

STATE OF PRIDE



IN EUROPE

2026



**EUROPEAN
PRIDE** ORGANISERS
ASSOCIATION

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Pride events are the most visible expressions of freedom, equality, and democracy in Europe. Every year, millions of people take to the streets to celebrate diversity, demand equal rights, and make their societies more inclusive. Yet behind every Pride march, festival, and gathering stand organisers who navigate increasingly complex social, political, and financial realities.

The "State of Pride" report was created to better understand those realities.

For the first time, this report provides a broad overview of the conditions under which Pride organisations operate across Europe. It examines their financial sustainability, their ability to exercise the right to peaceful assembly, and the political environments in which they work. These factors shape not only the future of Pride events themselves, but also reflects the broader strength and resilience of the LGBTQI+ movement in Europe.

Given the fact that democratic values and human rights cannot be taken for granted, reliable data is important. Discussions about Pride are often shaped by individual stories, headlines, or political debates. While these perspectives matter, effective advocacy requires evidence. We need to understand where Pride organisations are thriving, where they face obstacles, and where urgent action is needed.

This report, therefore, serves several purposes. It documents the current state of Pride organising across Europe. It highlights common challenges and emerging trends.

Most importantly, it provides a foundation for informed decision-making by Pride organisers, policymakers, funders, civil society partners, and international institutions.

The findings presented here remind us that Pride is never merely an event. Pride is an exercise of fundamental freedoms. It reflects civic space. It is a measure of how inclusive and democratic our societies are. When Pride organisations struggle, this often signals wider challenges affecting human rights and democratic participation.

I am very grateful to all Pride organisations that contributed their experiences, insights, and data to this report. Their participation has made it possible to create a resource that supports the entire European Pride movement.

I would like to extend special thanks to EPOA board members Julia Maciocha and Lars Arnesen for leading the development of this report in their spare time, and to Patrick van der Pas for their support throughout the project.

My sincere thanks also go to our donor, whose support made this study possible.

I hope that 'State of Pride' will become an essential tool for understanding our movement, strengthening our organisations, and advocating for the conditions that allow Pride to flourish in every part of Europe.

Because when Pride thrives, democracy succeeds.

Patrick Orth

President



European Pride Organisers Association (EPOA) is a network of Pride organisers across Europe and the organisation responsible for licensing EuroPride. EPOA advocates for the interests of Pride organisers and activists, particularly their rights to freedom of speech and association and assembly. EPOA is operating exclusively, powered by volunteer resources, with the work predominantly done by an elected board of eight directors.

THE TEAM BEHIND THE REPORT



Julia Maciocha has been actively involved in the Pride movement since 2015. She is committed to intersectional approaches, working across movements focused on equality, human rights, and climate justice. She is a co-founder of the Polish Prides Alliance and has served as Membership Coordinator on the Board of EPOA since 2022. She holds a degree in Animal Science and currently works as a researcher and lecturer.



Lars Arnesen has been active in the European Pride movement since 2013 and was part of the organising team of EuroPride in Oslo in 2014. He has been in the leadership of Oslo Pride from 2013 until today, and currently holds the position of secretary on the board of EPOA. Arnesen holds a law degree, has previously practised as a lawyer, and works currently as a doctoral research fellow at the University of Oslo. He has published one book and several academic articles on legal gender recognition and transgender rights. He has also contributed to LGBTQI+ country reports over the last decade, with a focus on Norway.

Thank you to **Wojciech Wilk** for invaluable consultancy assistance with the development of the survey and the subsequent interviews of the respondents.

Thank you to **Patrick van der Pas** for the tremendous effort in providing the layout and graphics for the report, delivered completely on a volunteer basis.

KEY FINDINGS

This report covers 112 Pride organisers, of all shapes and sizes, from Nuuk (Greenland) in the northwest to Tbilisi (Georgia) and Yerevan (Armenia) in the southeast. The call to participate has been distributed through the EPOA network, and non-members have also been invited to participate, provided that they organise 'Pride events,' as further described in Chapter 'Foundations and Demographics'.

European Prides are still growing and diversifying

Pride is flourishing across Europe, with 65% reporting that their Pride events have expanded since 2022 in terms of the number of participants and activities. Pride events have evolved to much more than just a street march or parade. 94% of Pride organisers host cultural activities, such as concerts, shows, theatre, and exhibitions, and 70% host various educational activities. While 65% report having expanded over the last three years, 35% report decreased funding during the same period. Several of the expanding Pride events are experiencing more restricted funding, with the most prevalent sources being government grants, donations and corporate partnerships.

Prohibited or severely restricted Pride events: Hungary, Turkey, Georgia and Armenia

Last year, Pride organisers in Hungary faced a statutory prohibition against Pride events. The prohibition was made effective ahead of the Pride season in 2025, affecting Budapest in June, and later Pécs Pride in October. The prohibition was formally worded as a prohibition against making available pornographic content, or content promoting 'sexuality for its own sake, or that promotes or displays deviation from self-identity corresponding to sex at birth, gender reassignment, or homosexuality' to minors.¹ Despite looming threats of facial-recognition surveillance and fines for participation, Budapest Pride became a historic victory for the Hungarian Pride movement, with a record-breaking 200,000 participants defying the prohibition.

65%

EXPANDED

¹ Section 6/A of the Child Protection Act (2021) expanded by the Assembly Act Section 13/A) (2025).

Criminal proceedings were initiated against the mayor of Budapest, Gergely Karácsony, who was questioned for his participation and support of Budapest Pride,² and against Géza Buzás-Hábel, the organiser of Pécs Pride.³ After the elections in April 2026, the police have indicated that Pride will be permitted, although the prohibition enacted in 2025 has not yet been formally lifted by the new government.⁴ The charges against both Géza Buzás-Hábel and Gergely Karácsony have been dropped as of 4 June 2026.⁵

2025 also marked the tenth anniversary of the ban against Istanbul Pride.⁶ A small, yet significant number of activists took to the streets on June 29 but were quickly dispersed when the police interrupted the event.⁷

In Georgia, foreign funding became criminalised under the 2025 Foreign Agents Registration Act and related restrictions on foreign grants intensified pressure on foreign-funded civil society organisations. Tbilisi Pride reported that it was compelled to close its office and let go of all formal staff in May 2025.⁸ In Armenia, Yerevan Pride reports that public Pride marches are effectively impossible to organise, leading them to host the Yerevan Rainbow Forum at a conference hotel instead.

Pride organisers are facing implicit restrictions across Europe

Pride is seldom outright prohibited or restricted. Multiple Pride organisers are, however, experiencing material and implicit restrictions, such as informal demands or advice from the police or government officials to cancel their Pride events, either in full or in part. The informal requests are based on a variety of justifications, ranging from safety concerns to concerns for traffic management and public decency.

11 Pride organisers report that legal aid has been required to organise the Pride march. 56,9% report that they have not experienced any restrictions from their government, while 22 respondents report being required to cover security costs either fully or partially, thereby placing a significant financial burden on the organisers. Local authorities that require Pride organisers to compensate the police for their work or to hire their own security during the event typically argue that Pride is just a party or festival, not a demonstration or protest. One recent example is Dresden Pride. On 2 June 2026, Sächsisches Obergerverwaltungsgericht decided that it is the government's duty to ensure the safety of the event, with reference to the freedom of assembly.⁹

2. Associated Press, 'Budapest mayor questioned by police for organizing banned LGBTQ+ Pride event' (1 August 2025).

3. Amnesty International Hungary, Háttér Society, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union and Hungarian Helsinki Committee, 'Pride Organiser Under Criminal Investigation, Facing One Year in Prison in Hungary' (28 October 2025).

4. The Guardian, 'EU to release €16bn to Hungary previously frozen under Orbán' (29 May 2026).

5. Reuters, 'Hungarian prosecutors drop charges against Budapest mayor for organising 2025 Pride march' (4 June 2026).

6. Amnesty International, 'Türkiye: 53 Pride March participants must be acquitted and those arbitrarily detained must be released' (7 August 2025).

7. Reuters, 'Turkish police detain dozens at banned Istanbul Pride march, lawmaker says' (29 June 2025).

8. ILGA-Europe, 'Georgia' in Annual Review of the Human Rights Situation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex People in Europe and Central Asia 2026 (2026).

9. Sächsisches Obergerverwaltungsgericht, decision of 2 June 2026, reported in Welt/dpa, 'CSD Dresden kann mit Fest als Versammlung stattfinden' (2 June 2026).

