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# Report\_Hate

ERASMUS+ PROJECT 2023-2025

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## Stop Online Hate:

# Hate Speech Classification Handbook Directory

SEPTEMBER, 2024

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## Table of Contents

Introduction	3
What is Hate Speech?	3
Part I - Global Categories	4
1. Religion-Based Hate	4
Religious Discrimination	4
Antisemitism	4
Islamophobia	6
Christophobia/Christianophobia (Also: Anti Catholicism)	7
2. Ethnic Hatred (Also: Racial Hatred, hate based on nationality)	8
Ethnicism (definition):	8
Xenophobia	8
Afrophobia	9
Anti-Asian (Also: Sinophobia)	10
Anti-Roma (Romani People, also spelled Romany or Rromani)	10
White Supremacy (Also: White Supremacism)	11
Anti-Refugee	12
Hate Speech Based on Skin Tone	14
Anti-Black (also: Anti Blackness)	14
Anti-White	15
3. Violence and Incitement	16
Incitement	16
Nation-Directed Violent Incitement	17
Glorification of Violence	18
Direct Threat	18
Supporting Terrorism	20
4. Dangerous Organizations and Movements	23
White Nationalism	23
Neo-Nazism	25
5. Sexual Orientation	28
Anti LGBTQ (Also: LGBTQQIP2SA)	28
Homophobia	28
Biphobia (Also: Monosexism)	31
6. Gender-Based Hate	31
Misogyny (also: Sexism)	31
Misandry	32
Transphobia (Also: Transmisia)	33
Gender-Based Violence (GBV)	34
7. Body Image/Appearance	35
Fatphobia	35
Skinny Shaming (Or: Fear or Hate Toward Skinny People)	36

Body Shaming	36
8. General	37
Dehumanization	37
Conspiracy Theory	39
CyberBullying	41
False or Fake Information (Also: Misinformation)	42
Desecration of Symbols	46
Proxy Words	47
Memes as Symbols of Hate Speech	48
Disturbing Content	51
9. Denial of Events	53
Holocaust Denial	53
10. Hate Based on Political Ideology	56
11. Legitimate Content	57
Part 2 - Local Categories	60
Slovakia	60

# Introduction

This document provides comprehensive examples of hate speech categories for the Report\_Hate project. Each example includes a detailed definition and, where possible, a corresponding photo. The aim of this document is to equip moderators in various reporting offices with a practical guide to aid them in swiftly identifying received content and effectively distinguishing between different categories.

To classify incoming reports, we assign categories that must be consistent across countries. These categories are based on internationally accepted standards and agreed upon with our partners. Using these universally applicable categories, we will prepare a final report that includes a comparative analysis by country, highlighting both similarities and national differences.

*Disclaimer: This material contains graphic evidence of toxic, illegal, or extremist content published on social media. None of this material can be used, shared, or propagated for any other than research purposes. The participants in this project hold no responsibility for such content.*

## What is Hate Speech?

There is currently no universal definition of hate speech under international human rights law. The concept remains under discussion, particularly concerning freedom of opinion and expression, non-discrimination, and equality.

In common usage, "hate speech" refers to offensive discourse that targets a group or individual based on inherent characteristics such as race, religion, nationality, or gender, posing a potential threat to social harmony. Hate speech is often discriminatory, exhibiting bias, bigotry, or intolerance, and can display prejudice, contempt, or disdain towards an individual or group.

Hate speech targets both real and perceived identity factors, including religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, color, descent, and gender. It also includes characteristics such as language, economic or social origin, disability, health status, sexual orientation, and many others. This type of speech can be conveyed through various forms of expression, including images, cartoons, memes, objects, gestures, and symbols, and can spread both offline and online.

## Part I - Global Categories

### 1. Religion-Based Hate

Religion-based hate, also known as religious bigotry, refers to intolerance and hostility directed towards individuals or groups based on their religious beliefs or affiliations. It manifests in various forms, ranging from verbal abuse and harassment to vandalism of religious sites and violent acts fueled by religious animosity. This hate can target adherents of specific religions or denominations and often stems from deep-seated prejudices, stereotypes, or extremist interpretations of religious teachings. Religion-based hate poses a significant threat to religious freedom, social cohesion, and the fundamental right of every individual to practice their faith without fear.

#### Religious Discrimination

Religious discrimination occurs when individuals or groups are treated unfairly based on their specific religious beliefs. This refers to situations where people of different faiths, denominations, or non-religious beliefs face unequal treatment, whether by legal measures or in institutional environments like employment or housing.

#### Antisemitism

Antisemitism refers to prejudice, hostility, or discrimination against Jewish people based on their ethnicity or religion. It can manifest in various forms, including verbal or physical attacks, stereotypes, conspiracy theories, and discrimination in social, economic, or political contexts. Antisemitism has a long history and continues to exist in contemporary society, posing significant challenges to the safety, well-being, and rights of Jewish individuals and communities. Common slang: kikes, Heeb, Christ Killer, Shylock, Goyim



Antisemitism

Instagram, May 2021. The content was removed



Antisemitism

X (Twitter) , May 2024



## Islamophobia

Islamophobia refers to prejudice, discrimination, or hostility towards Islam and Muslims, often stemming from stereotypes, misconceptions, or fear of Islam and its followers. It can manifest in various forms, including verbal abuse, hate speech, acts of violence, discrimination in employment or education, and policies targeting Muslims based on their religion or cultural practices.

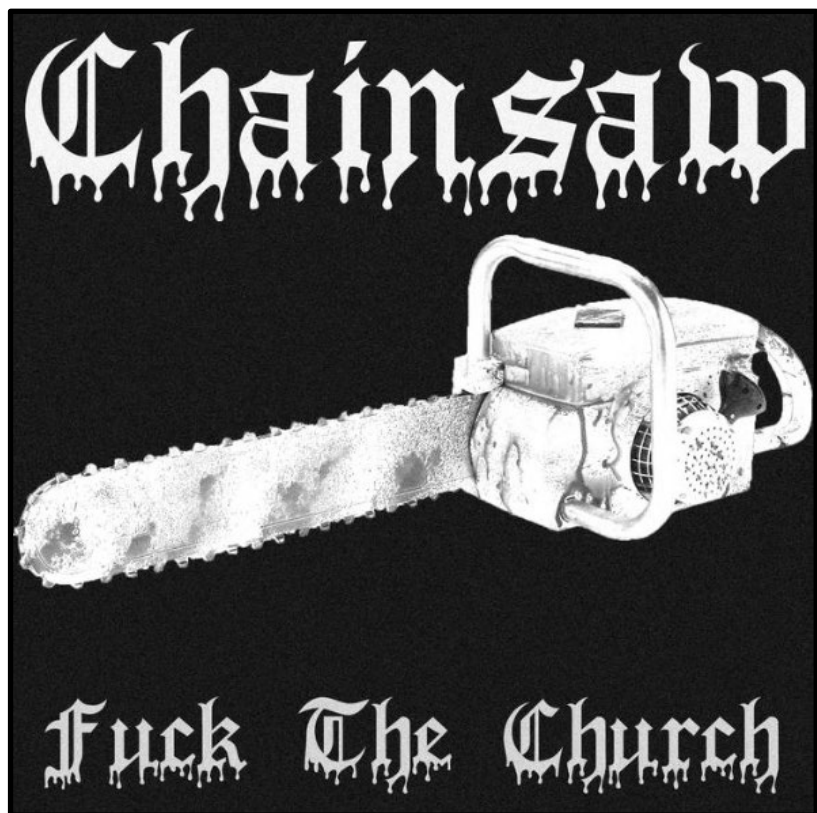
Islamophobia can have harmful effects on the social, economic, and psychological well-being of Muslim individuals and communities, contributing to marginalization, exclusion, and the violation of their rights.



Islamophobia

## Christophobia/Christianophobia (Also: Anti Catholicism)

Hostility towards Christians, known as Anti-Christian sentiment or Christophobia, is characterized by fear, hatred, discrimination, and prejudice against both individual Christians and the Christian faith itself. This sentiment has historically resulted in the persecution of Christians. Although termed Christophobia or Christianophobia, these labels include all forms of discrimination and intolerance directed towards Christians, as highlighted by the Council of European Episcopal Conferences.



Christophobia



## 2. Ethnic Hatred (Also: Racial Hatred, hate based on nationality)

### Ethnicism (definition):

The characteristic or state of being part of a group or subgroup composed of individuals who share a common cultural heritage or ancestry.

Examples for ethnic groups in Europe:

- Slavs
- Swedes
- Slovaks
- Romani People
- Germanic
- Basques

The concept of ethnic hatred, also known as racial hatred or interethnic hatred, is having negative feelings about and treating people differently because of their ethnicity. It can lead to conflict between different ethnic groups. In most cases, ethnic hatred is the result of tribalism or a history of conflict. It is not uncommon for ethnic conflicts to occur out of a sense of patriotism and a sense of superiority.

### Xenophobia

Xenophobia is an intense fear, prejudice, or hostility towards individuals perceived as foreign or different, often stemming from a sense of cultural superiority or a perceived threat to one's identity or community. It manifests in discrimination, exclusion, or violence directed at foreigners or minority groups based on their nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status.



### Xenophobia

*This post from X can be classified as xenophobic as well as Islamophobic*

### Afrophobia

Afrophobia specifically refers to fear, hatred, or prejudice against people of African descent, particularly those from the African continent. It emphasizes the phobia aspect, meaning an irrational fear or strong aversion. It is often used in discussions about attitudes towards African immigrants in various parts of the world and can include both cultural and racial aspects of prejudice. Afrophobic hate speech can also intersect with anti-refugee sentiments.



Figure 7, Afrophobia

X (Twitter), May 2024. Spanish, tweeted by a Spanish user : "Almost all Africans must return to Africa"

Figure 7, Afrophobia

X (Twitter), May 2024. Spanish, tweeted by a Spanish user : “Almost all Africans must return to Africa”

## Anti-Asian (Also: Sinophobia)

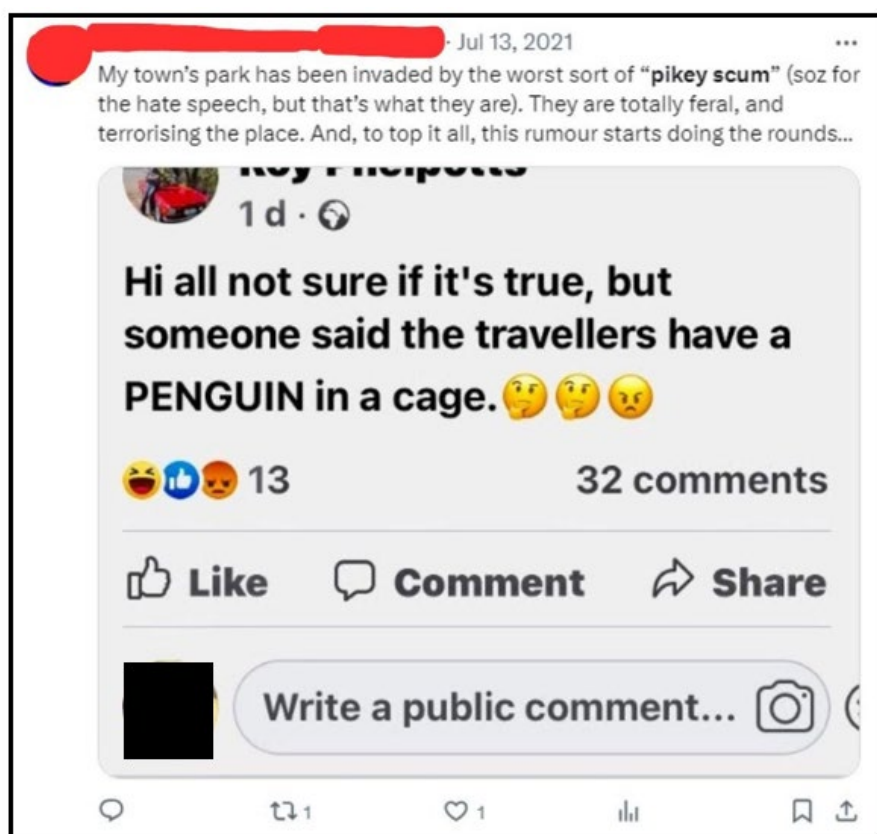
Anti-Asian discrimination refers to prejudice, hostility, or discrimination directed towards individuals or groups of Asian descent. This form of discrimination can manifest in various ways, including verbal abuse, physical violence, stereotyping, and exclusion from social, economic, or political opportunities. Anti-Asian sentiments are often fueled by cultural misconceptions, xenophobia, and historical biases, which can lead to hate speech, harassment, and discriminatory practices. In recent years, there has been a notable increase in anti-Asian incidents, particularly in the context of global events that have intensified xenophobic attitudes.

