DATABASE 2012-2024 ON ANTI-MUSLIM HATRED

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
Poland	2018	Poland / District Court for Szczecin-Centrum in Szczecin / V K 24/18	http://orzeczenia.ms.gov.pl/content/islam/155515300002506_V_K_000024_2018_Uz_2018-03-29_001	Religion, Racial or ethnic origin	District Court for Szczecin-Centrum in Szczecin	The defendant was accused of insulting a group of people of Arab origin and Muslims because of their ethnic and religious background by placing vulgar inscriptions on the facade of the building.	The accused was convicted. He was sentenced to 6 months of imprisonment for the probation period of 2 years.	The defendant's act was qualified as a hooligan offense (Article 115 § 21 of the Penal Code), committed for trivial reasons. The crime was a deliberate attack on the public order and manifested disregard for the legal order. As racial and religious hatred was a foundation of the most tragic events in the history, the Court found the act of the defendant as significantly harmful. The defendant not only insulted Arabs and Muslims but also incited other people to harm them.	The insult of another person can take various forms: a verbal form (use of vulgar words), drawings (e.g. caricature), symbols, signs or any other type of communication (film, photography) or a gesture that expresses disrespect for another person.	"(...) zniewagę mogą stanowić rozmaitego rodzaju zachowania, których wspólną cechą jest to, że wyrażają pogardę dla godności drugiego człowieka. Środki wyrazu, jakie zostały przez sprawcę do tego użyte, są obojętne. Znieważające zachowanie może zatem przybrać postać słowną (posłużenie się wulgarnym słownictwem), być wyrażone za pomocą rysunku (np. karykatura), symboli, znaków albo innego rodzaju środka przekazu (film, fotografia) czy też gestu, który wyraża brak szacunku wobec drugiej osoby." "[(...) a variety of behaviors can be defined as "insults"; the common feature is that they express contempt for the dignity of other people. The means of expression used by the perpetrator are irrelevant. Abusive behavior may therefore take a verbal form (use of vulgar words), be expressed by means of drawings (e.g. caricature), symbols, signs or any other type of communication (film, photography) or a gesture that expresses disrespect for another person]"

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