



Civil Society Contributions to OSCE-ODIHR annual reports:

Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region (Spain)

HCR 2018 Observatorio para la libertad religiosa y de conciencia (OLRC-*Spanish*
observatory of freedom of religion and conscience)

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Acts of vandalism and graffiti painted on places of worship and public places in Spain during 2018: “The church that shines the most is the burning church”; “Muslims no”; “Stop Islam”; “No God, No Master”; “Your rosaries out of our ovaries”; “Christians out of our country”; “God is gay” and several other anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic symbols

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Introduction

This report is the result of an investigation, compilation and analysis of attacks on religious freedom in Spain during 2017, following the guidelines of ODIHR (OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights). The report has been prepared by OLRC: *Observatorio para la libertad religiosa y de conciencia* (Spanish observatory of freedom of religion and conscience). OLRC's yearly reports are available on its website (<http://libertadreligiosa.es/>) and are often used by Spanish media, as well as by governmental bodies (Spanish Ministry of Home Affairs, US Department of State) and international organisations.

OLRC is an association registered under Spanish law as a legal entity in 2006 with the Spanish Ministry of Home Affairs (*Ministerio del Interior*, N. 588984). OLRC aims to raise awareness about the human and constitutional right to live in society and participate in public life without being attacked, harassed or discriminated on account of ethical or religious views and beliefs. In addition to reporting attacks on religious freedom, OLRC organises seminars, training sessions and conferences on religious freedom and collaborates with the media and with other similar civil society organisations.

OLRC is a member of European Dignity Watch (<http://www.europeandignitywatch.org>) and of the Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe (<https://www.intoleranceagainsthchristians.eu/>). OLRC has also been collaborating with OSCE-ODIHR for a number of years.

The current state of religious freedom in Spain

Religious freedom in Spain is protected by the Spanish constitution and by the most important human rights instruments, to which Spain is a party. OLRC's report for the year 2018 shows that the number of acts of violence against believers has decreased (only one is reported), as well as the overall number of attacks and incidents (208 in 2017 and 166 in 2018, in OLRC's full report (<http://libertadreligiosa.es/category/ataques/>)).

Despite the lower number of reported physical attacks on believers, hatred of religion in its many manifestations is an important phenomenon in our country, which should not be underestimated. This can be seen in the high number of desecrations and attacks against places of worship, as well as in the climate of hostility against religion in general and against Christians and the Catholic Church in particular, in social networks, the media and in certain political institutions.

Furthermore, acts of hate speech are not part of this report, following ODIHR's guidelines. We are aware of the current debate – in Spain and in Europe – concerning the balance between freedom of expression and the inappropriate and sometimes dangerous abuses of that freedom, which may in the end lead to physical violence against minorities and against members of religious groups. In Spain, physical attacks against individuals and against places of worship are but an open manifestation of that apparently harmless hostility. Hate speech, which on many occasions is fuelled and carried out by organised groups with a specific agenda, can – and indeed does – incite anti-religious violence.

Methodology used in this report

Hate crimes based on religious bias and discrimination are reported and analysed by OLRC's team and its network of volunteers across Spain by means of the following sources:

- Spanish media, online newspapers, websites, radio stations, TV news, Twitter and specialized websites such as www.religionenlibertad.com or www.webislam.com.
- The websites of the Spanish Parliament and Senate, as well as the websites of Spanish regional parliaments.
- Individual reports made by OLRC's network of volunteers and subscribers, duly checked and confirmed. Such testimonies and pictures of witnesses and volunteers are available in the full version of OLRC's report in Spanish (<http://libertadreligiosa.es/category/ataques/>).

Attacks reported to OLRC are classified in each section of this report and are analysed individually in numbered charts indicating the following information in each cell of the chart, whenever such data are available and are considered relevant:

- Incident.
- Date, time and location of the incident.
- Source.
- Identity of the victim (if known).
- Identity of the perpetrator (if known).
- Crime type (see typography of crimes below).
- Brief description of the incident.
- Bias indicators (whenever it is considered relevant, to show the anti-religious nature of the crime or the intention of the perpetrator).
- Status of the case and response of local authorities (if known).

One cell of each chart (i.e. "source") provides an internet link or links to the Spanish newspaper or website which originally reported the case. Where the identity of the perpetrator is unknown, it is so indicated. Where the victim is a specific person, his or her name is provided, if made public by the media. In other cases, where the threat or aggression has no specific addressee, the chart indicates that the victims are, for instance, religious ministers, religious authorities or the local Christian, Muslim or Jewish community.