## Anti Roma (Romani people, also spelled Romany or Rromani)

Anti-Roma racism manifests through individual expressions and acts, as well as institutional policies and practices that marginalize, exclude, and physically harm Roma. It also devalues Roma cultures and lifestyles and involves hate speech directed at Roma and other groups stigmatized or persecuted as "Gypsies" during the Nazi era and still today. This results in the treatment of Roma as an alien group burdened with pejorative stereotypes and distorted images representing a specific form of racism.

Popular slang: English: Gypsy, Pikey

Serbian: Cigani



Anti Roma

X (Twitter), July 13, 2021

## White Supremacy (Also: White Supremacism)

White supremacy is an ideology that asserts the superiority of white people over people of other racial backgrounds. It promotes the belief that white people should maintain political, economic, and social dominance. This ideology is rooted in racism and has been used to justify a wide range of discriminatory practices and policies, including segregation, slavery, and other forms of racial inequality. White supremacy can manifest in various forms, from overt acts of violence and hate speech to more subtle forms of systemic discrimination and institutional bias. It has historically and continues to negatively impact people of color around the world.

Common Phrases:

"Defend 'Evropa'/Europa," or "Defend Europe- a slogan associated with the transnational far-right "Identitarian" movement, an ideologically Euro-centric group rooted in French ultranationalism and white nationalism.

Diversity = White Genocide- a slogan used by white nationalists and other white supremacist movements, typically in arguments alleging that diversity and immigration are part of a conspiracy to

replace the white population of Western countries, otherwise known as the Great Replacement conspiracy theory.

Love Your Race- a white supremacist slogan. In this case it references a perception of a "white" or "aryan" race and can be used to enforce a pride in self-imposed racial segregation.

White Pride - a popular neo-Nazi and white nationalist slogan which expresses pride in one's caucasian ancestry. It is often used as a rallying cry for a variety of racist movements.

"It's okay to be white" - This phrase, while appearing harmless, is often used as a dog whistle to express white nationalist sentiments. It perpetuates the notion that "white" identity is under threat and needs to be defended collectively. The phrase is frequently employed in white nationalist propaganda.

"Make White Babies"- This is a white nationalist slogan advocating for an increase in birth rates among "white" populations. It stems from the belief that declining birth rates pose a threat and is promoted as a solution to the Great Replacement and white genocide conspiracy theories.



White Supremacy

Gab Social Media, July 2023. A white supremacy symbol with antisemitic caricature

## Anti-Refugee

Anti-refugee sentiment specifically targets refugees, who are people forced to flee their home countries due to conflict, persecution, or disaster. It focuses on individuals or groups who have sought asylum or refuge in another country, often perceiving them as a burden or threat to the host society.

Common Phrases:

Rapefugee - A xenophobic slur that equates refugees with rapists, relying on racist stereotypes that portray certain ethnic groups as inherently violent or predatory. This term is used to incite hostility toward refugees and to support extreme anti-immigration rhetoric

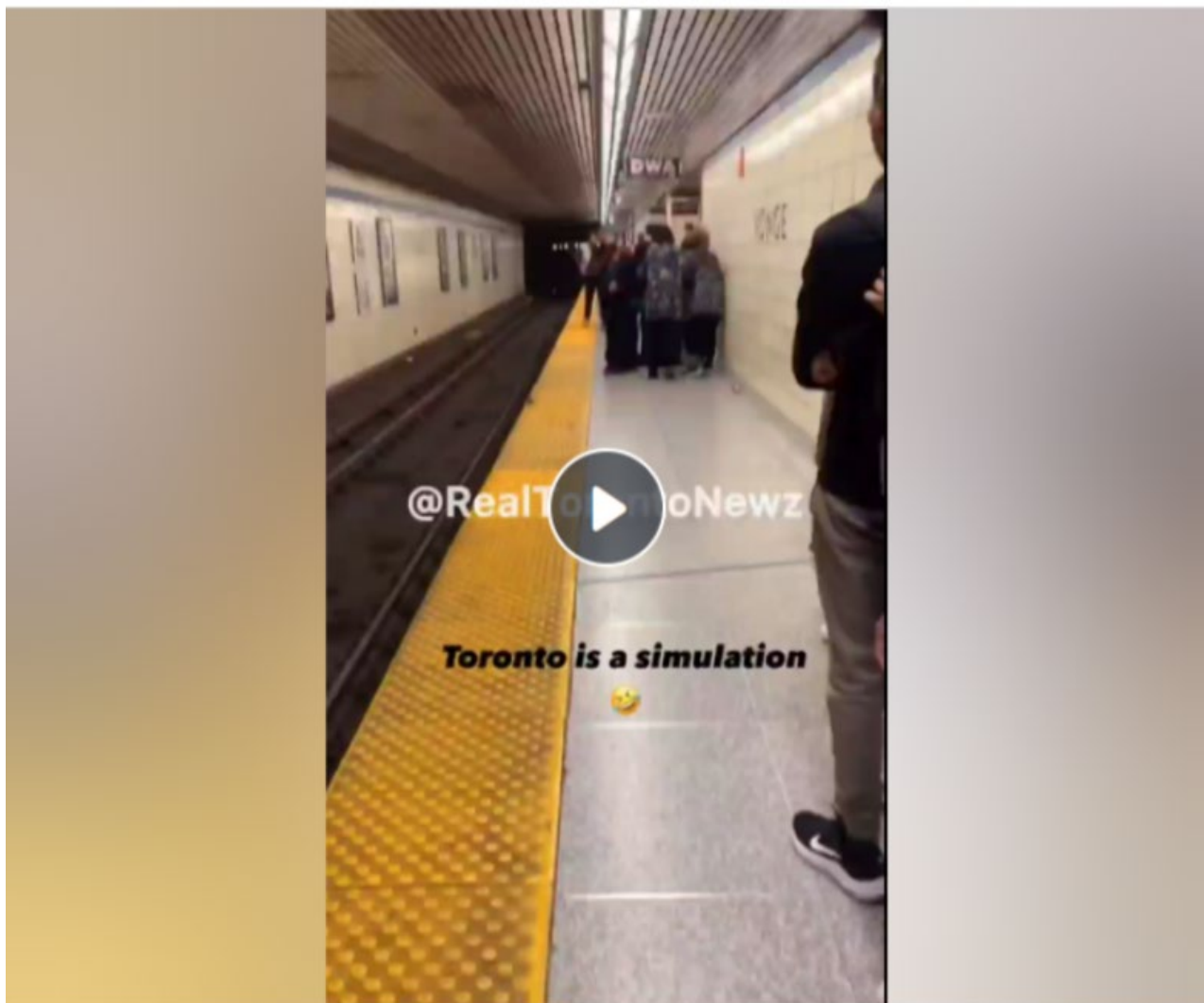
8 

4h ·  · Canada News, Politics and Culture All world news affects Canada somehow.

Look at the subway in Somalia...

Oh wait, they don't have subways in Somalia.

*Why the fuck are these people here?*



  7

2 reposts

*Anti-Refugee*

*Gab social media, May 2024. Anti Refugee Post*



## Hate Speech Based on Skin Tone

\*also known as colorism or shadeism

Hate speech based on skin tone targets individuals or groups due to the color of their skin, often reinforcing harmful stereotypes and perpetuating discrimination. This form of hate speech can demean, exclude, or incite violence against people of specific skin tones, contributing to racial prejudice and social division because of their appearance.

It is important to note that hate speech based on skin tone differs from ethnic hatred. Hate speech targeting skin tone focuses solely on the individual's skin color, without reference to their ethnic background. In contrast, ethnic hatred involves hostility toward a person's ethnic background, often explicitly mentioning it (e.g., of African descent).

### Anti Black (also: Anti Blackness)

Anti-Black is characterized by prejudice, collective hatred, discrimination, and extreme aversion towards Black or dark-skinned people and a disdain for Black culture worldwide. Unlike afrophobia, anti-Black is against Black people globally, regardless of their specific national or ethnic background. This term focuses on the racial aspect more than the geographical origin.

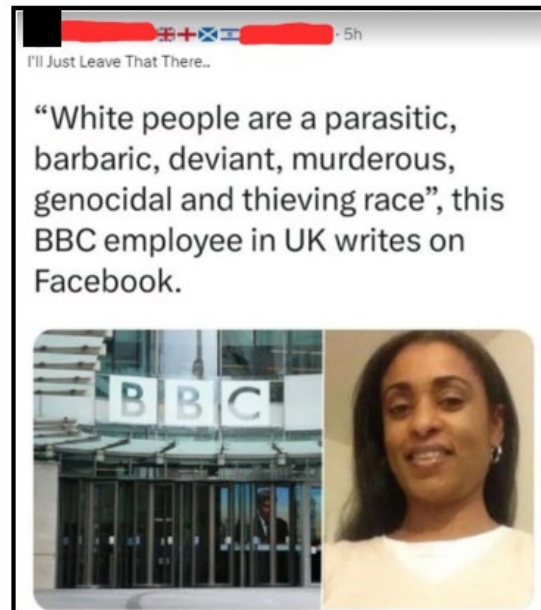


Anti Black

Gab Social Network, June 2023

## Anti White

Prejudiced, discriminatory, or hostility towards white people



Anti white tweet

X (Twitter) , September 2023



Various sources. 2018. "Kill all Whites". Protests against the white people on South Africa

### 3. Violence and Incitement

#### Incitement

Incitement refers to the act of encouraging or provoking others to engage in unlawful or harmful behavior, such as violence, discrimination, or other forms of aggression. It involves urging, persuading, or instigating individuals to commit violent actions against individuals or against a specific group of people. Incitement can manifest in various ways, including through speech, writing, or online communication, and is often regarded as a serious offense because it can provoke harmful actions.



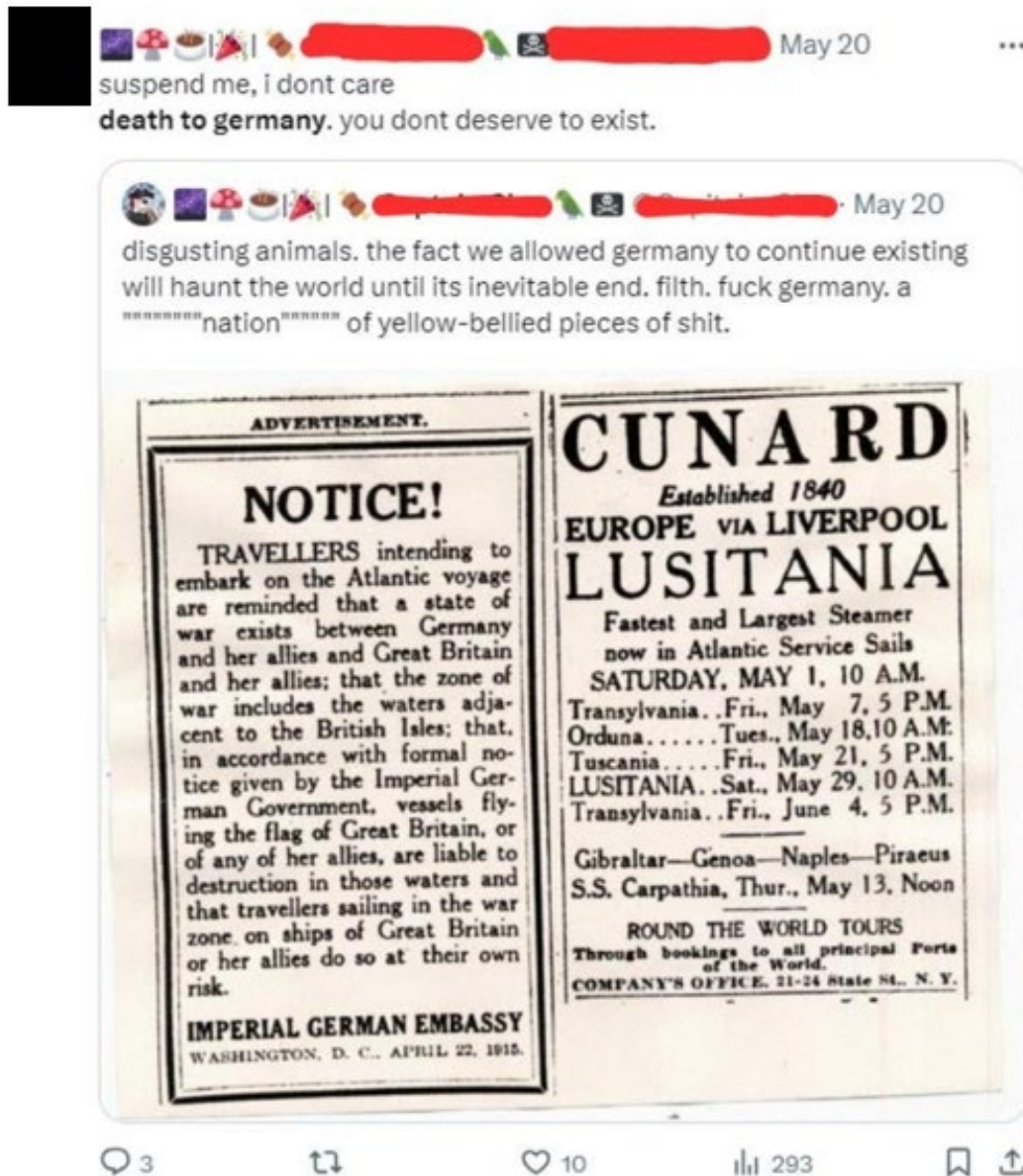
*Incitement*

Facebook, May 2024. Arabic. Incitement against Jews. The Hashtag in Arabic says "Attach Your Enemy".

