



## EDITORIAL NOTE


### WORKING TO KEEP PLACES OF WORSHIP AND COMMUNITIES SAFE IN EUROPE


We are excited to present you our July 2022 Newsletter!

This Issue provides an update on our SOAR's work and showcases our recent publications, and past and upcoming events. We highlight the latest developments in the field of terrorism, hate crimes, and human rights. As per our ongoing tradition, we were able to identify 46 Media Documented Attacks Against Places of Worship and Related Incidents.

The SOAR project reaffirms its commitment to strengthening the security and resilience of at-risk religious sites and communities.

### CONTACT US

 [info@soarproject.eu](mailto:info@soarproject.eu)

 [www.soarproject.eu](http://www.soarproject.eu)



## TRAINING EVENT – WIESBADEN



**WHEN: 23 JULY**

**WHERE: WIESBADEN, GERMANY**

On the 23 of July 2022, the SOAR project delivered a protective security training in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The event was attended by faith leaders, volunteers, community members, and faith institution management. Attendees were able to understand the security risks and principles of risk reduction for Places of Worship, enabling them to undertake and implement risk reduction measures.

If you would like to register for our upcoming events, please do so [here](https://www.soarproject.eu).



## RISK ASSESSMENT IN CHURCH– WIESBADEN



**WHEN: 24 JULY**

**WHERE: WIESBADEN, GERMANY**

On the 24th of July 2022, the SOAR project conducted a risk assessment for a church located in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The risk assessment aided the faith leadership to identify possible gaps in the security of their place of worship and ways to tackle these gaps efficiently.

If you would like to request a risk assessment, please do so [here](https://www.soarproject.eu).

# REGIONAL / NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & DISCUSSION



**WHEN: JULY**

**WHERE: BERLIN, GERMANY**

In July 2022, the SOAR project engaged with Berlin State Department for Digitalisation and Sport.

The discussion addressed the work of the SOAR project and further SOAR engagements and training in Berlin.

The SOAR project continues its efforts towards increasing the security and resilience of places of worship and communities.





## SICHERHEITS SCHULUNG FÜR GEMEINDEN IN MÜNSTER

**GERMANY**



**WO: MÜNSTER**

(DIE GENAUE ADRESSE WIRD NACH  
ANMELDUNG BEKANNT GEGEBEN)

**20. AUGUST 2022  
10:00-16:00 UHR**

## TRAINING EVENT – MÜNSTER



**WHEN: 20 AUGUST**

**WHERE: MUNSTER, GERMANY**

The SOAR project will deliver a protective security training in Munster, Germany, on the 20th of August, 2022.

The training seeks to identify possible risks encountered by places of worship and provide advice and solutions on how to mitigate those risks and protect individuals in and around a place of worship.

To register for the event please do so [here](#).

If you would like to register for our upcoming events, please do so [here](#).



# SOAR CALL FOR BEST PRACTICES - JURY MEETING



**WHEN: 31 AUGUST**

**WHERE: BRUSSELS, BELGIUM**

On the 31st of August 2022, the SOAR call for best practice jury meeting will take place in Brussels, Belgium.

The jury will select up to 20 projects based on the announced criteria. The call for best practice is aimed to promote and advance the expertise of European architects in relation to Security by Design of public spaces, including religious sites.

# SOAR Call for Best Practices - Jury meeting

31 AUGUST, 2022  
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



DR. SELMA  
HARRINGTON



DR. SZABÓ  
CSABA



DR. FERENC  
MAKÓVNYI



HANS  
SCHEVING



WOLFGANG  
LORCH



BÉNÉDICTE  
SELFSLAGH



DARIA  
GROUHI

Architects' Council of Europe  
Conseil des Architectes d'Europe  
ace-  
cae  
eu

## INCIDENT MANAGEMENT GUIDE FOR CHURCHES



PART 1



## INCIDENT MANAGEMENT GUIDE – CHURCHES



The SOAR team released Part 1 of the Incidents Management Guide for Churches. The guide provides 8 Security tips for keeping your church safe and further explores the first tip "Prepare". Preparation can be challenging and time consuming yet it is an important step that should not be overlooked. Accordingly, this guide aims to guide you in this process in order to keep you and your place of worship safe.

