

Content

Introduction	4
Summary	5
Diversity in Latvia	9
1. Legislative Developments	11
Soviet Period	11
1950-1960s	11
1980s-1991	12
New Criminal Law – 1998	15
2. Latvian Police Structure	20
State Police (Criminal Police , Public Order Police)	20
Municipal Police	21
Security Police	22
3. Police Jurisdiction over Investigation of Hate Crimes	22
4. Hate Crime Statistics	23
Recording Hate Crimes	23
“Interethnic Relations” as a Criminal Motive	25
5. Racist Crimes (under Section 78)	28
Hate Speech Cases	28
Racist Violence	31
6. Homophobic Crimes	33
7. Other Amendments to the Criminal Law 2004-2008	34
Section 78 & 150	34
Internet	40
Racist Motivation as Aggravating Factor	40
Genocide Denial	40
8. Policy Documents	42
Programme for the Promotion of Tolerance	42
Strategy of the Ministry of Interior 2007-2009	42
9. The Role of Civil Society	43