*The content removed by the social media due to community guidelines violation*

## Nation-Directed Violent Incitement

Nation-Directed Violent Incitement refers to any speech, communication, or expression that explicitly advocates for violence, destruction, or harm against a specific country. This category encompasses threats, calls for violent actions, and any rhetoric that incites hatred or violence towards the nation's people, government, or infrastructure. Such speech aims to destabilize, intimidate, or eradicate the targeted country, often escalating tensions and potentially leading to real-world violence.



X, May 2024. Nation-Directed Incitement against Germany



## Glorification of Violence

Glorifying, praising, or celebrating acts of violence that result in harm, including expressing gratitude or admiration for incidents where individuals suffered physical harm due to violent actions. This also encompasses the glorification of animal abuse or cruelty.

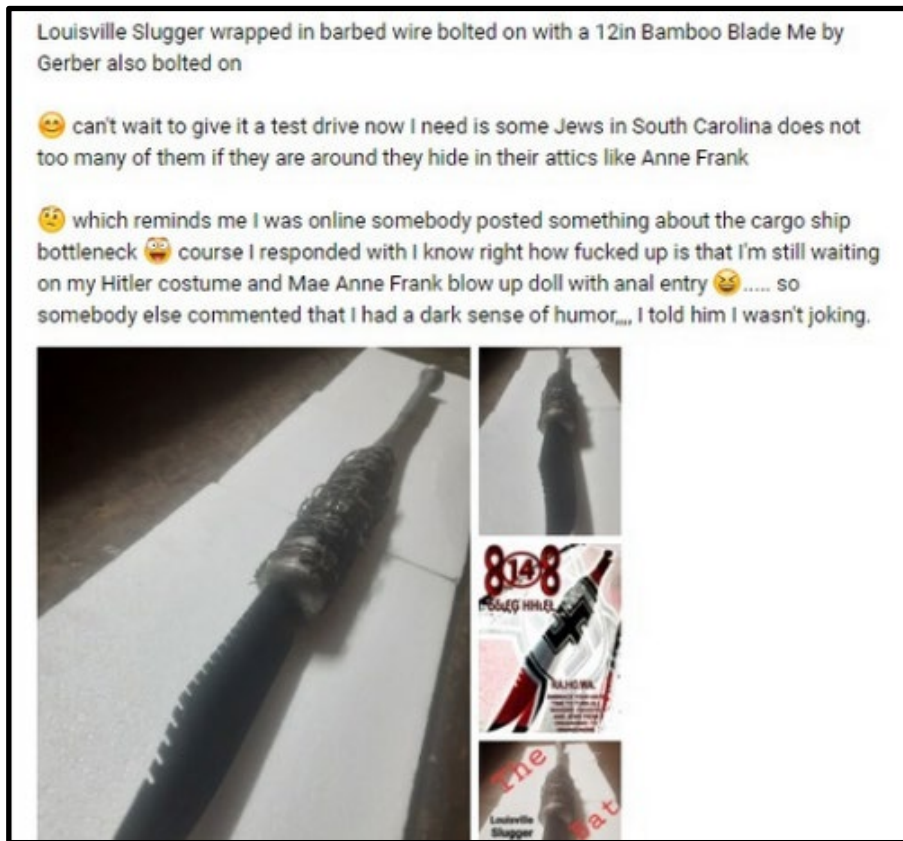


*Glorification of violence*

*Facebook, October 09, 2023. A video glorifying the October 7th massacre in Israel. This content can be categorized under two categories: Glorification of Violence and Supporting Terrorism*

## Direct Threat

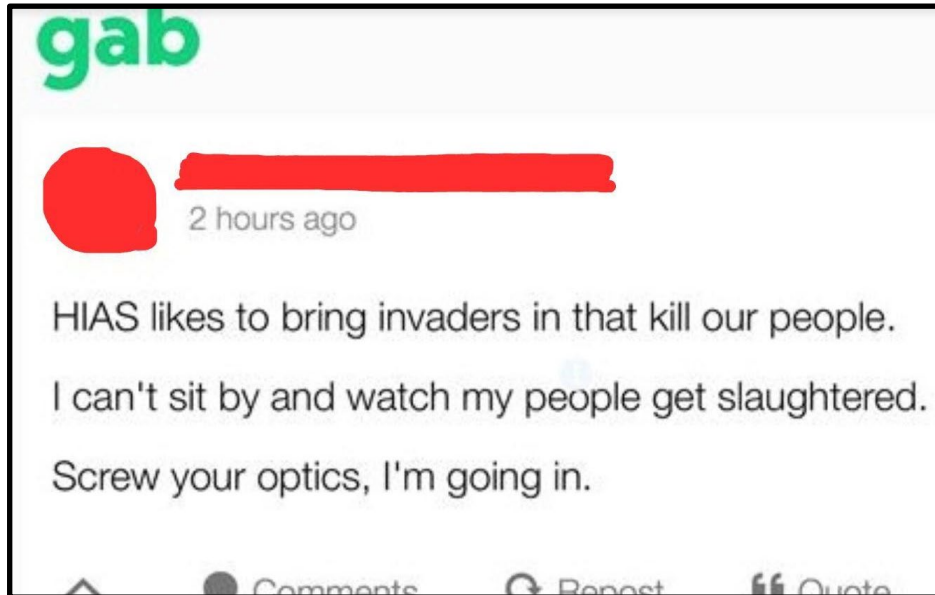
A direct threat refers to explicit statements or actions that indicate an immediate intention to cause harm to an individual, group, or organization. These threats can involve physical violence, property damage, or other forms of significant harm and are intended to spread fear or coerce the targeted parties. Direct threats are taken seriously by authorities and platforms, often leading to legal consequences and account suspension or removal.



#### Direct Threat

Vkontakte, November 2021. A direct threat against jews. Reported by a user located in the U.S.. The content was reported to the authorities in the US and removed by the social media





#### Direct Threat

*Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting: In October 2018, Robert Bowers posted on Gab Social Media against HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), a Jewish American nonprofit organization that provides humanitarian aid and assistance to refugees worldwide. A few hours after posting, he murdered eleven people and wounded six others at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. On August 2, 2023, he was sentenced to death.*

### Supporting Terrorism

Supporting terrorism content refers to any online material that endorses, promotes, or glorifies terrorist activities or organizations. This can include propaganda, recruitment messages, instructional guides for carrying out attacks, or any content that encourages individuals to commit acts of terrorism. Such content is designed to spread extremist ideologies, incite violence, and garner support for terrorist causes. This poses a significant

threat to public safety and security. The supporting terrorism category can be classified under any category of violence and can also be grouped with the category of dangerous organizations.



#### Terrorism

Telegram, March 2023 video published on an Islamist channel serves as a guide for making homemade bombs using simple materials.



#### Terrorism

Telegram, March 2023. A video published on an Islamist channel provides a guide on how to launch a surprise attack on a person, detailing where to stab them to cause maximum injury and death



Terrorism

X (Twitter), May 2024. Supporting Hamas. This Tweet can be categorized under two categories. 1. Supporting terrorism 2. Glorification of Violence

## 4. Dangerous Organizations and Movements

### White Nationalism

White Nationalism, also known as White Supremacy, is an ideology that asserts the superiority of the white race over all others and advocates for white dominance in society. It promotes the establishment of a white racial state and the expulsion or even genocide of nonwhite races if they refuse to leave. While culturally far-right, its economic and civic stances can vary, often aligning with Authoritarian Right or Third Positionist views. White Nationalists prioritize race over nation, believing that all white nations must unite against other races.





white nationalism

A photo of the white supremacy french group "Actif Club Dauphiné" presenting their flag



white nationalism

Flags of three white nationalists groups "Aktivklubb Norge" (Norway), "Actif Club France" and "Aktiivinen Seura Suomi" (Finland). December 2023.



*white nationalism*

*Russian: "Race mixing is white genocide. Stop killing white people."*

## Neo-Nazism

Neo-Nazism comprises militant social or political movements that emerged after World War II aiming to revive and implement Nazi ideology. Neo-Nazis seek to use their beliefs to promote hatred, attack minorities, and in some instances, establish a fascist state. This is a global phenomenon with organized groups in many countries and extensive international networks. Neo-Nazism incorporates elements of Nazi doctrine, including ultra-nationalism, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, anti-Romani sentiment, antisemitism, and anti-communism. Common features include Holocaust denial, the use of Nazi symbols, and admiration for Adolf Hitler.





