OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2021 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/slovakia

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

1 2021

Summary

Slovakia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Slovakia has implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme since 2017 and the Prosecutors and Hate Crime Training (PAHCT) programme since 2018. In 2018, the Ministry of Interior co-organized with ODIHR and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights a workshop on understanding and improving hate crime recording and data collection, based on ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit (INFAHCT). There is a high degree of hate crime specialization in both police and prosecutor structures in Slovakia. In 2023, ODIHR delivered online training sessions for employees of crime victim information offices from across the country, focusing on the sensitive and respectful treatment of hate crime victims, particularly on the specific needs of vulnerable groups such as Roma and Sinti and LGBTI+ community members.

The Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism, and Other Forms of Intolerance was established as a Government advisory body. The Committee established working groups on hate speech on the Internet and anti-Semitism, in line with the Memorandum on Cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic and the Federation of Jewish Communities in Slovakia. The working groups include representatives of the police and the prosecutor's office, as well as civil society organizations focusing on human rights, anti-Roma racism, and anti-Semitism.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Slovakia's recent efforts to understand unreported hate crimes by conducting a victimization survey, as well as to regularly report hate crime data to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes that law enforcement agencies have not recorded the bias motivations behind hate crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Slovakia would benefit from developing its victim support system to ensure effective access to justice, assistance, and protection for hate crime victims.

Official Data

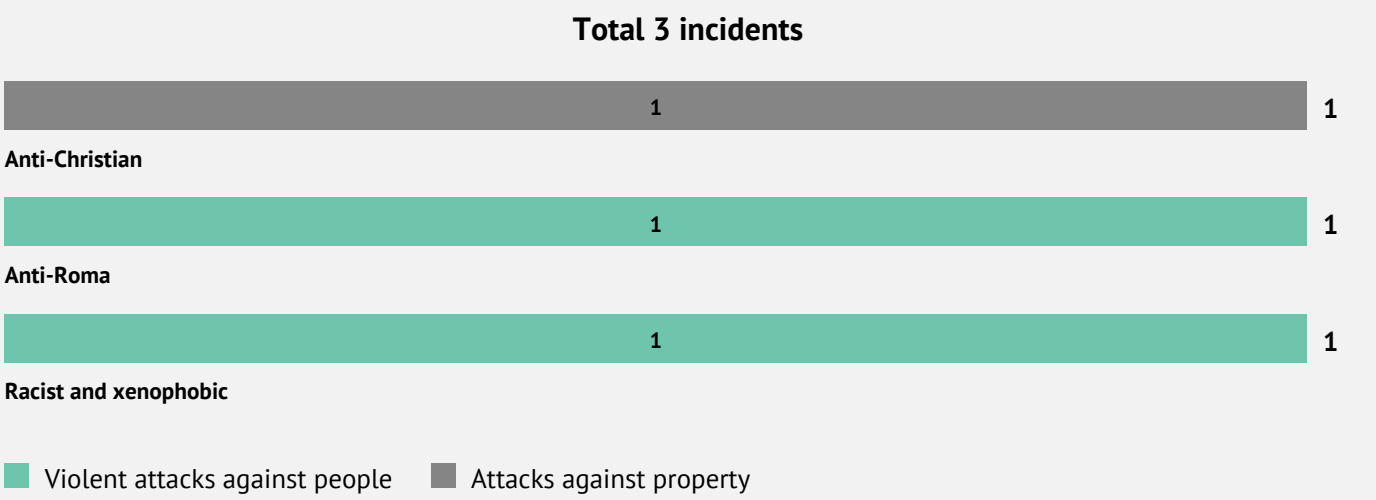
All figures presented here refer to crimes recorded as having a "special motivation", and therefore constituting hate crimes per section 140e of the Slovak Criminal Code. Data are provided by the police and Prosecutor General's Office. The 20 crimes recorded by police were committed by 12 persons (cumulative crimes). These may include offences that fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition. Police records broken down by bias motivation were not reported to ODIHR and are thus not presented below.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2021	20	13	15

