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/moldova

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

2025

Summary

Moldova regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. In 2017, ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Moldova co-organized a workshop for police, prosecutors and civil society on understanding and improving hate crime recording and data collection, which led to a set of recommendations for relevant state authorities.

Following a request by Moldova's Ministry of Justice, in 2016 ODIHR provided a legal opinion on draft amendments related to bias-motivated offences. ODIHR's recommendations were largely reflected in amendments to the Criminal Code adopted by the Moldovan Parliament and published on 3 June 2022. In 2024, ODIHR held a national hate crime data workshop in Moldova.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Moldova's efforts to strengthen its hate crime recording and data collection mechanisms. However, ODIHR observes that Moldova's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes, while the number of prosecuted hate crime cases remain low. In addition, ODIHR observes that Moldova would benefit from building the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crimes.

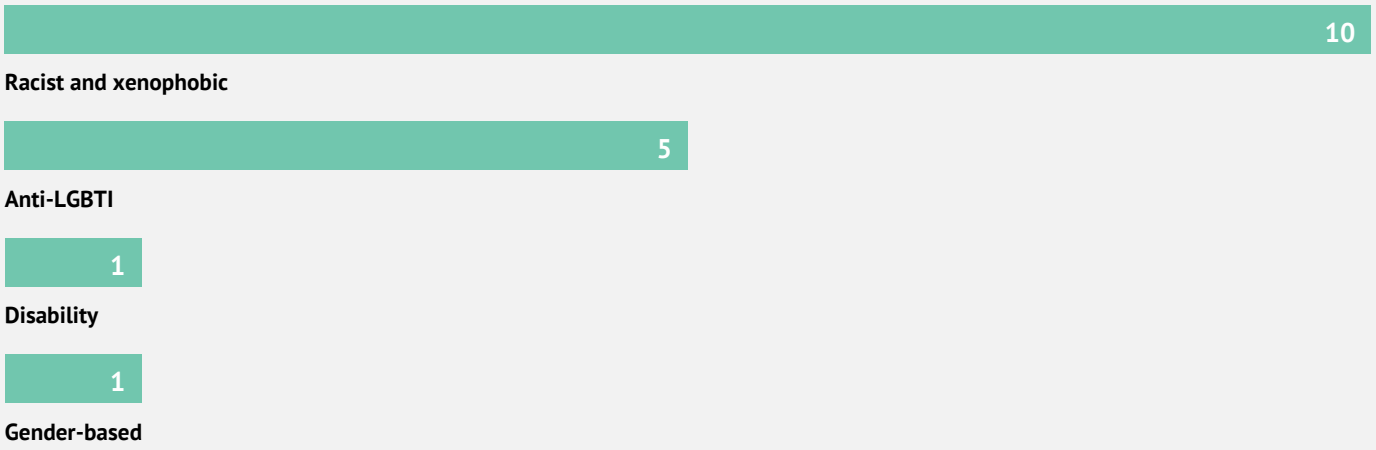
Official Data

The police-recorded figure corresponds to the number of incidents recorded. Each incident can contain multiple offences/charges, which are presented in the breakdown table below. The police number presented here excludes two crimes committed with a bias against political views, which falls outside the OSCE's hate crime definition.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	18	0	2

Police data by bias motivation

Police records can include more than one offence per incident, which are presented below. For that reason, the numbers below do not add up to the total number of incidents recorded, as presented above.
Seventeen records in the gender-based hate crime category were excluded from the numbers below as they fell outside the OSCE's hate crime definition.



Police data by type of crime

Police records can include more than one offence per incident, which are presented below. For that reason, the numbers below do not add up to the total number of incidents recorded, as presented above.
Seventeen records in the gender-based hate crime category were excluded from the numbers below as they fell outside the OSCE's hate crime definition.



Other

This category includes various criminal offences including violation of the inviolability of personal life, kidnapping, and vehicle and transportation-related offences, among others.



Disturbance of the peace

This category includes criminal cases of hooliganism.



Physical assault

This category includes criminal cases of domestic violence, intentional injury to bodily integrity or health, and facilitating suicide.



Sexual assault



Homicide



Theft/ robbery

National Developments

In 2025, the relevant authorities continued to participate in two Council of Europe projects: Combating Discrimination, Hate Speech and Hate Crime in the Republic of Moldova (2023–2026); and Strengthening Diversity and Equality in the Republic of Moldova – Phase II (2025–2028).

In 2025, Moldova's General Police Inspectorate, in co-operation with the Council of Europe and the European Union, continued efforts to strengthen hate crime recording and data collection mechanisms. A particular focus was placed on improving the collection and disaggregation of data related to hate crimes, hate speech and discrimination. Between April and May 2025, five dedicated training sessions were organized for police investigators, statistical officers and operational staff, reaching a total of 165 police officers.

In April 2025, a roundtable on 'Developments in the Investigation of Discrimination, Hate Speech and Hate Crimes Cases' was organized, bringing together police officers and representatives of the Equality Council to discuss challenges related to the qualification, investigation and documentation of hate crimes and hate speech cases.

In May 2025, the General Police Inspectorate, in co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), organized a workshop on understanding and improving the recording and collection of hate crime data in Moldova. The final report from the event, including recommendations, will be formally presented and follow-up measures implemented in 2026.

These efforts to strengthen hate crime data collection and recording were complemented by a practical workshop held on 17 October 2025, focusing on the investigation of discrimination, hate speech and hate crime cases in Moldova. The event brought together police officers, prosecutors and judges, alongside representatives of the Ombudsperson's Office, the Equality Council and the National Police. The workshop provided a platform to discuss practical challenges related to the qualification, investigation and documentation of hate-motivated incidents, while also strengthening inter-institutional co-operation and promoting a co-ordinated and victim-centred response.

In 2025, the Stefan cel Mare Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs trained 1,134 police officers on topics related to equality, non-discrimination, gender-sensitive policing, radicalization and hate.

Additionally, the following relevant training events were delivered as part of the in-service training delivered by the General Police Inspectorate:

- **16 police officers** were trained and certified as trainers on hate speech;
- **46 police officer**s were trained on the identification and legal qualification of hate speech;
- **43 police managers** were trained on discrimination, hate crimes and hate speech; and
- More than **380 police officers** representing public security, criminal investigation and management structures participated in specialized training activities.

In 2025, the National Institute for Justice organized a seminar on 'Practical Aspects in the Investigation of Cases of Discrimination, Hate Speech and Bias-Motivated Crimes in the Republic of Moldova', attended by 24 prosecutors, judges, criminal investigation officers and other legal professionals.

Incidents reported by civil society

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

- Eastern European Coalition for LGBT+ Equality
- Gender-DocM

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

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 15 incidents that took place in Moldova targeting a total of 21 victims in the anti-LGBTI, disability and gender-based bias motivation categories. Several incidents included both anti-LGBTI *and* gender-based bias motivations. ODIHR observes that a low number of incidents were reported in Moldova for 2025.

ODIHR observes that most incidents reported to ODIHR involved threats and physical assaults targeting members of the LGBTI community, including several incidents connected to LGBTI Pride events. A significant number of incidents involved online harassment and threats against LGBTI persons, including incidents targeting victims due to their LGBTI activism.

It should be noted that ODIHR did not receive any reporting related to anti-Christian, anti-Muslim, anti-Roma, anti-Semitic, racist and xenophobic and other religion or belief hate incidents in Moldova, and a low level of reporting related to disability 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 Moldova.

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 Moldova click here.

View civil society incidents for Moldova, 2025