OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2022 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/moldova

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

1 2022

Summary

Moldova regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. In 2017, ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Moldova co-organized a workshop for police, prosecutors and civil society on understanding and improving hate crime recording and data collection, which led to a set of recommendations for relevant state authorities.

Following a request by Moldova's Ministry of Justice, in 2016 ODIHR provided a legal opinion on draft amendments related to bias-motivated offences. ODIHR's recommendations were largely reflected in amendments to the Criminal Code adopted by the Moldovan Parliament and published on 3 June 2022. In 2024, ODIHR held a national hate crime data workshop in Moldova.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Moldova's efforts to improve hate crime data collection and build the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crime. In addition, ODIHR observes that Moldova's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Moldova would benefit from developing its victim support system to ensure effective access to justice, assistance, and protection services for hate crime victims.

Official Data

The police-recorded number represents the number of hate crime cases for which a criminal investigation was initiated.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2022	7	6	3

Police data by bias motivation

The breakdown below excludes cases that fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition, including the violation of citizens' equal rights, the desecration of state symbols, and participation in mercenary activities.



Unspecified

This category includes hate crimes motivated by a bias based on opinion.



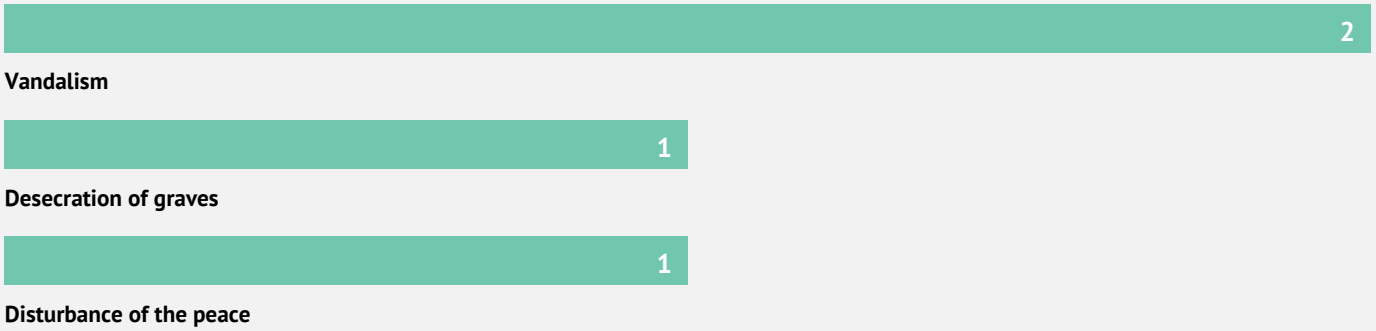
Anti-Christian



Racist and xenophobic

Police data by type of crime

The breakdown below excludes cases that fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition, including the violation of citizens' equal rights, the desecration of state symbols, and participation in mercenary activities.



