OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2024 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/malta

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

2024

Summary

Malta regularly reports hate crime information and data to ODIHR.

The Second National Action Plan Against Racism (NAPAR 2025–2030), launched on 12 November 2025, places particular emphasis on improving hate crime recording and data collection.

Malta implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme in 2017, followed by a refresher Training-of-Trainer programme in 2025. In 2021, ODIHR held a workshop for civil society organizations on ODIHR's hate crime methodology and its application to the specific context of Malta.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Malta's efforts to develop an innovative approach to understand hate online. However, based on available information, ODIHR observes that Malta does not collect data and statistics on hate crimes at the stage of prosecution and sentencing. In addition, ODIHR observes that Malta would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of prosecutors and judges to record and address hate crimes.

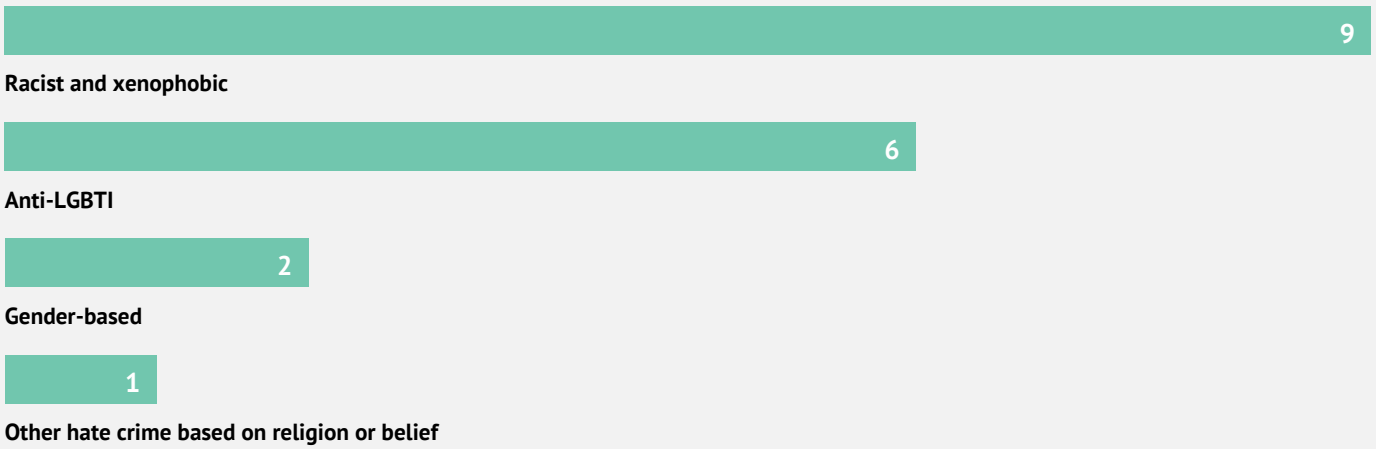
Official Data

Police-recorded data are taken from police reports within the National Police System. Data on bias motivations are not recorded by prosecution and courts.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2024	18	not available	not available

Police data by bias motivation

The breakdown below does not include offences that were reported to ODIHR but fall outside OSCE's hate crime definition. Specifically, two hate crimes motivated by bias against political opinion were excluded.



Police data by type of crime

The breakdown below does not include offences that were reported to ODIHR but fall outside OSCE's hate crime definition. Specifically, two hate crimes motivated by bias against political opinion were excluded.



Physical assault

This category also includes "gender-based violence" and "violence against a public officer".



Disturbance of the peace



Threats/ threatening behaviour

This category includes cases recorded under "threats and private violence" in the National Police System.

National Developments

Malta's Victim Support Agency (VSA), in collaboration with SOS Malta, is currently implementing an EU-funded project entitled 'Hatedemics'. This pilot research initiative aims to develop an innovative online database that identifies and categorizes annotations, verbal expressions, and written content commonly associated with hate speech. Through this project, the VSA seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of how hate speech manifests online and offline, ultimately supporting more effective prevention strategies, educational outreach, and policy development in this area.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2024, ODIHR did not receive any reports of hate incidents in Malta from civil society organizations. This is not an indication that hate crimes are not taking place, only that they have not been reported to civil society or to ODIHR.

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

View civil society incidents for Malta, 2024