




# NEWSLETTER

 Florence, Italy

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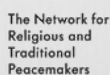


## EDITORIAL NOTE

We are delighted to share with you our August 2023 Newsletter!

This issue of the Newsletter provides a list of our upcoming events and includes information on events and publications relevant to the field of SOAR work.

As per our monthly tradition, the SOAR team identified 156 media-documented attacks against places of worship and related incidents during the month of July 2023.



# International Day of Victims of Terrorism

**WHEN: 21 AUGUST**

In 2017 the UN General Assembly proclaimed 21st of August the International Day of Victims of Terrorism. This day serves as a reminder of the significant and often devastating impact of terrorism on individuals, families, communities, and societies worldwide. It provides an opportunity to honor the victims and survivors of terrorist acts and to show solidarity with them.



# International Day for Victims of Violence Based on Religion or Belief

**WHEN: 22 AUGUST**

In 2019, the General Assembly designated the 22nd of August the International Day for Victims of Violence Based on Religion or Belief. This day was established by the United Nations to raise awareness about the various forms of violence, discrimination, and persecution faced by individuals and communities due to their religion or belief systems.

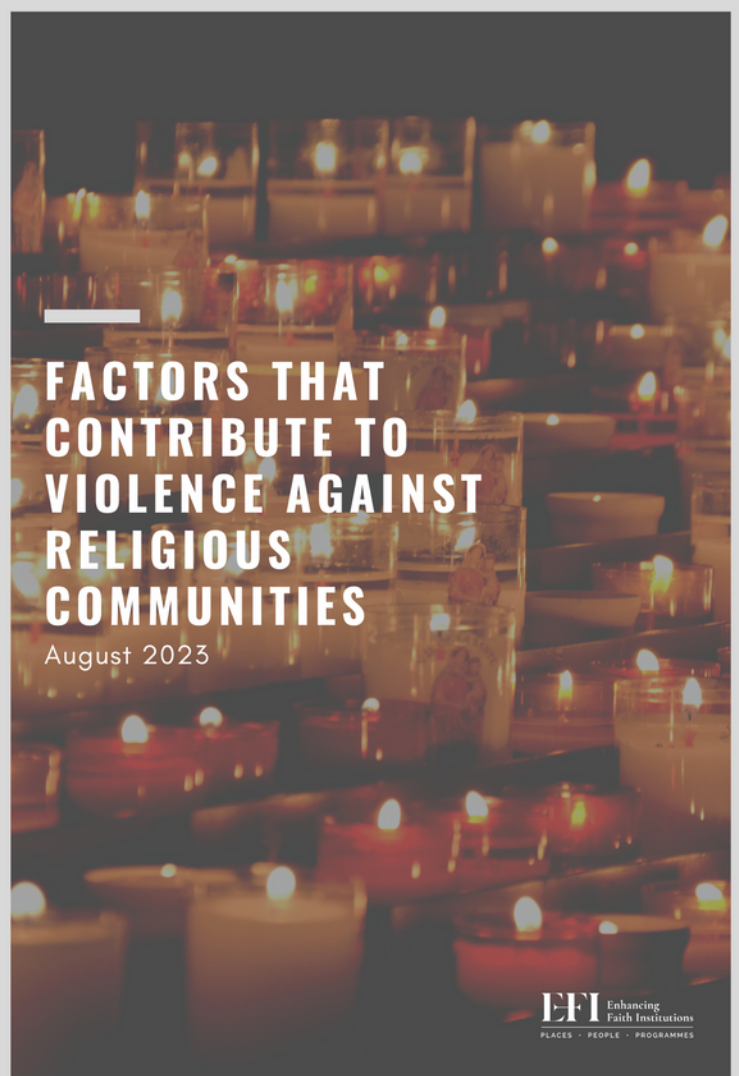


# Factors that Contribute to Violence Against Religious Communities

WHEN: AUGUST

EFI's new publication explores the factors contributing to violence against religious communities such as intolerance, extremism, ethnic and religious tensions, political exploitation, lack of religious freedom, and online Radicalisation. Published on the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief the resource highlights the need to address these factors.

