

REPORT ON HATE CRIMES AGAINST LGBT PERSONS IN UKRAINE IN 2013

Prepared by **The Council of LGBT organisations of Ukraine**

For **ODIHR OSCE**

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1. **Organized attack on a gay party, Lviv** (Case 436)

Date, time and location of the incident: 16.02.2013¹, at about 23:30, Lviv, close to the nightclub, which hosted a gay party.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Lviv (direct witness of the incident). The incident is documented from victims' information.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of men (about 15-20 people) aged 18-28, dressed in tracksuits, with faces covered by their hoods. According to the regional activist of Nash Mir Center, offenders belonged to *Galaktony*, one of the local far-right groups.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The perpetrators knew in advance where the gay party would take place, so their group was on the opposite side of the street from the entrance to the club. Party organizers warned all visitors of the danger and for transportation recommended to call a taxi. However, two of the visitors (a young gay couple) decided to go for cigarettes to the nearest kiosk. Close to the club, they were attacked by a group of offenders. One of the victims described it this way: "Before we walked 20 metres, they [the perpetrators] ran up to us and started screaming at us "faggots" and other insults. My guy was sprayed with gas from a container right in his eyes. He started screaming that he can see nothing, and I was strongly punched in the ribs. Because of the pain I sat down; I could say nothing because I could not even breathe, and then I got a few kicks on my back. The attackers ran off from us into the yard of the nearest house."

Response of local authorities: It is absent, as victims did not report to the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victims received injuries of mild severity and were morally depressed and frightened. The visitors of the party also were frightened and depressed by this incident. It should be noted that ultra-right local groups have long used such tactics against gay parties: somehow they become aware beforehand of a gay event site; they do not attack at the club itself, but wait for those visitors who venture to leave the club on foot instead of calling a taxi. In addition, they "patrol" the nearest taxi parking/fare-pickup stand.

2. **Organized attack on a gay man, Chernivtsi** (Case 442)

Date, time and location of the incident: 04.01.2013, 20:00, Chernivtsi, a public transport stop.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Chernivtsi. The incident is documented from information given by the victim.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, robbery.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of 4 men aged 20-23, dressed in sports jackets with deep hoods.

¹ The dates in the text are indicated as DD.MM.YYYY or MM.YYYY

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The perpetrators had become acquainted with the victim on the social Internet network *Vkontakte* under the guise of being one homosexual man who agreed to meet at a later time at a deserted bus stop. When the victim arrived at the agreed upon place, he was approached instead by four young men who, after making sure that the victim was exactly the person with whom they had communicated online, attacked and beat him. There upon, they chanted the phrases: "Beat faggots!", "Kill queers!", "Now let's see what you have inside, fags!" etc. In addition, the offenders stole the victim's mobile phone.

Response of local authorities: The victim filed a complaint with the police regarding the assault and theft of the phone, but he was told that it was almost impossible to find the attackers because the victim was not able to describe them accurately. The case has remained unsolved. The victim did not inform the police about the motive of hatred towards LGBT people for fear of being discriminated against by the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim has suffered injuries of mild severity and was mentally depressed and scared. Members of an LGBT organization, of which he was also a member, were mentally depressed as well by the occurrence of the described incident.

3. Threats of physical violence and arson against LGBT event organizers, Mariupol (Case 448)

Date, time and location of the incident: 20.04.2013 and 2-3 days previous, Mariupol, Donetsk Oblast.

Source of information: An organizer of an LGBT event (the head of a local LGBT organization), local media (<http://novosti.dn.ua/details/201155>).

Type of crime(s): Threat of property destruction, threat of physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of unidentified "skinheads".

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Following publication in the local media of information on *Forum of Diversity*, an LGBT-associated event planned to take place in the local Central City Library, the direction of the library began to receive phone calls from unknown persons making threats to break the windows and burn the building. The Forum's organizers too received threats of physical violence. On the day of the event (in another place, since the library was afraid of threats and refused to provide the premises) the event was visited by a group of "skinheads" who threatened the organizers and blocked the entrance to the hall, asking visitors if they were going to an "exhibition" of "faggots".

