

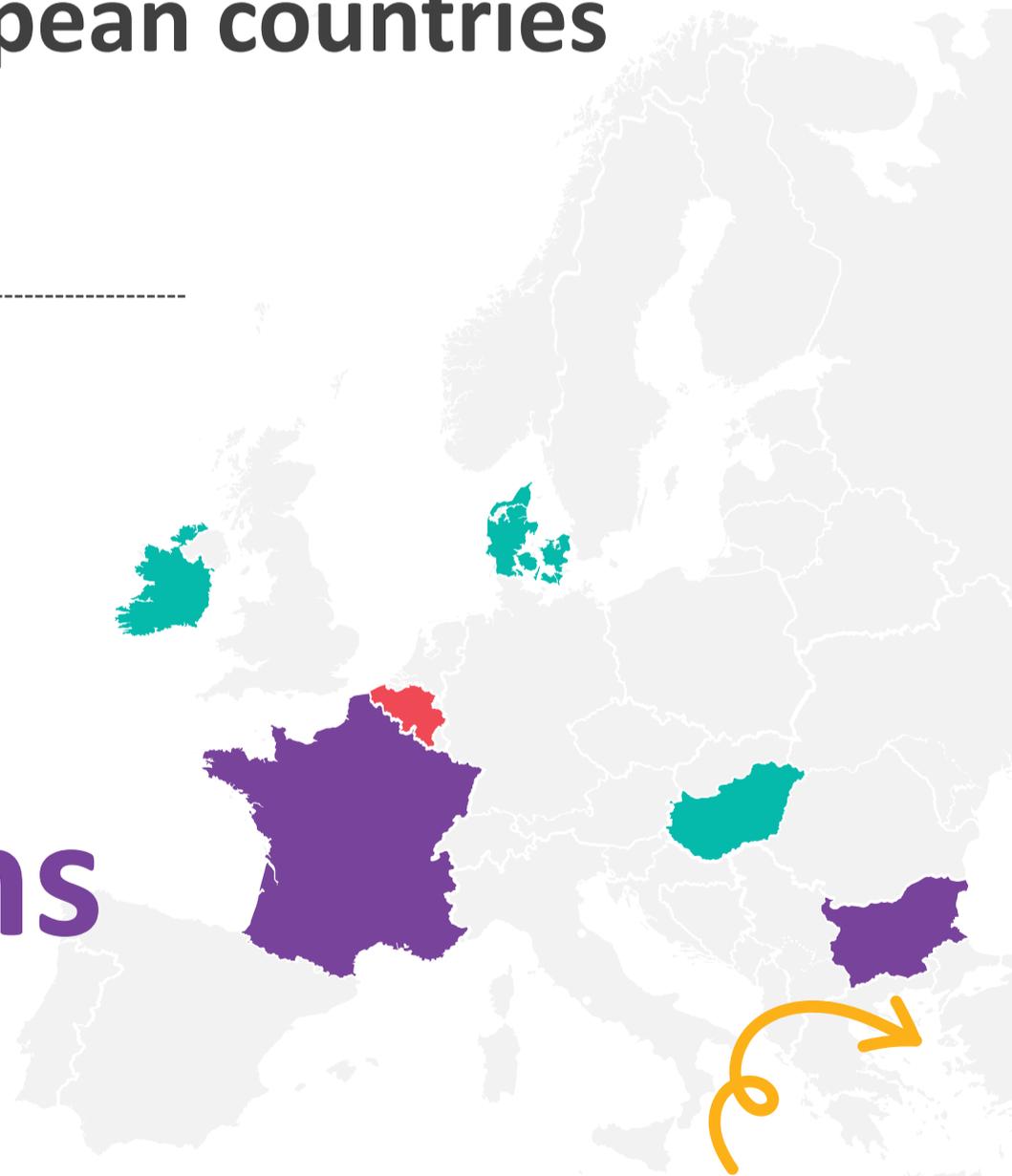
The SPHERE+ Evidence Base

Investigating knowledge gaps, hate speech, and institutional cooperation across countries on LGBTIQ+ issues

154 from **politicians and public officials** across **6 European countries**

Responses

+70
Civil Society Organisations Engaged



LGBTIQ+ Issues: Still Marginal in Political Conversation

Most decision-makers report that **LGBTIQ+ issues** are discussed only rarely or occasionally. Country snapshot:

Belgium

70- 80% report rare or occasional discussion

France

65% report occasional, rare, or no discussion

Denmark

majority report occasional or rare discussion

Ireland

higher engagement, but discussion remains mostly occasional

Bulgaria

75-80% report rare or no discussion

Hungary

70%+ report occasional or rare discussion



Where Hostility Happens

Online Spaces Are the Primary Site of Anti-LGBTIQ+ Hostility

Up to 100%

of respondents reported online environments as the main space for hostility

Highest Reported Impact

- Denmark
- Hungary
- Ireland

Moderate To High Impact

- France
- Bulgaria

Lowest, But Still Present

- Belgium

Across all six countries, politicians and public officials identified **online hate speech** as a very great or considerable challenge.



Training Gap Among Decision - Makers

Politicians

Majorities of politicians reported no training on LGBTIQ+ issues

- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Hungary
- Ireland

Up to 9 in 10 politicians

had no training on anti-LGBTIQ+ hate speech



Training Gap Among Decision - Makers

Public Officials

Some training on LGBTIQ+ issues

- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- France

Little to no training

- Denmark
- Hungary
- Ireland

Exception

- Bulgaria – majority received hate-speech training

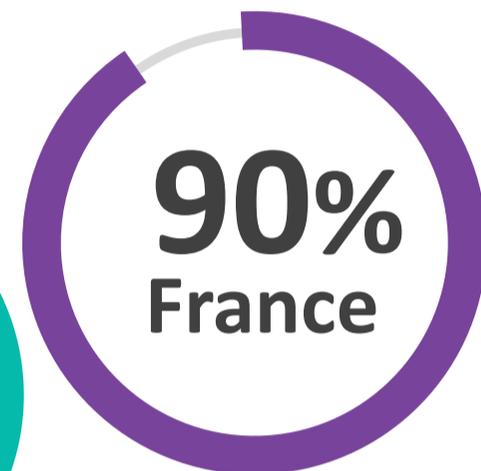


Civil Society Organisations: On the Front Line

Exposure to Hate Speech

Most CSOs experienced anti-LGBTIQ+ hate speech in the past year

*50% experienced it often



Exception

* mostly rarely



Civil Society Organisations: On the Front Line

Cooperation Patterns

Strong civil society collaboration

80 - 90% of CSOs worked with **other CSOs**

Limited cooperation with political actors

Lowest level of cooperation in **all countries**

Exceptions

- France
- Ireland

In both, **50%+ of CSOs** reported some cooperation with policymakers



Key Evidence Takeaway

CSOs are highly exposed and well-networked

but weakly connected to political decision-making in most countries.

The SPHERE+ Evidence

highlights clear gaps in discussion, training, and institutional cooperation - particularly in digital spaces.

Coming soon to
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