Find the publication [here](#).



# Safe Spaces for Women in Faith Institutions

WHEN: AUGUST

EFI's new publication shares a number of septs on creating safe spaces for women in faith institutions. The resource aims to help faith institutions not only provide a secure space for women but also support and empower them. Women's spaces have the potential of providing physical safety, and privacy.

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



# Climate Change & the Role of Faith Communities

**WHEN: JULY**

This publication delves into how religious values intersect with environmental concerns, showcasing actions, and impacts. From eco-friendly practices to influential leadership, faith communities are shaping a more sustainable future. Learn how diverse traditions unite to tackle the pressing challenge of our time.

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

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ROLE OF FAITH COMMUNITIES



**EFI** Enhancing  
Faith Institutions  
PLACES • PEOPLE • PROGRAMMES

August 2023



## Islamophobic crimes

**WHEN: 2023**

**WHERE: GERMANY**

258 Islamophobic crimes were recorded in Germany in the first half of the year. The crimes were mostly motivated by right-wing extremists. 17 people were also injured in the attacks. The number represents an increase of approximately 100 Islamophobic crimes compared to the first half of 2022.

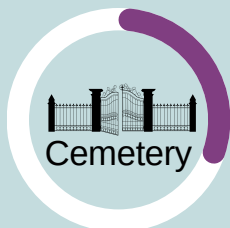
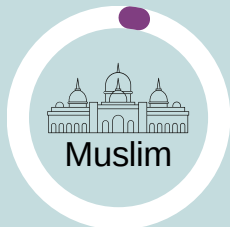
Read more [here](#).

# Media Documented Attacks Against Places of Worship and Related Incidents

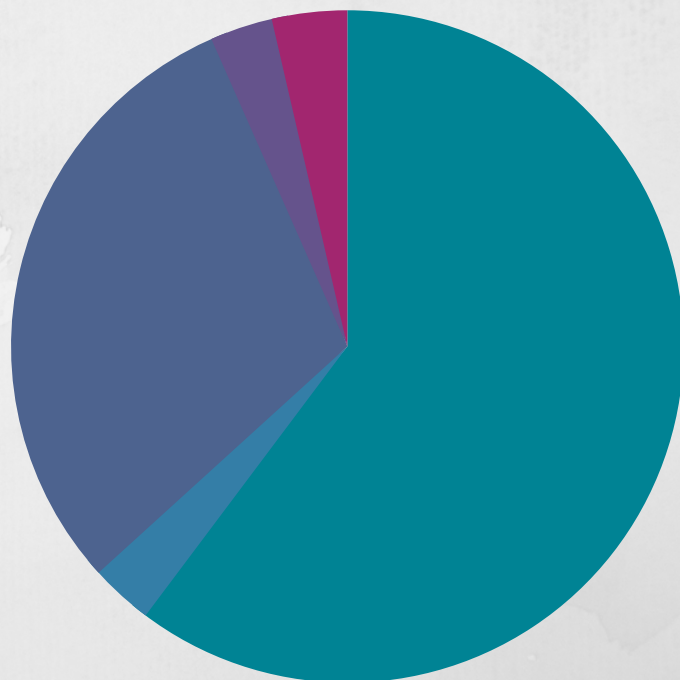
**AUGUST 2023**

The following numbers do 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.

