



Report of incidents 2023

Press release by the Berlin Registries

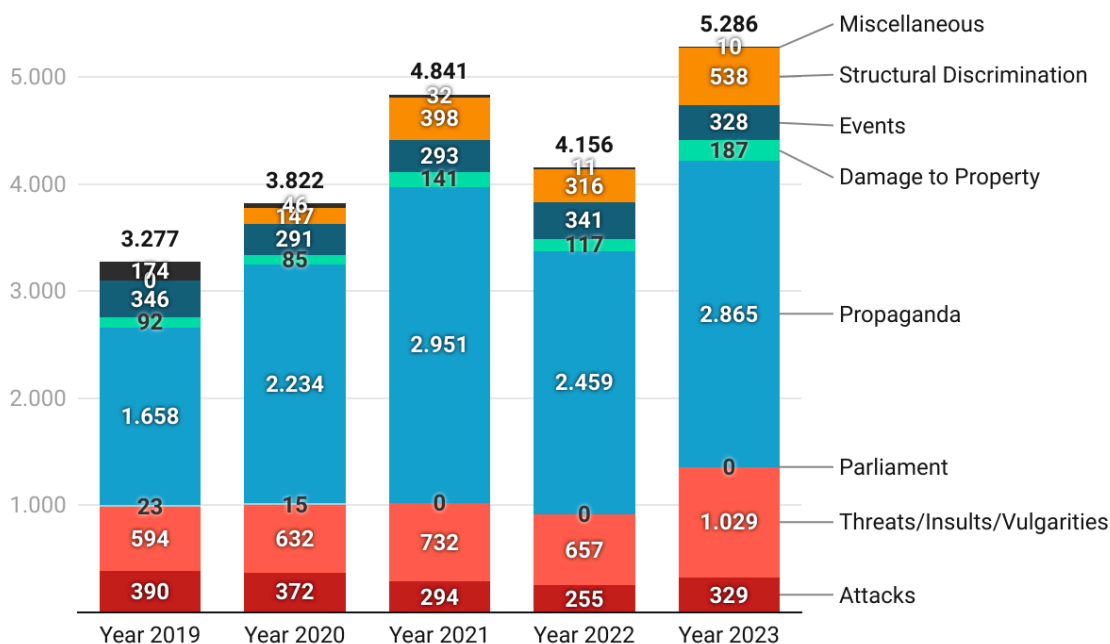
“Hate online leads to hate on the streets”

**+++ Incidents rise to over 5000 +++
Hate online leads to hate on the streets +++ Particularly sharp rise in anti-LGBTIQ*, anti-Semitic and racist hostility**

The Berlin Registries recorded a total of 5286 incidents in 2023 (2022: 4156). The increase affects every category except for right-wing self-portrayal. Online dynamics such as disinformation, hate speech and propaganda have a direct, negative impact on minorities in their everyday lives and were particularly noticeable in 2023. The number of incidents in terms of LGBTIQ hostility, anti-Semitism and racism have reached record highs. The link between what happens on the street and mobilisation on the internet is particularly clear in those categories.

An average, 14 incidents were documented per day. **Attacks** (2023: 329; 2022: 255) account for 6 per cent of the total number. 19 per cent are **insults and threats** (2023: 1,029; 2022: 657). Cases of structural discrimination account for 10 per cent of the total number (2023: 538; 2022: 316). **Propaganda** is the biggest category and accounted for 54 per cent of all incidents (2023: 2,865; 2022: 2,459). Events come to 6 per cent (2023: 328; 2022: 341), while **damage to property** (2023: 187; 2022: 117) and other incidents (2023: 10; 2022: 11) account for 4 per cent of incidents. 28 per cent of all incidents were **racially motivated** (2023: 1,459; 2022: 1,132), 21 per cent **anti-Semitic** (2023: 1,113; 2022: 810). 13 per cent were attributed to the **trivialisation of National Socialism** (2023: 704; 2022: 655) and 15 per cent

Types of incidents from 2018 to 2023



The coordination of Berlin Registries is a project of pad gGmbH.



