OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2023 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/hungary

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

1 2023

Summary

Hungary regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

In 2012, the National Police Headquarters established a special hate crime network, which is responsible for supervising hate crime investigations. In the same year, a civil society working group against hate crimes (GYEM) was established with the aim of strengthening co-ordination with police and developing a list of bias indicators, which were adopted by the network and uploaded onto the police intranet.

In 2018, the Ministry of Interior hosted a workshop on hate crime recording and data collection. The workshop was co-facilitated by ODIHR and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights and resulted in a set of recommendations for relevant state authorities.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Hungary's efforts to enhance the capacity of police and prosecutors to respond to hate crimes. However, based on the available information, it observes that Hungary's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Hungary would benefit from reviewing the existing legal framework to ensure that bias motivations can be effectively acknowledged and that appropriate penalties can be imposed on the perpetrators.

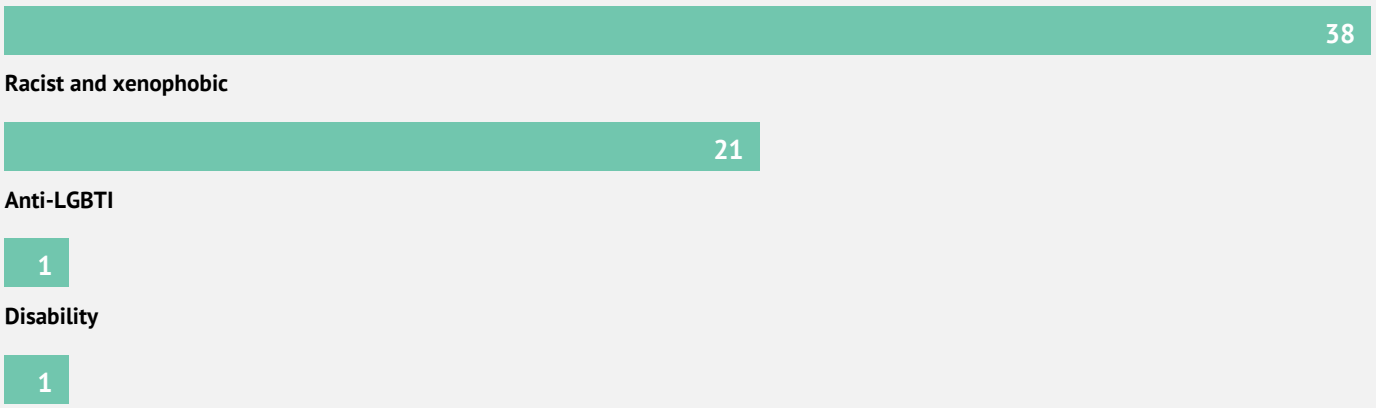
Official Data

The above records may include offences that fall outside the OSCE definition of hate crime. Hate crime flags used by prosecutors to mark a hate crime and related bias motivation are only used for cases in which the offenders are known; therefore, the number of prosecuted cases might not reflect all prosecuted hate crimes.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2023	65	50	8,928

Police data by bias motivation

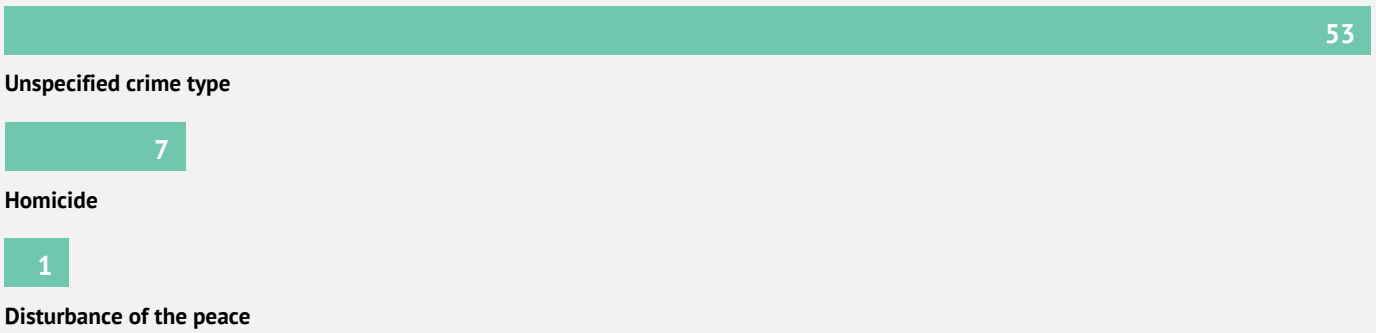
The breakdown below does not include incidents that fall outside the OSCE definition of hate crime (such as hate speech). However, the category "Racism and xenophobia", may include incidents that fall outside the OSCE hate crime definition as the reported data in this category were not disaggregated.



One case of hate speech was reported but excluded as it falls outside the OSCE hate crime definition.

Police data by type of crime

The breakdown below does not include incidents that fall outside the OSCE definition of hate crime (such as hate speech). However, the category "Racism and xenophobia", may include incidents that fall outside the OSCE hate crime definition as the reported data in this category were not disaggregated.



