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Authored by
Dr Lucy Michael

Reports of racism in Ireland

17th+18th quarterly reports of iReport.ie

July–December 2017

Racism:
see it
send it
end it.

WWW. **iREPORT** .ie



Ireland
Working
collectively
to eradicate
racism
in Ireland



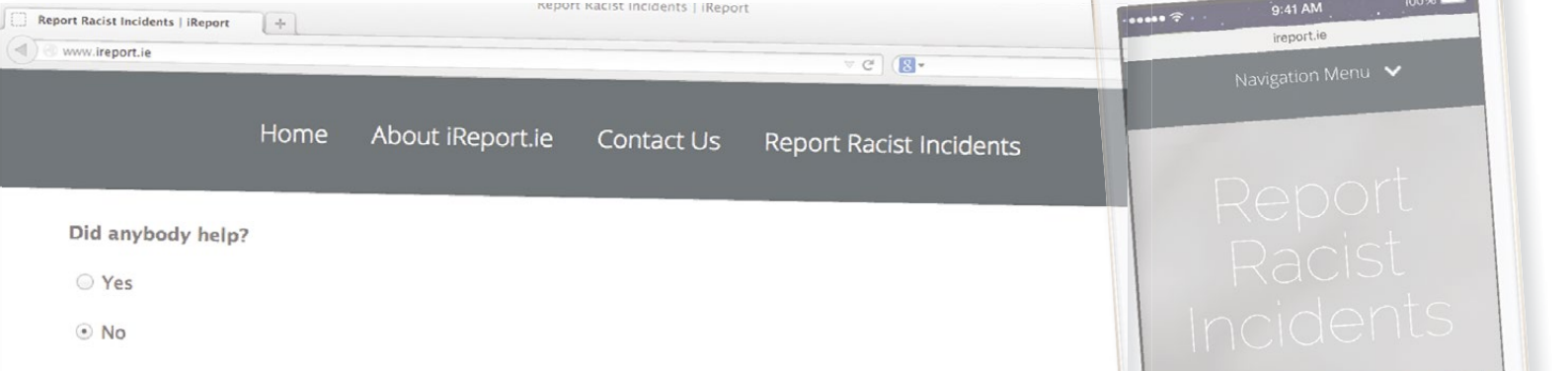
government supporting communities



European Network Against Racism
Réseau européen contre le racisme

ENAR Ireland Network Members





About iReport

The iReport is a human rights monitoring tool which takes the form of half-yearly and thematic 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, trade unions 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 is a system that makes it as easy as possible for people to self-report racist incidents by using the online form. It is a way for people whose voices are often unheard, to have those voices heard and to participate in 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.

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 process(es); 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”.

iReport.ie and the iReport are managed by ENAR Ireland, 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 local, national and European level. iReport.ie was launched on 11 July 2013.

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 practice 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.

This system is embedded in a network of over 80 locally-based organisations working in anti-racism and allows for locally gathered information to be fed into national data and analysed separately. 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 half-yearly and thematic reports, and used to inform the public, support lobbying submissions, and contribute to a broader national conversation on racism.

To ensure the analysis of the iReport 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 Sociology at Ulster University and President of the Sociological Association of Ireland. Dr Michael is an authority on hate crime recording systems and on the impact of hate crimes on communities.

Our definitions

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 of their 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'.

A racist incident is any incident which has the effect of undermining anyone's enjoyment of their human rights, based on their background

This definition has been adopted by police forces across the UK (where the Association of Chief Police Officers welcomed it for the 'clarity' it gives police forces) and was also adopted 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:

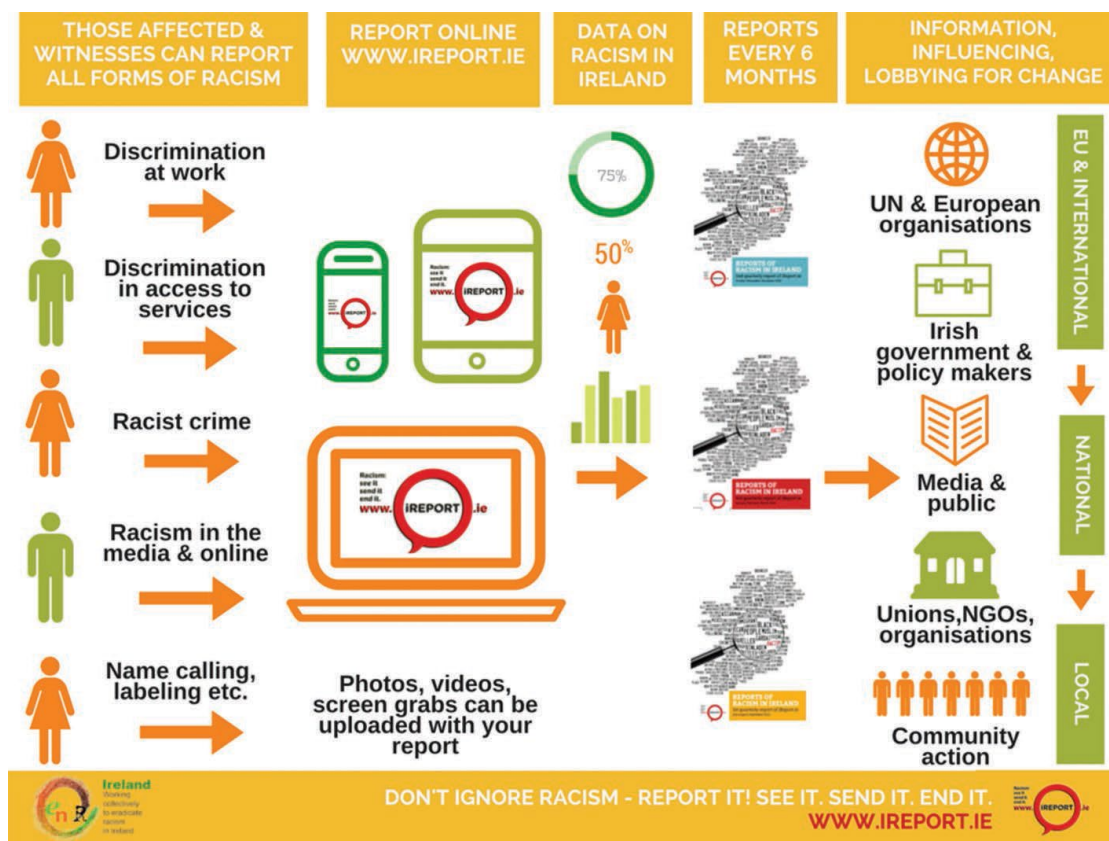
Why would you or the person it happened to say the incident was racist?

