

Brussels, 25 April 2014

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OSCE-ODIHR 2013 Hate Crimes Report: submission of information

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

ILGA-Europe, the European branch of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, is an umbrella organisation with a membership of more than 400 European, national and local level NGOs in Europe. On the ground of the data and the expertise gathered by our secretariat and by our members, we are hereby sending you the following submission, in preparation of the OSCE/ODIHR 2013 Hate Crimes reports.

A number of our member or partner organisations contributed actively towards the submission, and should be considered as co-submitters: çavaria (Belgium), Coalition SHRMC (Macedonia), Estonian LGBT Association (Estonia), Galop (United Kingdom), GenderDoc-M (Moldova), Hatter Society (Hungary), ILGA-Portugal (Portugal), Kaos GL (Turkey), KPH (Poland), Labris (Serbia), LGBT Pro Albania (Albania), LLH (Norway), Nefes LGBT (Azerbaijan), LGBTI Resource Centre (Italy), LGBTI Support Centre (Macedonia), LGL (Lithuania), Mozaika (Latvia), OLKE (Greece), Pink Armenia (Armenia), Pink Embassy (Albania), Sarajevo Open Centre (Bosnia and Herzegovina), TENI (Ireland). ILGA-Europe is happy to facilitate contacts between the ODIHR and these NGOs, should there be any questions or need of complementary information.

The document below will provide the ODIHR with factual country-by-country data on homophobic and transphobic incidents recorded in 2013 in many countries of the OSCE region. The sources we quote include a variety of reports published by LGBT organisations in 2013 and 2014, as well as some press releases. When relevant, the sources are explicitly mentioned. As is happened in the past years, ILGA-Europe is still expecting additional data to be communicated by some member organisations, who publish their annual reports on hate crime later than April. We look forward to continue ODIHR cooperation with the ODIHR through a complementary submission.

We would like to emphasize here that the data collected by our members in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Ukraine comes in large parts from a project coordinated by ILGA-Europe on reporting of bias-motivated hate crimes. More explanation on the project is provided in the box in next page. ILGA-Europe elaborated a data collection methodology, consistent with the OSCE's definition of hate crimes, and which we would be happy to share with the ODIHR for you to verify the quality of the data collected in the above-mentioned countries.

Step up reporting on homophobic and transphobic violence is a project supported by ILGA-Europe, the European region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, in 2013. The objective of the project was to empower European LGBTI civil society organisations to more consistently monitor and report homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents.

To prepare this work, ILGA-Europe had developed a harmonised data collection methodology in 2012. The methodology builds on international standards and on the expertise gained in different past activities, such as the elaboration of European-wide submissions to the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in view of its Annual Report on Hate Crime, or ILGA-Europe's participation to the ***Facing Facts! Making hate crime visible*** project.

Step up reporting on homophobic and transphobic violence was launched in 2013. ILGA-Europe's Documentation and Advocacy Fund, with the support of the Government of the Netherlands, provided dedicated resources to 12 national and local NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Ukraine. These NGOs were trained on the methodology previously developed by ILGA-Europe, and committed to apply it in order to produce comparable data.

Data collection and publication is expected to be developed on a more sustainable and professional basis in the future, thanks to the capacity building aspect of the current project. Following this pilot initiative, ILGA-Europe's methodology will be made available to more European LGBTI civil society organisations

**Violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and
intersex people in the OSCE region**

Country-by-country information

Sources: submissions and reports by ILGA-Europe and its members, 2013
April 2014

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Albania

Information coming from the NGOs PINK Embassy and LGBT Pro Albania
(report on Hate crimes targeting LGBTI people in Albania in 2013)
According to ILGA-Europe the first case is the only obvious hate crime
according to OSCE standards

1. Physical violence, expulsion from the family and continuous death threats against a gay person from his family members

What happened: A 36 years old gay man reported the physical violence and constant death threats from his family members (his older brothers) after they learned of his sexual orientation through the social networks (certified also through the emails received by relatives on his facebook account). The older brother made constant death threats to the victim. For this reason he has been forced to leave his house and stay with a friend in another city. After that, the boy showed clear signs of depression, revealing suicidal thoughts and fear of being caught by his brothers. Due to the fear of brother's threats, lack of acceptance from the other family members and the community as well as due to the lack of security that the state institutions can offer him, after some months he decided to leaving Albania, considering it as the only chance of safety and a different life.

Date, time and location of the incident: 8-th April 2013, in their home, in Elbasan (a city in the centre of Albania).

Source of information: The victim

Victim(s) involved: a gay person, 36 years old, from Elbasan (central Albania), whose family learned about his sexual orientation through social networks.

Type of the crime(s): psychological and physical violence, death threats, assault and offenses, eviction from home.

Perpetrator(s): his older brothers up to 40 years old, one of them with a criminal record.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim testified and reported that for many years has kept his sexual orientation a secret because of the mentality, culture and lack of education of his family and the community where they lived. He has tried to hide his sexual orientation by suffering psychological pressure from family members because of feminine behavior and that age for marriage is passed. So, choosing to keep secret his sexual orientation, he had normal relations with brothers and relatives along all these years. But everything changed when one of his brothers found some SMS that the victim had exchanged with other boys as well as a video where the victim conducted sexual relations with another man. In this moment his brothers threatened him with death and attacked him saying that 'we will kill you', 'you have disgraced our family', and 'our home has no place for gay people'. Death threats have continued even after he leaved home through facebook, stating 'we will kill you when we find you', referring offensive words because of his sexual orientation.

Status of the case: The case was not reported to the police or other institutions by the victim, because the victim was afraid, did not want to worsen the relationship with his brothers and did not trust the state institutions.

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim told us that during the quarrel and after that, he did not have the support of family members and this made him feel very isolated from relatives and his family. He showed clear signs of depression, telling that he thought to kill himself, before being killed by his brothers. Due to the fear from his brother's threats, prejudices from the family and the community as well as due to the lack of security that the state institutions can offer him, after some months he fled abroad, seeing it as the only possibility for security. However, this case shows that the LGBT community in the country continues to be under pressure and violence, mainly from family relatives, with the main request they should hide their sexual orientation or gender identity.

2. Hate speech statements against the LGBT community and LGBT organizations by Vice Minister of Defense, Mr. Ekrem Spahia

What happened: The vice Minister of Defense, Ekrem Spahia, also Chairman of one of the small right-wing political parties in the country, invited in one of the TV shows of "Channel One" television, claims that LGBT persons are pedophiles and LGBT organizations should not exist anymore because they increase the number of homosexuals in the country.

Date, time and location of the incident: the 19th edition of the TV show "Debate on Channel One", dated 21/03/2013, aired on television "Channel One", entitled "Pedophilia in Albania".

Source of information: Media "Channel One" TV, and the institution of Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination

Victim(s) involved: Albanian LGBT community and LGBT organizations in the country

Type of the crime(s): hate speeches and declarations against LGBT community and the LGBT organization's existence

Perpetrator(s): The vice Minister of Defense and chairman of 'Legality Movement' political party in Albania, Ekrem Spahia

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The declaration was clearly targeting the LGBT community and organizations in Albania, stated that 'NGOs, are precisely those that stimulate the generation that lead to these heinous crimes (pedophilia) and therefore we are categorically against them, they have a tendency to do as much, sorry that we come barely mentions either not to apply, as many homosexuals. And then it is their tendency to deceive children first. So most worthless thing in human society, seek to impose on us, oppose us it is a civilization and modern man who is a gay. And whom to turn to these children, to those people who want to boost their ranks and bring them through the boulevard of Tirana'. Hate speeches and statements made by a public figure such as a vice minister and chairman of a political party can influence and shape the homophobic behavior of the large public. The perpetrator is known about his homophobic declarations in media even after the reactions of different stakeholders.

Status of the case: After the broadcast, the Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination based on Article 32/1/c of law no. 10221, dated 04. 02. 2010 "On Protection from Discrimination", with the order no. 37, dated 04.05.2013, began the administrative proceedings against Mr. Ekrem Spahia guest on this show.

Response of local authorities: After the procedure, the CPD decided that Mr. Ekrem Spahija's statements are direct discrimination as they prejudice the dignity and affect the right to security and protection from violence to persons because of their sexual orientation; Mr Ekrem Spahia's obligation to make a public apology within 15 days of receiving notice of the decision and to avoid future use of language which produces the effect of distributing or promoting hatred or other forms of discrimination against people because of their sexual orientation; Mr. Ekrem Spahia's obligation, that within 30 days to inform the Commissioner regarding the actions taken to implement this decision and the failure of this decision entails the punishment by fine¹.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: the LGBT community and organizations in the country felt insulted and threatened by these claims that made by a public figure can influence and shape the wrong perceptions and homophobic behavior of the large public.

3. Discrimination against the LGBT community and Pink Embassy organization by a well-known public figure, Mr. Artan Lame

What happened: One of the most well-known public figures in Albania, Mr. Artan Lame, in his article 'State's failure' published in one of the national newspaper, shows an open discriminatory, homophobic and ill-informed content about the LGBT community and movement in the country. In

¹with reference to the documentation and decisions of CPD

this article, Mr. Lame considers gay people as deviant born, perverts and personifies them with pedophiles. More specifically, in one of the paragraphs of the article quoted "a series of perversions, deviations and terms are legalized; homosexuals, transvestites, homophobia, lesbian, transsexuals, pedophilia, Pink, gender and more others".

Date, time and location of the incident: the article "The State's failures", published on 'SHQIP' newspaper on 23 March 2013.

Source of information: 'SHQIP' newspaper²

Victim(s) involved: Albanian LGBT community and Pink Embassy organization

Type of the crime(s): discrimination, homophobia, and misinformation against LGBT community

Perpetrator(s): the well-known public figure in Albania, Mr. Artan Lame

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: the statement of Mr. Lame in the article shows clearly his discrimination and prejudices about LGBT community. At this article, Mr. Lame considers gay people as deviant born, perverts and personifies them with pedophiles. More specifically, in one of the paragraphs of the article quoted "a series of perversions, deviations and terms are legalized; Homosexuals, transvestites, homophobia, lesbian, transsexuals, pedophilia, Pink, gender and more others".

Status of the case: Pink Embassy reacted immediately through an open letter addressed to the leader of Socialist Party, knowing that Mr. Lame is one of the members of the management of SP, to express displeasure regarding the script and wanted to publicly distance himself from Mr. Lame statements. The letter had a wide publication in the media but no response came from Mr. Rama.

Pink Embassy also sent a letter to Mr. Lame asking publicly to distance himself from these homophobic and discriminatory attitudes against LGBT persons in Albania, accompanied with informative materials about sexual orientation and gender identity, but after that nothing changed in his attitudes. He continued with the same attitudes, also in the show "Triçikël" dated March 30, at Top Albania Radio.³

At the same time a complaint against Mr. Lame is sent to the institution of Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, for discrimination against the LGBT community and PINK Embassy.

