

ANTI-TRANS HATE CRIMES IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

TGEU's submission to OSCE's
Office for Democratic Institutions
and Human Rights (ODIHR)

May 2021



INTRODUCTION

TGEU is a member-based organisation created in 2005. Since then, TGEU has kept growing and established itself as a legitimate voice for the trans community in Europe and Central Asia with 157 member organisations in 47 different countries. Today, TGEU has an office in Berlin, Germany, as well as a team of 10 members of staff and a Board. TGEU envisions a world free from discrimination where gender diversity is celebrated, where trans people are valued, and where trans movements are self-aware, intersectional, and evolving to meet the needs of a diverse and resilient community. Learn more on our website tgeu.org

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTION

TGEU collects reports of violence and hate incidents against trans people every year and, together with partner organisations, submits them to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

TGEU's submission to ODIHR covers hate crimes against trans people in Azerbaijan, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Spain, Turkey, Uzbekistan as well as homicides in other OSCE member states, including the United States. ODIHR annually publishes hate crime data for all its member states based on information provided by states, international organisations, and civil society.¹

¹ See more on hatecrime.osce.org

This brief report focuses on violence and hate crimes against trans people in Europe and Central Asia from 2020, with data from the ProTrans project² and the Trans Murder Monitoring (TMM).³ Specifically, for countries in which TGEU collects data in the frame of the ProTrans project, which are Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Turkey, and Uzbekistan, we include not only murders, but also other hate incidents. These incidents are registered by local trans groups and/or activists. For all the other countries in the region, we only include reports of murders collected by the TMM.

To reference this document, please use the following citation:

TGEU (2021) *Anti-trans hate crimes in Europe and Central Asia: TGEU's submission to OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)*.

Information about our monitoring work can be found on our website. For further questions, please contact us at tgeu@tgeu.org

² The ProTrans project aims at providing systematic data needed to improve public policies to prevent and tackle discrimination and violence against trans people. See tgeu.org/pro-trans

³ The Trans Murder Monitoring (TMM) systematically monitors, collects, and analyses reports of homicides of trans and gender-diverse people worldwide. Between 2008 and September 2020, TGEU has documented 3,664 cases of reported murders of trans and gender-diverse people from around the world. See transrespect.org

VICTIMS

Whether it is murder or other forms of violence, most of the reported victims/survivors in Europe and Central Asia from 2020 are trans women and femmes, sex workers, and migrants.

In France, Italy, Portugal, and Spain, the countries to which most trans and gender-diverse people from Africa and Central and South America migrate, a great majority of the reported murder victims are migrant trans women. Although not covered in this report, TMM data shows that in the United States most of the murder victims are Black trans women who do sex work.

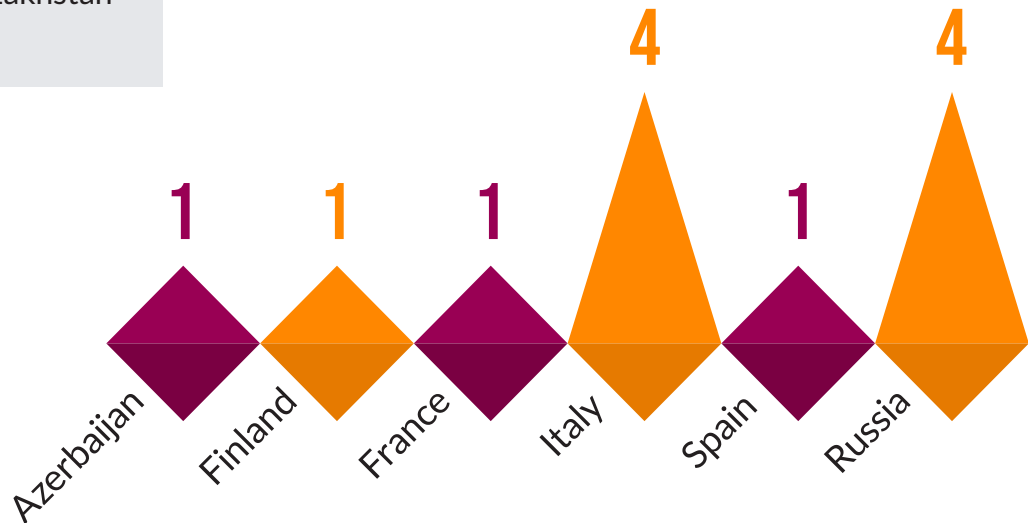


MURDERS

12 murders of trans people were reported in Europe and Central Asia in 2020.

