REPORTS OF RACISM IN IRELAND

4th quarterly report of iReport.ie

April-May-June 2014

Racism:
see it
send it
end it.

www. iREPORT .ie

What is the iReport?

The iReport is a human rights monitoring tool which takes the form of quarterly and yearly observatories on racist incidents in Ireland. The iReport observatory compiles its data from information submitted by people who have been subjected to racism, by frontline anti-racist organisations and other organisations that are committed to combating racism, and by the general public. It uses iReport.ie, an online racist incident reporting system which can be found at www.iReport.ie

iReport.ie and the iReport are managed by ENAR Ireland, which coordinates a network of over 40 civil society organisations in Ireland working in anti-racism (see Page 6 and enarireland.org for complete list). ENAR Ireland is the Irish Coordination of ENAR, the European Network Against Racism. ENAR Ireland and ENAR work to coordinate common civil society led responses to racism and racial discrimination at a local, National and European level. ENAR Ireland used to be called INAR, the Irish Network Against Racism.

iReport.ie was launched on 11 July 2013. This Third Quarterly Report, iReport Q3, covers the period 01 January 2014 to 31 March 2014.

To ensure the analysis of the iReport reporting system is in line with robust international standards of data collection and analysis, and for comparators with relevant international research, ENAR Ireland has partnered with Dr Lucy Michael, Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Hull. Dr Michael is an authority on hate crime recording systems and on the impact of hate crimes on communities. She is the author of several works in the area including 'Hate Crimes against Students' (2013) and 'Securing civic relations in the multicultural city', (2009). She is a member of the British Society of Criminology, an Executive Committee member of the Sociological Association of Ireland, and the UK editor of the Irish Journal of Sociology.

Reports of racism in Ireland

4th Quarterly Report of iReport.ie

April-May-June 2014

Authored by **Shane O'Curry** (ENAR Ireland)
and **Dr Lucy Michael** (University of Hull)

Ireland
Working collectively to eradicate racism in Ireland

UNIVERSITY OF Hull

The Community Foundation for Ireland

European Network Against Racism
Réseau européen contre le racisme

The launch of iReport.ie in Dublin on 11th July, 2013. At centre are comedian Tara Flynn (pink top), Dublin footballer Jason Sherlock and singer Maureen Aku Disu. *Photo: Derek Speirs*

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About iReport.ie

iReport.ie is a fully confidential and independent, civil-society based Racist Incident Reporting System. It is used for human rights monitoring, in line with best practise as set out by the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the recommendations from the Council of Europe's European Commission on Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) 2013 report on Ireland. The report generates data that is compatible with the monitoring requirements of UN CERD, the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), the ODIHR, and other international Human Rights bodies. As such, the system should be seen as neither an alternative to, nor an extension of, the criminal justice system's own recording mechanisms.

As a non-state monitoring system it fills the gap left by the reporting system of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Integration (NCCRI), when the organisation was all but wound down in 2009. This system, supported by the Community Foundation for Ireland, and embedded in a network of over 40 locally-based organisations, allows for locally gathered information to be fed into, and data to be disaggregated back out of, a centralised web-based racist incidents reporting and information management system. While locally based and sectoral organisations retain locally gathered data, which they use to inform localised and sectoral responses to racism, the national data is analysed and compiled into quarterly and annual reports, and used to inform the public, support lobbying submissions, and contribute to a broader national conversation on racism.

iReport.ie is also a system which makes it as easy as possible for people to self-report racist incidents by using the online form, giving a way for people whose voices are often unheard, to have those voices heard. In this respect iReport.ie facilitates the inclusion of voices that are often excluded from the national conversation on racism. To facilitate this, the reporting mechanism is designed to be as inclusive of all communities as possible, and one which strives to overcome many of the barriers to reporting that have been identified in ENAR Ireland's own research, as well as in other domestic and international research.

Barriers to recording include: A reluctance by people who experience or witness racism to report to police or other state bodies (our own research suggests that, for a variety of reasons, 5 out of 6 people would not report to Gardaí or official bodies); a reluctance to risk exposing oneself to further victimisation by sharing identifying details; a reluctance to engage in a lengthy legal or other processes; a reluctance to use forms that use complicated technical language and other off-putting vocabulary and; a reluctance to use a reporting system that is lengthy and unwieldy. These barriers mean that people from minority ethnic communities experience racism which goes unrecorded and unacknowledged by the state and wider society.

To overcome these barriers the iReport.ie reporting form guarantees confidentiality, is short and easy to use, is written in plain English, and can be filled in anonymously, if the person so wishes. The system also allows for people to be supported in recording racist incidents by organisations working with those communities most at risk of racism. In addition to this, witnesses and by-standers can also report, as can third parties who have heard of incidents in their communities. In this way iReport.ie is a tool intended to help "Break the Silence on Racism".

Reporting centres

Organisations which offer support to use iReport.ie include:

Canal Communities Partnership:
01-473 2196
info@canalpartnership.com

Cairde:
01 855 2111
info@cairde.ie
www.cairde.ie

Cultúr, Trim, Co Meath:
(046) 9093120
joana@cultur.ie
www.cultur.ie

Crosscare Refugee Service:
01 873 2844
crs@crosscare.ie
www.crosscare.ie

Doras Luimni: Limerick.
061 310 328
info@dorasluimni.org
www.dorasluimni.org.

