusions:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 15 May 2018)
- Armenia (Strasbourg, 10 September 2019)
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#### Sixth round - reports:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 2 June 2020)
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- ► Bulgaria (Strasbourg, 4 October 2022)
- Czech Republic (Strasbourg, 8 December 2020)
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- ► Greece (Strasbourg, 22 September 2022)
- Monaco (Strasbourg, 9 June 2022)
- Norway (Strasbourg, 23 February 2021)
- ► Slovak Republic (Strasbourg, 8 December 2020)
- Switzerland (Strasbourg, 19 March 2020)

#### Sixth round - conclusions:

- ► Albania (Strasbourg, 20 September 2022)
- Austria (Strasbourg, 20 September 2022)
- ► Belgium (Strasbourg, 20 September 2022)
- Finland (Strasbourg, 20 September 2022)
- ► Germany (Strasbourg, 20 September 2022)
- Switzerland (Strasbourg, 20 September 2022)

#### Other material:

Proceedings of the Seminar "Combating racism while respecting freedom of expression", 16-17 November 2006 (Strasbourg, July 2007)

"Ethnic" statistics and data protection in the Council of Europe countries, by Patrick Simon, Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (Strasbourg, November 2007)

"Cooperation for effectiveness: Local authorities and national specialised bodies combating racism and intolerance", ECRI study by Niall Crowley (Strasbourg, May 2015)

"National Specialised Bodies: Effective implementation of their advisory function", ECRI study by Niall Crowley (Strasbourg, December 2016)

"25 Years of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance: Impact in the Field of Equality", ECRI study by Timothy Jacob-Owens (Strasbourg, August 2019)

"Moving Forward: Increasing ECRI's Impact", ECRI study by Nils Muižnieks (Strasbourg, September 2019)

# Appendix V – Fifth-cycle priority recommendations and implementation status



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities ensure effective access to justice for victims of discrimination through a functioning and properly funded legal aid system.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities ensure that all Roma, as well as other persons, who may be evicted from their homes enjoy all the guarantees that international texts provide for in this connection; they should be notified of the planned eviction well in advance and benefit from appropriate legal protection; and they should not be evicted without the possibility of being rehoused in decent accommodation.

#### Status: Partially Implemented



#### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly reiterated its recommendation to ensure the existence of a body with specialised capacity to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance at national level in the public and private sectors in line with its GPR Nos. 2 and 7 on specialised bodies and on national legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination.

### Status: Fully Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities introduce into the law the principle of sharing the burden of proof where discrimination complaints on grounds of "race", colour, ethnic origin, nationality, religion, language, gender identity and sexual orientation are brought before the civil or administrative courts.

Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities bring their criminal law, in general, into line with General Policy Recommendation No. 7; in particular they should (i) explicitly include the grounds of colour, language, nationality (understood as citizenship), national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, and gender identity in the list of "prohibited grounds"; (ii) criminalise incitement to violence and incitement to racial discrimination, and (iii) criminalise the public denial, trivialisation, justification or condoning of crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the various action plans containing programmes for the integration of vulnerable groups include a description of their objectives, understood as changes to be obtained in the situation of all vulnerable groups concerned, a complete set of criteria for assessing the impact on these groups, and a clear financial plan, identifying actions to be funded by the State budget and actions for which financing has to be sought from external donors. This recommendation applies to existing stand-alone programmes and to future programmes deriving from the comprehensive integration policies currently being developed.

#### Status: Partially Implemented



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Austrian authorities merge the various anti-discrimination acts and institutions of the Federation and the Länder in order to improve the protection afforded to victims of racism and discrimination.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that Austria ratifies the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems.



#### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities create conditions under which a diverse and independent civil society can develop by implementing the detailed recommendations of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly's (§§ 11.1, 11.2 and 11.6 to 11.8 of Resolution 2062(2015)) and of the Venice Commission (§ 94 of Opinion No. 787/2014).

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities fulfill the promise given when acceding to the Council of Europe to enact legislation on alternatives to military service as already foreseen in Article 76 of the Azerbaijani Constitution.

