



ANTIGYPSYIST INCIDENTS IN GERMANY 2025

Fourth Annual Report of the
Reporting and Information Centre
on Antigypsyism / **MIA**

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Working definition of antigypsyism

The working definition of antigypsyism used by the Reporting and Information Centre on Antigypsyism (MIA) was developed specifically for the German context.

According to MIA, antigypsyism refers to the historically rooted societal perception and treatment of people who are regarded, stigmatized and persecuted as “gypsies.” This form of racism is directed particularly against Sinti and Roma, as well as Yenish people and Travellers, for whom antigypsyism often constitutes a formative and continuing experience of marginalization.

Antigypsyism is characterized by the attribution of collective and supposedly inherent characteristics that serve to justify exclusion, discrimination and unequal treatment. These stereotypes function on both the individual and structural levels and manifest themselves through discriminatory practices, institutional routines, public discourse and social inequalities. Antigypsyism reinforces existing power structures by legitimizing the privileged position of the majority society while excluding those perceived as “other.”

MIA distinguishes between several central manifestations of antigypsyism. These include NS-related antigypsyism, bourgeois antigypsyism, antigypsyist othering and migration-related antigypsyism. These manifestations often overlap and intersect with other forms of discrimination such as racism, classism, sexism, anti-Muslim racism and antisemitism.

MIA also applies a specific working definition concerning the denial and trivialization of the Nazi genocide against the Sinti and Roma. Based on the IHRA definition of Holocaust denial and distortion, this includes all attempts to deny, relativize, glorify or trivialize the genocide, as well as narratives blaming the victims or questioning the legitimacy of their persecution.

1. Introduction

In 2025, the Reporting and Information Centre on Antigypsyism (MIA) and its six regional reporting centres in Bavaria, Berlin, Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saxony, and Schleswig-Holstein recorded 2,076 antigypsyist incidents nationwide and documented them in their fourth annual report. This represents a significant increase of almost 400 incidents compared to the previous year, amounting to a 24% rise compared to 2024, which saw 1,678 documented incidents.

The data collection reveals that (non)verbal stereotyping and degrading expressions (1193 cases) remain the most frequent type of documented incident, followed by discrimination (738 cases), particularly by state authorities. While the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) recorded 196 antigypsyist criminal offences in its preliminary statistics on politically motivated crime, MIA identified more than twice as many incidents involving criminal offences (480 cases). This category was documented separately by MIA for the first time in 2025. It has to be assumed that the number of unreported cases is much higher in the MIA data as well.

A special focus of the 2025 report is antigypsyism in the housing sector. Over the past four years, MIA has documented more than 900 housing-related incidents. These include discrimination in the housing markets and by landlords as well as insults, harassment, and physical attacks by neighbours. As a result, housing often becomes a source of insecurity for affected individuals and families. Many victims attempt to relocate but encounter further discrimination while searching for new accommodation.

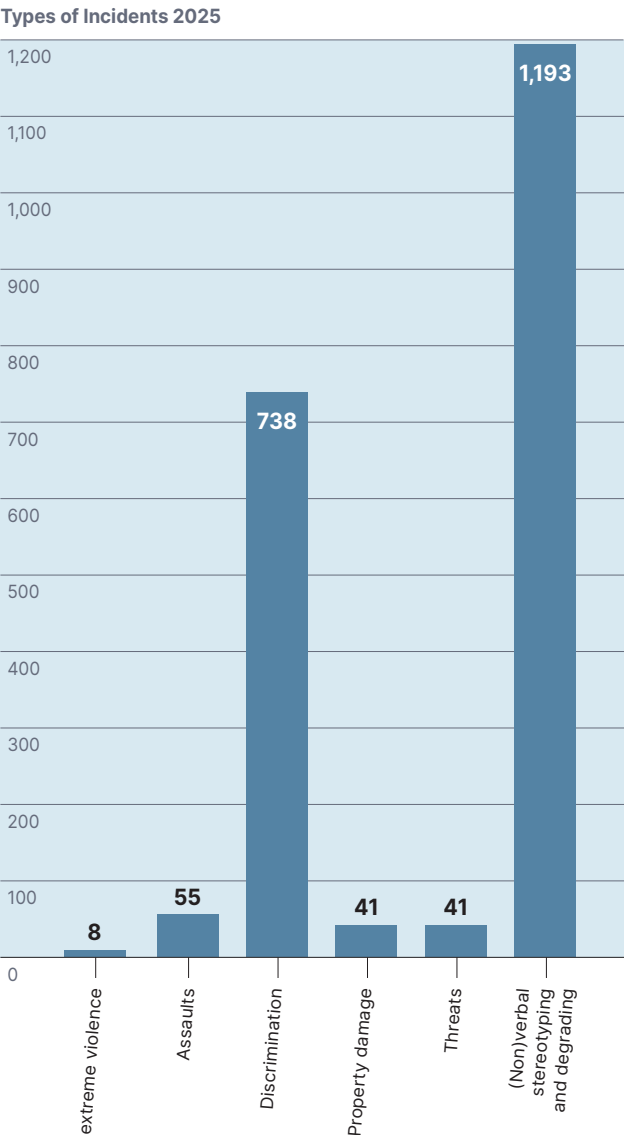
The report further examines the role of mass media in reproducing antigypsyist stereotypes and prejudices. Media coverage regularly employs sensationalist framing when reporting on Sinti and Roma communities and relies uncritically on statements by law enforcement authorities or accusations made by residents against Sinti and Roma. Concurrently, the perspectives, counterarguments, and lived experiences of the targeted individuals are systematically omitted from the reporting. Notably, cases involving outright antigypsyist propaganda more than doubled compared to the previous reporting period, demonstrating a sharp rise in organized hate speech and public agitation.

