



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE and CONSUMERS

Directorate D: Equality and Union citizenship
Unit D.1: Non-discrimination and Roma coordination

Dear Petitioner,

Thank you for your e-mail, addressed to European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen. In your e-mail, you question the decision of the Commission to launch an infringement proceeding against Poland on 15 July 2021 concerning the so-called “LGBT ideology-free zones”. I was asked to reply on President von der Leyen’s behalf, as my unit deals with non-discrimination.

The Commission is examining whether the resolutions adopted in Poland are compatible with EU law, in particular, with the EU Equality Directives and the EU Regulations on the European Structural and Investment Funds. However, in order to complete this assessment, the Commission needs adequate and comprehensive information from the Polish authorities. So far, the Polish authorities have failed to provide the requested information as a result of which the Commission decided to send a letter of formal notice to Poland for lack of cooperation. The Commission is currently assessing the reply it received from Poland to the letter of formal notice.

As the guardian of the EU Treaties, the Commission will continue to closely monitor the situation in the EU and make sure that, when implementing EU law and EU funded projects, the principle of non-discrimination is fully respected. Discrimination, violence and hatred against LGBTIQ people go against the fundamental values of the European Union, and has no place in our Union.

Yours sincerely,

[E-Signed]
Szabolcs Schmidt
Head of Unit