Status: Not Implemented



### Report published in 2014 Conclusions published in 2017

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities carry out without any further delay the assessment of the application and effectiveness of the legislation against racism and intolerance as contained in the 2007 acts in accordance with Article 52 of the Anti-discrimination Federal Act, in order to identify any gaps that need to be closed or any improvements or clarifications that might be required.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Belgian authorities conclude as soon as possible the legislative process to turn the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism into a fully independent inter-federal institution dedicated to helping all victims of discrimination on the grounds within its competence.

Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ombudsman Institution in order to empower it to carry out its anti-discrimination mandate effectively. This should include, inter alia, streamlined decision-making processes and an adequate increase in funding to provide for sufficient human resources and awareness-raising campaigns. The authorities should also ensure that in the context of planned amendments to the Ombudsman Law, the Ombudsman Institution maintains its full financial independence from the government. Furthermore, the authorities should intensify their efforts to promote compliance with the recommendations of the Ombudsman Institution.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI strongly reiterated the recommendations made in §§ 68-72 of its 2010 report, in particular concerning the urgent need to end all forms of segregation in schools, including "two schools under one roof" and monoethnic schools, and the application and further development of the common core curriculum. ECRI also strongly recommended ensuring inclusive and non-discriminatory learning environments in all schools and the removal of any symbols that represent an ethnic or religious bias.

Status: Not Implemented



### Report published in 2014 Conclusions published in 2017

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities urgently organise an awareness-raising campaign promoting a positive image of and tolerance for asylum seekers and refugees and ensuring that the public understands the need for international protection.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Commission for Protection against Discrimination produces and publishes information about discrimination, and explaining the procedures for discrimination complaints, in a variety of languages used in the country and disseminates it widely.

Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities introduce compulsory human rights education as part of civic education into all school curricula, especially as regards the right to equality and the prohibition of discrimination. Appropriate textbooks should be developed and teachers should continue receiving the necessary training in these subjects.

#### Status: Fully Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities ensure that the National Roma Inclusion Strategy (2013-2020) is accompanied by an evaluation of all integration projects implemented over recent years, on the basis of comprehensive equality data. The strategy should be revised systematically to include more targeted measures and success indicators to measure its impact and to redefine its parameters and goals where necessary. This should be done in close cooperation with regional and local authorities as well as members of the Roma community and adequate funding should be allocated for the strategy to be effective.

#### Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that the Commissioner for Administration and Human Rights is consulted on all appointments of staff to her office, thereby contributing to her independence, and that the authorities allocate an adequate budget for her to carry out her functions properly.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities develop a new integration plan for non-nationals, including foreign domestic workers, refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection and other migrants. This should be done in close cooperation with the UNHCR, relevant NGOs and migrant associations, and should be accompanied by an awareness-raising campaign to inform the public, as well as employers and financial institutions, about the rights of beneficiaries of international protection.



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities carry out their plans to introduce at least one year of compulsory and free of charge preschool for all children before entry to mainstream primary education.

#### Status: Fully Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities remove from the amendment to Article 16 of the Schools Act all references to social and cultural environment for the assessment of mental disability in children, so that no Roma child could be wrongly assigned to a practical school.\*

Status:Fully Implemented

\* The authorities removed the disputed provisions from the amendment before the final adoption by ECRI of its fifthcycle report on the Czech Republic.



### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Danish authorities set up a comprehensive data collection system for racist and homo-/ transphobic hate speech incidents, with fully disaggregated data by category of offence, type of hate motivation, target group, as well as judicial follow-up and outcome. Furthermore, the authorities should take active measures to tackle under-reporting of hate speech, including by taking inspiration from ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 15 on combating hate speech.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities take urgent measures to end ethnic segregation in the Langkaer school in Aarhus and prevent any such practices in Danish schools in the future. Furthermore, ECRI reiterates its recommendation made in 2012 to combat school segregation by devising, in consultation with all the parties concerned and taking into account the socio-economic dimension (employment and housing) policies to avoid, in the best interest of the child, pupils from minority groups being overrepresented in certain schools as proposed in its General Policy Recommendation No. 10 on combating racism and racial discrimination in and through school education.

