



## Reporting in Finland

### *National reporting procedures for cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime*

The information below is extracted from a mapping study of national reporting mechanisms in the countries involved in the [No Hate Speech Movement](#) of the Council of Europe. It aims to provide:

1. Contact information of national reporting mechanisms for cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime where they exist
2. Information about the legal grounds for acting on cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime where they exist

The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Council of Europe<sup>1</sup>.

## 1. REPORTING MECHANISMS

### Reporting hate speech and hate crime

#### **Finnish Red Cross**

Reporting hate crime is done through Finnish Red Cross against Racism – programme 'Say no to racism'. People report if they have encountered racism, by filling the form.

Website: [https://www.eirasismille.fi/asennetalkoot/attitudeworks?\\_utma=108523101.623632443.1420453416.1454596636.1455525288.137&\\_utmb=108523101.2.10.1455525288&\\_utmc=108523101&\\_utmz=-&\\_utmz=108523101.1454596636.136.48.utmcsr%3DI.facebook.com%7Cutmccn%3D%28referral%29%7Cutmcmd%3Dreferral%7Cutmct%3D/l.php&\\_utm=-&\\_utmk=62589484](https://www.eirasismille.fi/asennetalkoot/attitudeworks?_utma=108523101.623632443.1420453416.1454596636.1455525288.137&_utmb=108523101.2.10.1455525288&_utmc=108523101&_utmz=-&_utmz=108523101.1454596636.136.48.utmcsr%3DI.facebook.com%7Cutmccn%3D%28referral%29%7Cutmcmd%3Dreferral%7Cutmct%3D/l.php&_utm=-&_utmk=62589484)

### Reporting cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime

#### **virtual police officers**

Cyberbullying can be reported with virtual police officers present on the social media platforms in Finland and through an online form. This form can be used to submit non-emergency information to the Police for any suspicious material you find on the Internet – and issues in the area of 'Racist or hate crimes and discrimination'

Website: [https://www.poliisi.fi/finnish\\_police/police\\_in\\_the\\_social\\_media](https://www.poliisi.fi/finnish_police/police_in_the_social_media), and <https://www.poliisi.fi/nettip>

For urgent issues it is recommended to call the police: 112

## 2. Background information

If "hate speech" is taken to mean ethnic agitation, it is prohibited in Finland and defined in the section 11 of the penal code, War crimes and crimes against humanity, as publishing data, an opinion or other statement that threatens or insults a group on basis of race, nationality, ethnicity, religion or conviction, sexual orientation, disability, or any comparable basis. Ethnic agitation is

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<sup>1</sup> The authors of this document aimed to be accurate and complete, if however you find corrections or have additions please contact the European campaign secretariat at [youth.nohatespeech@coe.int](mailto:youth.nohatespeech@coe.int). Reproduction of material from this publication is authorised for non-commercial education purposes only and on condition that the source is properly quoted.

punishable with a fine or up to 2 years in prison, or 4 months to 4 years if aggravated (such as incitement to genocide).

A hate crime is generally taken to mean any criminal act which is motivated by prejudice or hostility against an identifiable group of people that the victim represents. The victim does not necessarily have to be a member of the group; it is enough that the perpetrator assumes so. The victim may also be targeted because he or she has a close relationship with someone belonging to the group or some other connection to the group. The act can be any criminal offence specified in Finnish legislation.

Finland regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. The Police College of Finland publishes an annual study of hate crimes recorded by the police. See: <http://hatecrime.osce.org/finland>