Response of local authorities: Initially, the local police refused to take an application for protection from the organizers of the Forum. An application was accepted only after organizers complained to the Regional Police Department. However, despite the fact that on the day of the event a police patrol was nearby, the Forum's organizers had to call up twice for additional forces to remove the assaulters from the premises. The local authorities, according to the organizers of the Forum, were also biased regarding this event. Bias was expressed by their attempts to dissuade some guests from participating in the Forum by demands to submit their participation to approval of the authorities.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The organizers and participants of the Forum were frightened and depressed by the attack, and unpleasantly surprised by the homophobic attitude of the local authorities and the police. One of the organizers described his feelings, "At some point, it was very scary" and "The bad news is that some of the participants, who were going to come to us, were afraid and did not come."

4. Physical violence in school (bullying), Sumy (Case 449)

Date, time and location of the incident: 03.2013, Sumy, Cultural Education School.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Chernivtsi. The incident is documented from the victim.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Two students of the same institution.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim, a 15-year-old transgender MtF, was stopped in the hallway of the school by two young men who did not like her "non-standard" look. The victim did not reply to their questions, "Are you not a guy?", "Why do you have such a walk?" and "Are you a fag?", and instead turned around and started to go away from them. Then one of the intruders grabbed her and by the face hit her against the concrete wall with full force.

Response of local authorities: It is absent, because the victim did not complain.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim received facial injuries and felt depressed for a few weeks. Her friends from an LGBT group were also worried about her.

5. Disclosure of confidential information (outing), Zaporizhzhia (Case 450)

Date, time and location of the incident: 06.2013, Zaporizhzhia.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Zaporozhye. The incident is documented from the Internet (http://vk.com/tp.zp_ua?w=wall-24739958_802540).

Type of crime(s): Threat of physical violence, violation of privacy (illegal collection and disclosure of confidential information).

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Several men aged 23-28. The web page of one of them, which was used for correspondence with the victim, is located at <https://vk.com/1trackandfield>.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim, a gay man aged 24, became acquainted through the Internet social network *Vkontakte* with a young man and arranged a meeting with him. When the victim arrived at the arranged place, he faced a group of young people who began accusing him of "homosexuality". Threatening to use physical violence, they forced him to confess that he was a homosexual. The violators filmed the "confession" and then downloaded it onto the Internet as some material "revealing a homosexual."

Response of local authorities: It is absent, because the victim did not complain.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim underwent outing and experienced mental suffering. The local LGBT community is under permanent risk of outing and related homophobic violence because of such incidents.

6. Extortion, Yevpatoria (Case 455)

Date, time and location of the incident: 08.2013, Yevpatoria, AR Crimea.

Source of information: The victim.

Type of crime(s): Extortion under the threat of disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Violator: 16-year-old teenager.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim, a mentally disabled gay man aged 27, had become acquainted through the Internet social network *Vkontakte* with the offender, who posed as a 22-year-old man. Threatening disclosure of information about the sexual orientation of the victim to his family and at his work, and taking advantage of his mental problems, the offender tried to extort money. Getting paid once, he continued extortion. The victim sought legal advice from Nash Mir Center, where he was advised to stop paying money to the offender and to counter-threaten him with an appeal to be made to the police. Thereafter, the extortion stopped.

Response of local authorities: It is absent, because the victim did not complain.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim was very scared and had been under stress for a long time, fearing that the perpetrator would indeed act on his threats.