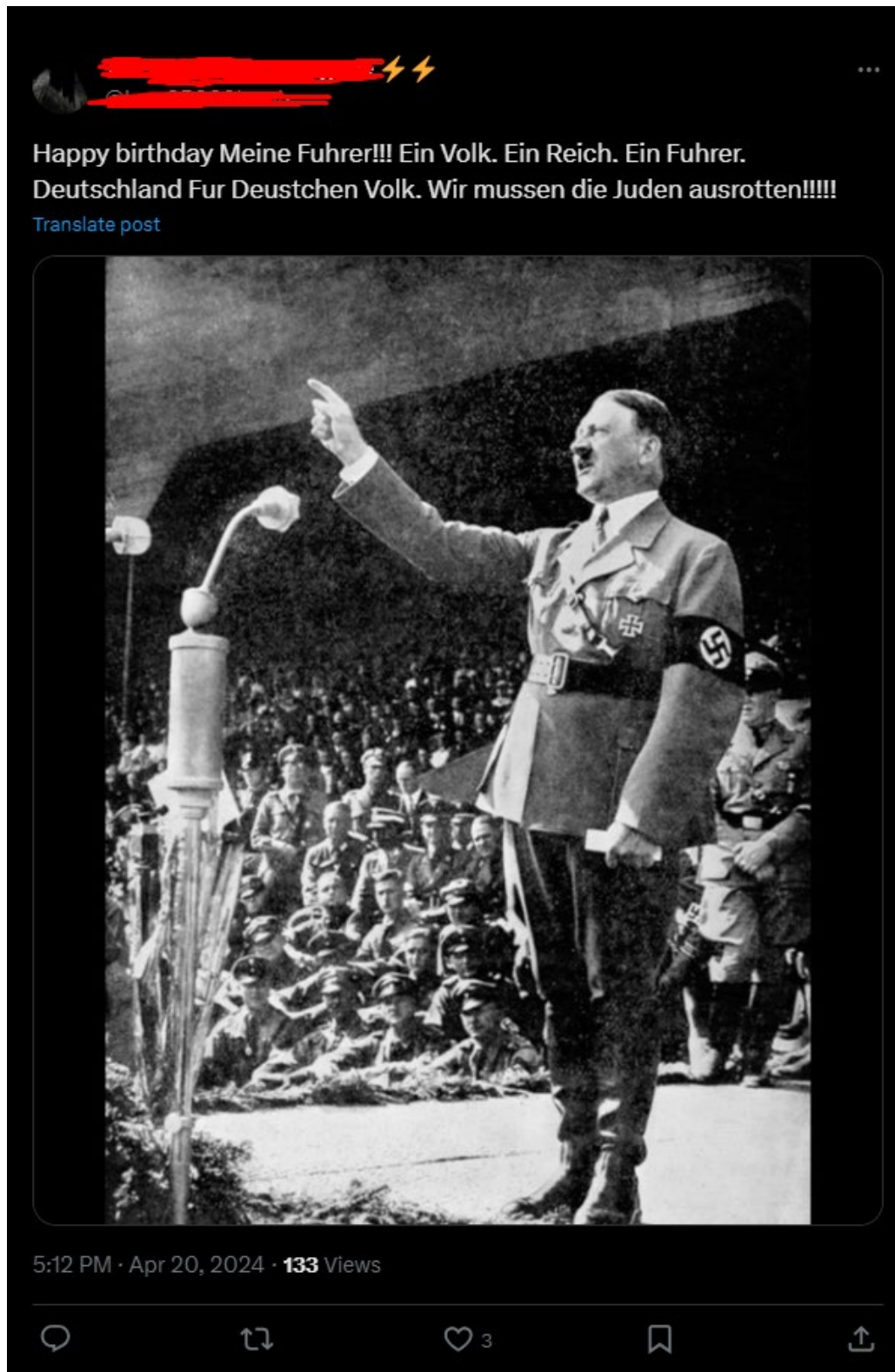
#### Neo Nazism

X (Twitter), February 2024. Neo Nazism. Spanish. "The current Nazis are laughable to me, but what truly angers and disgusts me are the actions of the Zionist Jews, who seem even more brutal and genocidal."



#### Neo Nazism

Reddit, December 2020. Neo nazi post regarding killing jews



Neo Nazism

X (Twitter), April 2024. German "Happy birthday my leaders!!! One person. One empire. One leader. Germany for the German people. We must exterminate the Jews!!!!!"

## 5. Sexual Orientation

### Anti LGBTQ (Also: LGBTQQIP2SA)

Anti LGBTQ (Or the more updated name, LGBTQQIP2SA- lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer/questioning, asexual) In anti-LGBTQ organizations and ideologies, homophobia is often expressed as a means of opposing LGBTQ rights. The opposition often portrays LGBTQ people as dangerous to children, society, and public health by using harsh rhetoric.



*Anti LGBTQ  
Twitter, April 2024.*

While LGBTQQIP2SA is an umbrella term encompassing various sexual orientations and gender identities, we can identify specific categories if hate speech targets a particular orientation. Examples are provided below.

Common Slurs: Thot- Usually refers to LGBTQ , mostly Lesbian women.

### Homophobia

Homophobia includes various negative attitudes and emotions directed towards homosexuality or individuals who are, or are believed to be, lesbian, gay, or bisexual. Individuals with homophobic attitudes may resort to hurtful language and derogatory name-calling when referring to lesbian and gay people.

Common slurs: Faggot, Fag, Sissy, Lesbo



Gab, June 2024. Homophobic post in the group 'Faggot Hate,' which regularly publishes homophobic content.



  88  
Oct 4th 2023 ·  Conservative News

Why?? She is a fat fucking nasty lesbo? No?



## Writer who called journalist 'fat lesbian' sentenced to prison, LGBTQ groups applaud


  8

4 replies 4 reposts

 Like

 Comment

 Repost

 Quote

 Share

Gab, October 2023. Homophobic Post: Refer to the user's comment above for context

### Biphobia (Also: Monosexism)

Biphobia is a form of aversion toward bisexuality or individuals who are identified or perceived as bisexual. Much like homophobia, it involves hatred and prejudice specifically directed at the

bisexual community. Biphobia can manifest as denial of bisexuality as a legitimate sexual orientation or through negative stereotypes about bisexual people, such as the beliefs that they are promiscuous, dishonest or mentally ill. Other forms of biphobia include bisexual erasure, which denies or invalidates the existence of bisexuality, and monosexism, which denies the validity of bisexuality and insists that only opposite-gender attraction is legitimate.

## 6. Gender-based hate

### Misogyny (also: Sexism)

Misogyny is the dislike or hatred of women. It shows up in many ways, like unfair treatment, insults, and violence against women. People can express misogyny through words, actions, rules, and societal norms that make women seem less important, stupid or evil. This leads to women being treated unfairly in different areas of life, such as at home, work, or in public. Recognizing and addressing misogyny is important for achieving equality and making society more inclusive.

Common Phrases:

Feminazi- often used in anti-feminist and misogynistic online communities to compare women who advocate for women's rights to Nazis. This term not only undermines the efforts of feminists but also trivializes the atrocities committed by Nazis, including the Holocaust.



X, June 2024. Misogyny





WHITE WOMEN ARE THE DEVIL 💔

6:22 AM · May 27, 2024 · 147 Views

X, May 2024. This tweet combines Misogyny and [Anti White Hate](#)

## Misandry

Misandry is the dislike or hatred of men or boys. It can show up in various ways, such as unfair treatment, insults, and negative stereotypes about men. People can express misandry through words, actions, and societal norms that make men seem less important, dirty , stupid or evil.

This can lead to men being treated unfairly in different areas of life, such as at home, work, or in public. Understanding and addressing misandry is important for promoting equality and creating a more inclusive society.



Reddit, 2017. Misandry

## Transphobia (Also: Transmisia)

Transphobia is an irrational fear of, aversion to, or discrimination against transgender people.

Homophobia and transphobia remain significant issues among LGBTQ youth, who face a higher risk of verbal harassment from classmates.

Common Slurs: Troon- A slur used by transphobes to refer to and dehumanize transgender women



April 2024, Gab, Transphobia. A post about a YouTube video claiming that Trans people are mentally ill. You can watch the video: [Here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRrwQLYwGvM)

## Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Gender-based violence (GBV) is defined as violence against women, men, or children living in the same home. Women and girls are usually the main victims, but GBV also harms men or boys. It's important to address GBV to protect everyone affected and to stop the cycle of abuse and violence.

## 7.Body Image/Appearance

### Fatphobia

Fatphobia is the fear, dislike, or prejudice against people who are overweight or obese. It involves negative attitudes, stereotypes, and discrimination based on a person's weight, often manifesting in

social exclusion, bullying, and unequal treatment in various areas of life such as employment and healthcare. This bias perpetuates harmful myths about body size and health, contributing to the stigmatization of larger bodies. Many people experience fatphobia at the gym or in restaurants. Sadly, even friends and family often make hurtful or negative comments about their weight.



X, February 2024. Fatophobia

## Skinny Shaming (Or: Fear or hate toward skinny people)

Skinny shaming is a form of body shaming directed at individuals with naturally thin or slender physiques. It often includes comments suggesting they should "eat more" or assumptions that they are unhealthy or lack strength. This can also affect individuals struggling with anorexia or other eating disorders, adding further stigma and misunderstanding around body image and health.

## Body Shaming

Body shaming involves humiliating or criticizing someone for their physical appearance. This can include fat-shaming, thin-shaming, height-shaming, and criticism based on hairiness, hair color, body shape, muscularity, penis size, breast size, and facial features. It can also extend to shaming people for having tattoos, piercings, or visible medical conditions like psoriasis.



Twitter, 2014. Body Shaming



Examples of Body Shaming

## 8. General

General categories are those that are often grouped together with another category. For example, Dehumanization and Afrophobia. Combining these two categories can provide more precise categorization.

### Dehumanization

Dehumanizing speech includes comparisons or generalizations that portray people or a group of people as:

Animals and Pathogens:

- Insects (e.g., cockroaches, locusts)
- Animals perceived as inferior (e.g., Black people compared to apes, Jewish people compared to rats, Muslim people compared to pigs, Mexican people compared to worms)

Certain Inanimate Objects and Non-Human States:



- Objects (e.g., women as household objects or property, Black people as farm equipment, transgender or non-binary people as “it”)
  - Feces (e.g., shit, crap)
  - Filth (e.g., dirt, grime, or implying a certain group has bad hygiene)
  - Bacteria, viruses, or microbes
  - Diseases (e.g., cancer, sexually transmitted diseases)
- Subhumanity:
- Terms like savages, devils, monsters, primitives

#### Criminals:

- Sexual predators (e.g., Muslim people having sex with goats or pigs)
- Violent criminals (e.g., terrorists, murderers, members of hate or criminal organizations)
- Other criminals (e.g., thieves, bank robbers, or generalizing a group as criminals)



X, November 2016. Dehumanization. Comparing Jews to Rats. This image should be categorized under two categories. Antisemitism and Dehumanization

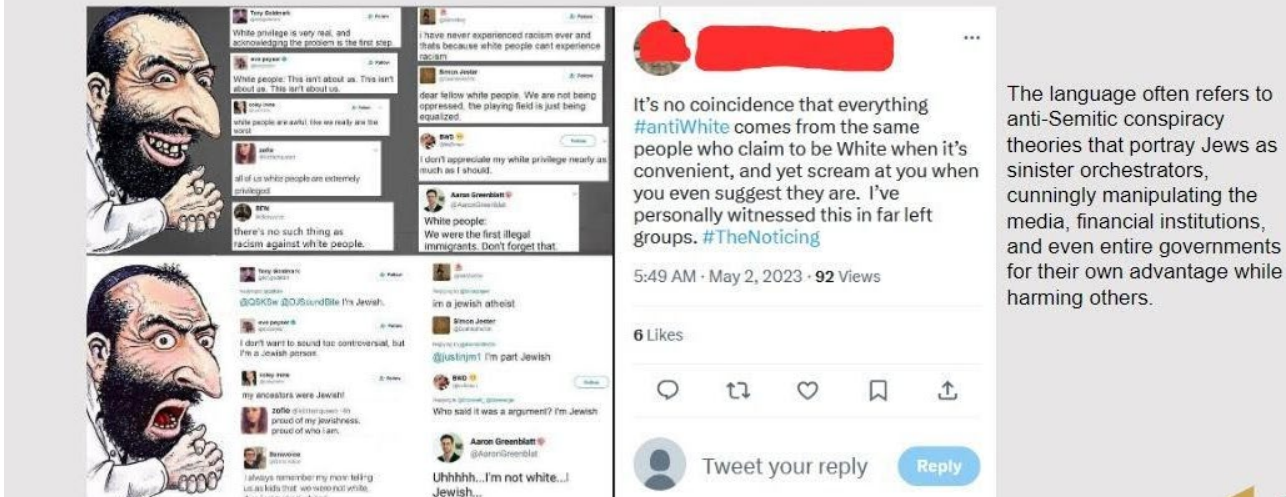


X, March 2024. Dehumanization of Muslims. This image should be categorized under two categories. Islamophobia and Dehumanization

## Conspiracy theory

A conspiracy theory is an explanation for an event or situation that claims a secret plan by powerful and sinister groups, often with political motives, even when other explanations are more likely. The term usually has a negative meaning, suggesting the theory is based on prejudice, strong emotions, or lack of evidence. Unlike a real conspiracy, a conspiracy theory is an unproven idea that goes against the views of experts like scientists or historians.

## Antisemitic Conspiracy Theories - The Noticing



X, May 2023. A tweet about “The Noticing” (Alternate names: Da Goyim Know), This phrase is often used in antisemitic conspiracy theories that portray Jews as evil masterminds controlling the media, banks, and governments for their own benefit while harming others. The phrase is meant to sound like a frightened Jew reacting to something that might expose these supposed Jewish schemes to non-Jews (referred to as "goyim," a derogatory Yiddish and Hebrew term for non-Jews).



VK, February 2022. A conspiracy theory claims that Jews were behind the 9/11 attacks

## CyberBullying

Cyberbullying is bullying that happens through digital technologies. It can occur on social media, messaging apps, gaming platforms, and mobile phones. This repeated behavior aims to scare, anger, or shame the target. Cyberbullying is typically targeted at individuals.