The classification and typologies of attacks reported is provided below and has been made by the OLRC itself. Such classification has been made in accordance with ODIHR's guidelines for its Annual Hate Crime Reporting project (<http://hatecrime.osce.org>). Following those guidelines, OLRC's 2018 report tries to give a brief, but full and accurate account only of the following types of aggressions: homicide, physical violence, damage

to property, theft/robbery, arson, vandalism, desecration of graves, attacks against places of worship; threats/threatening behaviour.

Concerning the description of the incident and statements made by the actors involved, OLRC's reports try to quote the exact words of the reporting newspaper or to provide an accurate translation thereof. Bias indicators used are also provided in a list below, as it is necessary to prove that the attack or incident was actually motivated by hatred towards believers or a specific religious community and not simply by economic or any other kind of motivations or factors.

The full and extensive version of this report, which includes an account of many other types of discriminatory behaviours against members of different religious groups, is only available in Spanish, on the OLRC's website (<http://libertadreligiosa.es/category/ataques/>). Still, as the full report demonstrates, the OLRC is convinced that the number of attacks on places of worship and acts of discrimination against believers is much higher than the number of cases reported every year and to which the mainstream Spanish media does not normally pay much attention.

Crime typologies

- 1- Homicide
- 2- Physical violence
- 3- Damage to property
- 4- Theft/robbery
- 5- Arson
- 6- Vandalism
- 7- Desecration of graves and especially significant objects of worship
- 8- Attacks against places of worship
- 9- Threats/threatening behaviour
- 10- Other crimes may also be included and described (hate incidents)

Note: where, for instance, there is damage to property in a place of worship, crimes 3 and 8 would be indicated. Where there is, for instance, just damage to the property of a believer, motivated by anti-religious sentiments, only crime 3 would be indicated. Where the attack consists of graffiti with hateful of an anti-religious nature but in a public place, crime 6 would also be reported, as well as crime 9, if the message is not just of a hateful but of a threatening nature.

Bias indicators

- 1- Identity of the Victim and Witness Perception
- 2- Comments, Written Statements, Gestures and Graffiti
- 3- Racial, Ethnic, Gender and Cultural Differences

4- Organized Hate Group as perpetrator

5- Previous Bias Crimes/Incidents against the same victims or against the same places

6- Location and time of the aggression

Some examples of the use made of the abovementioned crime typology and bias indicators:

- If a believer or group of believers is assaulted in a public place and the attacker(s) made anti-religious insults or comments while doing it, the assault might be considered of an anti-religious nature, whereas it would not be considered anti-religious if those comments had not been made. The same might be the case where the victim was wearing some sort of visible religious attire (e.g. a hijab or a cassock) although, in this case, other indicators might point to other motivations, such as economic ones. The identity of the attackers as belonging to a specific political or non-political group is also taken into account.

- Where religious or sacred items were stolen from a place of worship but hateful messages were left or the damage done to the place was enormous, the report considers that the attack may have had an anti-religious motivation, as well as an economic one. The same could be said where, in the course of the theft of a tabernacle, a desecration was carried out.

- In cases of vandalism, if the place where the damage to property has a religious status, such as a cemetery, a mosque, a synagogue or a church, there might be a strong – although rebuttable – presumption that the act of vandalism was of an anti-religious nature. On the other hand, if an act of vandalism takes place in public places, there would be no presumption of an anti-religious motivation, unless the message in the painted graffiti, for instance, is of an anti-religious nature itself. Furthermore, acts of anti-religious vandalism in public places would not be classified as attacks against places of worship. There are also cases of anti-religious attacks in public places, as when religious monuments or scenes of the Nativity are destroyed, during Christmas time. In this regard, it must be taken into account that some anti-religious messages are conveyed without words but with clearly identifiable symbolism, as when a pig's face is left near a mosque, a Nazi swastika is painted or a church in flames is painted.

- The OLRC is well-aware of the difficult balance between the necessary freedom of expression and the rights of believers to freedom of religion and conscience, which is violated when they see their places of worship constantly covered with threatening messages and manifestations of religiosity are met with violence or open threats and hostility.

- Finally, not only the location of the aggression but the time when it takes place may indicate an anti-religious bias, as when the attack or the act of vandalism takes place during a religious festival or during a religious holiday.