The Integration Centre, Dublin:

info@integrationcentre.ie
01 6453070 www.integrationcentre.ie

The Jesuit Refugee Service:
Limerick: 061 480922
Dublin: 01 8148644
info@jrs.ie
www.jrs.ie

The Irish Traveller Movement or any of its member organisations:
01 6796577
itmtrav@indigo.ie
www.itmtrav.ie

The Irish Refugee Council:
(01) 764 5854
info@irishrefugeecouncil.ie
www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie

The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland:
01 889 7570
info@mrci.ie
www.mrci.ie

NASC Immigrant Support Centre:
021 450 3462
info@nascireland.org
www.nascireland.org

The New Communities Partnership, Dublin:
1 8727842
info@newcommunities.ie
www.newcommunities.ie

Offaly Traveller Movement:
057 93 52438
info@otm.ie
www.otm.ie

Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Rights centre:
0 1 8780255
info@paveepoint.ie,
www.paveepoint.ie

South Dublin Intercultural Centre / Tallaght Roma Integration Project:

SDCC Intercultural Drop-in centre
01 464 9306
E.zuzana.tesarova@sdcpartnership.ie

The National Youth Council of Ireland
1 478 4122
info@nyci.ie
www.nyci.ie

The Union of Students in Ireland
(0)1 709 9300
info@usi.ie
www.usi.ie

A full list of the 40 ENAR Ireland and iReport.ie participating organisations can be found at:
www.enarireland.org/network-members/

Reporting a racist incident

To report a racist incident, go to www.iReport.ie and fill out the online form. Photographs, screen grabs and other files can be uploaded as well.

The form can be filled in by:
• the person who has experienced racism
• someone supporting a person who has experienced racism
• someone who has witnessed racism
• someone who has heard about a racist incident.

What is racism?
ENAR Ireland uses the definition of Racism as established by the *UN International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)* (1969): 'Any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference, based on race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, which has the purpose of modifying or impairing the recognition, the enjoyment or exercise on an equal footing of human rights and fundamental freedom in the political, economic, social, cultural, or any other field of public life constitutes racial discrimination.'

What is a racist incident?
Following the above definition, a racist incident is any incident which has the effect of undermining anyone's enjoyment or human rights , based on their background. ENAR Ireland follows international best practice in adopting the definition set out by UK Lord McPherson in his Report of the Inquiry into the Murder of Stephen Lawrence (1999), namely that a racist incident is: 'any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person'.

This definition has since been adopted by police forces across the UK (where the Association of Chief Police Officers welcomed it for the 'clari-

ty' it gives police forces). The definition is now also the definition used by An Garda Síochána, the Irish police force. The definition is also consistent with the standards set by the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and which are used in the iReport.ie online questionnaire:

Question 6: Why would you or the person it happened to say the incident was racist?
• Racist language was used
• Language about the person's religion was used
• There did not appear to be any other possible motive
• It was about something else, but racism came into it

Racist incidents (as distinct from racist crimes) include a range of acts which are racist but which may or may not meet the criteria for being considered criminal offences, or which may be deemed by law enforcement to be too difficult to secure convictions with. The data captured by iReport.ie ranges from these kind of incidents to incidents that are unambiguously recognised by law as criminal offences.

It is important to capture the full spectrum of incidents, as patterns of incidents which fall below the threshold of criminality, or would be deemed too hard to prosecute, can have an effect on individuals, communities and community relations that is much more harmful than their 'mildness' might suggest. Patterns of 'minor' incidents can also act as warnings of more serious incidents. For the same reasons, the UK Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), in its guidelines on monitoring incidents recommends that police forces record all racist incidents, criminal and non-criminal.

Overview

The iReport system for the reporting of racist incidents in Ireland was launched in July 2013. Reports can be made directly through the website or through a partner organisation. Questions are designed to capture a large amount of detail about racist incidents, including information about where, when and how the incident occurred and details about the victim(s) and perpetrator(s). The system also captures information about why the incident has been perceived as racist, its impact on the victim and/or witnesses, and the interplay with age, gender, sexuality and disability.

The recording system has been designed to allow comparison with international patterns and to facilitate understandings of racism which are particular to the Irish context. Analysis of the data for the fourth quarter has been carried out by Dr. Lucy Michael of the University of Ulster.

One hundred and five incidents in the iReport system in the 3 month period of April to June 2014 were analysed. Sixteen of these were reported through another organisation, with the highest number (8) in this quarter reported through the Offaly Traveller Centre. The variable level of reporting across the country and between different groups should not be interpreted to accurately reflect relative victimisation levels. Language fluency, education levels and feelings of belonging each affect reporting behaviours by victims and witnesses.

All but two of the reports concerned events occurring in the past six months. The majority of events (78%) occurred in the April-June period, with some decrease in the month of June compared to the earlier part of the quarter.

The most common expressions of racism reported in this quarter involve shouting and strong language, or internet and social media, but there are also significant difficulties encountered with racist responses in service

