

Ministry of Diaspora Affairs

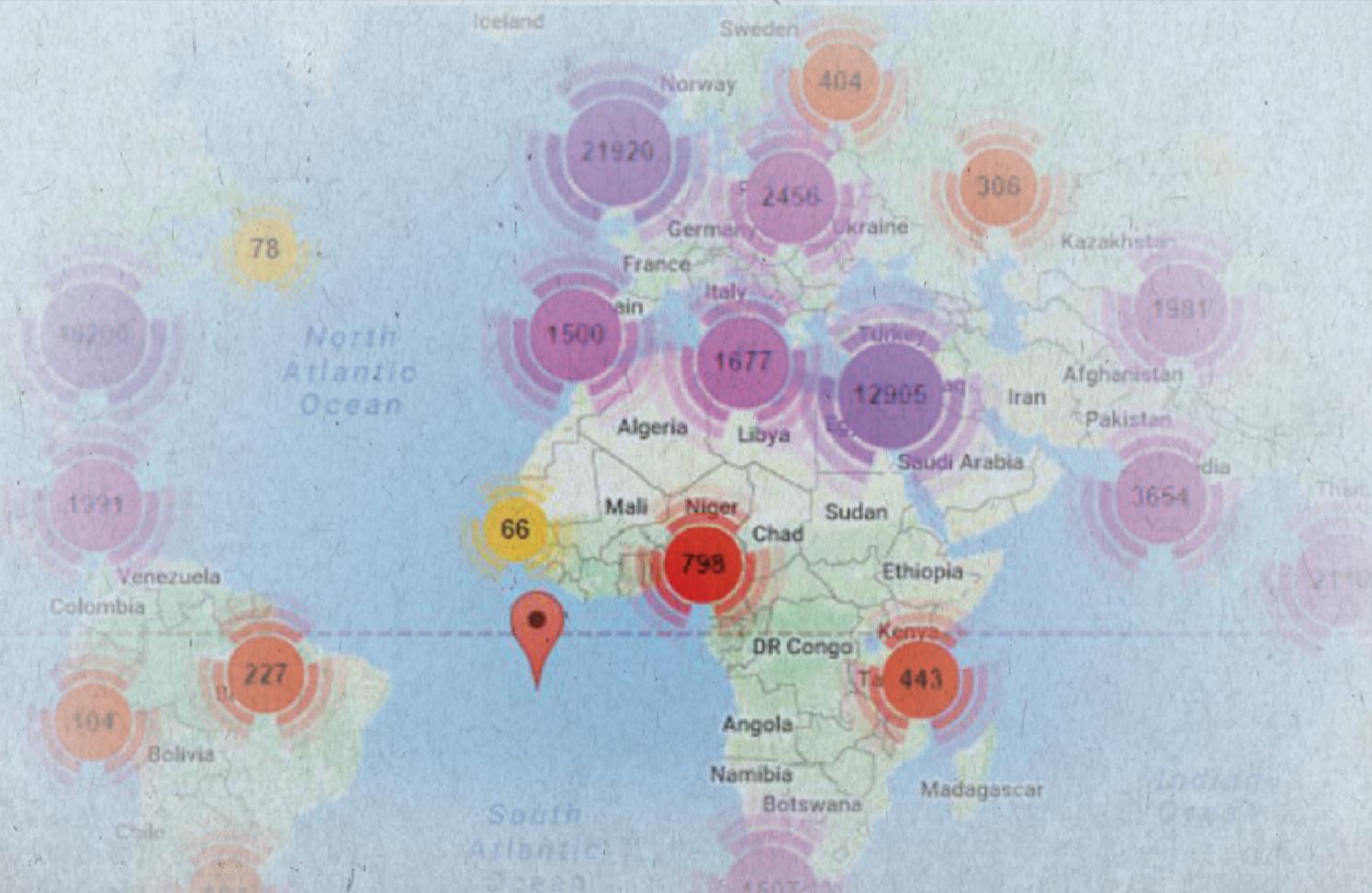
Creating a common Jewish future

Combating Antisemitism Division

Report on:

ANTISEMITISM IN 2016

OVERVIEW, TRENDS AND EVENTS



Submitted to the Government of Israel

On the occasion of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day



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FOREWORD BY THE MINISTER OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS

I am honored to submit to the Government of Israel this report that contains a review of the anti-Semitic trends and incidents throughout the world in 2016.

This year we have witnessed the continuing trend of increase in the number of reported anti-Semitic incidents, with an emphasis on expressions of antisemitism and penetration of anti-Semitic discourse into mainstream politics in the US and Europe. The upsurge is particularly notable this year in light of the absence of any armed conflict between Israel and its neighbors, which proves that the claims that the conflict in the region is the root cause of Antisemitism are wrong. The increase in anti-Semitic incidents in the world is also noticeable with respect to the identity of those expressing these sentiments, including all extremities of the spectrum: Islamic extremists, nationalist parties in Eastern Europe, radical right-wing activists in Western Europe, the Alternative Right in the US, Labour Party politicians in the UK and the radical anti-Semitic left under the guise of criticism of Israel. By way of illustration, the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs' Antisemitism monitoring project found that in October 2016, in the UK and France alone, tens of millions of Web users were exposed to anti-Semitic content on Twitter in English.

These alarming trends are not preordained, as demonstrated by the drastic decline in anti-Semitic incidents recorded in France, which proves that determined governments can successfully combat Antisemitism and lead to a decrease in anti-Semitic incidents, while reinforcing the sense of security of Jewish communities. The efforts in France to secure the Jewish communities, and to close the gap between legislation and enforcement, must continue to spread to other countries in Europe. Adopting the 'Working Definition of Antisemitism' by IHRA was a significant step that should expand from Britain to the rest of Europe in order to allow better identification of instances of Antisemitism on both the right and left. With regard to the Internet, the efforts of various governments vis-a-vis companies must continue with greater intensity, to ensure that Internet companies will enforce the "community rules" that they themselves set.

The Ministry of the Diaspora Affairs under my leadership, who is responsible for leading the struggle against the scourge of Antisemitism on behalf of the government, will continue to serve as a hub for the collection and dissemination of information to governments, organizations and activists. We will assist the Internet industry in formulating norms to battle Antisemitism and will help strengthen the ties between Jewish communities and emergency agencies, as well as refine existing tools to combat the phenomenon.

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the data collection and the analysis of trends for this report: The Coordination Forum for Countering Antisemitism, Kantor Center, Michael Wayne and the staff of the Diaspora Affairs Ministry for their important work in the monitoring and researching of current trends and events that enabled the production of this report.

Sincerely,
Naftali Bennett
Minister of the Diaspora Affairs.



INTRODUCTION

TRENDS IN ANTISEMITISM AROUND THE WORLD IN 2016

According to the data available when preparing this report, 2016 was also characterized by a continuing increase in the number of reported anti-Semitic incidents. However, in contrast to previous years, anti-Semitic incidents in 2016 point to two parallel trends which exist simultaneously. The first is the decline in the number of anti-Semitic incidents of severe violence. The second trend is the rise in anti-Semitic expressions, both verbal and visual, and the widespread penetration of anti-Semitic discourse into mainstream political discourse in Europe and the US. This trend is reflected in broadcast media, the Internet and statements made by senior politicians.

France, home to Europe's largest Jewish community, and the target of the majority of terrorist attacks in the past, is the exception this year, attracting special interest in view of the drastic decline in the number of anti-Semitic incidents reported, which serves as a case in point providing explanations for the situation in general. The causes for this decline are varied, multifaceted and stem from various trends. However, it appears that there is no doubt that the key contribution to this reduction in the number of incidents is the government's strong and resounding response to the wave of attacks, which included strong condemnation of the incidents and unequivocal support for the Jewish community, deployment of soldiers in the streets, community centers and synagogues, enhanced security measures and increased enforcement. Another significant factor was the public response, expressed in a sentiment and approach of zero tolerance, on the part of citizens and security services, for Muslim expressions of Antisemitism, which in the past were tolerated as an expression or continuation of the "Middle East conflict". However, monitoring of Antisemitism on Twitter in France suggests that the situation is delicate, and may change at any moment, with France continuing to be the focus of incitement over the web, and the government's resolute actions in the streets is encountering difficulties in the transition to the virtual space, where incitement persists without meaningful enforcement.