Section 1: Violence against believers

Case n. 1

Incident	Physical aggression against Catholic students
Date, time, location	14 August 2018, Murcia
Source	https://www.libertaddigital.com/espana/2018-08-14/ultras-de-extrema-izquierda-agreden-a-un-grupo-por-llevar-camisetas-de-la-universidad-catolica-de-murcia-1276623432/
Victim(s)	Students of the <i>Universidad Católica de Murcia</i>
Perpetrator(s)	Several young members identified as belonging to an extreme-left group
Crime type	2- Physical violence
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several students wearing t-shirts of the <i>Universidad Católica de Murcia</i> were insulted and physically attacked by a group of young men in a pub, at night. One of the aggressors smashed a bottle on the head of one of the victims. Another suffered a haemorrhage in the eye and had to be stitched.
Bias indicators	1- Identity of the victim 2- Comments by the aggressors and their identification by the police as members of an extreme-left group
Status of the case	Two aggressors were arrested by the police and charged with assault and with a hate crime.

Section 2: Attacks, damage to property and vandalism against places of worship

Case n. 2

Incident	Theft and desecration in a Catholic church
Date, time, location	22 January 2018, Caudiel (Castellón)
Source	https://www.lasprovincias.es/comunitat/denuncian-profanacion-santisimo-20180123004140-ntvo.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown

Crime type	3- Damage to property 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	In the course of a theft inside a Catholic church, the tabernacle was forced open and the consecrated hosts were scattered and thrown on the floor.
Bias indicators	2- Gestures 6- Location

Case n. 3

Incident	Anti-Semitic graffiti in a synagogue
Date, time, location	5 February 2018, Barcelona
Source	http://observatorioantisemitismo.fcje.org/?p=1944
Victim(s)	Local Jewish community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Grffiti with anti-Semitic comments was painted on the walls of the <i>Sinagoga Mayor del Call</i> (Barcelona). One message said “Get out of our land”.
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 4

Incident	Anarchist graffiti in a Catholic church
Date, time, location	12 February 2018, Santander (Cantabria)
Source	https://www.facebook.com/121946872782/photos/a.10151771395302783.1073741826.121946872782/10156196944942783/?type=3&theater
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown

Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti was painted on the external wall of a Catholic church, where it could be read “Everything belongs to everybody” (anarchist slogan), next to an anarchist symbol
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 5

Incident	Anti-Muslim graffiti in a mosque
Date, time, location	3 March 2018, Hernani (Guipúzcoa)
Source	https://www.eitb.eus/es/noticias/sociedad/detalle/5439395/realizan-pintadas-racistas-mezquita-hermani/
Victim(s)	Local Muslim community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti was painted on the external wall of a mosque, where it could be read “Moors out”, next to a bullseye
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 6

Incident	Threatening graffiti in a Catholic Church
Date, time, location	7 March 2018, Getafe (Madrid)
Source	https://twitter.com/olreligiosa/status/971513773537353728
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown

Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti was painted on the walls of the San Isidro Catholic chapel. The graffiti said “Against patriarchy. 8M” (8 March is Women’s day). The graffiti was signed “UJCE” (i.e. Union of Spanish Communist Youth)
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 7

Incident	Threatening graffiti in church
Date, time, location	7 March 2018, La Coruña
Source	https://www.elidealgalego.com/articulo/coruna/varias-pintadas-vandalicas-empanan-actividades-dia-mujer/20180307221507367150.html http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/03/08/cristianofobia-feministas-atacan-iglesias-catolicas-en-varias-localidades-de-espana/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti with threatening messages were painted on the walls of the Iglesia Castrense, in San Andrés. Some of the graffiti said “Pedophiles”, “I did not come out of your side, you came out of my cunt”. The graffiti appeared the day prior to Women’s day
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 8

Incident	Threatening graffiti in church
Date, time, location	7 March 2018, La Coruña
Source	https://www.elidealgalego.com/articulo/coruna/varias-pintadas-vandalicas-empanan-actividades-dia-mujer/20180307221507367150.html

	http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/03/08/cristianofobia-feministas-atacan-iglesias-catolicas-en-varias-localidades-de-espana/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti with feminist messages were painted on the walls of the Iglesia de Santo Tomás, in Monte Alto. The graffiti appeared the day prior to Women's day
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 9

