



## **Right to Reply Delegation of Hungary**

### **Working Session 16. Combating Racism, Xenophobia, Intolerance and Discrimination HDIM, 20. September 2018. Warsaw**

In reply to the remarks of the delegation of the United States of America let me state the followings.

The government of Hungary is committed to develop comprehensive national responses to hate crimes and have adopted a range of commitments to take action against discrimination and crimes motivated by bias. The Ministry of Interior, the Prosecutor's Office and the Criminal Police Department of the National Police Headquarters collect data on hate crime as part of general crime statistics. Based on these statistics, in line with our commitments, Hungary regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

I'd like to point out that in Hungary several legislative measures contain conceptual elements which have a direct relevance to the concept of hate speech:

- The latest version of the Criminal Code and the Code of Administrative Offences both include a number of criminal offenses that can have a direct relevance to hate crime and hate speech.
- The Civil Code provides protection for the individual against verbal abuse on the basis of belonging to a group that defines an essential part of her/his identity.
- Furthermore, the fourth amendment of the Constitution (Fundamental Law) provided a constitutional guarantee that the freedom of speech can be curbed if its practice violates the dignity of a community.
- Also one of the two Media Laws of Hungary prohibits media contents inciting hatred against or excluding any group, while the other obliges media service providers to warn viewers or listeners of media contents that may hurt their religious or other convictions.