

CRI(2021)16

**ECRI CONCLUSIONS
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS
IN RESPECT OF LIECHTENSTEIN SUBJECT
TO INTERIM FOLLOW-UP**

Adopted on 30 March 2021¹

Published on 18 May 2021

¹ Any developments which occurred after 22 October 2020, the date on which the response of the authorities of Liechtenstein to ECRI's request for information on measures taken to implement the recommendations chosen for interim follow-up was received, have not been taken into account in this analysis.

ECRI Secretariat
Directorate General II - Democracy
Council of Europe
F - 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex
Tel.: +33 (0) 390 21 46 62
E-mail: ecri@coe.int

www.coe.int/ecri



@ECRI_CoE

FOREWORD

As part of its fifth round of monitoring work, ECRI has renewed its process of interim follow-up with respect to two specific recommendations made in each of its country reports.

In line with the Information Document on ECRI's fifth monitoring cycle brought to the attention of the Ministers' Deputies on 14 November 2012¹, not later than two years following the publication of each report, ECRI addresses a communication to the Government concerned asking what has been done in respect of the specific recommendations for which priority follow-up was requested.

At the same time, ECRI gathers relevant information itself. On the basis of this information and the response from the Government, ECRI draws up its conclusions on the way in which its recommendations have been followed up.

It should be noted that these conclusions concern only the specific interim recommendations and do not aim at providing a comprehensive analysis of all developments in the fight against racism and intolerance in the State concerned.

¹ CM/Del/Dec(2012)1154/4.2.

1) *In its report on Liechtenstein (fifth monitoring cycle) published on 15 May 2018, 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.*

ECRI has been informed by the authorities that in 2018, the government set up a Working Group for Integration under the leadership of the Ministry for Social Affairs and tasked it with developing an updated integration strategy based on the previous integration framework.¹ In November 2018, the Working Group for Integration commissioned the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights to carry out a study on integration of migrants in Liechtenstein. The study was published in May 2020.² ECRI welcomes this effort as a first step towards developing a new national integration action plan on different groups of migrants.

The study notably recommended to further advance the activities in the field of integration using the socio-economic potential of migrants and to establish a specialised coordination unit for integration in order to monitor the progress of the implementation efforts.

The authorities have informed ECRI that the Working Group for Integration is currently working on a new integration strategy. ECRI notes however, that a new national action plan on integration still needs to be developed and implemented. ECRI encourages the authorities to continue and complete these efforts.

Overall, ECRI considers that the recommendation has been partially implemented.

2.) *In its report on Liechtenstein (fifth monitoring cycle), 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.*

ECRI has been informed that the authorities have not yet commissioned such a study in order to identify the situation of LGBT persons living in Liechtenstein and to provide a basis for decisions on necessary and meaningful measures to improve their situation, as recommended by ECRI. ECRI regrets to note that the authorities have indicated that there is currently no plan to commission such a study.³

ECRI welcomes as a significant development that in 2018 the Liechtenstein equality body, the Association for Human Rights in Liechtenstein (VMR), undertook, on its own initiative, a situation analysis on LGBTI persons living in Liechtenstein.⁴ ECRI encourages the authorities to build up on the efforts made by the VMR. ECRI notes

¹ The working group is made up of representatives of national authorities (Ministry for Social Affairs, Migration and Passport Office, Office of Social Services), representatives of civil society and the Liechtenstein equality body, the Association for Human Rights in Liechtenstein (VMR).

² Baghdadi, N., et al. (2020), Integration in Liechtenstein: Sozioökonomische Potenziale und Spannungsfelder: https://www.skmr.ch/cms/upload/pdf/2020/200624_Integration_Liechtenstein.pdf.

³ According to the Annual Report 2019 of the Liechtenstein equality body, the Association for Human Rights in Liechtenstein (VMR), the Ministry of Social Affairs does not see a need for such a study: VMR (2019), Jahresbericht 2019, p. 40: https://www.menschenrechte.li/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Jahresbericht_VMR_2019.pdf.

⁴ According to this analysis, about 2 280 LGBTI persons (corresponding to approximately 6% of the population) might be living in Liechtenstein. Cf. VMR (2018), Situation und Rechte von LGBTIs in Liechtenstein, p. 10: <https://www.menschenrechte.li/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Situationsanalyse-LGBTI.pdf>.

however that this situation analysis published by the VMR is not per se sufficient to consider this recommendation fulfilled.

ECRI concludes therefore that this recommendation has not been implemented.