Response of local authorities: Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, after considering the complaint, comes to the conclusion that Mr. Lame expressions are discriminatory because they prejudice the dignity and violate the security to protect people from violence due to sexual orientation and gender identity. Mr. Lame is charged with the obligation to seek public apology within 15 days of receipt of notice of the decision and to avoid in the future the use of language which produces the effect of proliferation, promoting hatred or other forms of discrimination against persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: the LGBT community and organizations in the country felt insulted, scared and sad after that, because these cases are strong proof of the extensive homophobia in society, which does not exclude high ranking officials and public figures. Such attitudes expressed by a public figure first misinforms the general public, secondly stir up hatred against citizens and thirdly can readily be perceived as an official position of political power where it adheres. We also understood that our society, included high ranking, still needs information and education to understand what is sexual orientation and gender identity.

4. Discrimination and hatred language against the LGBT community from a journalist through an article in the printed media

What happened: One of the most well-known journalists of Durres city, has written and published

² <http://gazeta.shqip.com/lajme/2013/03/23deshtimet-e-shtetit/>

³ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_a_FFaRhF8

in one of the local newspapers, an article with a discriminatory and homophobic title and language. The title was “Durres, homosexuals bastion identified and hit”. Also within the article there is a lot of misinformation about LGBT community, the terms and the language used is very discriminatory personified the LGBT persons with prostitutes.

Date, time and location of the incident: the article “Durres, homosexuals bastion identified and hit”, published on ‘TELEGRAF’ newspaper on 19 December 2013.

Source of information: ‘TELEGRAF’ newspaper⁴

Victim(s) involved: Albanian LGBT community

Type of the crime(s): discrimination, homophobia and misinformation against LGBT community

Perpetrator(s): the journalist of Durres city, Mr. Artur Ajazi

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: the title of the article “Durres, homosexuals bastion identified and hit”, clearly shows lack of information, discrimination and prejudices about LGBT community. At this article, Mr. Ajazi personifies LGBT persons with prostitutes, expressing a pronounced hatred language and considering them as dangerous and criminal persons.

Status of the case: Pink Embassy reacted immediately through a complaint against Mr. Ajazi’s article which is sent to the institution of Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, for discrimination against LGBT community.

Response of local authorities: The Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, has considered the complaint and it is under review.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: the LGBT community felt insulted, because again these cases are strong proof of the extensive homophobia in society, among journalist as well, who directly influence in shaping the public opinion, sparking hatred.

⁴ <http://gazetatelegraf.com/durres-zbulohen-edhe-goditen-bazat-e-homoseksualeve-ne-qytet/>

Armenia

Information coming from the NGO PINK Armenia

1. Physical assault on a gay person in the street.

What happened: A homosexual man was physically attacked by two-three men after he was noticed in one of the streets in Yerevan.

Date, time and location of the incident: March 2013, Yerevan city

Source of information: The alleged victim

Victim(s) involved: one young man

Type of the crime(s): physical assault

Perpetrator(s): two-three men, unknown to the alleged victim

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The young man was physically assaulted. As the victim of the assault stated it was easily noticeable that he was gay because of his look and feminine gestures.

Status of the case: The victim did not agree to undertake any legal actions, as he was afraid for his sexual orientation to be disclosed by appropriate public bodies.

Response of local authorities: The police learnt about the incident after it happen, but no actions were taken by the latter.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim was scared but stated that this was not the first time he was harassed and assaulted.

2. Infliction of willful damage to health/life of two transgender sex workers.

What happened: A group of people approached the park where trans sex workers usually gather and started shooting on the direction of two of the persons standing there.

Date, time and location of the incident: May 2013, cruising park area, Yerevan city

Source of information: The victims involved.

Victim(s) involved: two young trans sex workers

Type of the crime(s): attempt to damage health/life

Perpetrator(s): a group of men (2-3 men)

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The perpetrators were aware that there were only trans people gathering near that park in the evenings. In order to avoid the negative consequences, the victims tried to escape, which resulted in bodily injury of one of the victims.

Status of the case: Suspended due to lack of evidence.

Response of local authorities: The incident was reported to the police; a criminal case was initiated, but soon suspended due to lack of appropriate evidence.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victims were threatened and afraid a lot. The dismissal of the case proved once more the unwillingness of the police to deal with human rights issues of LGBT people.

Azerbaijan

Hate crimes targeted at LGBT people in Azerbaijan, report compiled by Nefes LGBT Azerbaijan

1. Police abuse of power

What happened: police demanded money from homosexual lovers, saying, they were kissing and that is why, he will take gay lovers to the police department

Date, time and location of the incident: On the evening of 15th August, 2013, at the park near metro station, Sahil'

Source of information: The victim himself

Victim(s) involved: two young homosexuals

Type of the crime(s): abuse of power

Perpetrator(s): 3 polices

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Two gay lovers walked along the park hand by hand. Suddenly a policeman approached them and charged them with the very famous and common article in Azerbaijan, «disrupting public order», as, allegedly, they were kissing. Then, other 2 polices came over, and threatened them. Young lovers had to pay some money and only then polices left the victims.

Status of the case: no lawsuit was filed against these polices, as it is hard to prove that “we weren't kissing”, moreover, in this case, victims' parents would know about their sons' sexual orientation.

Response of local authorities: -

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: These cases deters homosexual lovers from walking together, and in most cases they are insulted.

2. An attack by brother

What happened: a guy stabbed his brother when he knew that his brother is gay

Date, time and location of the incident: June, 2013, an Azerbaijani district called Barda (Bərdə)

Source of information: The victim himself

Victim(s) involved: a young gay

Type of the crime(s): knife attack

Perpetrator(s): brother of the victim

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: one local got some information that his brother is gay and decided to verify this. He talked to another boy and this boy arranged a meeting with the victim. When they met, suddenly victim's brother came over and stabbed him for his homosexuality. It wasn't a serious wound, so they managed to hide this incident at home.

Status of the case: no lawsuit was filed, otherwise, everyone would know that there is a gay in their district which is „shame” on his family and they would praise the brother for stabbing him.

Response of local authorities: -

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: such incidents isn't rare in the rural areas of Azerbaijan, and it makes homosexual people hide their orientation and it leads even to forced marriages.

Belarus

Information coming from the NGO GayBelarus

- **Case 1:** February 2013: Ihar Tsikhanyuk, an openly gay man and gay rights activist, was having hospital treatment for a stomach ulcer when two police officers entered the hospital ward and asked him to go with them. At the police station he was punched repeatedly by police officers. He was then verbally abused for being gay, and threatened with more violence.

This incident occurred shortly after Ihar Tsikhanyuk tried to register the Human Rights Centre Lambda, an organization that supports the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people in Belarus. Nobody has been brought to justice for ill-treating him.

- **Case 2:** 3 March 2013: at least 2 gay men had been attacked and severely beaten by a group of men outside of gay club in Minsk.

- **Case 3:** 9 July 2013: Ultra-Nationalist group "European Action - Belarus" offered 35EUR as a compensation for information about home address of the leader of GayBelarus Siarhei Androsenka.

- **Case 4 :** 15 August 2013: two men from pedofile hunters group "Leather Mic" who attacked and beat LGBT activist Vitaly Huliak on 27 July 2012 were fined (5 mln Belarusian roubles each) and sentenced to home arrest.

Belgium

Information coming from the NGO çavaria

1. Two gay waiters punched by two minors

What happened: Two gay waiters were physically assaulted by two customers after leaving the restaurant

Date, time and location of the incident: Friday 22nd of February at 10.30pm, outside restaurant Colmar at the Olympic Pool in Antwerp

Source of information: newspaper

Victim(s) involved: two young gay men working as waiters

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Perpetrator(s): two male minors

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: While leaving the restaurant, one of the waiters got into a quarrel with two customers that closed the door in his face. He received homophobic slurs and was spat on. They followed him to his car and started a fight when he picked up a colleague that had also left the restaurant. Both got punched with brass knuckles. One was injured at the left eye, the other had his tooth broken. Acquaintances of the suspects, that were still at the restaurant, helped the police to identify and trace the suspects.

Status of the case: two suspects to be trialed at juvenile court

Response of local authorities: police arrested the suspects

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: the two victims claim not to be scared but more cautious

2. Gay couple assaulted at party

What happened: young couple harassed and punched at a party

Date, time and location of the incident: Saturday 18th of May at party location the Qubus at Oudenaarde

Source of information: television news

Victim(s) involved: young male gay couple

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Perpetrator(s): some people attending the party

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: After the gay couple kissed and danced together at the party, they received homophobic insults from a small group of people. When one of the two went to the toilets, he got into a fight with some of the visitors and got punched in the face. The couple fled outside and waited there for the ambulance to arrive. The punches caused bruises and a broken nose. There were more insults when the ambulance drove them away.

Status of the case: the prosecutor started an investigation

Response of local authorities: investigation started, public statement of a council member condemning violence at the party location

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: victims reported at the police the next day and also alerted the media to condemn homophobic violence

3. Lesbians attacked at discotheque

What happened: A lesbian couple and their lesbian friend got insulted and attacked by a group of young males at a party

Date, time and location of the incident: Sunday night 19th of May at discotheque The Factory at Bree

Source of information: newspaper

Victim(s) involved: three lesbians

Type of the crime(s): threats and physical violence

Perpetrator(s): seven or eight young males from an ethnic minority

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A lesbian couple received insults after dancing together at a party. A young man told them two girls should not date each other. They intimidated the couple. When a lesbian friend of the couple arrived at the scene to help, one of the group hit her in the face with a broken glass. The attacker fled and she was taken to the hospital. She had four stitches and a ruptured cornea.

Status of the case: case reported to the police, investigation started on the basis of camera images

Response of local authorities: investigation started, public statement of a council member condemning violence at the party location

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: case reported and brought to media attention

4. Brussels police accused of homophobic violence

What happened: Two gay men claim they were violently arrested for no apparent reason

Date, time and location of the incident: Friday night 9th of August, after attending Electrocitoy of the Brussels Summer Festival

Source of information: newspaper, Facebook page of the victim

Victim(s) involved: a gay couple

Type of the crime(s): police brutality

Perpetrator(s): some police officers of the Brussels police force

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: When leaving the festival, the two gay men were walking at the wrong side of the street where police was escorting the crowd away from the terrain. Upon a remark of one of the police officers, one of the couple made a joke and was subsequently hit and arrested. When the other gay man started filming the scene with his phone, police officers confiscated the device. During the arrest as well as upon arrival at the police station, homophobic slurs were used by the officers, according to the couple. They were released the next day.