All four victims in Italy were migrant sex workers from Brazil.

Out of the murdered trans people in Russia, two were migrants from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.



EXTREME PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

Extreme physical violence includes serious bodily harm and threats/threatening behaviour. In the reporting period, 13 incidents took place in Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.



All three trans victims in Turkey were sex workers. In most cases, the crime was committed with a knife.

In Uzbekistan, the police have been catfishing trans women sex workers via social media.

Date of incident	Location	Place of incident	Type of incident	Description	Type of perpetrator	Response of local authorities	Source of information	Source link
Incidents from Azerbaijan, recorded by TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring project								
18.06.2020	Baku	client's apartment	Homicide	After agreeing to pay for sex, the client took the victim to his home where he found out that she was transgender. The victim was stabbed 11 times in the head, neck, heart, and back at the home of a client in Bakú's Khatai District. A friend said that a man claiming to be the killer had called the victim's friends and relatives to confess to the crime.	sex work client	The police opened an investigation	Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT partner organisation: Insight NGO & https://oc-media.org/one-dead-and-another-injured-in-attacks-on-transgender-women-in-baku/?fbclid=IwAR1bTLBB2OZLAprd-EWJ_J2x4n0BmHg1vcAaQRms1_2belPCISNGooOAIY and https://www.facebook.com/avaz.mamadov.1/posts/589118818655003
Incidents from Finland recorded by TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring project								
12.06.2020	Vantaa	own residence	Homicide	The victim was stabbed with a kitchen knife by a man she knew. The perpetrator escaped and was later arrested in North-East Finland 700 km away.		The police failed to report her killing for over a month, and when they finally did, the attack was described as "an argument between two men."	Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT partner organisation: Transfeminines & https://www.is.fi/kotimaa/art-2000004573479.html?fbclid=IwAR1DgD4A4tKF_jaJvF8L0bR05BefrUJWmsytrMFFAYL75CL2C55iI2-SAMA
Incidents from France recorded by TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring project								
21.02.2020	Paris	street	Homicide	The victim was a trans migrant sex worker from Peru. She was struck by a car traveling at high speed. Her murder is part of an increasing wave of attacks against the sex workers community in France after the 'Swedish model' of clients' criminalisation took place.		The killer was arrested.	Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT project: https://www.milanotoday.it/cronaca/morto-via-plana.html & https://doi.transivsematter.info/reports/2020/02/21/jesvca-sarmiento-bois-de-boulogne-paris-france_aa0bc66a
Incidents from Hungary, recorded by Transvitalia in the frame of the ProTrans project								
23.05.20	Budapest	street	Assault, Threats/threatening behaviour	A crossdresser was walking in downtown Budapest and was approached by 2 men who told her you "damn tranny" and pushed her a bit then left her alone.	Two young white man, they looked nothing special.	not reported	ProTrans project coordinator of Transvitalia	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
Incidents from Italy recorded by TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring project								
18.02.2020	Roma	river	Homicide	The victim was a migrant sex worker from Brazil. Her body was in an advanced state of decomposition.			Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT partner organisation: IBTE & https://primapavia.it/cronaca/ritrovato-cadavere-a-roma-vicino-al-tevere-e-forse-lara/?fbclid=IwAR2_50rASRW3IPgIRvH9xt rDQ5GSeXvb7PmXT6xJSHrjJUrqb4V6u da