MIA stresses that the increase in documented incidents should not be interpreted solely as evidence of rising antigypsyist attitudes, but also as the result of extensive networking with Sinti and Roma self-organizations, independent anti-discrimination bodies, and victim support counselling centres. Despite this expanded visibility, a very high number of incidents remain completely unreported. This vast dark figure (*Dunkelfeld*) means that the statistical representation provided in this report can only shed gradual light on the everyday structural reality of marginalization in Germany.

To counter these trends, MIA has expanded its support mechanisms. Since April 2025, a newly funded legal aid network against antigypsyism (*Rechtshilfenetzwerk gegen Antiziganismus*) has operated under MIA e.V., funded by the Federal Government Commissioner against Antigypsyism and for the Life of Sinti and Roma in Germany, providing preliminary legal consultations to victims. The growing trust of affected individuals strengthens MIA's role as a key civil society actor and highlights the need for long-term political support, stronger structural countermeasures, and continued empirical monitoring in Germany.

2. Types of Incidents

The 2,076 incidents documented by MIA and its regional reporting centres in 2025 are divided into six types of incidents: eight cases of extreme violence, 55 physical attacks, 41 property damage incidents, 41 threats, 738 discrimination cases, and 1,193 verbal and non-verbal stereotyping and degrading incidents.



MIA emphasizes that these figures must be understood in relation to a significant unrecorded “dark figure” (*Dunkelfeld*), driven by distrust in institutions, the normalization of everyday degradation, and victim-blaming dynamics (*Täter-Opfer-Umkehr*), which often discourage reporting and reinforce silence among affected individuals.

At the most severe end of the spectrum, **eight cases of extreme violence** were recorded in 2025. These include life-threatening attacks resulting in death or serious bodily harm. While this represents a slight decrease from ten cases in the previous year, MIA warns that such fluctuations do not indicate improvement, as the most severe incidents are particularly underreported. These acts are rarely isolated events but rather the culmination of longer escalation processes involving sustained intimidation and hate campaigns.

A further **55 cases involved physical attacks** that did not result in permanent or life-threatening injury. Although less severe in physical outcome, they have significant psychological consequences and contribute to a persistent sense of insecurity. These incidents typically occur in everyday environments such as workplaces, neighbourhoods, or schools, making them unavoidable for those affected.

Discrimination is the second-largest category, with **738 documented cases**, representing over one-third of all incidents. These cases are distributed across individual, institutional, structural and mixed forms of discrimination, with a substantial share involving public authorities such as police, job centres, municipal administrations, and other state institutions. A notable proportion also occurs in education and housing contexts.

MIA identifies four main mechanisms of discrimination: disproportionate or unjustified measures by authority figures (42%), exclusion from spaces or services (25%), denial of state or infrastructural benefits (17%), and the denial or trivialization of anti-

gypsyism itself (7%). The data also highlights structural limitations in legal protection, particularly the fact that the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG) does not bind state actions. As a result, a significant share of discrimination cases involving public authorities cannot be legally challenged under current frameworks. This is compounded by restrictive legal status issues, including provisions in citizenship law that leave some Roma in situations of insecurity, such as “tolerated stay” (*Duldung*), limiting access to basic rights and services.

Property damage and **threats** each account for **41 incidents**. In the case of property damage, approximately half involve the defacement or destruction of memorials dedicated to the Nazi genocide of Sinti and Roma, while the remainder target private property, including grave desecration of graves of Sinti and Roma who are identified through family names.

The largest category, by far, is **(non)verbal stereotyping and degradation, with 1,193 incidents** in 2025, representing 57% of all recorded cases and a 40% increase compared to the previous year. This includes 320 direct verbal attacks, 220 cases of propaganda, 7 mass mailings, 60 instances of “positive” or romanticizing stereotypes, and 586 cases of other (non)verbal stereotyping and degradation.

The report highlights the role of bystander inaction, noting that in more than half of verbal attack cases where third parties were present, witnesses either remained passive or sided with perpetrators. Anti-gypsyist propaganda has more than doubled, driven largely by the amplification of right-wing rhetoric across social media and political discourse, with actors from the Alternative for Germany (AfD) party linked to nearly one-third of propaganda cases.

