

**Alona Kazanska,**  
**roma youth activist**  
**of the Amnesty International Ukraine**

**OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting**

**Statement on Hate Crime Working session 14**

My name is Alona Kazanska. I would like to speak as Roma activist.

What about an effective response to address hate crimes from the Ukrainian government? What about investigation based on the human rights standards, meaningful understanding of the nature of a bias motivated crimes and fair trial procedures?

I clearly see one of the possibilities to reframe the discourse of the developing criminal justice system in Ukraine – it is to bring the topic, tools, discussions about how to address hate crimes as an equal part to such ‘popular’ topics as preventing and addressing corruption crimes, domestic violence, etc.

Now and here with the support of the intergovernmental organizations (the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights) we are able to ensure that participating states (Ukrainian government) will develop criminal justice system which includes:

- Standardization of the criminal procedures and legal frames to identify and investigate bias motivated criminal offences;
- Monitoring hate crimes in alight with OSCE standards (Decision 9/09 of the OSCE Ministerial Council),
- Systematical education for police officers, prosecutors, judges about bias motivated criminal offences (hate crimes).

The Ukrainian authorities must provide justice to victims of hate crimes against unrepresented groups such as Roma, LGBT+ and other through an effective investigation process and fair trial proceedings that ensure the bias motive is central to the prosecution.

Last thing in my speech is about the need to ensure victim’s safety and to build based on trust relations between human and police officers, investigators, prosecutors.

Being a roma youth activist I stand against all forms of hatred. When everyone want safety for own selves it is important to stand against all forms of hatred.