Mon 29/01/2024 16:48

Hello,

regarding your request for information on freedom of the press, opinions, expression, association, and assembly, here is what we can report on the Italian situation.

In Italy, despite the succession of governments from different political spectrums, the aforementioned freedoms have never been questioned. There have been various allusions and different statements from members of Parliament, but in Italy, these freedoms are defended by the basic principles of the Constitution and therefore cannot be withdrawn without provoking a very strong reaction from the citizens. This was evident, for example, during the Covid-19 pandemic, but concerning associations, and protest groups, no significant hindrance has been imposed in Italy. The only justified exception is represented by the ban on gatherings, which also affected Italian Pride events. It should be noted, however, that in recent years, student and worker demonstrations, in particular, have often prompted rather violent interventions by law enforcement, resulting in serious injuries. This has not yet occurred in demonstrations defending LGBT or women's rights, but it is not excluded that force might eventually be used on a large scale in these cases as well.

Best regards,

Segreteria del Circolo di Cultura Omosessuale "Mario Mieli" - APS