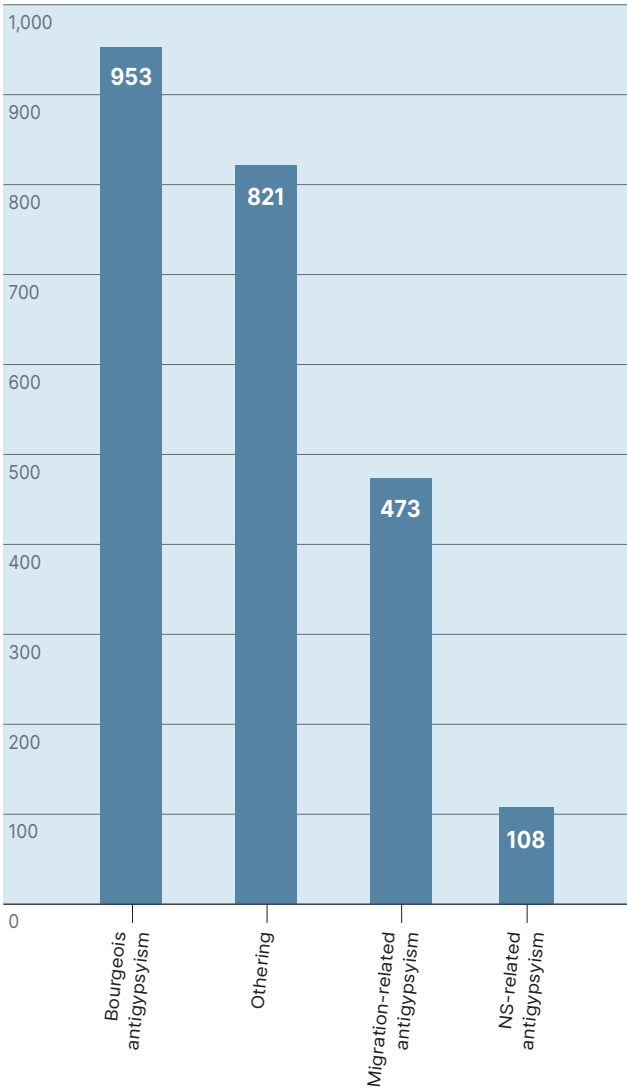
Finally, the report identifies an evolving use of coded language in public discourse, media, and institutional communication. Terms such as “traveling offenders,” “clan structures,” “begging mafia,” and “extended families” are increasingly used as indirect references to ethnic identity, allowing stigmatization of Sinti and Roma to be expressed in criminalized and coded forms while avoiding explicit accusations of racism.

3. Manifestations of Antigypsyism in 2025

MIA categorizes recorded incidents into distinct ideological manifestations, illustrating how anti-gypsyist prejudices adapt across historical, cultural, and political contexts in German society. The key manifestations include Nazi-related antigypsyism, bourgeois antigypsyism, antigypsyist othering and migration-related antigypsyism. As incidents may reflect multiple ideological manifestations simultaneously, multiple coding is possible within this category.

Bourgeois antigypsyism forms the largest manifestation (953 cases), accounting for approximately 46% of all documented cases. This framework projects a negative mirror image against the normative order, values, and socioeconomic expectations of mainstream society. It is primarily driven by **social antigypsyism**, which encompasses 702 cases and weaponizes stereotypes of laziness, welfare dependency, and inherent criminality. Analytically, this manifests heavily in public, media, and political discourses surrounding “clan criminality.” Unlike discourses targeting other minorities, the criminalization of Sinti and Roma ethnicizes offences like burglary or benefit fraud.

Manifestations of Antigypsyism 2025



This historic stigma is used by security agencies to legitimize controversial policing practices, such as the specialized tracking and recording of individuals based purely on descent or surnames. Within this same bourgeois framework, **cultural antigypsyism** accounted for 350 cases, framing Sinti and Roma as perpetual, un-civilized outsiders of doubtful origin. Recurring tropes focus on high birth rates and alleged hygiene deficiencies, deliberately contrasted against the idealized, modern nuclear family. **Romanticizing antigypsyism** was registered in 66 cases; it frames the minority through an idealizing lens of wildness and musicality. Although often driven by positive intentions, it remains deeply degrading by essentializing individuals, placing them

outside the boundaries of structured civic life, and serving as a projection screen for mainstream desires. **Religious antigypsyism**, historically centred on accusations of pagan magic like hand-reading, plays a negligible contemporary role with just 11 cases.

Antigypsyist Othering represents another prominent mechanism of social exclusion, capturing 821 cases. This manifestation includes incidents where an antigypsyist pejorative slur is deployed without specific stereotyping, as well as cases of unexplained unequal treatment. Mechanically, Othering serves to elevate the dominant “in-group” by wordlessly or implicitly distancing it from an imagined “out-group” that embodies unstated, non-normative traits.

Migration-related antigypsyism accounted for 473 cases, leveraging the historic trope of the “parasitic intruder” to delegitimize migration. In 2025, every seventh case in this category specifically targeted Ukrainian Roma refugees, routinely questioning the validity of their passports or their wartime displacement. Furthermore, persistent political rhetoric surrounding “poverty migration” from South-eastern Europe frequently intersects with social antigypsyism by accusing EU citizens of migrating solely to exploit social welfare systems.