provision. The highest number of reports in this period came from North and South Dublin, and Offaly. Incidents occurred more frequently during midweek days and daylight hours, particularly connected to encounters in public spaces.
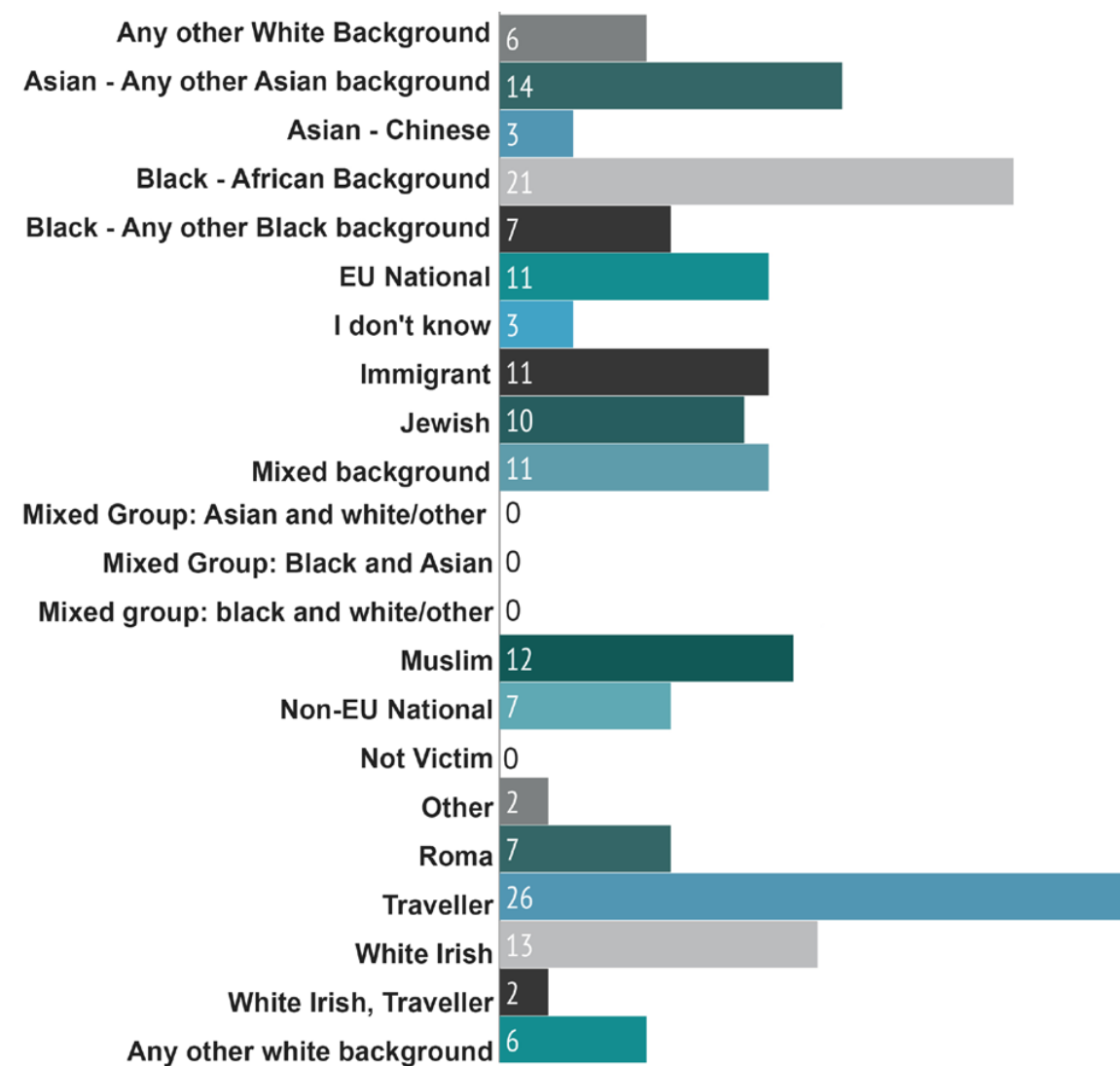
Victims were most likely to be aged between 26 and 35 years old, with a further significant number in mixed age groups. Perpetrators were significantly more likely to be male (and acting alone), than female in this period. Men and women were equally likely to experience racism, but again men experienced a higher proportion of incidents involving physical threat.

People identifying or identified as Black-African accounted for the highest number of victims. It is worth noting that victim numbers within this report do not fully capture the picture of secondary victimisation which occurs when family and friends who share a minority identity become aware of racial abuse.

Racist language was common to 66 percent of the reported cases. Comments on the victim's religion were made by perpetrators in 16 percent of incidents, representing an increase on the last quarter. Levels of formal reporting via other recording systems represented 20 percent reported to Gardaí and 12 percent reported to other authorities or NGOs. The level of satisfaction with responses was low overall. Of those that reported to Gardaí, two reported a positive response, 13 negative responses and 3 neutral. International research shows that victims require a great deal of public support, and confidence in the reporting system, to make formal reports.

A sizeable proportion of reports (50%) were made by witnesses who had seen or heard about the incidents rather than by victims. It is notable that a significant number of reports (32%) were made on behalf of victims with whom the reporting person had no prior relationship.

Ethnicity of victims

Ethnicity	Count
Any other White Background	6
Asian - Any other Asian background	14
Asian - Chinese	3
Black - African Background	21
Black - Any other Black background	7
EU National	11
I don't know	3
Immigrant	11
Jewish	10
Mixed background	11
Mixed Group: Asian and white/other	0
Mixed Group: Black and Asian	0
Mixed group: black and white/other	0
Muslim	12
Non-EU National	7
Not Victim	0
Other	2
Roma	7
Traveller	26
White Irish	13
White Irish, Traveller	2
Any other white background	6

Types of incident

This quarter continues the pattern seen in the previous quarter involving assault, which again appeared in 12 percent of reports. Other types of incident were also quite consistent with the last reporting quarter. 'Being treated unfairly or differently in public' and 'Being unfairly or differently treated looking for service' appeared in 23 percent and 14 percent of incidents respectively. Harassment was identified by reporting parties in 21 percent of cases. Threats appeared in 16 percent of incidents.

The number of cases of refusal of service and refusal of entry rose in comparison to the last

quarter, at 13 and 11 percent respectively. Just 3 cases of offensive graffiti appeared in this quarter, but incidents involving spitting increased again and appeared in 7 reports.

The largest number of reported incidents in this quarter, as across the whole year, involved 'Shouting or strong language' (30%), but none of these involved internet or social media in contrast with previous periods. Reporting in this period represented a sharp drop in the proportion of incidents involving media and social media, which constituted 27 percent of all reports.

