



# Overview of resources and initiatives to support hate crime training programmes in the EU Member States

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The **European Commission** offers funding for projects by national authorities and civil society organisations focussed on hate crime training – one of the priority areas of the calls for proposals published yearly under the [Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme](#) (REC) in the field of combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance. **Projects funded so far by the European Commission in this area under REC 2014-2020** are “[Facing Facts – Making Hate Crime Visible](#)”, which also led to the launch of two [online courses](#) on identifying, monitoring and countering hate crime and hate speech and which will be built upon in the follow-up project “[Facing all the facts](#)” to produce, among others, an overview of existing hate crime training programmes in 6 EU countries and to develop interactive and practice based online training modules targeted at public authorities; “[Good Practice Plus](#)” which developed a [toolkit](#) including a bespoke training designed and delivered to law enforcement personnel and prosecutors in the partner countries; “[Light On](#)”, which developed a pilot training based on a [training manual](#) on investigating and reporting online hate speech; “[Address hate crime](#)”, which includes experiential learning seminars in the partner countries as well as a “Good practice manual for judges/prosecutors, law enforcement authorities and legal practitioners” to be also used as a resource for hate crime training. Information about awarded projects is available on the REC Programme’s [webpage](#).

The **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)** has been leading during 2014-2016 a Working Party on Improving Reporting and Recording of Hate Crime in the EU which led to the publication of an [online compendium of practices](#), collating **practices on combating hate crime from across the EU**, including training programmes, with a step-by-step description to help policymakers and practitioners understand what is being done elsewhere in the EU to combat hate crime, and which elements could be adapted for use in their own national contexts. FRA published in 2013 a **manual** on “[Fundamental-right based police training – A manual for police trainers](#)”, which is currently being updated. FRA can also contribute to the design and delivery of training courses and, thanks to its [Fundamental Rights Platform](#), can assist in facilitating **cooperation of national authorities with civil society organisations**.

The **European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL)**, the EU Agency dedicated to develop, implement and coordinate training for law enforcement officials, has made available [training material](#) on the topic of hate crimes including **webinars and residential activities**. CEPOL is now working on the development of a package of further targeted resources in the area of hate crime training. CEPOL awards grants to national training institutions (framework partners) for the implementation of its training portfolio and can, among others, support **exchanges and study visits** through the “[European police exchange programme](#)”.

The **Council of Europe** set up a European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) to support participating States in implementing the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) at national level. The [HELP Training Platform](#) provides free of charge a range of resources on hate crime training, including **distance-learning and self-learning resources**. In this context, the ‘[HELP in the 28](#)’ programme, targeted at legal professionals in the EU Member States and mainly funded by the European Commission, launched a **course** on ‘[Fight against Racism, Xenophobia, Homophobia and Transphobia](#)’, which is also made freely available online. The Council of Europe also regularly publishes **handbooks and manuals** (see, for example, the “[Manual on hate speech](#)”, as well as the recently published training manual “[Policing Hate Crime against LGBTI persons: Training for a Professional Police Response](#)”). In addition, information collected by the European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and published in regular [country reports](#), offers a useful **overview and evaluation of trends, gaps and challenges** in addressing hate crimes at national level.

The **Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)** of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) provides, at the request of participating OSCE States, **train-the-trainers programmes on hate crimes** for both law enforcement ([TAHCLE Programme](#)) and prosecutors ([PAHCT Programme](#)). ODIHR also issued a number of **publications and manuals** providing guidance addressed to both national authorities and civil society on how to better deal with hate crimes and implement hate crime laws, which are available on their [website](#) (see for example, the manuals “[Prosecuting Hate Crimes – A Practical Guide](#)” and “[Preventing and responding to hate crimes: A resource guide for NGOs in the OSCE region](#)”). ODIHR has further developed **training programmes concerning human rights-compliant policing** (see, for example, the recent training programme on “[Effective and Human Rights-Compliant Policing in Roma and Sinti Communities](#)”).