7. Organized attack on a group of homosexuals, Lviv (Case 457)

Date, time and location of the incident: 22.08.2013, 21:00, Lviv, gay cruising place in the city centre.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Lviv.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of men (about 15 people) aged 18-22, dressed in sportswear.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A company of 6 gays and lesbians at a traditional gay cruising place was attacked by a group of young people who used physical violence and pepper spray. The victims believed that the place where they gathered was revealed to the attackers by a common friend of theirs. This betrayer was with the victims in the evening, but immediately after the attack she disappeared from the incident's location. Her boyfriend, one of the attackers, had repeatedly demanded from her that she inform where and when "queers" were to meet, as he wanted to use physical violence against them.

Response of local authorities: It is absent, because the victims did not complain. They called only for an ambulance.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Three young men suffered multiple bruises and abrasions; two of them have been diagnosed with concussion of the brain; and one sustained a damaged retina; the girls suffered from pepper gas sprayed by the attackers.

8. Attack on a group of homosexual people, Lviv (Case 459)

Date, time and location of the incident: 22.08.2013, 23:30, Lviv, gay cruising place in the city centre.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Lviv. The incident is documented from the victim.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of about 10 persons, including women aged 18-25, dressed in sportswear.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Three gay men of typical gay appearance sat at a traditional gay cruising place and talked to each other. They were approached by a group of young people who asked in rude terms if they were "fags". The question seemed rather rhetorical, because the attackers appeared to have no doubt anyway. One of them grabbed 19-year-old victim X by the hair, jerked him from his seat and began to punch him in the chest and abdomen -- then with all his strength kicked the victim in the face. After that the assailants fled into the nearby streets. Before and during the beating the attackers called the victims "queers" and "fags"; according to the victims, they must have known that this place is a cruising spot as well as who gather there.

Response of local authorities: It is absent, because the victims did not complain.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: One of the victims had to obtain medical help. All three have experienced feelings of fear and humiliation.

9. Homophobic attack, Kharkiv (Case 462)

Date, time and location of the incident: 17.10.2013, in the evening, Kharkiv.

Source of information: The victim.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Three young men.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim was attacked because of his sexual orientation. He described it thus: "I was heading home when three guys attacked me, knocked me to the ground and began beating me while they screamed "Beat the fag!" I crawled to the road -- because that was where cars were – crying out "Help!" because I could not fight. A passer-by helped me, and called an ambulance and the police. The victim explained the attack occurred because one of the assaulters knew that he was gay.



Figure 1. The photo provided by the victim.

Response of local authorities: The police have not found the attackers.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim had to turn to medical help. In addition, he was mentally depressed.

10. **Homophobic attack, Ternopil (Case 464)**

Date, time and location of the incident: 17.11.2013, about midnight, Ternopil.

Source of information: One of the victims.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Two men dressed as "Cossacks".

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Two gay men, waiting for their friend outside a convenience store, were attacked by two men dressed as "Cossacks", who had decided that the victims looked "not quite like men should." The beating was soon interrupted by the store's security guard and police who quickly arrived. Both victims received minor injuries. They submitted crime complaint applications to the nearest police station.

While the first two victims were inside the station, their third companion (the one who was in the shop when his friends were attacked) was waiting for them at the entrance to the office. Beside him were two attackers and several police officers who together were discussing the incident. The aggressors repeatedly used abusive language and insults towards homosexual people. After the third victim had talked by cell phone to his friends about the circumstances of the attack, he immediately was punched

in the face by one of the attackers who stood nearby and heard the conversation. The punch caused the victim to suffer a nosebleed.

Response of local authorities: Although the victims submitted applications to the police, and the police took explanations from the attackers, the victims have not been informed concerning the investigation of their case. Later they found out that the attackers were only subjected to an administrative fine, but the timing for appeal had already expired.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victims suffered minor physical injuries and were morally humiliated.

11. Provocation and torture, Lviv (Case 465)

Date, time and location of the incident: 06.11.2013, Lviv.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Lviv.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, torture.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Followers of *Okkupai-pedofilii*² in Lviv and the Russian ideologist of this movement Maksim Martsinkevich nicknamed "Tesak" (Slasher) as well as a group of "spectators" (20-25 persons in total).