A small majority of Pride organisers experience support from either their local, regional or national governments. 55,9% report that their government has 'a friendly and helpful attitude' with 44% receiving either funding or other economic support in the form of goods and services from either their local, regional or national government. 41,9% report that their government promote Pride publicly, e.g. through their official social media channels.

81%
**EXPERIENCED
ONLINE
HATE SPEECH**

63.3%
**REPORTED
INCREASE**

Hate speech is still on the rise

A significant majority of 81% have experienced online hate speech against Pride team members, and 63,3% report that it has increased over the last three years. 47,3% have experienced

in-person hate speech, e.g. insults, slurs directed at them. 37 respondents report vandalism and destruction of Pride-related property, while 24 report death threats or threats of physical violence against Pride team members.

Although the majority of Pride organisers experience support from their governments, 47% nevertheless report hostile and negative messages from politicians, either at the local, regional or national level.

The majority of Prides do not have any paid staff resources

Over half of the Pride organisers in the survey (53%) report that they operate without any paid staff resources, relying exclusively on volunteers to host their Pride events. 34,4% report that burnout is a frequent issue among the Pride organising team, with 45,2% reporting burnout as an 'occasional' issue.

A significant number (23,4%) have a budget between 10,000 and 50,000 euros, representing Pride organisers across Europe. Hence, the budget range is typical across countries, with no clear trend that Pride organisers are better funded on average in any particular region of Europe. There are only eight Pride events reporting a budget of 1,000,000 euros or more, located in the capitals and largest cities of Spain, Austria, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and the Nordic countries.

The respondents were asked to list their three most significant challenges. Approximately 55% of the responses relate to a lack of funding and human resources to organise the Pride, while another 30% report issues related to safety and hostility, e.g., hate speech and attacks.

35% experienced a decrease of funding

15 % of the respondents report that their budgets have decreased by more than 25% over the last three years. 25% report a decrease of up to 25%, indicating that a total of 40% of the respondents have experienced a decrease in funding over the last three years. At the other end of the spectrum, 21% experienced a slight increase in funding, 8% a significant increase, and 24% remained at the same funding level. Hence, Pride organisers are split, with some experience increasing access to funding, while others are in the opposite situation. There is no clear regional difference, as those who have experienced increases and decreases are distributed across the continent.

32,7% report that corporate partnerships are their most important source of funding, followed by municipal grants (22,7%). 68,3% report generating their own income from merchandise, food, drinks and tickets, but only 11 respondents identify this as the most important source of income. One reason for the lack of own income may be that most Pride events are free, non-ticketed, despite offering a wide variety of cultural activities beyond the street march or parade. Pride organisers are therefore heavily reliant on government grants, donations and corporate partnerships.

Pride events without a parade

A Pride event does not necessarily always have a street march or a parade. 7% report that they are not organising a parade or march; some of these organisers are located in locations where a public march or parade is either prohibited or unsafe due to the significant risk of violent attacks. Examples of Pride without marches are found in Armenia, where it is not possible to organise a public street parade, but interestingly, also in Ireland, the UK, Romania and Portugal.

40%

**DECREASED
FUNDING**

THE FIRST DETAILED SURVEY ON THE STATE OF PRIDE

This is the very first edition of *The State of Pride in Europe* issued by the European Pride Organisers Association (EPOA). The report covers findings from 112 Pride organisers, including 91 fully completed responses from across the European continent, and is intended as a ground-based supplement to existing reports on the state of LGBTQI+ rights in Europe. The report focuses on the lived experiences of Pride organisers across Europe, viewed through the unique perspectives and contexts of each location.

The Rainbow Map, published each year in May by ILGA Europe, offers easily comparable data on the situation in each European country, with intuitive colour codes ranging from dark red to dark green, as well as in-depth country reports. The Rainbow Map is well established as the key guide to the state of LGBTQI+ rights in Europe. Nevertheless, while Pride is flourishing in Poland, with smaller and larger Pride events taking place across the country, Poland is still labelled well below the European average, ranking 39th out of 49 countries surveyed. At the other end of the scale, German Pride organisers are reporting significant challenges in the form of counterdemonstrations from the far right, implicit restrictions, such as requirements to cover security costs, and the increasing prevalence of online hate speech, despite Germany being short-listed as number seven on the 2026 Rainbow Map.

There are also Pride organisers operating in territories not shown on the Rainbow Map, including the Faroe Islands and Greenland, where legislation and the situation on the ground are not directly comparable to mainland Denmark.

The report focuses exclusively on Pride organisers and their experiences organising Pride events, and not on LGBTQI+ rights in general. The report aims to cover the effects of laws and policies perceived by Pride organisers, encompassing both formal and explicit restrictions and informal and implicit restrictions imposed by local, regional, or national governments, as well as threats and attacks from either the government or other groups opposing the Pride movement.

The report relies on self-reported data from Pride organisers and their perceived experiences. All factual statements made by the respondents, such as information about laws and policies, have been corroborated by legal sources, or reports from reliable media sources or civil society organisations. Information provided to us in free-text fields, which allows comments beyond the fixed questions, has been followed up with interviews with a selection of respondents to better understand the factual situation experienced on the ground.

This first edition of *The State of Pride in Europe* has been made possible by a team of only two researchers. The work has been conducted exclusively on a volunteer basis, in the researchers' free time. For these reasons, the report is scaled in accordance with the resources we have had available. More interviews and more in-depth comparisons between Pride organisers will have to wait for future editions. Our hope is that this first report will illustrate the need for more data on Pride organisers across Europe and motivate further research and reporting on the situation for European Prides.

The report primarily relies on self-reported data from a survey of 35 questions distributed through the network of European Pride organisers. The survey has been created through several workshops, followed by pilot testing with a selection of Pride organisers geographically spread across Europe. The survey was improved based on feedback from respondents to the pilot version, including correcting questions that might have been misunderstood or perceived as irrelevant to certain organisers. Questions were also added to address aspects not adequately addressed in the pilot version.

Preliminary findings and feedback have been presented in workshops at conferences attended by Pride organisers, first in Barcelona (October 2025) and subsequently in Oulu, Finland (March 2026).

Most respondents are members of EPOA, but membership was not required to participate in the survey. Respondents who do not appear to organise any Pride events, as defined in Chapter 'Foundations and Demographics', have been excluded from the data bank. The survey was active from 19 August 2025 until 19 January 2026. After the survey closed, the research team conducted follow-up interviews to supplement the survey data. An interview guide was developed in advance, with the aid of an external consultant, to ensure that the interviews were conducted in a manner that allowed the participants to respond freely, without prejudiced and leading questions.

The report comprises four main components which are presented at the next page.

Provides a foundational profile of the Pride organisers taking part in the survey, presenting diversity in size, years of operation, governance structures, geographical spread and differences in how they define a 'Pride event.' A Pride event is commonly comprised of a parade or street parade, but not necessarily.

FOUNDATIONS & DEMOGRAPHICS

GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITIES

Focuses on the still ongoing growth experienced by 65% of the Pride organisers, the reasons for continued growth and interest in Pride events, the main achievements that the respondents are proud of over the last few years, and the opportunities they see ahead.

CHALLENGES AND THREATS

Presents findings on the challenges and threats faced by Pride organisers, highlighting developments over the last three years. Challenges include restrictions of various kinds from the government to informal threats, ranging from vandalism, physical violence and hate speech.

RESOURCES & SUSTAINABILITY

Is dedicated to the resources available to Pride organisers, including both financial resources and human resources. A majority of Pride organisers are completely operated by volunteers. Burnout and stress are significant issues, albeit not exclusively for volunteer-run Prides. A key challenge is also the lack of available funding sources that Pride organisers experience as they continue to grow in the number of participants and activities during their Pride events.

FOUNDATIONS AND DEMOGRAPHICS

The survey includes responses from 112 Pride organisers, expanding across the European continent from Greenland in the west to Armenia and Georgia in the east. The respondents vary significantly in nearly every manner, shape, and form. Some organisers are newly established; others have been in operation for decades. While some respondents are predominantly focused on Pride marches and parades, a clear majority are also engaged in multiple other activities, ranging from community centres and community support services to cultural events, lobbying, demonstrations and other political activities.