Finally, **Nazi-related antigypsyism** was documented in 108 cases. Though statistically smaller, this manifestation directly targets historical memory by glorifying, denying, or trivializing the Nazi genocide. It appears through the vandalism of Holocaust memorials, inappropriate actions at memorial sites, and direct verbal attacks against descendants of survivors – frequently invoking concentration camp imagery or expressing regret that the extermination was not completed. Analytically, despite clear ideological motivations, these recorded offences are routinely missing from official preliminary state statistics on Politically Motivated Criminality (PMK).

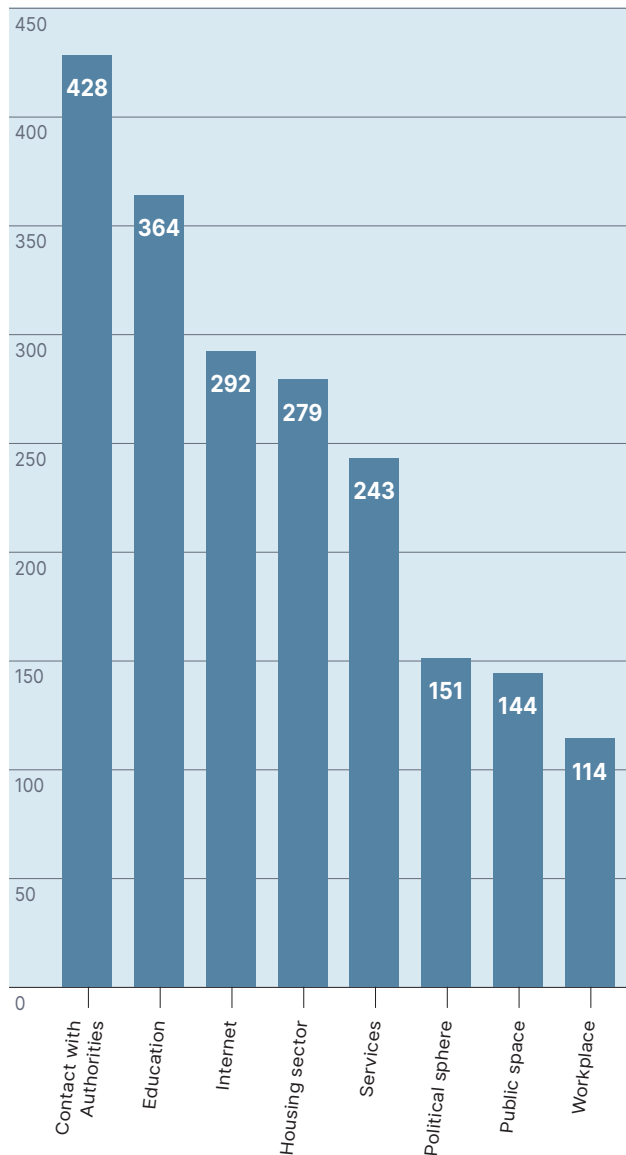
4. Locations of incidents

As incidents may reflect multiple areas of life simultaneously, multiple coding is possible within this category. Compared to previous years, the distribution of antigypsyist incidents across different areas of life shifted slightly in 2025. While the housing sector remained one of the most affected areas, incidents occurring online surpassed housing for the first time. As in the previous year, the most frequently documented context was contact with public authorities.

More than one in five incidents recorded by MIA occurred in **interactions with authorities (428 cases)**. Police authorities were particularly prominent, accounting for 29% of these incidents. Reported cases included disproportionate police controls and house searches, antigypsyist insults during operations, refusal or reluctance to register complaints, and discriminatory criminal investigations, particularly in the context of so-called “clan criminality.” Beyond policing, victims frequently reported discrimination in youth welfare offices, social welfare offices, immigration authorities, and job centres.

Public employment offices emerged as a particularly problematic setting. Antigypsyist discrimination ranged from degrading communication to disproportionate bureaucratic measures, such as repeatedly requesting already submitted documents or withholding benefits on unfounded grounds. In some cases, authorities justified denying benefits by referring to alleged financial reserves within an applicant’s “extended family,” despite such considerations lacking legal basis. These

Locations of incidents 2025



practices often had severe consequences, including loss of income, inability to pay rent, and risks of housing insecurity or homelessness.

The second most frequently documented area was **education (364 cases)**, most of them occurring in schools. Antigypsyism in education primarily affected children and young people, but also parents, relatives, and minority educational counsellors. 45% of incidents involved discrimination, ranging from bullying by classmates to institutional segregation and unjustified placement in special education schools. Antigypsyist stereotypes among teachers –

including assumptions that Sinti and Roma are less interested in or incapable of educational achievement – remained widespread. In 57% of incidents in the education sector, the perpetrators were individuals in official positions such as teachers, school social workers, or school administrators.