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim, a 30-year-old gay man, had become acquainted at a dating website with a person who described himself as a 15-year-old teenager, and decided to meet him. As it turned out, there was no teenager, but instead of him the victim faced several men aged 20-28 years – a group of *Okkupai-pedofilii* activists in Lviv. This group forcibly brought the victim to a rented apartment, where, under the guidance of their Russian ideologist M. Marcinkiewicz nicknamed "Tesak", physically and mentally abused him for several hours. They undressed him, partially shaved his head and painted it in colours, constantly insulted and otherwise physically abused him because of his homosexual orientation. The organizers also invited 10-15 viewers, who bought tickets for this "show", and who shot the actions on mobile phones.

Response of local authorities: Although the victims put in an application to the Halytskii District Police Department in Lviv, the outcome of the investigation is not known.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim experienced extreme humiliation of his human dignity.

12. Provocation, tortures, and disclosure of confidential information (outing), Sevastopol (Case 469)

Date, time and location of the incident: The initial days of 11.2013, Sevastopol.

Source of information: Media (<http://www.segodnya.ua/regions/krym/rossiyskogo-skinheda-tesaka-nakazhut-za-pytki-nad-ukrainskim-muzykantom-478594.html>, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ENM7wFAwtE>, <http://www.0692.ua/news/428326>).

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, tortures, illegal collection and disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of *Okkupai-pedofilii* movement followers (8 persons) and the Russian ideologist of this movement Maksim "Tesak" Martsinkevich.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: This incident, in general, is similar to previous Case 465 above, with the difference that in Sevastopol, unlike Lviv, there were no spectators. In addition,

² A movement of self-styled "fighters against paedophilia" that emerged in Russia and has spread through Ukraine. Its followers hunt down gay men through the internet, and then subject them to humiliation and abuse. The ideology of the *Okkupai-pedofilii* movement suggests that any gay is a paedophile. All attacks by this movement's followers in Ukraine have been against gay men only, and its founder Maksim "Tesak" Martsinkevich declared that sexual relations with underage girls are not paedophilia (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U5xoQaxeza4>).

according to the lawyer of the victim (a 24-year-old gay man), his client was forced to drink someone else's urine, and a few litres of it was poured on his head; the perpetrators put a gun to his head and a knife to his side. A video of this bullying episode was downloaded onto the Internet.

Response of local authorities: At the request of the victim, the Sevastopol police started a criminal proceeding on suspected hooliganism.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim experienced extreme humiliation. In addition, he was forced to go for medical treatment and rehabilitation because he suffered post-traumatic pneumonia as a result of acts of torture.

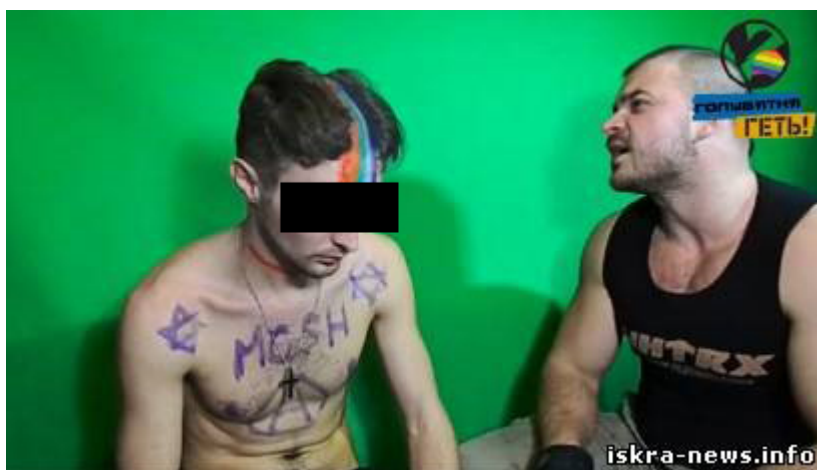


Figure 2. The photo of the victim and Maksim Martsinkievich taken from the Internet.