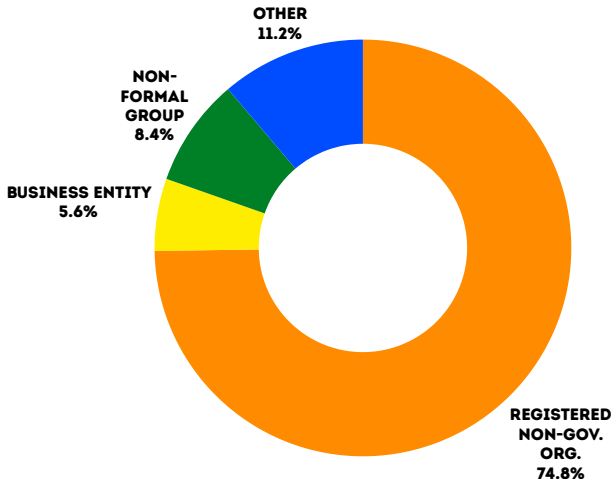
The diversity among the respondents clearly illustrates that Pride is difficult to label within one firm and set definition. All of the respondents identify themselves as organisers of a Pride event, which does not necessarily contain a traditional march, demonstration, or street parade. A Pride event may be any type of gathering by and for the LGBTQI+ community. The European Pride Organisers Association (EPOA) identify a Pride event in the following way:

A parade, march, rally, festival, arts festival, cultural activity or other event activity organised for people identifying as lesbians and/or gay men and/or bisexuals and/or trans and/or intersex and/or queer (LGBTQI+) persons and promoting the visibility of those persons and commemorating the history, culture and diversity of the LGBTQI+ community.

Although this definition is instructive, it is not mandatory. The respondents were not required to be members of EPOA and are therefore free to define what a Pride event entails in their specific context. However, the vast majority are members of EPOA, which means that they have been verified and confirmed as organisers of one or several Pride events, as defined by EPOA.

The clear majority of 74.8% are registered as non-governmental organisations (NGO), with a minority (5.6%) operating as business entities. The remaining respondents fall either under informal organisations or in the category labelled 'other.' Legal formation as a business entity does not necessarily mean that they have a profit motive. For example, some Pride organisers are organised as limited liability companies but owned by associations within the LGBTQI+ community. Within the NGOs, there is significant variation, from organisers being incorporated under different forms of membership-based associations to non-profit foundations.

WHAT IS THE LEGAL STATUS OF YOUR ORGANIZATION?

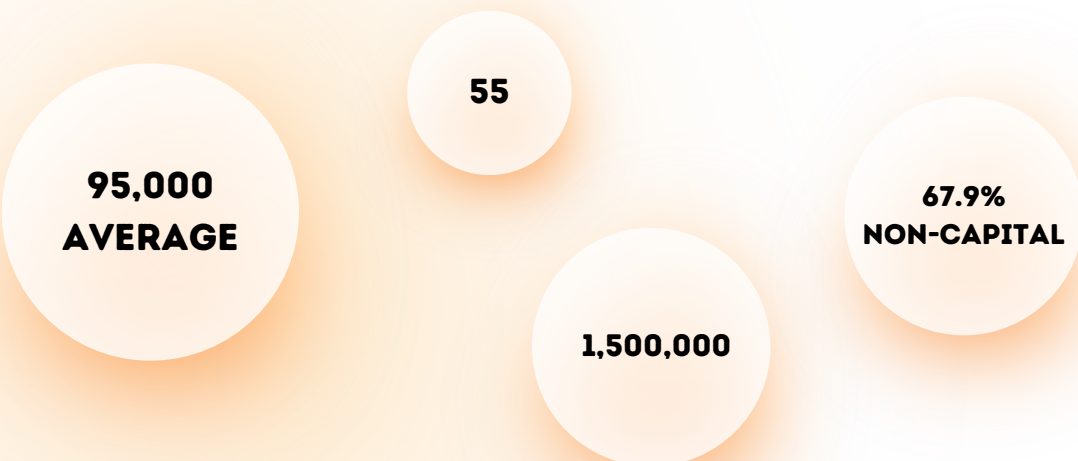


The oldest Pride organiser included in the survey was established in 1977 (Barcelona), the youngest in 2024. The average age is roughly 20 years of operation with a significant number of Prides established in the 2000s.

A considerable number of Pride organisers were established in Eastern European countries in the late 2000s and 2010s, while the oldest Prides in Europe are found in the northwestern region, including London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm.

Notably, the respondents in this survey are not necessarily the same organisers as those in the 70s and 80s. Organisational identities are complex. In some locations, there are organisers that may claim heritable lineage back to the beginning of the Pride movement, while in other places, the old organisations have been replaced by new ones. For example, the current organisational structure of Stockholm Pride was established in 1998, although Pride events had taken place in Stockholm long before that date. This survey focuses on the age of the current organisation that responded to our survey, while acknowledging that Pride in different formats may have existed long before the current organisation was established.

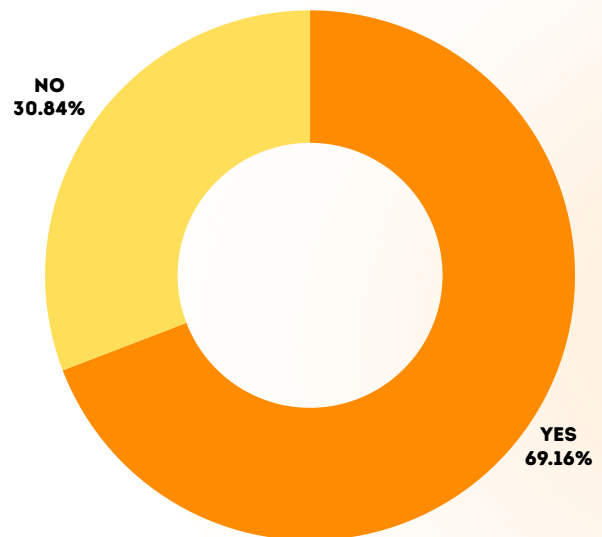
The responses range in size from a few hundred to several hundred thousand participants. The average size is 95,000 participants or attendees, with significant variety in calculation methods. A clear majority of 67.9% are from non-capital cities, with only 32,1% located in national capitals.



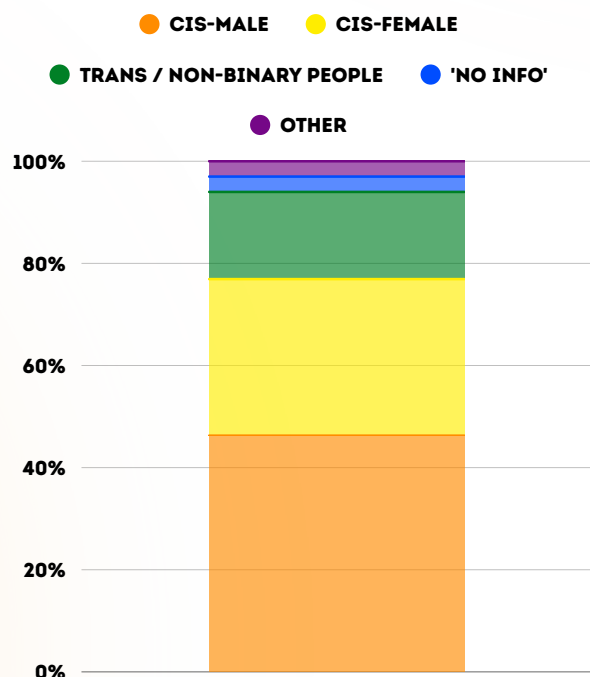
There are also a considerable number of Pride organisers (30,8%) with several Pride events taking place in their city. This phenomenon is not limited to the largest cities, such as London, Paris, Berlin or Madrid. Smaller cities are also hosting multiple Pride events, organised by different Pride organisers.

In larger cities, for example, it is not uncommon to have separate Pride events in the boroughs, in addition to the more established Pride events in the city centre. Separate Prides within a single city may also have dedicated themes or focus groups, such as Black Pride and Trans Pride, supplementing the traditional Pride event.

ARE YOU THE ONLY PRIDE IN YOUR CITY?



WHAT IS THE GENDER COMPOSITION OF YOUR DECISION-MAKING TEAM (ESTIMATE)?



In the survey, we have asked specifically about gender diversity within the board or their equivalent form of decision-making team. In total across the respondents, the decision-making teams are made up of 46% cis-male, 30,6% cis-female and 17% trans and non-binary. Trans and non-binary representatives are in a clear minority.

The legacy of Barcelona Pride from 1977 until today

At the first demonstration in Barcelona on June 26, 1977, five thousand people took to the streets that day to demand LGBTQIA+ human rights. What struck me the most was that it was not only gay, lesbian, and trans people marching. Alongside us were the feminist movement, the student movement, the labour movement, neighbourhood associations, and many others who joined us as we moved forward.

This involvement of civil society in the demonstration, made possible by the strong associative fabric of Catalan society, marked a turning point for the LGBTQIA+ movement: it was the transition from clandestinity into the public sphere.

