

# C.O.N.T.A.C.T.

## Desktop research results

### United Kingdom

## Annex 1. Definitions and interpretations of hate crime (including hate speech)

### 1. a) In law

Country	Definitions	Provided by whom	What do they say
UK	'Hate crime is defined as any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic.'	Police Service, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Prison Service (now the National Offender Management Service) and other agencies that make up the criminal justice system	The five monitored strands are: race; religion/faith; sexual orientation; disability; and gender-identity. Crimes based on hostility to age, gender, or appearance, for example, can also be hate crimes, although they are not part of the five centrally monitored strands.
UK	Meaning of "racial hatred".	Public Order Act 1983, part III	In this Part "racial hatred" means hatred against a group of persons defined by reference to colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origins.

### 1. b) In recommended police procedures

Country	Definitions	Provided by whom	What do they say
UK	Hate motivation	College of Policing	Hate crimes and incidents are taken to mean any crime or incident where the perpetrator's hostility or prejudice against an identifiable group of people is a factor in determining who is victimised.

UK	Hate incident	College of Policing	Any non-crime incident which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or transgender.
UK	Hate crime	College of Policing	A hate crime is any criminal offence which is perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person's race or perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or transgender.
UK	Hate crime prosecution	College of Policing	A hate crime prosecution is any hate crime which has been charged in the aggravated form or where the prosecutor has assessed that there is sufficient evidence of the hostility element to be put before the court when the offender is sentenced.

### **1. c) Examples of interpretations of law used in acquittal of hate crime (including hate speech) and in giving aggravated sentences**

Country		Provided by whom	What did they say
UK	There were 4,531 prosecutions in 2013 for racially or religiously aggravated crimes.	Courts	I am not competent to select a couple of cases from the 4,531.