Another general reason for the decline in violent incidents is attributed to the focus of the attackers' attention being diverted to other directions and causes. This explanation holds true for both Islamic terrorists who directed their attacks at the general public, as well as extreme right-wing activists whose attention is focused primarily on the wave of refugees, composed mainly of Muslims from the Middle East, Africa and Afghanistan, who they perceive as a more urgent and severe threat to Europe's identity and the future of their countries.

A second major trend is the sharp overall rise in anti-Semitic incidents in general, including anti-Semitic expressions. This trend is expressed in the public sphere, political systems and the Internet, with an emphasis on social media and networks. This year an

increase in general anti-Semitic incidents was recorded in the UK (11%), including statements made by MPs; in the United States we witnessed a substantial increase this year in incidents and the exposure given to the Alt-Right movement, as well as the strengthening of Antisemitism disguised as anti-Israel criticism on college campuses (an increase of 45% January-June) and in various movements. In Eastern Europe the rewriting of history is continuing, as is the rampant and unbridled incitement on social media.

This trend is developing against the backdrop of socio-economic processes in the United States and Europe, chief among which is the strengthening of separatist leanings. Various marginal groups, from the right and left, view political campaigns, the refugee crisis and social polarization as an opportunity and platform for disseminating their themes of hatred. Consequently, the discourse on social media, print media and broadcast media, as well as college campuses, is becoming more violent and brutal than ever before. The tremendous exposure that social media offers anonymous users exacerbates and escalates real-life situations, availing them of instantaneous access to millions. The most notable example of this phenomenon is the exposure that marginal groups gained during the presidential election campaign in the US, and their success in introducing statements into the political discourse in the US that were, up to that time, considered unacceptable with respect to minorities in general, including Jews.

The extent of dissemination of these ideas on social media is documented by the computerized monitoring project operated by the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs. The Ministry examined Twitter in English over the course of October 2016. The study divided the users into two groups, active users - who posted anti-Semitic content on social media channels, and followers - people who were exposed to this content and often shared and passed it on. Anti-Semitic statements were defined as such according to the Working Definition of Antisemitism adopted by IHRA. In the UK, the study identified 8,296 active users, i.e. users who posted anti-Semitic content 3.6 times on average during October 2016. Content monitoring indicated that the number of followers exposed to them totaled 25 million users worldwide. A similar examination focusing on Twitter users in English in France found 5,637 active users posting anti-Semitic content, with their tweets reaching 5 million followers worldwide. These numbers reveal only the top of the iceberg of the phenomenon of online anti-Semitic incitement, and in order to truly identify and study the scope of this phenomenon it is necessary to monitor social networks in different languages and different countries.



THE IMMIGRATION CRISIS AND THE RISE OF THE EXTREME RIGHT

A recent survey, conducted by an Austrian monitoring body in 15 European countries, clearly indicated that, contrary to general belief, it is not fear of globalization and the loss of economic advantages that is the primary motivation for voting for right-wing parties, but rather personal attitudes toward the question of immigration and the distrust of citizens towards the existing governments.

For the time being, it appears that the fears that the new immigrants arriving in Europe from countries with deep religious and institutional Antisemitism would raise the levels of Antisemitism in immigration target countries have not materialized. Newly arrived immigrants are engaged in their daily existential struggle, in language acquisition and in orientation in their new environment. The origin of anti-Semitic incidents continues to be radical circles of Muslim immigrants that are well acclimated in the societies into which they emigrated, children of immigrants born in Europe and extreme right-wing circles.

However, the presence of immigrants creates an indirect effect in the form of strengthening of separatist leanings and acceleration of the rise of the extreme right. These result in the propagation of an atmosphere that encourages intolerance and hatred of all minorities and foreigners, and therefore are a cause of concern for all minorities in Europe, including Jews. Confirmation for this can be seen in Germany, where it is not the immigrants causing the rise of overt Antisemitism in Germany, but right-wing movements such as PEGIDA, that even while they direct their attention more and more towards immigrants, their members increasingly give voice to anti-Semitic statements.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITIES' RESPONSE

The decline in the number of violent incidents is not expressed in a growing sense of security in Jewish communities. On the contrary, the widespread presence of soldiers and police, and reinforcement of various security measures, is of course welcomed out of necessity, but at the same time also contributes to raising the anxiety threshold by indicating that: "if such measures are necessary, it must mean that there is cause for concern". Now more than ever, members of the community refrain from wearing identifiable religious symbols outside their homes, and cautiously report sightings of any suspicious individuals. Indeed, there is a reduction in the use of firearms, of arson attacks on public/communal and private Jewish property and in assaults. Nonetheless, unprotected and remote locations, such as cemeteries and monuments, continue to be vandalized.

The wave of immigrants from Muslim countries is not causing an increase in Antisemitism, yet it is still a cause of concern for the future, prompting Jewish individuals and communities to reconsider Jewish life in Europe. Moreover, the decline in the number of violent in-

idents does not compensate for the constant increase in verbal and visual Antisemitism, and the hostile atmosphere.

Yet it is important to note that the Jews also feel a strengthening of the sense of solidarity towards them from the mainstream society, in light of the growing realization that terrorism and Antisemitism are intertwined, and we must fight them both with the same level of determination.

SUMMARY

With respect to the decline in the number of severe violent incidents reported, there has been a shift in the perception, of both the government and the public, that Antisemitism is a constant evil that can be tolerated and endured. In recent years, the connection between Antisemitism and terrorism has become clearer and sharper, and has reinforced the determination to combat both. The past year has also demonstrated that governments can make a difference. Determined legislation and enforcement efforts backed by unequivocal declarations made by senior politicians that condemn Antisemitism and consider Jews an integral part of society, can bring about a significant decline in the number of anti-Semitic incidents, and bolster the sense of security and belonging to society among Jews.

As to the increase in anti-Semitic expressions and other incidents of Antisemitism, the battle against the online dissemination of hate is in its early stages and has not yet borne substantial fruit. Special note should be made, in this context, of the pioneering initiative by the Commissioner for Justice of the European Union to require a Code of Conduct from IT companies. However, this initiative has left the task of monitoring to the companies themselves, and according to the report commissioned by the Commissioner and monitoring system of the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, companies are still very far from effective monitoring of this phenomenon. In light of these results, stronger regulatory intervention is required in order to cope with the scale of this phenomenon and with the new manifestations of the online anti-Semitic discourse, such as Holocaust denial and distortion.



FORECAST FOR 2017

Over the coming year, global jihad will continue to be a major threat to the security of Jewish communities. The mounting pressure on ISIS results in the return and sending of terrorists from the battlefields of the Middle East to the cities and countries of Europe, in order to produce deterrence against intervention in the war by Western states and produce images of triumph, such as those witnessed in recent terrorist attacks in France and Germany.

The highly-charged elections scheduled to be held in Europe over the coming year are expected to continue to highlight hate speech and position it center stage, on the backdrop of the economic crisis, waves of refugees and immigrants, and the assimilation of difficulties in European countries. Opposition to the waves of refugees and immigrants may also generate collateral damage for Jews. Further difficulties are anticipated as part of the attempts made to limit immigration through restrictions on religious expression and rituals, through legislation or regulations, or in indirect ways, such as publication of "professional opinions" and so on.

Teaching of tolerance and combating Antisemitism among refugees and their children, originating from countries where anti-Semitic propaganda is widespread, will also gain higher priority on the agenda of the receiving countries, and the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs shall work to make such educational material available.

This report was written immediately at the end of the calendar year, based on data available as of the end of December 2016. Naturally, much of the relevant data is not yet available at this time, and therefore the number of incidents listed in this report does not reflect the actual total number. Furthermore, different countries have different legislation as to what is considered Antisemitism, different reporting and classification methods and varying levels of willingness of citizens to report incidents. Therefore, it is very likely that the actual number of incidents is higher than the numbers presented in this report.

Sincerely,
Yogev Karasenty,
Director for Combatting Antisemitism



locaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), an organization including 31 member countries that is recognized by the UN as an international partner. Inter alia, it was unanimously decided that de-legitimization of Israel constitutes Antisemitism.