Funded by the state scheme: "Democracy, Diversity, Respect. Against Right-Wing Extremism, Racism and anti-Semitism" managed by the Senate Department of Labour, Social Affairs, Equality, Integration, Diversity and anti-Discrimination.



to **right-wing self-portrayal** (2023: 787; 2022: 808). 10 per cent of incidents targeted **political opponents** (2023: 525; 2022: 407), 9 per cent were **anti-LGBTIQ** motivated (2023: 464; 2022: 239), 3 per cent were **anti-disability** (2023: 144; 2022: 56) and 1 per cent each were **social chauvinist** (2023: 45; 2022: 22) and **anti-feminist** (2023: 45; 2022: 27).

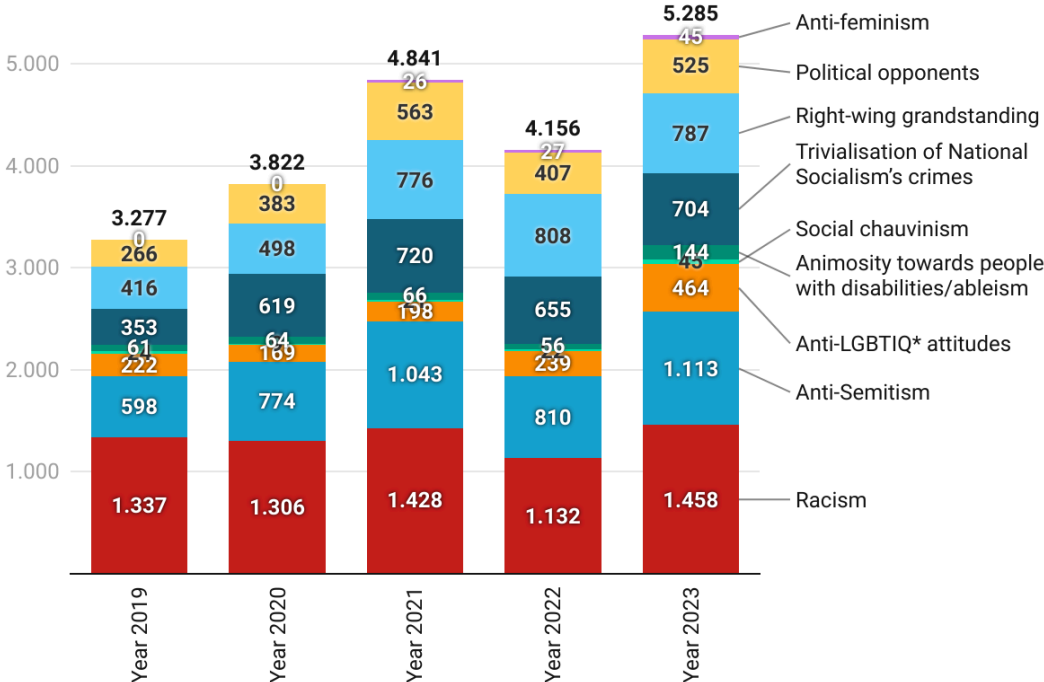
The doubling of **anti-LGBTIQ** incidents (2023: 464; 2022: 239) is the result of several campaigns in recent years that targeted the equality of queer people. In 2023, these included "Pride Month" and the debate about the Self-Determination Act. Online hate speech is one reason for the rise in numbers. In addition, queer people and their symbols have become more visible in public. Rainbow flags are displayed in many places, same-sex couples live more openly than before on the outskirts and have a daily routine there and the number of trans people is increasing. As a result, there have been more opportunities to attack them than in previous years.