Incident	Threatening graffiti in church
Date, time, location	7 March 2018, La Coruña
Source	https://www.elidealgallego.com/articulo/coruna/varias-pintadas-vandalicas-empanan-actividades-dia-mujer/20180307221507367150.html http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/03/08/cristianofobia-feministas-atacan-iglesias-catolicas-en-varias-localidades-de-espana/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti with threatening messages were painted on the walls of the Iglesia de San Jorge. One of the graffiti said "The only church that illuminates is the church in flames". The graffiti appeared the day prior to Women's day
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 10

Incident	Threatening graffiti in church
Date, time, location	8 March 2018, Madrid

Source	http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/03/08/cristianofobia-feministas-atacan-iglesias-catolicas-en-varias-localidades-de-espana/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic communities
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti with threatening messages were painted on the walls of the Church of the Parish of Santa Mónica (Rivas Vaciamadrid). Some of the graffiti said “Church=Death”, “Death to patriarchy”, “Sinners and Proud of it”, next to the date 8 March (Women’s day) and several feminist symbols.
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 11

Incident	Threatening graffiti in church
Date, time, location	8 March 2018, Granada
Source	http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/03/08/cristianofobia-feministas-atacan-iglesias-catolicas-en-varias-localidades-de-espana/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic communities
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti with threatening messages were painted on the walls of the church of the Inmaculada Concepción (Granada). The graffiti said “Better having an abortion than having a child be a priest or nun”, “No God”, next to a feminist symbol.
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 12

Incident	Threatening graffiti in a Catholic church
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Date, time, location	8 March 2018, several Spanish cities
Source	http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/03/08/cristianofobia-feministas-atacan-iglesias-catolicas-en-varias-localidades-de-espana/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic communities
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti with threatening messages were painted on the walls of the church of Santa Isabel de Hungría (Córdoba). The graffiti said “ <i>Femislam</i> ”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 13

Incident	Threatening graffiti in church
Date, time, location	8 March 2018, Madrid
Source	https://www.aciprensa.com/noticias/dos-iglesias-de-madrid-atacadas-con-pintadas-feministas-fotos-51843
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti were painted on the walls of the Church of the Holy Spirit, in downtown Madrid. The graffiti said “Free abortion”, “Your rosaries out of our ovaries”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 14

Incident	Graffiti in church
Date, time, location	8 March 2018, Madrid
Source	https://www.facebook.com/olreligiosa/photos/a.10151771395302783/10156269287017783/?type=3&theater
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti in support of abortion were found on the walls of the church San Juan de la Cruz on Women's Day
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 15

Incident	Graffiti in church
Date, time, location	8 March 2018, Seville
Source	https://www.gentedepaz.es/la-iglesia-del-ex-convento-de-la-paz-sede-canonica-de-la-sagrada-mortaja-sufre-un-ataque/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Graffiti were found on the walls of the church of Santa María de la Paz on Women's Day. The graffiti said "No God and no Master" (anarchist slogan)
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 16

Incident	Serious damage caused to a Catholic church and its religious symbols
Date, time, location	11 March 2018, Penagos (Cantabria)
Source	https://www.eldiariomontanes.es/region/trasmiera/aparecen-destruidas-cuatro-20180314212235-ntvo.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several stone crosses of the church of San Jorge were destroyed, the notice board of the church was torn down and a window was broken
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 17

Incident	Graffiti and repeated attacks to mosque
Date, time, location	20 March 2018, Barcelona
Source	https://elpais.com/ccaa/2018/03/20/catalunya/1521571041_453509.html
Victim(s)	Local Muslim community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	It is reported that this mosque has suffered dozens of attacks, such as graffiti and obstructing the keyholes
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 18

Incident	Desecration of tabernacle
Date, time, location	16 April 2018, Gérgal (Almería)
Source	https://twitter.com/VoxTempli/status/986594299310723072/photo/1
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The tabernacle of the church of Santa María was desecrated
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 19

Incident	Attempt to burn a Catholic church
Date, time, location	2 July 2018, Elche
Source	http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/07/02/intentan-incendiar-una-iglesia-de-elche-que-ya-fue-incendiada-por-izquierdistas-en-1936/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Unknown individuals threw flammable liquid on the door of the church of San Agatángelo and set it on fire. Personnel of the church were alerted and could put out the fire before it affected the inside of the church. It is also reported that in the previous months several items had been stolen from the church, such as candle holders, images and crucifixes
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 20

