

# Ukraine: nationalism and LGBT movement

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With the beginning of the European integration path, new trends and movements have appeared in Ukraine.

Some of them are very contradictory and it is not yet clear how they will coexist with each other.

In particular, nationalism and the development of the LGBT movement. Both directions are factors of destabilization of society.

Nationalism began to develop actively after the Euromaidan, the split in relations with Russia and the beginning of the reorientation of foreign policy towards integration into Euro-Atlantic structures.

Seven years ago, the sharp activation of the movement was used by the government of Petro Poroshenko as the main ideology of the state. The cult of Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevych was recreated again.

The nationalist movement in Ukraine sets as its goals the creation and development of Ukraine as an independent state and the protection of national identity. In fact, there is nothing wrong with this, if not for the radicalization of the movement.

Everyone has already come to terms with the fact that nationalism has become a part of modern life in Ukraine. There are fewer obvious radicals and the main aggressive attacks are directed against Russia, which, on the whole, corresponds to the general foreign policy of the country.

Recently, along with the European integration aspirations, some European trends have also entered our country. One of

them is the LGBT movement.

Striving for Euro-Atlantic integration, Kyiv assumes obligations to comply with the rules adopted in the union, respect for laws and rituals. One of the modern trends in Europe is the observance of the rights and freedoms of the LGBT movement.

In our country, it is not yet highly developed. What can be evidenced by the "Marches of Equality" held in the cities of Ukraine on September 19. One of them took place in Kiev. The event was attended by about a 7000 people. Most of them were not Ukrainians and newcomers. The column was accompanied by law enforcement officers.

Gradually, the number of participants in such events is growing, which can be regarded as a sign of the spread of the LGBT movement in the country.

Clashes constantly occur between representatives of nationalists and LGBT supporters. The latter are actively protected by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

However, given Ukraine's European aspirations, nationalists will have to somehow get along with gays. Or one of the movements should disappear.

It will not be possible to abandon nationalism in the coming years. From LGBT people, we can't get rid of if we want to join the EU, too.

So it is likely that in a few years we will see the first nationalists wearing rainbow-colored T-shirts.

Author: Timoschuk

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