Time of incident
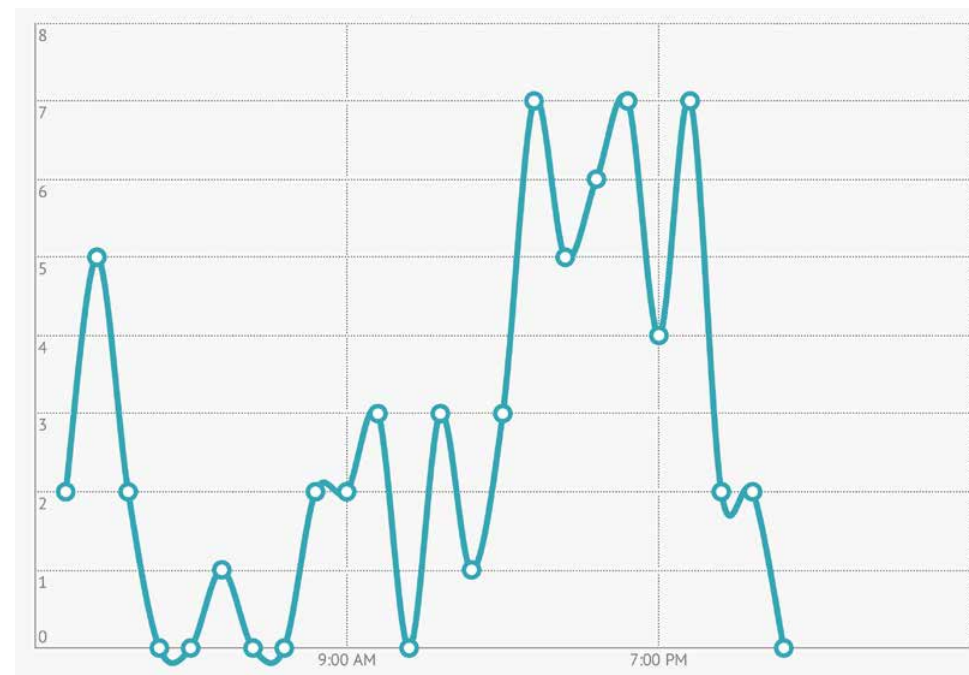
Incidents of physical assault

Thirteen assaults were reported, with racist language used in ten of the incidents. All of these incidents meet the criteria of the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person Act, 1997.

- A young boy of Black-African origin was treated in hospital after being bitten by a dog instructed to attack by a teenage girl.

- A man of Black-African origin who accompanied a friend to hospital was violently restrained by security on his return to the hospital, causing injury to his hand, kidneys and chest, and requiring medical treatment.

- Ethnic minority staff in a high street retail outlet who restrained a shoplifter were attacked by a large group of young people damaging the shop doors. At least two members of staff were physically assaulted by punches and throttling in the incident.

- A woman of Black-African origin was slapped by a white Irish female neighbour in front of her child in the street. The abuser later reported the victim for assault to the Gardaí, but gained no satisfaction. She returned to the victim's house with her partner to repeat the assault and lodged a second complaint of assault against her to Gardaí.

- A man who confronted a middle aged white Irish male racially abusing a teenage girl of Black African origin on a bus was grabbed and shaken hard by the abuser in front of other passengers.

- A family who have experienced multiple incidents of assault and harassment have developed severe long-term health problems.

- Shift workers carried out a campaign of racist bullying against a fellow employee, writing racist slurs on forms she had to complete at work and establishing an atmosphere of threat around her. One worker spat in her face, and reported her to management when she pushed him away.

- A retail shop worker was pushed hard in the chest by a customer while being verbally racially abused.

Levels of Violence

The combination of negative behaviours reported in all categories of incident required us to produce an understanding of the levels of threat and violence experienced by the victims in each of the reports. We used the categories above as well as our own analysis of the reports to compile an index measuring the level of violence involved. Of the 105 reports received, fourteen percent involved threat, and a further twelve percent involved physical assault. There

What kind of incident happened?
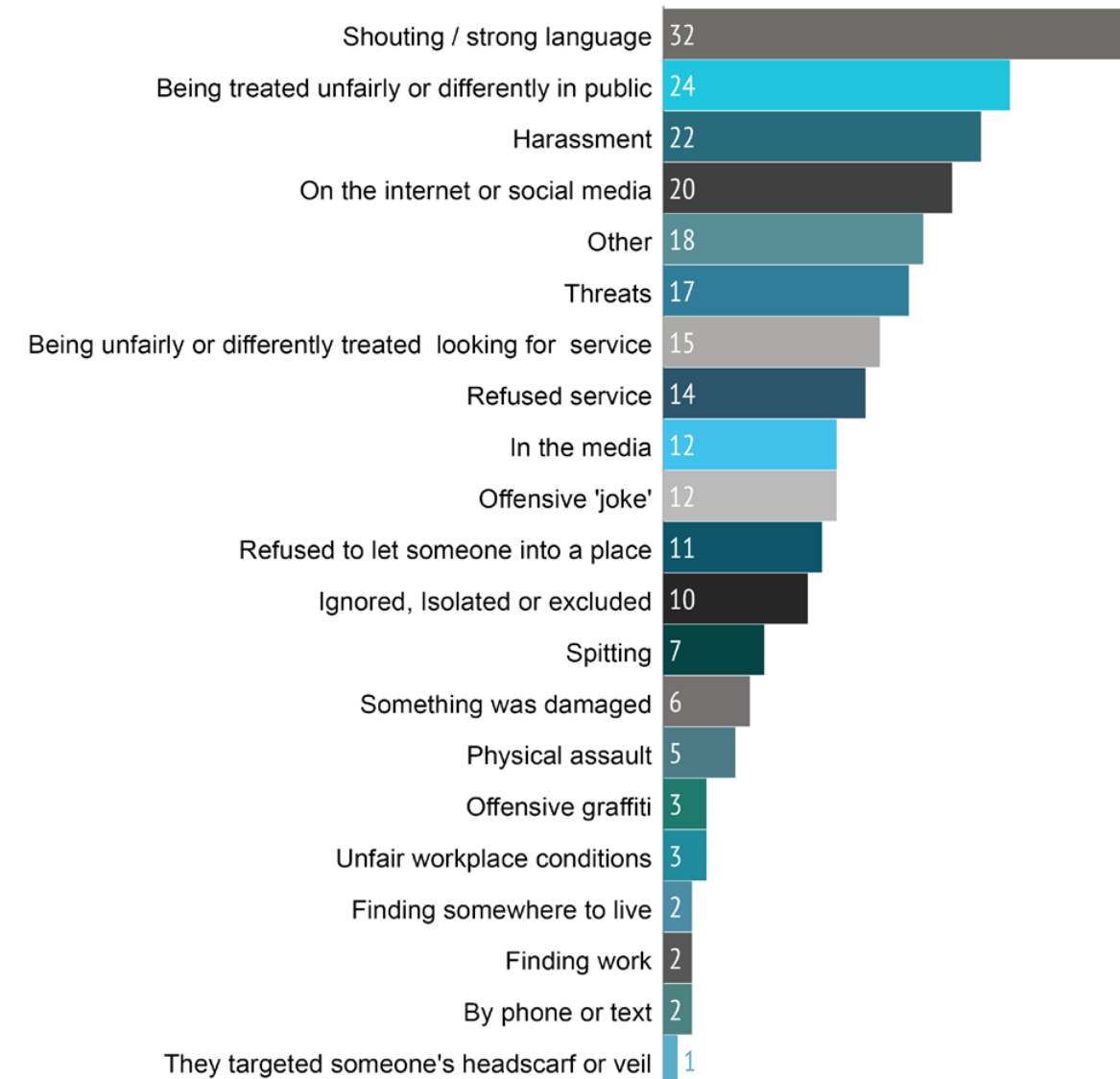
was a corresponding increase in this reporting period of racist incidents which involved no immediate threat and these made up 71 percent of the reports, compared to 45 percent in the last quarter. There were 7 reports pertaining to property damage.