- 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. While some incidents are deemed too hard to prosecute, they are nevertheless important to capture, since research shows them to have an effect on individuals, communities and community relations that is much more harmful than their 'mildness' might suggest. Patterns of these '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. To date, An Garda Síochána does not do so.

How we count crimes

Under Garda counting rules, one offence is counted per victim for any crime incident (i.e. criminal event). So, irrespective of the number of offenders it is the number of victims of an incident that dictate how many offences will be recorded. iReport.ie reflects this system by counting the number of reports made, rather than each individual criminal offence or other type of incident. Under crime counting rules, a continuous series of offences against the same victim involving the same offender counts as one offence. Thus reports to iReport.ie against a single victim or family are counted as a single offence if the offender is known or likely to be the same person(s), to reflect the counting rules of An Garda Síochána. The same rules apply to our reports to ODIHR and other bodies.



Why report?

Reporting racist crimes and discrimination goes a long way to support work across Ireland by ENAR members to achieve better services for victims of crime and discrimination, better protection for those likely to be targeted, and hold statutory agencies and government accountable for failures in this area.

Reporting takes time and can bring up distressing feelings and memories. It can also bring some relief to report what has happened. But the most important thing about reporting is that it brings benefits to other people potentially targeted by racism and to making Irish society more equal and inclusive. If you make a report, your report will help ensure that what happened is less likely to happen again.

Civil society organisations across the world host independent reporting systems to capture the patterns and extent of racism in their societies. These are used to balance state data, which often underestimates the problem, and usually reflects under-reporting to police and under-recording by police. iReport.ie is Ireland's independent racism reporting system. It enables us to build a more accurate picture of the extent and forms of racism in our society.

Collecting data, analysing it and reporting on hate crime can provide communities and Civil Society

Organisations (CSOs) with a powerful tool with which to present their concerns to government, law enforcement, media and others. Through iReport.ie, ENAR Ireland collects civil society data on racist hate crimes and racist discrimination which can be shared with the public and reported to international organisations. To date, ENAR Ireland has used iReport.ie data in reports to the United Nations, European Commission, EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), and OSCE/ODIHR.

Credible data provides the facts needed to advocate for improved public policies which, in turn, both act to prevent and to combat hate crime and provide services which respond to the needs of victims of hate crime and hate-motivated incidents. Hate crime and hate speech motivated by racism are a daily reality in Europe. However, most countries do not effectively monitor hate crimes or take the necessary steps to counteract it. Nor are victims provided with essential support.

ENAR Ireland and Dr Lucy Michael have both also drawn on the iReport.ie data to contribute to the training of civil society organisations across Europe through the CEJI Facing Facts! programme (facingfacts.eu). The data has additionally been used to contribute to reports on Islamophobia in Europe (islamophobiaeurope.com) and ENAR Shadow Reports on Racism in Europe (enar-eu.org/Shadow-Reports-on-racism-in-Europe-203)

Director's foreword

The analysis in this, ENAR Ireland's 14th publication using iReport.ie data, once again demonstrates the remarkable consistency and reliability of the iReport.ie system in providing an authoritative source of data on Hate Crime and other manifestations of racism, in the context of massive State deficiencies in this area. Since ENAR Ireland and its national membership teamed up with Ulster University's Dr Lucy Michael in August 2013 to launch what is now established as the only national racist incident and hate crime reporting system covering incidents which target all ethnic minorities, we have been able to develop the iReport.ie system into an internationally respected model of best practice. In Ireland we are now increasingly using iReport.ie data to move beyond the monitoring of hate crime itself to highlight the institutional racism and wider human rights deficiencies within our institutions which can create a context for racial violence to occur. (In our forthcoming blog, curated by Dr Ronit Lentin, we invite writers from a range of experiences and foregrounding those from minority backgrounds, to share contributions which further challenge narrow understandings of racism by placing it in wider institutional and structural contexts.)

The iReport.ie system continues to generate widespread interest because of its usefulness and versatility as a human rights tool. For example, using Dr Michael's analysis of the iReport.ie data, the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) are able to report more robustly on Hate Crime in Ireland than by using data from any other source, including State data. Among Civil Society and Intergovernmental Organisations alike, the iReport.ie system also continues to be cited as a model of best practice, while it also arouses considerable interest from organisations ranging from national authorities to grassroots, minority-led organisations. The system is regularly and widely showcased among our fellow members of the European Network Against Racism, and the expertise we have gained managing the project has positioned us as key partners in a number of trans-European projects. Our partnership in the Facing All The Facts programme, developing next generation training tools for police and prosecutors on hate crime, and identifying systems gaps in police and criminal justice system data recording and communication, positions us to go beyond our evidence-based advocacy for hate crime legislation, to utilising the iReport.ie data to highlight broader human rights failures in policing in Ireland, as well as key institutional failures to mitigate racism in wider Irish society.

In two of our recent submissions, to the Commission on The Future of Policing in Ireland, and to the Policing Authority, we used analysis of iReport.ie data to effectively highlight systemic failings in Garda responses, focusing on failures to respond to repeat harassment or to more broadly recognise and respond to the impacts on all of our communities of racialised violence and crimes. In a more recent meeting with the Policing Authority we highlighted three extremely alarming allegations of serious physical abuse of people from ethnic minority backgrounds at the hands of members of An Garda Síochána, dating from early 2018, which we could show had arisen because of these failings. In the Irish Council for Civil Liberties' recently launched report on Human Rights Policing in Ireland, the author, human rights barrister Alyson Kilpatrick, draws heavily on the iReport.ie analysis in their very substantial chapter on Hate Crime, with clear recommendations for extensive institutional and policy change.

If properly implemented, the ICCL's recommendations on Hate Crime and other human rights aspects of policing could make a fundamental difference to the lives of minority and majority communities, as well as to the legitimacy and functioning of our police service. So too would the proper implementation of the recommendations of the recently published Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland. But Ireland has no shortage of reports and recommendations for change in the areas of policing and of human rights and inclusion, from the Morris Tribunal recommendations to the Public Sector Duty enshrined in the 2014 Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act.

There is hope that impetus for the substantial change needed may come in the form of long-awaited Hate Crime legislation – which the National Steering Group on Hate Crime, co-ordinated by ENAR Ireland, is working hard to achieve, and which is the subject of the European Parliament's PETI Commission's current investigation into Ireland's compliance with the 2008 Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia. Others are hopeful that the new Garda Commissioner Drew Harris, formerly the UK Association of Chief Police Officers' policy lead on Hate Crime, will be given the wherewithal to drive the changes needed to tackle institutional racism and reshape An Garda Síochána into a service that can deliver human rights-based policing. We will continue to use iReport.ie to monitor change in policing in Ireland. .

