Reporting in Austria

National reporting procedures for cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime

The information below is extracted from a mapping study of national reporting mechanisms in the countries involved in the No Hate Speech Movement of the Council of Europe. It aims to provide:

1. Contact information of national reporting mechanisms for cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime where they exist
2. Information about the legal grounds for acting on cyberbullying, hate speech and hate crime where they exist

The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Council of Europe[1].

1. REPORTING MECHANISMS

Reporting hate speech

Meldestelle NS-Wiederbetätigung
For reporting of Neo-nazi, rasist and antisemitic content on the internet or in news groups. The service is managed by the Federal Ministry of Interior.

Website: http://bvt.bmi.gv.at/601/
Email: ns-meldestelle@bvt.gv.at
Address:
Bundesministerium für Inneres, Generaldirektion für die öffentliche Sicherheit Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und Terrorismusbekämpfung
Herrengasse 7,
A-1014 Wien,
Austria

Meldestelle gegen radikal islamistische Videos
For reporting of Radical islamist videos of terrorist organizations or extremists, reported videos are redirected to Google or YouTube. The service is managed by the Federal Ministry of Interior.

Website: http://bvt.bmi.gv.at/601/
Email: stopextremists@bmi.gv.at
Address :
Bundesministerium für Inneres, Generaldirektion für die öffentliche Sicherheit Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz und Terrorismusbekämpfung
Herrengasse 7,
A-1014 Wien,
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Stopline – Meldestelle gegen Kinderpornografie und Nationalsozialismus im Internet
Is a contact point for people that come across illegal material on the Internet. Its fields of activity are child pornographic and national socialist content.

[1] The authors of this document aimed to be accurate and complete, if however you find corrections or have additions please contact the European campaign secretariat at youth.nohatespeech@coe.int. Reproduction of material from this publication is authorised for non-commercial education purposes only and on condition that the source is properly quoted.

Website: http://www.stopline.at/home/
Online form: https://www.stopline.at/ui/index.php/stopline/meldeformular/?lang=de-utf-8
Email: office@stopline.at
Address:
Stopline c/o ISPA - Internet Service Providers Austria Verband der österreichischen Internet-Anbieter
Währingerstrasse 3/18
A-1090 Wien
Austria

Dokumentation von Rassismus durch ZARA (NGO)
For reporting racist incidents such as: racist smearing in the subway, insulting on the street or discrimination in the area of work and accommodation, in restaurants and shops, in contacts with authorities, with private persons, in the public space and also through media.
Website: https://www.zara.or.at/index.php/beratung/rassismus-melden
E-Mail: office@zara.or.at
Adress:
Dokumentation von Rassismus durch ZARA
Schönbrunner Straße 119/13,
A - 1050 Wien,
Austria

Reporting cyberbulling
There is no formal reporting mechanism for cyberbullying but some organisations provide support to effected persons.

147 Rat auf Draht
The organisation provides support to affected children, young people and other persons
Website: http://www.rataufdraht.at/ and http://www.rataufdraht.at/themenubersicht/handy-internet/was-tun-gegen-cyber-mobbing
Email: 147@rataufdraht.at

Internet Ombudsman
The internet ombudsman is not a reporting mechanism, but it supports victims of cyberbullying, for example in cases, where they want pictures or videos that offend their personal rights to be deleted.
Website: http://www.ombudsmann.at
Email: kontakt@ombudsmann.at

2. Background information

In Austria hate speech is defines in various chapters of Austrian legislation and it can be found in German:

§ 283 Verhetzung
https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/NormDokument.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=10002296&Artikel=&Paragraf=283&Anlage=&Uebergangsrecht=
§ 188 Herabwürdigung religiöser Lehren
http://tinyurl.com/Herabw-relig-Lehr
Verbotsgesetz 1955
https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/BgblPdf/1955_285_0/1955_285_0.pdf
https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/BgblPdf/1945_13_0/1945_13_0.pdf
in english: https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/Erv/ERV_1945_13/ERV_1945_13.pdf

Allgemeines bürgerliches Gesetzbuch
http://tinyurl.com/ABGB-1330
or: https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/Bundesnormen/NOR12019074/NOR12019074.pdf

ABGB § 1330
Klagsverband:
http://www.klagsverband.at/info/hate-speech

Online hate speech has been covered since 2016 and there are certain limitations to the definition.

Updating facts about hate crime are regularly centralized at: http://tinyurl.com/justiz-gv-at-hate-crime.

Information about cyberbulling are uploaded here: https://www.saferinternet.at/cyber-mobbing/ and at: http://tinyurl.com/onlinesicherheit-gv-at

Austria regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Austria's hate crime laws are a combination of a general penalty-enhancement provision and a substantive offence. The data reported to ODIHR do not present cases of hate crime and hate speech separately. See the report at: http://hatecrime.osce.org/austria and the reports of civil society organisations at: http://hatecrime.osce.org/2014-civil-society-contributors

Hate crime data are collected by the Provincial Agencies for State Protection and Counter Terrorism and the Federal Agency for State Protection and Counter Terrorism (BVT) of the Interior Ministry, as well as by the Ministry of Justice. Hate crime data are regularly published (Verfassungsschutzberichte)

The 'Dokumentation von Rassismus durch ZARA (NGO)' also regularly publishes reports of Racist incidences: https://www.zara.or.at/index.php/beratung/rassismus-report

The 'Dokustelle ist eine Dokumentationsstelle der IGGiÖ' publishes reports on hate crime and incidence targeting muslims. http://tinyurl.com/dokustelle