I believe that today there is a growing disconnection and disengagement from the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community among part of society, especially among young people, under the influence and pressure of ultraconservative right-wing social media.

Recently, during a conversation, someone commented that the LGBTQIA+ movement was the successor to the French May '68 movement. It stayed with me. What if we are part of a much broader social transformation than we can even imagine? We do not know yet because we still lack historical perspective. But we do know this: we are not only fighting for our rights as LGBTQIA+ people, we are fighting for human rights shaped intersectionality by multiple axes of inequality.

The goal of Pride Barcelona and of all European Prides should be to reconnect with society once again. It is up to us to think of the strategies needed to make that happen.

Maria Giralt

Participated in the first-ever Pride in Barcelona and remains actively involved with Pride BCN.





Pride!
BARCELONA

Against this backdrop of structural diversity, organisational variation, and differing local conditions, it is also important to consider how Pride is shaped in practice by context-specific strategies and community needs.

Pride is increasingly taking place beyond major urban centres, including in small towns and villages such as Ojén in Spain, where it has evolved into a deeply community-rooted celebration. Built on strong local engagement, the event continues to grow thanks to the support of local businesses, volunteers, and artists - many of whom contribute their time and work to ensure it can happen each year. In this context, Pride is less about scale and more about meaning: a collective expression of belonging, where the focus lies on celebrating the village itself as a place where people can live, love, and express themselves freely.

While Pride marches remain a powerful tool for visibility, they are not always the most effective format for every local context. As the experience of Kalisz in Poland shows, a single march - despite its symbolic importance - can require significant financial and organisational resources while offering only short-term visibility. In response, organisers chose to transition from a one-day march to a multi-day festival, allowing them to engage a broader and more diverse audience over time, reduce pressure on volunteers, and build more sustained community presence. This shift reflects a broader understanding of Pride as an ongoing process rather than a single moment, prioritising long-term resilience, accessibility, and community-building over one-off visibility especially. This approach is particularly relevant outside capital cities, where resources are more limited.



CHALLENGES AND THREATS

This chapter focuses on recent challenges and threats in the European Pride movement over the last three years, spanning 2022 to 2025. A significant majority of 65% Pride organisers report that they have expanded either significantly (24%) or expanded somewhat (41%) since 2022. Only 14% reports a decrease, either a slight decrease (9%) or a significant decrease (5%).

The question of expansion and decline focuses on the overall scope of Pride events organised by the Pride organiser, either increased participation in existing activities or expansion into new ones.

EXPANSION	%
Expanded significantly - we are organizing more events, or increasing collaborations	24%
Expanded somewhat - we are growing each year and doing our best to improve	41%
Stayed about the same - no major changes in size or scope	21%
Slightly decreased - we've noticed some decline	9%
Decreased significantly - we had to scale down or cancel parts of our usual program	5%

Although the majority experience growth, a significant number of respondents (80%+) report increased threats and challenges over the last three years, including more prevalent hate speech, physical attacks, vandalism and implicit restrictions by government authorities that hinder the successful execution of Pride events.

80%

INCREASED THREATS

From the minority who experienced a decline over the last three years, we offered an opportunity to explain (in free text) the reasons for the decline. Several reports of insufficient funding and rising costs (6 respondents). Four respondents point to the political climate and counter-demonstrations by the far right, which constrain the ability to organise Pride events. However, the majority (65%) have experienced growth while also facing increased threats. The great majority lists online hate speech as the most significant threat, particularly hate speech targeted at the Pride organising teams.

THREATS	%
Online hate speech (e.g. comments, posts, targeted campaigns)	80.65%
Direct hate speech (e.g. face-to-face insults, slurs)	47.31%
Physical attacks or assault	13.98%
Vandalism or destruction of Pride-related property	39.78%
Death threats or threats of physical violence	25.81%
Hostile articles or smear campaigns in local media	38.71%
Attacks or negative statements from politicians	47.31%
Publishing of private data about organisers or volunteers (doxxing)	12.90%
Counter-protests along the route of the Pride March	40.86%
Other	7.53%
We didn't experience any of the above	10.75%

Explicit Prohibitions and Restrictions

Prides in Hungary, including Budapest and Pécs Pride, were explicitly prohibited by law in 2025. In Budapest, the prohibition led to a record number of people showing up on parade day, with an estimated 200,000 defying it and facing face-recognition surveillance by the police and fines.¹⁰

Fortunately, the Budapest Pride organising team did not face any criminal charges, nor did any of the participants in the record-breaking Pride march. A formal investigation was initiated against the mayor of Budapest, Gergely Szilveszter Karácsony, for supporting the Pride event.¹¹ Furthermore, Pécs Pride, organised in October 2025, led to the arrest and detention of one of the main organisers, Gezá Buzás-Hábel.

The proceedings against Karácsony and Buzás-Hábel were discontinued following the parliamentary elections in 2026.¹² Following the Hungarian parliamentary election in April 2026, the new government led by Péter Magyar has lifted the ban introduced by the previous government. As a result, Budapest Pride, Pécs Pride and other Pride events in Hungary may proceed as planned in 2026 without the fear of criminal prosecution.¹³

10. Al Jazeera, 'Tens of thousands in Hungary defy ban to march at Budapest Pride' (28 June 2025).

11. Associated Press, 'Budapest mayor questioned by police for organizing banned LGBTQ+ Pride event' (1 August 2025).

12. Reuters, 'Hungarian prosecutors drop charges against Budapest mayor for organising 2025 Pride march' (4 June 2026).

13. The Guardian, 'EU to release €16bn to Hungary previously frozen under Orbán' (29 May 2026).



Budapest Pride already enjoys explicit support from the city administration of Budapest, with the mayor, Gergely Karácsony, as an enabler of the prohibited Pride event in 2025. Karácsony categorised the event in 2025 as an official municipality event, in an attempt to circumvent the prohibition introduced by Viktor Orbán.

Although the new national Hungarian government has shown positive early signals by lifting the prohibition on Pride, it remains to be seen how the government will position itself on other LGBTQI+ issues and how supportive it will be of Pride events in general.

The 2025 Hungarian prohibition is not the only ban against Pride events in Europe. 2025 marked the 10th anniversary of the prohibition of Istanbul Pride. Pride events are generally not permitted in Turkey, a prohibition that still remains in effect. A small number of activists took to the streets of Istanbul on June 29, 2025, but were quickly dispersed by police.¹⁴

In Armenia, Pride events are not officially banned but in effect impossible to organise in public due to security reasons. Instead, Rainbow Forum is organised as a safe space for vetted participants.



Rainbow Forum

The event location is not shared publicly but only among the selected participants. It takes place in the conference hall of a hotel in Yerevan, and for 2-3 days, it turns into the queerest place in Armenia. We aim to create a safe space for the LGBT+ community in Armenia where they can feel joy and pride, and express themselves to the fullest.

Pink Armenia



14. Reuters, 'Turkish police detain dozens at banned Istanbul Pride march, lawmaker says' (29 June 2025)

Pride events in Ukraine

In Ukraine, the Pride movement is still going strong, despite years of war and daily threats of attacks from Russian drones and missiles. Following the full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022, the European Pride community, through EPOA, collected a fund of 111,000 EUR that has been distributed to the Pride organisers in Ukraine. The funding has, for example, enabled the establishment of a community centre and shelter for LGBTQI+ community in Kharkiv, operated by Sphere, which is also the organiser of Kharkiv Pride.

The most recent event is that Pride has expanded to Lviv, in the western part of Ukraine. Lviv is known as one of the more conservative cities in Ukraine, in which being able to complete a Pride event successfully without any serious incidents, should not be taken for granted. EPOA currently has members in Odesa, Kharkiv and Kyiv, which have hosted various forms of Pride events continuously, including after the full-scale invasion in 2022. There have, however, been divisions in the movement on whether to publicly march in the street amid the full-scale war, raising concerns both about the safety of the participants and the public sentiment for the Pride movement. Despite disagreement, marches or small public gatherings have taken place in several Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv, Kharkiv, and most recently Lviv.

Implicit restrictions

Outright prohibitions of Pride events are rare, while implicit and informal restrictions are far more common. As most Pride events are not facing explicit bans by decree or legislation, the prevalence of other implicit and sometimes concealed restrictions warrants increased attention.

Implicit restrictions are a complex topic to monitor and compare across vastly different contexts across Europe. Examples of implicit restrictions are suggestions, but not formal or enforceable demands, from government authorities or politicians that Pride organisers cancel, limit or make significant changes to their event. Government authorities or representatives in official positions may exert various forms of informal pressure without issuing enforceable decisions.

