



renew europe.

Valérie Hayer  
Member of the European Parliament  
President of the Renew Europe Group

Ursula von der Leyen  
President of the European Commission  
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200  
1049 Brussels

Brussels, 20 May 2025

**Subject: Call for immediate action to protect Budapest pride and the right to assembly**

Dear President von der Leyen,

On behalf of the Renew Europe Group in the European Parliament and our Hungarian member party *Momentum Movement*, we call on the Commission to take immediate steps in defence of the fundamental rights of the citizens, and specifically the LGBTIQ community, in Hungary.

A recently adopted provision in the Hungarian Assembly Law effectively targets LGBTIQ public gatherings, which would lead to a ban of the pride march in Budapest, scheduled for 28 June 2025. This legislation directly stems from the so-called 'Child Protection' (or 'Propaganda') Law, which is already the subject of infringement proceedings before the Court of Justice (CJEU Case C-769/22). The Assembly Law references this legislation as the legal basis for the ban, notwithstanding the ongoing challenge to its compliance with EU law. This attempt to suppress peaceful assembly constitutes a clear violation of fundamental rights enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the values underpinning our Union.

Additional amendments adopted on the 14 April 2025 in an expedited procedure, amongst other to the fundamental law in Hungary, also risk violating non-discrimination, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.

The Renew Group in the European Parliament has been at the forefront of the fight to protect the rule of law, democracy, and fundamental rights throughout the EU. We cannot remain idle and watch the Orbán government trample on democratic principles and fundamental rights time and time again, silencing minority voices and stifling diverse opinions, as it is once again demonstrated by the restriction of the freedom of assembly.

In order to halt the application of these restrictions, and therefore allow Budapest Pride to proceed lawfully, we **call on the Commission to immediately request interim measures** from the CJEU to suspend the application of the 'Propaganda Law' until the case is resolved. Such action would uphold the right to peaceful assembly not only in the context of Budapest Pride, but more broadly, and would unequivocally demonstrate the EU's determination to uphold its fundamental values and protect the rights of all its citizens. Failing to act, on the other hand, risks both the criminalisation

of peaceful assembly and the chilling disappearance of one of the few remaining LGBTIQ gatherings in Hungary.

Madame President, you have emphasized on countless occasions that the rule of law and the fight against corruption will be at the heart of your work, and that you are willing step up enforcement. In light of these considerations, we expect the Commission to act in accordance with these standards and take appropriate measures without delay.

Yours sincerely,



Valérie Hayer  
President  
Renew Europe Group



Katalin Cseh  
Member of Parliament  
National Assembly of Hungary



Sophie Wilmés  
Shadow Rapporteur on the  
Art. 7 procedure against HU  
Renew Europe Group

Copy:

Michael McGrath, Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection  
Hadja Lahbib, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management

EURACTIV