

Finland Hate Crime Report 2016

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2016 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 and sentenced hate crimes to ODIHR.

Official Data

The police also recorded 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. The Prosecutor's Office and the courts only record by crime type and that is why statistics on prosecuted and sentenced hate crimes are not available.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2016	1,311	0	0

Police data by bias motivation

1655 hate crimes were originally reported to ODIHR. The number of crime reports was 1079, as one crime report can include several of hate crimes. This number included cases of Ethnic Agitation, Defamation and Discrimination, which were removed and are not presented here.

1,068

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

The figure presented here covers the following grounds: "race/colour", "ethnicity/national origin, citizenship and language".

67

Anti-Muslim hate crime

56

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

Official data were reported separately for LGB (44 hate crimes) and transgender (12 hate crimes) hate crime but are presented together here.

40

Other hate crime based on religion or belief

31

Disability hate crime

29

Anti-Christian hate crime

10

Anti-Semitic hate crime

Police data by type of crime

1655 hate crimes were originally reported to ODIHR. The number of crime reports was 1079, as one crime report can include several of hate crimes. This number included cases of Ethnic Agitation, Defamation and Discrimination, which were removed and are not presented here.

693

Physical assault

This category also includes attempted assaults and attempted homicides.

245

Threats/ threatening behaviour

228

Damage to property

This category includes "vandalism".

88

Unspecified

This category includes various uncategorized offences, incl. crime committed after a verbal provocation.

47

Disturbance of the peace

This category includes "disturbance of domestic peace".

National Developments

The **National Police Board of Finland** signed an agreement with ODIHR to implement the Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme.

A three-day training programme was created by the **Police University College** and carried out in November 2016. Prosecutors and judges also participated in hate crime trainings.

A working group was created within the **Ministry of Interior** to develop a holistic programme against hate crime.

In 2016, a working group within the **National Police Board** issued a report on combating hate crime. One of its recommendations was to create a special unit within the police force on countering hate crimes online, which would be supported by a nationwide network of dedicated police officers.

Incidents reported by civil society

Total 3 incidents



Racist and xenophobic hate crime

■ Violent attacks against people ■ Attacks against property

Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties

Total 1 incidents targeting properties



Public Space

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

Type of property attack

Total 1 incidents targeting properties



Vandalism

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

[View civil society incidents for Finland, 2016](#)