Status of the case: internal investigation started and a complaint filed at Comité P, external supervising body of the Belgian police forces

Response of local authorities: internal investigation started

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Brussels LGBT association "Outrage" staged a protest outside of the police station, which is close to the main street of LGBT bars.

5. Gay man attacked by man on parole

What happened: A gay man was attacked in the street by two men

Date, time and location of the incident: Saturday night 17th of August at Kortrijk

Source of information: newspaper

Victim(s) involved: one gay man

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Perpetrator(s): a man on parole and a male minor

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A gay man was attacked by a man and a minor while he was walking the streets at night. The victim stated that there were homophobic slurs preceding the attack. The prosecutor stated that the motive for the attack will be investigated. The victim suffered bruises and a nose fracture.

Status of the case: prosecutor is investigating the case

Response of local authorities: investigation started, one perpetrator had already been convicted for other acts and was on parole

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: some LGBT organizations responded to the news

6. Young gay man attacked, police says not to react to provocations

What happened: a young man was attacked while he was walking the streets with his partner

Date, time and location of the incident: evening of 10th of September in Ghent

Source of information: newspaper and television news

Victim(s) involved: one young gay man and his partner

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Perpetrator(s): two youngsters

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim was walking the street with his partner, when two youngsters made homophobic remarks. At first the couple ignored the remarks, but when the perpetrators started to follow them, the victim responded. At that point he was attacked and suffered a broken nose, bruises and a slight concussion. They went to the police, where, according to the victim, he was told that he shouldn't have reacted to the insults, and, in a way, that it was his own fault.

Status of the case: investigation started

Response of local authorities: the police said they were taking the matter seriously, and that they always tell victims of aggression to prevent violence by not responding to provocations

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: LGBT association çavaria responded by stating that police should always take such matters seriously and that victims should be encouraged to report

7. Young gay man attacked

What happened: a young gay man was attacked near a gay bar after briefly going to a night shop

Date, time and location of the incident: Friday night, 13th of December in Ghent

Source of information: newspaper and television news

Victim(s) involved: one young gay man

Type of the crime(s): physical violence, theft

Perpetrator(s): two young men of an ethnic minority group

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A young gay man visiting a gay bar received homophobic slurs after he went to the night shop further down the street and while he was on his way back to the bar. He then was beaten and kicked by two young men. A bystander came for help and could prevent more harm.

Status of the case: -

Response of local authorities: -

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: an LGBT association claimed on television that more cases were reported than the previous year

8. Brazilian foreign student attacked and denied help by police

What happened: A Brazilian foreign student was insulted and attacked but police refused to help

Date, time and location of the incident: Saturday night, 14th of December in Brussels

Source of information: newspaper, Facebook page of the victim

Victim(s) involved: Brazilian foreign student and two friends

Type of the crime(s): physical violence, police brutality

Perpetrator(s): two straight couples, two police officers

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A Brazilian foreign student was insulted with homophobic slurs by two straight couples and subsequently attacked by one of the males. One of his friends also got punched. When the Brazilian student went to the police for help, they allegedly responded by telling him they had better things to do and he would be punched again if he did not shut up. They told him he should go to the hospital by himself.

Status of the case: file opened and internal investigation started

Response of local authorities: police stated they had opened a file for the attack and started an internal investigation of the two officers

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim communicated through social media and

this sparked a lot of response. LGBT association çavaria reacted and complained about the police attitude in Brussels.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report '[Homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Data collected from March to November 2013](#)', by Sarajevo Open Centre

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe's website. In this document, the Sarajevo Open Centre analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

- One case of extreme physical violence;
- Three cases of assault;
- One case of damage to property;
- A total of seven cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these 12 cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Estonia

Hate crimes targeted at LGBT people or LGBT organisations in Estonia in 2013, Estonian LGBT Association

1) Assault against lesbians

Date, time and location of the incident: 22 March 2013

Source of information: the victim

Victim(s) involved: same-sex couple (women)

Type of the crime(s): Assault

Perpetrator(s): two young men

Brief description of incident with bias indicators:

A same-sex couple was walking near a train station when two young men addressed them, one of them asking one of the women whether she was female. They shout loudly, saying “show yourself” and “what kind of a woman are you?”

One of the men took out a phone and started filming the woman. Then the partner called the police.

The men left when they heard the police was called.

The police arrived in 15 minutes, questioned the women and then went looking for the men.

Status of the case: Criminal charges were not issued.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The assaulted women feels more insecure and always carried pepper spray with her now.

2) Assault against a gay man

Date, time and location of the incident: 21 April 2013

Source of information: the victim

Victim(s) involved: gay man

Type of the crime(s): online threats

Perpetrator(s): one man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators:

A Facebook message was sent to a gay man, threatening to punch him in the face should the perpetrator ever see him again. The threat included the word “faggot” and the following messages made it also clear that the victim's sexuality was the problem. No actual physical assault happened.

Status of the case: The case was not reported to the police.

3) Assault against a gay man

Date, time and location of the incident: 20 June 2013

Source of information: the victim

Victim(s) involved: gay man

Type of the crime(s): Assault

Perpetrator(s): one man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators:

A gay man received a phone call from a man living in the same small town and asked to meet him.

When they met, the gay man was assaulted verbally and physically. The victim was told not to talk

to the perpetrator's mother again because he was a “faggot” (other offensive words indicating homosexuality in Estonian were also used).

Status of the case: The case was not reported to the police.

Georgia

From press report collected by ILGA-Europe

1. Two massive and violent attack against an LGBT event on 17 May 2013

A parade marking the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia - due to be held in Tbilisi was abandoned before it started when several thousand anti-gay activists, including Georgian Orthodox Church priests, took control of the street where the rally was to take place. After achieving their initial objective of preventing the parade, the protestors broke through police barricades and pursued the people intending to join the rally, who had to be evacuated by Special Forces. At least 28 people were injured.

Gay rights activists were planning to gather outside the former parliament building on Tbilisi's Rustaveli Avenue at 1 pm on May 17 to mark the International Day against Homophobia. This would have been only the second such rally in Georgia. But they soon had to change their plans when thousands of anti-gay Christian activists led by Orthodox priests, arrived carrying bunches of stinging nettles which they threatened to use on the gay activists. Some held placards reading, "We don't need Sodom and Gomorrah", "We should protect our children", "Stop Homosexual Propaganda in Georgia", etc. Father Basil Mkalavishvili, a priest who was one of the main organizers of the protest, said that the anti-homophobia parade "insults people's traditions and national sentiments."

"Our main goal is to protect the Orthodox Church and fight against gays," Mkalavishvili told the Georgian Times, adding that this was "the beginning of a nettle revolution." A day earlier, on May 16, the influential head of the Georgian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Ilia II, had called on the authorities via a written statement to ban the planned gay rights rally, denouncing it as an "encouragement" of "anomaly and disease." However, the authorities gave the green light for the gay parade to take place. Three days earlier, Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili had said that sexual minorities were equal citizens of Georgia and that society would "gradually get used to it".

Ivanishvili had pledged to ensure the safety of the participants of the planned rally. In order to prevent any possible incidents a cordon of upwards of 2,000 policemen blocked off Rustaveli Avenue and other streets adjoining Tbilisi's central Freedom Square, which had been designated as the alternative venue for the rally. But the situation grew tense when news of the change of venue spread and anti-gay protesters, led by Orthodox priests, started moving towards Freedom Square. Only a few minutes after the parade had been expected to begin, tension boiled over and the crowd charged through the police barricades separating the two sides and swarmed into Freedom Square. The agitated crowd then engaged in a violent pursuit, beating and throwing stones at all the people thought to be supporting the rally.

Police were forced to bus approximately 30 gay activists out of the city centre to avoid further violence. However, these buses were also attacked and their windows smashed by the protestors; aggressive young men, and some priests, started chasing buses they thought were carrying participants of the anti-homophobia rally. "Kill these whores," one man shouted. Several people, including a journalist and some policemen, sustained injuries.

"Those demonstrators were shouting at us and using bad language. They wanted to break the windows or the door and get inside; they would not allow the bus to move," said Tamta Melashvili, one of the protesters. "In the end, one of the priests saved us; otherwise I do not know what would have happened."

A few hours after the first clashes, further incidents took place near Kashveti Church, Tabukashvili Street and other places adjoining Rustaveli Avenue. Not far from Freedom Square a van reportedly carrying gay rights activists was surrounded by a large group of people, some of whom threw stones and other objects.

Near the Philharmonic Hall, which is more than a kilometer from the original hotspot, a young man and woman thought by the anti-gay protesters to be affiliated with the gay rights activists, were assaulted and obliged to seek shelter in a nearby Populi supermarket. Policemen had to be deployed to prevent a large group of people storming the place. When Georgia's Public Defender, Ucha Nanuashvili, arrived on the scene he was verbally confronted by anti-gay protesters and police had to intervene to escort him from the area. There was also an attempt to raid the offices of Identoba, a non-governmental organization which defends gay rights and was one of the organizers of the anti-homophobia rally. The number of anti-gay protesters began to dwindle when one senior Orthodox cleric called on them to move on to Holy Trinity Cathedral for prayer. Later that day Patriarch Ilia II then called for calm in a televised address, but also reiterated that the gay rights rally amounted to propaganda for homosexuality, which was unacceptable.

A group of six civil society and watchdog organizations (the Georgian Young Lawyers' Association, Transparency International Georgia, the International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy, the Georgian Democracy Initiative, the Human Rights Education and Monitoring Centre and Article 42 of the Constitution) later released a joint statement saying that the police had failed to take appropriate measures to prevent the violence. "The impression was that the Interior Ministry was more focused on safely evacuating [anti-homophobia rally] participants from the scene than protecting the rally itself. The police did not make enough effort to provide security for the participants during the actual rally," their statement reads.

The Public Defender also issued a statement, which read that "It's a regrettable paradox that the International Day against Homophobia has become a day of expressing homophobia in Georgia." "Despite the MIA having been informed several days before that two protests would be held in the same location, and also about the expected threats, representatives of the LGBT community and their supporting organizations were prevented from exercising the right to freedom of assembly granted to them by the constitution. Despite mobilization of the patrol police cordon, the police failed to sustain it," he continued. Nanuashvili described the day's events as "deplorable" and added that it was obvious from all the footage that the anti-gay protestors, including the ecclesiastics, had behaved aggressively from the very beginning by running after the protesters. "Their aim was not to peacefully protest, but to physically abuse the protesters; there were cases of extremism and hatred," his statement reads.

