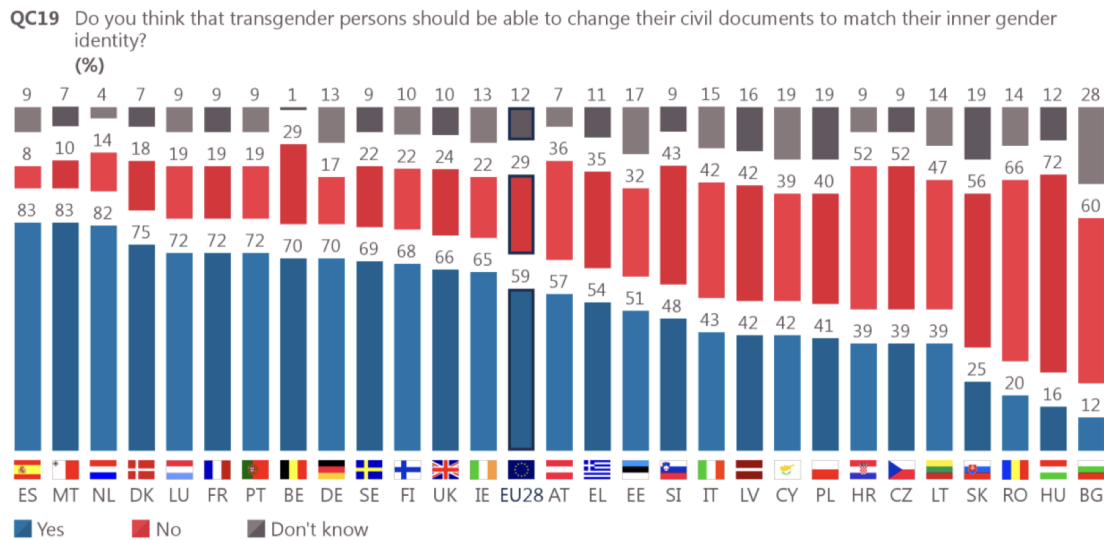# Discrimination in the EU

Survey Research Methodology II

2023/2024

In many EU countries, the LGBTI community often faces discrimination and harassment, with prejudices against homosexuality and transgender identities worsening the situation. Since 2008, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights has conducted studies revealing widespread discrimination in daily life, causing many LGBTI individuals to conceal their identities for fear of verbal and physical abuse. Surveys in 2012 and 2019, with over 93,000 and 140,000 participants respectively, highlight persistent discrimination in workplaces, educational settings, public venues, housing, healthcare, and shopping. Harassment, violence, and sexual assault are ongoing issues, especially for transgender and intersex people, particularly in situations requiring ID documents.

Alongside the surveys by the FRA, the European Commission conducted a specialized Eurobarometer survey focusing on discrimination within the EU, particularly regarding the LGBTI community. This survey encompassed several countries, gathering data on various topics, including key issues like societal attitudes and legal challenges. Among key findings, results highlighted notable variations between countries in terms of the support provided to transgender individuals in obtaining official documents.

The table below summarizes the results by country.

Figure 1: Question QC19 by country

CHALLENGE

The assignment has two primary objectives:

1. **Explaining Cross-Country Differences in Support Levels:** This aspect involves analyzing the data to understand why different countries exhibit varying levels of support for transgender individuals obtaining official documents (**cq19** in the questionnare). Individual-level indicators need to be complemented with country-level factors such as cultural norms, legal systems, history, economic-related variables, and societal views on LGBTI rights.

2. **Developing a Predictive Model for Other Countries** This task involves building a model to predict support for transgender individuals changing civil documents to align with their gender identity. By using factors identified in the first part of the assignment, machine learning techniques will be applied to forecast support levels based on observed trends. To ensure the model's accuracy and reliability, it must undergo thorough calibration and validation. Key steps in this process include selecting relevant features (variables), choosing an appropriate modeling method (such as regression analysis, decision trees, neural networks, etc.), training the model with survey data, and subsequently testing its predictions against known outcomes.

A thorough understanding of the data, expertise in data analysis and statistical modeling, along with a deep awareness of the complexities surrounding LGBTI rights, are essential for successfully completing this assignment.

ABOUT THE DATA

The Special Eurobarometer 493: Discrimination in the EU focuses on person's perceptions, attitudes and opinions of discrimination based on ethnic origin, skin colour, sexual orientation, gender, age, disability, religion, and beliefs. The survey you're referring to was conducted across 28 countries. Fieldwork: 09-21/05/2019

ASSIGMENT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Teams are responsible for assembling a comprehensive package for submission. This package must include:

- **Code**: Complete and well-documented source code developed for the project.
- **Narrative Explanation**: A detailed narrative of the work, not exceeding four pages (excluding references). This narrative should articulate the reasoning behind strategic choices, describe the challenges encountered and how they were overcome, and present/discuss the main results.

The completed package must be uploaded to the designated **task on Aula Global**.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation will take into account the following criteria:

1. Creativity in the approach
2. Adequacy of methodology
3. Analytical rigor
4. Quality of the oral and written presentation

Prizes

- Best visualization: +0.5 points on the final grade (yes, you can get a 10.5 out of 10!)

- Best written/oral presentation: +0.5 points to the final grade (yes, you can achieve an 11 out of 10!)

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

Final presentations are scheduled for **March 20th**. Each group will be allotted a 12-minute window to present their project, followed by an 8-minute session for Q&A. It is imperative to adhere to these constraints

Group	Start Time	End Time
Group 1	3:05 PM	3:25 PM
Group 2	3:30 PM	3:50 PM
Group 3	3:55 PM	4:15 PM
Group 4	4:15 PM	4:35 PM
Break	4:35 PM	4:50 PM
Group 5	4:55 PM	5:15 PM
Group 6	5:20 PM	5:40 PM
Group 7	5:45 PM	6:05 PM
Break	6:10 PM	6:25 PM
Group 8	6:25 PM	6:45 PM
Group 9	6:50 PM	7:10 PM
Group 10	7:15 PM	7:35 PM

Table 1: Presentation Schedule

GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN WITH YOUR ANALYSIS!