Actions by *Okkupai-pedofilii* groups in Ukraine have been occurring in all major cities for the past three years, causing fear among many people in the gay community.

13. Disclosure of confidential information (outing), Kryvyi Rih (Case 456)

Date, time and location of the incident: 05-09 in 08.2013, Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

Source of information: The victim.

Type of crime(s): Violation of privacy (illegal collection and disclosure of confidential information).

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): 8-10 men aged 18-23 from the movement *Okkupai-pedofilii*.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Under the pretext of dating, the offenders through the Internet enticed the victim, a man aged 49, to meet in the park. During the meeting he was insulted because of his sexual orientation, as well as accused of paedophilia. The perpetrators, using threats of physical violence while forcibly holding the victim, made him incriminate himself before a camcorder, and to admit his paedophilia and homosexuality (http://vk.com/videos-56117162?z=video-56117162_166623008%2Fclub56117162). Subsequently, this video was downloaded onto the Internet. Even so, neither the offenders nor the victim himself made any appeal to the police.

Response of local authorities: It is absent, because the victim did not complain.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: This video, having become known in the workplace of the victim, made him quit his high-paid position. All these events led to the breakdown of his health (hypertensive crisis).

14. Physical violence and disclosure of confidential information (outing), Luhansk (Case 488)

Date, time and location of the incident: Initial days of 0-11.2013, Luhansk, a rented apartment.

Source of information: Media, the Internet (<http://nedelya.net.ua/gazeta/skandali/tesak-poohotilsya-v-luganske>, http://vk.com/video183640343_166500616).

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of *Okkupai-pedofiliai* movement followers and the Russian ideologist of this movement Maksim "Tesak" Martsinkevich.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: *Okkupai-pedofiliai* followers in Luhansk, having provoked an Iraqi student into intimacy with an underage boy, lured him to a rented apartment where they bullied and exposed him to violence while shooting the episode by camcorder. Then this video was downloaded onto the Internet. Their actions were supervised by the Russian neo-Nazi Maksim "Tesak" Martsinkevich. He formulates his goal as follows: "This is a show. I'm not trying to put a man in jail; I'm trying to break a man's life completely" (<http://kp.ua/daily/051113/422084/>).

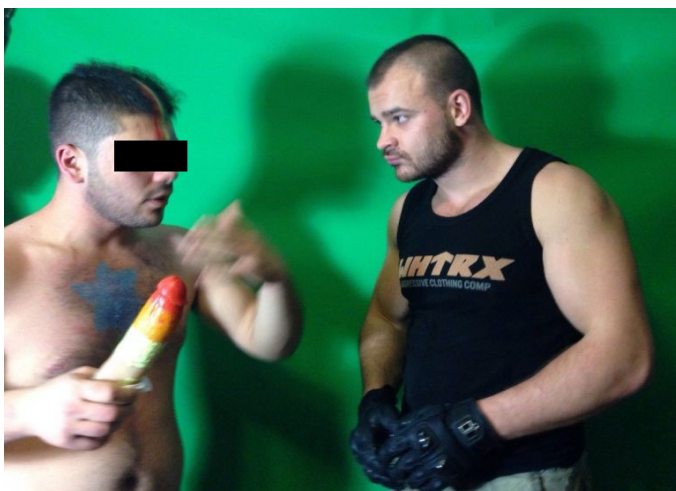


Figure 3. The photo of the victim and Maksim Martsinkievich taken from the Internet.

Response of local authorities: The victim has filed a complaint with the Leninskyi District Police Department of Luhansk. The result is not known.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim was insulted and humiliated.

15. Physical violence and disclosure of confidential information (outing), Kharkiv (Case 489)

Date, time and location of the incident: End of 10.2013, Kharkiv, a rented house.