Region

Reports in this quarter showed Dublin South, Dublin North and Cork together made up 47 percent of incidents, slightly lower than in the previous quarter, but Limerick made up a further 5 percent. Offaly reported 7 incidents in this period, with other regions producing just a few reports each. Reports pertaining to racism on the internet or via social media constituted 23 percent of the total for the period.

Time of Incident

Dates are available for all of the 91 incidents reported as occurring in the last six months. Rates of occurrence are not consistent throughout the week in this period. Reported incidents were significantly more likely to happen on Monday and Tuesday, with a lower frequency on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Times are reported for 74 of the 91 reports, including 10 incidents involving social media. The majority of the social media incidents occurred between 9am and 5pm, while less than a third of incidents not involving social media occurred in these hours. The overall pattern shows a slightly higher level of daytime occurrence with 48 incidents between 7am and 7pm.

Age of victim

| Under 14 - 5% | 14-17 years - 3% | 18-25 years - 10% | 26-35 years - 29% |
| 36-55 years - 12% | 55+ - 6% | Mixed age group - 26% | no answer - 7% |

Level of violence

7
13
15
75

No physical threat
Threat | Physical assault | Property damage

Where did the incident happen?

1
1
1
1
1
3
26
2
7
1
20
2
3
1
5
3
No Answer 4
3
Social Media - 16
Media - 8

Information about victims

Reporting by victims
More than a third of the reports (43%) received by iReport.ie came directly from people against whom racism was perpetrated, with a further 7 percent reported by NGOs supporting them. A further 30 percent were reported by eye witnesses. Of these 32 reports, however, just 8 were from family, friends or colleagues of the person or people experiencing racism. Overall, strangers reported 32 percent of all incidents in this period.

Of the 105 reported cases, 34 (32 percent) were known to have been reported to the Gardaí or another authority or NGO as well as to the iReport website. Twenty percent of cases were reported to Gardaí, half of these reports being made by victims themselves. Of those that reported to Gardaí, 2 reported a positive response, 13 negative responses and 3 neutral. Negative responses were given in relation to racist language used by Gardaí, delays in responding to the incident or taking a statement, failure to follow up the incident, failure to provide crime numbers. Only 3 of the 13 assault cases were reported to Gardaí.

Age of Reported Victims
Reported victims in the 105 cases in this period were most likely to be in the category of '26-35' years (29%) and mixed age groups (26%). However this result is significantly affected by the number of social media based incidents reported, and excluding these reduces the percentage of

reports to just 12 percent. Victims under 25 were particularly vulnerable on public transport, and playing in their neighbourhood.

Ethnicity of Victims
A significant number of cases in this period involved racism against people described as Traveller (25%) highlighting a notable increase in reporting from previous periods. Reports of racism against people identified as Black however remained consistently high, with incidents against people identifying as Black-African constituting twenty percent of reports, with a further seven percent of reports pertaining to racism against other Black identities. Although twelve percent of reports are reported as happening to White Irish people, all but two were based on visibly mixed ethnicity, racism against someone with whom the victim had a relationship, or ethno-religious prejudices constituting racism. Incidents against Jewish people constituted ten percent of reports in this quarter, while incidents against Muslims constituted eleven percent, slightly lower than in the last quarter. People of Roma background again experienced 7 percent of cases reported, while the number of cases against people identifying as non-Chinese Asian rose to 11 percent in this quarter.

The iReport website allows people reporting incidents to choose more than one category of identification for the 'person this happened to'.

The numbers in this chart therefore exceed the number of reports. This means of categorisation allow us to see the multiple ways in which people identify themselves and are identified by others, and the impact this may have on victimisation. The numbers featured in the table also relate to the number of case reports, rather than the exact number of people experiencing racism in each case. These can be found in the next section.

Single and group victimisation
Nineteen incidents (18 %) were described as involving more than 10 victims. Twelve of these involved racist comments or representations in national and local media or social media with a wide general audience. There were two instances of graffiti, including the display of racist stickers on public property, and one in-

stance involving racist leaflets.

More than half of the 105 cases reported in this quarter involved single victims (55%), despite the higher level of media and social media cases. Excluding media and social media cases, the proportion of single victims decreases to 47 percent, while small groups of 2-4 people experience 24 percent of cases, and groups of 5-10 people experience just 2 percent of reports. This is similar to the patterns observed in the previous three reporting periods.

Half of those who reported cases involving the highest levels of threat were on their own at the time, and half in groups of 2 to 4 people. In all but 2 of these cases, language was used which was racist or referred to the victim's religion.