- In September, the city of Malmo launched a program against racism in general and Antisemitism in particular in all its schools. Approximately 300 local teachers and at least 7,000 students are expected to participate in this program.⁴
- In October, Britain's Liberal Democratic Party suspended Baroness Jenny Tonge's membership in the party following her sponsoring of an event of the House of Lords during which anti-Semitic remarks were voiced and the State of Israel was compared with the Islamic State (ISIS) organization.
- In October, members of the European House of Representatives revoked the parliamentary immunity of former French far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, in response to an application filed by the prosecution in Paris, seeking to indict him for inciting hate crimes.
- In October, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), whose members include 57 countries in Europe and Western Asia, decided to allocate a three-year budget to combat Antisemitism, as part of the program entitled: "From words to action against Antisemitism". The goal of the initiative is to promote education and awareness about Antisemitism, and to address the security problems of the Jewish communities.
- In October, the Parliament of the European Union passed a resolution stating that it officially condemns the repeated call by the government of Iran for the destruction of Israel and its Holocaust denial policy. This resolution was passed as part of a discussion regarding a report dealing with "The EU strategy regarding Iran in the era post the nuclear agreement".⁵
- In November, with bi-partisan support, the Senate passed a bill aimed at promoting awareness of Antisemitism, in order to combat the growing Antisemitism phenomena on US campuses. The bill includes the Working Definition of Antisemitism as adopted by the US State Department, and is designed to provide the US Department of Education with practical tools for identifying anti-Semitic incidents and enable improved enforcement.
- In December, the British government announced that it would adopt a new and expanded international definition for the term Antisemitism, and would be the first country to take a step of this kind. This definition was adopted in May by International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), and is designed to help identify manifestations of contemporary Antisemitism.

4 <http://www.haaretz.com/world-news/europe/1.740850>

5 <http://www.thetower.org/4071-eu-parliament-passes-resolution-condemning-irans-holocaust-denial-support-for-terrorism/>

- In December, Facebook, Google, Twitter and Microsoft announced their collaboration in the establishment of a joint database that will consolidate all the information they possess about terrorist organizations. The purpose of the database is to enable companies to quickly remove content by terrorist organizations, that is distributed over social media, as well as violent and hate content. The database will include, inter alia, images, videos, articles, contacts, IP addresses and other data.⁶
- In December, Google made changes in its Autocomplete algorithm, after receiving complaints about automatic completion of racist, anti-Semitic and offensive terms.⁷
- In December, the Christian Democratic Union, headed by Chancellor Merkel, passed a resolution during the party's annual conference condemning the BDS movement as anti-Semitic and anti-Jewish. The party issued a statement saying that the BDS is "coarse Antisemitism hiding behind anti-Zionism", and that "those who today, under the flag of the BDS movement, call for boycotting Israeli goods and services, speak the same language in which people were called not to buy from Jews".⁸
- In December, the British Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, undertook to allocate a budget of 7 million dollars for the protection of Jewish schools, colleges, kindergartens and synagogues in the UK.

6 <http://www.calcalist.co.il/internet/articles/0,7340,L-3703265,00.html>

7 <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/dec/05/google-alters-search-autocomplete-remove-are-jews-evil-suggestion>

8 http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/850/836.html?utm_source=mivzakimnet&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=mivzakimnet



MAIN ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS IN 2016

- In January, a Jewish-Orthodox man was attacked in Marseille by a 15-year-old, a Turkish citizen of Kurdish origin, using a machete. During his interrogation, the boy said that he did it in the name of Allah and ISIS and that he had also planned to attack the police.
- In March, David Fremd, a 54-year-old Jewish resident of Facendo in western Uruguay, was stabbed to death by a man shouting "Allahu Akbar". He was stabbed ten times and rushed to a nearby hospital in very serious condition, where he passed away shortly afterwards.
- In June, Chairman of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, said during his speech before the European Parliament in Brussels that "Israeli Rabbis demanded that the government poison Palestinian water sources in order to kill Palestinians and force them to emigrate". He also stated that "Palestine and the Palestinian people are undergoing mass murder of historic proportions, and unparalleled attacks under the eyes and ears of the international community".
- In July, an anti-Semitic attack was foiled in Connecticut by the FBI and Stamford police, when during a search of the home of a person suspected of posting online threats against Jews, they discovered more than two dozen firearms, gun parts, cartridges and hundreds of rounds of ammunition.
- In August, a 65-year-old Jewish man was stabbed in Strasbourg by a Muslim man using a kitchen knife. The attacker wounded him moderately, while shouting "Allahu Akbar".
- In August, "the Movement for Black Lives" (a coalition of 50 organizations, including "Black Lives Matter") formulated a new platform in which it described Israel as an "Apartheid state" and claimed that Israel is committing Genocide against the Palestinians.⁹
- In September, Ruth Smith, a Jewish member of the British Parliament, was assigned police protection after receiving death threats online from anti-Semites.
- In October, a Chabad Hasid was viciously attacked near the train station in Zhytomyr, and left in severe condition. He was found bleeding by passersby who called the police and emergency services.
- In October, a man armed with a pistol and gas container forced his way into Moscow's central synagogue, attacked a security guard, and threatened to burn the place down unless he was allowed to see the Chief Rabbi of Moscow, Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt.
- In October, a number of anti-Semitic remarks were expressed publicly during an official event of the House of Lords. The event was held at the initiative of the Palestinian

⁹ <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/808/720.html?hp=1&cat=666&loc=57>

Return Centre (PRC), sponsored by Baroness Jenny Tonge, a member of the Liberal Democratic party. One of these statements claimed that: "the Jews are responsible for the Holocaust and brought it on themselves".

- In November, 200 participants of a conference in Washington belonging to the Alt-Right movement, celebrated the US election results. During the conference, they gave the Nazi salute, called for "peaceful ethnic cleansing", and ended with cries of "Heil Trump, Heil our people and Heil victory".¹⁰
- In December, the "Daily Stormer" website published an article with a "call for action" against Jews living in the town of Whitefish, Montana, claiming that they were causing damage to the business of Richard Spenser's mother (one of the most prominent leaders of the "Alt-Right" movement). The article included telephone numbers, email addresses, and Twitter accounts of residents of Whitefish, as well as their images marked with the yellow star.
- In December, the grave of Rabbi Nachman in Uman was vandalized by unknown attackers who entered the tomb complex, spewed red paint all around, sprayed tear gas on people inside and threw a pig's head into the tomb.¹¹
- In December, a housekeeper in Uruguay was seriously injured in her face and body following an anti-Semitic attack. She said the attacker referred to the fact that she "serves" Jews and that "all Jews must die".
- In December, a member of the House of Lords, Baroness Ruth Deech, warned that the UK's leading universities are becoming dangerous for Jewish students because of the reluctance of university administrations to treat expressions of Antisemitism in order to appease potential and existing donors from the Gulf States.¹²

10 http://www.mako.co.il/news-world/international-q4_2016/Article-4ae3a50f56b8851004.htm

11 <http://news.walla.co.il/item/3024478>

12 <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2016/12/22/britains-top-universities-becoming-no-go-zones-jews-baroness/>



COMBATING ANTISEMITISM IN CYBERSPACE – KEY DEVELOPMENTS

2016 saw several significant developments in the fight against Antisemitism in cyberspace, at the level of national legislation, international legislative initiatives, as well as the policies of IT and social media companies regarding the publication of hate speech online.

At the national level, we have witnessed a graver view and approach to the dissemination of hate content online, expressed in promoting legislation to deal with the problem, increased enforcement and harsher penalties. Following are some of the most prominent examples of this trend:

- In August, a court in Budapest ordered a temporary blockage of about 20 websites with Holocaust denial content.¹³
- In September, Herve Lalin, an extreme right wing activist, was convicted in France and sentenced to a year in prison for posting anti-Semitic content on Twitter and Facebook.¹⁴
- In October, a French court convicted Amira Jumaa, a 21-year-old student from Kuwait, on charges of incitement for her anti-Semitic posts on Facebook.¹⁵
- In December, Lawrence Burns, aged 26, was convicted of inciting racial hatred after publishing anti-Semitic and racist content on Facebook and YouTube.¹⁶
- In December, German authorities announced that they were considering imposing heavy fines on social media networks that will not remove hate content within 24 hours. Fines may reach a sum of up to half a million euros per instance in which prohibited content is not removed within the specified time limit. This is in accordance with the existing German law prohibiting Holocaust denial, public Antisemitism and encouragement of violence against minorities and refugees.