In the survey, we have named a limited list of implicit and informal restrictions, such as requests that Pride organisers modify their planned Pride route, change the date, pay the police or hire their own security to ensure that the parade, march and associated activities are safe. These implicit restrictions were selected as the most relevant during the survey's development, based on feedback from Pride organisers. The list of implicit restrictions also aligns well with the free-text responses we have received.

26.9% of Pride organisers faced restrictions on their routes. Restrictions on the planned marching route may be entirely legitimate, for example, if the planned route cannot be executed due to construction work or other events taking place in the same space at the same time. However, such restrictions may also be illegitimate and unfounded, such as requests that Polish Pride organisers have received to move their march and events away from churches.

Follow-up interviews with several respondents indicate that some of the imposed restrictions appear illegitimate. St. Gallen (Switzerland) may serve as one example. St. Gallen Pride reports that freedom of assembly is not a formal issue, as demonstrations are permitted to take place; however, in their case, the police have not been very cooperative. St. Gallen Pride reports that the police did not want them to use any streets used by car, which could hinder the city's traffic flow. The police were reluctant to permit anything that could disrupt the road traffic, resulting in the march being strictly limited to the pedestrian zone of St. Gallen in 2025.

In effect, the restriction experienced by St Gallen may also be categorised as an explicit restriction, as the Pride organisers were effectively prohibited from using the route they wanted for no other reason than administrative traffic inconvenience during the march.



The restrictions imposed on our Pride route felt less about safety and more about limiting our visibility. Pride needs to be seen in public spaces if it is to fulfil its purpose.

St. Gallen Pride

An illustrative case was reported by Windsor and Eton Pride: despite securing permission to begin the march on Crown Estate land, organisers encountered significant restrictions along the route due to local council control over connecting roads. This highlights how local authorities can effectively constrain Pride marches in practice, even when high-level approvals have been granted.

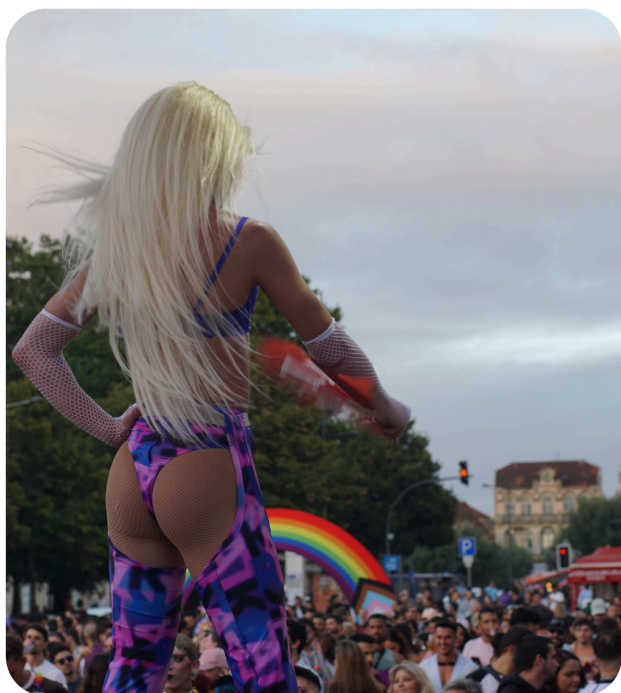


23,7% of Pride organisers report being required to cover their own security. Similar to restrictions on the planned marching route, it may, in certain cases, be completely legitimate for the Pride organiser to cover security costs, at least in part. For example, Oslo Pride (Norway) hosts a park with food and alcoholic beverages, where they must comply with the terms and conditions of their serving license, including ensuring appropriate security of the entire serving area (while the police do not charge for their services).

Security-related costs are a significant issue that holds several Pride organisers back from executing their initial plans. Several respondents report that they are required to cover the entire security costs themselves, as the Pride event is not considered a responsibility of the police authorities.

For example, Porto Pride (Portugal) and Bergen Pride (Norway) have reported issues with demands from local authorities to cover the cost of security themselves, which amounts to a considerable share of their available funding. Local police authorities in Bergen sought to charge for their work, but the charge was later withdrawn under political pressure, citing concerns for the freedom of assembly.

Similarly, Sofia Pride (Bulgaria) reports that the local police and municipality require them to cover their own security costs, whereas the same is not expected of anti-Pride rallies. In addition, the local authorities require them to fence the entire area used for the Pride event, which is not normally required for similar events held in public spaces in Sofia.



Being required to allocate such a significant portion of our budget to police presence fundamentally limits the growth and impact of Pride events. These resources could instead be invested in artists, community initiatives, and safer, more inclusive experiences.

Porto Pride



Warwickshire Pride (UK) reports that their local council and local police first suggested hiring private security due to increased 'hate events' during the Pride, such as Pride flags being set on fire and abuse directed at the Pride organising team. Private security was initially proposed as an informal suggestion and has now become a formal requirement imposed by the local authorities.

Recently, Dresden Pride was required to cover its own security costs, a decision that was later overruled by the regional court of Sachsen on 2 June 2026, on grounds of freedom of assembly in a preliminary injunction (applicable only for 2026).

”

The impact that increased costs and increased hostility towards Pride events are having is severe. When our Pride started, the UK was a friendly place for LGBTQ+ people and we could confidently put on our Pride event. Now the UK is going backwards each year, the climate for our communities is becoming more hostile, sponsorship and funding is down as companies stop support EDI, and this all means we have to make some difficult decisions.

Warwickshire Pride

Hate speech and hostile attacks

80,7% report that, within the last 12 months, they have experienced hate speech targeted at the Pride organising team, while 47,3% have experienced direct person-to-person hate speech, for example, on the street during the Pride event.

Magdeburg (Germany) is one example of a Pride organiser that has faced considerable constraints over the last three years due to far-right counter-demonstrations, making the Pride event less appealing to attend for participants who want to avoid direct confrontations with far-right protesters.

Nuuk Pride (Greenland) reported hate speech directed at Pride march participants in 2025. The incident appeared ad-hoc as bystanders reacted spontaneously to the passing march. The end of the parade was targeted, as the police were only present in the front and upper part of the march.

The TERFs are actively targeting many UK Prides and doing what they can to weaken us, divide us and reduce our funding. But frankly it's not going to work, but we must be there to support each other and especially those small Prides who are particularly vulnerable.

Gloucestershire Pride

Organising Pride in Saxony-Anhalt often means doing two jobs at once: creating spaces of visibility, community and empowerment, while at the same time protecting these spaces from hostility, disinformation and political pressure.

Sachsen-Anhalt

Sachsen-Anhalt (Germany) reports that a Pride event organised as a peaceful hike on Brocken was disrupted by public hostility, requiring the organisers to obtain police protection. Sachsen-Anhalt further explain that hostile actions seldom come from one single group: "In our experience, they often come from a mixture of far-right actors, anti-queer networks, local informal groups, individual people and sometimes political actors who use queer visibility as a topic for polarisation."

Notably, 47% of respondents report experiencing hostile statements from politicians, although the majority report some kind of support from their local, regional or national governments.

Doxxing

Several Pride organisers, particularly in the UK, report that so-called doxxing has become an increasing challenge for them. Doxxing essentially entails sharing someone's name, contact, or other private information online,

to be exploited for harassment and hate speech by individuals opposing the Pride movement. Doxxing has particularly taken place in the context of transgender issues, where prominent members of Pride organising teams have been 'outed' online for promoting 'radical gender ideology.' Volunteers and staff have been anxious about walking around in public, after being targeted online, with name, picture and contact details.

Increased internal divisions

Geopolitical developments over the last three years have both increased existing divisions and created new political divides within the Pride movement. One prominent example is how different Pride organisers position themselves on Palestine following 7 October 2023. Some Pride organisers have taken a clear and firm position, while others have adopted a more neutral stance. Some Prides also report challenges in their cooperation with other organisations in the LGBTQI+ space.

Several respondents report clear frustration with widening divides, in which Pride, by certain actors, is interpreted more narrowly than before.

In Poland, Fundacja Lambda Polska report increasingly hostile and harmful relations between LGBTQI+ organisations, causing emotional stress and burnout among activists and volunteers.

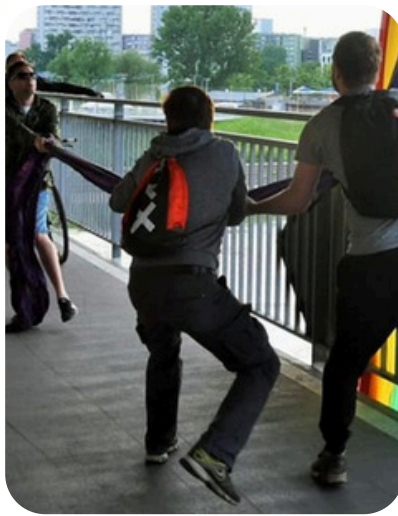
”
The pain received from other queers is bigger than harm caused by all right wing, church, homophobes and net haters combined.