National Developments

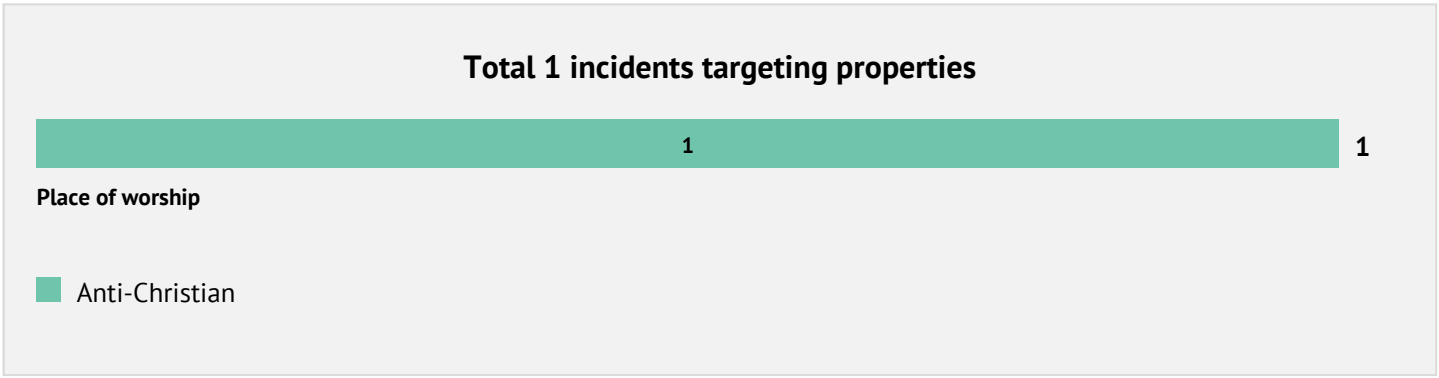
In December 2021, the Ministry of Interior conducted a pilot survey on perceptions of safety in Slovakia, as part of a framework of efforts to counter radicalization and extremism by 2024. The survey included a question on hate crimes, and found that 12.8 per cent of respondents had been a victim or directly knew someone who was victimized by a hate crime (physical assault). The survey results were published here, and Ministry plans to repeat the survey annually.

Incidents reported by civil society

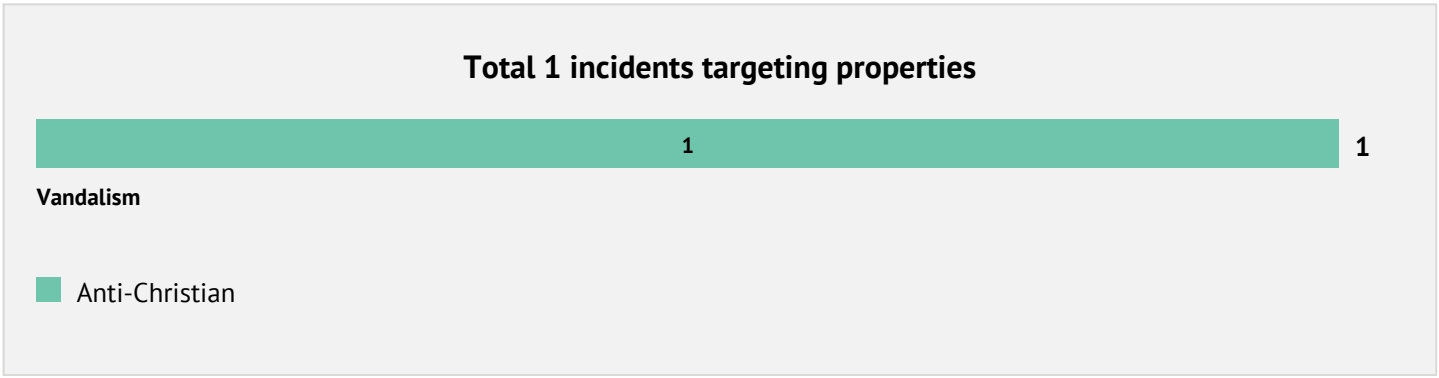


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Slovakia, 2021