Under-recording and under-reporting of hate crimes and hate speech are common in Europe across diverse communities. This is a significant issue which has been identified by successive OSCE-ODIHR annual hate crime reports, surveys by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency, reporting by civil society organisations (CSOs) and government data at the national level.

Facing Facts takes a collaborative approach to unmasking the full extent and nature of hate crime and hate speech and the most effective responses to it. Our team has organised international conferences to facilitate dialogue among all relevant actors, including international agencies, national governments, law enforcement and CSOs. This dialogue has contributed to the development of our comprehensive online training courses, and these partnerships have proven to be a necessary step towards fostering institutional change.

Objectives

1. To research what works best to facilitate co-operation and data sharing between criminal justice systems and civil society organisations.
2. To build the capacity of law enforcement and civil society to monitor hate crime and hate speech, in person and online, and to develop guidance and models for collaborative working at a national level.
3. To produce high quality and targeted trainings on how to identify, record and monitor hate crimes against specific target groups which can be tailored to a variety of national contexts and integrated into existing learning programmes.
4. To inform EU policy through evidenced and practice-based recommendations on improving hate crime and hate speech recording, reporting and training methods in these areas.

Funders

Financing provided by the European Union’s Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme.
 Interested in Hate Speech?

Online hate speech is a global problem that needs a global solution. The majority of internet users have witnessed or been victims of online harassment. It is time to stand up against hatred and take action!

The Facing Facts Online course provides the perfect opportunity for everyone to familiarise themselves with the potential harm of hate speech as well as to learn how to monitor and counter it.

Want to learn more about Hate Crimes?

For individual activists, CSOs and law enforcement. Learn about the nature and impact of hate speech by exploring its harm, international legislation and the connection to freedom of speech. This course also equips you with practical tools to fight hate speech by monitoring and countering it.

• Length 3-4 weeks
• Effort 3 hours/week

Hate Crime for Civil Society Organisations

Learn how to identify, monitor and counter hate crime, with support from experienced tutors and practitioners in the field.

• Length 5-6 weeks
• Effort 3 hours/week

Hate Crime for police

Designed specifically for police forces, this course offers an overview of hate crimes and how they can be recognised. It helps to appreciate the nature of hate crimes and to understand their impact on victims, communities and society as a whole, and it also provides practical suggestions to improve responses and increase reporting.

• Length & effort: 4 hours

Interested in Bias Indicators?

These short and specific online courses are available for civil society organisations, police forces and prosecutors. Each course offers unique insights into bias-specific hate crime and to the community most impacted by it. This allows better recognition of hate crime as well as enabling more accurate reporting and provider monitoring.

• Length indicator module requires only 4 hours that can be completed anytime online.

The courses explore biases against the following communities:

- People of African descent
- Disabled
- Jewish
- LGBT
- Migrant and refugee
- Muslim
- Roma

Want to learn more about Policy Making?

This online course is designed for national decision makers and influencers on hate crime. Learn about the development and implementation of effective policies regarding hate speech and hate crime recording. The course reviews the current EU and national hate crime policy frameworks and explores the issues to consider when developing hate crime policy and strategy with the final aim of effective implementation across the criminal justice system.

• Length & effort: 4 hours

Pedagogical Approach

Innovative learning methods

Our courses are modular and the teaching methods are dynamic and varied. Video presentations, research exercises, ‘in-conversation’ pieces with key practitioners, quizzes, discussion forums, links to resources, practice examples and case studies, all comprise our methodology. 

Facing Facts community

Participants have the opportunity to network and learn together, creating an online community of fellow-experts. There is a tutor available to provide support and feedback for most of the courses, who also reviews the more qualitative aspects of participants’ progress.

‘Glocal’ approach

The learning experience will be customised with information pertaining to specific geographic contexts, such as legislation and referrals to organisational and institutional resources from different countries.

The online courses are currently offered in English. Most of them will also be available in French, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Greek, Hungarian and Polish.

All our training materials and methods will be accessible to users with disabilities.