

OVERVIEW OF MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION OF HATE-CRIMES



This document describes the approach for monitoring and documentation of hate crimes in Ukraine under “United to Confront Hate-Motivated Violence in Ukraine,” a project of Freedom House, Truth Hounds, Ukrainian Legal Aid Foundation, Expert Centre for Human Rights, Nash Mir, Roma Human Rights Center, and the Congress of Ethnic Communities of Ukraine. The results of monitoring and documentation are essential to the evidence-based analysis and advocacy for reform undertaken by Freedom House and partners under the project.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A HATE CRIME?

For the purposes of this initiative, hate crimes are defined as acts, illegal under criminal law in Ukraine, that are motivated by prejudice towards people with certain focus characteristics (see box at right). Monitored acts include:

- Incidents of **physical violence** against people in public or elsewhere, including violence committed by perpetrators with mixed motives;
- Incidents of **vandalism or property damage against religious or ethnic communities**, such as damage inflicted on religious buildings, cemeteries, and community centers;
- **Attacks on and aggression at public events and social gatherings**, including those without physical violence, such as blocking access to an event, making threats, or other actions intended to prevent the event from taking place;
- Incidents of **systematic and/or organized targeting of people** with the aim of threatening, blackmailing, intimidating and/or attacking them; and
- Incidents of **organized large-scale violence** against a specific group of people.

WHAT SOURCES OF INFORMATION ARE USED FOR MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION?

Monitors use a variety of sources of information, including statements by victims and witnesses, open source media reports, public or semi-public posts on social networks, statements by law-enforcement and judicial authorities, and statements by community representatives. Monitors document only those incidents in which the alleged victim can be contacted directly and in which occurred in government-controlled areas of Ukraine.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MONITORING, DOCUMENTATION, AND ANALYSIS?

Monitoring is undertaken by a network of 28 trained monitors maintained by Nash Mir (LGBT+ community), Roma Human Rights Protection Center (Roma/Sinti community), and the Congress of Ethnic Communities of Ukraine (other national minority communities). Monitoring is conducted by all monitors using a shared methodology developed based on international standards and best practices.

FOCUS CHARACTERISTICS



ETHNICITY
(NATIONALITY,
SKIN COLOR, ETC.)



RELIGIOUS VIEWS



SOGIE –
SEXUAL ORIENTATION
AND GENDER IDENTITY



CITIZENSHIP



REFUGEE STATUS



PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
(I.E. SKIN, HAIR AND EYE
COLOR) AND RELIGIOUS
CLOTHING AND/OR
OTHER SYMBOLS

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS OF UNITED TO CONFRONT HATE-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE



Congress of Ethnic
Communities of Ukraine