Anti-Semitic incidents rose sharply in 2023 with the Hamas terrorist attack on

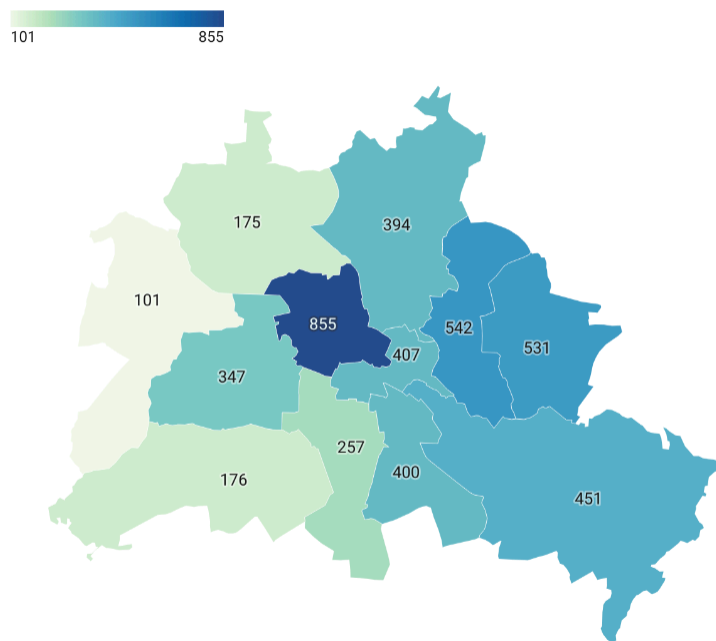
Israel (2023: 1,113; 2022: 810) 62 per cent (689) of anti-Semitic incidents, including 22 attacks and almost 200 insults/threats and 75 cases of damage to property, were recorded after October 7. The figures for districts in the city centre are significantly higher than for the outskirts of the city. This is because demonstrations and rallies at which Israel-related anti-Semitism was expressed are held in the city centre. On top of that, there are more Jewish institutions in those districts than in the outlying districts, which have been the target of property damage, threats and graffiti. Anti-Semitism has been instrumentalised on social networks for racist stereotypes, such as that of 'immigrant anti-Semitism'. This narrative fails to recognise that anti-Semitism is a model for explaining the world and acts as a link between different political spectrums.

Racist incidents also increased (2023: 1,459; 2022: 1,132). Seasonal fluctuations in the number of incidents can be observed, which go hand in hand with public debates that spread

Motives of incidents from 2018 to 2023



Number of incidents in the year 2023



racist grudges. The linking of social problems with migration fuels and confirms i.e., fear and hatred towards refugees. The victims suffer from becoming an unwilling projection screen. Racist attacks (2023: 155; 2022: 130) and threats/insults (2023: 424; 2022: 333) increased. In addition, more structural disadvantages (2023: 385; 2022: 262) were recorded, which originate from data by counselling centres that were not available in the previous year.

The registries were exposed to more **hostility on the internet** than in previous years. A shitstorm against the registries that lasted several weeks showed clearly that disinformation, belief in conspiracies, propaganda and organised hate are political strategies on the internet. They are designed to drive political actors, who oppose the far right, out of the online public sphere and to limit restrict democratic discourse. They also undermine trust in democratic institutions and further the division of society.

Commenting on the results, Kati Becker, Co-ordinator of the der Berliner Register, said: "We have to arm

ourselves for the future. Society as a whole must deal with manipulation, disinformation and the way social networks work: Politics, the media, administration, commercial enterprises, educational institutions, social organisations and every individual. In this way, hatred, division and violence on the streets can be pushed back in the long term."

Apart from violent attacks and huge threats, the Berlin Registers also document other incidents such as propaganda offences and insults. The incidents are only recorded, if they have an extreme right-wing, racist, anti-Semitic, anti-LGBTIQ, anti-disability, social chauvinist or anti-feminist background. The aim of the registers is to make everyday discrimination visible and to provide timely impetus for the development of counter-strategies.

More information on the evaluation of 2023 and the contacts to the district register offices can be found on www.berliner-register.de.

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Berliner Register presents 17 sample incidents

Propaganda for right-wing self-portrayal in Westend

21.01.2023

Supporters of the extreme right-wing micro party “Der III. Weg” handed out flyers outside the venue of the Green Week trade fair and put up posters on lampposts about so-called “homeland defence”. At stake was “nationalist environmental protection”.

Source: Register Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf

Anti-gay insults in Wannsee

29.01.2023

A man on Alsenstraße insulted a campaigner at 3.15 pm, and said: “Fuck off, you homo cunt!” The man was standing on the premises of a club. He had initially complained that the man in question was putting up election posters outside.

Source: Tagesspiegel district newsletter on 02.02.23, Berliner Register’s registration form

Racist damage to property in Hellersdorf

08.02.2023

A CDU election poster at Louis-Lewin-Straße underground station was daubed with the words “Ausländer Raus SS” (Foreigners out SS)

Source: Register Marzahn-Hellersdorf

Structural discrimination against the disabled in Fennpfuhl

09.02.2023

The lift at the Storkower Straße S-Bahn station was out of order for a long time. Wheelchair users were unable to use the S-Bahn station for a long time.