Examples include:

- Spreading lies or posting embarrassing photos or videos of someone on social media
- Sending hurtful, abusive, or threatening messages, images, or videos via messaging platforms
- Impersonating someone to send mean messages to others or using fake accounts

Cyberbullying is often grouped with another category since cyberbullying is the action done to express hate or violence against an individual. For example, body shaming or physical threats on a religious basis.

There are various ways to commit cyberbullying, as outlined below. Regardless of the method, all should be categorized as cyberbullying.

- **Cyberstalking:** Cyberstalking involves using the Internet or electronic means to harass someone, including actions such as making false accusations, threats, or identity theft. It invades a person's digital life and harms their mental and emotional well-being..
- **Hate Raids:** Hate raids occur when a stream is overwhelmed by viewers flooding the chat with harassment and hateful messages, disrupting the streamer's ability to continue. These viewers are often (but not always) automated bots, making them hard to moderate and block.
- **Spam:** Spamming involves creating multiple accounts and bombarding a target with messages. This type of harassment is illegal and can occur in person, over the phone, through text messages, on social media, or by any other means. There are laws in place against cyberbullying to protect people from this behavior.
- **Impersonation:** Impersonation is the act of pretending to be someone else. If the offender pretends to be the victim, they can damage the victim's reputation by saying or doing harmful things. This can include hacking into the victim's social media account and spreading false information.
- **Doxxing:** Doxxing is the act of publicly revealing someone's private information, such as their address or phone number, without their consent. This malicious act is often intended to harass, intimidate, or harm the targeted individual.
- **Sexual Harassment:** Online sexual harassment, a form of cyberbullying, involves sending unwanted sexual messages, images, or threats over digital platforms. This behavior is illegal and can have serious emotional and psychological effects on the victim.
- **Sextortion:** Sextortion, a form of sexual harassment, involves coercing someone into sharing intimate images and then threatening to release them unless demands, often for money, are met. This specific type of blackmail is considered both sexual harassment and cyberbullying. Sextortion is a crime.

Many jurisdictions have enacted laws which prohibit the above conduct. Online conduct can fall within the scope of anti-stalking and anti-harassment laws. Information concerning an individual's home, sex life, reputation and identity may fall within the scope of Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights. Much of the above conduct may also be criminal depending on the jurisdiction and circumstances in which it occurs.

## False or Fake Information (Also: Misinformation)



False information consists of news, stories, or hoaxes intentionally crafted to mislead or deceive readers. These stories are often designed to influence public opinion, advance political agendas, or create confusion, and can be a lucrative business for online publishers. Such false information can trick people by mimicking trusted websites or using names and web addresses that closely resemble those of reputable news organizations. Since the rise of social media, false information has become very common on these platforms because it can easily gain high exposure and exert significant influence.

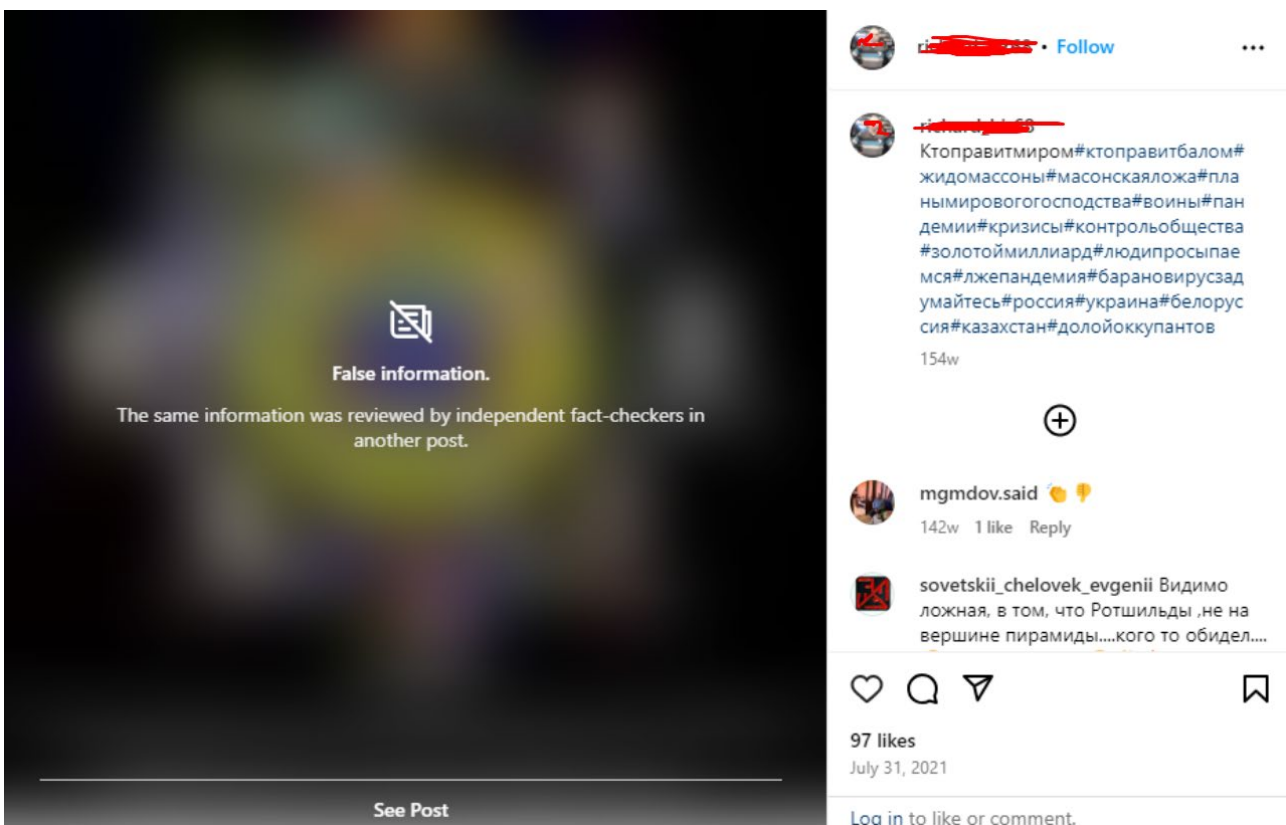
- **Imposter Content-** Imposter content occurs when fake sources pretend to be real ones. This is risky because it makes false information look like it is coming from a trustworthy news source.
- **Manipulated Content-** Manipulated content involves altering real information or images to deceive people, such as through edited photos or videos. This can mislead people and create false narratives about someone or something.
- **Deep Fake-** A deepfake is a type of synthetic media created using artificial intelligence, particularly deep learning techniques, to manipulate or generate visual and audio content that appears real. Deepfakes typically involve swapping faces, altering expressions, or mimicking voices in videos or images, making it seem as though someone said or did something they never actually did. While deepfake technology can be used for entertainment or creative purposes, it is often associated with malicious intent, such as spreading misinformation, creating fake news, or compromising the reputations of individuals. The ease with which deepfakes can deceive viewers raises significant concerns about their potential impact on privacy, trust, and security. Although it can sometimes be difficult to recognize, the team should remain vigilant and alert to identify such content. You can learn more about DeepFakes and how to better recognize them in this YouTube video.: <https://2ly.link/1zQ1U>



X, June 2024. False Information: A tweet claims that Brigitte Macron (the wife of Emmanuel Macron, the current president of France) is actually a man



X, June 2024. False Information: A tweet claims that Brigitte Macron (the wife of Emmanuel Macron, the current president of France) is actually a man



Instagram, July 2021. False information. The platform did not remove the post but added a warning label marking it as false informing users in advance.

## Desecration of Symbols

Desecration of symbols is a way to express hate. This category will most likely be categorized as a subcategory. Desecration of symbols involves intentionally defacing, damaging, or disrespecting symbols that hold significant meaning to a particular group, aiming to demean, insult, or incite hostility against that group. This behavior targets and offends individuals based on their cultural, religious, or social identity. A common example is flag desecration, where acts like burning, damaging, or humiliating flags occur. Some countries have laws against specific methods of flag destruction, such as public burning or commercial use. These laws often distinguish between the desecration of the national flag and flags of other nations. Additionally, some countries have banned the desecration of all flags, whether national or foreign.

In the following countries flag desecration is illegal and carries penalties:

- Croatia- up to 1 year imprisonment
- Israel- up to 3 years imprisonment
- Germany- up to 3 years imprisonment
- Hungary- up to 1 year imprisonment
- Slovakia - up to 3 years of imprisonment. In Slovakia, the law protects only the Slovakian flag. There are no laws against desecrating flags of other countries, including those of European nations.
- North Macedonia - imprisonment from 1 to 5 years (when the desecration aims to incite hatred or intolerance).



Desecration of the Israeli flag has become increasingly common since October 7th



Gab, June 2024. Quran desecration

## Proxy Words

"Proxy words" are words or phrases used to spread hate indirectly. Instead of using obvious offensive language, people use these words as a substitute to avoid breaking rules or laws. These can be code words or harmless-sounding terms that have a hateful meaning in certain contexts. This makes it harder to spot and stop hate speech because the harmful intent is hidden behind less obvious language. In the process of categorizing content, each member must be able to recognize proxy words that indicate hate speech.





X, March 2024. The term "Globalist" used as a proxy word for Jews

## Memes as Symbols of Hate Speech

Memes have increasingly become a tool for spreading hate speech. These images and videos, which often rely on satire or irony, are now being repurposed to propagate harmful content. The simplicity and shareability of memes makes them an especially effective way to disseminate hateful messages easily and widely. Memes containing hate speech can bypass traditional content moderation systems and reach a wide audience with reduced scrutiny. It is crucial for content moderators or teams assigned to categorize content to be familiar with at least the most common hate memes circulating on social media.

### Examples:

Pepe The Frog (Also known as "Sad Frog")

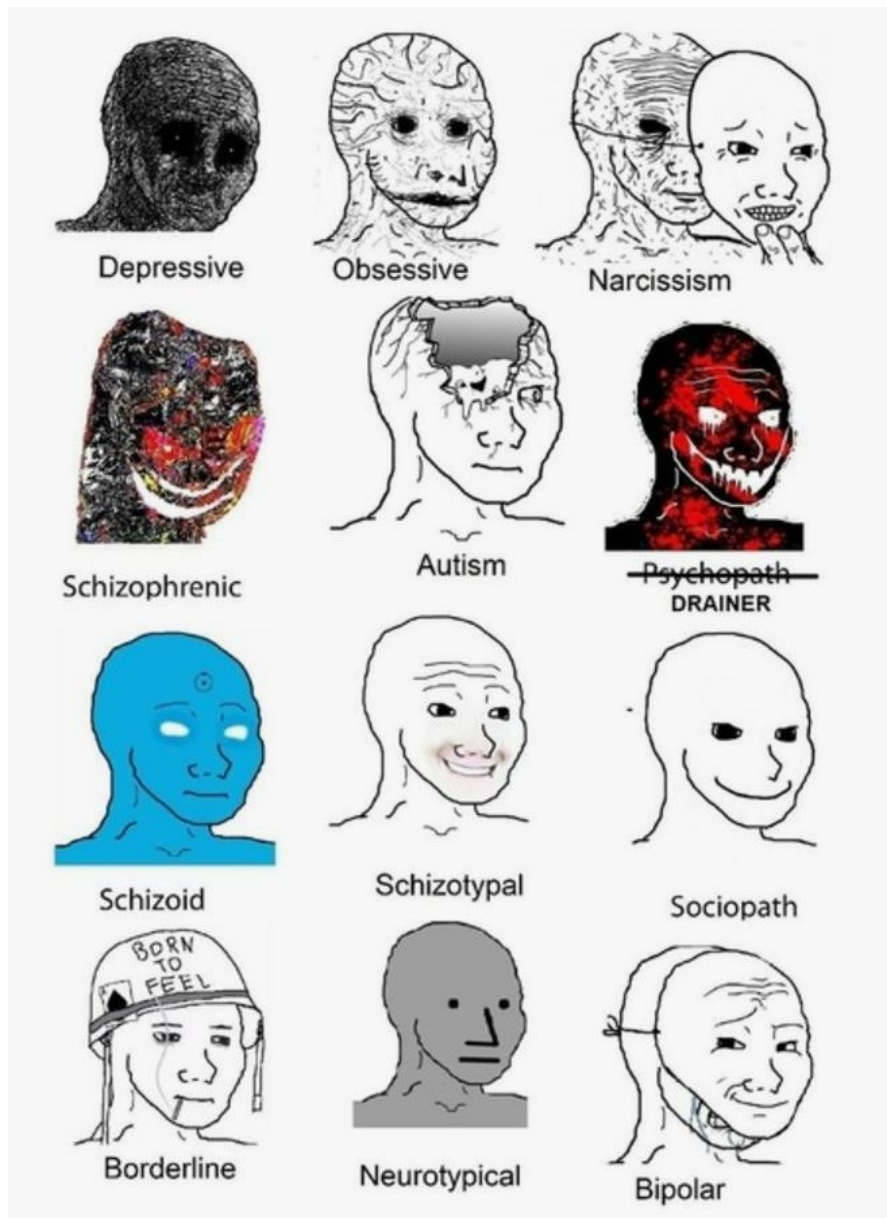
Pepe the Frog, a cartoon character from the 2005 comic *Boy's Club*, started as a harmless meme with the catchphrase "feels good, man." Originally, it wasn't connected to racism or hate. However, as the meme spread on sites like 4chan and Reddit, some users began using it to share racist and bigoted messages, especially with the rise of the "alt right" and during the 2016 election in the United States. Although many Pepe memes are still innocent, it's important to look at the context to see if a meme is being used to promote hate.



