

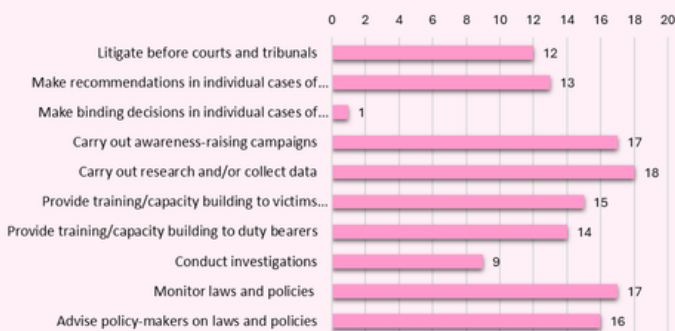


### State of Play

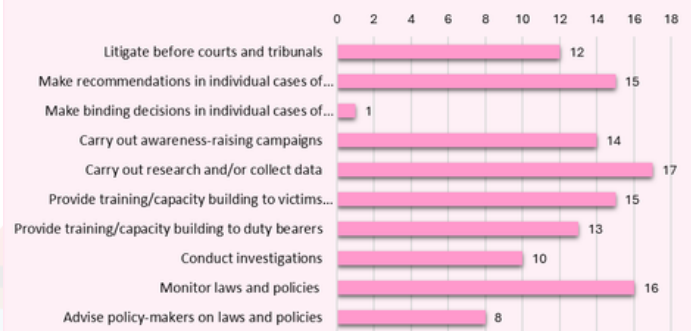
Discrimination against LGBTIQ+ persons in the healthcare sector includes **refusals to provide medical care**, **inappropriate comments** when accessing healthcare services or **harmful medical practises**, such as **forced medicalisation of trans people** as well as **conversion practices** or **genital mutilation** of intersex people. In social protection, the discrimination of LGBTIQ+ individuals mainly occurs in the form of **lacking entitlement to specific social security benefits**, such as paternity and childcare leave for LGBTIQ+ parents.

Discrimination against LGBTIQ+ persons in the healthcare and social protection sector is **not explicitly covered by EU legislation**. However, the CJEU has adopted a progressive interpretation of the ground of sex to include protection against discrimination for people that have undergone, are undergoing, or intend to undergo gender reassignment in the field of social security; and Directive 2024/1499 on Standards for Equality Bodies extends the mandate of Equality Bodies to sex in social security.

#### Equality Bodies in Action Healthcare



#### Equality Bodies in Action Social Protection



Out of the **29** Equality Bodies surveyed for this report, **the majority has a mandate** on tackling discrimination on SOGIESC grounds in access to healthcare and social protection.

#### In the field of **healthcare**:

- **23** Equality Bodies have a mandate on **sexual orientation**,
- **24** on **gender identity**,
- **17** on **sex characteristics**,
- **24** on **gender expression**.

#### In the field of **social protection**:

- **23** Equality Bodies have a mandate on **sexual orientation**,
- **24** on **gender identity**,
- **17** on **sex characteristics**,
- **24** on **gender expression**.

### Good Practices

The **Slovak National Centre for Human Rights** and the **Public Defender of Rights in the Czech Republic** have advocated for removing restrictions on blood donations from gay and bisexual men, recommending individual risk assessments instead of general exclusions based on sexual orientation.

The **Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights in Hungary** imposed sanctions on a company collecting blood plasma for unlawfully excluding a man based on his sexual orientation.

The **Public Defender of Rights in the Czech Republic** has successfully resolved complaints from trans individuals and promoted their equal access to social protection services. For instance, the Public Defender of Rights supported a woman whose sick leave benefits were interrupted due to her gender reassignment.