The guide also provides an Incident Management Contacts form to record important contacts in and outside your institution.

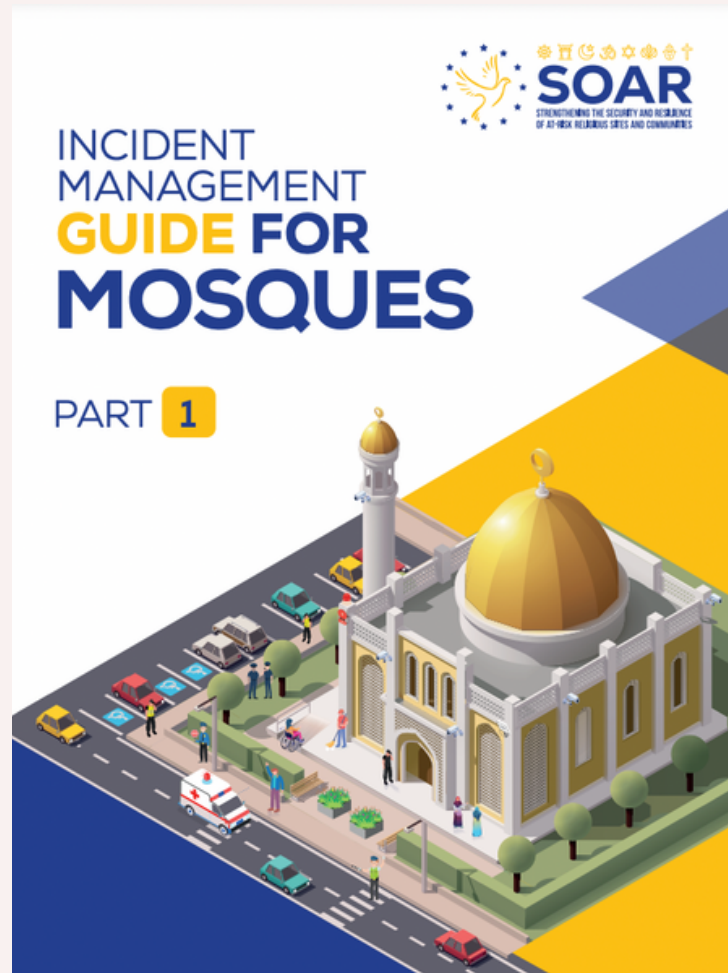


# INCIDENT MANAGEMENT GUIDE – MOSQUES



The SOAR team released Part 1 of the Incidents Management Guide for Mosques. The guide provides 8 Security tips for keeping your mosque safe and further explores the first tip "Prepare". Preparation can be challenging and time consuming yet it is an important step that should not be overlooked. Accordingly, this guide aims to guide you in this process in order to keep you and your place of worship safe.

The guide also provides an Incident Management Contacts form to record important contacts in and outside your institution.



## 20 SECURITY TIPS FOR CHURCHES



We are delighted to present to you the SOAR 20 security tips for Churches video.

The video guides you through church specific security tips to keep you, your congregants, and your place of worship safe. The SOAR project aims to strengthen the security of places of worship and to keep communities safe from terrorist attacks, hate crimes, and other incidents.

The video can be found [here](#).

For more information and tool please visit our resources page [here](#).

## 20 SECURITY TIPS FOR MOSQUES



We are delighted to present to you the SOAR 20 security tips for Mosques video.

The video guides you through mosque specific security tips to keep you, your congregants, and your place of worship safe. The SOAR project aims to strengthen the security of places of worship and to keep communities safe from terrorist attacks, hate crimes, and other incidents.

The video can be found [here](#).

For more information and tool please visit our resources page [here](#).



## THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY'S 29TH ANNUAL SESSION



**WHEN: 02-06 JULY**

**WHERE: BIRMINGHAM, UK**

During the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's 29th Annual Session in Birmingham, UK, the assembly adopted the Birmingham declaration. The declaration also includes the *Resolution on Victims of Terrorism*. Thus, the resolution "[c]alls on participating States to decisively address domestic terrorism targeted at groups based on ethnicity, race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, political affiliation or citizenship status [...]"