## Brainlet

Brainlet is a series of Wojak\*\* images featuring a character with a small, often deformed brain. The meme is frequently used to mock individuals with differing viewpoints, especially in political discussions, and is sometimes used to ridicule and dehumanize people with intellectual disabilities.

\*\*Wojak (from Polish *\*wojak\** [ˈvɔjak], meaning 'soldier' or 'fighter'), also known as “Feels Guy”, is an Internet meme originally depicted as a simple, black-outlined cartoon of a bald man with a wistful expression.



Yes Chad (Also known as: Nordic Gamer)

is often used by far-right extremists to express hateful views.

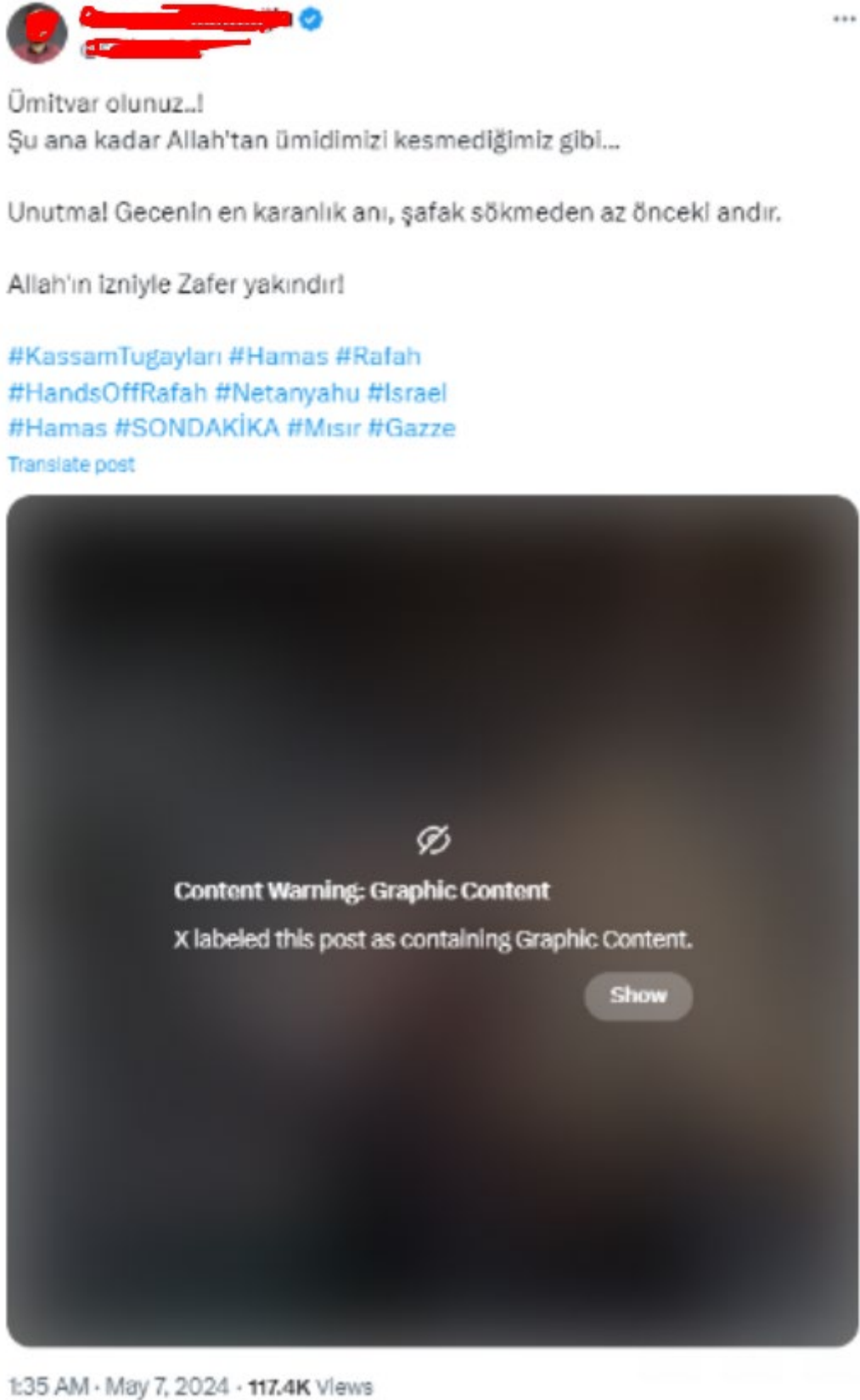


## Disturbing Content

Disturbing content is defined as content that is disturbing or distressing as it depicts a highly violent or offensive action. This includes:

- **Illegal content:** This includes any content that depicts, describes, promotes, or encourages violent crimes such as child sexual abuse, terrorism, murder, attempted murder, rape, or torture
- **Violent content:** This refers to images, videos, or stories showing self-harm or actual harm to individuals.
- **Age-inappropriate content:** This covers sexual images, nudity or any material deemed unsuitable for individuals under 18, including explicit or disturbing content.





X, May 2024. The video depicts deceased Israeli soldiers, who are victims of Hamas terrorists, in a manner that is both shocking and highly inappropriate. Additionally, the content, written in Turkish, glorifies the actions and killings portrayed. The social media platform chose not to remove the content and instead applied a content warning label.



## 9. Denial of Events

Denial of events, such as the Holocaust or other historical atrocities, is a form of hate speech that seeks to distort or outright deny established facts to promote harmful ideologies. This type of rhetoric not only disrespects the victims and survivors of these events but also fosters intolerance, misinformation, and prejudice. Denial of well-documented events can incite further hatred and violence, particularly when used to support extremist views or undermine vulnerable communities. Combating this form of hate speech is crucial to upholding truth, promoting understanding, and preventing the spread of harmful misinformation.

### Holocaust Denial

The present definition is an expression of the awareness that Holocaust denial and distortion have to be challenged and denounced nationally and internationally and need examination at a global level. IHRA hereby adopts the following legally non-binding working definition as its working tool. Holocaust denial is discourse and propaganda that deny the historical reality and the extent of the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices during World War II, known as the Holocaust or the Shoah.

Holocaust denial refers specifically to any attempt to claim that the Holocaust/Shoah did not take place. Holocaust denial may include publicly denying or calling into doubt the use of principal mechanisms of destruction (such as gas chambers, mass shooting, starvation and torture) or the intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people. Holocaust denial in its various forms is an expression of antisemitism. The attempt to deny the genocide of the Jews is an effort to exonerate National Socialism and antisemitism from guilt or responsibility in the genocide of the Jewish people.

Forms of Holocaust denial also include blaming the Jews for either exaggerating or creating the Shoah for political or financial gain as if the Shoah itself was the result of a conspiracy plotted by the Jews. In this, the goal is to make the Jews culpable and antisemitism once again legitimate. The goals of Holocaust denial often are the rehabilitation of an explicit antisemitism and the promotion of political ideologies and conditions suitable for the advent of the very type of event it denies. Distortion of the Holocaust refers, inter alia, to:

1. Intentional efforts to excuse or minimize the impact of the Holocaust or its principal elements, including collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany;
2. Gross minimization of the number of the victims of the Holocaust in contradiction to reliable sources;

3. Attempts to blame the Jews for causing their own genocide;
4. Statements that cast the Holocaust as a positive historical event. Those statements are not Holocaust denial but are closely connected to it as a radical form of antisemitism. They may suggest that the Holocaust did not go far enough in accomplishing its goal of “the Final Solution of the Jewish Question”;
5. Attempts to blur the responsibility for the establishment of concentration and death camps devised and operated by Nazi Germany by putting blame on other nations or ethnic groups.<sup>1</sup>

Currently, 18 European countries, along with Israel and Canada, have laws that make Holocaust denial a punishable offense in certain circumstances. Some countries, such as Germany, ban Holocaust denial outright, whilst others, such as Italy, make Holocaust denial an aggravating factor in respect of sentencing for related hate speech laws.<sup>2</sup> Whilst the United Kingdom does not criminalize Holocaust denial, the English Courts have effectively ruled that the Holocaust did take place, and has held that Holocaust denial can be the foundation of an assertion that an individual is racist.<sup>3</sup> Many countries also have broader laws that criminalize the denial of any genocide, including the Holocaust. Among the countries that have banned Holocaust denial, Russia, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania have also banned Nazi symbols. Additionally, justifying genocide or portraying Nazism positively is a criminal offense in several countries.

Common phrases and hashtags related to holocaust denial:

