

FRA work in the fight against racism and on the promotion and protection of the rights of people of African descent



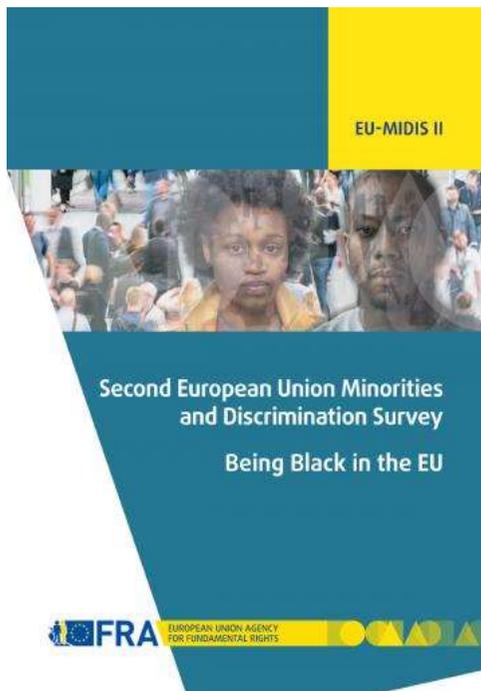
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FRA's report 'Being Black in the EU' (2018) Why this report?



- A. Mark the UN Decade for People of African decent (2014 -2024).
- B. A follow-up of the first *EU People of African Descent Week* hosted by the EU Parliament in May 2018.
- C. Assess developments and progress in relation to application of the Racial Equality Directive and the Framework decision on Racism.
 - provides comparable equality data on the situation of racial discrimination in the EU.
 - assess progress in regard to selected SDGs.
- D. First FRA report dedicated to persons of African descent.

➤ EU-MIDIS II sub-sample

- **5,803** persons of African descent : immigrants (first-generation) and descendants of immigrants (second-generation, born in the survey country).
- **12 EU MS**: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Sweden and United Kingdom.
- Most MSs **do not provide official information on racial or ethnic origin** in administrative data - proxy variables used for sampling such 'country of birth' and 'country of birth of parents'.

➤ Sample characteristics

- Average age: 39 years
- 51% women
- 63% of respondents are citizens of the Member State they reside, 74% born outside the country
- 60% Christian, 29% Muslim, 6% no religion

- A. Racism is a common occurrence, including at the hands of the police. Very few report such incidents to any authority or body.**
- 30% experienced racist harassment in the five years before the survey. Yet, just 14% reported the most recent incident.
 - 5% say they experienced a racist attack in the same period, with 11% of those saying that a police officer was the perpetrator. Experiences with racist violence vary, but reach as high as 14%. Yet, a majority (64%) of victims of racist violence did not report the most recent incident to the police or any organisation or service.
- B. Police stops are often experienced as racial profiling.**
- 24% of respondents were stopped by the police (men more often than women). Of these, 41% characterise the stop as racial profiling.
 - Overall high trust in the police, however, the lowest level of trust is among those who consider the latest stop as racial profiling.
- C. Racial discrimination is a common place with particular risks for labour market and housing exclusion.**
- 39% felt racially discriminated against in the 12 months before the survey, yet only 16% made a complaint about the most recent incident.
 - Twice as many respondents with higher education are employed in elementary occupations compared to the general population;
 - The paid work rate among respondents with tertiary education is lower than that of the general population.
 - 15% own their dwelling compared to 70% for the general population;
 - 45% live in overcrowded housing, compared to 17% of the general population.
 - More than one in two respondents (55%) have a household income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold after social transfers in the country where they live.

- Strengthen the enforcement of existing anti-discrimination legislation and legislation against hate speech and hate crime.
- Improve policy frameworks and policy coherence by adopting, for example, action plans at the national level.
- Strengthen monitoring bodies, including equality bodies.
- Encourage victims to report hate crime, hate speech and discrimination incidents (for example through online reporting tools or through third party reporting).
- Eliminate racial profiling and raise awareness among police forces of the damaging effect of such practices on community relations and trust in law enforcement.
- Ensure independent investigation of violent incidents involving law enforcement through fully independent and functional complaints mechanisms.
- Enhance trust in institutions and promote political participation and representation of ethnic minority groups and of people with an immigrant background.
- Link action against racism and xenophobia with improvement of living conditions, access to the labour market, education and healthcare services for the groups of the population most affected.
- Improve collection of disaggregated equality data based on the principle of self-identification and with due regard to data protection legislation.

- A. The situation is dire and there is no room for complacency. It is intolerable in light of the number of commitments to anti-racism taken by the international community.

- B. The survey findings point to major gaps in the implementation of EU legislation prohibiting racial discrimination and criminalising certain forms of racism and xenophobia.

- C. Start working **with** people rather than **for** people in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination. Inclusive policy making can lead to measurable progress on the ground.

Thank you!

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