Status: Fully Implemented



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities introduce without delay in parliamentary proceedings a draft amendment to Article 151 of the Criminal Code, removing the restriction whereby an offence cannot be deemed to have taken place unless it is proven that it entails a risk to the health, life or property of the victim. At the same time, ECRI recommended that the authorities put in place a system to collect data and produce statistics offering an integrated and consistent view of the cases of racist and homo/transphobic hate speech and violence brought to the attention of the police and/or being pursued through the courts.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities take advantage of the launch of the 2020 integration strategy to run an information campaign for all vulnerable groups, and in particular the Russian-speaking minority and/or persons of undetermined citizenship, placing the emphasis on the fact that the state believes that each of these groups should integrate fully into Estonian society and that they are welcome there.

### Status:Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2022

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the National Non-Discrimination and Equality Tribunal should be empowered to deal with complaints of discrimination in employment on all prohibited grounds and not solely on the grounds of gender and gender identity; that the Tribunal should be empowered to grant compensation to victims of discrimination; and that the resources of the Tribunal should be substantially increased to enable it to fully carry out its mandate.

### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that, in conformity with the case law of the European Court of Human Rights, the Act on Legal Recognition of the Gender of Transsexuals should be amended to remove the requirement that persons seeking recognition in a gender other than that in which they were originally registered should be infertile or should undergo sterilisation as a pre-condition for legal recognition.



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the French authorities fight racial and homophobic/transphobic stereotypes and prejudices effectively to deal better with the concrete challenges that arise due to living together in an intercultural world. To this end, ECRI recommended that school curricula and teacher training programmes are revised in order to enable teachers and pupils to understand better societal issues linked to questions such as religions and beliefs as well as immigration matters.

#### Status: Fully Implemented

ECRI recommended that the French authorities take immediate and proactive measures to ensure that no legitimate "residence" application submitted by persons belonging to vulnerable groups such as Roma is turned down and that the periods for processing these applications are reduced to the absolute minimum.

#### Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Georgian authorities set up a specialised unit within the police to deal specifically with racist and homo-/transphobic hate crime. When establishing this unit, the authorities should seek expert advice from the Public Defender, relevant NGOs and international organisations.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Georgian authorities scale up their support for the Council of Religions, which operates under the auspices of the Public Defender's Tolerance Centre. The authorities should in particular task the newly created State Agency for Religious Issues to cooperate with the Council of Religions and utilise the Council's expertise and recommendations in order to tackle the problem of religious intolerance.



### Report published in 2014 Conclusions published in 2017

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI reiterated its recommendation to the authorities to ratify Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights as soon as possible.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the German authorities reform their system for recording and following up "racist, xenophobic, homophobic and transphobic" incidents in order to ensure that all cases involving such a motive are recorded (§ 12 of General Policy Recommendation No. 11).

#### Status: Partially Implemented



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended the creation of a Task Force to develop a comprehensive national strategy to combat racism and intolerance. Such a Task Force should be composed of the relevant authorities, the two independent bodies (Ombudsman and National Commission for Human Rights) and NGOs, so as to enhance the cooperation between the authorities and civil society on this matter. The national strategy should, inter alia, include a situation analysis, an overview of existing measures, gaps and needs, and strategic recommendations on how to address them, including targets and measurable indicators.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the question of a racist and/or homo-/ transphobic motivation in cases of violent incidents is made an integral part of investigations and judicial proceedings from their very beginning. To this end, ECRI recommended training for the police, for which programmes proposed by international organisations could be used. ECRI also recommended that the authorities offer training to judges and prosecutors on the application of Article 81A of the Criminal Code on hate motivated offences.

Status:
Fully Implemented



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that open reception facilities are used to accommodate asylum seekers, in particular families with children.

Status: Not Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that the central Government takes action in all cases where local authorities attempt to force Roma out of social housing, evict them from their homes without ensuring suitable alternatives or subject them to directly or indirectly discriminatory rules in respect of housing.