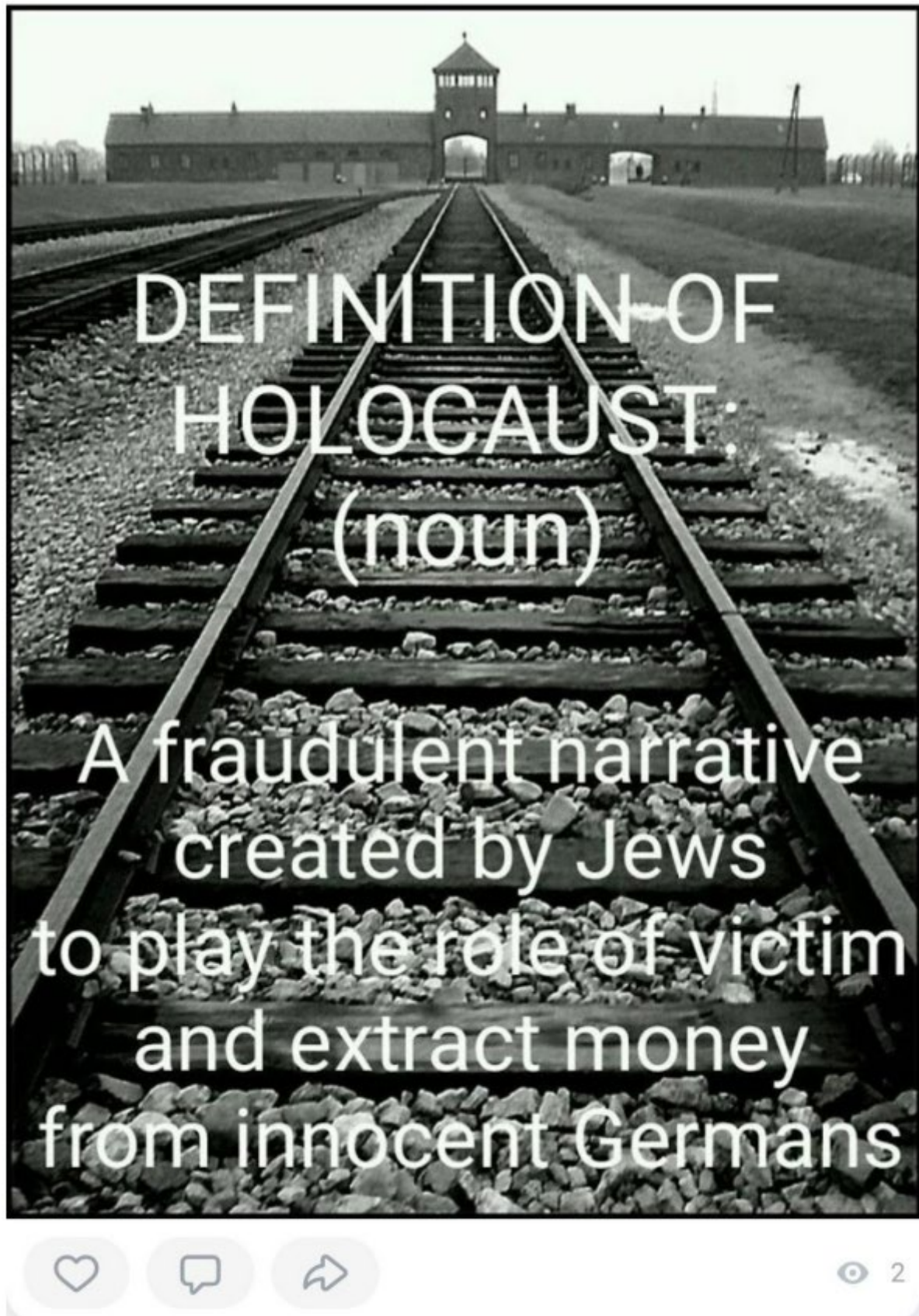
Holoax, Holofraud

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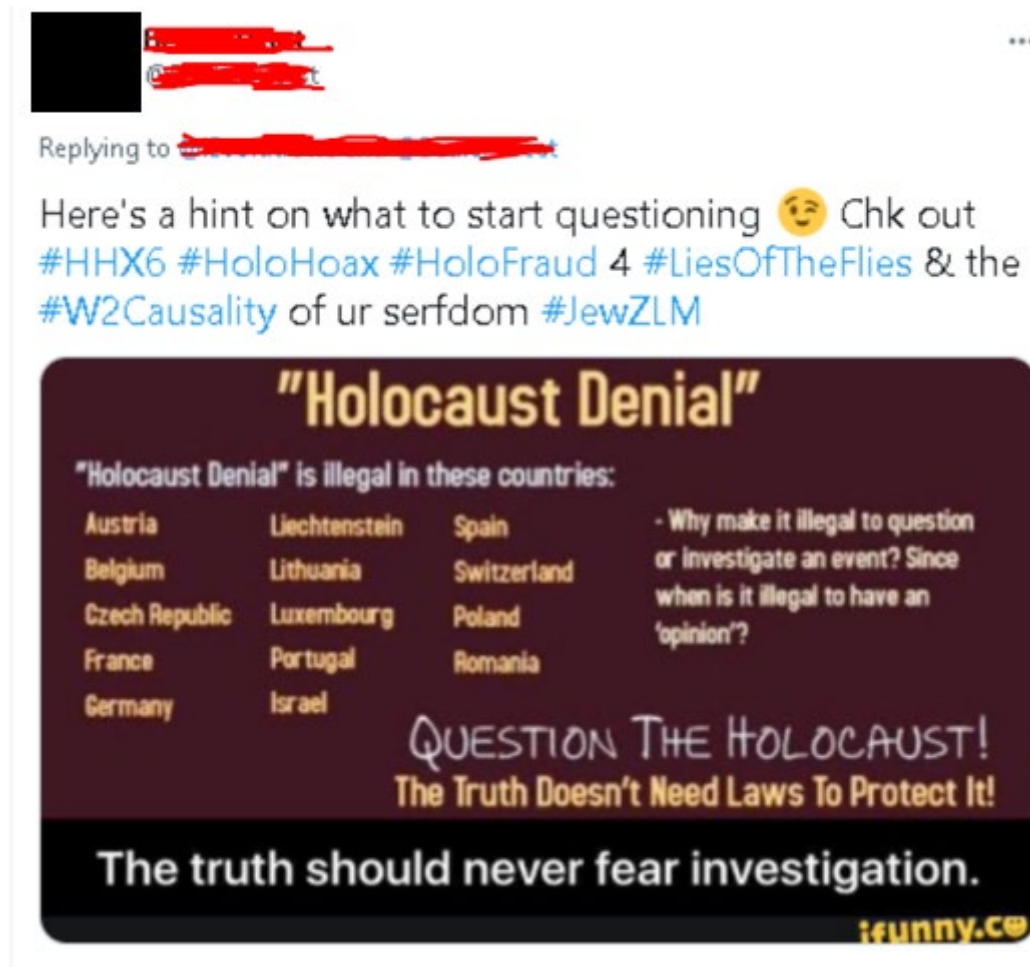
<sup>1</sup> International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. (n.d.). **Working definition of Holocaust denial and distortion.** <https://holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definition-holocaust-denial-distortion>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2021/698043/EPRS\\_BRI\(2021\)698043\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2021/698043/EPRS_BRI(2021)698043_EN.pdf) ; <https://www.worldjewishcongress.org/en/news/swedish-parliament-proposes-resolutions-to-outlaw-holocaust-denial-and-distortion>

<sup>3</sup> Irving v. Penguin Books Limited, Deborah E. Lipstat [2000] EWHC QB 115 (11th April, 2000), chaoter 9



VK, September 19, 2023. Holocaust Denial



X, February 2022. Holocaust Denial

## 10. Hate based on political ideology

Hate based on political ideology violates fundamental human rights by undermining the right to freedom of thought, opinion, and expression, which are protected by international human rights laws. When individuals or groups are targeted, harassed, or discriminated against due to their political beliefs, it suppresses their ability to participate freely in political discourse and to express their views without fear of retaliation. This type of hate also threatens the right to equality and non-discrimination, as it marginalizes people based on their ideologies rather than respecting their inherent dignity. Such actions weaken democratic values and the protection of basic freedoms for all.

## 11. Legitimate content

Content moderators who categorize content must be able to distinguish between legitimate content and hate speech to avoid mistakenly categorizing legitimate content as hate speech. This ability to discern between legitimate and illegitimate content helps prevent wasting time on irrelevant content that should not be reported or documented.

Freedom of expression includes legitimate content, allowing individuals to voice their opinions, ideas, and beliefs without government interference. It encompasses valid criticism of a country, its politics, or the views of groups or individuals, provided it is not intended to harm or threaten.

Below is a list of content types considered legitimate and should not be categorized as hate speech, provided they align with the definitions above:

- Political Criticism – An essential aspect of freedom of speech and democracy
- Satire and Parody – Acceptable as long as it is not insulting and remains within the bounds of good taste
- Religious Discussion – Sharing opinions and theories is legitimate, as long as it is not for the purpose to insult or desecrate.
- Cultural Critique- content that criticizes any social phenomenon
- Artistic Expression- Acceptable as long as it is not insulting and remains within the bounds of good taste
- Media Reporting – This can sometimes be confusing. Media channels report events and present facts. Even though some media channels may exhibit bias, their content is generally not considered hate speech
- Historical Analysis- Legitimate historical analysis involves the objective examination and interpretation of past events, using evidence and scholarly methods to provide an accurate understanding of history. This type of analysis should be free from bias and not intended to distort facts or propagate harmful ideologies
- Educational Content- Legitimate educational content is material designed to inform, instruct, or educate an audience, typically following established educational standards and guidelines. This content is factual, unbiased, and aims to promote knowledge and understanding without inciting discrimination, hatred, or harm.





### 10 Reasons Catholicism is NOT Christian

76K views • 3 years ago



Revealing Truth

Catholicism has some similarities to Christianity, but can we con

YouTube, 2021. This is a legitimate theory about Catholicism



X, July 2024. Legitimate Political Criticism



YouTube, Media reporting by the British 'Sun' about 'Russian TV threatens 'UK's nuclear annihilation with giant radioactive tsunami & Satan-2 missiles'

## Part 2 - Local Categories

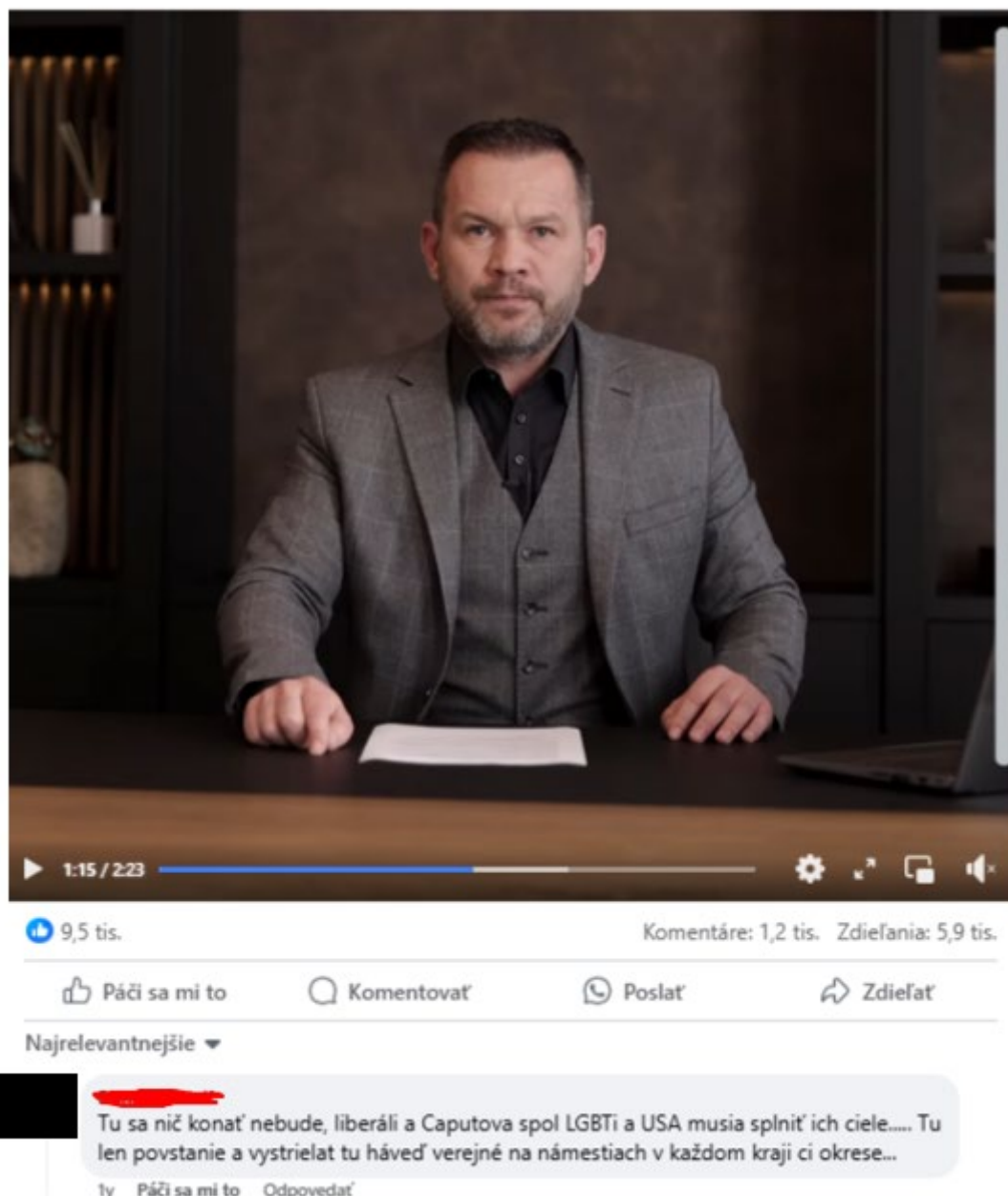
*\*Part 2 features a separate section for each country or region, with categories specific to that country or region.*

### Slovakia

#### Main Category: Hate Based on Political Ideology

Hatred today most commonly centers around the conservative-progressive divide, with anti-progressive and anti-liberal sentiments being especially prevalent. However, significant hate is also directed at those who criticize liberal values, question Western institutions like the EU and NATO, or express sympathies toward Russian policies.