The large IT companies - Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Google - also toughened their attitude towards the phenomenon of hate content, and announced several policy changes over the past year:

- In January, Facebook launched the Online Civil Courage Initiative, awarding 1.1 million dollars to support NGOs in their efforts to deal with racist content and xenophobia. The initiative will focus primarily on Facebook users in Germany.¹⁷

13 <http://hungarytoday.hu/news/hungary-shut-twenty-holocaust-denying-websites-75356>

14 <http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2016/09/07/97001-20160907FILWWW00234-un-militant-condamne-pour-des-messages-antisemites.php>

15 <http://www.lemondejuif.info/2016/10/les-juifs-aux-fours-condamnation-penale-de-letudiante-koweitienne-antisemite-de-sciences-po/>

16 <https://antisemitism.uk/man-convicted-of-incitement-for-saying-jews-are-maggots-in-a-decaying-body-who-are-hijacking-the-genes-of-a-superior-white-race/>

17 CFA website

- In February, Twitter announced that it was establishing the Twitter Trust & Safety Council - composed of over 40 members (including advocacy NGOs, researchers and security experts) to reexamine the policy and service that Twitter provides in order to improve its ability to protect users from any harm, while preserving freedom of expression.
- In December, Facebook, Google, Twitter and Microsoft announced their collaboration in the establishment of a joint database that will consolidate all the information they possess about terrorist organizations. The purpose of the database is to enable companies to quickly remove contents of terrorist organizations that are distributed over social media. The database will include, inter alia, images, videos, articles, contacts, IP addresses and other data.
- In December, Google made changes in its Autocomplete algorithm, after receiving complaints about automatic completion of racist, anti-Semitic and offensive terms. As a result of the changes made, it canceled the auto-completion of "Jews are evil" when a user enters the term "Jews are".

At the international level, one of the most significant developments was the publication of the Code of Conduct signed between the European Commission and the large IT companies - Facebook, Google, Twitter and Microsoft – with the goal of combating illegal online hate speech in Europe. The initiative for the code was that of the Commissioner for Justice, Vera Jourová's, and its authors stated that it was formulated based on the desire to protect freedom of expression on the one hand, and to eradicate online hate speech on the other hand. The Code states that "the terrorist attacks that struck Europe over the past year have given rise to the need to combat hate speech online, based on the understanding that the Internet in general and social media networks in particular, serve as tools for terrorists to spread hate and violence, and for the radicalization of the opinions of young people".

By signing the Code of Conduct, the companies pledged to continue their efforts in combating illegal expressions of hate online, as well as to develop internal procedures and train their staff to ensure optimal scanning of illegal content, and its removal in less than 24 hours. In addition, the companies have undertaken to sharpen the procedures and guidelines for the community of users, while making it clear that promotion of and incitement to violence or hatred is absolutely prohibited, and to formulate clear and effective processes for examining reports of illegal hate content so as to be able to remove them or restrict access to them.

The Code of Conduct is a significant development in the battle against the dissemination and spreading of online hatred, because it requires companies to report back to the Commission about its implementation. However, it also leaves the initiative and responsibility for confronting this problem in the hands of the IT companies. These companies, in turn, chose at this stage to base their monitoring system primarily on reports from users, and not on proactive monitor-



ing of problematic content on their behalf within their platforms. Furthermore, the companies did not allocate the sufficient staff to monitor and handle the problematic content. It should also be noted that even before the signing of the Code, each one of the companies had its own "community rules" that absolutely prohibited the publication and dissemination of hate speech, including discrimination based on ethnicity and incitement to violence. Within the framework of these community rules, the companies undertook to remove prohibited content immediately following report of such content by a user.

Ann examination conducted by the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs revealed that despite the existing policy, IT companies do not fulfill their undertakings. Even today, after the signing of the Code of Conduct, the companies continue to serve as a central platform for the dissemination of hate content on an enormous scale. On YouTube, for example, it is possible to easily find blatant videos ridiculing and denying the Holocaust, as well as videos inciting violence against Jews. On Twitter, tens of millions of anti-Semitic tweets inciting violence are published every month. In Google's search engine, although changes were made in the Autocomplete feature to block anti-Semitic expressions, its policy is not comprehensive but rather only on a case by case basis, in the event of a report about a particular phrase.

In December, the European Commission published its first assessment report that measured the implementation of the Code of Conduct that was signed by the large IT companies in May. The report shows that the companies succeeded in reviewing 40% of the reported hate content within less than 24 hours from the time of the report, and 43% in less than 48 hours from the time of the report.

The report also found differences in the handling of complaints among IT companies, so that for example: Facebook and YouTube succeeded in reviewing more than 50% of the hate content reported to them in less than 24 hours, while Twitter was only able to review 23.5% of the content in less than 24 hours. They also found significant differences in the level of handling of online hate content among various countries; while in France and Germany over 50% of the reported hate speech was removed, in Austria only 11.4% of it was removed and in Italy only 3.6% of it was removed.

In October, the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs launched the most advanced Internet monitoring system of its kind in the world. The purpose of the system is to monitor online hate discourse, focusing on Antisemitism.

The Ministry of Diaspora Affairs will continue to track, through its monitoring system, the degree of implementation of the Code of Conduct, the manner in which the companies comply with the policies they themselves set, and the incitement spread accross the entire web.

FAR RIGHT

THE ALT RIGHT PHENOMENON IN THE US

The group referred to as "Alt Right" (same as the name of the website of Richard Spencer, one of the movement's leaders) is a relatively new phenomenon in its current incarnation. This is a wide group which includes several sub-groups. The organization is highly decentralized in terms of ideas and opinions, with various internal divisions between the different groups. Since the Alternative Right exists primarily as an Internet phenomenon, it is difficult to calculate the number of people involved, yet in terms of written material, concepts and conceptions, variety of positions and internal language, the spectrum is very wide. This is in essence an underground movement, yet most of its members use their real names.

The Alternative Right differs from previous far-right groups in the number and type of people it attracts. The older extreme and racist right in the United States, the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and neo-Nazi groups, was composed mainly of low-class hooligans. In contrast, the current Alternative Right members are primarily middle class white males with higher education. Among the leaders of the Alt-Right are Jared Taylor, editor of the white nationalists' magazine 'American Renaissance', who studied philosophy at Yale, taught Japanese at Harvard and was deputy editor of the Washington Post, and Nick Land, a former professor of philosophy at Warwick University.

The basic common denominator of all the groups belonging to the Alternative Right is their opposition to political correctness, and their willingness to voice ideas that are currently considered absolutely taboo in the West, whose very expression results in social sanctions and in some cases even legal sanctions. The biggest taboo in the Western world today is perhaps the issue of race, which is also the main common denominator of the Alternative Right.

The largest and most important group in the Alt-Right is the white nationalists. In their view, there exists a white race with a distinct identity and characteristics, as well as significant biological attributes that distinguish it from other races. They believe that each racial group has its own interests, and white nationalists stand up for the interests of the white race. First and foremost, they want the white race to continue to exist and remain the majority in the countries it controls.

In addition, the Alternative Right includes neo-Nazis and KKK activists. These groups pre-date the Alternative Right, as it is known today. Yet they, like the rest of the groups, were adept at taking advantage of the anonymity of the Internet and its ability to establish connections between individuals and groups with common interests in order to disseminate their ideas, increase the number of members and expand their presence in public life and the political discourse.



It should be noted that not all of the Alternative Right is anti-Semitic, and some of their members are Jews. However, in general, their discourse is anti-Semitic, and many of them are Holocaust deniers on various levels. Examples of the Alt-Right activities can be seen in the popular podcast entitled 'The Daily Shoah', which is full of derogatory language and names for Jews, such as the triple bracket "echo" sign used to mark Jewish names or Jewish parties, such as (((Ben Shapiro))), or the anti-Semitic designations for Jews, such as "merchants" or "kayak" (a distortion of the old anti-Semitic term "kike").

THE STRENGTHENING OF THE EXTREME RIGHT IN EUROPE

Austria is a case in point demonstrating the growing strength of the extreme right among members of the European Union. In the Austrian presidential elections, the populist right-wing candidate Norbert Hofer lost to the candidate of the Green Party, Alexander Van der Bellen by a margin of only 31 thousand votes. The onset of this trend in Austria can be traced back to the European Parliament elections held two years ago, and it has intensified on the backdrop of the immigration crisis and Islamic terrorist attacks in France and Belgium.