For the first time, **online incidents (292 cases)** exceeded those documented in housing (based on non-systematic online monitoring). Most involved antigypsyist statements and propaganda on social media platforms, online threats, hate speech, and Holocaust denial. Many of these posts reached large audiences. Although 60% of online incidents were not directed at specific individuals, they contributed to the normalization and amplification of antigypsyist discourse, encouraging further discrimination and violence offline.

The **housing sector** remained a major focus with **279 documented incidents**. Discrimination occurred during the search for accommodation – often through rejection based on surnames or explicit exclusion – and within living environments, where harassment and violence by neighbours or landlords created sustained insecurity. Proximity to perpetrators often left relocation as the only perceived solution, despite persistent barriers in the housing market. This area will be addressed later in a dedicated chapter.

MIA documented **243 incidents in the area of services**, including public transport, financial and communication services, restaurants, clubs, hotels, and other businesses. The **political sphere** accounted for **151 incidents**, including antigypsyist speeches, parliamentary inquiries, party events, and social media posts by politicians. Many incidents in this area involved representatives of the Alternative for Germany (AfD).

In **public spaces**, MIA recorded **144 incidents** ranging from graffiti and verbal abuse to physical assaults in streets, parks, and transport facilities.

ties. The **workplace** accounted for **114 incidents**, many linked to discrimination during job searches or everyday working life. Victims reported mistrust, exclusion, questioning of professional competence, and harassment by colleagues or supervisors. Due to economic dependence and broader labour market discrimination, many found it difficult to resist or leave discriminatory environments.

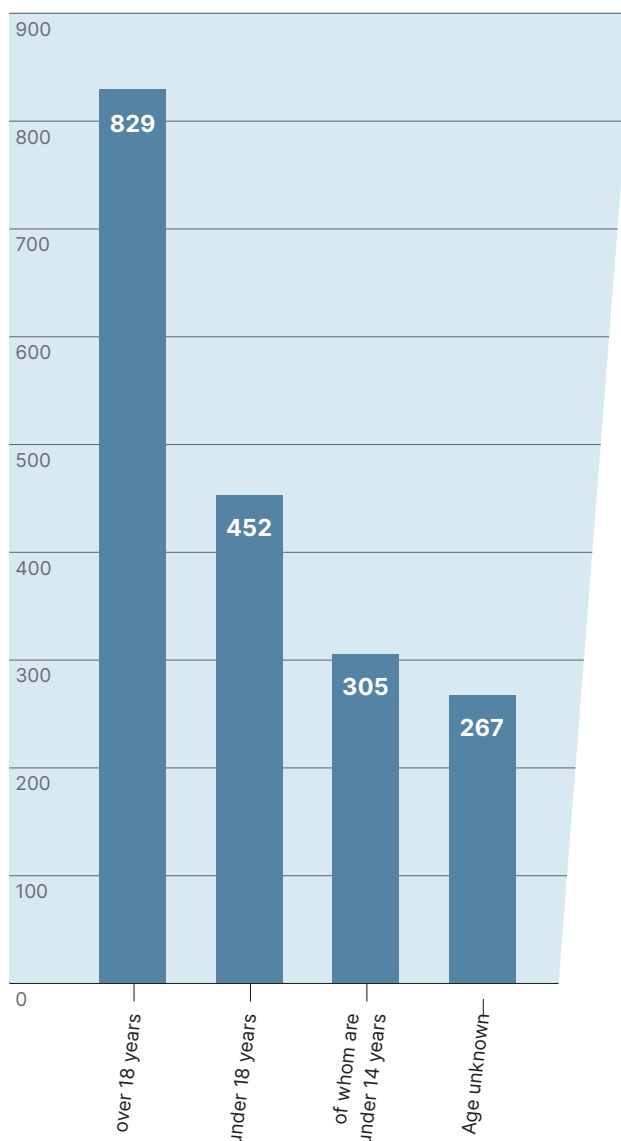
The report also notes that antigypsyist incidents in sports, healthcare, memorial sites, and the media remain significant but under documented due to limited monitoring capacities. While MIA currently lacks the resources for systematic media monitoring, qualitative analysis shows that the media continues to play a major role in reproducing and spreading antigypsyist stereotypes.

5. Perpetrators, Victims, and Criminal Offences

MIA's 2025 analysis further examines where and how antigypsyism occurs, who is affected, and who is responsible. For the first time, the report also introduces a systematic legal classification of documented incidents based on criminal offence categories.

Most documented incidents occurred offline, accounting for roughly three-quarters of all cases. More than half of all incidents **(1,173 cases) took place in direct face-to-face interactions**, including assaults, insults, threats, and discrimination. Offline incidents also included graffiti, property damage, demonstrations, propaganda at public events such as football matches, and discriminatory statements

Incidents by age of people affected



in official documents. By contrast, less than one quarter of incidents occurred online or through digital media. MIA notes that this lower proportion reflects limited monitoring capacities rather than the actual scale of antigypsyism on social media and digital platforms.