Shane O'Curry

RACIST INCIDENTS



Trends in incident reporting

July-December 2017

The second half of 2017 showed a continuing steady rise in the numbers of violent crimes reported to iReport.ie by the public. Numbers of racist crimes are consistent with both the last half of 2016 and the first half of 2017, with slight increases in assault and cases against Muslims. Reports were received from 20 counties across Ireland. The highest levels were again in Dublin, followed by Cork and Galway. Incidents were most likely to occur in public places.

There is evidence of extensive physical, financial, psychological and social impacts from the cases reported. Sixteen cases resulted in physical injuries. One case resulted in attempted suicide.

People identified as 'Black' were still the most targeted group in this period, although crime and discrimination was experienced by people of 22 different ethnic categories. Crime and discrimination are targeted most at ethnic minority people who were born or have become Irish citizens. This has not protected them from racism.

Men were the majority of both victims and

perpetrators. Perpetrators of crime were most likely to be adults, strangers, and not under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Perpetrators of discrimination were mostly known, because of their jobs in the public sector or local private businesses.

There were 125 reports of hate speech, including 113 online incidents. Reports concerning hate speech constituted 49% of all reports, as they did in the first half of 2017. Five politicians were reported for racist speech in this period. Ten Irish newspapers published racist items.

There is increasing evidence of the role of repeat harassment in the escalation of abuse to violence, and the failures of An Garda Síochána and local authorities to address repeat harassment appropriately. Respondents indicated that they would be most encouraged to report crimes to the Gardaí by the availability of a self-report form. Trust in Gardaí remains affected by poor previous experiences with policing in Ireland, and this has depressed reporting to police. Reports of assaults by Gardaí on ethnic minorities are likely to decrease trust further.

Racist crime

23
assaults

31
threats

14
damage

3
thefts

49
repeat
harass-
ment

Assault

Assault appeared in 23 cases in this period. No sexual assaults were reported in this period. There were 2 cases of vehicular assault.

Below is a short summary of some of the cases of assault reported in this period.

- A woman pulled a Muslim schoolgirl's veil from her face and slapped her glasses off as she roared abuse at her in an attack on a city street.
- A Roma man was assaulted in the street by two strangers who kicked and punched him
- Three assaults occurred on buses, all against men. Bus drivers were reluctant to call Gardaí. Witnesses were slow to intervene during initial verbal abuse.
- Two brothers of Black-African background were verbally racially abused and one physically assaulted by a group of 6 boys who surrounded them as they left a sports field in the early evening. The incident was reported to Gardaí.
- A male member of staff at a Dublin delicatessen who tried to eject 2 women was kicked and

punched and racially verbally abused.

- A man of Black-African background was seriously injured and bleeding after an assault on a street near his home in the late evening by a group of Irish men. He managed to get to a local takeaway where customers sought medical help for him. He was taken home by a staff member who knew him.
- A woman of Black-African background was left injured after she was physically assaulted with a weapon by a stranger in a petrol station forecourt.
- A mother was physically assaulted by a male neighbour in a sudden attack when she questioned his racist abuse of her children. She was pushed on top of her 4 year old son and both fell to the pavement.
- A Muslim man recently arrived in Ireland to a new job was verbally racially abused and physically assaulted by two men who broke his glasses, cutting his face and threatened him with a weapon, chasing him through Dublin streets on foot.

Violence with a weapon

Weapons were used in 3 cases of assault. One of these cases concerned the brutal assault by strangers on an asylum seeker. He was hit with multiple objects, leaving him with serious head injuries and loss of skin requiring surgery, and severe trauma associated with the assault. The perpetrators videoed the assault as they carried it out. Another case concerned stones thrown by a group at an Asian man.

Criminal Damage, Theft and Graffiti

Fourteen reports in this period concerned single or multiple counts of criminal damage, not including criminal damage from graffiti.

There were 11 reports of racist graffiti in this period. Three were on homes, 4 in public streets and parks (1 in multiple locations across the city), and 4 on public transport. Four cases included Nazi and fascist insignia.

There were 3 cases of theft in this period. Two of these arose during violent assaults as a means of further punishing the targeted person, but were not the motivation for assault.

Incidents of serious and general threat

Eleven cases of threats to kill or cause serious harm were reported. There were also 8 cases of general threat in this period.

- A neighbour repeatedly verbally abused and threatened a family with young children. The father of the family reported to Gardaí after threats increased in seriousness and provided video evidence.
- A hotel employee experienced death threats from another employee.
- An African family were threatened with violence by a neighbour who also trespassed on their home.

'They yelled racist abuse and hit me until I fainted.'

'If I'm going to call the Gardaí and file a complaint against him he's going to come back and kill me.'

'The driver tried to run me over.'

'The Roma man was homeless and the Garda kicked him in the ribs.'

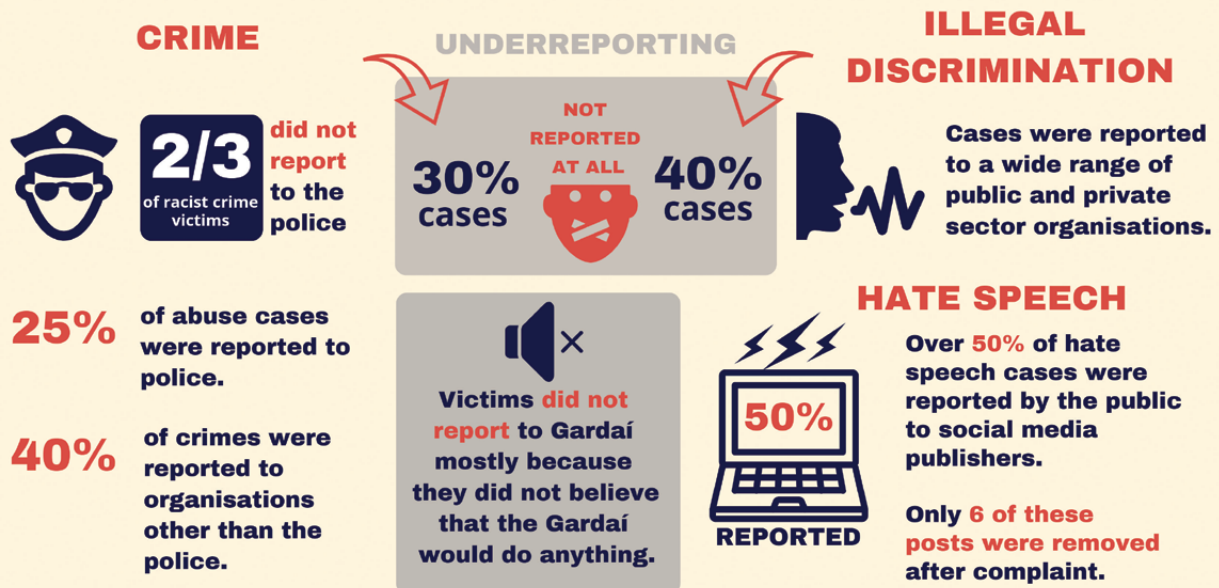
- A takeaway employee was threatened with violence by a customer. Gardaí attended but could not find the perpetrator.