The strengthening of the right may reach its peak in the dramatic election campaigns in some EU countries over the coming year. Extremist parties are encouraged by the separatist leanings surging in Europe, by the UK referendum results, the continuing immigration crisis and the general dissatisfaction with the economic situation.

In Germany, the establishment has managed - through democratic means and sometimes using special orders - to marginalize the attempts of right-wing extremists to re-enter the established political system, at least at the federal level. Yet in recent months, it seems that the rise of the 'Alternative for Germany' party may mark a change in the trend, and for the first time since World War II, supporters of the extreme right-wing may win seats in the parliament building in Berlin.

This year the French citizens will elect a president. Current polls indicate that the leader of the National Front, Marine Le Pen, is certain to advance to the second round of voting. If this takes place, it will be a direct continuation of a series of achievements by Le Pen's radical party over the past two years. In the European Parliament elections in May 2014, she was the winner with a quarter of the votes, and in the first round of the regional elections in December 2015 she finished first with 27% (although in the second round the other parties managed to prevent her from attaining victory in all provinces). After the presidential elections, general elections for the National Assembly will also be held this year, and the National Front, which now has only two representatives, is expected to significantly increase its strength.

One of the politicians most identified with the right wing in Europe is Geert Wilders, leader of the Dutch Freedom Party that entered the parliament for the first time ten years

ago. Wilders, continues to promote a Eurosceptic and anti-Muslim platform and opposes immigration to Europe. Although general elections are only scheduled to be held in the Netherlands next year, a survey published this week shows that the Freedom Party is expected to be the largest party, with 37 out of 150 members of parliament (compared to 15 members in the last elections). Although the major parties have made it clear that they will not collaborate with Wilders, he still believes he can leverage his election win into a historic achievement.

Many extreme right-wing parties in Europe - such as the National Front, the Freedom Party and Party for Freedom, the Swedish Democratic Party, or the Danish People's Party - do not express anti-Semitic stances. On the contrary, they sometimes express distinct pro-Israeli positions, including support for military actions against Hamas, and there are quite a few Jewish members within their ranks, but the concern is that as part of their attempt to push out refugees and immigrants from Muslim countries, they will promote legislation that would cause damage to Jewish communities.

Across the EU, it is still possible to find "classic" extreme right-wing parties, belonging to the same dark and disturbing movements that view Hitler and Nazi Germany as a shining example, and that casted doubt of whether the Holocaust occurred. The Jobbik party in Hungary, the third largest party in the Hungarian parliament, is considered to be one of the main threats. The party holds distinctly anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli stances - even if today its focus is directed mainly against Muslim immigrants. In the past, its leaders even called for an in depth examination of all the ministers and MPs to discover if they have Jewish roots or Israeli citizenship. Jobbik, even if it tries to moderate its extreme tone, that has characterized the party for quite a few years, will not be able to expunge the fact that it is not only a dark party that not only venerates the Nazis, but has also formed battalions of activists wearing uniforms reminiscent of days gone by.

In Greece, the "Golden Dawn" party continues to maintain its strength with 18 members of parliament, despite determined actions taken by the police against the party's leaders that were arrested and brought to trial. The party exploited public frustration with the harsh economic crisis to strengthen its power base and launched a campaign against austerity measures and the policy of the European Union. The campaign was accompanied by racist and anti-Semitic statements, which sometimes climaxed in acts of violence against Jews and immigrants.



RADICAL LEFT

Compared to radical, populist right-wing parties, who feel that national identity in their countries is under threat and wish to put an end to any Jewish influence, the populist parties of the extreme left link Jews to the cosmopolitan elite and global capitalism, against which they are struggling. From their point of view, Jews are the privileged, the rich, and cannot be victims.

In the UK, this particular left-wing worldview penetrated into the heart of the Labour Party following last year's election of Jeremy Corbyn as the party's leader. In 2008, Corbyn wrote that the Balfour Declaration, which promised the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine, "led to the establishment of Israel in 1948 and the expulsion of Palestinians", in addition he wrote that "the history of Britain regarding colonial intervention... leaves it with a lot to explain". The description of Israel as a colonialist initiative and not a movement of the Jewish people returning to their homeland, or a movement to attain sovereignty through national independence, and blaming "imperialist" Britain for this, summarize the two motivating factors which underlie Corbyn's perception regarding foreign relations.

Corbyn supported the peerage candidacy of Baroness Chakrabarti after she cleared the Labour party in her report on Antisemitism, which spoke of "unpleasant incidents". This decision left a "detrimental impression", to quote the words of the recently conducted investigation. Corbyn called Hamas and Hezbollah agents of a "lasting peace, social justice and political justice in the entire region", and on one occasion he even invited the Palestinian Islamist Raed Salah to the British Parliament, the same Salah that claimed that the Jews were absent from the World Trade Center on 9/11.

NEW ANTISEMITISM

A range of states, movements, associations and organizations do not accept the right of the Jewish people to self-determination in Israel, and deny their right to establish a nation state. These entities, which include, among others, Arab countries, third world countries, Islamic movements, radical European left-wing movements and anti-Semitic groups, have made the de-legitimization of the State of Israel one of their operative foundations. The above term refers to the process that leads these entities to cooperate in diplomatic and propaganda activities against the State of Israel.

The Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) organization is one of the leading anti-Jewish and anti-Israel organizations on college campuses, but is not the only actor: The Muslim Student Association, the BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions) movement, Israel Apartheid Week, Kairos Palestine, Jewish Voice for Peace, European Jews for a Just Peace - all these groups place the sole responsibility for the conflict in the Middle East on Israel, and accuse it of the alleged "genocide" committed against the Palestinians.

The most popular claim of many of these groups, that call themselves "peace" groups, is that Israel must agree to the Palestinian Authority's demand for the return of 4 million "refugees" from the 1948 War of Independence. The actual implementation of this distorted idea would mean that Israel would in fact cease to exist as a Jewish state.

For the Kairos Palestine movement, BDS movement, Students for Justice in Palestine and others, the one-state solution is, from their point of view, the desired solution.



BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, SANCTIONS - BDS

The roots of the BDS movement can be found in the Durban Conference, held in South Africa in 2001, during which Israel was defined as an apartheid state. The participants of the conference called for the isolation of Israel and adoption of international sanctions against it. The decision of the Durban Conference served as the basis for the establishment of the BDS Movement, which was officially launched in July 2005.

The BDS movement lacks hierarchy and structure, and consists of dozens of non-governmental organizations and extremist activists working to achieve a common goal. The movement's activity is made possible largely thanks to the generous funding these organizations receive from foreign governments, organizations and companies, religious institutions and private donors.

The BDS movement works to raise international awareness of the occupation of Palestine by Israel and other violations of human rights against Palestinians, thus creating pressure on Israel. The movement works to impose a boycott on the State of Israel through propaganda activities, demonstrations, petitions, protest letters and persuasion of public figures and opinion leaders to join the boycott campaign against Israel.

Judging by the results, the BDS movement provides a seemingly legitimate platform and forum for Antisemitism under the guise of legitimate criticism of the State of Israel. The language, content and practices used by the members of the movement are identical to those heard in the past and voiced in the present by professed anti-Semitic movements.

In September, the Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, in collaboration with the Kantor Center, published a document that examines the question of the boycott as part of the legal framework of laws against discrimination and Antisemitism, with reference to international law, European Union laws and laws at state level. The document emphasizes the distinction between political expression, which is a legitimate action, and a call for a collective boycott or incitement to hatred and violence, and offers ways to confront this. The backdrop for drafting the report was the understanding that the atmosphere of boycotts against Israel creates a hostile and violent climate for Jews in the Diaspora, and therefore should be defined as an anti-Semitic act.

ANTISEMITISM IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

ANTI-SEMITIC INCITEMENT BY THE PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP

The trend of institutionalized incitement that characterized the Palestinian Authority in the past, continued in 2016. This year, as in previous years, the Palestinian Authority has made systematic use of anti-Semitic, religious and other narratives to foster hatred against Israelis and Jews among its inhabitants. This incitement included demonization of Jews, presenting of Jews as people with inherent bad traits – traitorous, greedy, liars and bloodthirsty people. The official television of the Palestinian Authority and its preachers in mosques continued to incite to violence and to spread blood libels. Senior PA officials continued to publicly use anti-Semitic speech and present Jews and the State of Israel as a country that systematically abuses and kills innocent Palestinians.

