**Questionnaire from the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity with focus on practices of so-called “conversion therapy”**

**Ireland’s response**

**December 2019**

Ireland launched its *LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy* in 2018. The Strategy seeks to ensure a cross-governmental approach to enhance the lives of LGBTI+ young people and address some of the key challenges that they may face in their day-to-day lives. The Strategy includes a commitment to prohibit the promotion or practice of conversion therapy by health professionals in Ireland (action 8b).

The *National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy* was launched in November 2019. The overall aim of the LGBTI + Inclusion strategy is to promote inclusion, protect rights and to improve quality of life and wellbeing for LGBTI+ people enabling them to participate fully in Ireland's social, economic, cultural, and political life. The vision is for a safe, fair and inclusive Ireland where LGBTI+ people are supported to flourish and to live inclusive, healthy and fulfilling lives, whatever their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or sex characteristics.

In line with the commitments in the *LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy*, the Inclusion Strategy provides for actions aimed at ensuring the practice of conversion therapy in Ireland is investigated and followed up with appropriate counter measures. As of December 2019, this work is in the early planning stage.

Links: [National LGBTI Youth Strategy](https://assets.gov.ie/24459/9355b474de34447cb9a55261542a39cf.pdf)