Status: Not Implemented



#### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly reiterated its recommendation to enact comprehensive antidiscrimination legislation, taking account of its General Policy Recommendation No. 7 on national legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination.

Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities carry out their plans to bring integration measures and services for refugees from the asylum system to similar levels as for quota refugees under the new action plan on integration of non-nationals, especially as concerns access to housing, employment and Icelandic language classes.

Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2022

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that a solution be found to the issue of failure by local authorities to use funding allocated for Traveller accommodation. Possibilities include imposing dissuasive sanctions on local authorities for failure to spend allocated funding or removing the responsibility for Traveller accommodation from local authorities and placing it under the authority of a central housing commission.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that new hate speech and hate crime legislation be enacted in consultation with relevant civil society actors. Inspiration should be taken from ECRI's GPR Nos. 7 and 15, and hate based on the following grounds should be included: race, colour, ethnic/national origin, citizenship, language, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

#### **ITALY**



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI reiterated its recommendation to the Italian authorities to ensure that UNAR's (Ufficio nazionale antidiscriminazioni razziali) full independence is secured both in law and in fact; to extend its powers so that the relevant legislation clearly covers discrimination based not only on ethnic origin and race but also on colour, language, religion, nationality and national origin; and to grant it the right to bring legal proceedings. The authorities should also ensure that any move to merge UNAR with an independent body with a broader remit guarantees the full implementation of the above recommendations and provides for all the human and financial resources necessary to fulfil its mission.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities implement in schools at every level, be it in the framework of the implementation of Act No. 107/15" on good schooling" or in the context of the continuing National LGBT Strategy, measures to promote mutual tolerance and respect at school, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. In particular these measures should provide all pupils and students with the information, the protection and the support they need in order to be able to live in harmony with their sexual orientation and their gender identity.

Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities establish a unit within the State Police tasked with reaching out to vulnerable groups in order to increase trust in the police and address the problem of under-reporting of racist and homo-/transphobic hate crimes.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Latvian authorities provide for the automatic recognition of Latvian citizenship for children born to "non-citizens".

#### Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities commission a study about the problems that the different groups of migrants (including non-German speaking migrants, refugees, religious minorities, Muslims and cross-border commuters) face and develop a new strategy and action plan on the integration of migrants and people with migration backgrounds in all areas of life. The new national integration action plan should specify the actual measures to be implemented to achieve the goals set. Each goal and measure should be accompanied by indicators, base lines, target values, a timetable and an authority or person responsible for their implementation. Implementation should be assessed on a regular basis. The authorities should reach agreements with the employers about their contribution to this plan.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities commission a study about the problems that LGBT people face and what measures should be taken to remedy these problems.



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Lithuanian authorities, as part of the Action Plan for Roma Integration 2015-2020, resolve the difficult housing situation of Roma, inter alia by (i) co-operating more closely with and financially supporting relevant local authorities, in particular the Municipality of Vilnius, to provide sufficient social housing to vulnerable members of the Roma community; and (ii) working with rental agencies and associations of private landlords to overcome prejudices against Roma in the private- sector housing market. Furthermore, recalling its 2011 recommendation concerning the Kirtimai settlement and expressing concern that no steps have been taken to provide suitable accommodation since then, ECRI strongly recommends that the authorities take steps as soon as possible to provide proper accommodation for this community and, in the meantime, ensure that no evictions take place, and that all necessary public services are provided to the people in the Kirtimai settlement.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Lithuanian authorities, as part of the Inter-Institutional Action Plan for 2015-2020 on Non-Discrimination, set up an inter-institutional working group to develop a comprehensive strategy to tackle effectively the problem of racist and homo-/transphobic hate speech. This group should include the relevant authorities, as well as civil society organisations, including, amongst others, representatives of the LGBT community.

Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Luxembourg authorities quickly adopt a new national integration action plan and provide it with an appropriate budget. They should then ensure that all its objectives are achieved by implementing the measures set out in it.