One of the most extreme expressions was that of the Chairman of the PA, Mahmoud Abbas, who during a speech delivered to the European Parliament in Brussels in June stated that "Rabbis in Israel demanded that the government poison water sources in order to kill Palestinians and force them to emigrate". He also further claimed that "Palestine and the Palestinian people are experiencing mass murder on a historic scale and attacks that are unprecedented under the open eyes and ears of the international community".¹⁸

- Basam Abu-Sherif, a member of the PLO's Central Council, claimed that "the barbaric manner in which the Ashkenazis perpetrate their crimes against children...exceeds the Nazis' crimes by a few levels, as the Ashkenazis are perpetrating their war crimes against an entire people."
- In March, the Palestinian Foreign Minister, Riyad al-Maliki, speaking before the Human Rights Council in Geneva, claimed that the Palestinians are under "Israeli terror and executions of young people".¹⁹

Official television channels in the Palestinian Authority in general, and the PA's official channel in Ramallah continued to broadcast anti-Semitic contents and present Jews as "wicked" people, the "source of all evil in the world" and "liars".

- In March, as part of a weekly educational program on the subject of Islam, the PA's official television presenter explained that as long as the Jews continue to spread corruption in the world "humanity will not live in peace".²⁰ In April, a preacher on a television program called on the PA to punish the "wicked Jews", "enumerate them, and kill every last one of them".²¹

18 <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/1.726657>

19 <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4773067,00.html>

20 http://www.palwatch.org.il/main.aspx?fi=157&doc_id=17427

21 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntSELp0xwnQ>



- In August, an animated series was aired on the official TV Channel of Fatah in which Jews were presented as the partners of the Satan and sworn enemies of the Prophet Muhammad.²²

Incitement against Israel and the Jews continued in the Palestinian education system, and included, inter alia, incitement to violence, sanctifying the status of the "martyrs" and conveying content that disparage and malign Jews and the State of Israel.

- In June, high school students in the Palestinian Authority staged a play in which soldiers were presented as framing a Palestinian boy for carrying out an attack and then shooting him.²³
- In July, articles were published in PA newspapers about high school graduates who died over the past year when they committed or attempted to commit stabbings and did not receive their high school diploma. The articles praised the deaths of the young people as martyrs, with a play on the word Shahada that means both a high school diploma and martyrdom.²⁴
- In April, the Fatah's student movement released a video encouraging stabbing attacks and running over Jews, showing all the stages of planning and execution of the attack.²⁵

22 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mM4rhtsP_20

23 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UpEWLL1MzY>

24 http://www.memri.org.il/cgi-webaxy/sal/sal.pl?lang=he&ID=875141_memri&act=show&dbid=articles&dataid=4198

25 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6r_MFk7y5NU

IRAN: THE LEADING COUNTRY IN ITS SUPPORT OF ANTISEMITISM

July 2016 marked the first year of implementation of the nuclear agreement between Iran and the international community. The agreement did not lead to a decline in the anti-Semitic and anti-Israel rhetoric of the Iranian regime, and Iran remains a central and belligerent player in promoting its support for global terrorism, Antisemitism and Holocaust denial. In his speech before the UN, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani accused the "Zionist pressure groups of trying to persuade the Congress to pass legislation against Iran". This accusation joins a long tradition of accusations voiced by the leaders of Iran over the years about Jewish control of the American government, financial institutions and media.



REVIEW BY COUNTRIES:

FRANCE

At the end of the first year of implementation of the Government Action Plan to Combat Racism and Antisemitism 2015-2017, the data collected by the French Ministry of Interior indicated that unlike 2015, which was characterized by a rise in anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim incidents, 2016 shows a lull and even decline. The number of anti-Semitic incidents declined by 58.5% - while the number of anti-Muslim incidents declined by 57.6%. In absolute numbers, the number of anti-Semitic incidents, from the peak of 808 incidents reported in 2015 declined to only 335 incidents in 2016.

This decline in the number of reported anti-Semitic incidents is attributed to several factors: first, the determined actions taken by the French government, led by Prime Minister of France, Manuel Valls. These actions included, at their peak, the deployment of about 12,000 troops in Jewish neighborhoods and institutions, following the attack on the "Hyper-Cacher" supermarket in Paris in January 2015. In addition, in April 2015, the French government formulated the "Action Plan to Combat Racism and Antisemitism", involving all government departments, and various associations and institutions, which includes concrete steps in the fields of education and enforcement. As part of the Action Plan, 100 million euros were allocated over three years to finance projects at the national level and to encourage civic initiatives. Furthermore, the French government is investing great efforts in combating incitement on social media and bolstering criminal law measures in order to address the filing of complaints.

The second factor is the large and brazen attacks carried out on French soil and targeted the entire population of France.

The third factor is also linked to the series of attacks that occurred in France. Various professionals and experts contend that the explanation for much of the decline in the reported incidents is that members of the Jewish community rarely complain, because they do not wish to appear "spoiled", complaining about minor incidents while the Republic suffers murderous attacks such as those carried out in the Bataclan and in Nice.

Despite the significant decline in the number of anti-Semitic incidents reported over the past year, it appears that French Jews still do not feel comfortable expressing their Jewish identity in public, refrain from declaring that they are Jewish, and in many cases prefer to hide Jewish religious symbols. Additionally, the emigration of Jews from France to the West and to Israel continues, even if it is at a slower pace than in the past.

The French presidential elections have heightened the sense of insecurity and instability of French Jews, mainly due to fear of the strengthening of the extreme right on the one hand, and the attempts of many candidates to curry favor with the Muslim community at the expense of the Jewish community in order to win their votes.

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In January a 15-year old boy, a Turkish citizen of Kurdish origin, attacked a Jewish-Orthodox man in Marseille with a machete. During his interrogation, the youth said that he did this in the name of Allah and ISIS and that he had also planned to attack police officers.
- In April, a number of anti-Semitic statements were made by politicians from the far-right during a gathering on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the first edition of the far-right weekly newspaper. Inter alia, they said that "Auschwitz, excuse me, it's outright laughter [...], you could see white smoke, they said it was gas chambers, but I didn't see any".
- In August, a Jewish 65-year-old man was stabbed in Strasbourg by a Muslim man using a kitchen knife. The attacker wounded him while shouting "Allahu Akbar".
- In October, a candidate in the primaries of the center-right party for the French presidential elections, made anti-Semitic statements, according to which: "Hillary Clinton's support for the Wall Street corporations and her obedience to the Zionist lobby are a danger for Europe and France".
- In October, the leader of the French far-right party, Marine Le Pen, declared that she wished to ban the wearing of Yarmulkes in France. She claimed that "it is clear that if the Burqa is forbidden, Yarmulkes should also be prohibited in the public domain. Head coverings should be banned in shops, public transport and the streets". She added that "Yarmulkes are not a problem in our country, it's clear, but in the name of equality they should be forbidden".
- In November, a 70-year-old Jew was physically and verbally attacked as he exited the main synagogue in Strasbourg.
- In November, stones and Molotovcocktails were thrown at a kosher restaurant in Paris when it was closed.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In January, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls spoke at the memorial ceremony for the four victims of the attack on the Jewish "Hyper-Cacher" supermarket, and said "How could France leave its Jewish compatriots to live in fear, let them doubt..that here is there home, watch more and more of them leave their country because they don't feel safe anymore..this sould be, for the French people, an unbearable thought."
- In March, the French government launched a campaign to raise awareness of Antisemitism and eradicate this phenomenon under the slogan "We are all united against hatred".
- In October, members of the European House of Representatives stripped the former French far-right leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen of his parliamentary immunity in response to a suit filed by the French prosecution in Paris, seeking to indict him for inciting hate crimes.



UNITED KINGDOM

According to the CST (Community Security Trust), there was an increase of 36% in anti-Semitic incidents in 2016. While 960 incidents were reported in 2015, 1309 incidents were reported in 2016. This is the highest number of anti-Semitic incidents reported in a year ever recorded by the CST.

