OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

**Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2025 Hate Crime Report.**
**For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/sweden**

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

# 2025

## Summary

Sweden regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Hate crime reports are published every second year. Since 2016, the Government has implemented a national plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime. The plan takes an integrated approach and comprises strategies and measures to prevent and combat racism and hate crime through co-ordination and monitoring, education and research, and support for and co-operation with civil society. A new Action Plan to Combat Racism and Hate Crimes was launched in December 2024.

Three different victimization surveys are conducted at one, two and three-year intervals in order to measure unreported hate crime.

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

## ODIHR's Key Observation

**ODIHR recognizes Sweden's efforts to report hate crime information and statistics to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes that Sweden has not reported data on hate crimes recorded by the judiciary to ODIHR. Otherwise, ODIHR observes that Sweden has met most of its OSCE commitments on hate crime.**

## Official Data

Sweden reports hate crime statistics every second year. Hate crime data reported by Sweden for 2026 will be published by ODIHR in November 2027.

| Year | Hate crimes recorded by police | Prosecuted | Sentenced |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2025 | not available | not available | not available |

*No data reported to ODIHR.*

## National Developments

On 12 December 2024, the government adopted an Action Plan to combat racism and hate crime to allow for more targeted activities, measurable outcomes and strategic planning. Particular focus is given to addressing racism and hate crimes in schools, the judicial system, the welfare system and employment.

In 2025, the Police Unit responsible for handling hate crime cases co-operated with the Skåne and Kronoberg County Administrative Board and The Living History Forum to address hate crimes in educational settings. As a result, more than 500 persons learnt to identify and report hate crimes in educational settings.

In October 2025, the County Administrative Board carried out a digital exchange of experiences of racism. The exchange was part of the Board's inventory of municipal and regional support needs in addressing racism, as reported in the 2024 annual report on human rights. The exchange began with a presentation on the work against racism in municipalities led by the Living History Forum. During the exchange, the County Administrative Board presented the county's results of the inventory and invited participants to provide further information and experiences.

In October and November 2025, the County Administrative Board co-organized two conferences in Gothenburg on anti-Muslim racism and anti-Semitism. The Board also partnered with the City of Gothenburg to enable the national network for Roma inclusion to hold its meetings in Gothenburg.

The Swedish Crime Victim Authority developed a public information brochure for those at risk of hate crime victimization, and also organized a digitally broadcasted day of lectures on the topic for professionals.

**Notable case:**
On 27 August 2025, four men connected to a far-right movement attacked several people in central Stockholm. The acts were classified as aggravated assault, robbery, and unlawful threat. The court determined that the crimes had a clear hate crime motive. In February 2026, the court of appeal announced its verdict, sentencing the four men to between 3.75 and 4 years in prison.

## Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Sweden from the following civil society organizations:

- European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses
- International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF)
- Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe (OIDAC)

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page.

*Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that are broadly considered to be hate crimes within the OSCE definition (criminal offence committed with a bias motive) are listed in the tables below according to the bias motivation category. Some incidents involved multiple biases and may be listed in multiple categories.*

### ODIHR's insights

**For 2025, ODIHR received reports of 22 hate incidents that took place in Sweden targeting a total of 21 victims in the anti-Christian, anti-Muslim and racist and xenophobic bias motivation categories.**

ODIHR observes that the majority of incidents were motivated by anti-Christian bias, and mainly targeted the Jehovah's Witness community in Sweden. Most incidents involved property attacks against Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Halls, as well as several incidents of physical assault and threats against Witnesses engaged in door-to-door preaching.

ODIHR also observes several racist incidents, most of which involved violent attacks against migrants perpetrated by organized hate groups, as well as one incident targeting members of the Saami indigenous community in Sweden. Finally, ODIHR received two reports of arson attacks targeting mosques.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting related to anti-LGBTI, anti-Semitic, anti-Roma, disability, gender-based, and other religion or belief hate incidents in Sweden, and a low level of reporting overall. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.

In addition, one reporting organization submitted 4 statistical incidents motivated by anti-LGBTI bias for which descriptions are not available in the tables below, including 3 incidents of threats/harassment and 1 incident involving violent attacks against people.
*Please note that incidents reported here are based on voluntary civil society submissions and as such do not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in Sweden.*

To address under-reporting, ODIHR encourages any civil society organizations or groups that monitor hate incidents to report these to ODIHR at hatecrimereport@odihr.pl.

*To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from Sweden click here.*

**View civil society incidents for Sweden, 2025**