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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Draft Council Conclusions on Equality as a driver for economic growth and competitiveness in the EU *- Approval* *- Statement by the IT delegation*

Delegations will find in the annex a statement by the IT delegation in relation to the abovementioned conclusions.

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ANNEX

Statement by the Republic of Italy on the Council Conclusions on "Equality as a driver for economic growth and competitiveness in the EU"

Italy remains firmly committed to protecting and promoting the human rights of LGBT+ people and to preventing and combating all forms of discrimination, violence and harassment against them, in accordance with EU law and the relevant case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

As regards the reference to 'gender identity' in the Council Conclusions, Italy notes that its national legal framework, pursuant to Law No 164 of 14 April 1982, provides for the legal recognition of changes to a person's registered gender through a regulated procedure. The Italian legal framework does not allow for recognition based solely on self-identification by an individual.

For the purposes of these Council Conclusions, therefore, Italy interprets the term 'gender identity' according to its national legal framework, without prejudice to the protection afforded under EU law and the relevant case-law of the Court of Justice.

In this context, Italy reiterates its preference for using the terminology set out in Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union when expressly stating grounds for discrimination.

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