## Place of Worship

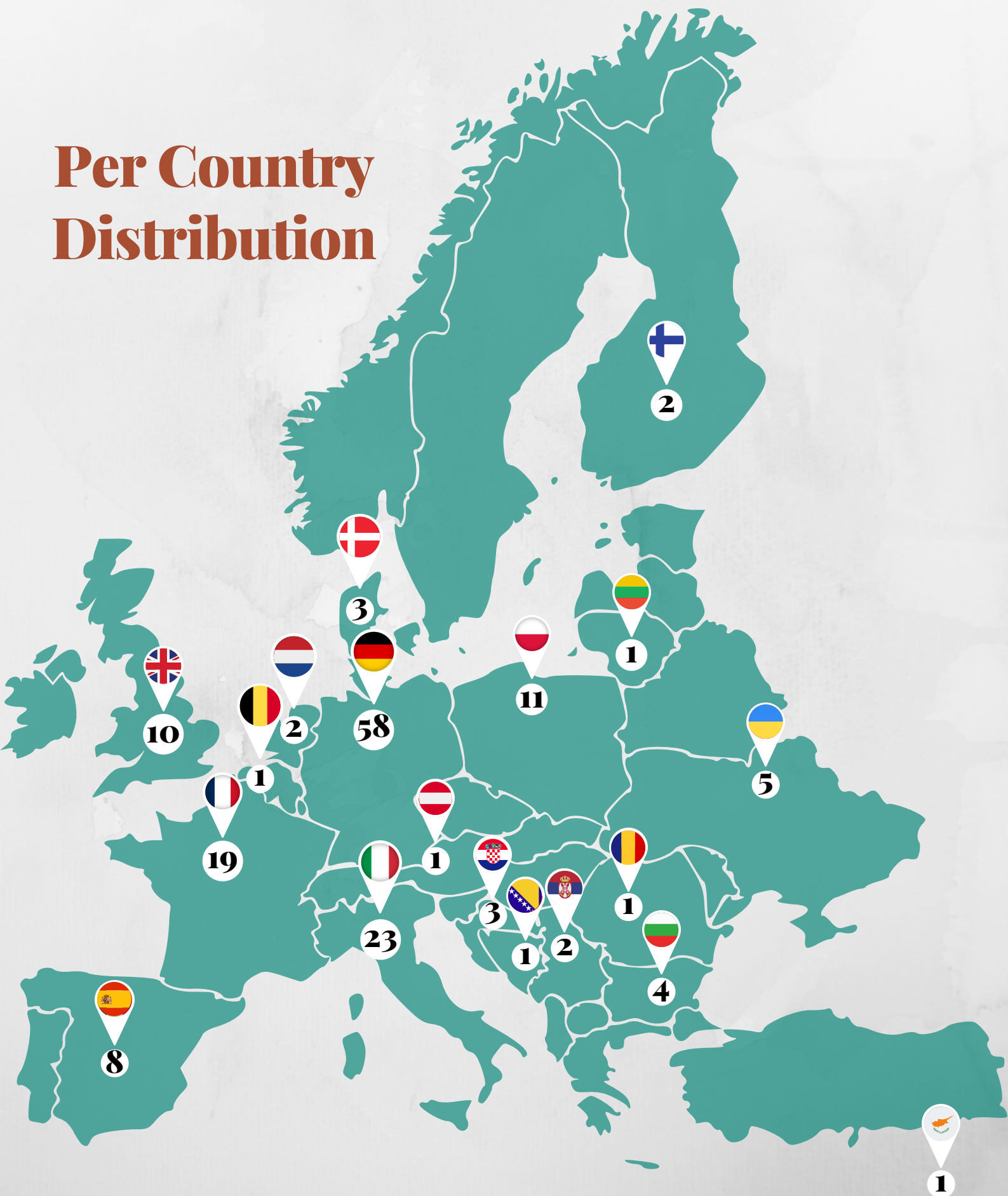


## 156 Attacks & Related Incidents



- (Attempted) Theft/Break-in
- Arson/Fire
- Damage/vandalism/smearing
- Threat Letters
- Other (Hitler salute, Molotov cocktail, car crash into place of worship, attack with stones, Russian aggression in Ukraine)

# Per Country Distribution



\*We would like to commend the German authorities for excellent reporting of crimes on the [PressePortal](#).

# Women & Youth Safety & Security Training

The SOAR Project is committed to help keep communities safe. As part of our project we deliver women and youth safety and security training.

If you would like to request a SOAR training please do so [Here](#).

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



## WOMEN & YOUTH SAFETY & SECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING

[Register Now](#)



## SOAR RESOURCES

## 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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