Source of information: Media, the Internet (<http://www.segodnya.ua/regions/kharkov/Rossiyskiy-skinhed-Tesak-ustroil-bespredel-v-Ukraine-pobril-geev-i-vylozhil-video-v-Internet-472583.html>, https://vk.com/video17358900_167087625).

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of *Okkupai-pedofiliai* movement followers and the Russian ideologist of this movement Maksim "Tesak" Martsinkevich.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A group of *Okkupai-pedofiliai* members in Kharkiv, led by their Russian neo-Nazi ideologist M. Marcinkiewicz, bullied two young (possibly underage) gay men. Apart from the standard bullying programme including head shaving and colouring, the victims were forced to dance a slow dance, one of them crying. All these actions were shot by camcorder, and the video has been downloaded onto the Internet.



Figure 4. The photo of the victims and Maksim Martsinkievich taken from the Internet.

Response of local authorities: The victims did not apply to the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victims were humiliated and insulted.

16. Physical violence, torture and extortion, Dnipropetrovsk (Case 490)

Date, time and location of the incident: 11.10.2013, about 21:00, Dnipropetrovsk, a rented apartment.

Source of information: The head of NGO *Gay Forum of Ukraine*.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, torture, extortion.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of *Okkupai-pedofiliai* movement followers (5 persons).

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim, a gay man aged 33, had become acquainted at a dating website with a guy (his profile address: <http://www.mamba.ru/mb1169061326?hit=3>) and arranged a meeting with him. The new friend lured the victim to a presumably rented apartment in which he faced a few young men strangers. The victim was subjected to physical violence, bullying and harassment in connection with his sexual orientation, and forced to "confess" to paedophilia. In the end, the victim's neck had a bottle of urine poured over it. This whole process lasted more than an hour and was filmed with a camcorder by the perpetrators. After that, the offenders suggested to the victim that he bring them the sum of 5000 UAH, lest this information be published. Otherwise, they threatened to place the camcorder contents on the Internet, and to inform his parents and people at the workplace of the victim.

Response of local authorities: The victim did not apply to the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim experienced extreme humiliation and was very scared.

17. Physical violence, disclosure of confidential information (outing) Zhytomyr (Case 491)

Date, time and location of the incident: 08.2013, Zhytomyr.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Zhytomyr.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of *Okkupai-pedofiliai* movement followers (7 persons).

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A 22-year-old gay man had become acquainted via the Internet with a 16-year-old guy and met him on the street. When they went to a secluded alley, they were surrounded by 6-7 persons aged 16-19. The latter began to twist the hands of the victim, insulting and blaming him for paedophilia and homosexuality. All these actions were filmed. Then they poured a sugary beverage on the victim and forced him to show the identification sign of *Okkupai-pedofiliai* before the camcorder. Later this video was placed on the page of one of them in the social network *Vkontakte* ([www.vk.com / mr_suchonok](http://www.vk.com/mr_suchonok)).

Response of local authorities: The victim did not apply to the police for a criminal investigation.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: After the incident the victim was scared for a long time, afraid to leave the house.

18. Physical violence, rape of a gay man, Zhytomyr (Case 493)

Date, time and location of the incident: 17.01.2013, Zhytomyr, a public toilet at the city train station.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Zhytomyr.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, rape.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): An unidentified man aged about 35.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A 20-year-old gay man at the train station met an unknown man. The man followed when the victim walked into the public toilet, where he attacked and threatened the victim with a knife, then raped him with physical violence. After the rape, he struck a heavy blow to the head of the victim with a knife handle, causing him to lose consciousness; subsequently he disappeared. The victim believes that the attacker assaulted him because from their conversation he realized that the victim is gay.

Response of local authorities: The victim did not apply to the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim was rudely raped and received a head injury. In addition, he felt depressed for a long time.