Incident	Desecration and theft in a Catholic church
Date, time, location	9 July 2018, Fresnedillas de la Oliva (Madrid)
Source	https://www.archimadrid.org/index.php/oficina-de-informacion/noticias-madrid/2-madrid/9027775-la-parroquia-san-bartolome-de-fresnedillas-de-la-oliva-sufre-un-robo-y-una-profanacion
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Unknown individuals broke into the church and caused great damage to the tabernacle, sacred vessels, and threw the consecrated hosts on the floor. They also stole money from alms.
Bias indicators	6- Location
Status of the case	The police commenced an investigation

Case n. 21

Incident	Damages in a cemetery
Date, time, location	11 July 2018, Mataró (Barcelona)
Source	https://somatemp.me/2018/07/11/siguen-las-oleadas-de-ataques-antirreligiosos-dos-ataques-consecutivos-en-mataro/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The cross of the local Catholic cemetery was severely damaged with stones. Threatening graffiti was painted on the walls of the office of a religious guild. The graffiti said “No God, No Motherland, No Master”

Bias indicators	6- Location
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Case n. 22

Incident	Theft and vandalism in a Catholic church
Date, time, location	23 July 2018, Adrados (León)
Source	http://www.diariodevalderrueda.es/texto-diario/mostrar/1145330/unos-vandalos-destrozan-madrugada-iglesia-adrados-leon
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several individuals broke into the church of La Asunción. Only a chalice was stolen but great harm was caused to the altar, books, statues and altarpiece. Damages were assessed in 30 thousand Euros
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location
Status of the case	The police arrested two individuals soon after the events

Case n. 23

Incident	Vandalism and desecration in a mosque
Date, time, location	25 July 2018, Valencia
Source	https://www.lasprovincias.es/sucesos/pintadas-islamofobas-mezquita-valencia-20180726120019-nt.html
Victim(s)	Local Muslim community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship

Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several graffiti were painted on the walls of the Great Mosque of Valencia. The graffiti said “Moors no”, “Stop Islam”, “Stop Jews”, as several Nazi symbols. A pig head was also hung on the window of the mosque
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 24

Incident	Theft and desecration in a hospital chapel
Date, time, location	28 July 2018, Elda (Alicante)
Source	https://www.diarioinformacion.com/elda/2018/07/31/profanan-sagrario-capilla-hospital-llevar/2048358.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Unknown individuals forced the door of the tabernacle and stole the chalice in the Catholic chapel of the Hospital Virgen de la Salud. They also scattered the consecrated hosts from the chalice along the way and some of them were trampled. It is believed that the motivation was anti-religious and not economic because the chalice was found soon afterwards in the parking lot of the same hospital
Bias indicators	6- Location
Status of the case	The police have opened an investigation

Case n. 25

Incident	Graffiti painted on a Christian religious monument
Date, time, location	28 July 2018, Vallvidrera (Barcelona)
Source	http://www.outono.net/elentir/2018/07/28/cataluna-separatistas-vandalizan-una-cruz-que-recuerda-a-monjas-asesinadas-en-1936/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community

Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A religious monument (with a cross) in honour of several nuns martyred in 1936 was covered with a Catalan separatist graffiti (i.e. a yellow ribbon)
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 26

Incident	Graffiti painted on Christian religious monument
Date, time, location	31 July 2018, Liérganes (Cantabria)
Source	https://www.facebook.com/olreligiosa/photos/pcb.10156690936412783/10156690935867783/?type=3&theater
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A cross placed in a public park was covered with graffiti. One of them said “Antifa” (i.e. identifying those responsible as anti-fascists)
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 27

Incident	Attempt to burn a Catholic church
Date, time, location	31 July 2018, Valladolid
Source	https://www.facebook.com/ArchiValladolid/photos/pcb.10155905489451608/10155905489241608/?type=3&theater
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community

Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Unknown individuals set a fire at the entrance of the Catholic Cathedral
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 28

Incident	Graffiti in cathedral
Date, time, location	6 August 2018, Santiago de Compostela (La Coruña)
Source	https://www.elmundo.es/cultura/2018/08/06/5b68356422601d30528b45c3.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A 12 th century statue of the cathedral was covered with graffiti
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 29

Incident	Graffiti in church
Date, time, location	3 September 2018, Valencia
Source	https://www.esdiario.com/883019223/Actos-vandalicos-en-la-iglesia-de-Benimaclet.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown

Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The entrance to the church of the district of Benimaclet was covered with anarchist graffiti which said “No God, no Motherland, no Master”, as well as an inverted cross
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 30

Incident	Graffiti painted on Christian religious images
Date, time, location	1 October 2018, Huesca
Source	https://www.heraldo.es/noticias/aragon/huesca/2018/10/01/la-cruz-del-aneto-pintada-amarillo-1269313-2261127.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The cross of Mount Aneto (the highest in Spain) and, next to it, the statue of the Virgen del Pilar were covered with Catalan separatist graffiti (i.e. a yellow ribbon)
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 31

Incident	Attempt to burn a Catholic church
Date, time, location	13 October 2018, San Bartolomé de Tirajana (Gran Canaria)
Source	https://www.europapress.es/islas-canarias/noticia-detienen-hombre-intentar-quemar-iglesia-san-bartolome-tirajana-gran-canaria-20181017094333.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community

Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	An individual set the door of a church on fire but the local fire brigade could put out the fire before it affected the rest of the church.
Bias indicators	6- Location
Status of the case	A suspect was arrested by the police. At the time of the arrest, the suspect threatened the witnesses and warned that he would try to burn the church again

Case n. 32

Incident	Attacks, theft and vandalism in church
Date, time, location	9 November 2018, Madrid
Source	
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Unknown individuals caused significant damages inside a Catholic church and well-known place of pilgrimage (Nuestra Señora de Schoenstatt)
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 33

Incident	Attacks, theft and vandalism in church
Date, time, location	13 November 2018, Madrid
Source	https://religion.elconfidencialdigital.com/articulo/iglesia-estado/otra-parroquia-madrid-pofanada-llevan/20181113185838026532.html

Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Unknown individuals caused significant damages inside the parish of Nuestra Señora de Madrid and stole the tabernacle with consecrated hosts, also taking several valuable religious items
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 34

Incident	Graffiti in church
Date, time, location	28 November 2018, Cártama (Málaga)
Source	https://www.diariosur.es/interior/pintan-seis-penes-20181129182653-nt.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several obscene graffiti, including several drawing of male sexual organs were painted on the walls of the church of San Isidro de la Estación
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 35

Incident	Vandalism in church
Date, time, location	4 December 2018, Purchena (Almería)
Source	https://www.gentepaz.es/un-nuevo-acto-vandalico-destroza-el-templete-de-la-virgen-del-carmen-chica-de-purchena/

Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A shrine to the Virgin of Carmen was destroyed, the glass case and pedestal were broken, and the Christ statue was stolen
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 36

Incident	Graffiti in Christian religious monument
Date, time, location	11 December 2018, Mendiola (Vitoria)
Source	https://www.abc.es/espana/pais-vasco/abci-esto-no-pasaba-atacan-pintadas-cruz-olarizu-vitoria-201812111259_noticia.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The monument of the Cross of Olárizu was covered with graffiti which said “ETA would not have let this happen” (i.e. reference to the terrorist group) and “rosaries out of our ovaries”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 37

Incident	Graffiti in church
Date, time, location	12 December 2018, Valls (Tarragona)
Source	http://protestantedigital.com/ciudades/46071/Fuera_cristianos_de_nuestras_tierras_la_pintada_que_ha_aparecido_en_la_fachada_de_una_iglesia

Victim(s)	Local Evangelical community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Threatening graffiti were painted on the walls of an Evangelical church. The graffiti said “Christians out of our country”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 38

Incident	Burnt scene of the Nativity
Date, time, location	18 December 2018, Cartagena (Murcia)
Source	https://www.laopiniondemurcia.es/cartagena/2018/12/18/queman-belen-barrio-santa-lucia/981898.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Two unknown individuals threw a “fireball” into a scene of the Nativity set up by an association of neighbours of the district of Santa Lucía, burning several several figures
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 39

Incident	Graffiti in church
Date, time, location	19 December 2018, Castellón
Source	https://www.lainformacion.com/espana/antifascitas-castellon-roban-nino-jesus-politicos-presos/6484584
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community

Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A Catalan separatist group (Brigadas Antifascistas, BAF) left a message on Facebook admitting to the theft of an image of the baby Jesus from a scene of the Nativity and asking for the release of imprisoned Catalan separatist leaders
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 40