Repeat harassment

Cases of repeat harassment most often concern intimidation at home or in the local neighbourhood, and at work. Timely and appropriate responses are necessary to prevent escalation. Repeat harassment usually starts with a series of low level aggressions and escalates. This is why it is so important that low level threats and aggressions are reported and recorded.

- A family with young children who were regularly verbally abused by a neighbour with racist language, experienced a serious escalation when the father was assaulted. The Gardaí responded quickly and were able to advise the family on collecting evidence for a prosecution.
- A Traveller woman was subjected to abuse and harassment from neighbours about visitors to her home. The neighbours called Gardaí to advise the targeted person not to associate with other Travellers and directly advised her son of the same. Gardaí were disinclined to get involved. Neighbours directed their complaints to the targeted woman's landlord instead.
- A 14-year-old boy was verbally racially abused on a daily basis on moving to a new neighbourhood. He was later physically assaulted by a group of teenagers from the area, who told him that Gardaí would do nothing to them.
- Repeat harassment is also evident, however, in the discrimination against ethnic minority and immigrant families by Social Welfare staff. Lost documents, withheld passports, falsely completed case files and fraudulent misrepresentations are common to reports of repeat harassment of this type. These types of harassments appear to be intended to discourage targeted persons from applying for services and benefits to which they are fully entitled.

REPORTING



Most victims of racist crime would like a **self-report platform** to make reporting to Gardaí easier. Self-report forms are already widely used in other countries to encourage reporting.

Reporting crimes

30%
to Gardaí

40%
to others

30%
not
reported

Thirty percent of those reporting crimes to iReport.ie also reported them to An Garda Síochána. It might be expected that violent crimes would be reported at a greater rate, but this was not the case. Less than a third were reported to Gardaí. A quarter of abuse cases were reported to police. Although there is no specific hate crime legislation, all crimes should nonetheless be reported to Gardaí, investigated and can be prosecuted under existing criminal legislation.

Choosing not to report to police

The iReport.ie survey asks 'If you didn't report this to the police, why was this?' The most common reason for not reporting to Gardaí was "I did not think the Gardaí (police) would do anything".

Although the survey also asked about bad experiences with police in other countries, or unwillingness to talk to or disclose personal details to police, these answers were selected rarely. Neither did concern about the perpetrators' response outweigh motivation to report in these cases. Low expectations of police effectiveness and good service are severely detrimental to the state's ability to re-

duce racist crimes and protect ethnic minorities and the communities they live in.

Respondents indicated that they would be most encouraged to report crimes to the Gardaí by the availability of a self-report form, followed by anonymous reporting, third party reporting, or contact with a police officer from the same ethnic/religious group. Analysis of these responses alongside case facts suggests that a self-report form would be the most appropriate to reduce concerns about the difficulty of reporting encountered in these cases as well as the embarrassment of reporting.

Failure to properly address repeat harassment and escalation

Repeat harassment continues to be an area of concern in relation to racism. While it is possible to address repeat harassment effectively and prevent escalation, cases submitted to iReport.ie show that An Garda Síochána have not yet developed consistent good practice in this area. Even in cases of serious injury, Gardaí failed to attend or to follow up on criminal incidents.

Bias in policing

In previous iReports, there has been evidence of explicit surveillance of ethnic minority people, and direct threats to them. Examples of police hostility towards ethnic minorities, and explicit surveillance of them based on racial profiling, are sufficient to decrease trust in Gardaí and drive down reporting rates when these groups are targeted for racist violence.

- A bystander witnessed a Garda physically abusing a man on the street by kicking him in the ribs and shouting at him to go back to his own country.
- A customer in a pub was arrested and taken to the local Garda station. On the way he was

threatened with deportation by a Garda and was physically abused. The Gardaí refused to take the injured man to hospital.

- A false accusation against a family for domestic abuse resulted in persistent harassment by a Garda who continued to pursue them after the false accusation had become evident. Their ethnicity was a clear motivator for the harassment.

Tracking racist incidents

Forty percent of crimes, including crimes of violence, or with injury, were reported to organisations or individuals other than Gardaí. Thirty percent were not reported to anyone except iReport.ie.

Discrimination in employment

Reports were made to organisations including ethnic minority, migrant or anti-racist organisations, public and private sector employers of the perpetrators, and rights organisations. Others reported to doctors, lawyers, residents' associations, citizens' advice centres, housing organisations, councillors, public transport bodies and educational institutions. Most of these do not have any mechanism for recording and reviewing complaints of racism to them.

Eight cases in this period concerned discriminatory treatment at work. Irish law governs discrimination in the workplace as well as in job seeking. The latter is often harder to prove. Discrimination in work is, in reports submitted to iReport.ie, usually accompanied by verbal abuse and sometimes physical abuse, as well as lesser treatment. Bullying, harassment, being given worse jobs because of ethnicity and being forced to quit employment (constructive dismissal) are all contrary to equality law in employment.

'Some Irish colleagues are blatantly racist and the director encourages them by taking sides.'

- A man received death threats at work and by phone from a colleague who then threatened to harm his wife and children and made false reports to authorities to have him deported.
- Two men of African background experienced harassment and false accusations of incompetence (in areas in which they were over-qualified for the job), resulting in constructive dismissal.
- African staff at a nursing home repeatedly have rostered working hours cut while Irish staff are given overtime hours. They experience financial hardship as a result, as well as increased stress from conflict at work incited by their supervisor.
- A senior member of staff in a hotel experienced racist 'jokes' from a colleague during work
- A man working in catering experienced threats and racist abuse from a customer. Gardaí tried to trace the offender without success.

Five cases involved discrimination in applying for jobs, including a qualified person (white Irish) repeatedly bypassed for jobs in their specialist area by less qualified colleagues, believed to be because of their foreign-sounding married name. In another case, questions about ethnicity contravening employment law were asked during the interview.

