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# FACING FACTS TOOLKIT

## IN A TIME OF CRISIS

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## FACING FACTS TOOLKIT

**At Facing Facts, we stand committed to our role in providing collaborative and effective responses to the escalation of hate across Europe, which is of critical urgency in this time of crisis.**

# Antisemitic & anti-Muslim incidents are increasing across Europe

Results of FRA's consultation  
with Jewish communities  
after 7 October 2023

WISH PEOPLE

## Antisemitic harassment and violence

FRA completed desk research and collected responses from the Jewish community organisations in January and February 2024. These show that the number of reported antisemitic attacks – including personal harassment, intimidation and violence – increased dramatically across all survey countries.

**Austria.** Antisemitic incidents increased by more than 400 % in October–December 2023 compared with the same period in 2022 (720 v 169), according to the Jewish Community of Vienna's *annual report*.

**Belgium.** The Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities and the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism *received* 91 reports of antisemitic incidents between 7 October 2023 and 15 January 2024, according to its website. This is 10 times more reports than during the same period over 2022–2023.

**Czechia.** In 2023, the number of incidents almost doubled compared with 2022, the Federation of Jewish Communities indicates.

**Denmark.** The Danish Jewish Community *reports* 121 antisemitic incidents in 2023. This is a 1 200 % increase since 2022 (nine antisemitic incidents).

**France.** Reported antisemitic incidents increased from 436 in 2022 to 1 676 in 2023, the Service for the Protection of the Jewish Community *shows*.

**Germany.** In total, 994 antisemitic incidents took place between 7 October and 9 November 2023, the Federal Association of

Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism *reports*. This amounts to 29 incidents per day in Germany during this period. In 2022, the average was seven incidents recorded per day.

**Italy.** Reported incidents increased from 241 in 2022 to 454 in 2023 (+ 188 %), the Jewish Contemporary Documentation Center Foundation's Observatory on antisemitism *shows*.

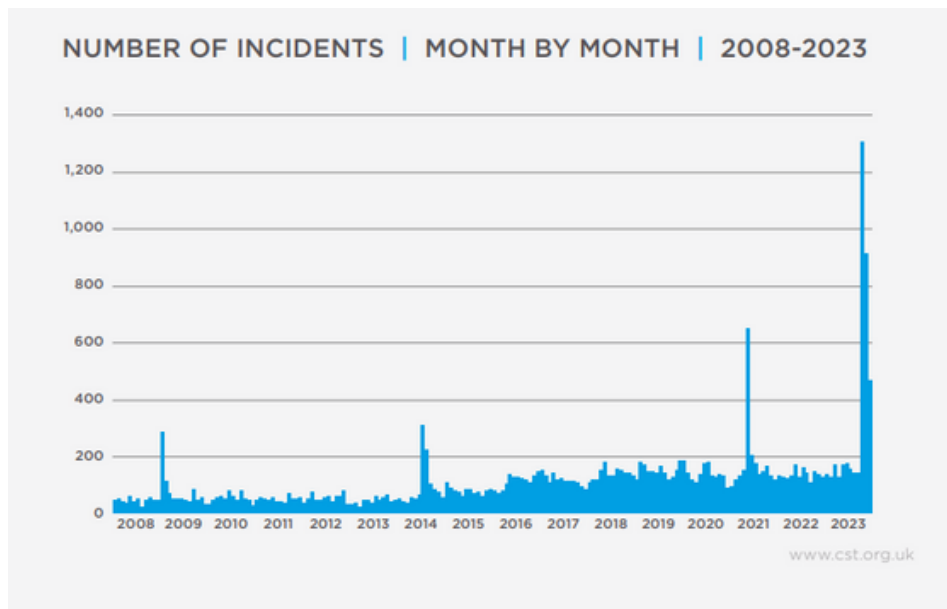
**Netherlands.** The Centrum Informatie en Documentatie Israel *recorded* 107 antisemitic incidents in October 2023 alone. In comparison, the total was 155 recorded incidents in 2022. The number for 2023 is therefore expected to be much higher than that for 2022.

**Poland.** The number of antisemitic incidents in Poland increased by 800 % in October 2023 in comparison with previous months in 2023, the Czulent Jewish Association's *report* shows.

