



## NEWS REPORT

**Date:** 5 October 2011  
**Expert:** Margarita Ilieva  
**Title:** Prosecutor General Issues an Order for Police and Prosecutors to Enforce Criminal Law against Hate Speech  
**Country:** Bulgaria  
**Context**  
**Issue at stake:** Harassment and Incitement to Hatred and Discrimination  
**Ground of discrimination:** Race/ ethnicity & religion/belief  
**Source:** Judiciary/ prosecutorial act  
**Field:** Public expression

### Content :

On 27 September 2011 Prosecutor General Boris Velchev ordered the police to immediately arrest any person inciting to ethnic hatred. In the midst of current anti-Roma pogroms and demonstrations, Prosecutor General Velchev also ordered prosecutors to immediately open investigations into any instance of public speech, or publication inciting to racial or religious hatred. Those investigations are to be conducted within the strictest timelines.