Discrimination in Access to Goods and Services

Nineteen cases involved people given poor service because of discrimination against their ethnic or religious background. In 23 cases, persons were refused service because of their ethnic or religious background.

42

illegal discrimination

8

at work

5

applying for jobs

19

poor service

23

refused service

A woman in a Direct Provision Centre was repeatedly harassed by a manager because she was visited by her child's father who did not live there. The manager did not approve of outside visitors to the centre although they are allowed. She was intimidated with the intention of making her apply for transfer to another centre.

Cases in pubs and restaurants included the forced removal of 4 Afro-Brazilian men from a pub, 4 reports of Travellers refused entry to a hotel for a concert despite holding tickets for the event, and 7 other cases where Travellers were targeted. Three cases in different counties involved Travellers refused drinks by pubs or hotels, including one where Travellers attended a party of a settled person. One case involved the abrupt and unexplained cancellation by a hotel of a birthday party of a Traveller woman, and one report concerned the refusal of a restaurant to deliver food to a regular customer because they had a 'policy' not to deliver to Traveller sites.

The most coordinated discrimination in access to services against Travellers in this period was the organised closure of pubs in Newbridge in November due to a Traveller funeral taking place. This echoes similar high-profile actions in Wexford in 2015 when the Carrickmines fire victims were to be buried, and which is common practice throughout Ireland around Traveller funerals.

'You are not Irish, you don't belong here'

A Traveller man was targeted for harassment by staff at his gym and was forced to change to another. A Chinese man was racially abused by a shopkeeper for not moving towards him despite a visible and significant disability. A bus driver refused to pick up a Muslim man and harassed him after passengers forced him to stop and let him board. A Polish man was asked to leave the waiting room of an NGO for speaking on his mobile phone in Polish. An airport employee and supervisor threatened to prevent boarding until a passenger deleted a photo of them that they took to make a complaint. An African man was accused of theft (of his own mobile phone) in a post office queue and told by staff untruthfully that the Gardaí had been called.

Poor service and refused service was also evident in public services. Two cases concerned Intreo office staff of deliberately withholding documents, refusing to complete applications and misrepresenting their roles in dealing with applicants, both Eastern European EU citizen and a Muslim Irish citizen. Four cases concerned poor service from members of An Garda Síochána, in failing to attend a scene of violent threat at the targeted African families' home, refusing to investigate ongoing harassment and criminal damage at a Muslim woman's home, relying on false and racist accusations in pursuing an investigation without following due process, and allowing white Irish applicants to bypass queues for service at a Garda counter.

'It's not a perception, it's a fact, we know he will be a burden to the State.'

There were two cases reported of discrimination in education. A university failed to protect a student group from harassment and theft. A lecturer at another university refused to provide a reference for an international student.

Two cases involved discrimination in finding somewhere to live. In one, the targeted person asked their ethnicity on the phone, and told that the landlord would not 'rent to Africans'.

Reporting discrimination

Reporting of discrimination is increasing, although most reporting parties do not know where best to report their experiences. Twenty-eight of the 44 cases of discrimination (63%) were reported to an organisation or professional, including doctors and lawyers. Most of these had no authorisation to investigate or responsibility for recording the complaints. The majority of complaints were made to organisations responsible for the racist discrimination (or failing to respond to it) and received no appropriate response.

Around 7 percent continue to report to Gardaí in the absence of knowledge about where to report illegal discrimination and in most of these cases, Gardaí were not able to direct victims to the relevant statutory bodies.

Impact

Racism has a demonstrable impact on the lives of those targeted. An analysis of the data on impact shows that there is psychological impact on those targeted, impact on their social connectedness, and financial impacts through for example increased costs or lost income.

There were 31 reported cases that include financial impacts caused by having to move house, avoiding public transport routes, lost employment, depressed wages and illegal denial of social security. Eighty-one reports were described as having a psychological impact on the victim.

- “I suffer from PTSD, his comments had a massive impact on me and I fear my well being”
- “I don’t normally mind any discrimination! It never has bothered me in the last 10 years here in Ireland, but really, this lady really got me!”

Sixteen cases included physical injuries, including hospitalisation. Sixty-three reports demonstrated impact in inciting isolation and low trust in others, including in the victims neighbourhood. These have significant consequences for long-term cohesion, particularly so in cases of repeated harassment, institutional racism and housing discrimination.

- “Nobody cared about my daughter, which is the worst part”
- “I felt traumatized, psychologically depressed and left in fear”

Although ENAR Ireland cannot offer direct support to many people targeted by racism, there is an evidenced need for greater direct support, and a role for ENAR Ireland’s network members to play in this regard. This is particularly so in cases of repeated harassment, institutional racism and housing discrimination.

A student was intimidated, kicked, slapped and verbally abused in university accommodation by fellow students who used racist words in their abuse. This resulted in hospitalisation of the targeted person, missed exams and financial costs including new accommodation, extended study year and medical costs. The response of the university was to issue a small fine the students for ‘minor disorder’. The racist abuse was ignored in the university’s initial response.

Immediate bystander intervention

There are ranges of ways in which others around those targeted by racism are able to help. Even where the racist behaviour is solely verbal, the effect of interventions is powerful and the impact on targeted persons likely to be significantly reduced. Across the 2013-2017 iReport data, there is clear evidence that when people are targeted by racism do not see help being offered or do not feel supported in any way by others in that context, they are more likely to report more severe psychological impact, poor physical health, and high levels of fear, and to take actions such as avoiding public spaces, transport, walking in their neighbourhoods which further increase their isolation and sense of exclusion and make them more vulnerable to racial harassment.

‘One of the worst feelings I’ve ever experienced.’

‘I was hospitalised and suffered a panic attack after regaining consciousness.’

‘It was a potentially life threatening situation but this has happened before and you come to expect it.’

