

Finland Hate Crime Report 2018

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2018 Hate Crime Report.

For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/finland

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

Summary

Finland regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Finland has conducted victimization surveys to measure unreported hate crimes. The Finnish police closely co-operates with the Finnish Human Rights League, the Finnish Red Cross and Finnish Victim Support to develop a co-ordinated response to combat hate crimes. These organizations, along with the national police and other key authorities, form a network tasked by Finland's Ministry of Justice with monitoring hate crimes in Finland and developing adequate measures to prevent such crimes. Finland implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme in 2017 and went on to train over 1,000 police officers on hate crimes before integrating the programme's hate crime modules into pre- and in-service training for police.

[Hate crime data collection in Finland](#)

[Support for hate crime victims in Finland](#)

[Hate crime capacity building in Finland](#)

[Finland's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR observes that Finland has met most OSCE commitments on hate crime data collection and reporting.

Official Data

The police also recorded criminal forms of intolerance other than hate crimes, such as defamation, other hate speech offences and criminal discrimination. These data are reported to ODIHR but are not included in the overall figure or in the breakdown below. Prosecution and sentencing numbers only represent cases flagged by the police as hate crimes.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2018	880	55	21

Police data by bias motivation

A total of 1,300 hate crimes were originally reported to ODIHR. The number of individual crime reports was 910, as one crime report can include several hate crimes. This number included cases of ethnic agitation, defamation and discrimination, which were removed and are not presented here. With the consent of the Roma community, hate crime against Roma people has been included as a category separate from Racism and Xenophobia.

586

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

The figure presented here covers the following grounds: race/colour, ethnicity/national origin, citizenship and language.

65

Anti-Christian hate crime

63

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

Official data were reported separately for hate crimes motivated by bias against lesbian, gay and bisexual people (56 hate crimes) and by bias against transgender people (seven hate crimes), but are presented together here.

50

Anti-Muslim hate crime

This category also includes hate crimes committed between Shia and Sunni Muslims.

37

Other hate crime based on religion or belief

32

Anti-Roma hate crime

21

Anti-Semitic hate crime

21

Disability hate crime

Police data by type of crime

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481

Physical assault

This category also includes attempted assaults and attempted homicides.

182

Threats/ threatening behaviour

131

Damage to property

This category includes vandalism.

37

Disturbance of the peace

This category includes "disturbance of domestic peace".

34

Incitement to violence

7

Theft/ robbery

2

Attacks against places of worship

1

Vandalism

National Developments

The authorities have been implementing the National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights for 2017–2019, which includes projects on hate crimes and hate speech.

The **Ministry of the Interior** has designed a new Police Preventive Work Strategy, which sets hate crime as a priority. The **National Police Board** is currently developing an Action Plan to implement the strategy, including measures against hate crime.

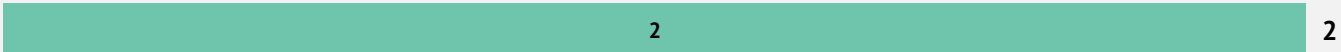
The **Ministry of Justice** has continued implementing an EU-funded project, "Against Hate". One of the main objectives of the project is to further develop the national reporting mechanisms, especially regarding statistics on the prosecution and sentencing of hate crime. The project also aims to enhance the capacity of the police, prosecutors and judges to counteract hate crime and hate speech, and to develop support services for victims of hate crime.

Incidents reported by civil society

Total 3 incidents



Anti-Muslim hate crime

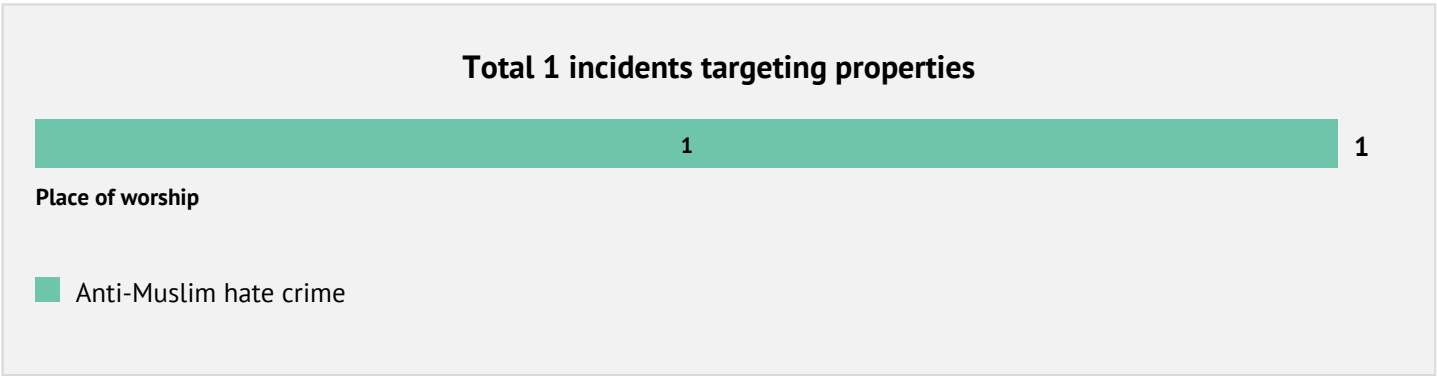


Racist and xenophobic hate crime

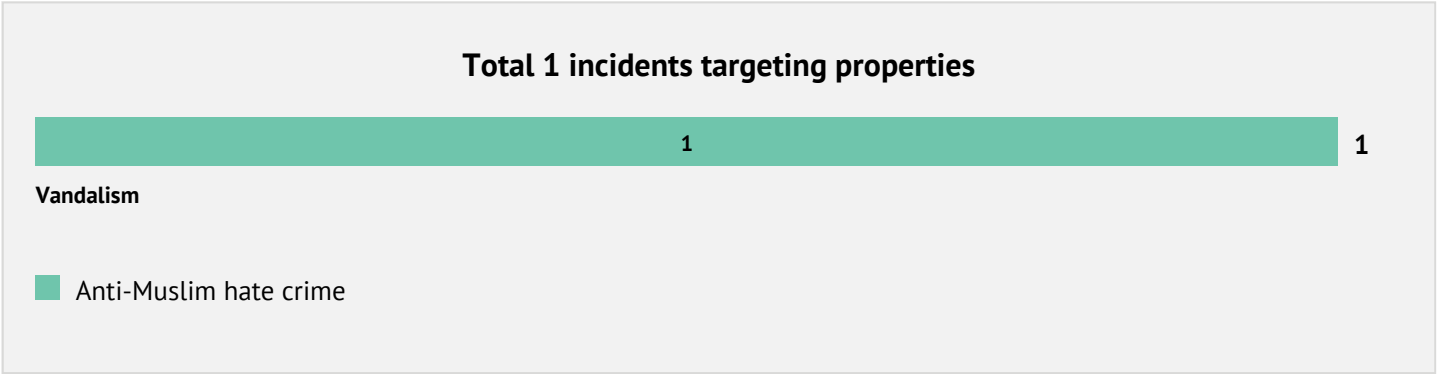
Violent attacks against people Attacks against property

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 Finland, 2018](#)