National Developments

In 2023, a centrally mandated and mandatory training on "Anti-Semitism and Hate Crimes" was implemented (BM Decree 2/2013 (I. 30.)). The training aims to apply the definition of anti-Semitism, in particular with a view to improving the effectiveness of hate crime prosecution.

On 28 November 2023, 20 police officers were trained on hate crime and the sensitive treatment of hate crime victims as part of a new training programme for professionals working in the criminal justice and victim support systems. The programme forms part of a project titled "Counter-Hate: Helping victims of hate crime through a victim-centred and intersectional approach", implemented by the HÁTTÉR society and the Deputy Commissioner for the Protection of the Rights of National Minorities in Hungary and funded by the European Union's Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme.

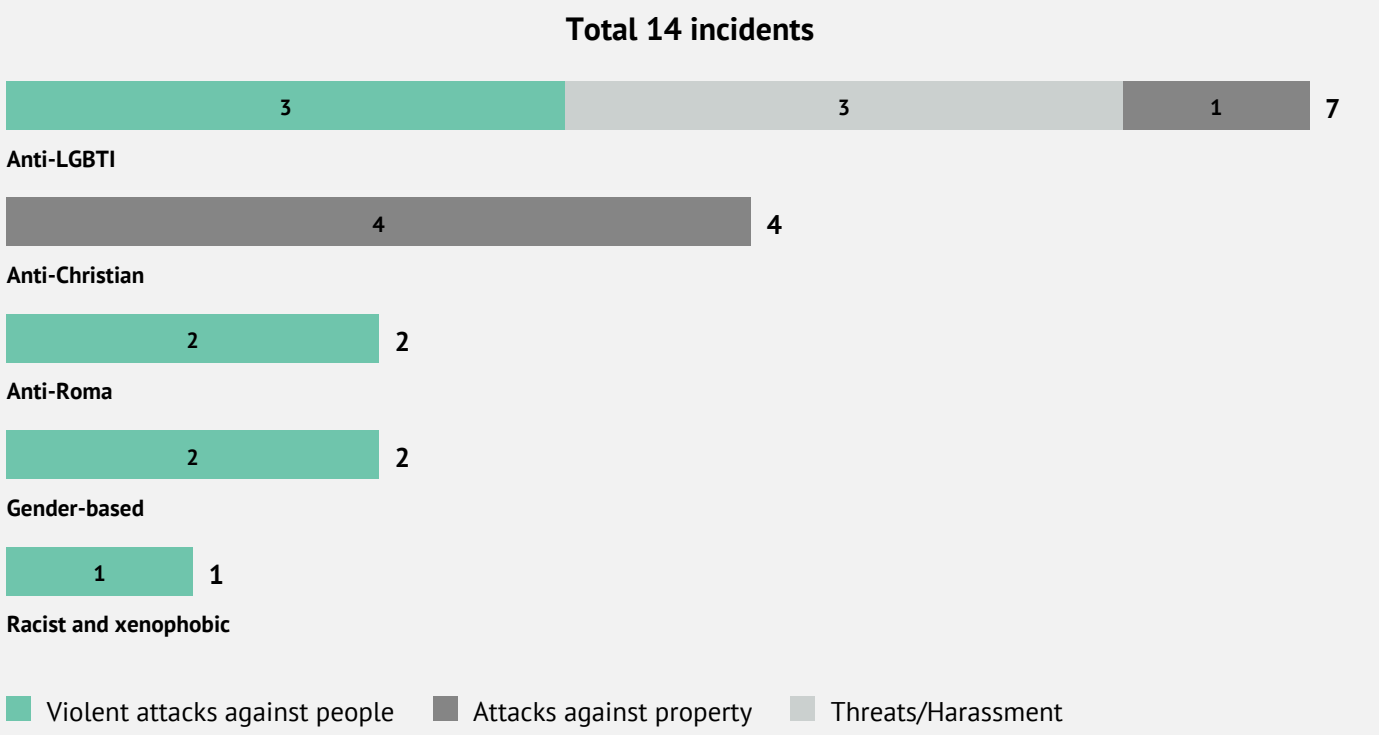
On 16 January 2023, 108 early-career prosecutors (appointed not more than three years prior) participated in a lecture on hate crimes as part of their training.

In 2023, meetings of the 33 deputy chief prosecutors of the capital and the counties in the criminal law section were partly devoted to more effective action against hate crimes and the recognition, protection and respectful treatment of victims, as well as methodological issues in the supervision and management of investigations. On 9 October 2023, hate crime-related topics were discussed in a number of lectures.

Combating hate crime and protecting victims is also a frequent topic at the annual professional-scientific conference of the prosecution service. On 23 November 2023, a prosecutor of the Metropolitan Chief Prosecution Office gave a lecture on hate incidents at the conference.