### Status:Fully Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Luxembourg authorities adopt, as soon as possible, a law on name changes and gender recognition for transgender persons, drawing inspiration from international recommendations and especially from Resolution 2048 (2015) of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly.

Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly reiterated its recommendation to ensure that a mechanism for collecting disaggregated data on hate crime incidents, including hate speech, on grounds of race, colour, language, religion, ethnic origin, citizenship, sexual orientation and gender identity, is put in place, recording the specific bias motivation as well as the criminal justice response, and that this data is made available to the public.

#### Status: Fully Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities continue to allow persons who cannot be returned to their country of origin to stay legally in Malta and that for those who have resided in Malta for more than ten years, the authorities should consider a more permanent form of regularisation.

### Status:Not Implemented



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities should strengthen the institutional capacity of the Council to Prevent and Combat Discrimination and Ensure Equality (CPPEDAE) and the People's Advocate (the Ombudsman). In this regard, the authorities should, in particular, i) amend the relevant procedural rules to ensure the effective implementation of the mandate of the CPPEDAE, ii) allocate both institutions sufficient financial and human resources, including funding to provide for awareness-raising campaigns, iii) ensure that both institutions maintain their full financial independence from the government, and iv) intensify their efforts to promote compliance with the recommendations of the CPPEDAE and the Ombudsman.

### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the training activities for law enforcement officials and the judiciary on hate crime, including hate speech, are scaled up. Such training should cover racist and homo-/transphobic hate crime as well as racial profiling. ECRI also recommends that the authorities carry out an impact assessment to evaluate the training to establish to what extent it helps to identify hate crime effectively and to adjust it, if necessary.

Status: Partially Implemented



#### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities bring Monegasque criminal law into conformity with General Policy Recommendation No. 7 and, in particular, that the law explicitly make racist motivation an aggravating circumstance for any ordinary offence.

#### Status:

#### **Partially Implemented**

ECRI recommended that the Monegasque authorities repeal the provisions whereby a majority of the members of the organs of trade unions and their federations need to be Monegasque and French nationals.

### Status:Not implemented



### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities put in place a system for collecting disaggregated data in order to provide a coherent, integrated view of the cases, by recording the specific bias motivation of racist and homo/transphobic hate crime (hate speech and violence) reported to the police as well as the follow-up given by the justice system, and that this data is made available to the public.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities institutionalise and increase the number of Roma Mediators/Assistants at the preschool and primary school level to ensure children's attendance and decrease the risk of dropping out.

#### Status: Fully Implemented



### Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2022

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Dutch authorities adopt an integration strategy and action plan that openly states that integration is a two-way process and contains measures to mobilise the entire society to facilitate, support and promote integration. The authorities should organise the integration process themselves by providing free language and integration courses as from the first moment and provide for the possibility to adapt integration programmes to the individual needs and capacities of people with migration backgrounds and Antilleans. Integration indicators and targets to reach should be defined for all objectives and measures.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities insert for all objectives and measures of the Action Plan against Labour Market Discrimination indicators and measurable targets to reach. Within this plan, they should continue focusing on access to the labour market, ensure that non-discriminatory recruitment procedures are developed and implemented, and extend the competences of the labour inspectorates to the field of recruitment.

Status: Not Implemented



### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities fill all the vacant positions in the Ombudsman's office as a first step towards ensuring that the office is adequately staffed in proportion to its workload. In this connection, the authorities should also provide secretarial support staff to the Commission for the Protection against Discrimination.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities carry out an independent comprehensive study on all forms of discrimination against LGBT persons jointly with the LGBT community. This study should also pave the way towards preparing and adopting an action plan to end such forms of discrimination.



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities give the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud and the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Tribunal the power to "recommend cases to court free of charge", so that victims do not have to pay court fees and get their legal representation for free.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities set up an IT-based system for recording and monitoring racist and homo/ transphobic incidents and their processing through the judicial system (§ 12 of ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 11 on Combating racism and racial discrimination in policing).