Fundacja Lambda Polska

In Germany, CSD Stendal and Christopher-Street-Day Sachsen-Anhalt e.V., reported that they reached out to cooperate with other Pride organisations in Saxony-Anhalt, but they were declined by the local organisers. As CSD Sachsen-Anhalt reports the incident: “the impression was created that we, as other Pride organisations, did not fit into the political or organisational self-image of the organisers.” In this case, some newly established Pride organisations appear to position themselves on the far-left political spectrum and expect everyone else to do the same.

”
Pride should connect people and organisations, not exclude them. When queer groups keep other queer structures away from events because of political or organisational differences, it weakens the movement as a whole; especially in regions where visibility and solidarity are particularly important.

CSD Stendal and Christopher-Street-Day Sachsen-Anhalt



Vandalism

Vandalism is a significant issue for 37 of the respondents. For example, St. Gallen Pride reports that last year (2025), the portable toilets rented for the event were vandalised and deliberately covered with human faeces. The organisers were required to spend time and resources on an elaborate cleaning job before the event could begin. During the festival itself, a group of young male teenagers harassed participants and pushed over one of the portable toilets.

One organiser of Lancaster Pride also reported experiencing direct personal victimisation, including the vandalism of their vehicle and the theft of a registration plate shortly before a Pride event.



The vandalism we experienced was not only costly but also sent a clear message of hostility towards our event and community.

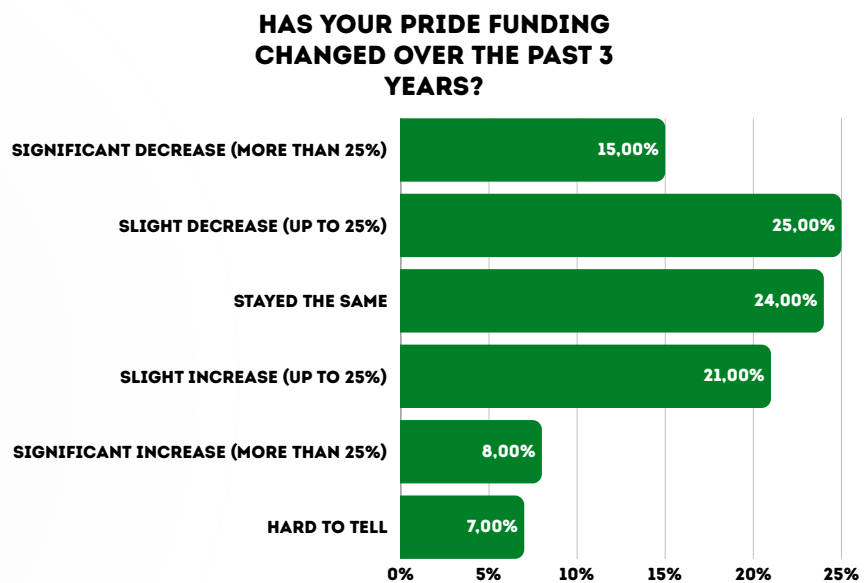
St. Gallen Pride



RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABILITY

The state of funding

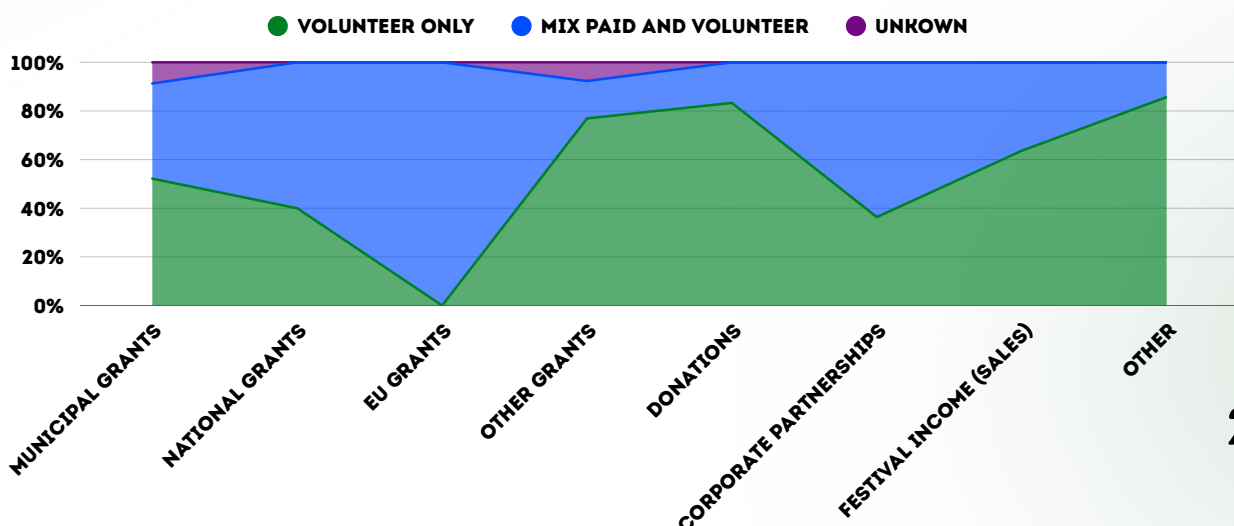
The most common funding level across Europe is between 10,000 and 50,000 euros. The respondents are roughly split in half in terms of their funding situation. Over the last three years, 15% report that their funding decreased significantly (by more than 25%), while 25% report a slight decrease, totalling 40% who have less funding now than they did three years ago. On the other side, 24% report that their funding has remained stable, while 21% has experienced a slight increase over the last three years.



Sources of funding

Across all of the respondents, 32,7% reported corporate sponsorships as their most important source of income, followed by municipal grants (22,8%). The sources of funding vary significantly depending on whether the Pride organiser has paid staff available to apply for, administer and report on public funding programmes. Notably, among the Pride organisers with EU grants as their most important source of funding, 100% already have paid staff on their Pride organising team.

STAFF COMPOSITION BASED ON FUNDING SOURCES





In common with many Prides, we've certainly seen a shift in the sponsorship landscape. Some international corporations have become more hesitant, whilst some others have actually increased their support. Careful stewardship of our funds has enabled us to continue to offer 30+ days of events each year whilst reducing costs by, for example, having a slightly smaller stage during Pride week in August, and cutting back on travel costs. It remains an absolute priority for us to continue to serve our community through free, inclusive events, and we are determined to continue to do that despite the global political headwinds.

Copenhagen Pride



Municipal and national grants tend to be more accessible to the Pride organisers without staff. 52% of respondents without any paid staff report municipal grants as their most important source of funding, while 40% of them report national grants as the most important funding source. For Pride organisers without paid staff, 63,6% report festival income, such as food, drinks, merchandise and tickets as a source of income, while the same number for Prides with paid staff is only 36,4%. For corporate sponsorships, the trend is reversed. 63,6% of respondents with paid staff report corporate sponsorships as the most important source of income, while only 36,6% report the same for Prides without paid staff.

The results indicate that EU grants and corporate sponsorships may be more easily accessible to organisers with paid staff, as paid staff resources make it significantly easier to follow up applications, administration and reporting on a daily basis. However, whether to accept corporate sponsorships may also be a deliberate, politically motivated choice, with some Pride organisers reluctant to accept funding that requires corporate partnerships.

Volunteer-driven Prides have dominated EuroPride in recent years

A slight majority, 53,5%, are entirely volunteer-powered, with no paid staff. The lack of paid staff is not necessarily an issue for smaller and more informal Pride events, where the workload might be manageable for a team of volunteers. However, several larger Pride organisations that host events with thousands of participants also report that they are still run exclusively by volunteers. This includes, for example, Athens, Malta, Torino, Hamburg and Gloucestershire. Despite being exclusively volunteer-run, Athens Pride hosted an international Pride conference in 2019, requiring extensive administrative work and planning. Malta has delivered EuroPride in 2023, while Torino has won the bid for EuroPride in 2027. Hamburg and Gloucestershire both delivered impressive and comprehensive bids for EuroPride a few years ago. The data indicate that EuroPride is not exclusive to the largest and most well-resourced Pride organisers. The data also suggest that multiple Pride events across Europe, with tens of thousands of participants, remain exclusively volunteer-run. Future surveys may indicate whether any of the Pride organisers have volunteerism as a deliberate strategy or policy.