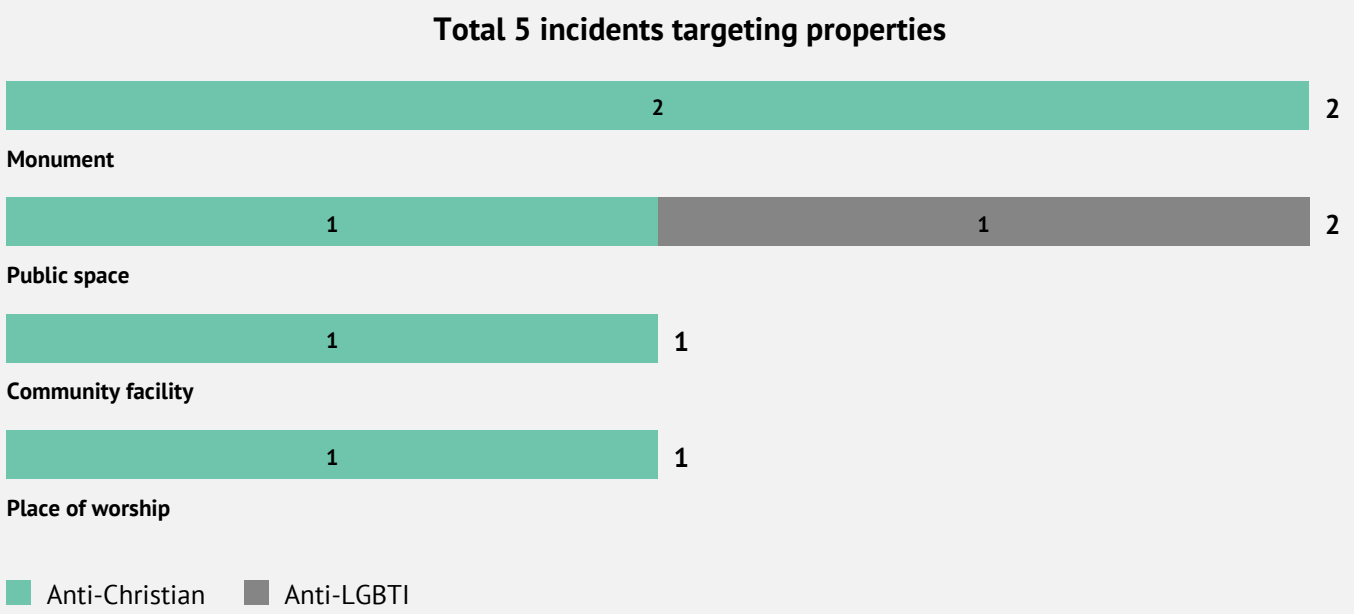
On 3 July 2023, at the request of the Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights of Hungary, the Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the Criminal Law Section of the Chief Prosecution Office of Pest County participated in a workshop discussion on "Victim-centred approach and intersectionality in the fight against hate crimes".

Incidents reported by civil society

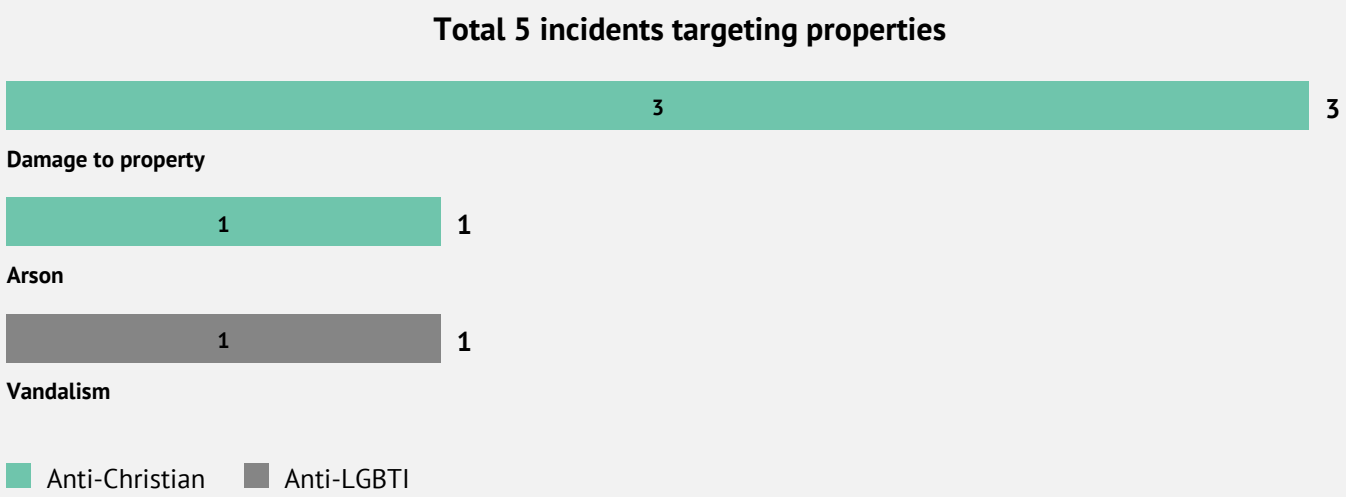


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Hungary, 2023