Incident	Serious damage caused to a cross
Date, time, location	20 December 2018, Vitoria
Source	https://www.abc.es/espana/pais-vasco/abci-cruz-vitoriana-olarizu-queda-seriamente-danada-tras-atacada-grupo-desconocidos-201812201352_noticia.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several unknown individuals tried to knock down a stone cross using cables and causing great damage to it
Bias indicators	6- Location

Case n. 41

Incident	Destroyed scene of the Nativity
Date, time, location	25 December 2018, Vilassar de Mar (Barcelona)
Source	https://religion.elconfidencialdigital.com/articulo/en_voz_baja/vandalismo-destrozan-belen-pueblo-catalan/20181226005647026784.html

Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several images of a scene of the Nativity were destroyed and covered with paint
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 42

Incident	Destroyed scene of the Nativity
Date, time, location	25 December 2018, Alzira (Valencia)
Source	https://www.levante-emv.com/ribera/2017/12/26/destrozan-belen-instalado-cumbre-alta/1659199.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism 8- Attacks against places of worship
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The scene of the Nativity set up by a group of hikers at the summit of Mount Alzira was completely destroyed
Bias indicators	6- Location

Section 3: Threats / threatening acts against believers

Case n. 43

Incident	Anti-Semitic graffiti
Date, time, location	25 January 2018, Barcelona
Source	http://observatorioantisemitismo.fcje.org/?p=1927

Victim(s)	Local Jewish community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The words “Juden” and a Star of David were painted on the window of a former bank office
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 44

Incident	Anti-Muslim graffiti
Date, time, location	26 January 2018, Madrid
Source	http://www.telemadrid.es/noticias/madrid/Pintada-Musulmanes-bienvenidos-M30-Madrid-0-1979802007--20180126124858.html
Victim(s)	Local Muslim community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A graffiti which said “Muslims not welcome” was painted near the biggest mosque in Madrid. The graffiti was next to the acronym DNJ (i.e. Democracia Nacional Joven, an extreme right group)
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 45

Incident	Threatening interruption of religious ceremony
Date, time, location	15 February 2018, Seville
Source	http://sevilla.abc.es/sevilla/sevi-quince-personas-intentan-boicotear-imposicion-cenizas-universidad-pablo-olavide-201802152032_noticia.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown

Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A group of individuals entered a university chapel (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Seville) during the Ash Wednesday religious ceremony and shouted at the participants for several minutes
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 46

Incident	Threatening poster
Date, time, location	21 February 2018, Lugo
Source	https://gaceta.es/civilizacion/festival-musica-subvencionado-se-presenta-una-iglesia-llamas-20180221-1346/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A music festival is advertised with a poster showing a church in flames
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 47

Incident	Threats against Christians and Christian churches
Date, time, location	4 March 2018, Barcelona
Source	https://www.catalunyapress.es/texto-diario/mostrar/1021792/estado-islamico-apunta-sagrada-familia-amenaza-nuevos-atentados-barcelona
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Islamic State
Crime type	9- Threats/threatening behaviour

Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The Islamic State made a call to attack Christians in a message broadcasted through <i>Telegram</i> , one of its channels. The message said “if you do not have a weapon, you have a truck or a knife”. The silhouette of the temple of <i>La Sagrada Familia</i> , one of the most emblematic churches of Barcelona, could be seen next to the message
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 48

Incident	Homemade bomb found inside a Catholic church’s window
Date, time, location	6 March 2018, Córdoba
Source	https://sevilla.abc.es/andalucia/cordoba/sevi-hallan-coctel-molotov-ventana-parroquia-san-miguel-cordoba-201803061218_noticia.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A Molotov cocktail (bottle full of flammable liquid and with a paper wick attached to it) was found in the windowsill of a Catholic church. The wick had been lit but the bottle did not explode. The mesh protecting the window had been broken.
Bias indicators	6- Location
Status of the case	The police commenced an investigation

Case n. 49

Incident	Threats against the Spanish Bishops Conference
Date, time, location	8 March 2018, Barcelona
Source	https://www.estrelladigital.es/articulo/espanha/miembro-cup-pide-quemar-conferencia-episcopal/20180308114747343048.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown

Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The writer Bel Olid calls on Catalan TV to “burn the Bishops conference” for being sexist and patriarchal on Womens’ Day
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 50

