

Finland Hate Crime Report 2015

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2015 Hate Crime Report.

For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/finland

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

Summary

Finland regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Finland has conducted victimization surveys to measure unreported hate crimes. The Finnish police closely co-operates with the Finnish Human Rights League, the Finnish Red Cross and Finnish Victim Support to develop a co-ordinated response to combat hate crimes. These organizations, along with the national police and other key authorities, form a network tasked by Finland's Ministry of Justice with monitoring hate crimes in Finland and developing adequate measures to prevent such crimes. Finland implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme in 2017 and went on to train over 1,000 police officers on hate crimes before integrating the programme's hate crime modules into pre- and in-service training for police.

[Hate crime data collection in Finland](#)

[Support for hate crime victims in Finland](#)

[Hate crime capacity building in Finland](#)

[Finland's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR observes that Finland has not reported information on the numbers of prosecuted hate crime cases to ODIHR.

Official Data

The police also record criminal forms of intolerance other than hate crimes, such as defamation, other hate speech offences and criminal discrimination. These data are reported to ODIHR but are not included in the overall figure or in the breakdown below.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2015	1,704	not available	not available

Police data by bias motivation

1,356

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

Official figures recorded 1,356 racist and xenophobic hate crimes.

171

Hate crime against Christians and members of other religions

Finland reported 171 crimes committed with an anti-religious bias.

95

Disability hate crime

Official figures recorded 95 crimes based on bias against people with disabilities.

82

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

Official figures recorded 82 hate crimes based on bias against LGBT people.

Police data by type of crime

726

Physical assault

This category also includes attempted assaults and attempted homicides.

492

Unspecified

261

Threats/ threatening behaviour

178

Damage to property

This category includes 'vandalism'.

47

Disturbance of the peace

This category includes "disturbance of domestic peace."

National Developments

In order to increase the reporting of racist crimes, various awareness raising campaigns have been conducted in the framework of the "2012-2015 Internal Security Programme." The programme also initiated surveys among people of immigrant origin in order to gain information about their sense of security in the country. Finland is also part of a European Union project that aims at developing an EU model of good practice to counter racial and religious hate crime and hate speech, and that addresses effective systems to report on hate crime through capacity building for law-enforcement and ethnic communities.

The newly published "National Action Plan for the Prevention of Violent Radicalisation and Extremism" made a connection between hate crime and extremism, and commits to develop better mechanisms to counter the problem.

Finland signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ODIHR to implement the Training against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme.

Incidents reported by civil society

No data reported to ODIHR.

[View civil society incidents for Finland, 2015](#)