#### Status: Partially Implemented



#### Report published in 2015 Conclusions published in 2018

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Polish authorities extend the mandate of the Anti-Cybercrime Division of the Criminal Prosecutions Office at the National Police Headquarters to include monitoring of illegal activities aimed at inciting hatred.

#### Status: Fully Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Polish authorities draft and submit to Parliament legislation, or amendments to existing legislation, in order to enshrine in Polish law the equality and dignity of LGBT persons in all areas of life.

Status: Partially Implemented



Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities ensure that there are no cases of illegal forced evictions and that anyone at risk of being forcibly evicted from their home is afforded the full range of guarantees provided for in international and national texts on the subject: they should be given sufficient advance notification of any decision to forcibly evict them, and they should be entitled to appropriate legal protection and not be evicted without the possibility of being rehoused in decent accommodation.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities ensure that all Roma children rigorously attend compulsory schooling up to the age of 18 years.

#### Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2022

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the authorities put in place a system to collect data and produce statistics offering an integrated and consistent view of cases of racist and homo/transphobic hate speech and hate crime brought to the attention of the police and pursued through the courts and that this data is made available to the public.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities provide further training for police officers, prosecutors and judges on how to deal with racist and homo-/transphobic acts of violence. This should include improved procedures for recognising bias motivations. Furthermore, it also recommended that in order to address the problem of underreporting, the authorities enhance cooperation between the police and vulnerable groups, in particular the Roma and the LGBT community.

Status: Fully Implemented



Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly reiterated its recommendation that the authorities set up a body independent of the police and prosecution authorities competent to investigate all complaints against the police, as per § 10 of its General Policy Recommendation No. 11 on combating racism and racial discrimination in policing.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Russian authorities abolish the legal ban on the provision of information about homosexuality to minors (legislation on the so-called "promotion of non-traditional sexual relations among minors"), in line with the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case Bayev and others v. Russia.

#### Status: Not Implemented



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended to the authorities of San Marino that non-nationals residing in San Marino be granted voting and eligibility rights in local elections (Giunte di Castello), in accordance with the principles laid down in the Council of Europe Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life at Local Level.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the San Marinese authorities begin as soon as possible the process for adopting legislation governing same-sex relationships.

Status: Fully Implemented

#### **SERBIA**



### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### Priority Recommendations:

ECRI recommended that the Serbian Parliament and Government adopt codes of conduct, which prohibit the use of hate speech, provide for suspension of mandate and other sanctions for breach of their provisions and establish effective reporting channels.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities give high priority to hiring a proportionate number of Roma and members of other minorities to the civil service and ensure that they benefit from equally stable working conditions as other civil servants.

Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2014 Conclusions published in 2017

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that a mechanism for collecting disaggregated data on hate speech incidents is put in place, recording the specific bias motivation, as well as the follow-up given to them by the justice system, and that this data is made available to the public.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended to start without delay reforming the Slovak National Centre for Human Rights in light of the findings of the recent evaluation of its performance. The reformed institution should be endowed with sufficient financial and human resources in order to fulfil independently and efficiently the tasks assigned to it by the Anti-discrimination Act, whether the authorities opt for the maintenance of an equality body or for the creation of a general human rights institution (anti-discrimination function being one of its tasks).



### Report published in 2019 Conclusions published in 2022

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that, in keeping with ECRI's General Policy Recommendations No. 7 on national legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination and No. 15 on combating hate speech, the authorities remedy the gaps identified in paragraphs 4-6 of its report. In particular the prosecution authorities should refrain from introducing requirements for the imposition of criminal responsibility of conduct inciting to hatred and violence, which are not provided by the law.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI reiterated its recommendation that the authorities gather disaggregated equality data for the purpose of combating racial discrimination. If necessary, the authorities should propose legislative clarification to ensure that data is collected in all cases with due respect for standards on data protection, including principles of confidentiality, informed consent and voluntary self-identification.