Racism on the web and in social media

Twenty-four incidents involving media and social media were reported in this period. Of these the majority of reports concerned websites, Twitter feeds and political comments against Travellers and Roma. Anti-Semitic web content was also increasingly reported.
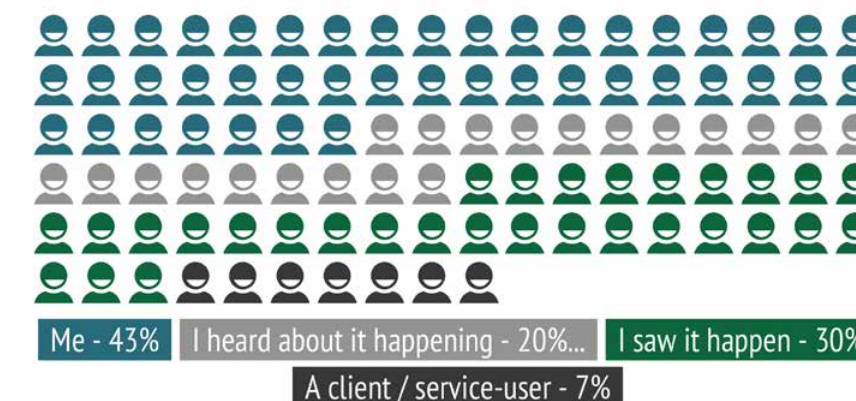
- Social media is increasingly reported as the medium for abuse of racialised minorities.
- Antisemitic comment regarding Minister for Justice Alan Shatter continued on Twitter
- An article by Brenda Power in April criticising Traveller culture features in several Twitter posts reported as also having explicitly racist and genocidal comments about Travellers.
- An article on sulky racing in the Journal.ie in June prompted a significant number of racist comments on the website as well as on Twitter users sharing the article.
- The discussion forums on boards.ie featured in several reports complaining of genocidal and racist comment.
- A number of explicitly racist Twitter users trolling others were reported, as well as other websites hosting racist and eugenicist comments.
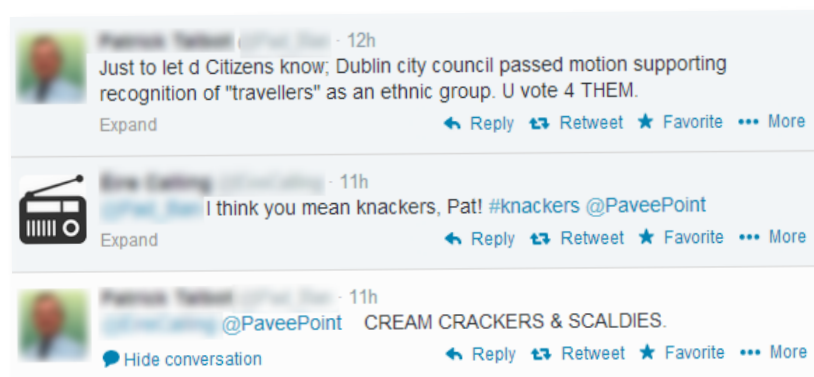
Respondents' perception of racism

Perception	Value
Racist language was used	69
It was about something else, but racism came into it	16
Language about the person's religion was used	17
There did not appear to be any other motive	31
No answer	8

Who did it happen to?

Me - 43% | I heard about it happening - 20%... | I saw it happen - 30%
A client / service-user - 7%

Perpetrators

The described ethnicity of perpetrators in the 105 reports was predominantly 'White Irish' (70%), with White Irish also appearing in a groups of perpetrators with a person or people of Other White or unspecified Other background. Three of the cases involved 'Travellers', and seven involved Other White. No other minority ethnic group identification appeared in this category.

Single perpetrators were involved in 54 of the reports (51%), with groups of between 2 and 10 people involved in more reports than in previous quarters (43%). Groups of 2-4 perpetrated racism in 30 cases, while groups of 5-10 people were responsible in 15 cases (compared to just 4 in the last quarter). Groups of more than 10 (including institutions) were responsible for a further 6 cases.

Racism was most perpetrated again in this period by people in the '35-55' years age category (21%), followed by those in the '26-35 years' and mixed age groups (14% each). Again this quar-

ter, half of those in the 35-55 category were male perpetrators, acting alone, while females acting alone constituted the majority of the other perpetrators in this category. The mixed age groups of perpetrators were also predominantly mixed gender groups. While half of these incidents with mixed groups involved media or social media, 7 incidents occurred in shops, restaurants and near religious institutions. Perpetrators aged '18-25' were involved in 9 percent of reports and those aged under 18 were involved in 10 percent of reports, predominantly male and also acting as individuals and small groups of up to 4 people.

Perceptions of racism

Racist language was the only reason given in 45 percent of reports for perceiving the event as racist. However racist language was used by the perpetrator in 66 percent of the reports. Reports were more likely to feature multiple reasons for perceiving the incident as racist. Only 18 percent of reports relied solely on the reason that 'There did not seem to be any other motive', although a

Support for victims

Individual support for people who have been subjected to racism is available from the organisations within our network. ENAR Ireland does not provide direct support of this kind, but welcomes comments on the support needs around the country.

Our partners providing this support include:

Akidwa Migrant Womens Network: info@akidwa.ie, 01-8349851, www.akidwa.ie
Crosscare: 2 Sackville Place, Dublin 1: (01) 8732844
Cultúr: Trim, Co Meath: (046) 9093120 www.cultur.ie, joana@cultur.ie
Doras Luimni: Limerick. www.dorasluimni.org. 061 310 328 info@dorasluimni.org
The Integration Centre, Dublin: 01 6453070 www.integrationcentre.ie, info@integrationcentre.ie
The Immigrant Council of Ireland, Dublin: info@immigrantcouncil.ie Tel: 01 674 0200

