



**MEDIA RELEASE: EMBARGO 6 am Wednesday 23 March 2022.**

**iReport.ie logs show deteriorating faith in institutions.**

The Irish Network Against Racism (INAR) today launched **the Report of its 2021 findings** from the iReport.ie racist incident reporting system. The total number of incidents reaching 404, the system also recorded 154 Criminal incidents, including racist assaults and a record 90 reports of illegal discrimination. There were fewer overall reports than in 2020, with the drop this period being attributable to the anomalous lockdown-related spike in reports of online incidents in the previous period. In 2021, the proportion of crimes reported to Gardai almost halved, reflecting a deteriorating level of confidence in An Garda Síochána among minorities.

INAR Peer Reviewer Siphwe Moyo said: "2021 has seen a continued worsening of off-line experiences for minorities in Ireland. Taken with the disappointing trend in the two previous years, and the deterioration in confidence in Gardai, the task for us is very clear: we must redouble our efforts to tackle racism including in our institutional responses to racism" she said " efforts to change institutional practice have clearly still not borne fruit as the report findings show. Confidence in Gardai has dropped. This may be explained in part by ongoing experiences of minorities making complaints about repeat harassment getting inappropriate responses from Gardai, and in part by ongoing instances of racial profiling."

Claudia Hoareau, Chair of INAR Board added : "What all minorities need in order to be able to live as equals, is for our government and institutions to bring their weight to tackle racism and discrimination, and to combat the conditions which foster racism and discrimination. We have been promised Hate Crime legislation this year, just as we were last year and the year before" she said " So we need that urgently. As we report on the implementation of our UN CERD [Concluding Observations for Ireland](#), we need to follow-through on CERD's recommendations for outlawing racial profiling, Hate Crime Legislation, as well as for a meaningful National Action Plan Against Racism (NAPAR). This requires taking bold measures for eliminating structural, institutional and cultural racism in our institutions and all areas of life. For us to be able to make these aspirations real, we need focus, ample resourcing and real leadership from our government, and we need it now"

**ENDS**

Link to 2021 Data Report (to go live 23 March 2021)

<https://inar.ie/2021-reports-of-racism/>



### Notes to Editor:

INAR's timeline on developments relating to hate crime, since the 2000 commencement of the Review of the 1989 Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act, can be found [here](#).

The Irish Network Against Racism [INAR](#) (formerly ENAR Ireland), who coordinate a network of over 166 civil society organisations in Ireland, have pioneered the [iReport.ie](#) racist incident reporting system since 2013, logging thousands of hate crimes and racist incidents, and producing from their data cutting edge reports and policy submissions to national and international reporting bodies, government and media. Its complete periodic reports on racism can be found [here](#). INAR is also an active member of the European Network Against Racism ([ENAR](#)), a network of 160 organisations from 30 European States. INAR submits data reports and other submissions to Government, National Authorities, European Union, OSCE, Council of Europe and UN bodies on racism and discrimination in Ireland. INAR prepared and presented the Irish Civil Society collective Shadow Report to the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination hearing on Ireland in November 2019. INAR has also contributed to the [Future of Policing in Ireland](#) report, and numerous other [policy](#) submissions.

INAR produces regular reports on racist hate speech, hate crime and discriminatory incidents recorded through its iReport.ie racist incident reporting system. Figures for [2018](#), [2019](#) and [2020](#) showed increases in reported incidents as well as continued growth in serious incidents, including violent crimes. In previous years, the growth in serious incidents was recorded against a marked increase in racist hate speech by political figures, and an explosion in race hatred in social media.

The [iReport.ie](#) hate crime reporting platform can be accessed online. While the iReport App, is available for Android and iOS devices on the [INAR](#) website. The App is aimed at members of minority groups who experience racism, as well as their allies and advocates, encouraging the latter to 'speak up' and make racism visible. It is also available to [download here](#).

*INAR's work and iReport.ie are made possible thanks to Pobal, SSNO (Scheme to Support National Organisations) and the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government*



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

*INAR is a national network of organisations working collectively to highlight and combat racism in Ireland.*  
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