19. Bullying and disclosure of confidential information (outing), Ivano-Frankivsk (Case 470)

Date, time and location of the incident: 03.12.2013, Ivano-Frankivsk.

Source of information: The victim.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, illegal collection and disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): An organized homophobic group of 5 persons.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A 19-year-old gay man became acquainted via the Internet with a guy his age peer and met him at this person's home. There it turned out that, apart from him, were four young men of sporting appearance who used physical force and (threatening harsher methods) forced the victim to state before a camcorder that he is gay. Meanwhile the four insulted him because of his homosexual orientation, and said that all "pederasts" should be exterminated, etc. The bullying lasted about an hour. The video, according to the victim, was published on the Internet (vk.com/op_if), but it was no longer available at the time of this report's being made.

Response of local authorities: The victim filed a complaint to the oblast police department. He does not know about any steps possibly taken by the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim reported that he was aware of similar incidents that occurred with other gay men in Ivano-Frankivsk. In these situations, it is disturbing that perpetrators do not seek even a formal pretext (e.g., sexual abuse of minors), but instead openly persecute gay men solely for their sexual orientation.

20. Bullying and disclosure of confidential information (outing) Kramatorsk (Case 471)

Date, time and location of the incident: 23.11.2013, 21:00, a city park in Kramatorsk, Donetsk Oblast.

Source of information: The victim.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, robbery, illegal collection and disclosure of confidential information.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Four teenagers aged about 17.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim, a 55-year-old man, had become acquainted via the Internet with a youth who in the course of correspondence stated that he was 14 years old. They met in a city park, but instead of one, the victim faced four young men. They knocked him to the ground, twisted his hands, and took him deep into the park, where they confiscated his personal

belongings and strapped him to a bench. Meanwhile they insulted the victim because of his sexual orientation, voicing the terms "paedophile" and "faggot." Under the threat of even tougher physical violence, they made him confess before a camcorder that he wanted to seduce a teenager by force. Later this video (http://vk.com/wall-51155851_1573) and the phone number of the victim appeared on the Internet. Subsequently, the victim began to receive calls over his mobile phone from different people speaking insults and making threats of physical violence.

Response of local authorities: The victim did not apply to the police for fear that he might be prosecuted for sexual abuse of minors.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: Because of the video publication, the confidential information about the victim became known to many people in his small town; as a result he had serious problems in the family, at work, and with his friends.

21. Threat of physical violence and attempt of forcible entry into a dwelling, Irpin (Case 453)

Date, time and location of the incident: 16.03.2013, about 21:00, Irpin, Kyiv Oblast.

Source of information: The victim.

Type of crime(s): Threat of physical violence and attempted forcible entry into a dwelling.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of young men aged about 25.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: Two victims, gay men aged 30 and 32, having typical gay appearance and manners, were stopped at the entrance to the house where one of them resides, by three young men living in the neighbourhood and often spending time at the entrance to the house – drinking alcohol and taking drugs. They began to threaten the two victims with physical violence because of their homosexuality, while cursing them with obscenities. The victims slipped past them into the entrance of the house and locked themselves in their apartment. The perpetrators started fist-banging and kicking the door demanding it be opened for further physical violence. Then they began to try keys to unlock the front door with the intention of breaking into the apartment. After failed attempts to break the lock, they continued to demand the door be opened, shouting "Fags have no place to live on Earth!", "Such as they must be destroyed!" and the like. Further, they threatened that sooner or later the victims would have to leave the apartment, and then worse would come. The victims called a neighbour for help. She tried to calm the angry hooligans but nobody listened to her. The victims asked her to call the police, but she replied that calling makes no sense, because in Irpin the police are absolutely inactive and one cannot expect their help. The siege of the apartment lasted until late at night.

The next day, the victims again heard cries demanding that they come out for physical violence under the windows of the apartment. They had to stay at home until the end of the day.

