

OSCE

BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) reported 9,891 hate incidents in 2023, based on civil society and international organisation submissions. Among them, 1,632 incidents were anti-LGBTI, making up a significant proportion of all recorded bias-motivated crimes. Data showed that 56% of anti-LGBTI hate crimes involved physical violence, while 38% targeted property. Official data from 48 participating States showed gaps in prosecution, with 30 states submitting police records on bias-motivated crimes, but only a few distinguishing hate crimes from hate speech. ODIHR urged states to improve hate crime legislation, enhance data collection, and train law enforcement on victim support.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

The 2024 OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Gender Report highlighted growing restrictions on civil society organisations (CSOs) advocating for gender equality. It condemned the weaponisation of sexual violence in conflict zones and the persistent lack of legal protections for LGBTI people. The Assembly called on participating States to strengthen anti-discrimination frameworks, protect human rights defenders, and ensure meaningful political participation for women and LGBTI people.

PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL LIFE

In April 2024, the Georgian parliament abolished mandatory gender quotas for parliamentary candidate lists, reversing previous commitments to gender equality in politics. The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) assessed this negatively, warning that the move risks further marginalising women in political life. The percentage of women candidates dropped from 44.3% in the 2020 elections to 29% in 2024, with only three out of 18 party lists led by women. OSCE called for urgent action to restore effective measures ensuring equal political participation.