CROATIAN EXPERIENCE IN PREVENTING AND COMBATING HATE CRIMES

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LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

- In 2006 a definition of hate crime was introduced in to the Criminal Code (OG 71/2006)
- In 2013 new Criminal Code was adopted: "Hate crime is a criminal offence committed because of race, colour, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity of another."
- Unless a more severe penalty is explicitly prescribed, such conduct shall be taken as an aggravating circumstance

LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

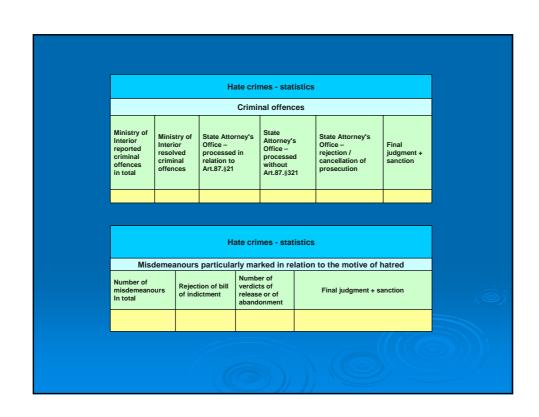
- These include criminal offence of aggravated murder, female genital mutilation, bodily injury, serious bodily injury, aggravated assault, serious crimes against sexual freedom and provoking riots
- The Law has also recognized gender identity as one of the ground of discrimination
- Above mentioned covers offences committed against property and not just against a person

WORKING GROUP FOR MONITORING OF HATE CRIME

- Was set up in January 2010
- Drafted Protocol Rules of Procedures in Hate Crime Cases (adopted by the Government in 2011)
- It defines obligations and content of cooperation of all competent authorities

WORKING GROUP FOR MONITORING OF HATE CRIME

- It provides tools for data collection and data monitoring
- > The aim is also to protect the possible hate crime victims



- January 2006 Croatia joined LEOP on Combating Hate Crime (ODIHR/OSCE)
- It was tailored to the Croatian experience and practice
- > We took TTT approach
- Main goal to raise awareness in dealing with hate crime, increase law enforcement capacity for hate crime detection, investigation and prosecution and build partnership among police and NGO's

- > Four Sections:
- 1. Introduction to Hate Crimes
- 2. Responding to Hate Crimes
- 3. Investigating Hate Crimes
- 4. Hate Crimes and Community Wellness and Recovery

- Comprised all 20 Police Administrations
- Inter-institutional and international cooperation
- > case studies, role-play, interactive
- Added new content: Mediating in community conflicts as a model of preventive police work

- Active participation of LGBT NGO (Kontra and Iskorak) – "The role of NGO's in combating hate crimes"
- ways of NGO participation in combating hate crimes:
- On observational researching level
- In reporting criminal offences
- In preserving and collecting evidence

- On counselling level
- · Working with a victim
- In the rehabilitation of the perpetrator

- > Huge media interest
- > NGO and police common goals:
- 1. establishing communication with trained police officers throughout the country
- 2. building up the platform of mutual actions against hate crimes

- improving the cooperation between NGO and police in detecting and investigating hate crimes
- most important raising awareness on homophobia and LGBT rights as human rights

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRAINING

- > MOI RH undertakes various activities:
- 1. "Train the trainers" system
- 2. Hate crime is integrated in the National police curriculum at all levels
- 3. Additional specialized training carried out by the trainers in Police Administrations

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRAINING

- 4. Round tables and lectures given by hate crime trainers
- Cooperation between relevant state authorities in collecting, processing and disseminating data
- NGOs police partnership at all levels (state and local) which has been accepted as our policy

POLICE CONDUCT

- Instructions by the Police Director General to all the police regarding systematically monitoring and recording hate crimes
- "track record"
- Each case marked as "Urgent Hate Crime"

- Project PROGRESS "Together against discrimination to LGBTIQ persons" in 2011 (for 200 trainees at the basic police training)
- Additional training for police officers in PA Splitsko-dalmatinska in 2011

- Project "Preventing and combating hate crimes against LGBT persons" in 2013
- public campaign posters and leaflets
- public actions in four major cities

PRIJAVI NASILJE! STOP ZLOČINIMA IZ MRŽNJE NAD LGBT OSOBAMA PRAVITITULI SUGRAMA I KONTRE 99 2013 3 3 9 1 9011073 - 131 PROJUCI - 1312 PROJUC

- Interactive workshops of LGBT NGO
 Kontra and Iskorak regarding hate
 crimes and LGBT rights as human
 rights for the police students of the
 professional undergraduate studies of
 criminal investigations
- part of the official curricula

- >3 modules
- Substantive Criminal Law
- Police Psychology
- Psychology of Aggressiveness



- Joint appearances at conferences, expert meetings and projects
- Project with CMS and Zagreb Pride "Together for LGBT equality" in 2013
- Symposium "Education against LGBT discrimination" in the Police Academy (2015)

Thank you for the attention!

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