National Developments

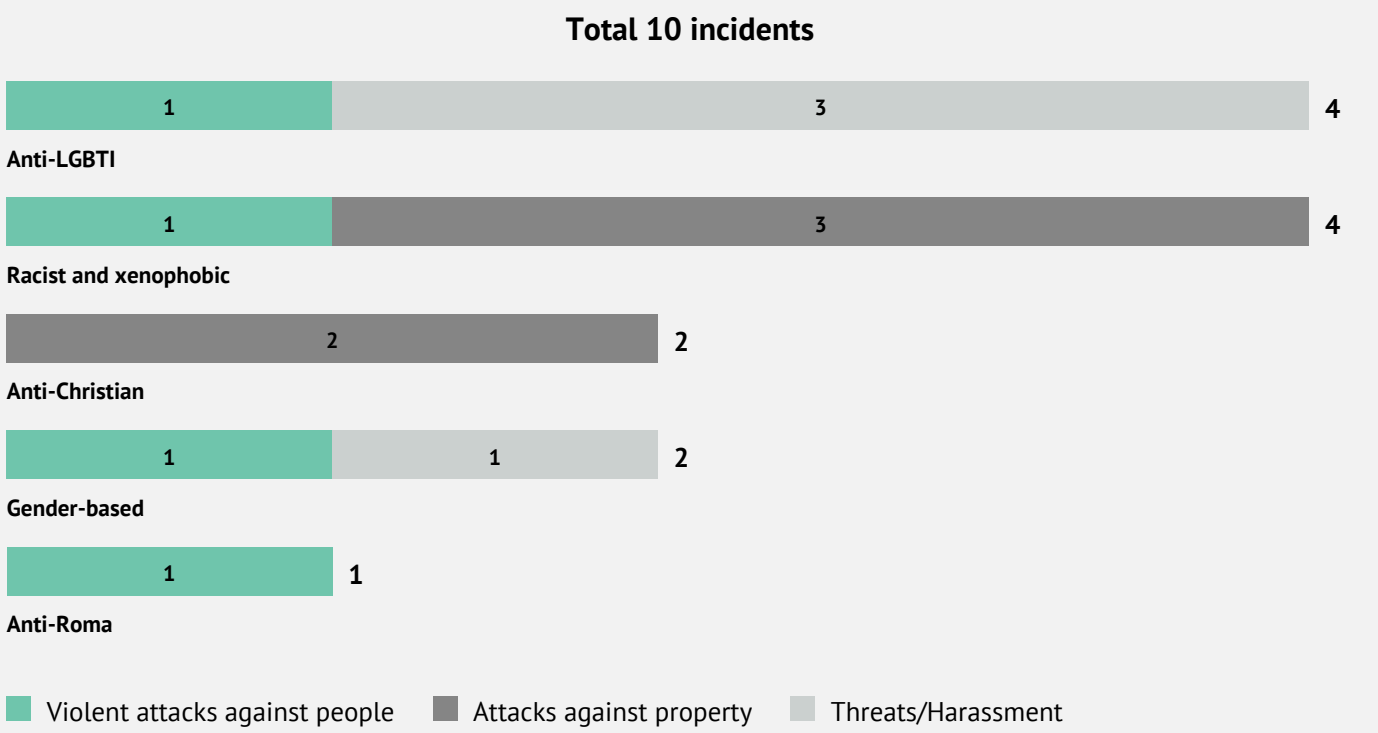
In 2022, Moldova implemented two projects supported by the Council of Europe:

A regional project on "Strengthening the access to justice through non-judiciary redress mechanisms for victims of discrimination, hate crime and hate speech in Eastern Partnership countries", funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe in their Partnership for Good Governance II.
A national-level project on "Enhancing diversity and equality in the Republic of Moldova".
As a result of these two projects, the criminal records database was upgraded and training initiatives on hate crime were organized in 2022.
Law No.111 for the amendment of certain legal acts (Criminal Code and Contraventions Code) was passed and entered into force. New provisions related to hatred, base motives and discrimination were introduced. In particular, the phrase "social, national, racial and religious hatred" in the provisions of the Criminal Code was replaced by the phrase "bias motivation". A new article to define the term "bias motivation" was also introduced (Article 134).

Also in 2022, eight police officers were certified by the Council of Europe as hate crime trainers. Between July and September, the trainers held information sessions on "Discrimination and hate crime" in 42 regional police inspectorates, the National Public Security Inspectorate, the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and the Police Directorate of Chisinau, attended by about 2,200 police officers. In addition, specialized courses on hate crimes were organized for 50 criminal investigation officers from the Central region of Moldova.