Source: Lichtenberg appointee for people with disabilities

Antiziganism structural disadvantaging in the district of Pankow

01.03.2023

A counselling centre in Pankow refused to advise a family it accused of benefit fraud.

Source: Amaro Foro / DOSTA – Documentation Centre Antiziganism

Event trivialising the NS in the Mitte district

22.04.2023

Around 15 Reich citizens held a rally on Pariser Platz, during which NAZI trivialisations and conspiracy myths about the war in Ukraine were spread. The participants were dressed in the colours of the Reich.

Source: Register in Mitte via Telegram

Racist insult in Reinickendorf

22.05.2023

Two older pupils in the cafeteria of a secondary school in Reinickendorf stood behind a black female pupil and insulted her saying: “It smells like black here” and made monkey noises. During the break, a pupil shouted the N[-word] at her and it was also used in class. The pupil stayed away from class for a while.

Source: Register Reinickendorf

Anti-Semitic damage to property in the district of Spandau

13.06.2023

The glass pane on the memorial's symbolic "Eternal Light" was smashed with a paving slab, presumably for anti-Semitic reasons. The memorial commemorates the former synagogue in Spandau.

Source: Commissioner for Remembrance Culture in the Evangelical Church District of Spandau

Anti-trans attack in Kreuzberg

01.06.2023

At around 10 pm, a group of young people threw a bottle at a trans person for no reason. The person in question was unharmed. Bystanders offered their support immediately.

Source: Register Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg

Propaganda for right-wing self-presentation in Tempelhof-Schöneberg

22.07.2023

Graffiti by the National Revolutionary Youth, which is the offshoot of the neo-Nazi micro-party "Der III. Way".

Source: Berliner Register via Instagram

Social-chauvinist propaganda on internet site in Treptow-Köpenick

30.08.2023

The eviction of a homeless woman was discussed on the "Nebenan.de" neighbourhood website and in a Facebook group. Homeless people were labelled "bums". One comment suggested "increasing her level of suffering", "Apparently the only way to do that is to deprive her of important elements such as food."

Source: Centre for Democracy

Threats against political opponents in the Köpenicker Dammvorstadt district

08.09.2023

On that evening, a person approached a youth club in Seelenbinderstraße because two anti-fascists had been called "fucking ticks" and harassed by several men at Köpenick railway station. In the following hour, up to six vehicles drove through the district at walking pace several times. The occupants of the cars were observing the district. Then, two men from the right-wing milieu arrived on foot. They approached the youth club's staff and wanted access to the building, but moved on when they were clearly refused entry.

Source: HdJK - House of Youth Köpenick

Anti-feminist demonstration in Tiergarten

16.09.2023

3,000 demonstrators taking part in the anti-feminist "March for Life" in Tiergarten called for a ban on abortions. On posters and on a T-shirt, abortions were equated with the murder of "unworthy life" under National Socialism. The participants included Christian congregations and members of far-right groups. One participant showed a gesture widely used by American racists.

Source: Register Mitte, taz.de from 16.09.2023, taz.de from 18.09.2023

Incident glorifying National Socialism in Karlshorst

07.10.2023

NAZI devotional objects were sold at a flea market stall in Karlshorst. These included items with swastikas taped to them as well as uniforms with visible SS skulls.

Source: Mobile counseling against right-wing extremism - MBR Berlin

Anti-semitic attack in district of Neukölln

16.10.2023

A man threw pyrotechnics at two people who were chatting to each other in Hebrew outside a bar in Weichselstraße, north Neukölln. The victims were unharmed.

Source: Berlin Police from 17.10.2023 (Report no. 1926), Tagesspiegel 17.10.2023

Threat against political opponent in Friedrichsfelde

23.11.2023

The counseling centre "entschwört" was insulted and threatened by callers for several weeks. A shitstorm by the extreme right repeatedly addressed and discredited the advice center in its channels. These threatening calls followed the shitstorms of the extreme right against the Berlin registers.

Source: Lichtenberger Register, Counseling Centres "disproves" conspiracy myths in the personal environment

Anti-semitic damage to property in Steglitz

31.12.2023

A firework was thrown at the door of an apartment on which a mezuzah, a Jewish sign of blessing for the apartment, was attached. No other door in the entire building was targeted.

Source: Research and Information Center on Anti-Semitism Berlin - RIAS Berlin