20.07.2020	Milan	own residence	Homicide	The victim was a migrant sex worker from Brazil. She was stabbed 80 times by a client.	sex work client		Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT partner organisation: IBTE & https://www.milanotoday.it/cronaca/morto-via-plana.html
22.07.2020	Roma	street	Homicide	The victim was a migrant sex worker from Brazil. She was found dead in a dark area of Piazzale Pino Pascali, in Rome.			Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT partner organisation: IBTE & https://www.fanpage.it/roma/travato-morto-un-trans-36enne-a-tor-sapienza-il-corpo-era-a-terra-sulla-strada/
17.08.2020	Vallo	homeless shelter	Homicide	The victim was stabbed in a homeless shelter by a man with whom she had a relationship. He has reportedly confessed to killing her.	partner/lover		Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT project: https://www.salernotoday.it/cronaca/omicidio-francesca-galatro-confessione-assassino-19-agosto-2020.html & https://www.immatin.it/salema/trans_uccis_a_nel_centro_d_accoglienza_in_campito_ultim_e_notizie_oggi-5412776.html
Incidents from Kazakhstan, recorded by TGEU's member in the frame of the ProTrans project								
18.02.20	Pavlodar	own residence	Threats/threatening behaviour	A transgender woman met a man on the Russian social network "VKontakte", and invited him to visit her. The man turned out to be an employee of the Department of Internal Affairs, he and three other police officers burst into her apartment with a camera, began to threaten her, broke her phone. Police officers accused the victim in engaging to sex work and living without a residence permit in a city.	police	By a court decision, the actions of the district inspector were declared illegal.	TGEU's member organisation in Kazakhstan	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
13.05.20	Kostanai	gas station	Serious bodily harm/extreme physical violence, Threats/threatening behaviour	Two employees of a private security company attacked a transgender woman at a gas station in Kazakhstan. They dragged her along the ground by her hair into the car. After that they beat her on the head and in the stomach. Bodyguards brought her to the police station complaining that she beat both of them.	bodyguards	When police learned about her gender identity, they started mocking her, telling she's a mutant. Police officers asked her to show her genitals.	TGEU's member organisation in Kazakhstan	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
04.07.20	Almaty	own residence	Threats/threatening behaviour, Theft/robbery	A transgender woman received a call from a guy who wanted to come meet her, saying that he had found her number on the sex workers' website. He turned out to be a police officer saying that such people as her have to be imprisoned, so that the prisoners will not be bored in prison. One of the policemen took the victim's phone and told her to give the password. When victim refused, the policeman said that if she didn't give the password, he would break her fingers.	police	Lack of trust to the police	TGEU's member organisation in Kazakhstan	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
Incidents from Kyrgyzstan, recorded by Labrys in the frame of the ProTrans project								
26.01.20	Kyrgyzstan	street	Threats/threatening behaviour, Extreme physical violence	The man forcibly knocked down a transgender woman and held her down face on the ground. A group of people were standing around supporting the man and using offensive language towards the victim.	a group of men from 20 to 50 years old	Lack of trust to the police.	ProTrans project coordinator of Labrys	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
09.02.20	Kyrgyzstan	own residence	Theft/robbery, Threats/threatening behaviour	Client of sex worker, transgender woman, steal her phone and threatened her by calling a police. Five police officers arrived to her apartment.	not reported	Lack of trust to the police.	ProTrans project coordinator of Labrys	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project