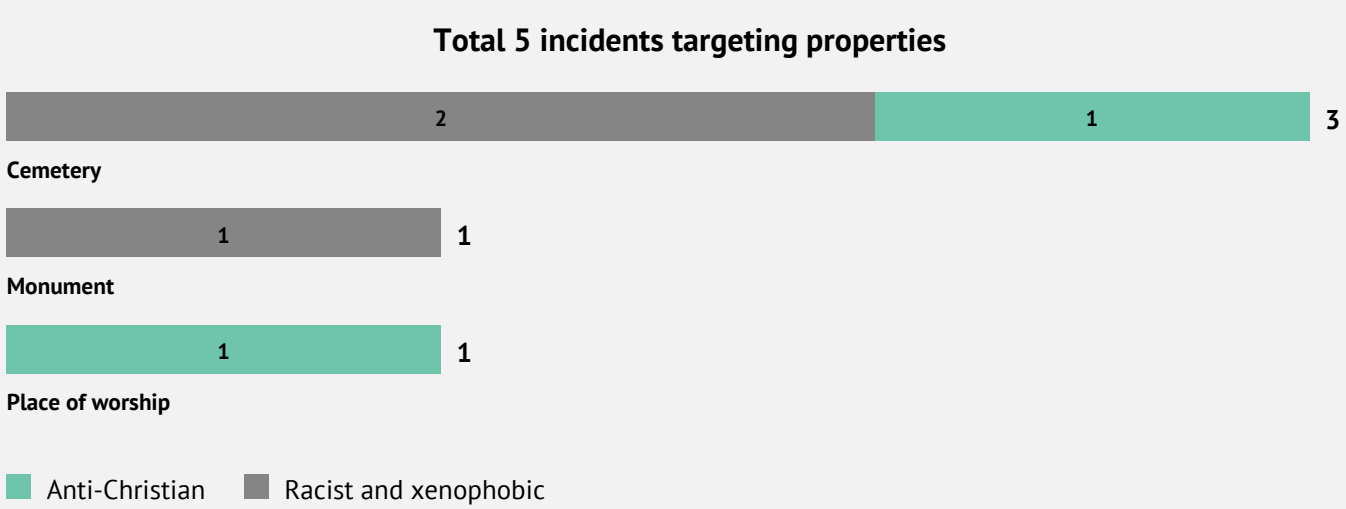
Throughout the year, training efforts on hate crimes organized by the National Justice Institute trained 15 prosecution candidates and 10 judicial candidates as part of their initial training, as well as 124 judicial system professionals as part of their continuous training programmes.

Incidents reported by civil society

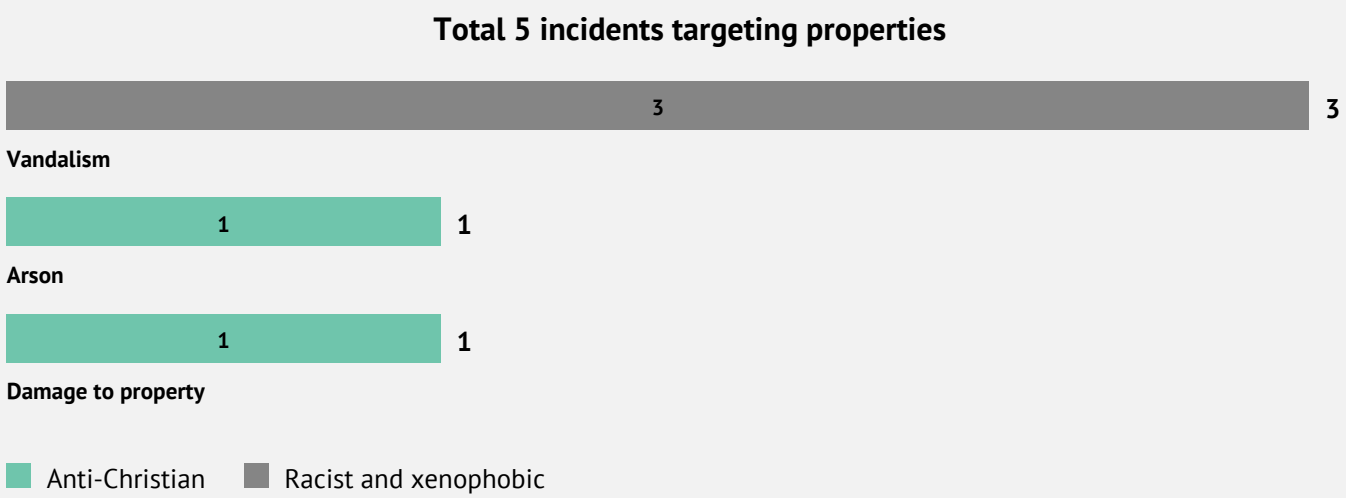


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Moldova, 2022