

# Support for victims of Hate Crime

*Input Workshop Session 4 – Capacity Building:  
Developing New Services*

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## Definition: Hate Crime

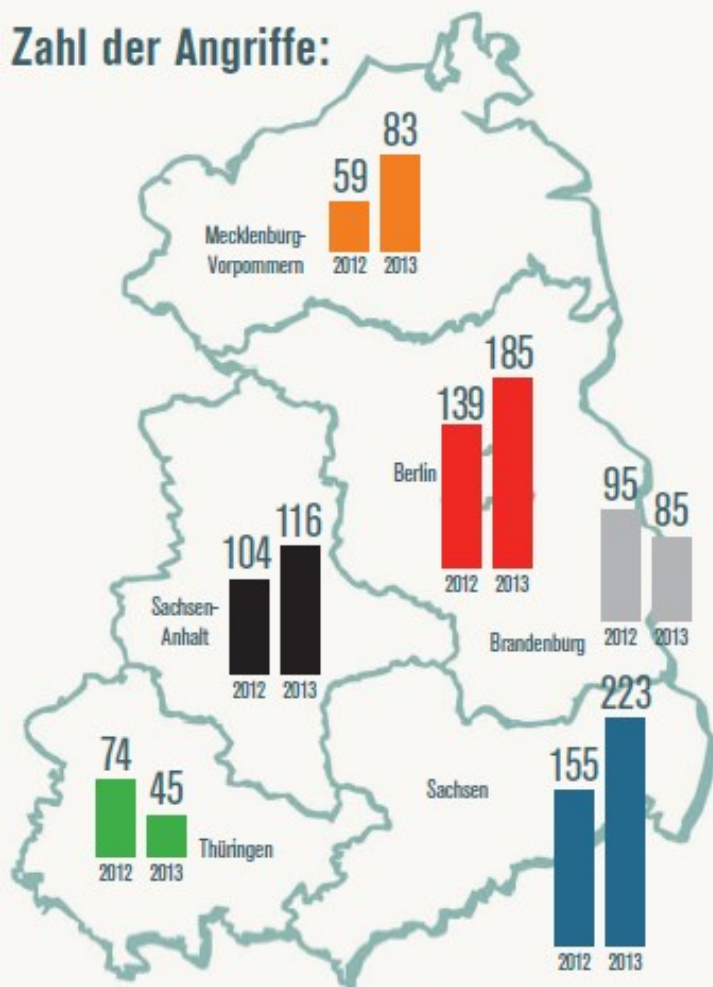
- A hate crime is a crime that is motivated by intolerance towards a certain group within society
  - The act must be a crime under the criminal code
  - The crime must have been committed with a bias motivation
- A “bias motivation” is a fundamental or core characteristic that is shared by a group, such as “race”, religion, ethnicity, language or sexual orientation.

***personal level*** – physical and psychological injuries

***Group level*** – message to a group of people that there are unwelcome

***Society*** – Hate Crimes are directed against the democratic principles of societies

## The Problem: Hate Crimes in Europe



Germany: 737 Hate Crimes in 2013 + **18%** (2012: 626; 2013: 737)

- Statistically 2 assaults per day
- Most often: racist-motivated attacks (344 out of 737)

OSCE: more than 56.000 Hate Crimes in the OSCE region 2012

FRA: every fourth person with a migration background became a victim of a hate crime in the last 12 month

### Visible Minorities are most vulnerable

- 25% among 23.500 LGBT people experienced violence just because of there sexual orientation
- 33% among Jews experienced physical or verbal violence just because there are Jews

**According to the FRA around 75 % of the victims in Europe do not report the attack to the police or NGOs**

## Special target group

- ⌘ Target groups facing multiple forms of discrimination
- ⌘ low resources (mobility, language, social exclusion...)
- ⌘ Low trust in state institutions/ society

We use a proactive approach to compensate “deficits” of our target groups: active research of “cases”

## Principles of our work

- ⌘ Unequivocally on the side of the victim - we stand on the side of those who have experienced hate crimes, and we support their interests and perspectives
- ⌘ Client-oriented – our advice is focused on the wishes and needs of those affected by hate crime and is not dependent upon the filing of a police report
- ⌘ Mobile – consultations can take place at different locations
- ⌘ Confidential and anonymous – we maintain the confidentiality of the services provided to our clients.
- ⌘ Multilingual – if desired, an interpreter can be provided
- ⌘ Free of charge

## Our service

- ⌘ Providing information about legal rights
- ⌘ Accompanying victims to the police, lawyers, government agencies, and doctors
- ⌘ Supporting victims through the process of preparing for court and accompanying victims to the trial
- ⌘ Providing guidance on financial assistance and compensation, as well as the relevant applications (e.g. claims for compensation, relocation services, and legal fees)
- ⌘ Offering counseling support and referrals to therapists
- ⌘ Assistance with the improvement of victims' living conditions and security
- ⌘ Support with public relations in order to highlight the problem of right-wing violence and hate crimes

## EU Directive 2012/29

Hate Crime victims:

⌘ risk of "secondary and repeat victimization, intimidation and retaliation"