

Unacceptable reference to gender self-determination “free from age restrictions” in the 2026-2030 LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy

Last week, the European Commission published its LGBTIQ+ Equality Strategy for 2026-2030, which refers to promoting the possibility of gender self-determination “free from age restrictions.”

In most EU countries, minors do not have the right to make decisions with serious consequences, such as purchasing alcohol, voting, or even getting a tattoo. Yet, the Commission proposes to allow children to self-determine their gender, without full awareness of the consequences such a decision may have on their lives.

Given the above:

1. How does the Commission justify the possibility of gender self-determination “free from age restrictions” when it is evident that minors do not possess the necessary maturity to make such critical and permanent life decisions?
2. How does the Commission intend to protect the fundamental rights of parents to safeguard their children from external pressures and inappropriate decisions?
3. What is the scientific and sociological basis to support the claim that minors can decide on their gender without age limits, when they are not allowed to make decisions on other critical aspects of their lives?