In 64% of all cases, one or more individuals were directly targeted by antigypsyism. Particularly striking is the high number of children and young people affected. Among directly targeted inci-

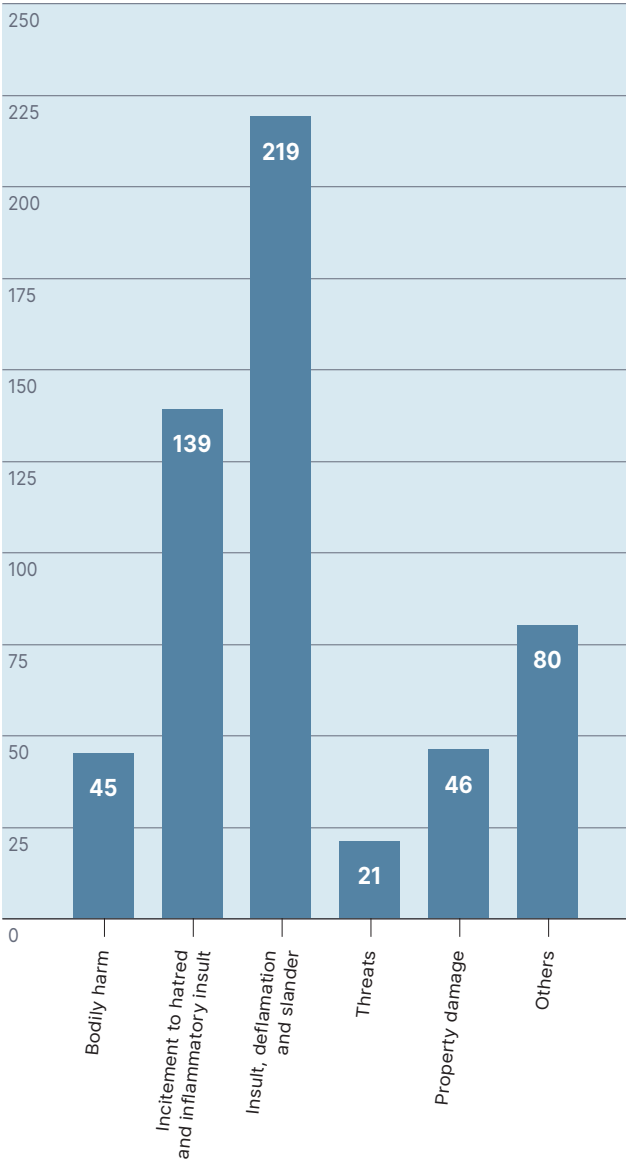
dents, approximately one third involved minors, including 452 cases involving children under 18 and 305 cases with children under the age of 14. The report emphasizes that experiencing antigypsyism at such a young age has severe long-term consequences, including exclusion from equal participation, reinforced social inequality, and increased risks of lifelong discrimination.

Only around one third of documented incidents were perpetrated by private individuals. Most incidents involved people acting in official or institutional roles, including police officers, teachers, job centre staff, youth welfare officials, landlords, employers, and politicians. In many cases, institutions themselves contributed to discriminatory practices beyond the actions of individual perpetrators. The report highlights that perpetrators often act openly and with little apparent fear of consequences, even when operating in official capacities.

The **use of the antigypsyist racial slur (German: "Zigeuner") increased significantly in 2025** and appeared in nearly one third of all documented incidents, often directed explicitly at victims. According to MIA, this reflects an increasingly hostile social climate and the continued normalization of openly antigypsyist language. Even in cases where explicit slurs were absent, incidents could often be identified as antigypsyist through repeated discriminatory treatment, references to ethnic background, or stereotypical assumptions.

For the first time, MIA also conducted a systematic legal assessment of criminal offences. In total, 480 criminal cases were assessed. As multiple coding is possible, incidents may be assigned to more than one legal category; consequently, the figures below do not add up to the total number of cases. The most common criminal offences identified by MIA were **insult, defamation, and slander** (§§185–187 German Criminal Code), accounting for 46% of criminally relevant cases. **Incitement to hatred and inflammatory insult** (§§130 and 192a) accounted

Incidents by criminal offence 2025



for 29% of cases. MIA also identified 45 **violent offences involving bodily harm**, compared to only ten bodily harm offences recorded in preliminary PMK statistics. **Property damage** was similarly under-represented in official data: while MIA documented 46 relevant cases, only nine were recorded in PMK statistics.

The report concludes that antigypsyist motives are frequently overlooked by law enforcement authorities, particularly in cases where antigypsyism is expressed indirectly or through coded forms.

Long-standing mistrust of police and state institutions among Sinti and Roma communities – shaped both by historical persecution and contemporary experiences of racial profiling, inadequate protection, and victim-blaming – also contributes to significant underreporting of antigypsyist crimes.

An analysis of the perpetrators responsible for documented incidents indicates that only one-third of verified cases are committed by private individuals acting entirely in a personal capacity. Instead, the vast majority of antigypsyist acts are carried out by individuals operating in an official capacity or holding distinct structural power positions. This includes teachers, police officers, municipal administrators, case workers, employers, and landlords.

