# **OSCE** ODIHR HATE CRIME REPORTING

## Albania Hate Crime Report 2023

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2023 Hate Crime Report. For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/albania

For more information about ODIHR's Hate Crime Report, visit: hatecrime.osce.org/our-methodology

#### Summary

Albania last reported information on hate crimes to ODIHR for the 2023 Hate Crime Report. In co-operation with the OSCE presence in Albania, Albania has trained law enforcement officers on hate crimes. Following an ODIHR workshop held in 2017, Albania made improvements to its hate crime data recording system, including by enabling the bias motivation to be identified in recorded cases.

In 2021, Albania introduced the National Gender Equality Strategy 2021-2030, which includes specific measures to combat discrimination and hate crimes and promote equality and social inclusion.

Hate crime data collection in Albania Support for hate crime victims in Albania Hate crime capacity building in Albania Albania's hate crime legislation

#### **ODIHR's Key Observation**

ODIHR recognizes Albania's efforts to report information and statistics on hate crimes to ODIHR. Based on the official information, ODIHR observes that Albania's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes, while the numbers of officially recorded hate crimes are low. ODIHR also observes that Albania has not reported data on hate crimes recorded by the prosecution and the judiciary to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that Albania would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice officials to address hate crime.



### **Official Data**

An additional 11 cases of insults, the dissemination of racist or xenophobic material, and incitement to hatred recorded by police have been excluded from the total number as they constitute hate speech and thus fall outside the OSCE hate crime definition.

| Year | Hate crimes recorded by police | Prosecuted    | Sentenced     |  |
|------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| 2023 | 2                              | not available | not available |  |



#### **National Developments**

In 2023, Albania hosted the Annual OSCE Conference on Hate Crimes in Southeast Europe, in which representatives of the State Police participated.

The Albanian police have created specialized units to deal with hate crimes, and have trained officers to identify and investigate these crimes more effectively. Albania's Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination provides an institutional mechanism to handle complaints of discrimination and hatred, while also offers counselling and legal assistance to victims.

In 2023, collaborative contact has also been established with organizations representing vulnerable groups, such as the LGBTI, Roma and Egyptian communities, to support the exchange of information about criminality targeting vulnerable groups, as well as about the human rights situation and protection from discrimination of these communities.



### Incidents reported by civil society



some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

View civil society incidents for Albania, 2023