Incident	Anti-Semitic graffiti
Date, time, location	11 March 2018, Oviedo (Asturias)
Source	http://observatorioantisemitismo.fcje.org/?p=1981
Victim(s)	Local Jewish community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	6- Vandalism 9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Anti-Semitic graffiti is painted on the monument in memory of the Holocaust. The graffiti said “13 tribes of Israel” “13 founding colonies” “13 Illuminati families”. Next to this there was a Star of David with an eye painted inside
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 51

Incident	Anti-Semitic graffiti
Date, time, location	17 March 2018, Sant Cugat del Vallès (Barcelona)
Source	http://observatorioantisemitismo.fcje.org/?p=1989
Victim(s)	Local Jewish community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour

Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A graffiti was painted near a train station, which showed a man throwing a Star of David into a dustbin
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 52

Incident	Threats against a Christian religious procession
Date, time, location	29 March 2018, Palafolls (Barcelona)
Source	http://www.elmundo.es/cataluna/2018/03/29/5abd369dca474165118b45f4.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A large number of policemen had to protect a Christian religious procession which had received several threats, apparently due to the participation in it of a military brotherhood
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 53

Incident	Attack against a priest's house
Date, time, location	31 March 2018, Tobarra (Albacete)
Source	https://www.eldigitaldealbacete.com/2018/03/31/tiran-huevos-a-la-fachada-del-cura-de-tobarra-tras-la-polemica-con-el-sermon-en-el-calvario/
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism

Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several individuals threw eggs at the house of a parish priest, the day after he had given a sermon critical of gender ideology
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 54

Incident	Threatening graffiti against the Catholic Church
Date, time, location	2 April 2018, Málaga
Source	https://www.facebook.com/olreligiosa/photos/a.10151771395302783.1073741826.121946872782/10156342834362783/?type=3&theater
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	An announcement of a religious concert at a bus stop was covered by a graffiti which said “The Church must be burnt”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 55

Incident	Anti-Semitic threats
Date, time, location	11 August 2018, Mataró (Barcelona)
Source	https://www.larazon.es/espana/dos-detenidos-en-mataro-por-reclutar-a-islamistas-para-terrorismo-yihadista-EJ19320271
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour

Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Two individuals were arrested who had declared on the internet that they wanted to “kill all Jews”
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 56

Incident	Threats against bishop
Date, time, location	5 September 2018, Seu d’Urgell (Lleida)
Source	https://germinansgerminabit.blogspot.com/2018/09/para-que-el-arzobispo-vives-sepa.html#more
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	9- Threats and threatening behaviour
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	The Catalan separatist youth group Arran published a video where pictures of the bishop Joan Enric Vives is burnt. The video included a text which said: “For the right to free abortion, here and in Andorra we burn sexists who deny us the right to decide over our own bodies”
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 57

Incident	Graffiti on religious monument
Date, time, location	5 September 2018, Seville
Source	https://sevilla.abc.es/andalucia/huelva/sevi-monumento-virgen-rocio-huelva-objeto-vandalismo-201809051319_noticia.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism

Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A graffiti with an Anarchist symbol was painted on a statue of the Virgin Mary
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 58

Incident	Graffiti in Catholic school
Date, time, location	14 October 2017, El Ferrol (La Coruña)
Source	https://twitter.com/NanoAnton10/status/1051568554351480838/photo/1 ¹
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several graffiti were painted on the walls of a Catholic school. The graffiti said “God is gay” and “Fuck God”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location

Case n. 59

Incident	Anti-Muslim graffiti
Date, time, location	19 October 2018, Valladolid
Source	https://www.facebook.com/olreligiosa/photos/a.10151771395302783/10156847384487783/?type=3&theater
Victim(s)	Local Muslim community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property

¹ “Protected” twitter account. See pictures in full Spanish report.

	6- Vandalism
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	A graffiti was painted on an apartment block, which said “Stop Islam”
Bias indicators	2- Comments

Case n. 60

Incident	Graffiti in Catholic school
Date, time, location	26 November 2018, Torrente (Valencia)
Source	https://www.levante-emv.com/horta/2018/11/27/pintadas-colegio-compromis-denuncio/1801158.html
Victim(s)	Local Catholic community
Perpetrator(s)	Unknown
Crime type	3- Damage to property 6- Vandalism
Brief description of incident with bias indicators	Several graffiti were painted on the walls of a Catholic school. The graffiti said “Not a single penny for the old-fashioned Church”
Bias indicators	2- Comments 6- Location