6. Antigypsyism in the Field of Housing

The right to housing is a fundamental human right. Nonetheless, Sinti, Roma, and other affected groups in Germany experience severe disadvantages and exclusion on the housing market. Between 2022 and 2025 MIA and its regional reporting offices documented a total of 903 antigypsyist incidents related to housing. Accounting for 17% of all entries, housing-related incidents rank among the most frequent areas recorded by MIA, alongside education and interactions with public authorities.

Half of all registered housing incidents fall under the category of discrimination. This encompasses individual, institutional, and structural bias, ranging from wholesale rejections during apartment searches to segregated, low-quality placements in refugee accommodations. It also includes discrimi-

natory measures imposed by landlords and official bodies. Individual and institutional discrimination often reinforce each other in the housing sector. For instance, superficial neighbourhood complaints regarding minor issues, such as children's noise, frequently trigger disproportionately severe sanctions from municipal housing companies, authorities, or refugee shelter management.

Furthermore, verbal and non-verbal stereotyping and degradation account for 35% of all analysed cases. Affected individuals are systematically targeted with demeaning remarks, such as being labelled “dirty,” “loud,” or accused of failing to adapt, while also facing ungrounded assumptions regarding criminal tendencies. These verbal stigmas not only compromise the safety of the living environment but often serve as precursors to subsequent exclusion. Other documented incident types include threats (6%), physical assaults (4%), property damage (3%) – frequently involving far-right slogans and constitutional Nazi symbols smeared onto walls or cars – and eleven cases of extreme violence (1%). These aggressive acts damage the domestic refuge and trigger severe insecurity, which often forces victims into a self-imposed restriction of movement or compels them to leave their neighbourhoods entirely.

Discrimination routinely begins during the initial apartment search. Sinti and Roma are frequently rejected out of hand based on their last names or assumed background, with landlords openly utilizing stereotypes regarding “clans,” noise, or financial untrustworthiness. This systemic exclusion is worsened by a legal loophole in Section 19, Paragraph 3 of the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG), which permits unequal treatment in housing to create and maintain “stable social inhabitant structures.” Landlords

frequently exploit this clause as a pretext to reject racialized migrants or minority members. Consequently, many Sinti and Roma conceal their identity during application processes, while migrant Roma are driven by tight housing markets into exploitative, informal, or illegal renting agreements.

Additionally, 43% of all reported incidents occur within the immediate residential environment, primarily perpetrated by neighbours who spread rumours or lodge unfounded complaints about waste disposal and noise. This severe social friction directly damages the daily quality of life and forces families to live in perpetual fear of eviction. On a broader urban scale, structural discrimination manifests in neglected, ethnically segregated neighbourhoods established on city peripheries since the 1970s. These neighbourhoods suffer from a systematic lack of renovations and investments in social infrastructure. Similarly, predatory landlords exploit the vulnerable legal and economic position of EU citizens from Southeastern Europe by letting neglected “junk properties” at inflated prices. Local municipalities often counter these problematic buildings with unannounced forced evictions under the guise of public safety, leaving the predominantly Roma residents homeless and abruptly severing their access to social benefits and local school placements.

One in four analysed cases occurred in refugee shelters, almost exclusively targeting Ukrainian Roma who fled the Russian war of aggression. These individuals suffer a double discrimination from both German and Ukrainian dominant societies. They are systematically segregated into overcrowded, unhygienic initial reception facilities, experience discrimination from security personnel and social workers, and face bureaucratic barriers that block access to medical care and school placements. In some facilities, institutional bias went as far as marking files with an “R” for Roma, keeping families trapped in temporary shelters for months while

other refugees were successfully placed in apartments.

Furthermore, 20% of housing-related incidents occur during contact with public authorities, most frequently involving police actions. Disproportionate police presence, groundless checks, a low threshold for violence, and the systematic dismissal of credibility during neighbourhood disputes serve to criminalize Sinti and Roma within their own living spaces.

To sustainably combat these abuses, comprehensive reforms are urgently needed. Addressing this systemic crisis requires a thorough overhauling of the General Equal Treatment Act (AGG) to completely eliminate existing loopholes for discrimination. Additionally, extensive awareness campaigns must be implemented across municipal institutions and public housing companies. The ongoing segregation and unequal treatment of Ukrainian Roma in refugee facilities must be brought to an immediate end, and municipalities must cease the practice of executing unannounced forced evictions without providing adequate alternative housing. Finally, sustainable structural support and stable funding must be guaranteed to strengthen minority self-organizations and specialized anti-discrimination counselling networks.

7. Successes in the Fight Against Antigypsyism

MIA's work is based on the principle that every reported antigypsyist incident matters. Beyond documenting the scale of everyday discrimination and violence, the organization aims to support those affected, encourage public resistance to antigypsyism, and demonstrate that interventions can produce concrete results. The examples highlighted in the 2025 report illustrate successful actions across cultural institutions, policing, sports, media accountability, and public policy.

