

Lithuania Hate Crime Report 2022

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2022 Hate Crime Report.

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

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

Summary

Lithuania regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Data are collected by the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior and the Prosecutor General's Office. Lithuania's annual hate crime report is published [here](#).

Lithuania began implementing ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme in 2015 and continues to train police officers using ODIHR's training curriculum. In 2018, Lithuania co-organized a workshop on hate crime recording and data collection with ODIHR and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency. The workshop was based on ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit (INFAHCT) and resulted in a set of recommendations for relevant state authorities.

In February 2020, the Lithuanian Ministry of Interior established a working group to promote an effective response to hate crimes and hate speech in Lithuania. The working group consists of representatives of seven national authorities and 11 civil society organizations. The working group proposes measures to strengthen the effectiveness of efforts to address hate crime and hate speech, monitors the implementation of international obligations, considers relevant legislation, and prepares annual reports on the situation of hate crimes and hate speech in Lithuania, among other roles.

In 2023, the Action Plan for the Implementation of Equal Opportunities, 2024-2026, was approved, and includes measures to prevent hate speech and hate crimes. Amendments were also made to recommendations for the pre-trial investigation of hate crime and hate speech, drafted with support from ODIHR, to include a definition of hate crime and bias indicators.

[Hate crime data collection in Lithuania](#)

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

[Hate crime capacity building in Lithuania](#)

[Lithuania's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Lithuania's efforts to improve the hate crime data recording and collection system. However, based on the available information, it observes the low numbers of officially recorded hate crimes. In addition, Lithuania would benefit from building the capacity of prosecutors and judges to address hate crime.

Official Data

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2022	34	12	6

Police data by bias motivation

22

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

8

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

This category only includes hate crimes committed with a bias based on sexual orientation.

3

Anti-Semitic hate crime

1

Anti-Roma hate crime

Police data by type of crime

13

Desecration of graves

This category includes acts of vandalism against memorials and monuments.

11

Incitement to violence

7

Physical assault

This category includes crimes recorded under Article 284 of the Criminal Code in which physical violence was used against a person.

3

Disturbance of the peace

National Developments

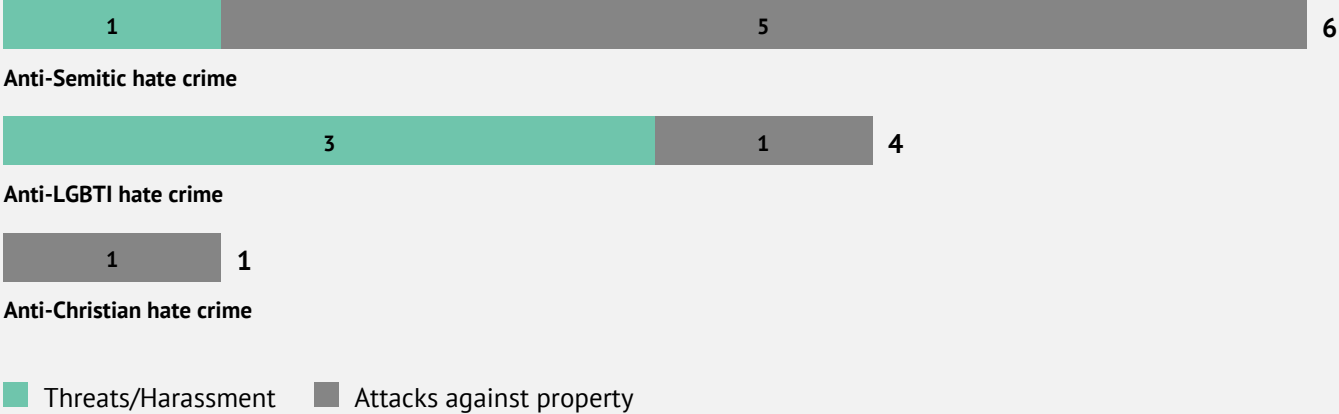
In 2022, amendments were made to the Criminal Code to include skin colour and ethnic origin among other protected characteristics.

In 2022, 140 police officers participated in the five training sessions on "Strengthening of Intercultural Competences in the Fight Against Hate Crimes", organized by the Human Rights Monitoring Institute with the support of Lithuanian and international experts and representatives of victimized communities. During the training, attention was paid to learning about different communities (Muslim, Roma, and Jewish communities, and communities of immigrants from the Middle East and Africa), linking this knowledge to the recognition and investigation of hate crimes.

Also in 2022, 31 judges participated in an eight-hour training event on "Hate crimes: legal and psychological aspects". Training topics included the concept and recognition of hate crimes; recognizing and distinguishing between hate speech and hate crime; court practice in dealing with hate crime and hate speech offences; the practice of the European Court of Human Rights and national courts; the criminal process for these types of criminal cases; the impact of hate crimes and hate speech on victims and victimized communities; the needs of hate crime victims; and communicating with hate crime victims.

Incidents reported by civil society

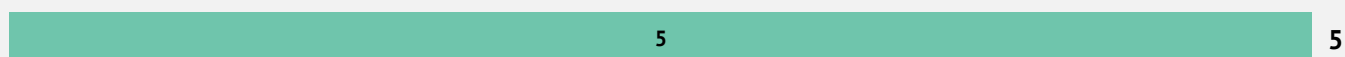
Total 11 incidents



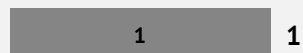
Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties

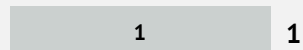
Total 7 incidents targeting properties



Monument



Place of worship



Public Space

■ Anti-Semitic hate crime ■ Anti-Christian hate crime ■ Anti-LGBTI hate crime

Type of property attack

Total 7 incidents targeting properties



Vandalism



Arson

■ Anti-Christian hate crime ■ Anti-LGBTI hate crime ■ Anti-Semitic hate crime

[View civil society incidents for Lithuania, 2022](#)