Response of local authorities: The victims did not apply to the police because they saw no point in doing so and feared discriminatory actions by the police.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victims were very scared by this incident, especially as it was not the first. Realizing that in this apartment they will constantly be under threat of attack by the hooligans, the victims collected their personal belongings and moved out of there the next day; later they had to sell the apartment on extremely disadvantageous terms.

22. Organized homophobic attack, Ternopil (Case 479)

Date, time and location of the incident: 04.2013, Ternopil.

Source of information: A regional activist of Nash Mir Center in Chernivtsi.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): Acquaintances of one of the victim's mother, as well as the mother herself as an organizer of the crime.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: One of the victims (aged 27), a mentally disabled person, was raised in a boarding school where he met the second victim (aged 26). Later, they moved in with the first victim's mother, a longstanding alcoholic of many years. At the same time, they kept secret their close relations. When the mother found out the truth, she made a row with both men, saying that she "will not keep fags in her home" and called in her friends so that they would "teach them some sense and knock queerness out of them." She realized her threat, and several of her friends beat the victims right at home.

Response of local authorities: The victims did not lodge a complaint against the mother of one of them.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: As a result of beating, one of the victims suffered a broken nose; both suffered multiple bruises and abrasions. In addition, they had to move out immediately and for a long time could not find permanent housing.

23. Organized bullying and extortion from a gay man, Mykolaiv

Date, time and location of the incident: 18.04.2013, Mykolaiv.

Source of information: Mykolaiv Association for Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals LiGA.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence, tortures, robbery.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of men including the man befriended by the victim on a gay networking website.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: The victim had become acquainted with a man on a gay networking website and, after three months of correspondence, agreed to meet with him, supposedly, in this man's private apartment. There his so-called friend started calling him names rudely indicating his homosexual orientation. Later, other men have arrived, who handcuffed the victim to a radiator. They intended to blackmail the victim to extort money. The victim could not walk or even move all the night. Subsequently, as the perpetrators did not get any money from him, they just beaten the victim up, took his mobile phone and left the apartment.

Response of local authorities: The victim filed a complaint to the police department. The case is still being investigated.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victims suffered minor physical injuries and were morally humiliated. Now he fears to make contacts with people through the social networks and gay websites because he is afraid of facing the offenders again.

24. Threat of cybercrime against an LGBT organization, Mykolaiv

Date, time and location of the incident: 22.07.2013, Mykolaiv.

Source of information: Mykolaiv Association for Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals LiGA.

Type of crime(s): Threat of cybercrime.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A local group *Okkupai-pedofiliai* in Mykolaiv.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: On July 22, 2013, local group *Okkupai-pedofiliai* published a statement on the official website of Mykolaiv Association for Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals LiGA, "Today our administration will take your website under control and the DDoS attack will be performed." The organization informed the domain names and hosting providers about the attack. Ultimately, nothing has happened.

Response of local authorities: LiGA filed a complaint to the local police department. The police has closed the case, as the breach of the law was not proved.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The Mykolaiv LGBT community was afraid of possibility that members of the extremist group could obtain information on them via gay networking websites.

25. Homophobic attack on a gay man, Mykolaiv

Date, time and location of the incident: 20.05.2013, Mykolaiv.

Source of information: Mykolaiv Association for Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals LiGA.

Type of crime(s): Physical violence.

Bias motive: Hatred towards LGBT people.

Perpetrator(s): A group of unidentified men.

Brief description of incident with bias indicators: A young man came to the victim, a gay man aged 42, "on business" to the apartment where he lives. When the victim did not open the door for a conversation, the youth called him a faggot. When the victim finally opened the door, four more men suddenly appeared. They started beating him up, mostly to his head, while referring to the victim's homosexual orientation. When a neighbour came out of her flat hearing the noise, the perpetrators have run off.

Response of local authorities: The victim filed a complaint to the police department. The police did not find the perpetrators and have eventually closed the case.

Impact on the victim(s) and the community: The victim suffered multiple bruises and light concussion of the brain.