The number of anti-Semitic incidents in London has increased by 65% compared to 2015. In contrast, the number of anti-Semitic incidents reported in Manchester declined by 9%.²⁶ The decline in the number of incidents in Manchester can be attributed to a significant improvement in reporting anti-Semitic incidents and enforcement steps, on one hand, while on the other hand the increase in the figures for London can be attributed to the overall increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents in the UK in 2016.

Furthermore, an increase of 29% was recorded in the number of violent incidents and an increase of 25% in the number of cases of vandalism and desecration of Jewish sites, compared to 2015. In addition, there was an increase of 27% in the number of anti-Semitic threats, as well as an increase of 40% in the number of cases of anti-Semitic verbal harassment or aggression. Of the 1309 anti-Semitic incidents, 287 occurred on social media networks, representing 22% of all incidents.

A survey (YouGov) conducted in May found that one of ten respondents believes that Jews have too much power in the UK; 6% do not agree that the sentence: "a British Jew would be acceptable as prime minister just like a person of any other religion"; While 7% stated that there was little chance they would vote for a party headed by a Jew.²⁷

INSTITUTIONAL ANTISEMITISM IN THE POLITICAL SYSTEM

A phenomenon of particular concern that peaked in 2016 was that of the infiltration of Antisemitism into the political discourse in Britain. This is reflected not only by anti-Semitic statements of MPs of all parties on social networks and formal occasions, but also by anti-Semitic tweets and death threats against Jewish Parliamentarians. Moreover, anti-Semitic discourse at the party level also permeates to the parties' student clubs on various campuses and leads to the exclusion of students from participating in these clubs, as well as to a sense of insecurity among Jewish students on campus.

The Labour Party, the second largest party in the British Parliament, has, under Jeremy Corbyn's leadership, reached the highest level of Antisemitism in recent years. In April 2016 and in subsequent months, between 18 and 50 MPs²⁸ were suspended from the Labour Party due to racist and anti-Semitic statements. Consequently, Corbyn decided

²⁶ CST, Antisemitic Incidents: January–June 2016, August 2016

²⁷ YouGov/Tim Bale Survey Results, May 2016.

²⁸ According to various reports

to appoint a commission of inquiry chaired by Shami Chakrabarti, with the goal of understanding the phenomenon and finding solutions. The inquiry report was published in June 2016, and included a recommendation to make some changes in the Labour Party's disciplinary procedures. However, the report stated that the Labour Party was not "overrun" by Antisemitism, Islamophobia or other forms of racism more than other parties, and that their behavior primarily originates in ignorance and incivility towards minorities.²⁹ In fact, it is fair to say that the Labour party failed in its handling of anti-Semitic incidents, and in this context, Corbyn's helplessness as party leader is evident in his inability to institute and provide fair, consistent and effective treatment in order to eradicate the phenomenon. This is reflected, *inter alia*, in the reinstatement of many of the suspended MPs a short time after their suspension. Lack of consistent leadership on this issue, alongside unwillingness on his part to distinguish between Antisemitism and other forms of racism, produced what may be called a "safe space" for those who hold abhorrent views towards Jews. Moreover, despite the fact that Corbyn is not directly responsible for the offending comments made in his name, many Jewish members of Parliament suffered from anti-Semitic threats by people who presented themselves as Corbyn supporters.

Furthermore, following reports of several cases of Antisemitism in the Labour Club in Oxford, Baroness Royall was appointed to formulate recommendations as part of a comprehensive report, based on testimonies of students. The published report confirmed that there were several incidents of anti-Semitic behavior and that a number of Jewish members feel uncomfortable attending the Labour Club meetings in Oxford, and certainly participating in them.³⁰

Anti-Semitic discourse also exists in the Liberal Democratic Party, the third largest party in the British Parliament. In response to anti-Semitic statements made by party members, the party's leader Tim Farron, preferred to refer them for disciplinary action rather than explicitly condemn anti-Semitic statements made by members of his party. In addition, Councilman David Ward remains an elected representative of the party in spite of his repeated anti-Semitic statements.

Another prominent figure is Baroness Jenny Tonge, who made several severely anti-Semitic statements over the course of the year. One of the most disturbing anti-Semitic incidents of 2016 occurred during an official event of the House of Lords, at the initiative of the Palestinian Return Centre, sponsored by Baroness Tonge. During the event, a number of anti-Semitic statements were made including "The Jews are responsible for the Holocaust and brought it on themselves", "If anyone is anti-Semitic, it is the Israelis themselves" and "Zionism is a perversion of Judaism". Following the publication of an official report about Labor's incompetence in handling Antisemitism within the party, Baroness

29 Report of the Shami Chakrabarti Inquiry, 30 June 2016

30 https://ousu.org/asset/News/6013/Report_OUC_Final.pdf



Tong wrote on Facebook that Israel is responsible for Antisemitism in the UK, due to the way it treats Palestinians.³¹

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In January, three Jews were attacked in London by a group of anti-Semites. The suspects threw small gas canisters at them from a passing vehicle and shouted "Hitler is on his way".
- In February, nine Jewish schools received threats of bombs located within the school grounds.
- In April, a number of anti-Semitic statements were made by members of the Labor Party; Ken Livingstone, a British Labour Party MP, said in an interview on the BBC that "Hitler supported Zionism". Then he said in an interview on Sky News that he spoke about "Historical Facts".³²
- In addition, a representative of the British House of Commons, Naez Shah, was expelled after publishing statuses on Facebook claiming that Israel should be transferred to the United States, and comparing Israeli policy to Nazi policy.³³
- Another party member from Dublin spoke about the Holocaust and claimed that "The Holocaust has been the most useful political tool of the Zionist government in Israel to establish a financial racket in the West, whereby Israel receives an unlimited sum for the duration of its existence".³⁴
- A councilwoman from the Labour Party, Aysegul Gurbuz, wrote in her Twitter account that "If it wasn't for my man Hitler these Jews would've wiped Palestine years ago. Sorry, but it's a fact".
- In April, a Jewish family was attacked by a gang, who threw eggs at them and threatened them: "All Jews should be killed".
- In April, a group of right-wing extremists demonstrated in Golders Green in London against what they called "Jewish domination" of the neighborhood. The demonstrators carried huge signs which read: "Golders Green is not Tel Aviv" and in an interview with local media they said that the Jews are leading to anarchy.
- In June, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn compared Israel to ISIS saying that "our Jewish friends are not responsible for the actions of the government of Netanyahu just as our Muslims friends are not responsible for the actions of ISIS".³⁵

31 <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/219140>

32 <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0ByO74lg-zovmejFoTVNjQ0d2NW8/view>

33 Naez Shah apologized for these comments immediately and was later reinstated by the party

34 <http://everydayantisemitism.com/2016/04/25/uk-labour-party-suspends-member-who-said-holocaust-is-used-as-financial-racket>

35 <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4822516,00.html>

- In June, Martina Anderson, a Northern Ireland MP made an anti-Semitic statement before a conference of the EU Parliament in Brussels: "We can give you a list of all the things we tried to do; the Israelis are all over this place like a rash".
- In September, an 11-year-old boy was attacked in Hackney, London by a group of kids who threatened to beat him up if he would not remove his Yarmulke.
- In September, a Jewish Member of Parliament was assigned police protection after receiving anti-Semitic death threats online.
- In October, during an official event of the House of Lords, sponsored by Baroness Tonge, several anti-Semitic remarks were made in public. Inter alia: "The Jews are responsible for the Holocaust and brought it on themselves".
- In October, Orthodox Jewish girls were attacked using firecrackers in the center of a Jewish neighborhood in London.
- In October, a man with an ax in his hand shouted anti-Semitic threats at a group of Jews in a suburb of Manchester on the eve of the Jewish New Year.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In December, the British Home Secretary Amber Rudd undertook to allocate a budget of 7 million dollars for the protection of Jewish schools, colleges, kindergartens and synagogues in the UK.
- In December, the British government announced that it would adopt a new and expanded international definition for the term Antisemitism, and would be the first country to take a step of this kind. This definition was adopted in May by the United States International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), and is designed to help identify manifestations of contemporary Antisemitism.



GERMANY

Federal German government figures indicate that between January and September 2016, 461 anti-Semitic incidents were reported in Germany, of which 13 were incidents of violence and 87 were cases of anti-Semitic propaganda.