The Jesuit Refugee Service: www.jrs.ie, info@jrs.ie Limerick : 061 480922, Dublin: 01 1 8148644
The Irish Traveller Movement and any of its member organisations: www.itmtrav.ie 01 6796577 itmtrav@indigo.ie
The Irish Refugee Council, Dublin: www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie (01) 764 5854, info@irishrefugeecouncil.ie
The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland, Dublin: www.mrci.ie 01 889 7570 info@mrci.ie
NASC Immigrant Support Centre, Cork: www.nascireland.org 021 450 3462 Email info@nascireland.org
The New Communities Partnership, Dublin: www.newcommunities.ie 01 8727842, info@newcommunities.ie
Offaly Traveller Movement: 057 9352438 Email: info@otm.ie
Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Rights Centre:

info@paveepoint.ie, 01 8780255, www.paveepoint.ie
South Dublin Intercultural Centre / Tallaght Roma Integration Project: SDCC Intercultural Drop-in centre, 01 4649306, zuzana.tesarova@sdcpartnership.ie
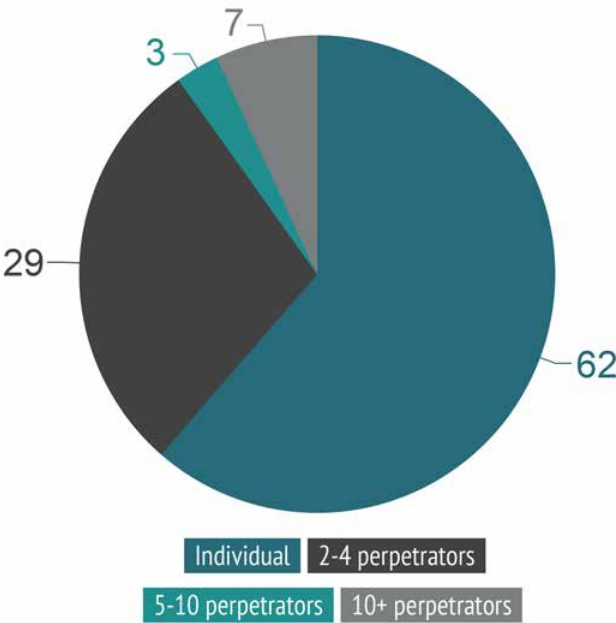
A full list of ENAR Ireland participating organisations can be found at: www.enarireland.org/network-members/

It is important to stress that, while ENAR Ireland always encourages people to report racism to An Garda Síochána, the Irish police, because of confidentiality, reports of racism reported to iReport.ie will NOT automatically be reported to An Garda Síochána, unless expressly requested to be passed on. iReport.ie is NOT an emergency service and serious incidents should be reported to the emergency services. In an emergency call: 112 or 999

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further 12 percent of reports mention this reason in combination with another. These patterns are consistent with reporting in the last quarter. Language about the victim's religion was used in 16 percent of reported incidents, twice as often as in the last quarter.

In 15 percent of reports, the reporting party perceived that racism was introduced into an incident around something else. There was no discernible pattern in these reports by ethnicity of victim, number of perpetrators or victims, location, time of day, or perpetrator type (i.e. institution or persons). The majority were classified in the present analysis as 'no threat' incidents, and involved daily activities such as shopping, using public transport, and being in the workplace or at home. These emphasise the inescapable and recurring phenomenon of racism in everyday life.

Gender
Gender has significant impact in looking at the perpetration of racism. Male individuals or all-male groups were involved in twice the number of incidents involving female perpetrators. Mixed gender groups (including institutions) are involved in the perpetration of a third of incidents.

Victims were again in this quarter almost equally likely to be male as female, experiencing 36 and 30 percent of reports respectively and mixed

groups involved in a further 25 percent of reports. The experience of racism by both men and women was also spread consistently through all age groups, with all age categories almost evenly split by gender.

Men experienced racism when alone in a greater proportion of cases than women in this period. Men also experienced greater levels of aggression in threatening situations. Men and women were equally likely to experience racism in cases we have classified as no threat.

Sexuality and disability
Racist incidents are frequently perpetrated against people who identify with, or are identified in terms of, sexual orientation, transgender experience or disability. In line with international evidence, it would be expected that a number of victims in this period define themselves with, or were defined by, several of these identities. We have excluded general groups from this analysis (i.e. where reporting parties checked all categories). Of the specific victims described in this period, 1 report included Transgender and 3 reports included Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual (LGB) as well as describing a minority ethnic identity. Two of the reports specifically state that the person who experienced racism had a disability. However none of those reporting these incidents saw sexuality or disability as a factor in the reported case.

"I felt like a second-class citizen in my own country"

– Man identifying as of Black African ethnicity, who is an Irish citizen

Number of perpetrators

Individual | 2-4 perpetrators | 5-10 perpetrators | 10+ perpetrators

Impact on victims

In addition to descriptions of the incidents, the reporting system also asks about the impact of the incident on the reporting person. Whether victim or eyewitness, it is evident that the majority of reported incidents had significant impact in terms of health, feelings of inclusion, and ability to work and form relationships.

A number of the incidents involved wider secondary victimisation through family, friends and colleagues who were affected by the racist abuse. White Irish witnesses to racist abuse against people of other ethnic or national identities also reported experiencing shock, anger and fear for the victims which continued after the event.

An analysis of the responses to the question 'How did you feel?' shows that respondents overall reported extreme emotional experiences as a result of being a victim of or witness to racist incidents. The single most frequently used response, as in previous periods, from both witnesses and people who were targeted in instances of racism was anger, followed by upset. Both usually co-existed with other emotions and feelings of hurt. Witnesses to racism commonly referred to being ashamed of the perpetrators. The terms below were regularly prefixed by "extremely", "very" and "really".

28 Depressed/upset/deflated/demoralised/sad/low
20 Ashamed/shamed/humiliated/embarrassed/disappointed
18 Angry/enraged/fuming/furious/infuriated
8 Disgusted/disturbed
7 Shocked/appalled/horrified
8 Awful/horrible/bad
6 Afraid/scared/fearful/terrified
3 Gutted/heartbroken/hopeless/despairing
4 Insulted/offended
8 Belittled/worthless/undermined/unimportant
4 Anxious/worried/confused/agitated
7 Annoyed/frustrated
2 Intimidated/bullied/cheated
2 Threatened/compromised
3 Uncertain/unsure/uneasy/uncomfortable/nervous
2 Unprotected/unsafe/vulnerable/defenceless
9 Hurt/damaged/traumatised/abused
2 Isolated/disconnected/lost
3 Helpless/powerless

The full range of expressions used in the reports is reproduced here to accurately represent the mental and physical impact of racism on victims, co-victims and witnesses.