Greece

Report [‘Homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Greece – Data collected from March to November 2013’](#), by OLKE

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe’s website. In this document, OLKE analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

- 53 cases of extreme physical violence;
- 34 cases of assault;
- 13 cases of damage to property;
- 4 cases of arson;
- A total of 92 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Hungary

Submission by Hatter society for the OSCE ODIHR annual report on hate crimes 2013

1. Case 1

Date, time and location of the incident: April 9, 2013, afternoon, Budapest, Hungary

Source of information: interview with the victim, police files

Victim(s) involved: gay male aged 45

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Bias motivation: LGBT

Perpetrator(s): 3 security guards

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The WestEnd shopping center in Budapest includes an area that is often used by gay males to meet and socialize. J.G.¹ also visits this area quite often. On April 9, 2014 he was dragged into a service corridor by four security guards, three of whom forced him into an elevator and brutally assaulted him: he was punched and kicked several times. During the attack the following statements were made “you dirty faggot, why do you have to come here”, “we are fed up with you all”. He was then pushed out to the street. Following the attack he went home, but did not feel well and went to the hospital. The hospital reported the attack to the police.

Status of the case: reported to the police, not investigated under Article 174/B⁵, investigation ongoing

Response of local authorities: Two police officers appeared in the waiting room at the hospital where the victim was waiting for his admission. They started questioning him on the spot, including questions concerning whether the attackers used words such as “faggot” during the attack. This took place in a waiting room with several other patients around, which made the victim very uncomfortable. He had not heard back from the police for over a month, when he was interrogated once again. The victim (represented by Hátter Society) requested several times (also in writing) that the case be investigated as a hate crime, but the police refused it, claiming that in order to settle the motivation, first the perpetrators have to be questioned. On February 5, 2014 the victim successfully identified his perpetrators from a list of photos shown to him by the police. The victim has received no update on his case since then.

Impact on the Victim(s) and the Community: The victim suffered severe injuries healing over 8 days and was hospitalized for several weeks.

2. Case 2

Date, time and location of the incident: July 6, 2013, 15:30, Budapest, Hungary

Source of information: interview with the victims, police files

Victim(s) involved: two gay men and two women

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Bias motivation: LGBT

Perpetrator(s): three young men

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victims were heading towards the starting point of the Budapest Pride march with a large rolled-up flag on a pole in their hands. A few hundred meters from the starting point they were stopped by three men in their twenties who kept asking them if they were going to the Pride march. One of the perpetrators took up a fighting position, and kicked one of the gay men, who as a result fell to the ground. The perpetrator wore black trousers and black T-shirt. A young couple who saw the incident started shouting and calling

⁵ Violence against a member of a community. Article 216 in the new Criminal Code in force since July 1, 2013.

for the police, and the perpetrators ran away.

Status of the case: reported to the police, not investigated under Article 216, but later re-categorized by the prosecutor's office, one perpetrator identified, investigation ongoing

Response of local authorities: The victims found a police car nearby, and the police offered the man who had been kicked to be driven around to see if he can locate the perpetrators. One of the perpetrators was indeed identified and apprehended by the police. The incident was investigated not as a hate crime, but as disorderly conduct. The victims (represented by Hättér Society) requested the case to be re-classified as violence against a member of a community, and transferred from the district police to the Budapest Police, who have jurisdiction in such cases, but the police refused. The case was closed and submitted for prosecution as disorderly conduct, however, the prosecutor's office decided that the motivation had not been properly investigated and ordered the Budapest Police to resume the investigation.

Impact on the Victim(s) and the Community: The victims suffered no injuries.

3. Case 3

Date, time and location of the incident: July 6, 2013, 18:30, Budapest, Hungary

Source of information: interview with the victims, police files

Victim(s) involved: three gay men, two of them of Roma origin

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Bias motivation: LGBT, anti-Roma

Perpetrator(s): a larger group of around 20 right wing extremists

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The three victims participated at the Budapest Pride march on the same day, and were heading home after the march ended. Close to the endpoint of the march they were spotted by a group of 20 right wing extremists coming from a protest against the march. They started shouting things like: "those are faggots, those are gypsies", the victims asked them to leave them alone, but as soon as they got close enough the perpetrators started punching the victims shouting "you faggots, you gypsies". At least 4-5 members of the larger group were actively involved in the attack. One of the victims fell to the ground and was kicked several times. One of the victims tried to run away and call the police, but the perpetrators wanted to take away his phone. Police cars appeared and the attack ended. The police asked for the documents of the victims, but failed to do the same for the perpetrators some of whom were still present 5-10 meters away. When asked by the victims to do something with the perpetrators, the police claimed they were only there to protect the victims, and not to act against the perpetrators. Harassing shouts continued even after the police appeared. A video crew of a newspaper appeared and the victims gave an interview criticizing the police for their inactivity.

Status of the case: reported to the police, investigated under Article 216, several perpetrators identified and are under arrest, investigation ongoing

Response of local authorities: Police failed to apprehend the perpetrators on the spot. In response to the outrage caused by the video recording of the victims' statement on the website of a leading newspaper, the police issued a press release claiming that victims told the police they were not able to recognize the perpetrators and that they left the hospital without a medical examination (the truth was: the victims said some of the perpetrators had left, and they did get a medical examination, but at a different hospital). Two days after the attack, the victims were summoned to a police interview and a proper investigation was started.

Impact on the Victim(s) and the Community: The victims suffered light injuries. The video interview with the victims created a wave of criticism against the police. Several political parties and the Ministry of Human Resources issued press releases condemning the attacks. Personal data (including lies about the private life of the victims as well as their phone numbers) were published on an extreme right wing news portal, the victims received several harassing phone calls. An investigation was launched against the news portal, but was prematurely closed without taking all investigative steps that could have led to identifying editor of the portal.

4. Case 4

Date, time and location of the incident: July 6, 2013, 17:30, Budapest, Hungary

Source of information: interview with the victims, police files

Victim(s) involved: one gay man

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Bias motivation: LGBT

Perpetrator(s): woman in her thirties, part of a larger group of around 30 right wing extremists

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim participated at the Budapest Pride march on the same day, and was heading home after the march ended together with a female friend. He was pushing a bike that had a small rainbow flag attached to it. A larger group of right wing extremist protestors were blocking their way and shouting “dirty faggots, dirty faggots!” When passing by, a male member of the crowd tore off the rainbow flag from the bike, and a woman from the group started shouting “are you not ashamed of yourself?” When the victim responded “no”, she hit him on the neck from the back. A police officer intervened and separated the two. The whole incident was recorded on video by a video crew of a newspaper, and was published on the website of the newspaper.

Status of the case: reported to the police, investigated under Article 216, perpetrator under arrest, investigation closed, submitted for prosecution

Response of local authorities: The police officer stopping the attack from escalating did not apprehend the perpetrator, neither did he perform an identity check on her. When seeing the video recording of the attack on the internet, the police launched an investigation. Meanwhile, a written report was submitted by the victim (represented by Háttér Society) to the police, including the (presumed) identity of the perpetrator who had been identified by activists as she is a well-known extremist with several similar incidents in her past. The two investigations were merged. The investigator of the case put together a call for witnesses attaching photos of the people believed to be together with the attacker caught on tape, but the Communication Service of the National Police Headquarters failed to publish the call (the reasons for this failure are not clear yet). The police failed to identify any of the persons accompanying the woman, and closed the investigation recommending the prosecution of the woman under Article 216.

Impact on the Victim(s) and the Community: The victim did not suffer any injuries. The video showing the attack was widely publicized and created a wave of criticism against the police.

5. Case 5

Date, time and location of the incident: July 6, 2013, afternoon, Budapest, Hungary

Source of information: interview with the victims, police files

Victim(s) involved: one straight man perceived to be gay

Type of the crime(s): physical violence

Bias motivation: LGBT

Perpetrator(s): group of 5-6 young men, right wing extremists

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim wanted to join the closing event of the Budapest Pride march together with a male friend and the girlfriend of this friend. A few corners away from the event, a group of 5-6 young men dressed in right wing extremist outfit were passing by the victim, and one of them kicked the victim in the groin, while shouting “so what, you faggot!” The victim fell to the ground in pain.

Status of the case: reported to the police, investigated under Article 216, investigation suspended, perpetrator cannot be identified

Response of local authorities: The friend of the victim rushed to the closest police officer to ask for help, but the police officer responded “you should not go to demonstrations, and these kinds of things would not happen” and refused to do anything about the attack. After being hospitalized for two days, the victim went to report the case to the district police, however, they refused to take the report and advised the victim to report the incident via email. After submitting the report via email,

the victims was summoned for a police interview. The investigation was launched for disorderly conduct. The victim (represented by Háttér Society) submitted a complaint asking for the investigation of the incident under Article 216. Following the complaint, the case was reclassified and transferred to the Budapest Police. On December 14, 2013, the police suspended the investigation as they could not identify the perpetrator. The police failed to inform the victim's legal representative about the decision to suspend, the representative was only informed about the suspension months later at a meeting about a different case.

Impact on the Victim(s) and the Community: The victim suffered severe injuries and had internal bleeding. He was hospitalized, but left the hospital on his own decision after two days. The victim wanted to remain silent about the case in fear that he would be (falsely) identified as gay in the media.

6. Case 6

Date, time and location of the incident: August 14, 2013, 3:00am, Budapest, Hungary

Source of information: interview with the victims, police files

Victim(s) involved: three young gay men

Type of the crime(s): threats

Bias motivation: LGBT

Perpetrator(s): one man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victims were heading home from a party, when one of them went into a shop to buy cigarettes. The two others started kissing in front of the shop. Two men came out from a nearby shop and started harassing the boys saying "You faggots, don't do your faggot thing around here, get the hell out of here!" When the boys did not stop, one of the men went into the shop and came out with a baseball bat and made threatening moves with it. The boys called the police.

Status of the case: reported to the police, investigated under Article 216, investigation ongoing

Response of local authorities: The police arrived to the spot more than half an hour after the call was made. The boys insisted they want to press charges against the perpetrator, but the police officers said they should keep calm as they could also be taken to the police station as they had committed moral indecency. The police said if they want to press charges, they have to go to the police station. The police went into the shop, but did not perform a thorough search for the baseball bat. When the next day the victim went to report the case to the police, he was told he does not have to report, as most likely there is already an investigation ongoing. The victim reported the case to several news media that covered the story in great details. The Communication Service of the National Police Headquarters issued a press release claiming that the victim lied about the time it took for the police to arrive to the spot (the truth is: the time of the call and the arrival of the police is well documented), and that no criminal offense have happened (meanwhile the local police informed the victim that a preliminary investigation is ongoing). Later, the victim was summoned for a police interview, and the investigation is ongoing. The victim submitted a complaint the Independent Police Complaint Board, but no opinion has been published yet. The victim requested several times a correction to the press release, but the police did not respond.