31
financial
impact

81
psych-
ological
impact

16
physical
injuries

63
social
isolation

VICTIMS

GENDER

Men experienced significantly more **CRIME** than women, but a high proportion of these also included **abuse and threats against their families.**



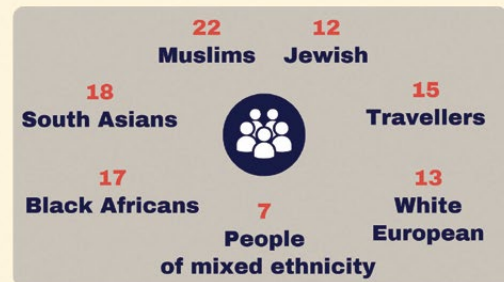
Men and women were **equally likely** to be victims of **DISCRIMINATION.**



CITIZENSHIP

Irish citizens made up almost a half of victims of racist crime and discrimination

TARGETED GROUPS



IMPACT OF RACISM ON VICTIMS



63% Targeted groups

males
40%
Black
15%
public transport

Ethnic, religious and racialised identities

Crime and discrimination was experienced by people of 22 ethnic categories in this survey. People identified as 'Black' were targeted in 29 cases. South Asians were targeted in 18 cases. Forty-two of the targeted persons were described as White, with 13 White European (EU citizenship reported separately below), 15 Irish Travellers, 5 White Non-European, and 9 White Irish (because of association with ethnic minorities or foreign nationals). People of mixed ethnic background were targeted in 7 cases. People identified as 'Arab' or 'Middle Eastern' were targeted in 8 cases. There were just 2 reports concerning the targeting of Roma, 2 of Kurdish, 3 of Chinese and 2 of Filipino people, 3 reports about other Asian ethnicities, and 4 reports of other ethnicities. Twenty-two cases concerned the targeting of Muslims, 12 concerned Jewish people being targeted. Both Islamophobia and anti-Semitism are recurring features of graffiti and media reports.

Nationality and immigration status

Just under half of those who reported their own experience of racism were Irish citizens, a fifth were EU citizens, and 28 percent were visa holders. Just 2 reports came from asylum seekers. Of the 56 people reporting on behalf of someone else, less than half (29) were able to give an indication of the status of the person(s) targeted. In these reports, 16 were Irish citizens, 7 EU citizens, 3 visa

holders, 2 refugees and 1 asylum seeker.

Gender

Men reported significantly more crime, abuse and discrimination than women, with 71 cases targeting males, and 42 cases targeting females. However a large number of cases also involved families of those reporting, who experienced abuse and discrimination by extension.

Age of targeted person(s)

People in the age group '25-34' were the most likely (33%) of any group to be targeted, followed by those aged '18-25' (28%). People under 18 were reported as the primary target in 10 percent of cases, but also appeared in many other reports as secondary targets. No reports were made directly by under 18s.

Location

The highest numbers of reports concerned incidents in Dublin (54), followed by Cork (16), Galway (13) and Limerick (7). Reports were submitted from 20 counties. Incidents of crime and abuse were most likely to occur in the street (19%), on public transport (15%), and at home (14%). Places of entertainment (10%), and pubs and restaurants (9%), appeared in both crime and discrimination cases. Together public services and educational institutions were the locations of 15 percent of cases, mainly discrimination.

PERPETRATORS



75%

of racist crime and abuse was by **WHITE IRISH PEOPLE**



2/3

MEN were responsible for 2/3 of racist crimes and abuse incidents, and **twice** as likely to illegally discriminate as women.



58%

In 58% of incidents perpetrators were acting **ALONE**.



1/3

of discrimination cases were by **PUBLIC SECTOR STAFF**.



3x

ADULTS were three times more likely to be perpetrators of racist crimes and abuse than young people.



Most perpetrators were **NOT UNDER INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS**.

Perpetrators

Perpetrators of Crime

Racist crimes were most likely to be committed by strangers. Sixty-one percent of crimes were committed by strangers. Staff in public sector bodies, including the police, were responsible for 7 cases of racist crime in late 2017. Perpetrators of racist crimes and abuse were three times more likely to be adults than young people. Men were responsible for two-thirds of racist crimes and abuse incidents.

Large groups of perpetrators were responsible for 11 incidents of racist crime and abuse. Three quarters of racist crime and abuse was by white Irish people. Just 7 incidents were believed to have been perpetrated by a person under the influence of alcohol, and 1 by a person under the influence of drugs. Racist language was the most common reason for crimes to be reported as racist. In cases of crime, 42 percent included racist language. In 15 percent of crimes, the targeted persons wore clothes that were of a particular religion or ethnic group.

Perpetrators of discrimination

Staff working in public bodies and in private companies were most likely and equally likely to illegally racially discriminate. There were 5 incidents of racist discrimination by someone working in Education or a Youth-responsible

role. Strangers accounted for only 5 incidents of discrimination. Men were twice as likely to illegally discriminate as women. Racist language was used in 30 percent of discrimination cases.

Institutional racism

Institutional racism is evident in the policies and processes of a range of public sector organisations reporting in this period, and in a significant number of cases in this period and previous periods, staff have openly and illegally discriminated against people on the basis of their ethnicity or nationality. This is despite the Public Sector Equality Duty created by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Act 2014, which obliges public bodies and publicly funded organisations to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, as well as to promote equality of opportunity and take steps to foster good relations, including taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people.

The author wishes to thank Sahar Zena for her development of the framework used to analyse the impact of racist incidents, and Kat Bayley for her assistance in compiling the report for this period.

61%
strangers
42%
racist
language
75%
white Irish

Racist hate speech

125
cases
113
online
10
news-
papers
5

There were 125 cases of racist hate speech reported in total in this six month period.

Racist hate speech in news media: There were 10 reports of hate speech published by Irish newspapers (including their online editions and social media accounts) in this period, which included the Irish times and the Irish Independent.

Racist speech by political representatives: There were 5 cases reported where government and council members were involved in racist hate speech, where one case involved a newly appointed minister for culture, as he has openly admitted to being anti-Traveller.

Hate Speech online

There were 113 reports about racist hate speech online. Facebook published 75 of these, Twitter published 20, YouTube published 4 and Snapchat published 1. Forum threads prompted 6 of the reports, and investigation of these threads revealed a failure to moderate explicit hate content. Racist hate speech against minorities in Ireland was published openly without moderation on a range of online forums in Ireland and abroad.

Twitter's publication of racist speech illustrates the intimacy of international racist harassment and incitement to hatred, with Irish people directly harassed by Twitter accounts naming their locations as USA, UK and other countries.

Reports included (not counting duplicates):

- Anti-Traveller abuse
- 5 accounts of racist comments and images posted on Facebook and Twitter
- 1 account of online abuse posted by journal.ie

Anti-Muslim abuse

- 7 cases of reported racist comments on Islamic pages and against Muslim groups on Facebook
- 1 email sent to Islamic group inciting hatred within the area against Muslims in that community.
- 3 accounts of other websites claiming to be anti-Muslim, including a US site allowing Irish teens to promote anti-Muslim sentiment
- 15 cases against Muslims' religious laws and beliefs

Anti-Black/African abuse

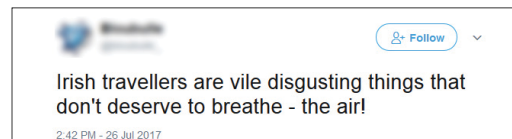
- 1 US account with anti-Black comments, and 2 Irish accounts with multiple content against Black Irish. 3 cases reported of direct racist commenting and racist imagery published by Irish newspapers.
- 4 accounts of racist images on Twitter.