This word cloud is based on respondents' answers to the question: 'How did you feel?'

Concluding remarks

This latest Quarterly data report, the fourth since its launch in July 2013, is testament to iReport.ie's reliability, showing figures which are remarkably consistent with previous quarters. An incident reporting rate of more than 1 a day over the year has established the quarterly figure of close to 100 as a near-constant, giving the annual figure of over 400 incidents reported in the first 12 months of iReport.ie. A closer examination of the data in respect to the backgrounds of people being subjected to racism, shows that iReport.ie continues to tell us reliably that racism is experienced every day, and by a wide range of groups in Irish society.

While in this quarter reporting rates to iReport.ie are highest from people reporting racism against Travellers, perhaps reflecting a redoubling of efforts by Traveller organisations to record incidents reported to them, in previous quarters it was reports of incidents against people of Black or of African descent that were highest. Irrespective of this variation, the information clearly shows that people from across almost the full range of minorities in Ireland are consistently reporting unacceptably high

rates of racism. In this Quarterly, an increase in reports of incidents targeting Jewish people reminds us that antisemitism is sadly as real in Ireland as it is in other parts of the world. This dubious honour also holds for incidents perpetrated against Roma and against Muslims, just as it does against Asians and migrants from central and eastern Europe. No racialised group is exempt from the widespread racism that people experience in Ireland. This is the reality which Irish Society and its institutions must face.

However, we do not have data concerning all groups. As with the previous Quarterly, reports from people who are awaiting their asylum applications in the increasingly unacceptable regime of Direct Provision Centres are completely absent from this data. If it is a lack of confidence in society's procedures for addressing its ills that prevents most Roma, Muslims, Jews, Black Africans, Asians, Travellers and European migrants from reporting, whether to statutory authorities or to iReport.ie; for the people living their lives out in the bleak oblivion that is the Direct Provision regime, there is no confidence

to report incidents whatsoever. This degrading and inhuman system for holding people who have fled prosecution must end without delay.

Whereas Irish and international studies consistently show that a key factor leading to under reporting is a lack of confidence in the police's ability to respond appropriately to racism, worryingly there has been little or no improvement in reported Garda responses. As might be expected from other studies on under-reporting, just 18 out of 105 respondents said that they reported the incident to Gardaí. Of these 18 only 2 reported a positive response, 13 gave negative responses and 3 were neutral. Under "negative", respondents cited "racist language by Gardaí, delays in responding to the incident or taking a statement, failure to follow up the incident, or a failure to provide crime numbers". When it comes to serious crime, alarmingly only 3 of the 13 assault cases reported to iReport.ie were also reported to Gardaí. Clearly, much more must be done to establish the confidence of communities in the State's willingness to address racism.

Attempts to directly compare these figures with the State's own figures on racist crime - just 41 in the first six months of 2014 - should be treated with caution. Firstly the Department of Justice's Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration (OPMI), the body which publishes these figures, does not count incidents perpetrated against Travellers, who are considered

outside of the OPMI's remit, a practice justified as reflecting the State's long discredited and outdated policy of failing to recognise Traveller ethnicity. Secondly there is no reliable systematic way of recording racist incidents and tracking them through the criminal justice system. If these figures were taken at face value, then Ireland has a very low racist incident rate indeed, much lower than all of the surveys and iReport.ie suggests. This situation must be remedied, and the state conform to its European and international obligations by bringing in the systematic logging, tracking and monitoring of racist incidents, starting with An Garda Siochana's own crime recording system upwards.

Lastly, iReport.ie presents data reflecting the full spectrum of racist incidents, whether or not an incident might be considered to constitute a crime. The State's data is concerned only with that which it has established constitutes a crime. To enable easier comparability, ENAR Ireland, following consultation with the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), is revising both its monitoring questionnaire and reporting format. The new format, starting in 2015, will facilitate direct comparison, not just between the results of iReport.ie and those of the OPMI, but between these figures and the equivalent figures pertaining to other European states. In so doing, iReport.ie is establishing monitoring standards not just in Ireland, but across Europe as well.

Asylum seekers in Ireland leading a rally calling for an end to Direct Provision from Dáil Éireann to the Department of Justice, December 2014

What they have said about iReport.ie

"I would like to commend all involved in the production of this robust and comprehensive report . . . ENAR Ireland's work on iReport.ie is of value not only for documenting racism in Ireland but also for pointing the way to policy and legislative gaps and issues. It can be a useful tool for others globally struggling with similar issues".
Anastasia Crickley, former Ireland Rapporteur and current Vice-president of the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN CERD)

"iReport.ie is very well done. It gives a thorough insight into the current situation and challenges and on top of that it is well written and accessible. I look forward to see how the project develops further and seeing its impact. FRA considers making a good-practice-box about the report in the up-coming annual report together with a similar initiative in Greece."
Morten Kjaerum, Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

"The best way for everyone to help stamp out racism is to recognise and report it."
Irish Examiner **Editorial December 16th, 2013**

"The iReport.ie mechanism is an invaluable resource for those who experience racism, providing people a means through which they can document their particular experiences."
James Carr, Dept of Sociology, University of Limerick

"The iReport.ie Quarterly report is an important stage in exposing the extent of racism in our society"
Ethel Buckley, SIPTU

"ENAR Ireland's iReport.ie is an excellent example of the kind of monitoring and reporting of discriminatory practices that is needed in the EU at the moment. ... which will hopefully ... bring about improved protection mechanisms and remedies to victims".
Dr Michael Privot, Director, European Network Against Racism

Scan this code to report racist incident

European Network Against Racism Ireland
37 Dame Street
Dublin 2

Tel: 01 8897110
Email: info@enarireland.org
Web: www.enarireland.org
             www.enar-eu.org

Follow us on Twitter @ENARIrl or on Facebook or YouTube

Be heard, make a difference and report racism at www.iReport.ie

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