Impact on the Victim(s) and the Community: The story was widely reported in the news media. A Member of Parliament submitted written question to the Minister of Interior on the mismanagement of the case. On August 20, 2014 a demonstration drawing about a hundred people took place in front of the district police station.

Ireland

Report '[Homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Greece – Data collected from March to November 2013](#)', by TENI (Transgender Equality Network Ireland)

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe's website. In this document, TENI analysed data concerning the following hate crimes. TENI's research focuses mainly on incidents targeting trans individuals and motivated by transphobia:

- 1 case of extreme physical violence;
- 6 cases of assault;
- 3 cases of damage to property;
- 5 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these 17 cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Italy

Report '[Documentation of homophobic and transphobic violence](#)' by the LGBTI Resource Centre

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe's website. In this document, the LGBTI Resource Centre analysed data concerning the following hate crimes. The research focuses on two regions only: Campania (Naples) and Veneto (Venice):

- 12 cases of extreme physical violence;
- 12 cases of assault;
- 2 cases of damage to property;
- 42 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Latvia

[‘Report on homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Latvia in 2013’](#), by Mozaika

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe’s website. In this document, Mozaika analysed data concerning the following hate crimes. Mozaika documented:

- 1 case of extreme physical violence;
- 3 cases of assault;
- 1 case of damage to property;
- 3 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Lithuania

[‘Report on homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Lithuania in 2013’](#), by the Lithuanian Gay League (LGL)

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe’s website. In this document, LGL analysed data concerning the following hate crimes. LGL documented:

- 1 case of extreme physical violence;
- 5 cases of assault;
- 3 case of damage to property;
- 3 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Macedonia

From press reports collected by ILGA-Europe and the LGBTI Support Centre

1. Attack of the LGBT Center in Skopje

What happened: A group of unidentified persons attacked the LGBT Center and caused material damage.

Date, time and location of the incident: March 2, around 13:00h in the Old Bazar in Skopje.

Source of information: The local media Makdenes.

Victim(s) involved: Except the material damage no victims were involved in this incident.

Type of the crime(s): Threat, vandalism, destroying private property and using illegal weapons.

Perpetrator(s): A group of unidentified persons.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The attack was committed by the same protestors from the counter protests against the appointment of Talat Djaferi as Defence Minister (see incidents 2, 3 and 5).

Status of the case: The incident was reported to the local authorities.

Response of local authorities: The perpetrators were later found, accused and sentenced for other crimes including the attack of the LGBT Center in Skopje.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people or organizations that protect the rights of this population are often taking place in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

2. Violence against human rights activists in Bitola

What happened: Human rights activists from NGO's dealing with human rights of LGBT people were attacked in Bitola while they were promoting human rights of LGBT people as part of their project.

Date, time and location of the incident: April 20, around noon in the center of Bitola.

Source of information: The web site of the NGO Coalition "Sexual and Health rights of Marginalized Communities" and the activists themselves.

Victim(s) involved: Human rights activists from NGO's dealing with LGBT rights.

Type of the crime(s): Assault, threat, violence

Perpetrator(s): A group of seven unidentified persons.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The incident happened when the human rights activists were promoting human rights for LGBT people in Bitola and were attacked by unidentified persons. It is clear that the incident happened as result of intolerance against the LGBT people in the society, which according to the latest reports of international organizations is one of the highest in Europe.

Status of the case: The incident was reported to the police.

Response of local authorities: No information.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people are often taking place in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

3. Posters for LGBT support damaged in Tetovo

What happened: Unidentified persons torn out the billboard posters for the support of the LGBT community.

Date, time and location of the incident: May 9, in Tetovo, the time of the incident is unknown.

Source of information: The local media Nova Tv (mkd) and the local media Historia Ime (alb).

Victim(s) involved: Except the material damage, no persons were injured in this incident.

Type of the crime(s): Vandalism.

Perpetrator(s): Unidentified persons.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The incident happened after human rights activists put posters for the support of LGBT community as part of their campaign for the promotion of LGBT rights. It is clear that the incident happened as result of intolerance against the LGBT people in our society, which according to the latest reports of international organizations is one of the highest in Europe.

Status of the case: No information.

Response of local authorities: No information.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people are taking place often in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

4. Attack against the LGBT community centre on 22 June 2013

Rights groups called for the authorities to bring to justice those responsible for launching the attack in Skopje on Saturday evening on the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community centre, which was smashed up by dozens of people wearing masks and throwing stones during the screening of a film as part of the inaugural Gay Pride week.

The three NGOs, the Macedonian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, the Coalition for Sexual Rights of Marginalised Groups and LGBT – United, in a joint statement published on Monday, demand a halt to what they said was a rising trend of hate-related violence. “Although this is not the first attack on the LGBT centre, this is the first time that an attack took place in the presence of the public and amidst an ongoing event, [showing that] intolerance against the LGBT community is increasing,” the statement said.

The attack, which broke windows and damaged property, also injured one of the two police officers on duty to ensure security at the event, police said. The same day, an unidentified group of people also beat up a teenage boy near Skopje’s landmark Stone Bridge in another attack believed to have been motivated by homophobia. Police have said that they are investigating the incidents but have not yet made any arrests.

The Dutch embassy also strongly condemned the attack on the LGBT centre, for which it supplies funding. "We appeal to the authorities to condemn any acts of violence which endanger the safety and security of citizens," the embassy said. It also urged the authorities "to undertake a thorough investigation and bring the perpetrators to justice, as well as to do their utmost to protect the property and the safety of citizens regardless of their social status or beliefs".

The violence came amid the first-ever Skopje Gay Pride Week, a series of awareness- rising and educational workshops throughout the city. In the weeks ahead of the Pride Week, some media seen as close to the conservative government of Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski falsely reported that a Gay Pride parade was planned.

This caused an upsurge of anti-gay sentiment on social media, with some people even announcing an anti-gay march in response, although this did not take place. “No public march was planned but it was obvious that someone wanted to heat up the situation with the spin that a gay parade would

take place. I was not surprised [by the attack], as information suggested that there would be an attempt against the centre to show that it cannot continue,” said the head of the Macedonian Helsinki Committee, Uranija Pirovska.

The human rights groups urged media to stop spreading disinformation and inflaming hate speech that could lead to further violence. Local and international rights groups have complained about Macedonia’s controversial anti-discrimination law, adopted in 2010, which according to them misses a key element in failing to envisage explicit protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation.

A report by the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, ‘Rainbow Europe Index 201’, ranked Macedonia the worst in the Balkans when it comes to legal protection. Activists also complain about frequent remarks by ministers and government officials that they see as discriminatory.

5. Attack against LGBTI activists on 20 April 2013 (press release by activists’ organisations)

Saturday’s attack against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) activists in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, yet again underscores the urgent need for protection in law against homophobic and transphobic violence and any other form of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, said Amnesty International today.

On 20 April, activists from the NGOs, LGBT United and the Coalition for the Sexual and Health Rights of Marginalized Communities were attacked by a group of football supporters in the Macedonian town of Bitola.

The activists, carrying a rainbow flag, had been in the main street of the town, carrying flags and placards and distributing posters on the rights of LGBTI people, as part of a project -“Civic initiative for LGBT Rights”. Three of the activists were attacked by four men, who were later joined by three others. The attackers violently grabbed their posters, and used them to hit the activists on their heads and faces. They subjected the activists to verbal abuse, spat and pushed them around. When an activist attempted to use his mobile phone to call for help, one of the attackers grabbed it and threw it to the ground, threatening to kill him.

As soon as the perpetrators left the activists immediately reported the attack to the police, and called on the Ministry of Interior police to immediately trace the perpetrators and bring them to justice. Following the attack the LGBT United group received several threats of physical attacks, some amounting to death threats, on its Facebook page. A photo of the activists was also posted on the official Facebook page of the Macedonian Sport Fans' group, with the message: “Never again will faggots step foot in Bitola”.

This is the latest episode of violence against LGBTI people in Macedonia. In October, the LGBTI support centre in Skopje was attacked, and in November in advance of a march on Tolerance Day, LGBT activists were attacked in the capital Skopje. The Macedonian authorities have so far failed to include protection from discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity in its legislation. Nor is there any provision in law for the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Amnesty International urges the Macedonian authorities to ensure that prompt, impartial and effective investigations are opened into the recent attack in Bitola and any attacks on the lives or property of LGBTI individuals or organizations. Any alleged homophobic or transphobic hate motive should be thoroughly investigated and alleged perpetrators should be brought to trial in fair proceedings.

6. Attack against a gay human rights activist's home

On 20 June 2013, the actor and a human rights activist, Petar Stojkovic wrote an article entitled "On the faggots, lesbians and drags" in which he revealed his sexual orientation. The article disclosed a case of disturbance in his home, on the ground of sexual orientation, by a masked person.⁶

This incident, according to the writer, is a result of the "hate speech constantly spread by corrupted media working beyond any ethics in journalism." The article caused hate speech on the web portals and social networks and life threats against the actor, all of which were reported to MOI.

Few days after the article was published, on 25 June, at 10.50 p.m., a crowd gathered in front of his house used homophobic speech, directed threats against his physical integrity and threw stones at this house. The case was reported to the police, however the police officers arrived at the place after the crowd had left. The actor reported another stoning of his house on 12 July 2013, just before midnight, another case not solved by the police.

7. New attack against the LGBTI Support Centre

On 5 July 2013 there was another attack of the LGBTI Support Centre during which there was an attempt to set the centre on fire, whereupon the Centre suffered severe material damage and was temporarily closed. The institutions failed to condemn this attack as well, while MOI's official daily bulletin did not report on it as well.

This attempt to set on fire the LGBTI Support Centre occurred few hours after the visit of the diplomatic representatives, who publicly expressed their support and called the competent institutions to condemn the violence.⁷ This incident occurred several hours after the Helsinki Committee appealed to the Sector for Internal Control to undertake measures regarding the non-professional behaviour of the police officers during the attack, and to the police to identify the perpetrators from the video recordings.

8. The house of Petar Stojkovic, a human rights activist, got stoned by a group of unknown young men for the second time

What happened: The incident took place when a group of unidentified young men stoned the house of Petar Stojkovic, a human rights activist, followed by offensive words concerning his sexual orientation.

Date, time and location of the incident: July 12, around 23:30h in Skopje.

Source of information: The local media Plusinfo (mkd).

Victim(s) involved: Petar Stojkovic along with his partner and his family members, however they did not suffer any injuries and no material damage was caused.

Type of the crime(s): Threat, violence, vandalism.

Perpetrator(s): A group of unidentified young men.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The incident happened as result of the sexual orientation of Petar Stojkovic and his open way of speaking about his homosexuality.

Status of the case: The incident was reported to the Police.