Racist abuse against multiple groups

- 6 cases of racist imagery and symbols aimed at multiple groups by right wing online groups
- 2 accounts of Hitler and Holocaust references aimed at Jewish in Ireland.
- 1 account calling for genocide of Irish people in a Youtube video.
- 8 Facebook and Twitter reported comments and images against multiple ethnic groups.

Reporting

More than half of hate speech cases reported by the public were also reported elsewhere. Only one case was referred to police. In total, 81 cases were reported to social media publishers. Facebook removed 28 of the reported 60 posts. Twitter removed none of the 30 posts reported to them, and YouTube and Snapchat removed none of the reported 5 published on their platforms.



Did anybody help?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Why do you think the incident was racist?

- ☒ Racist language was used
- ☐ Language about person's religion was used
- ☐ There did not appear to be anything racist about it
- ☐ It was about something else, but racism came into it

Or briefly, in your own words:

How to report an incident

You can report a racist incident online at www.ireport.ie or through one of the iReport Reporting Centres listed overleaf (page 26)

What information do I need?

Our survey is designed to collect the maximum information, but you do not have to fill in answers to every question. Here's a quick guide to some of the information you might like to provide.

*Questions marked * are not optional*

What type of incident are you reporting? *

- ☐ Something racist in the media or on the internet?
- ☐ Physical harm / abuse / harassment / damage / discrimination?
- ☐ Graffiti?

Graffiti

- ☐ Date & location
- ☐ Photo
- ☐ Who was it targeting?

Physical harm / abuse / harassment / damage / discrimination

- ☐ What type of crime or incident is it - choose from list

AND/OR

- ☐ What type of discrimination is it, e.g. employment, housing, access to goods and services?
- ☐ How many people were targeted?
- ☐ Where was it?
- ☐ Date
- ☐ Is it repeat harassment?
- ☐ Were there injuries
- ☐ Please describe the incident

Racism in the media

- ☐ Date & publication
- ☐ Screen shot or URL

Reporting

We ask about reporting so that we can track the responses of relevant authorities and the effectiveness of them.

- ☐ Did you report it to anyone else e.g. Gardaí, local authority, school, Twitter, etc?
- ☐ What was their response?

Why do you think the incident was racist?

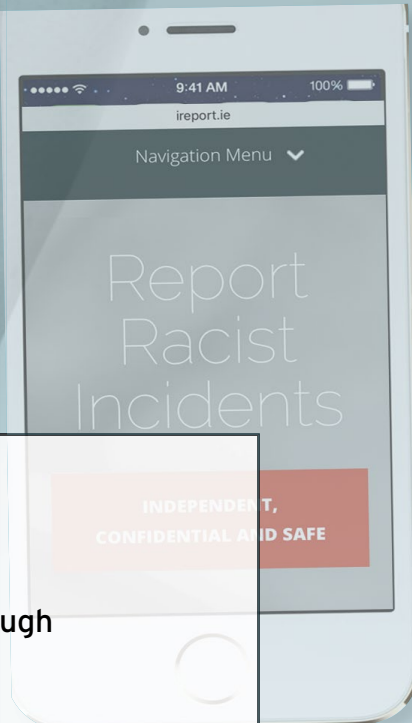
- ☐ Racist language, images or symbols
- ☐ Religious-associated clothing on targeted person
- ☐ There was no other motivation
- ☐ It was about something else but racism came into it

Impact

Racism can have very serious impacts on individual, family and community life, and we would like to understand better how incidents affect those targeted.

- ☐ What impact did it have?

We will always ask the ethnicity and religion of the targeted person(s). We will also ask details about age, disability, and gender, and how many people were targeted. We will also ask for this information about the perpetrator(s), and your relationship with them, but this is used for analysis only. We use this information only to guide our analysis of racism in Ireland. We will always consider any identifying details in choosing what to publish from our data. Your safety is our priority.



iReport Reporting Centres

You can seek help reporting from any of the groups listed below. Groups that are marked * offer follow-up support to people targeted in racist and religious hatred incidents.

AMAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

T: 01 453 3242
E: amal.hope@outlook.ie

*CAIRDE, Dublin & Balbriggan

T: 01 855 2111
E: info@cairde.ie
WEB: www.cairde.ie

*CULTÚR, Navan, Co Meath

T: 046 9093120
E: info@cultur.ie
WEB: www.cultur.ie

*CROSSCARE REFUGEE SERVICE

Dublin
T: 01 873 2844
E: crs@crosscare.ie
WEB: www.crosscare.ie
DOLPHIN'S HOUSE Dublin
T: 01 4544682
E: debbie-m3@hotmail.com

DONEGAL INTERCULTURAL PLATFORM

Letterkenny
E: donegalip@gmail.com

*DORAS LUIMNI Limerick

T: 061 310 328
E: info@dorasluimni.org
WEB: www.dorasluimni.org

*DUBLIN CITY CENTRE CITIZEN

INFORMATION SERVICE Dublin
T: 076 107 7230; in person: 13A
O'Connell Street Upper, Dublin 1

F2 CENTRE Dublin

T: 01 471 6700
E: info@f2c.ie
WEB: www.f2c.ie

GALWAY TRAVELLER MOVEMENT

T: 091 765 390
E: info@gtmtrav.ie
WEB: www.gtmtrav.ie

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE

Limerick: 061 480922
Dublin: 01 8148644
E: info@jrs.ie WEB: www.jrs.ie

ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF IRELAND

Dublin
T: 01 453 3242
E: info@islaminireland.com
WEB: www.islaminireland.com

*IRISH TRAVELLER MOVEMENT or any of its member organisations:

T: 01 6796577
E: itmtrav@indigo.ie
WEB: www.itmtrav.ie

*IRISH REFUGEE COUNCIL Dublin

T: 01 764 5854
E: info@irishrefugeecouncil.ie
WEB: www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie

MAYO INTERCULTURAL

ACTION Castlebar
T: 094 904 4511
E: miamayo@eircom.net
WEB: www.facebook.com/MayoInterculturalAction