**Spain.** The Observatory of Antisemitism *recorded* over 70 antisemitic incidents in 2023, compared with 14 in 2022.

**Sweden.** The number of police reports of hate crimes with antisemitic motives increased by more than 400 % between 7 October and 31 December 2023 in comparison with the same period in 2022 (110 v 24 reports), a Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention *report* shows. The Central Council of Jews conducted a *survey* on how Swedish Jews perceive the situation after the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October. Jews in Sweden feel increasingly insecure, it shows.

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CST recorded 4,103 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2023, the highest total ever reported to CST in a single calendar year.

### Anti-Muslim Hate or Islamophobia Needs Serious Action Now

by TellMAMA | Aug 11, 2024 | News |



Between 7 October and 7 February, Tell MAMA documented 2,010 anti-Muslim incidents across the UK.

2024 - 5784

# ANNUAL REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN ITALY 2023

By the CDEC Foundation's Observatory on antisemitism



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Fondazione  
Centro di  
Documentazione  
Ebraica  
Contemporanea

Osservatorio  
antisemitismo

In Italy, CDEC's annual report on antisemitism in 2023 shows antisemitic 259 incidents on the Internet, while 195 acts took place physically, including one assault and 40 cases of threats.



CLAIM - Allianz gegen Islam- und Muslimfeindlichkeit recorded a total of 1,926 anti-Muslim incidents as part of the civil society situation report on anti-Muslim racism for the year 2023 in Germany.

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## **FACING FACTS TOOLKIT**

- 1 Why are hate speech and hate crimes so damaging for victims, communities and society?**
- 2 Who can become a target of hate speech and hate crime?**
- 3 How can we better prevent and respond to hate speech and hate crimes?**



# **FACING FACTS TOOLKIT**

## **in a time of crisis**

**1**

**Why are hate speech and  
hate crimes so damaging for  
victims, communities and  
society?**

## FACING FACTS TOOLKIT

1

Why are hate speech and hate crimes so damaging for victims, communities and society?

**Hate speech** reinforces **stereotypes, prejudices, and discriminatory attitudes** against certain groups of people, which can fracture social cohesion and lead to the **escalation of violence**.

**Hate crimes** go beyond other types of crimes, as they have a damaging impact on victims and their communities, instilling **fear, insecurity** and sending a message of **exclusion**, which can lead to **isolation and desperation** among those affected.

## **FACING FACTS TOOLKIT**

### **in a time of crisis**

**2**

**Who can become a target of  
hate speech and hate crime?**

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Anyone! According to ECRI's GPR N° 15, "**hate speech** is based on the **unjustified assumption** that a person or a group of persons are **superior** to others; it **incites acts of violence** or discrimination, thus undermining respect for minority groups and damaging social cohesion".



According to OSCE ODIHR, **hate crimes** are "**criminal acts motivated by bias** or prejudice **towards** particular **groups of people**. People or property associated with – or even **perceived to be** a member of – a group that shares an identity trait can also be targets of hate crimes".

If we accept that anyone can be targeted because of their real or perceived identity, we should also consider everyone's **responsibility** in countering it.

## **FACING FACTS TOOLKIT**

### **in a time of crisis**

**3**

**How can we better prevent  
and respond to hate speech  
and hate crimes?**

## FACING FACTS TOOLKIT

### Improve **relationships with communities**

- training law enforcement to recognise potential **bias indicators** and record incidents as potential hate crimes
- building capacity on how to **relate with communities** to encourage reporting, provide victim support and develop joint prevention measures

### Build effective **multi-stakeholder cooperation**

Identifying gaps and **improving the relationships** and data collection between the different stakeholders in a **hate speech and hate crime response systems**, allows for better support to victims.

### Increase **Victim Support, Protection and Justice**

All efforts to increase reporting and improve recording of hate crime and hate speech should be grounded in a **victim-centred approach**.