- **Renaming a Theatre Production**

One important success concerns the use of antigypsyist language in the cultural sector. A museum in western Germany staged a theatre production about the boxer Johann "Rukeli" Trollmann under a title containing an antigypsyist racial slur. After criticism from a Sinto activist and intervention by MIA, the museum revised the title in consultation with the author and replaced the slur with the term "Sinto boxer." The case demonstrated the importance of antigypsyism-sensitive language and showed that public institutions can respond constructively to criticism by affected communities.

- **Correction of Discriminatory Police Communication**

Another case involved discriminatory police communication. A police department in a western German city published a press release describing a burglary suspect as a "Serbian Roma," based solely on a witness claim that the person could be identified as Roma through physical appearance. MIA contacted the police president and criticized

the reproduction of antigypsyist stereotypes and discriminatory police practices. Following discussions, the police apologized and revised the press release. The correction was viewed as an important step in challenging institutionalized antigypsyist assumptions within law enforcement communication.

- **Consequences for Hate Speech in a Sports Club**

The report also highlights a case involving hate speech within a sports club. In a club chat group, a member shared a National-Socialist era antigypsyist post that constituted incitement to hatred. Sinti members of the club confronted the individual and later contacted MIA. Together with MIA's legal aid network, they filed a criminal complaint. Although prosecutors acknowledged that the offence met the legal criteria for incitement to hatred, the investigation was discontinued on the grounds that there was insufficient public interest in prosecution. MIA nevertheless intervened directly with the sports club, which ultimately expelled the member responsible. The case demonstrated the importance of combining legal measures with civil society pressure to achieve accountability and protect discrimination-free spaces.

- **Successful Complaint to the German Press Council**

Another significant success concerned media accountability. German media reporting on Ukrainian Roma refugees has repeatedly reproduced narratives portraying Roma as fraudulent "fake Ukrainians" allegedly abusing social welfare systems through forged documents or concealed dual citizenship. A complaint submitted to the German Press Council by political scientist Seán McGinley challenged one

such article published by a regional newspaper in southern Germany. In December 2025, the Press Council upheld the complaint, issuing a formal reprimand for violations of journalistic due diligence and anti-discrimination standards. MIA welcomed the decision as an important contribution toward confronting antigypsyist media narratives and promoting more responsible reporting on Roma refugees.

- **Antigypsyism Remains on the Political Agenda**

The report also highlights broader political developments in the fight against antigypsyism. In March 2025, the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Culture and the Central Council of German Sinti and Roma adopted their first joint recommendations on preventing and combating antigypsyism in schools. The recommendations emphasize awareness-raising, education, and teacher training as central tools for addressing discrimination in the educational sector.

In addition, in November 2025 the Federal Government Commissioner against Antigypsyism announced plans to establish a Commission for addressing historical injustice against Sinti and Roma in both East and West Germany from the postwar period to the present. The planned commission reflects decades of advocacy by Roma and Sinti self-organizations.

Finally, the report notes that MIA's published data on antigypsyist incidents has increasingly been cited in public debates and media reporting as evidence of the scale and diversity of antigypsyism in Germany. This growing recognition underlines the importance of systematic monitoring, legal support, awareness-raising, and cooperation with affected communities in combating antigypsyism on multiple levels.

8. Recommendations

Based on the empirical findings from the 2025 reporting period, MIA puts forward the following structural recommendations addressed to federal, state, and municipal lawmakers:

- **Secure Long-Term Funding for the Reporting Infrastructure:** The federal government and individual federal states must transition MIA and its regional offices from temporary project grants to a permanent, legally anchored financial structure to guarantee stable monitoring, victim support, and public outreach beyond 2026.
- **Establish Independent Institutional Oversight Bodies:** Independent complaint offices and specialized ombudspersons must be integrated into schools, police departments, and social administrative bodies to identify, track, and penalize institutional discrimination without risking retaliation against victims.
- **Mandate Systematic Professional Training:** Comprehensive, community-guided training on antigypsyism must be integrated into the core qualification programs for public sector employees, including law enforcement officers, judicial staff, municipal workers, and educators.
- **Reform Municipal Housing and Eviction Practices:** Local municipalities must halt discriminatory eviction practices and sudden regulatory raids targeting vulnerable migrant populations. Housing enforcement actions must be coupled with mandatory alternative housing placements and social integration measures.
- **Enhance Judicial Tracking mechanisms:** Law enforcement and judicial databases must reform their intake procedures to ensure that crimes containing antigypsyist elements are recognised as politically motivated hate crimes, closing the gap between official statistics and civil society data.

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MIA | Melde- und Informationsstelle Antiziganismus
Bundesgeschäftsstelle
Prinzenstraße 84.1 | 10969 Berlin
E-Mail: info@mia-bund.de
Telefon: 030 62 86 09 37
Internet: www.antiziganismus-melden.de

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You can reach *MIA* via:

▷ Website:

www.antiziganismus-melden.de



▷ Phone:



+49 179 663 29 54

▷ Social Media:



mia_bund



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@miabund.bsky.social

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