



# What is “hate speech”?

The United Nations (UN) define hate speech as *“any kind of communication in speech, writing or behavior, that attacks or uses pejorative or discriminatory language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of who they are, in other words, based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, color, descent, gender or other identity factor”*.



# Which scientific methods are employed?



Legal



Sociological



Historical



Statistical

# What kind of difficulties were encountered during the research process?



There is not a concrete and universally accepted definition of the concept of hate speech.



There is not a clear-cut international law framework when it comes to hate speech.



There is a strong contradiction whether hate speech is equal to free speech.



Not much has been written about disablist hate speech in the academic literature.



Many people who responded in the survey conducted for the needs of this thesis seemed not to be fully aware of the concept of hate speech.

# What is the scope and meaning of the present thesis?

To provide a clear-cut picture of the concept of “hate speech”

To present the international legal framework regarding the protection of vulnerable social groups from hate speech

To raise awareness not only to the academic community but also to the general public on such a burning question like hate speech

To enrich the academic bibliography by providing a comprehensive study on issues pertaining to hate speech

It functions as a continuum of the scientific research conducted by the author in the “UNESCO Chair for Intercultural Policy for an Active and Solidary Citizenship” of the University of Macedonia in 2018.





Which social groups are examined?

- Persons with disabilities
- Women and girls
- The LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual and Intersex) community
- Ethnic and religious minorities

# Chapter I. An Introduction To The Concept Of “Hate Speech”



It provides a definition of the concept of hate speech along with an explanation as to why such a term must be employed.



It presents an indicative typology of the term.



It touches upon the issue of prohibited forms of hate speech on the basis of content, intention, (potential) target, context and consequences.



It concerns the highly contradictory issue whether hate speech is equivalent to free speech.

## Chapter II. Key Concepts: “Vulnerable Social Groups” & “Protected Characteristics”

It provides an explanation of the terms “vulnerable social groups” and “protected characteristics”.







## Chapter III. The Protection of Vulnerable Social Groups From Hate Speech Under International Law

- It presents each one of the social groups under examination along with cases of hate speech that each of these groups has faced.
- It provides the international legal framework for each social group.



## Chapter IV. Survey Analysis

---

- This chapter touches upon a survey analysis which aimed at exploring the public's view on the hate speech phenomenon as well as to figure out whether the survey takers had experienced hate speech themselves at least once in their lives.
- This study has provided lots of interesting facts and opinions when it comes to hate speech.
- Nonetheless, the survey's results have shown that there is little awareness concerning the hate speech phenomenon and its repercussions for the society.



# Conclusions



The European legal framework of protection is undoubtedly interrelated to the international one, but it only has a complementary function.



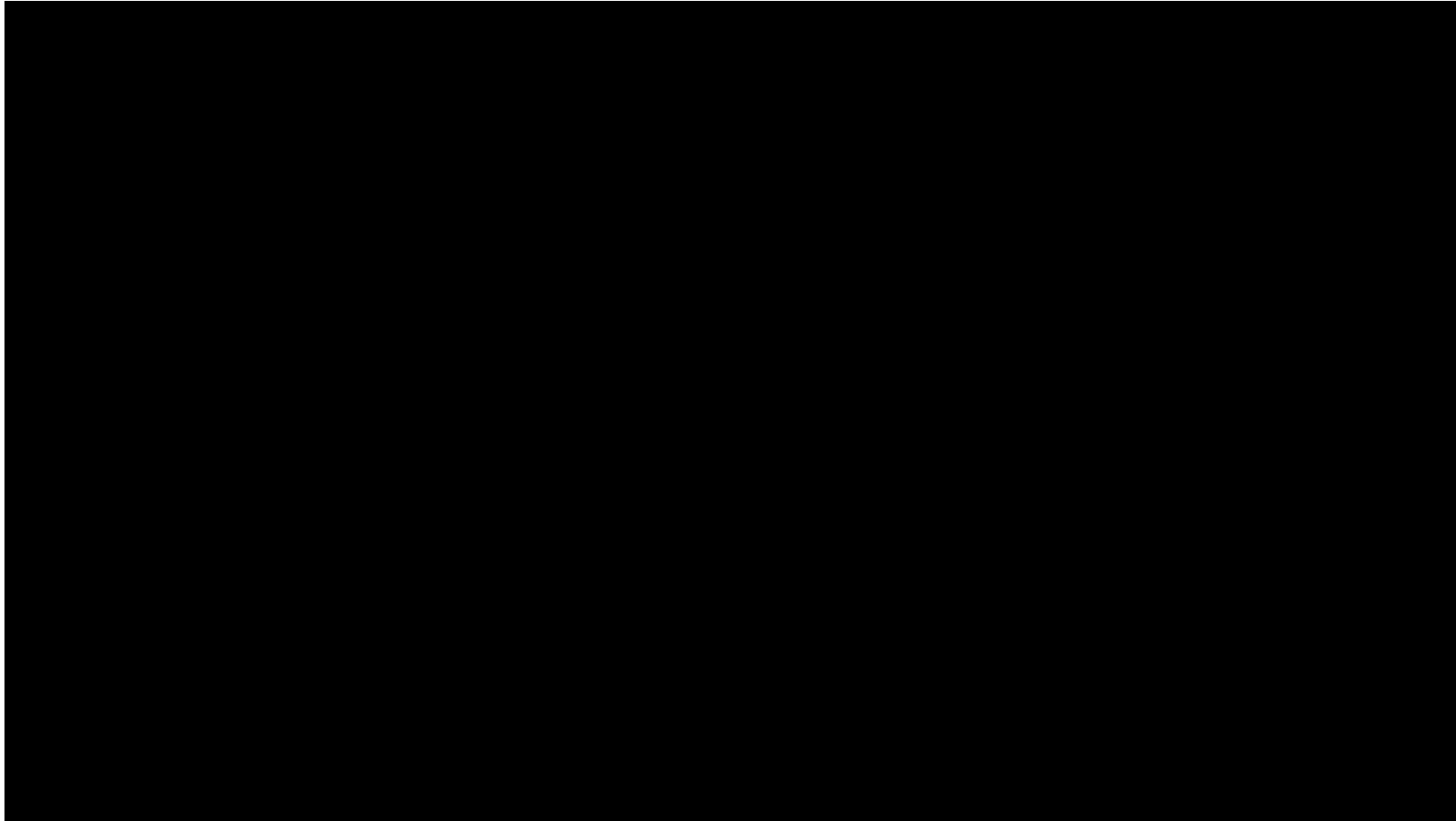
The current international legal framework cannot guarantee for an adequate protection from hate speech.



The establishment of an international Convention concerning specifically the right to be protected from hate speech shall be taken into consideration.

Source:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35rAykWYPrG>







Are there any questions?