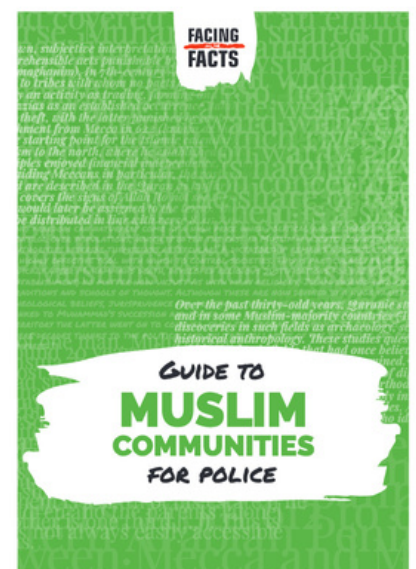
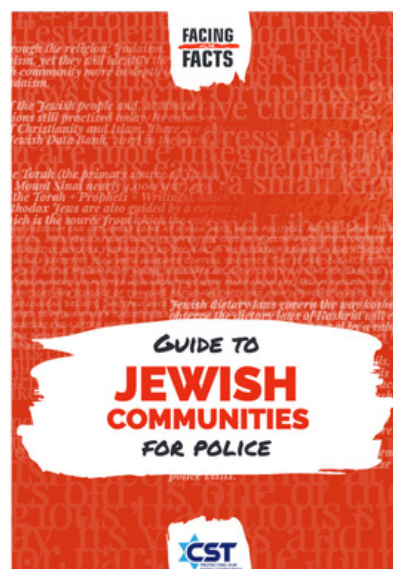
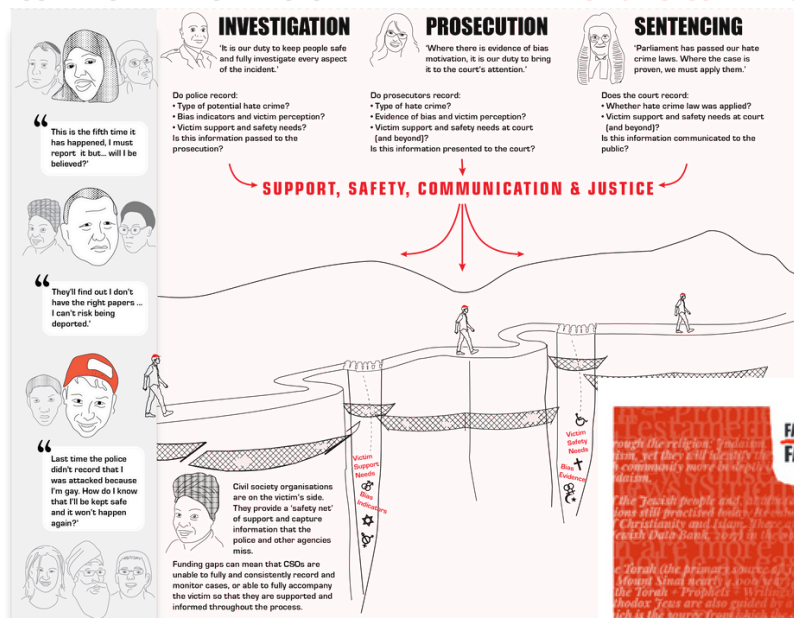
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## Improve relationships with communities

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## JOURNEY OF A HATE CRIME CASE

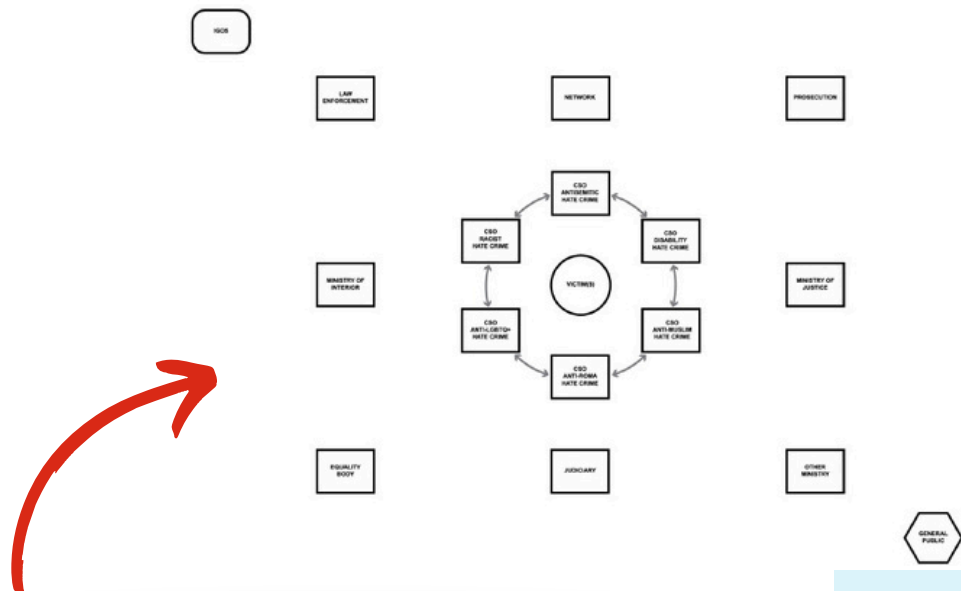
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3

How can we better prevent and respond to hate speech and hate crimes?