Pride in Gloucestershire's EuroPride bid took an extraordinary amount of planning over many years. We had to build, motivate and upskill a team quickly that could not just lay the foundations for the bid but give confidence in its delivery. As a smaller Pride we had to plan growth, inspire and consistently challenge ourselves in every area and every detail of the bid consistently.

We were constrained by having very little budget and all being unpaid volunteers. The need to get the reach, build reputation, secure delivery partners and gain national support was achieved by pure determination and the belief that what we were doing was desperately needed and being done for the right reasons.

Gloucestershire Pride

The main determinant to make a Pride happen is to find the people and energy required to organize it, and we were lucky enough to be able to constitute such a group, building on existing community networks and on the rich LGBTIQ+ scene in Lausanne.

In a context where attacks against our rights have increased, in and beyond Switzerland, we hope our Pride will be a moment of union between the various groups of the local community and help bring together the more radical and the more institutional ones, to celebrate together the multiple ways in which we resist, take care and move forward towards a world where we have the right to be ourselves.

Lausanne Pride

Burnout is experienced both among paid staff and volunteers

32 respondents report experiencing frequent burnout within the Pride organising team, with another 42 reporting 'occasional' burnout. The respondents were asked to identify the key causes of burnout, with the clear majority pointing to the workload and volunteer dependency that creates instability within the organising team.

The lack of broader social recognition and appreciation for the work adds to the emotional burden, making burnout more likely.

Dúhový PRIDE Bratislava

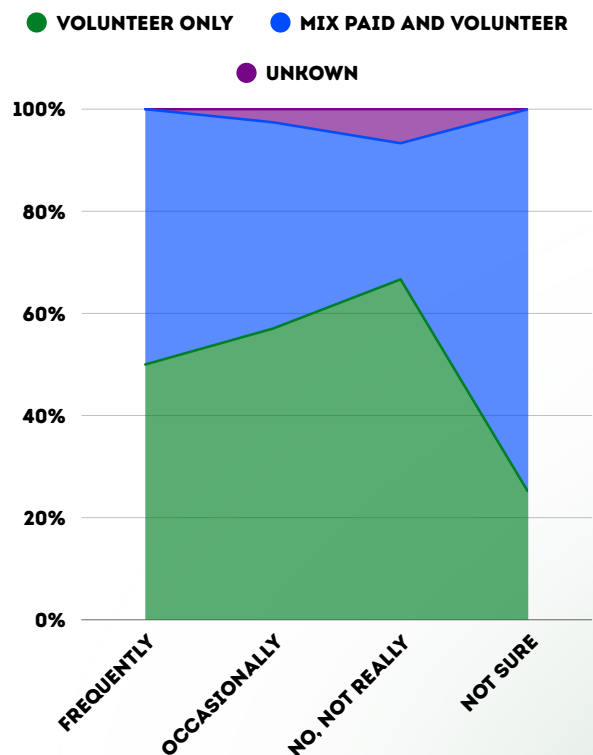
Lack of funding to cover the costs of paid staff to ensure continuity and basic maintenance is a central concern for eight of the respondents. Several Pride organisers report burnout due to the expansion of Pride events, while funding and human resources remain at the same level.

We've increased the number of activities we organize and the volume of work, but we haven't been able to hire more staff or volunteers. Our budget remains the same, which means a heavier workload.

Madrid Pride

On the other hand, the frequency of burnout is equally distributed between volunteer-operated Pride organisers and Pride organisers with paid staff. The question concerning burnout covers the entire Pride organising team, including both paid staff and volunteers. The data may indicate that although paid staff may relieve the administrative workload from volunteers, the introduction of paid staff to the organisation does not, by itself, mitigate all the root causes for stress and burnout.

BURNOUT AMONGST STAFF



GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITIES

Pride has for a long time offered a lot more than just a street march or parade. The majority of Pride organisers are offering a wide range of activities, ranging from cultural, educational and advocacy work. The diversity of what a Pride event may entail across different locations in Europe makes it difficult to draw firm lines between Pride organisers and other LGBTQI+ organisations. Some organise Pride as only one of several activities they do throughout the year. Traditions differ across Europe: in some locations, Pride and politics are aligned within the same organisational structure, while in other locations, it is customary to keep Pride and politics apart, with separate organisations primarily dealing with advocacy work and political campaigns.

93% of the Pride organisers recorded in this report organise a march or a parade, where even more engage (94%) organise cultural activities as part of their Pride event.

In addition to marches, parades and cultural activities, the Pride organisers are engaged with a wide variety of activities, ranging from educational activities to political campaigns, lobbying, strategic litigation, community centres, shelters, healthcare and legal support.

ACTIVITIES	%
Pride march/parade	91.59%
Cultural activities (concerts, shows, movie screenings, art exhibitions etc.)	94.39%
Educational trainings, workshops	70.09%
Conferences / panel discussions	69.16%
Meetings with politicians, lobbying	73.83%
Campaigns	59.81%
Legal / psychological support	35.51%
Community center	35.51%
Strategic litigations	17.76%
Shelter / crisis-housing	13.08%
Healthcare	21.50%
Other	13.08%

Rosa Lëtzebuerg is one of the organisations with a community center, organising multiple activities and working on LGBTQI+ advocacy all year round.

Rosa Lëtzebuerg is the national LGBTQI+ advocacy association, which runs a Queer Cultural Center. Our work is based on political advocacy, awareness raising, and training for institutions, schools, and companies, and lastly organising socio-cultural events. Pride is amongst them the biggest. Almost everything is carried by volunteer board members. The opening of the Rainbow Center and the work on other projects and events turned out to be a second job next to the day job of our board members.

Rosa Lëtzebuerg

Local adaptation

Another form of growth and opportunity can be found in the local adaptation of broader LGBTQI+ concepts, language and advocacy efforts. While many challenges and discussions are shared internationally, meaningful change often requires a local approach that reflects language, culture and lived realities. Pride organisers and LGBTQI+ organisations can play an important role in making international conversations

locally relevant and accessible, helping to strengthen visibility and inclusion within their own communities.

Sipineq+ is the main LGBTQI+ organisation in Greenland, hosting two annual Pride events in Nuuk and Sisimiut. In addition to Pride events, Sipineq+ also works to advocate for LGBTQI+ rights and visibility in Greenlandic society. Back in 2023, we started a terminology project to develop an inclusive list of terms for gender identity, sexual orientation, and other LGBTQI+ related terms in the Greenlandic language. The most recent project is an ongoing survey covering the health, well-being, and living conditions of LGBTQI+ people in Greenland.

Sipineq+

International Solidarity

International solidarity and cooperation also create opportunities for growth. Pride organisers are increasingly connected through national and international networks, creating opportunities to learn from one another, exchange experiences and support each other in times of challenge. These connections help strengthen the wider Pride movement and respond collectively to common issues affecting LGBTQI+ communities across borders.

WHAT MAKES YOU MOST PROUD

Our team atmosphere. New Pride venue for Gen Z people.

Prague Pride



Expanding the Pride Week significantly.

Pilsen Pride

There was significantly more people than other years. Also, as always, we received several comments about how safe and welcome participants felt.

Andorra Pride



Creating a safe Pride event besides far right protests and attacks.

CSD Magdeburg

#PRIDE

Growing from 3k to 9k.
CSD Bielefeld

Seeing people of all ages, backgrounds, and identities come together (dancing, connecting, and being themselves) captures exactly what Herts Pride stands for.

Herts Pride



Getting a celebrity and ambassador to headline our events.

Asian Pride



Having organized the very first LGBTQIA+ Pride in the city! And being the first LGBTQIA+ association created in the city.

Tourc'en Ciel

Celebrating our 20th anniversary - 20 consecutive years.

Athens Pride

We have succeeded in giving the demonstrations a much stronger political focus again.

Berlin Pride



We are proud to be exclusively political-centered and have no links with any companies.

Pride Marseille

Surviving
Tbilisi Pride



The fact that, even if it was a terrible hard and struggling year for the team and the local community, we are still together.

Brasov Pride

Financial

While a lack of funding remains a challenge for many Pride organisations, it can also create opportunities to diversify income sources. In addition to traditional Pride funding, organisations may be able to access support through cultural grants, community development programmes, or funding for inclusive sports and participation initiatives. At the same time, political priorities can have a significant influence on how public funding is allocated, creating both opportunities and risks depending on the policy environment.



Our new mayor is very pro-LGBT+. She raised funding from 50.000 up to 100.000 DKK (doubling it) making it possible to finally pay our musicians which have until now been playing for free. However, this is not even enough to pay the musicians minimum wage.

