

## Working group III: Vigilance and awareness: capacity building for law enforcement and criminal justice systems

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### ABOUT

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Building capacity to tackle and increase understanding of hate crime within law enforcement and criminal justice systems is crucial towards combatting hate crime. The police in particular play a key role in protecting the rights of victims of hate crime. Training of law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners to enable them to identify victims of hate crime, understand their needs and deal with them in a respectful, sensitive, professional and non-discriminatory manner is key; particularly with regard to acknowledging 'new' forms of hate crime that may not yet have received sufficient attention, such as hate crimes committed against persons with a disability.

The perceived capacity of the police to address hate crime and support victims is also essential for victims to trust authorities and report hate crime incidents. There is also a need for local, national and EU level training curricula to reflect increasing societal diversity and address the new risks of discrimination that may arise. Member States should also ensure that safeguards are implemented to prevent institutional forms of discrimination and allow individuals to address grievances. Furthermore, attention should also be paid to the language used to describe hate crime within police and criminal justice systems.

This working group will discuss these issues, and highlight challenges and promising practices in the area. This includes the creation of specialised units or people within police and prosecution services responsible for dealing with hate crime.

### CHAired BY:

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**Aija Kalnaja** is the Head of the Training Unit at the European Police College (CEPOL), which she joined in September 2011. She has 20 years of policing experience and international law enforcement expertise. Prior to joining CEPOL, Ms Kalnaja held the position of Deputy Chief of the Latvian Police, responsible for international cooperation and administrative affairs for the national police force. Between 2007 and 2011, she was Latvia's Police Attaché to the United Kingdom, acting as a strategic advisor to the Latvian government on police matters and cooperation with the United Kingdom. Before this, from 2003, she headed the Latvian SIRENE Bureau, managing the establishment of the national bureau. Externally, Ms Kalnaja led the Latvian delegations to the Council of Europe and European Commission working groups.

As chair of this working group Ms Kalnaja will give a presentation on '*Mapping of law enforcement training and the EU Law Enforcement Training Scheme (LETS)*'.

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## PRESENTATIONS:

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*'Training as part of a broader government programme'*

**Paul Giannasi**, Police Superintendent, Hate Crime Programme, Ministry of Justice, United Kingdom

*'Left hand, right hand'*

**Gamal Turawa**, Police Trainer

## FACILITATORS:

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**Joanna Goodey**, Head of Department, Freedoms and Justice, FRA

**Alice Hamilton**, Research Support Officer, Freedoms and Justice Department, FRA

## GUIDING QUESTIONS:

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1. What type of training on hate crime is currently provided to law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners within EU Member States? Is hate crime addressed in a holistic way, or is training provided only on certain (more traditional) categories of hate crime? What kind of language is used within police services to describe hate crime? (E.g. synonymous with 'right wing extremism'; racist attacks etc.?) What could/should be improved?
2. In what way should the specificity of hate crime be reflected in curricula for law enforcement agents and other practitioners involved in the criminal justice system?
3. Are there specialised units or 'liaison officers' within police and prosecution services with dedicated responsibility to deal with hate crime? What are they tasked with?
4. What are effective ways of building capacity for law enforcement and criminal justice systems to tackle hate crime? What promising practices exist in this regard?

## RELEVANT FRA EVIDENCE:

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- Fundamental rights based police training - A manual for police trainers (2013)
- Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2012. Annual report 2012 (2013)
- European Union lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender survey. Results at a glance (2013)
- Choice and control: the right to independent living Experiences of persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with mental health problems in nine EU Member States (2012)
- Making hate crime visible in the European Union: Acknowledging victims' rights (2012)
- EU-MIDIS Data in Focus Report No. 6: Minorities as victims of crime (2012)