OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Training on Reporting Hate Crime Using OSCE Mechanisms

7th Summer School on Human Rights, Conference of European Churches

osce.org/odihr

Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department · 9 July 2020

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Opening note

Dr. Regina Polak

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions

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Understanding hate crime

Facilitator: Tatjana Perić

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Understanding hate crime

Hate crime = crime + bias motivation

Hate crimes consist of two elements:

➞ The act must be a crime under the Criminal Code;

➞ The crime must have been committed with a bias motivation.

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Understanding hate crime

«Bias motivation» means that the perpetrator chose the target of the crime based on protected characteristics.

➞ A protected characteristic is a fundamental or core characteristic shared by a group, such as “race”, religion, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation or gender identity.

➞ The target may be a person, people or property associated with a group that shares a protected characteristic.

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Why treat hate crimes differently?

→ Hate crimes tend to increase in numbers.

→ Hate crimes tend to escalate.

→ Hate crimes are message crimes.

→ Hate crimes as early warning.

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Understanding hate crime

Types of hate crime:

➞ Threats.

➞ Hate crimes against people (e.g. abduction, bombing, homicide, physical assault, robbery, sexual assault).

➞ Attacks against property (e.g. arson, burglary, damage to property, hacking, theft, vandalism).

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Using bias indicators in identifying hate crime

Facilitator: Đermana Šeta

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Using bias indicators in identifying hate crime

- Crucial step
- Evidence
- Attention of police and authorities

“Facts or circumstances connected to a criminal act(s) which suggest that the offender’s actions were motivated in whole or in part by any form of bias.”

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List of bias indicators:

- victims and witness perception;
- comments, written statements, gestures or graffiti;
- differences between the perpetrator and victim;
- organized hate groups;
- location and timing;
- patterns or frequent previous crimes or incidents;
- nature of the attack;
- lack of other motives.

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Working groups exercise

Group 1: Đermana Šeta
Group 2: Tatjana Perić
Group 3: Vanja Kovač

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Quiz
Questions and answers

Facilitator: Vanja Kovač

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Conclusion

Facilitator: Tatjana Perić

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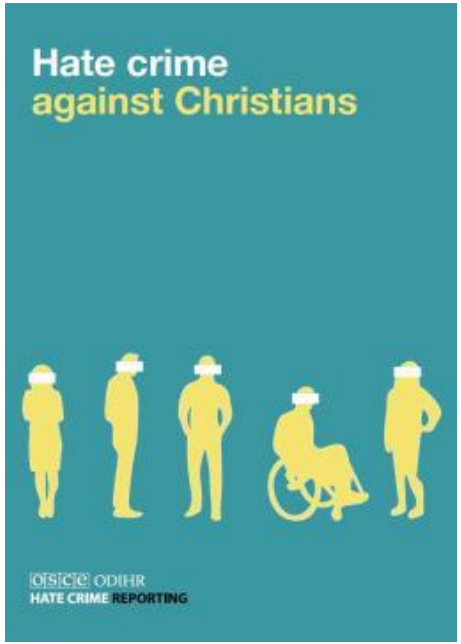
Conclusion



ODIHR's collection of factsheets on hate crime

www.osce.org/odihr/444787

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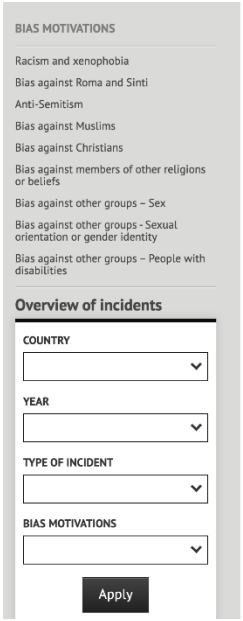
Conclusion

ODIHR's Hate Crime Reporting

hatecrime.osce.org

tndinfo@odihr.pl



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THANK YOU
for your attention

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