#### Subcategory: Anti-Progressive and Anti-Liberal Hatred



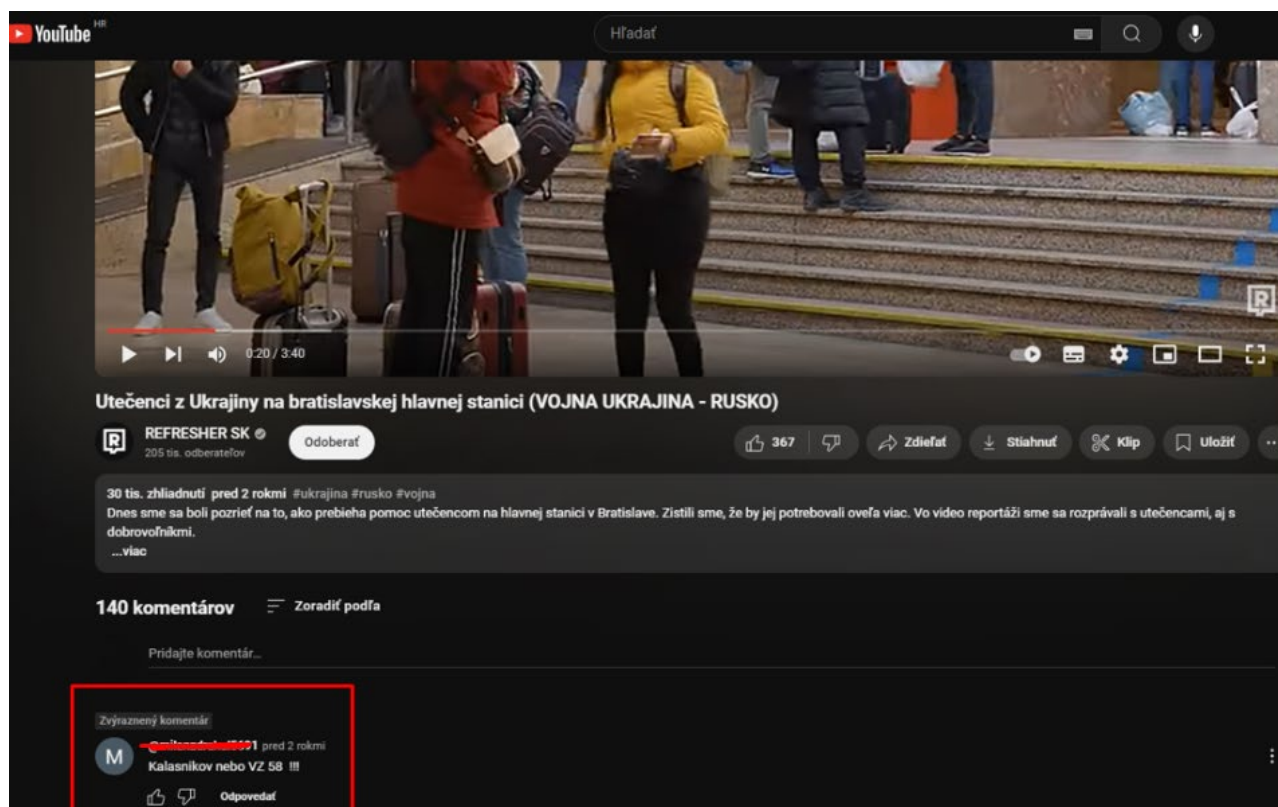
Facebook, May 2023: "Nothing will happen here, liberals and Caputova's (the president's) LGBTs and the US must meet their goals..... Here just a mutiny and shoot that scum publicly in the squares in every county or district...)



Main Category: Ethnic Hatred

Subcategory: Anti-Ukrainian Hate

Ukrainians are commonly portrayed as "fascists", "nazis" or "banderites" (supporters of Ukrainian extreme-right leader S. Bandera), and blamed for taking advantage of the war to gain financial support and free housing in host countries.



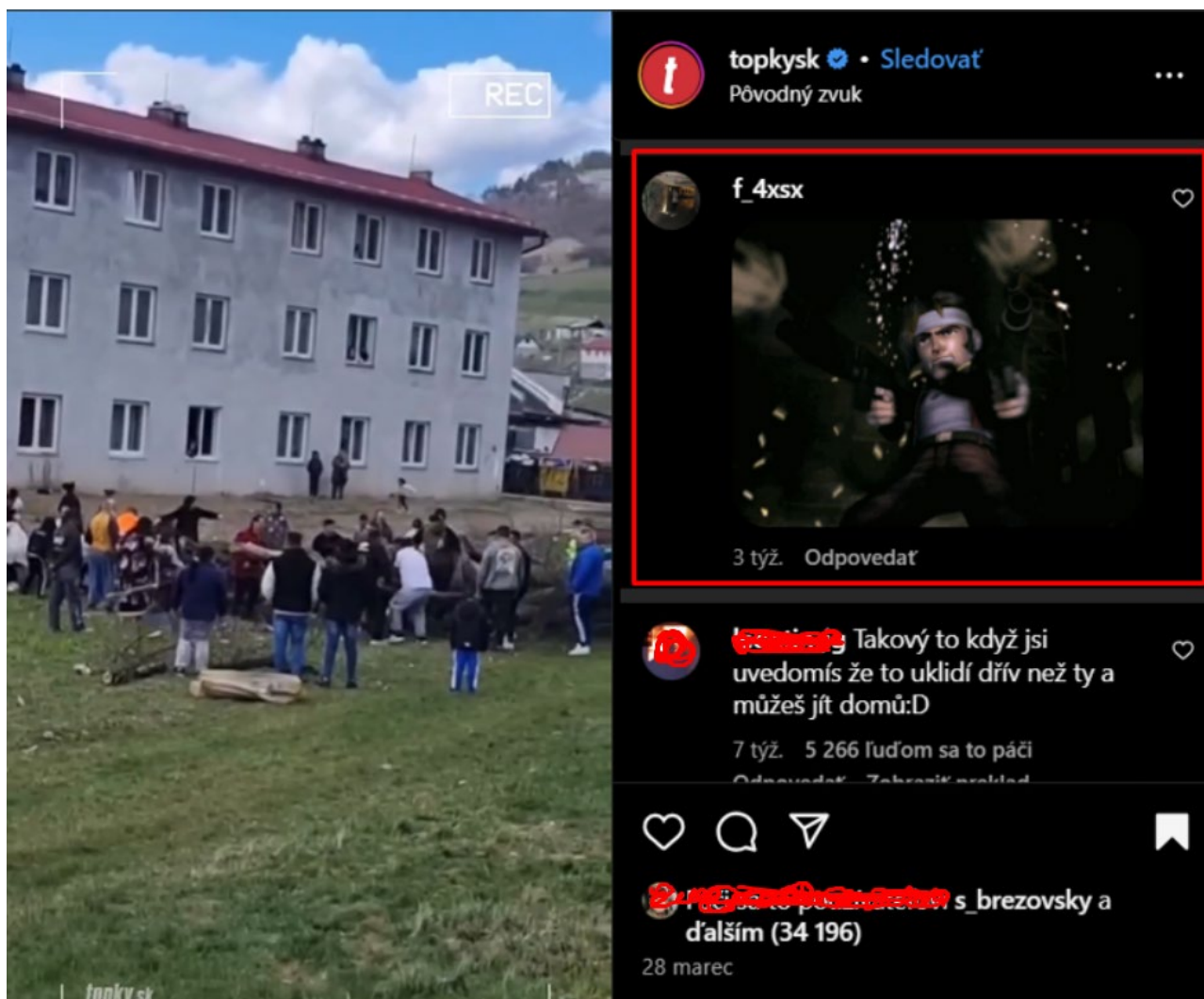
YouTube, March 2022: "Kalasnikov or VZ 58 !!! ( both are type of rifles)"

The user comments on a YouTube video in which Ukrainian refugees are interviewed at the train station in Slovakia's capital, Bratislava.

Main Category: Ethnic Hatred

Subcategory: Anti-Roma

Roma are often portrayed as "thieves" or "parasites". They are targeted by the general population since such narratives are embedded in the society, even in the form of "jokes" or "common phrases". Violent speech is common, particularly among supporters of ultra-right ideologies and extremist groups, that , who call for establishing order through violence, Roma marginalization, or even forced castration due to the high birth rate.



*Instagram, March 2024: This is a user's comment on a broadcast from a Roma settlement, accompanied by a GIF of shooting.*

Main Category: Gender Based Hate

Subcategory: Misogyny

In Slovakia, female politicians and journalists are the primary targets of misogyny.

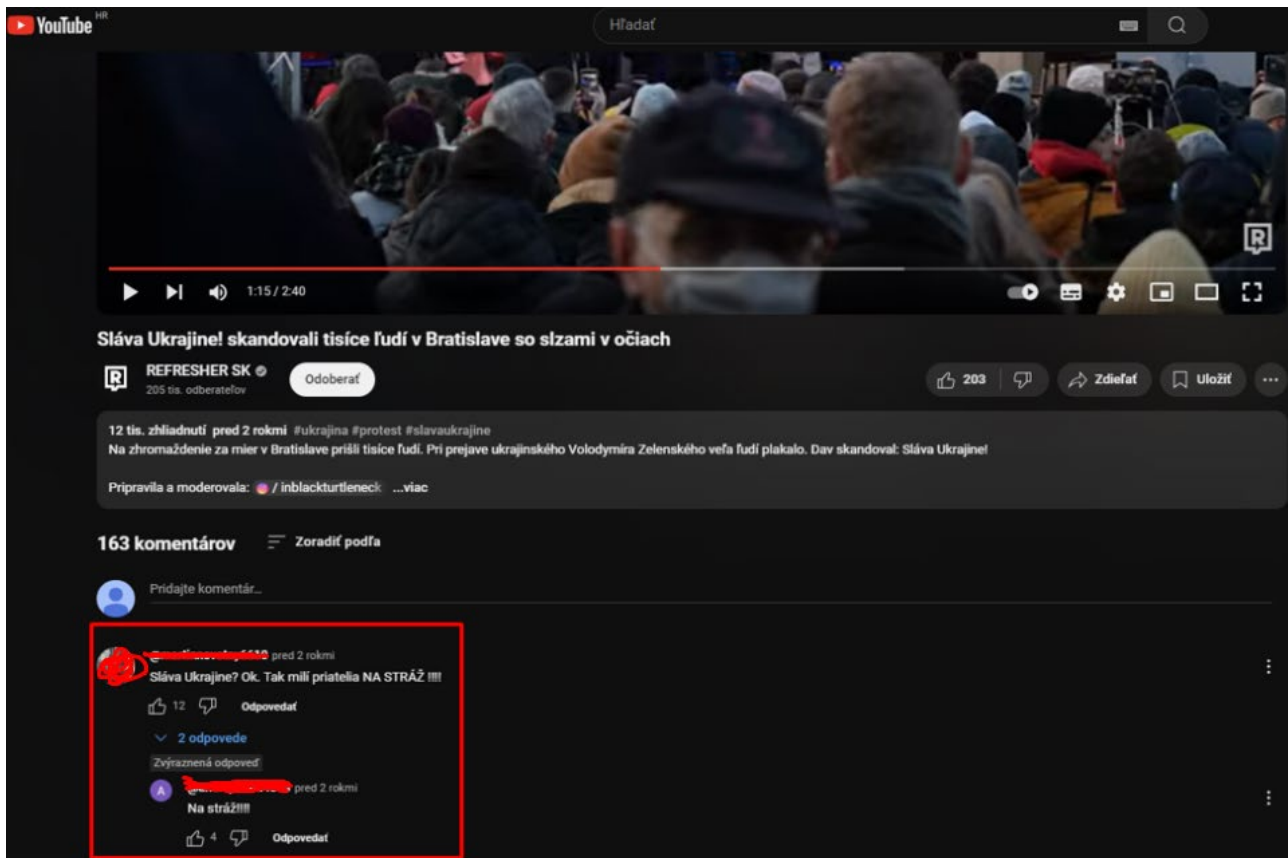


X, October 2023: The comment reads, "Women's hands belong on a cock and a wooden spoon". The user reacts in a condescending way to the information about new female MPs being elected to the national parliament. The comment is written in Czech. Because of the proximity of Czech and Slovak society, the users of both countries often comment on happenings in the other country.

Main Category: Dangerous Organizations and Movements

Subcategory: Fascist Regime Glorification

This refers to the fascist Slovak state, a German satellite during World War II, whose symbols are now legally banned. Despite this, there is still significant rhetoric that glorifies the regime and its leaders, often using the fascist slogan "Na stráž!" ("On guard!" in English). Hate speech that praises the Nazi regime, defends its policies like concentration camps, or glorifies Adolf Hitler and other key figures is also common.



Youtube, March 2022: A video about Ukrainian refugees in Slovakia. The comment on a video says Na stráž!!! Which means On guard!!! (Slovak fascist greeting)