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/north-macedonia

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

2024

Summary

North Macedonia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

North Macedonia implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) Programme in 2014. Following changes to the hate crime provisions in 2018, a refresher training-of-trainers session for police was conducted by ODIHR in December 2021.

North Macedonia implemented ODIHR's Prosecutors and Hate Crime Training (PAHCT) programme in 2019 and 2026, and in 2022 completed a training course on hate crimes for the judiciary together with the OSCE Mission to Skopje.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes North Macedonia's efforts to report hate crime information and statistics to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes that North Macedonia's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes, while bias motivations are also not recorded. ODIHR also observes that North Macedonia has not reported data on hate crimes recorded by the judiciary to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that North Macedonia would benefit from further building the capacity of prosecutors and judges to deal with hate crime cases.

Official Data

The above police number refers to the total number of crimes registered in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Code of the Republic of North Macedonia. The figures include an undefined number of hate speech and discrimination cases, as well as offences on the grounds of political opinion, all of which fall outside the OSCE's hate crime definition. The number of prosecuted cases represents crimes with an element of hate in addition to others elements stipulated in the law. The current case management system cannot produce statistics on hate crime cases only.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2024	40	253	not available

National Developments

Since June 2024, the Basic Public Prosecutor in Skopje has nominated a public prosecutor as a contact point to collaborate with the Network for Dialogue and Inter-sectoral Co-operation in combating hate speech and hate crime. This network was initiated by the civil society organization (CSO) Kvir Center in Skopje, with the support of the Council of Europe. The OSCE Mission in Skopje is also a part of this network. As the contact point, the public prosecutor is authorized to oversee proceedings in hate crime cases and, if necessary, to have direct contacts and meetings with the reporting organization and CSO representatives advocating for the injured parties.

In October 2024, a workshop on hate speech was held in Veles, which was organized by the Skopje-based Helsinki Committee for Human Rights.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2024, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in North Macedonia from the following civil society organizations:

- DELO Skopje
- Helsinki Committee for Human Rights Skopje
- The Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe (OIDAC)

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

In addition, some incidents were recorded as part of ODIHR's ongoing monitoring across the OSCE region.

All incidents submitted by the above organizations have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that were 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 2024, ODIHR received reports of eight incidents that took place in North Macedonia in the following bias motivation categories: racist and xenophobic, anti-Christian, anti-Muslim, anti-LGBTI, and anti-Roma. Two incidents were motivated by both racist and xenophobic *and* anti-Christian bias motives.

ODIHR received a low number of reported incidents in North Macedonia. Those reported included: threats against LGBTI organizations; vandalism and damage to places of worship; arson targeting a Roma political office; and a racist and xenophobic physical assault against members of the Turkish community.

It should be noted that ODIHR did not receive any reporting on North Macedonia relating to anti-Semitic, other religion or belief, gender-based, or 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 might not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in North Macedonia.

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

To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from North Macedonia click here and search by year and country.

View civil society incidents for North Macedonia, 2024