# URBAN ENVIRONMENT - SECURITY THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY FOR PREVENTION?



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA  
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY



ČESKÁ  
AGENTURA PRO  
STANDARDIZACI

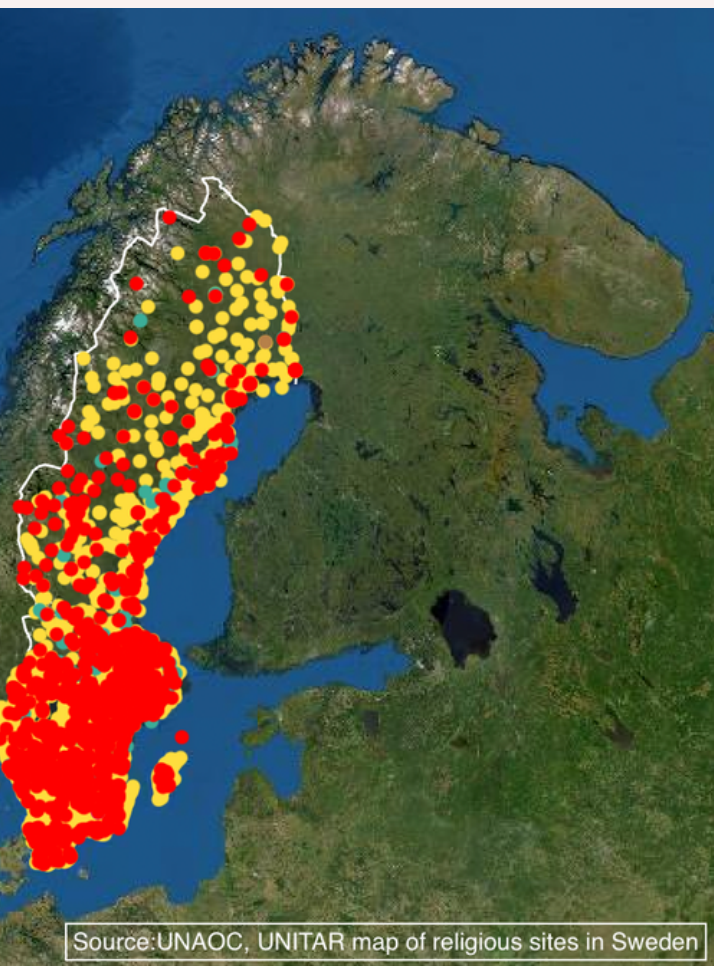


EU2022.CZ

**WHEN: 06 OCTOBER**

**WHERE: PRAGUE, CZECH  
REPUBLIC**

On the 6th of October 2022, the *Urban environment - security threat or opportunity for prevention?* conference will take place in Prague, Czech Republic. The conference is organised by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, Czech Standardization Agency, and the Secretariat of the European Committee for Standardization - Technical Committee 325 (CEN/TC 325). The [registration](#) deadline is 05 September 2022.



Source:UNAOC, UNITAR map of religious sites in Sweden

## MAP OF RELIGIOUS SITES IN SWEDEN



The UNAOC and UNOSAT launched an interactive map of Religious sites in Sweden. The map includes 4,438 religious sites representing 13 denominations.

The map was released as part of the recommendations of the United Nations Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites developed by UNAOC in 2019. The colour-coded map provides a number of options to navigate the provided information.



# MANUAL ON PREVENTION OF AND RESPONSES TO TERRORIST ATTACKS



The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime published the *Manual on Prevention of and Responses to Terrorist Attacks on the basis of Xenophobia, Racism and other Forms of Intolerance or in the Name of Religion or Belief*. The document provides an overview of the threat posed by terrorist attacks committed on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief, it looks at legal and administrative responses, and provides a set of recommendations



UNODC  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

## MANUAL ON PREVENTION OF AND RESPONSES TO TERRORIST ATTACKS

ON THE BASIS OF **XENOPHOBIA, RACISM**  
AND OTHER FORMS OF **INTOLERANCE**,  
OR IN THE NAME OF **RELIGION OR BELIEF**



EUROPOL



## EUROPEAN UNION TERRORISM SITUATION AND TREND REPORT 2022

EUROPOL

Europol published the annual *European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend Report 2022*.