Response of local authorities: No information.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people are taking place often in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that

⁶ "Few nights ago, at 2.20 p.m., I was sitting with my partner in the living room when a masked boy, barely 18 years old, appeared on the window. He stood there without moving, smoking a cigarette and looking at us. I asked him what he wanted and told him to leave. Nothing. I reached for the phone to call the police. "Faggots!" – he yelled and run away with his friends who were waiting for him, admiring his courage."

⁷ "It is very important to follow the investigation; we have a video from the attackers and sincerely hope that the perpetrators will be sanctioned. We support the LGBTI Support Centre and it is of great importance that it remains here," stated the Dutch ambassador Shuurman.

the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

9. Young man attacked because of his sexual orientation

What happened: A young man was attacked because of his sexual orientation (gay man).

Date, time and location of the incident: August 22, around 23:30h in Tetovo.

Source of information: The incident was reported to the Helsinki Committee directly by the victim.

Victim(s) involved: A young man declaring himself as a gay person.

Type of the crime(s): Assault, threat, violence,

Perpetrator(s): Unidentified person.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The incident occurred in the streets of Tetovo as result of the victim's sexual orientation.

Status of the case: The incident was reported to the Police.

Response of local authorities: No information.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people are often taking place in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

10. A transsexual woman attacked in Tetovo

What happened: The incident occurred when a transsexual woman was attacked with knife by an unidentified person.

Date, time and location of the incident: September 9, around 20:40h in Tetovo

Source of information: N/A

Victim(s) involved: The woman who suffered injuries made by knife.

Type of the crime(s): Assault, using illegal weapons.

Perpetrator(s): Unidentified person.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The incident occurred as result of the gender identity of the victim.

Status of the case: The incident was reported to the local authorities.

Response of local authorities: The Police found the perpetrator and will press charges against him.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people are often taking place in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

11. Transgender person attacked in Gorce Petrov

What happened: A transgender person was attacked on the street in Skopje.

Date, time and location of the incident: October 13, the time of the incident is unknown, in Gorce Petrov, Skopje

Source of information: N/A

Victim(s) involved: The transgender person.

Type of the crime(s): Assault, violence.

Perpetrator(s): One unidentified person.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The girl was hit in the head area, her nose was injured, and she also was hit in the abdomen area. There was a group of three persons, but only one of them was the perpetrator. The perpetrators fled the crime scene and the girl received help from a group of people who were in the vicinity. After the attack the girl was taken to hospital where she was given medical attention.

It is clear that the incident happened as result of intolerance against the LGBT people in the society, which according to the latest reports of international organizations is one of the highest in Europe.

Status of the case: The incident was reported to the local authorities.

Response of local authorities: The police made a report about this incident.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Incidents where the sexual orientation or the gender identity is the main motive for the attack of LGBT people are often taking place in our society which shows that the intolerance towards this group of persons is high. It has to be emphasized that the lack of prosecution and the impunity of these crimes encourage other potential perpetrators to commit crimes against LGBT people.

Moldova

[‘Report on homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Moldova 2013’](#), by GenderDoc-M

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe’s website. In this document, GenderDoc-M analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

- 2 cases of extreme physical violence;
- 6 cases of assault;
- A total of 9 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these 17 cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Montenegro

Reports by ILGA-Europe and its Montenegrin members (quotes from media releases)

1. Attack on the LGBT Parade (24 July 2014)

Montenegro's first Gay rights parade, named Seaside Pride, was attended by an estimated 120 people on Wednesday 24 July in Budva.

The parade went ahead for around 20 minutes after delays caused by the homophobic demonstrators who threw objects and chanted "kill the gays", according to media reports. A few of the participants were injured and police arrested several people suspected of attacking the marchers, local media reported. "Everybody who was against this today will be ashamed one day," Aleksandar Sasa Zekovic, one of the organisers, said at the beginning of the parade.

He also praised the police for enabling the march to go ahead. The parade was also attended by other human rights activists, representatives of foreign embassies and Montenegro's government. The announcement of the event, which aimed to give more visibility to lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people in Montenegro, had already sparked some negative reactions. Fake obituaries were published on the internet announcing the 'death' of Zdravko Cimbaljevic, head of the LGBT Forum Progress, the rights group which organised the parade.

The announcement of another gay parade, due to be held in the capital Podgorica in October by another rights group, Queer Montenegro, has also drawn strong opposition and attracted hate speech on social networks.

Norway

Reports by LLH

1. Threats against a Lesbian author

In June 2014, following the Oslo Pride March, the Somali-Lesbian Norwegian author received 146 threats over voicemail and SMS. Some messages targeted her both as a Lesbian and a person of Somali descent, as she was accused to be a “bad role model for Muslim children”.

Poland

Report [‘Violence against LGBT people in Poland 2013’](#), by KPH (Campaign against homophobia)

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe’s website. In this document, KPH analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

- 20 cases of extreme physical violence;
- 14 cases of assault;
- 3 cases of damage to property;
- 1 case of arson;
- A total of 82 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these 120 cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Portugal

Report '[Documentation of homophobic and transphobic violence in Portugal during 2013](#)' by ILGA-Portugal
Report 'Hate crimes targeted at LGBT persons and/or organisations in Portugal during 2013'

A. Report 'Documentation of homophobic and transphobic violence in Portugal during 2013' produced in the frame of the ILGA-Europe Documentation Fund programme

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe's website. In this document, ILGA-Portugal analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

- 37 cases of extreme physical violence;
- 6 cases of damage to property;
- A total of 69 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these 112 cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

B. Examples from the report 'Hate Crimes targeted at LGBT persons and/or organisations in Portugal during 2013' (included in the figures of the above-mentioned report)

1) Expulsion of Teenager

Date: January.

Location: Sintra.

Source of information: ILGA Portugal's Social Integration Service.

Victim: 19 years-old trans male.

Type of crime: threats and psychological violence/domestic violence.

Brief description of the case: The Sintra's Social Security Service contacted ILGA Portugal following the victim's contact to the national social emergency helpline. The victim had been discriminated by his family on grounds of his gender identity and was expelled from the house where he lived with his father and stepmother.

Status of the case: ILGA Portugal liaised with the Social Security and other public entities and NGOs in order to secure the victim's social integration in Lisbon. The Social Security paid for his accommodation in a hostel, and ILGA Portugal informed the victim on his rights and provided him with all the contacts for employment, food and accommodation. Furthermore, the victim met ILGA Portugal's Transsexuality Group coordinator and integrated some of the group's activities.

2) Murder

Date: 6 February.

Location: Loulé.

Source of information: media report.⁸

Victim: Luis Guerreiro, 45 years-old.

Perpetrator: unknown.

Type of crime: homicide.

Brief description of the case: the victim's found his body stabbed in his apartment. The police believe it to be a crime of passion.

⁸ Available, in Portuguese, at: <http://www.tvi.iol.pt/videos/13800718> (last consulted on 3 April 2014).

Status of the case: Unknown.

3) Bullying

Date: May.

Location: Figueira da Foz.

Source of information: ILGA Portugal's helpline.

Victim: 16 years-old lesbian girl.

Perpetrator: victim's teacher.

Type of crime: threats and psychological violence.

Brief description of the case: the victim's mother contacted ILGA Portugal's helpline to report her daughter's bullying case at school. After her daughter had revealed her sexual orientation at school one of her teacher's started insulting her and frequently mentioned that "being lesbian was not normal".

Status of the case: Unknown. ILGA Portugal's helpline provided the mother with all the available knowledge and tools to appropriately report this bullying case (to the school's executive council and to the police). The mother or victim never contacted ILGA Portugal again.

4) Homophobic Family Bullying

Date: July.

Location: Madeira.

Source of information: ILGA Portugal's helpline.

Victim: 17 years-old gay male.

Perpetrator: victim's parents.

Type of crime: threats and psychological violence/domestic violence.

Brief description of the case: the victim asked for ILGA Portugal's support after explaining that he has been bullied by his parents. The victim's family frequently insulted him and made negative remarks on his sexual orientation. He wanted to leave his household as soon as of legal age.

Status of the case: ILGA Portugal found psychological support for the victim and liaised with AMPLOS (a national NGO working for and with parents of LGBT people).

5) Domestic Violence

Date: September.

Location: Torres Vedras/Almada.

Source of information: ILGA Portugal's Psychological Support Service.

Victim: gay male.

Perpetrator: victim's parents and brother.

Type of crime: assault, threats and psychological violence, individually targeted verbal hate abuse /domestic violence.

Brief description of the case: ILGA Portugal's Psychological Support Service received a request for help by a young adult to help him bear his family's reaction to his coming out. According to the victim's report, the parents and younger brother reacted in a violent manner when the victim told them he was gay: his mother hit him twice, called him homophobic insults such as "you're a fucking fagot", "it was better if you were dead". Given the family's strong catholic views the psychological violence included "you're going to burn in hell" and reading parts of the Bible that condemn homosexuals. The threats and psychological violence were also practiced by limiting the victim's activities: given that the victim was still at the university and lived most of the school year at a student's house, his freedom of movement was then restricted by his parents – he could not go out with friends as the parent's would say that he was going to meet up with other men for casual sex. They took his bicycle and precluded his access to his bank account (this was extremely important as his scholarship was transferred to this bank account).

Status of the crime: the victim continued to receive psychological support at ILGA Portugal.

6) Murder

Date: December.

Location: Mealhada.

Source of information: media report.⁹

Victim: João Conceição, 35 years-old.

Perpetrator: victim's lover.

Type of crime: homicide.

Brief description of the case: according to the media report the perpetrator immediately volunteered to help the police in finding the victim's whereabouts and mentioned that the victim prostituted himself in Mealhada and could have been attacked by one of his clients. When the police found the victim's body immediately arrested the perpetrator who prostituted himself in the same area and who had private encounters with the victim. According to the media report the police considers that the victim and perpetrator had a relationship and on that particular day they fought and the perpetrator attacked the victim first with a razor and then with a stake.

Status of the case: unknown. The perpetrator was arrested and kept in the local prison facilities during the probation period.

⁹ Available, in Portuguese, at: <http://www.cmjornal.xl.pt/detalhe/noticias/nacional/portugal/apanhado-homicida-de-padeiro-morto-em-encontro-gay> (last consulted on 26 March 2014).

Federation of Russia

Cases documented by ILGA-Europe and its members (quotes from press releases)

1. Gay activists beaten during picket, January 2013

VORONEZH, January 20 (RIA Novosti) – Gay activists were beaten by an angry crowd during an authorized picket in the city of Voronezh in southwest Russia on Sunday. Voronezh gay activists earlier announced their intention to hold a protest against the so-called homophobia bill, which will be discussed in Russia’s parliament soon.