This is in contrast to what will probably happen for next election when a right-wing government will probably be elected resulting in no advancements for LGBT+ people in the next 4 years on a legislative level.

LGBT+ Føroyar

Resilience

Despite many challenges, Pride movements across Europe have repeatedly demonstrated resilience in the face of political backlash, legal restrictions and social hostility. In many cases, pushback has not weakened the movement, but rather strengthened it, creating new forms of visibility, solidarity and community engagement. Pride organisers have often adapted to changing circumstances, finding alternative ways to mobilise communities and sustain visibility when traditional forms of gathering were challenged.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Pride organisers across the world came together to organise Global Pride 2020, a more than 28-hour digital event that connected communities at a time when physical gatherings were not possible. The initiative, of which EPOA was one of the initiating parties, demonstrated the ability of the movement to respond collectively to crisis and maintain visibility under challenging circumstances. Similarly, as highlighted in the case study on Poland Transgender Days of Visibility, political hostility has in some cases acted as a catalyst for new forms of organising and bringing communities together.





Poland: Transgender Days of Visibility

Poland Transgender Days of Visibility is an entire weekend of meetings, discussions, Q&As, workshops, movie screenings, stage performances, art exhibitions and even holy mass in Reformed Church, focused on Trans/NB people. The Pride part and meetings part are perfectly complementary to each other.

We came up with an idea in 2022, when Jarosław Kaczyński, leader of the ruling party at the time, was having a series of meetings with his followers in several cities, preparing the campaign for parliamentary elections, upcoming in the next year. Kaczyński was making stupid jokes about transgender identity and this pissed us off. The first idea was to make a big protest and invite openly transgender people from all the country, many of them being known not only for being trans but also being a movie maker, author, lawyer, scientist a.s.o., but also a lot of people representing more common professions, proving that trans people are everywhere. While making a list we realized that there are over a hundred people like this in Poland. We also invited a dozen activists from other countries to make an international discussion panel.



EUROPRIDE AND ITS LEGACY

EuroPride is a pan-European Pride event licensed by the European Pride Organisers Association (EPOA), bringing together communities, activists and visitors from across Europe. Hosted by a different European city each year, EuroPride builds on local Pride events while creating an opportunity for increased international visibility, solidarity and exchange. The first EuroPride was celebrated in London in 1992, and has since taken place across a wide range of European cities and contexts, reflecting the diversity and development of the Pride movement across Europe.

EuroPride continues to function as one of the most visible and politically significant LGBTQI+ events in Europe, with its impact extending far beyond the host city. While each edition is locally grounded, its legacy is increasingly understood in transnational terms - shaping policy debates, strengthening regional Pride ecosystems, and redefining what large-scale queer events can achieve. Each EuroPride leaves its own unique legacy, shaped by the local context, the challenges of the time, and the ambitions of its host city.

Belgrade 2022

The legacy of EuroPride 2022 in Belgrade illustrates a complex interplay between symbolic impact and structural limitations. On one hand, EuroPride

firmly established Belgrade Pride as the central and undisputed event for the LGBTQI+ community in Serbia, eliminating the need to repeatedly justify its relevance and reinforcing a shared understanding that visibility remains the primary driver of progress. On the other hand, this increased recognition did not translate into sustained institutional support or policy change. In the years following EuroPride, organisers faced significantly reduced budgets, prompting a strategic shift toward financial resilience - cutting major costs, scaling down programming, and diversifying funding through smaller donors and in-kind contributions. While these adaptations have enabled continuity, they also reflect an ongoing environment of uncertainty, where the long-term structural conditions for LGBTQI+ organising remain largely unchanged despite the visibility and scale achieved through EuroPride.

Thessaloniki 2024

EuroPride 2024 in Thessaloniki demonstrates how the event can act as a catalyst for organisational development and institutional access. Hosting EuroPride opened doors to stakeholders that had previously been out of reach, significantly expanding the organisation's network and credibility. This visibility translated into concrete opportunities, including participation in major international project consortia and a gradual transition toward a more professionalised, staff-based structure.

Importantly, the timing of EuroPride—preceding the global rise of anti-“woke” backlash—allowed organisers to establish lasting partnerships that continue to provide strategic advantage, even as the broader political climate becomes more challenging. While stakeholder engagement has since become more cautious, the relationships and track record built during EuroPride position the organisation from a stronger baseline, highlighting how legacy can function as both immediate capacity-building and longer-term resilience.

Amsterdam 2026

The upcoming EuroPride in Amsterdam is expected to further consolidate the legacy-driven approach. Among its ambitions is advocacy for the recognition of Pride as intangible cultural heritage, including efforts to place Pride on the UNESCO list. This reflects a broader strategic shift: positioning Pride not only as a protest or celebration, but as a cultural practice worthy of preservation, protection, and global recognition.

Turin 2027

Future hosts are already building on this momentum. EuroPride 2027 in Turin is being framed as a national unifying moment. Organisers anticipate that “there will be only one major Pride in Italy” on the day of the EuroPride parade. This consolidation signals a move toward coordinated national visibility, where EuroPride acts as a focal point for diverse strands of the movement. At the same time, organisers highlight structural challenges, particularly in fundraising and operating within a political environment that “often doesn’t take our demands seriously,” underscoring the tension between ambition and available support.

West of Ireland 2028

Looking further ahead, EuroPride West of Ireland 2028 explicitly centres legacy as a core objective. Organisers describe it as “a once-in-a-generation opportunity to unite communities, celebrate diversity, and welcome thousands of visitors to the West of Ireland,” while aiming to “create a lasting legacy of visibility, inclusion, tourism,

and community Pride across the island of Ireland.” Crucially, its impact is expected to extend well beyond Limerick and Clare. By shifting national attention, EuroPride can transform LGBTQI+ issues from being perceived as urban

WorldPride

EuroPride 2026 consolidates with WorldPride Amsterdam 2026. When WorldPride takes place in Europe, convention has developed that it will also be designated as the EuroPride for that year.

WorldPride is licensed by InterPride, the global federation of Pride organisers.

The logo for InterPride features the word "InterPride" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A horizontal line with a rainbow gradient (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) passes through the middle of the letters, creating a sense of movement and diversity.

concerns into matters of nationwide relevance. As organisers note, increased visibility generates policy pressure particularly in areas such as healthcare access, legislative protections, and regional equality.

Across these cases, a consistent pattern emerges: EuroPride acts as both a mirror and a lever. It reflects the socio-political realities of its host context - whether supportive or hostile - while simultaneously creating opportunities to shift those realities. However, this transformative potential is not without cost. In both Ireland and Italy, organisers emphasise the heavy burden placed on volunteer-based structures, from resource constraints and professionalisation gaps to emotional strain, burnout, and exposure to hostility and coordinated attacks.

Ultimately, the legacy of EuroPride is no longer confined to economic impact or short-term visibility. It is increasingly measured in cultural recognition, policy influence, movement-building, and the capacity to redefine national and regional narratives around LGBTQI+ rights. As future editions continue to expand their ambitions, EuroPride is evolving from a rotating event into a strategic instrument for long-term change across Europe.



**EUROPRIDE
TORINO 2027**



2028		West of Ireland IRELAND
2027		Turin ITALY
2026		Amsterdam THE NETHERLANDS (WORLDPRIDE)
2025		Lisbon PORTUGAL
2024		Thessaloniki GREECE
2023		Valletta MALTA
2022		Belgrade SERBIA
2021		Copenhagen DENMARK (WORLDPRIDE)
2020		Global Pride
2019		Vienna AUSTRIA
2018		Stockholm + Gothenburg SWEDEN
2017		Madrid SPAIN (WORLDPRIDE)
2016		Amsterdam THE NETHERLANDS
2015		Riga LATVIA

2014		Oslo NORWAY
2013		Marseille FRANCE
2012		London) UK (WORLDPRIDE)
2011		Rome ITALY
2010		Warsaw POLAND
2009		Zurich SWITZERLAND
2008		Stockholm SWEDEN
2007		Madrid SPAIN
2006		London UK
2005		Oslo NORWAY
2004		Hamburg GERMANY
2003		Manchester UK
2002		Cologne GERMANY
2001		Vienna AUSTRIA
2000		Rome ITALY (WORLDPRIDE)
1998		Stockholm SWEDEN
1997		Paris FRANCE
1996		Copenhagen DENMARK
1994		Amsterdam THE NETHERLANDS
1993		Berlin GERMANY
1992		London UK





**EUROPEAN
PRIDE** ORGANISERS
ASSOCIATION