*MIGRANT RIGHTS CENTRE IRELAND

Dublin
T: 01 889 7570
E: info@mrci.ie
WEB: www.mrci.ie

*NASC, THE IRISH IMMIGRANT SUPPORT CENTRE Cork

T: 021 450 3462
E: info@nascireland.org
WEB: www.nascireland.org

NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF

IRELAND Dublin
T: 01 478 4122
E: info@nyci.ie
WEB: www.nyci.ie

*NEW COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

Dublin
T: 01 8727842
E: info@newcommunities.ie
WEB: www.newcommunities.ie

*OFFALY TRAVELLER MOVEMENT

Tullamore
T: 057 93 52438
E: info@otm.ie
WEB: www.otm.ie

*PAVEE POINT TRAVELLER & ROMA

RIGHTS CENTRE Dublin
T: 01 8780255
E: info@paveepoint.ie
WEB: www.paveepoint.ie

RIALTO COMMUNITY NETWORK Dublin

T: 01 473 2003
E: annswords@rcn.ie
WEB: www.rcn.ie

*SOUTH DUBLIN INTERCULTURAL

CENTRE / TALLAGHT ROMA
INTEGRATION PROJECT Dublin
SDCC Intercultural Drop-in Centre
T: 01 464 9306
E: zuzana.tesarova@sdcpartnership.ie
WEB: www.sdcpartnership.ie

ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY CENTRE

Dublin
T: 01 453 0744
E: centremanager@standrewsrialto.ie
WEB: facebook.com/standrewsrialto.ie

ST MICHAEL'S FAMILY RESOURCE

CENTRE Dublin
T: 01 453 3938
E: ailishfrc@eircom.net

UNION OF STUDENTS IN IRELAND

Dublin
T: 01 709 9300
E: equality@usi.ie
WEB: www.usi.ie

After reporting, what next?

Getting help

Organisations listed on the previous page can help you to report the incident also to An Garda Síochána if it is a crime, or to another relevant body in the case of crime or discrimination.

ENAR Ireland cannot offer direct support but many of the organisations which are part of the network do offer support, and we will be happy to refer you to a local or specialist organisation to help.

The criminal law in Ireland

There is no specific hate crime legislation in Ireland. Nonetheless, racist crimes are still crimes, and can be investigated, prosecuted and punished as crimes, regardless of the bias motivation. Victims are entitled to the same rights as victims of any other types of crime, and to the same support.

All crimes that are reported to iReport.ie should also be reported to An Garda Síochána. Victims should be able to report confidentially, be provided with a crime number, and referred to a local Victim Support Office. Victims may ask to have direct contact with the Garda Ethnic Liaison Officer for that district if they wish.

Despite having legislation that can be used to investigate and prosecute racist hate crimes, there is evidence that reported racist crimes in Ireland are frequently not recorded or investigated adequately. The bias motivation may not be recorded, or evidence collected. If you experience any of this, please use iReport.ie to add this information to our data.

Laws against discrimination

The Employment Equality Acts 1998-2015 and the Equal Status Acts 2000-2015 outlaw discrimination in employ-

ment, vocational training, advertising, collective agreements, the provision of goods and services, including professional or trade services, health services, access to accommodation and education, and facilities for banking, transport and cultural activities.

A Public Sector Duty introduced in 2014 obliges all public bodies to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity for all staff and service users, and protect the human rights of members, staff and service users. Public bodies include government departments, local authorities, the Health Service Executive, most educational institutions, and all companies or bodies financed by government or that act in the public interest.

All public bodies should have a mechanism for making complaints and must consider all recognised grounds for equality.

If you have reported a racist incident to iReport.ie and are seeking further redress from the authorities then there are two basic ways, depending on whether it was a racist crime, or racist discrimination (the following are abridged excerpts from ENAR Ireland's forthcoming "Reporting Racism" resource, due out in 2018):

1. Racist crime - serious crimes, assaults, threatening behaviour, harassment and incitement.

2. Racial discrimination - in employment or in the provision of goods and services.

1. RACIST CRIME: Contact your LOCAL GARDA STATION or THE EMERGENCY SERVICES. You can also ask for the assistance of an ETHNIC LIAISON OFFICER in the nearest Garda station. Remember, in an emergency any member of An Garda Síochána can assist you.

List of all **GARDA SÍOCHÁNA LOCAL STATIONS** in Ireland can be found here: www.garda.ie/stations/default.aspx

THE EMERGENCY SERVICES, T: 999 (from landlines) or 112 (from mobiles)

It may also be advisable to contact the **ETHNIC LIAISON OFFICER** or **COMMUNITY LIAISON SERGEANT** in your local station, or the **GARDA STATION SUPERINTENDENT**, whose contact you can obtain from your local Garda station.

Up to date list of **ETHNIC LIAISON OFFICERS (ELOs)** in Ireland: www.garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=154
If you are not satisfied with the service from your local Garda station contact Garda Racial & Intercultural Office (GRIDO) or Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (GSOC).

GARDA RACIAL, INTERCULTURAL AND DIVERSITY OFFICE (GRIDO): Harcourt Square, Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 T: 01 6663150/6663817
WEB: www.garda.ie

GARDA SÍOCHÁNA OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION (GSOC): 150 Upper Abbey Street, Dublin 1 T: 01 8716 727 LoCall: 1890 600 800 E: info@gsoc.ie WEB: www.gardaombudsman.ie

2. RACIST DISCRIMINATION: There are two main bodies for ensuring that the equality laws are upheld. Those are the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC), which is similar to a court, and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC). Claims of discrimination in relation to clubs and licensed premises are dealt with separately in the District Court.

THE IRISH HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY COMMISSION (IHREC)

16-22 Green Street, Dublin 7
T: 01 858 9601 Lo Call: 1890 245 545
E: publicinfo@ihrec.ie WEB: www.ihrec.ie

The IHREC may in some cases provide legal assistance or representation to people before the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC - see below) or other relevant Courts including the District Court. Guidance on applying for legal assistance is available on request. You do not need IHREC assistance to take your case to the WRC. You can represent yourself or be represented by a Citizens Information advocate, lawyer, trade union, or other representative.

WORKPLACE RELATIONS COMMISSION (WRC)

Workplace Relations Customer Service, Department of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation, O'Brien Road, Carlow
Lo-call: 1890 80 80 90 T: 059 917 8990
WEB: www.workplacelrelations.ie

Citizens Information Services (CIS): www.citizensinformation.ie A full list of local offices can be found at: <http://centres.citizensinformation.ie/>
Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS) is a nationwide service that can be reached on 0761 07 4000, Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm.

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, President of the United Nations 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

28 North Great George's Street
Dublin 1
D01 HY46

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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