The picket in the square near a monument to Russian poet Ivan Nikitin was sanctioned by the city authorities and was expected to gather about 50 gay activists. The opponents of the LGBTI community announced their intention through social networks to break up the picket. Several hundred people opposing gay propaganda in Russia gathered near the monument and sealed off all approaches to it to prevent the picket.

When about ten gay activists appeared, the crowd first pelted them with snowballs and then rushed at them, bringing them down to the ground and starting to beat them. An old woman, who was passing by, was also hurt in the clash. At least one of the picketers had to seek medical assistance. Police are now controlling the area.

2. Man killed for being gay, May 2013

A Russian man was brutally beaten to death for being gay after coming out to his friends, investigators confirmed, stating that he was a victim of a homophobic gang. The victim sustained serious injuries in the assault, including to his genitals.

“The motive for the crime was the [victim’s] non-traditional sexual orientation,” senior regional investigator Andrey Gapchenko said, adding that two suspected attackers have been arrested and another man is a witness in the case. The naked body of the deceased 23-year-old man was discovered in the courtyard of an apartment building in Volgograd on May 10, the day after Russia celebrated Victory Day, which commemorates the end of World War II.

According to one of the suspects, the victim came out as a homosexual to his friends while they were drinking beer on a bench outside. His friends reportedly decided to taunt him by making him walk home naked, and began ripping off his clothes. *“When they were done, the men decided not to stop there,”* Gapchenko said.

The victim’s skull was smashed with a 20-kilogram (44-pound) rock, and the body was apparently raped with beer bottles, local media reported. The suspects also tried and failed to burn his body by putting pieces of carton boxes underneath it and lighting them on fire.

After brutally assaulting the victim, the men left, but later returned after realizing that the victim would call the police if he regained consciousness. After returning to the scene, the perpetrator decided to beat the victim to death. One of the suspects picked up a rock and hit the victim with it eight times in the head.

Currently, there are two suspects in the case: A 22-year-old man, who went to school with the victim, and his 27-year-old friend, who has a criminal record for theft. The latter man has confessed to the murder, according to investigators. A third person is being treated as a witness in the

investigation. If convicted, the perpetrators face up to 15 years in jail.

The investigators' confirmation that homophobia was a motive in the murder is a rare acknowledgement in Russia, as most such cases are investigated as domestic crimes, RIA Novosti reported, citing LGBT activists.

3. Man killed by homophobia, June 2013

A man was murdered in [Russia](#) because he was gay, investigators said on Monday, the second such killing in less than a month, and activists fear homophobic violence is being fuelled by President Vladimir Putin's conservative agenda.

Three men in a village on the Kamchatka peninsula on Russia's eastern coast stabbed and trampled the victim to death last week, the country's Investigative Committee said. The suspects, who are under arrest, put the 39-year-old's body in his car and set it on fire, it said in a statement. Interfax news agency reported the victim was a senior administrator at an airport.

Activists said that killing was an example of rising violence against homosexuals, which they fear is being fuelled by a bill backed by Putin's allies in parliament that would ban spreading homosexual "propaganda" among minors.

4. Vigilantes attacking gay men, September 2013

Concern has mounted over a recently enacted Russian law restricting the promotion of "untraditional sexual relations" following the emergence of a series of online videos in which a vigilante group appears to assault gay men. The brutal videos suggest a hardening of attitudes towards homosexuals among a section of Russian society.

One video shows a man being forced to drink urine in order to "cure" him of being a homosexual. A metal bucket is then placed over the victim's head and hit with what appears to be a baseball bat. Attacks such as this are reportedly being filmed and posted online across Russia by an ultra-nationalist group (St. Petersburg branch of 'Occupai Pedophilyaj'). The group does this under the pre-text of shaming and punishing suspected paedophiles.

The tone and language in the videos suggests that these are homophobic attacks. In another clip a woman armed with a gun and dressed in camouflage jokes that she is "out on safari" hunting for paedophiles and gays. Speaking to the broadcaster in St Petersburg, the woman, whose name is Yekaterina said, "Our priority is uncovering cases of paedophilia. But we're also against the promotion of homosexuality. And if - along the way - we encounter people of non-traditional sexual orientation, we can kill two birds with one stone."

Gay-rights activists in Russia believe the aggression on display in the videos is a direct result of the controversial new law signed by President Vladimir Putin. The legislation bans the spread of information about "untraditional sexual relations" to anyone under 18, portraying homosexuality as a danger to children and the family.

5. Rape of a gay man, September 2013

A video depicting a man being raped with a bottle has surfaced on social media, in what appears to be the latest assault on Russia's beleaguered homosexual community. The series of short clips, making the rounds on the mobile phone application WhatsApp show the victim, who seems to be an ethnic Uzbek, being bullied into confessing that he is gay.

He is asked to identify himself and is stripped of his clothes, which are later burned. He is then handcuffed, beaten, insulted, and threatened with a gun. Ultimately, he is forced to sodomize himself by sitting on a bottle, which is then pushed with a bat. The man, visibly terrified, weeps throughout much of the ordeal.

Viewers on WhatsApp overwhelmingly praised the violence as a well-deserved punishment. RFE/RL was able to track down a man who claimed to have taken part in the attack. The Uzbek-speaking source, speaking from Russia, confirms that the victim was targeted because he is gay.

"We made him sit on a bottle so that he repents for his sins and comes to reason," he told RFE/RL's Uzbek Service. "We did this to protect the dignity of Uzbeks. We live and work here, we are in contact with people of different nationalities. There will be no respect for us otherwise."

According to the purported assailant, the attack took place on September 11 in Novosibirsk, where he himself is a student, and all the participants were ethnic Uzbeks. He says the man was first detained by a group of Russian antigay vigilantes who lured him to a fake date through a social-networking website.

The vigilantes then allegedly handed him to the city's Uzbek community. "Russian guys caught him and called us to say they had a gay Uzbek," the self-proclaimed author of the video said. "We then questioned him and he confessed to everything. There were six or seven of us. The Russians told us he was a pedophile, which he denied. But he confessed that he was gay."

6. Attack of a meeting of gay activists, St. Petersburg, 4 November 2013

Unknown assailants attacked a meeting of gay rights activists in Saint Petersburg with air guns, local media reported late Sunday. Activists told news portal Rosbalt that several people in masks forced their way into an office in central Saint Petersburg where the LGBT event was taking place and opened fire.

Local police confirmed the incident in a statement later that evening, and said that a young man inside the building at the time was hospitalized after being shot near the eye. LGBT activist Anna Prutskova wrote on social networking site Vkontakte that she received light injuries to her back during the incident, and said that the attackers were carrying baseball bats as well as guns.

Clashes between LGBT activists and anti-gay groups occur regularly in Saint Petersburg, which was one of the first Russian cities to introduce controversial fines for "gay propaganda" among minors last year. Critics say that the legislation, which provoked international condemnation when later adopted in a similar form at a federal level, is anti-gay and has stoked nation-wide homophobia. The Kremlin maintains that the law is designed to protect children, and does not prevent adults from making their own choices.

Serbia

Report 'Hate crimes targeted at LGBT people in Serbia 2013', by Labris

1) Brutal attack on two gay men in the center of Belgrade

What happened:

The attack on two men Dj.I and B.P took place in front of the Belgrade club "Mistique" on November 10-11, 2013. In the police statement, victims pointed out that they were beaten up just because they were gay. Mistique is the gay club. Office for Information of Public Importance gave the information that there are reasonable suspicion that on November 10, 2013 around 2 AM in the center of Belgrade, near the night club Mistique, unknown person has committed the crime of Serious Bodily Harm and Light Bodily injury Article 121 and 122 of the Serbian Criminal Code. Criminal charges for this criminal offense is submitted ex officio and it was submitted December 26, 2013.

Date, time and location of the incident: November 10-11, 2013, around 2 AM, in front of the Belgrade club "Mistique" in the center of Belgrade

Source of information: Newspaper and police report

Victim(s) involved: Dj.I. and B.P.

Type of the crime(s): Serious Bodily Harm and Light Bodily injury Article 121 and 122 of the Serbian Criminal Code

Perpetrator(s): Few unknown persons

Brief description of incident with bias indicators:

Directorate of police/Police Station Stari grad stated that there are reasonable suspicion that on November 10, 2013 around 2 AM in the center of Belgrade near the night club Mistique, unknown person has committed the crime of Serious Bodily Harm and Light Bodily injury Article 121 and 122 of the Serbian Criminal Code. The suspect approached to the victim, hit him with a glass bottle in the head, kicked in the shoulder after what he suffered Light Bodily Injury. After he felt down on the floor where he suffered Serious Bodily Harm. Prosecutor was advised. Criminal charges for this criminal offense is submitted ex officio. Charges were submitted on December 26, 2013.

Status of the case: Case is reported to the police. Charges are submitted on December 26, 2013

Response of local authorities: Media coverage was good and constructive.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: There is no doubt that there is a fear among community.

2) Physical and verbal attack on high school student, S.R. from Kursumlija

What happened :

Physical and verbal attack on S.R. from Kursumlija occurred on 23rd of October, 2013 in the afternoon. This is third reported attack on S.R, because he is openly gay. Police Station Kursumlija recorded that attack occurred on October 23, 2013 around 5 PM. Emergency Center contacted the police station in Kursumlija to report the attack on S.R earlier that day. Victim was upset but no injury was diagnosed. According to the police statement, criminal charges for this criminal offense is not submitted ex officio.

Date, time location : on 23rd of October, 2013 in the afternoon, in front of the S.R. highschool

Source of Information : Media

Victim(s) involved: S.R. highschool student, openly gay in smaller city in Serbia

Type of the crime(s): Assault , Light body injuries

Perpetrator(s): Boys from the school

Brief description of incident with bias indicators:

Directorate of police Prokuplje/Police Station Kursumlija.It is recorded that attack occurred on October 23, 2013 around 5 PM. Emergency Center contacted the police station in Kursumlija to

report the attack on S.R earlier that day. Victim was upset but no injury was diagnosed. Victim made a statement in the police station and it is recorder that S.R. consider that he was attacked because of his sexual orientation. Police consulted duty prosecutor of the first basic prosecution in Prokuplje, j.B. who stated that

Criminal charges for this criminal offense is not submitted ex officio.

Status: -

Response of local authorities: No responses from authority. There was a lot of media coverage.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: none

3)Professor brutally attacked because of perceived sexual orientation

What happened:

Attack took place in the city of Novi Sad on Sunday evening on 8th of September 2013. Several elementary school pupils attacked the match teacher, I.J. while he was waiting his wife and child in the park. Potential motive – victim's perceived sexual orientation. Ministry of interior provided the following information: Higher public prosecution in Novi Sad, according to the Article 226 paragraf 11 Law on Criminal Proceedings sent the criminal offenses against persons that committed Act of robbery, article 206. Paragraph 1 of the Criminal Code of Serbia.