Status: Not Implemented

#### **SPAIN**



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2021

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that the Spanish authorities take urgent steps to set up an independent equality body or to ensure that the Council of Elimination of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination (CERED) be made independent and be provided with the competencies and powers outlined in ECRI's General Policy Recommendations Nos. 2 and 7.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI reiterated its recommendation from its fourth report (paragraph 69) and strongly recommended that the Spanish authorities develop and implement a set of activities for ensuring that the share of Roma children completing obligatory schooling quickly increases.



### Report published in 2018 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI recommended that adequate powers and expertise to investigate discrimination by all public authorities, including law enforcement agencies, be vested in the Ombuds institutions. Furthermore, ECRI encouraged the Parliamentary Ombudsman to work in consultation with the Equality Ombudsman in these cases.

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that the authorities review the Introduction Programme for refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection with the aim of strengthening it and achieving higher success rates in labour market participation, paying particular attention to addressing the specific needs of women.

Status: Partially Implemented



#### Report published in 2014 Conclusions published in 2017

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI again recommended that the Swiss authorities confer on the Federal Commission against Racism tasks and responsibilities for (i) providing aid and assistance to victims, including legal assistance, so that they can assert their rights with the authorities and the courts, (ii) receiving complaints and seeking settlements either through amicable conciliation or through binding and enforceable decisions, (iii) gathering evidence and information and (iv) having recourse to the courts and intervening in judicial proceedings (Principle 3 of General Policy Recommendation No. 2).

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI recommended that the Swiss authorities task one or more independent authorities to promote understanding of LGBT persons and combat the discrimination from which they suffer. These authorities should cover the whole of Switzerland and be given a specific budget for this purpose.



#### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that the Turkish authorities ensure that the provisions on the independence and mandate of the new Human Rights and Equality Authority comply with ECRI's General Policy Recommendations Nos. 2 and 7. This institution should not be a government department and its members should not be appointed by the executive. It should also be given clear authority to hear witnesses in the course of its investigations and the right to initiate and participate in court proceedings. Moreover, the authorities should bring their anti-discrimination legislation fully into line with ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 7; in particular they should include the grounds of citizenship, sexual orientation and gender identity in the list of grounds of prohibited discrimination and insert rules on the compensation of victims and the burden of proof in court cases.

#### Status: Partially Implemented

ECRI repeated and insisted on its recommendation to entrust a body that is fully independent of the police, other security forces and the prosecution services with the investigation of alleged cases of misconduct by members of the police or other security forces, including ill-treatment directed against members of vulnerable groups. To implement this recommendation, the Ombudsperson should be given a clear mandate to deal with this issue.

#### Status: Partially Implemented



### Report published in 2017 Conclusions published in 2020

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that sexual orientation and gender identity are specifically included as grounds in Article 161(1) and (2) of the Criminal Code as well as in all the aggravated forms of offences and the general provisions on aggravating circumstances under Article 67(1)(3).

#### Status: Not Implemented

ECRI recommended that court fees are waived in cases of Roma seeking to prove their identity for the purpose of obtaining personal identification documents.



#### Report published in 2016 Conclusions published in 2019

#### **Priority Recommendations:**

ECRI strongly recommended that the authorities of Northern Ireland consolidate equality legislation into a single, comprehensive equality act, taking inspiration from the Equality Act 2010, and taking account of the recommendations of the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland, as well as ECRI's recommendations in § 19 of its report.

Status: Not Implemented

ECRI strongly recommended that data is collected on the application of the Equality Act 2010, from the filing of a complaint to the final outcome.

Status: Partially Implemented The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) is a unique human rights monitoring body which specialises in questions relating to the fight against racism, discrimination (on grounds of "race", ethnic/national origin, colour, citizenship, religion, language, sexual orientation and gender identity), xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance in Europe.

ECRI was set up by the first Summit of Heads of State and Government of the member states of the Council of Europe in 1993 and became operational in 1994. As ECRI marks almost 30 years of combating racism and intolerance, current trends show that these are still persistent problems in European societies that require renewed efforts to be overcome.

ECRI is composed of 46 members appointed on the basis of their independence, impartiality, moral authority and expertise in dealing with issues of racism, discrimination, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance. Each Council of Europe member state appoints one person to serve as a member of ECRI.

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

