OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2025 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/armenia

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

2025

Summary

Armenia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Armenia implemented ODIHR's programmes on Prosecutors and Hate Crime Training (PAHCT) and Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

In 2023, amendments to hate crime provisions in the Criminal Code of Armenia were developed within the framework of a parliamentary initiative in coordination with civil society. The amendments came into force in 2024.

The Government of Armenia has adopted an Action Plan stemming from the National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights (2023-2025). The Plan contains a number of measures to counter hate crimes. Action 4.7 provides for the development of guidelines for investigating cases of hate crime, hate speech, and discrimination for the police, investigative agencies, and the prosecutor's office.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Armenia's efforts to report hate crime information and data to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes that law enforcement agencies in Armenia do not record the bias motivations of hate crimes, official statistics include a low number of recorded hate crimes, while no judiciary records have been reported to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that Armenia would benefit from strengthening collaboration with civil society and facilitating their work to address hate crimes, including in the area of hate crime victim support.

Official Data

Police data include three cases of harassment, one case of physical assault and three cases of damage to property, all recorded by the Information Centre of the Police of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Armenia. In addition, 154 cases of criminal hate speech were reported but excluded from the above figure as they fall outside the OSCE definition of a hate crime. Judicial statistics are maintained for each article of the Criminal Code, and not for the separate parts or clauses of the article that provide for aggravating circumstances. Therefore, no separate judicial statistics or any other records are maintained specifically in relation to hate crimes.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	7	0	not available

Police data by bias motivation

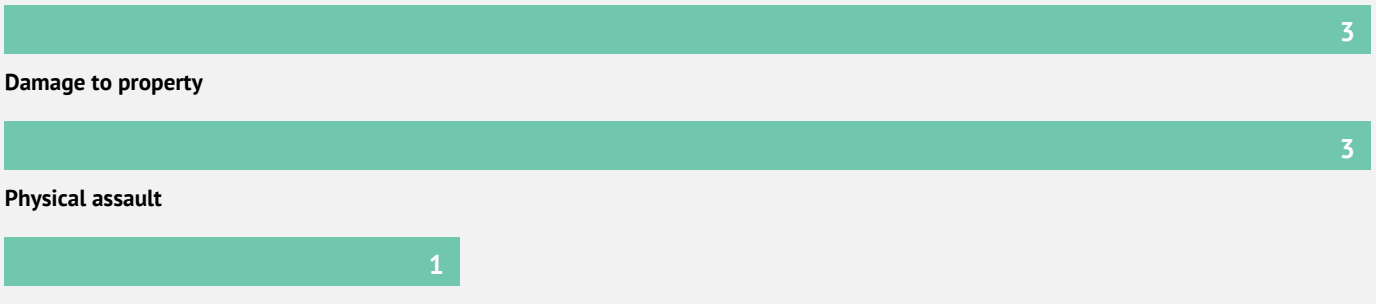
Data reported by police are not disaggregated by bias motivation.



Unspecified

Police data by type of crime

Data reported by police are not disaggregated by bias motivation.



This category includes acts prohibited under Article 194, Part 2, Clause 8 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia (on 'Mental Abuse'), which includes threats of murder, physical assault, and the deprivation of liberty, as well as the humiliation of honour and dignity.

National Developments

Under action 4.7 of the 2023-2025 Action Plan to implement the National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights, Armenia's Ministry of Justice developed guidelines for prosecutors, investigators, and police officers on the investigation of discrimination, hate speech and hate-motivated crimes.

In May 2025, the Minister of Internal Affairs issued "Guideline for Police Officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on Discrimination, Hate Speech, and the Investigation of Hate Crimes". The Guidelines require police officers to identify possible bias motives (including those related to "race", religion, sex, or other characteristics) during the initial examination of the crime scene and the first interview of victims and witnesses.

The 2025 Academy of Justice's annual training programme for judges and judicial candidates included the topic of "Challenges in the Qualification of Hate-Motivated Crimes" as part of its course on "Current Issues of Criminal Law". The majority of judges and judicial candidates specializing in criminal law took part in this training.

On 28-29 August 2025, seven prosecutors of the Prosecutor General's Office participated in a workshop on investigating discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes, held in Tsaghkadzor. On 20 August 2025, a representative of the Prosecutor General's Office participated in a training on hate crimes and the mechanisms for collecting data on discrimination, organized as part of the Council of Europe's "Promotion of Equality and Elimination of Discrimination in Armenia" programme.

From 1 to 4 July 2025, a representative of the Prosecutor General's Office participated in ODIHR's four-day international training-of-trainers workshop in Warsaw, organized as part of ODIHR's Prosecutors and Hate Crimes Training (PAHCT) programme.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Armenia from the following civil society organizations:

- Dignity Humanitarian NGO
- Eastern European Coalition for LGBT+ Equality
- Eurasian Coalition on Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity (ECOM)
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Northern Caucasus SOS Crisis Group
- Pink Armenia
- "Right Side" Human Rights Defender NGO

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page.

In addition, some incidents were recorded as part of UNHCR's ongoing monitoring.

Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that are broadly considered to be hate crimes within the OSCE definition (criminal offence committed with a bias motive) are listed in the tables below according to the bias motivation category. Some incidents involved multiple biases and may be listed in multiple categories.

ODIHR's insights

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of 59 hate incidents that took place in Armenia targeting a total of 67 victims in the following bias motivation categories: anti-Christian, anti-LGBTI, disability, gender-based, racist and xenophobic, and both gender-based and anti-LGBTI. Almost all incidents reported to ODIHR in Armenia were anti-LGBTI incidents, including a significant number that were both anti-LGBTI and gender-based.

ODIHR observes a significant number of incidents targeted the LGBTI community in Armenia, including several incidents of threats and harassment by family members and neighbours known to the victim. Nine anti-LGBTI incidents involved physical assault and harassment by law enforcement and military personnel.

ODIHR observes one gender-based homicide, when a young Chechen woman was killed by her husband in Armenia after fleeing systematic gender-based violence.

It should be noted that ODIHR did not receive any reporting on Armenia relating to anti-Muslim, anti-Roma, anti-Semitic, and other religion or belief hate incidents, and very few reports of anti-Christian, disability, and racist and xenophobic hate incidents. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.
Please note that incidents reported here are based on voluntary civil society submissions and as such do not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in Armenia.

To address under-reporting, ODIHR encourages any civil society organizations or groups that monitor hate incidents to report these to ODIHR at hatecrimereport@odihr.pl.

To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from Armenia click here.

View civil society incidents for Armenia, 2025