Date of incident	Location	Place of incident	Type of incident	Description	Type of perpetrator	Response of local authorities	Source of information	Source link
Incidents from Moldova, recorded by GenderDoc-M in the frame of the ProTrans project								
12.02.20	Moldova	own residence	Serious bodily harm (physical violence). Threats/threatening behaviour	A transgender man from Transnistria, living with his daughter and parents, both are the victims of domestic violence coming from transgender man parents.	not reported	not reported	ProTrans project coordinator of GENDERDOC-M	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
Incidents from Russia, recorded by TGEU's member organisation								
November 2020	Sochi	own residence	Homicide	A man killed and then dismembered a neighbor after seeing them cross dressed as a woman. According to him, he grabbed a knife lying on the table and hit the victim with it, then went to his room to drink beer as if nothing had happened. Realising that the traces of the crime must be hidden, he took a hacksaw and sawed the corpse, then put some of the remains in a sports bag and took them to the forest, and the other part was buried in the courtyard of the guest house.	neighbour	not reported	TGEU's partner organisation in Russia	https://www.msk.ru/incident/2020/12/08/rossyarin-nbl-i-ras-hbeni-ssedz-izra-ego-stranoo-564.htm?fbclid=IwAR0tBWYud4WFIHQSoL4dGFWNOSAS8MxXCS7zPWmE1WVz7bGZ7B8Sk_T8wZ
11.02.20	Chelyabinsk	dorm room	Homicide	The victim's mutilated body was found in the night. A transgender man was found with a smashed head. Throughout the night, neighbors heard the transgender man horrific screams with cries for help and a request to stop. Neighbors saw perpetrators raping the victim.	neighbour	a criminal case has been opened	TGEU's partner organisation in Russia	https://www.gazeta.ru/social/2020/03/13/13002889-54m17b6c1w46R6wJelA9L6GmrZ4H1W7eja0t8DQ2X5vE51uX92MxG1Mh6N1and1O2DUJ5-related
15.06.20	Saint-Petersburg	river	Homicide	The victim was Uzbek transgender woman, migrant living in Russia. The body was found without a head, arms and legs was found near the bank of the Mga River in the Lenoblast.	unknown	not reported	TGEU's partner organisation in Russia	https://www.znak.com/2020-09-23/ly_netserhuzge_zaderzhali_podozrevaemogo_v_ublystve_i_raschleneni_i_transgendernoy_zhenichy7b6c1w46R6wJelA9L6GmrZ4H1W7eja0t8DQ2X5vE51uX92MxG1Mh6N1and1O2DUJ5-related
05.10.20	Novosibirsk	forest	Homicide	24-year-old transgender woman, a migrant from Kazakhstan was found murdered. Media reported the body had signs of violent death in the form of strangulation marks in the neck.	partner/lover	dismissed from the position of a police officer	TGEU's partner organisation in Russia	https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/10/13/siberian-cop-murders-transgender-girl?hpid=hp-top-stories_71734
Incidents from Spain recorded by TGEU's Trans Murder Monitoring project								
13.09.2020	Oviedo	own residence	Homicide	The victim was a 60-year-old transgender woman. She died at the hospital after being beaten by her violent partner.	partner/lover	The killer was arrested.	Media/ Civil society organisation/ LGBTIQ group	TvT project: https://www.elespanol.com/sociedad/sucesos/20200914/susana-muier-asesinada-
Incidents from Turkey, recorded by Red Umbrella in the frame of the ProTrans project								
16.02.20	Turkey	street	Serious bodily harm (physical violence)	The victim met the perpetrator on hitchhiking, she was found stabbed by the same person who has escaped from the area.	client	Lack of trust to the police.	ProTrans project coordinator of Red Umbrella	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
20.02.20	Turkey	unknown	Assault. Damage to property. Threats and/or psychological violence. Extreme physical violence	A transgender woman was beaten by 4 people and her phone and money were stolen.	organised hate group	Lack of trust to the police.	ProTrans project coordinator of Red Umbrella	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
19.09.20	Turkey	own residence	Serious bodily harm (physical violence)	The customer, who went home by making an agreement on the phone, then attacked and injured the sex worker saying that you are transgender with a knife.	client	Lack of trust to the police.	ProTrans project coordinator of Red Umbrella	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
Incidents from Uzbekistan, recorded by TGEU's member in the frame of the ProTrans project								
30.01.20	Tashkent	police station	Threats/threatening behaviour	A transgender woman met her perpetrator via Hornet and was invited for a dinner in perpetrator's apartment. Next day perpetrator sent a video where he and victim had sex. Perpetrator blackmail and threatened the victim. The next day inspector called to victim and asked to visit police department. Police threatened the victim by the article 120 (prohibition of male homosexuality) in order to blackmail the victim.	police	Lack of trust to the police. Police are the perpetrators	TGEU's member organisation in Uzbekistan	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
21.04.20	Samarkand	friend's residency	Extreme physical violence. Threats/threatening behaviour	Police officer arrived to transgender women's friend residency. A police officer kicked the victim in the stomach, the victim lost her consciousness for a few minutes. Police threatened the victim by the article 120 (prohibition of male homosexuality).	police	Lack of trust to the police. Police are the perpetrators	TGEU's member organisation in Uzbekistan	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project
23.06.20	Samarkand	police station	Extreme physical violence. Threats/threatening behaviour	A transgender woman, sex worker was invited to police station for a conversation. During her visit, police officers tortured the victim asking to share contact details of other transgender people. In order to get the information, police beat her. Police officers mocked the victim and demanded money from her. The victim forced to pay 1300 USD once and agreed to pay every month 500 USD.	police	Lack of trust to the police. Police are the perpetrators	TGEU's member organisation in Uzbekistan	TGEU in the frame of the ProTrans project