Date, time and location of the incident: 8th of September 2013, evening, park in Novi Sad

Source of information: **Media**

Victim(s) involved: Professor I.J.

Type of crimes: Assaults, Light and Severe body injuries

Perpetrator(s): Primary and Secondary school students from Novi Sad

Brief description of incident with bias indicators:

The attack took place in the city of Novi Sad on Sunday evening on 8th of September 2013. Several elementary school pupils attacked the match teacher, I.J. while he was waiting his wife and child in the park.

Potential motive – victim's perceived sexual orientation

Media reported that teacher was attacked due to his perceived same-sex sexual orientation

Status of the case: Criminal charges are submitted.

Response of local authorities: none

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: potential high fear of coming out

Spain

Report '[Hate crimes and sexual orientation/gender identity in Spain 2013](#)', by
FELGTB

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe's website. In this document, the FELGTB analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

- 4 cases of extreme physical violence;
- 31 cases of assault;
- 2 cases of damage to property;
- A total of 19 cases of threats and psychological violence (including on-line threats) reaching the threshold of possible criminal liability according to the reporting NGO.

On top of these 56 cases, the report also documents other cases of bias motivated incidents that do not reach the threshold of criminal liability.

Sweden

Report 'Homophobic, biphobic and transphobic hate crimes in Sweden' compiled by RFSL

RFSL has a national crime victim helpline for LGBT-persons, with two Coordinators employed. During 2013 the helpline was contacted by 196 individuals. **52 cases of homophobic, biphobic or transphobic hate crimes** were registered by the crime victim helpline. In 23 of these cases a police report was filed. Three different cases the helpline have come into contact with during 2013 are described in the following. The cases have been anonymized to keep information safe regarding the individual cases.

Examples:

Harassment in public

A couple on their way home on the subway in Stockholm was subjected to harassment when the perpetrator noticed that one of the persons was transgender. The perpetrator became aggressive and started to shout insults relating to the victims gender identity. The couple pressed on to their home, but the perpetrator remained behind them, shouting and spitting at them and occasionally lunging at them, giving the appearance of preparing a physical attack. Once the couple arrived home and got into the doorway to the apartment building, the perpetrator remained outside, still shouting loud insults. He smashed the window in the doorway before leaving the area. The couple filed a police report and, thanks to witnesses who provided testimony during the juridical procedure and videotapes, the perpetrator was convicted of both harassment with hate as an aggravating motive and vandalism.

Death threats

The victim in this case was a man visiting at the home of his ex-boyfriend. During the visit, the ex-boyfriend's brother came unannounced to his apartment. The brother contacted his father when he saw the guest. The father has openly expressed his homophobia and when it came to his knowledge about who was in his son's apartment, he asked to put the phone on speaker mode, after which he announced that this city was his territory, that he had five guys in his car and they all were on their way to the apartment to "get" (which also implies "to kill") the guest in the apartment. The victim feared for his life as he knows the father of his ex-boyfriend has connections with a criminal bikers gang.

Home trashing

A lesbian couple got their balcony trashed by a neighbour. The neighbour had thrown in fish, vegetables, eggs, and shot an arrow at their home, which penetrated the outer window. The neighbour had posted on his social media page that he had "accidentally shot an arrow at his whole neighbour's window", which the couple used later for the police report. The police did not respond in a timely manner and the landlord took an approach to clear up the "misunderstanding" between the harasser and the couple. The harasser's post on the social media was not sufficient to continue the legal investigation, since it was worded to be perceived as an accident.

Turkey

[Report on homophobic and transphobic hate crimes and incidents in Turkey 2013](#) –by Kaos GL Association

The report mentioned in reference is available on ILGA-Europe’s website. In this document, Kaos GL analysed data concerning the following hate crimes:

		Core Violation	Respond by Victims (112 persons)	Respond by Witnesses (127 persons)	Total Number of Core Violations in 239 Responds	Total Number of Violations in 239 Responds
Aggressive >>>>> > Most Aggressive	Hate crimes	Homicide	-	5	5	(5)
		Attempted killing	11	4	15	(15)
		Wounded by a weapon	2	2	4	(6)
		Rape	4	3	7	(9)
		Physical violence	29	39	68	(82)
		Other sexual assaults	2	6	8	(13)
		Locked up or detained	2	2	4	(12)
		Insults or verbal abuse	29	47	76	(177)
		Property damaged/tagged	2	2	4	(19)
		Chased	7	3	10	(44)
		Threat of violence	13	9	22	(84)
	Other incidents	Sexual harassment	6	4	10	(39)
		Refused healthcare	1	0	1	(2)
		Refused protection	0	0	0	(5)
		Refused a job/fired	2	0	2	(16)
Refused commercial services		2	1	3	(5)	
	Other	0	0	0	(13)	
	Not applicable	0	0	0	(4)	
		TOTAL	112	127	239	550

Ukraine

ILGA-Europe backs the submission prepared by Nash Mir:
http://gay.org.ua/publications/hate_crime_lgbt_2013-e.pdf

United Kingdom

Hate crimes targeted at LGBT people in the UK during 2013 (report compiled by Galop)

1. Case 1:

Date, time and location of the incident: 03/10/13, shop in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Violence and verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Transphobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A transgender woman was in a shop when a man called her "tranny" (a transphobic term of abuse), said she is not really a woman and punched her to the ground. Several days later she saw the same man again in the street and he made verbal threats to her.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Police investigated

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Victim very distressed

2. Case 2:

Date, time and location of the incident: May 3013, outside a bar in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Violence and verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): Three men

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A group of men made sexual comments toward two women outside an LGBT bar. One man made comments about 'curing' her of being a lesbian, threw a bottle at her which caused a head injury and pushed the other forcefully.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Police investigated

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

3. Case 3:

Date, time and location of the incident: 21 Oct 2013, park in Chester

Source of information: Media

Type of the crime(s): Violence

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): 19 year old man, Floyd Evans

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A man was stabbed in the heart by a stranger in a park which is visited by gay and bisexual men. He required emergency surgery but lived. The police stated that they believe the attack was homophobic due to the location. The perpetrator was charged with attempted murder and found guilty.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Awaiting sentence

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

4. Case 4:

Date, time and location of the incident: 12/04/14, supermarket in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse and violence

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Two gay men visited a supermarket and were called "gays" and "poofs" by security staff member who then physically forced them to leave the shop by gripping their arms which caused bruising.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Reported to police but victims unwilling to support investigation

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

5. Case 5:

Date, time and location of the incident: 21/11/13, near victims home in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Transphobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Transgender woman verbally abused by a neighbour who said "I know what you are" which she understood to be a reference to her gender identity. He then threatened to shoot her and later verbally abused her on several occasions calling her "bitch" and spreading rumours among neighbours that she was transgender.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Police investigated but unable to take action

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

6. Case 6:

Date, time and location of the incident: Various throughout 2013, London, work environment

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): Two men

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Gay man who was called homophobic names in Spanish including "maricon" by work colleagues, had homophobic videos shown to him and had his trousers pulled down against his consent which he considered to be homophobic.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Investigated

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

7. Case 7:

Date, time and location of the incident: 13/11/13, victims home in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Violence and theft

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Victim met the perpetrator through a dating website and invited him to his home. Once inside the perpetrator pushed him to the floor, gagged him and held a knife to his throat and threatened to kill him. A neighbour interrupted them and the perpetrator escaped after stealing items of the victims property. Victim believed that his attacker was heterosexual and that the attack on him was homophobic

Status of the case: Perpetrator identified and charged by police

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

8. Case 8:

Date, time and location of the incident: Various during 2013, victims home address in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse, damage to property

Bias motivation: Homophobic and anti-disability

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A gay man with learning and physical disabilities was verbally abused by his neighbour on numerous occasions. This included he being told he was "stupid", "queer" and that "all gays should be burned". He also made threats of violence and damaged his front door.

Status of the case: Reported to police and housing provider

Response of local authorities: Victim too fearful to support police investigation

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Victim very distressed

9. Case 9:

Date, time and location of the incident: Dec 2013, night club in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Assault

Bias motivation: Transphobic

Perpetrator(s):

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Young transgender man punched several times and verbally abused outside a night club by former friends. He believed it to be transphobic due to the language used.

Status of the case:

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

10. Case 10:

Date, time and location of the incident: Various occasions over later part of 2013, victims home in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse and damage to property

Bias motivation: Homophobic and racist

Perpetrator(s): Seven young people

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Two gay men harassed by a group of young people near their home over the course of six months. It involved them being called "batty boy" (a homophobic term of abuse), "paki" (a racist term of abuse), "gay boy", "queers" and "poof". Eggs and other objects were thrown at their house and they received threats to kill their dog.

Status of the case: Victim was too fearful to take police action

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Victim left very distressed

11. Case 11:

Date, time and location of the incident: Feb to April 2013, victims home address

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse and damage to property

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One woman

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A gay man was abused by a neighbour who shouted "batty man" at him in the street, put glue into the lock on his front door and scratched homophobic words into the paint on his fence.

Status of the case: Victim felt unable to report it to police or housing provider

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

12. Case 12:

Date, time and location of the incident: 01/12/13, Street in Westminster, London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Violence and verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A gay man was walking home at the end of night out socialising with friends when a man approached him and lured him to a secluded area of the street. He stole his belongings, called him "queer" and repeatedly hit him causing facial injuries and a broken finger.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Investigated

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Victim lost job as unable to carry on with broken finger

13. Case 13:

Date, time and location of the incident: Sept 2013, homes address of victims in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A man in a home for older people faced harassment by another resident there. On several occasions homophobic remarks were made toward him including "You're an evil homosexual" and calling him a paedophile.

Status of the case: Reported to police

Response of local authorities: Investigated

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

14. Case 14:

Date, time and location of the incident:

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Gay man was asked for money by a stranger. When he refused the stranger called him "queer cunt" and spat at him

Status of the case: Not reported to police

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

15. Case 15:

Date, time and location of the incident: 24/07/13, Street in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse and violence

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): One man

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Two gay men were approached by a man and told not to act so camp. He made threats to them and punched one in the face

Status of the case:

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:

16. Case 16:

Date, time and location of the incident: Sept 2013, Victims home in London

Source of information: Victim interview

Type of the crime(s): Verbal abuse

Bias motivation: Homophobic

Perpetrator(s): Neighbouring family

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Gay woman harassed by her neighbour, called "dyke" by neighbours children and had fruit thrown at her.

Status of the case: Not reported to police

Response of local authorities:

Impact on the victim(s) and the community:
