

Cases and rulings

Country Code	Year	Reference details title	Reference details URL	Hate Bias motivation	Court / Body	Key facts of the case	Results (sanctions, outcome) and key consequences or implications of the case	Main reasoning / argumentation	Key issues (concepts, interpretations) clarified by the case	Key quotation in original language and translated into English with reference details
Croatia	2015	Croatia / County Court in Slavonski Brod / Kž-220/14-4		Racial or ethnic origin	County Court in Slavonski Brod (Županijski sud u Slavanskom Brodu)	The High Court convicted two offenders of inflicting grave physical injury with the aggravated circumstance of hate crime. The offenders physically attacked the victim. The court held that the offence was motivated on the basis of race because the offenders directed "discriminatory words" towards the victim. The content of "the discriminatory words" was not disclosed in its ruling.	Eight months of imprisonment substituted with 480 working hours of work for common welfare.	The first accused filed a complaint stating that the first-instance court incorrectly assessed that the offence was racially motivated explaining that he stated "discriminatory words" only once. Nevertheless, the high court stated that the fact that the "discriminatory words" were stated only once is irrelevant. The content of "discriminatory words" is not mentioned in the high court judgement.	In this judgement it is significant that the high court, following the standard set by the first-instance court, held that to qualify an offence as a hate crime it is sufficient to state "discriminatory words" only once. However it is not clear why the hate crime element was deemed as an aggravating circumstance rather than characterising the offence as an aggravated form of physical injury due to hatred for which higher punishment is provided.	"Nije povjerovao obrani (...) da spram oštećenika nije postupao iz mržnje zbog rasne pripadnosti (...) jer je (...) inkriminirane riječi uputio samo jednom" "It is not to be accepted that the accused' acts were not motivated by racial hatred only because (...) he directed the discriminatory words only once."

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