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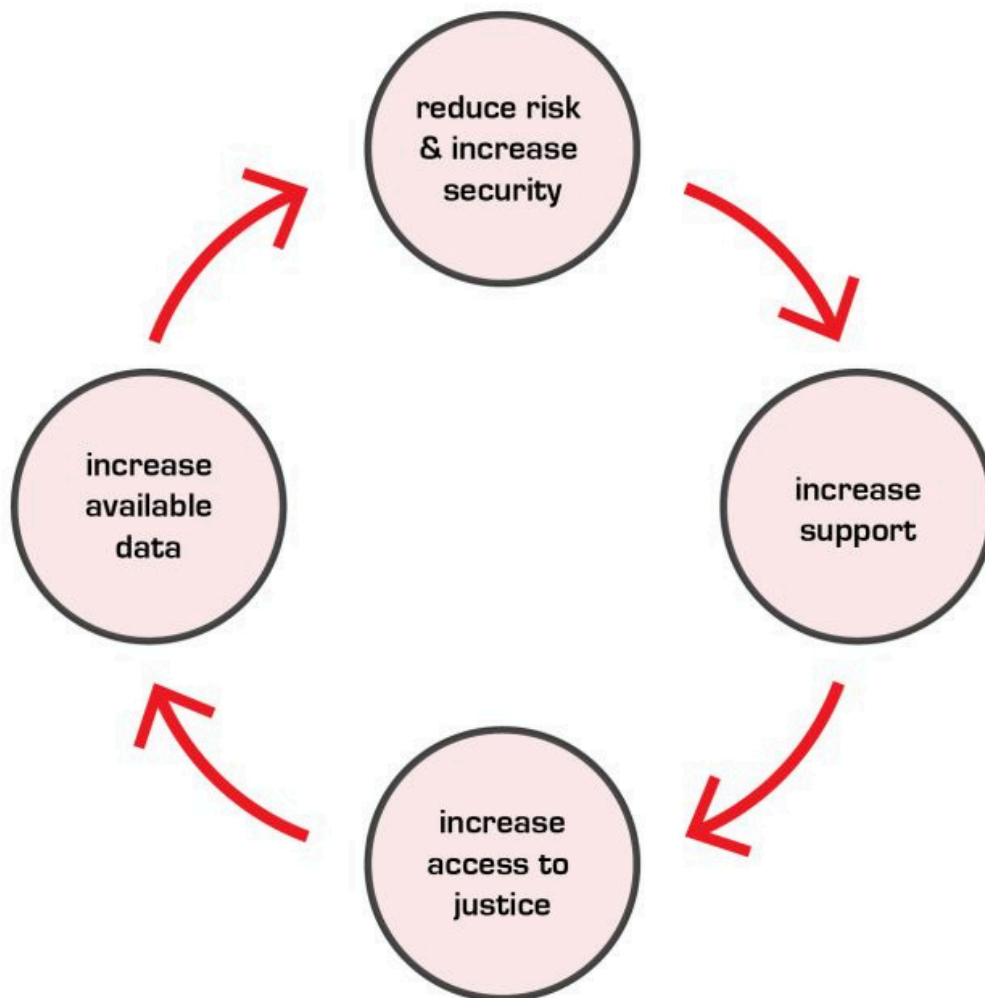


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## Increase **Victim Support, Protection and Justice**

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## Learn more with CEJI's educational approach

Remember: News, disinformation and social media headlines can feed bias and prejudice, and these contribute to an escalation of hate speech and violent crimes, impacting Jewish and Muslim communities.

### How to mitigate bias when reading the news?

#### CEJI's contribution in a time of crisis

Our world now faces great risks from **misinformation, disinformation, propaganda** and **conspiracy theories** which circulate online and offline. This is dangerous because news and social media headlines can feed bias and **prejudice**, sometimes also **hatred**, and these contribute to an **escalation of hate speech, violent crimes and extremist radicalization**. In addition, hostile environments can lead to serious consequences on mental health and peoples' motivation to engage in community life. CEJI recalls our mission of an inclusive and democratic Europe and calls on everyone to do their utmost to ensure inclusive environments with no place for hate.

Here you will find a few simple tips to reduce the impact of bias on the way you consume and circulate the news of the day.

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The Facing Facts Network is an initiative created by CEJI –  
A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe.



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