The report states that there were "15 completed, foiled and failed attacks in 2021 in the EU" which represents a decrease from 2020 and 2019. Similarly, there were 388 terrorism-related offences arrests in 2021. This represents a decrease from 2020 (449), and 2019 (723). The most arrests (5) and attacks (140) were registered in France.

## NEW HATE CRIME LEGISLATION



### WHERE: IRELAND

On the 13th of July 2022 the Irish Minister for Justice, Helen McEntee, announced a new Hate Crime legislation. The new legislation aims to make it "easier to secure prosecutions and convictions".

The legislation is victim oriented and tries to secure more effective prosecutions and convictions by employing a "demonstration test". The demonstration test "means simply that a perpetrator demonstrates hatred towards a member of a protected group/characteristic at the time of an offence being committed."



## ANNUAL REPORT - HATE CRIME 2021

### WHERE: AUSTRIA



Bundesministerium  
Inneres

The Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior published the annual Hate Crime Report 2021.

According to the report, 5,464 bias-motivated crimes and 6,619 prejudice motives crimes were recorded in 2021. 2,052 crimes were recorded under the category of belief, followed by national/ethnic origin (1,874), religion (750), skin color (408), sexual orientation (376), gender (354), social status (287), age (266) and disability (252).





# MEDIA DOCUMENTED **ATTACKS** AGAINST PLACES OF WORSHIP AND RELATED INCIDENTS:

## 25 JUNE-25 JULY

The following list does not represent the true extent of attacks against religious sites within the given timeframe.

Rather, it is a representation of some incidents presented in and covered by the media. The indicated dates represent either the date of the incident or the date of discovery of the incident.



### **France**

25-26 June: Cemetery theft.  
03-04 July: Cemetery damage.



### **Germany**

June: Church damage.  
July: Church damage.  
July: Church smeared.  
July: Church arson.  
01 July: Suspicious package at synagogue.  
15 June-03 July: Church damage.  
04 July: Graffiti on a Jewish plaque.  
04-05 July: Church theft.  
03-06 July: Church theft.  
06 July: Church theft.  
06-07 July: Church smeared.  
09-10 July: Church damage.  
10-11 July: Church damage.  
11-12 July: Church damage.  
14-15 July: Church theft.  
15 July: Jewish memorial vandalised.  
16-17 July: Church damage.  
18 July: Church arson.  
20 July: Mosque vandalism.



### **Hungary**

25 June: Church fire.



### **Spain**

28 June: Church arson.





## **Austria**

July: Shoah memorial plaque vandalised.

01 July: Church theft.

08 July: Church vandalism.



## **Ireland**

July: Church vandalism.



## **Romania**

19 July: Church fire.



## **Italy**

July: Church vandalism.

11 July: Church theft.

17 July: Church theft.

22 July: Church theft.



## **UK**

June: Church theft.

26 June-03 July: Church damage.

01 July: Church theft.

02 July: Church theft.

14 July: Car smashed windows outside mosque.



## **Ukraine**

Unclear: Church damage.

26 June: Church damage.

July: Accusations of torturing Ukrainian priests.

July: Mosque shelled.

08 July: Church damage.

14 July: Church damage.



## **Turkey**

June: Hagia Sophia's Imperial Gate vandalised Again.

14 July: Damage to Jewish cemetery.

# REQUEST A SOAR TRAINING EVENT OR RISK ASSESSMENT



**WHERE: GERMANY, FRANCE,  
THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM,  
DENMARK, HUNGARY, AUSTRIA**

The SOAR Project is committed to help keep communities safe. As part of our project we deliver protective security training and risk assessments for places of worship.

If you would like to request a SOAR training event or a risk assessment for your place of worship please do so [Here](#).

Registration for upcoming events: [Here](#).



## SOAR RESOURCES



SOAR is delighted to present to you the most important publications in the field of security of places of worship.

Our Resources page contains SOAR and other publications that are designed to aid you in keeping your place of worship safe.

The Resources page is available [Here](#).



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Disclaimer: The content of this document represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.