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In January, the Jewish cemetery in Hanover was desecrated for the third time. Vandals smashed two headstones and smashed a window next to the prayer hall.
- In May, 35 memorial stones were desecrated in the Friedenau district of Berlin. Memorial stones have been desecrated regularly over the past several years.
- In May, the Old Synagogue in the memorial center of Wuppertal was vandalized with anti-Israeli graffiti.
- In May, the far right held a demonstration in Berlin against Merkel and her refugee policy. The demonstrators also waved anti-Semitic and anti-Israeli signs.
- In July, dozens of people participated in the al-Quds march in Berlin, including children and teenagers. They carried signs reading "Zionism is racism", "Zionism promotes Antisemitism!" and shouted "Death to Israel".
- In November, on the occasion of the 78th anniversary of Kristallnacht, a neo-Nazi group published a map on its Facebook page marking 70 Jewish institutions in Berlin.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In January, Facebook launched the Online Civil Courage Initiative, awarding 1.1 million dollars to support NGOs in their efforts to deal with racist messages and xenophobia.
- In March, German lawyers filed a criminal complaint against the founder and CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg, due to anti-Semitic content published on the social network. As part of the lawsuit, the lawyers collected more than 300 Facebook pages and posts containing swastikas and other images associated with Nazis, as well as calls for violence against immigrants from the Middle East and North Africa that have flooded Germany over the past year.
- In March, Germany's Foreign Minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, said that people entering the country must understand that Antisemitism is counter to German culture and constitution. "Antisemitism is contrary to everything we believe in and everything we've learned", Steinmeier emphasized in a speech at a conference in Berlin dealing with the battle against Antisemitism.
- In July, the German police conducted a raid in 14 districts in Germany, aimed at 60 people suspected of spreading anti-Semitic content online, with the goal of eradicating the phenomenon.

UNITED STATES

ANTISEMITISM DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The US presidential campaign demonstrated the centrality of social media and networks in the dissemination of hate content, and the ability of marginal groups and people who are a few in number to resonate widely, far beyond their share of the population. The key example is the Alternative Right movement (Alt-right) that until the last elections was considered a marginal group. The movement received a significant boost following the controversies they provoked during the presidential campaign, and at its peak it was even presented as a legitimate ideological movement offering an alternative to traditional American ideas.

This is in fact a group composed of sub-groups whose common denominator is their support of racial supremacy, opposition to political correctness, resistance to multiculturalism and opposition to migration. These ideas naturally lead to an anti-Semitic discourse and Holocaust denial that characterize many of the movements' members. However, there is not necessarily a correlation between their stance against foreigners and their political position towards Israel. The new right now emerging in the US is paradoxically characterized by racist and anti-Semitic discourse on the one hand, and support for the State of Israel on the other.

Another phenomenon that stood out during the campaign was hostile anti-Semitic attacks against journalists, particularly on social networks - a report published by the ADL identified 2.6 million anti-Semitic tweets published during the campaign, and has identified at least 800 journalists that received anti-Semitic messages. As part of the attacks against Jewish journalists or who were identified as Jews, inciters developed a method for marking Jews called the "echo" symbol ((())) – with names of Jews being identified by placing three bracket marks around the name.

ANTISEMITISM ON CAMPUSES

Antisemitism on college campuses continues to be a major problem in 2016, and the number of reported cases of Antisemitism on the various campuses has risen substantially compared to 2015. During the first half of the year (January-July) a 45% increase was recorded in anti-Semitic incidents on the various campuses compared to the same period in 2015 (287 anti-Semitic incidents in 64 academic institutions, compared to 198 incidents in 2015).

The source of this Antisemitism is predominantly the radical left, although there are manifestations of Antisemitism on the right as well. Although it is not possible to make an essential link between hostility toward Israel and Antisemitism, the figures indicate that one of the most powerful predictors of a hostile environment toward Israel and Jews is an active presence on the campus of the group "Students for Justice in Palestine" (SJP).



Moreover, there is a strong link between the promotion of decisions to boycott Israel in student associations or organizations and the increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents on campus.

Jewish students, as well as Jewish lecturers, were exposed over the past year to harassment and anti-Semitic abuse, discrimination, anti-Semitic graffiti and swastikas, anti-Semitic signs, and verbal and physical assaults. Also, freedom of expression and association of Jewish students on campus was repressed, including the cancellation of events of a pro-Israel or Jewish nature, by anti-Israel activist and organizations, and Jewish students were excluded from various activities. Among the most prominent cases were a series of posts published on Facebook by a Professor at Oberlin College in Ohio that claimed that Jews or Israelis control most of the world, and are responsible for the attacks on 9/11, the attack on Charlie Hebdo and for the rise of ISIS. In addition, the incident that occurred at Northwestern University should also be noted – where a Nazi salute and “Heil Hitler” shouts were directed at a Jewish lecturer. Another serious incident occurred at Northwestern University, in which a group of students hung evacuation orders on the dorm rooms of all Jewish students, asking all of them to leave their rooms. During apartheid week at Rutgers University, students belonging to Students for Justice in Palestine stood in the dining room dressed in white shirts with images of blood stains, and shouted: “this is what the Jews did to us”.

The number of events of suppression of the freedom of expression and association of Jewish students has doubled since 2015 and in general the tactics and rhetoric of anti-Israeli organizations have intensified and become more violent. Moreover, the number of incidents involving opposition to Israel's right to exist have almost tripled since 2015, and a high correlation was found between these cases and the anti-Semitic attacks against Jewish students on campus (43 cases in 2016 compared to 15 cases in 2015).

Campuses where Jewish students suffer the most from Antisemitism and a hostile atmosphere towards Israel are CUNY-Brooklyn, Northwestern, and most of the campuses in California. Over 20% of students reported that they were blamed for Israel's actions because they are Jews, and a third of them reported having experienced anti-Semitic harassment. In contrast, at New York University, for example, hostility towards Israel is relatively high, but reports of incidents of Antisemitism or hostility towards Jews are very rare. This is also true in reverse - for example in Rutgers, Wisconsin and Illinois, there is a relatively high proportion of hostility toward Jews and anti-Semitic harassment, but this apparently has no particular connection to criticism of Israel.

Following the rise in the number and severity of Antisemitism on campus, initial attempts to cope with the phenomenon were initiated on two levels. First, in November the Senate passed the Antisemitism Awareness Act with the goal of combating the growing Anti-Semitism on campuses throughout the US. The bill includes the Working Definition of Antisemitism as adopted by the US State Department, and is intended to provide practical

tools for the Department of Education for identifying anti-Semitic incidents and enable improved enforcement of punishment. In addition, in March, the board of the University of California, Irvine (UCI) adopted a statement condemning the trend of Antisemitism on its campuses, becoming the first university to adopt a statement of this kind. In November, the university published a detailed report that included practical recommendations to combat intolerance in general and Antisemitism in particular, and committed explicitly to deal with the problem of Antisemitism and anti-Zionist Antisemitism in all its different forms.

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In March, Andrew Anglin, editor of the anti-Semitic 'Daily Stormer' site posted a video on YouTube in which he visits the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin and ridicules the Holocaust, saying: "This is Andrew Anglin reporting from Berlin, at the site of the false national memorial".
- In April, a man broke into the Orthodox synagogue in Brooklyn, threw an iron ladder on the people in the synagogue and began to turn over tables, chairs and bookcases. The people managed to flee and the aggressor was arrested by local police.
- In May, a group of students attacked a Walsh Junior High school student in Connecticut as part of prolonged abuse. The abuse included knocking his head into his locker, throwing him to the ground, kicking, and shouting: "Kill the Jew, kill the Jew".
- In July, the FBI and the Stamford Police prevented an anti-Semitic attack in Connecticut, when during a search at the home of a person suspected of voicing threats against Jews on the Internet, they discovered more than two dozen firearms, gun parts, as well as hundreds of rounds of ammunition.
- In August, the Movement for Black Lives (a coalition of 50 organizations, including the "Black Lives Matter") formulated a new platform in which it describes Israel as an "Apartheid state" and claims that Israel is committing Genocide against the Palestinians.
- In September, a student who served as the President of UCLA's Alumni Association announced that he was leaving the University's Law School because of the "hostile and insecure climate on campus".
- In October, a Jewish journalist working at the 'Politico' news site received death threats and anti-Jewish messages from a person who introduced himself as a supporter of Trump.
- In December, the "Daily Stormer" website published an article with a "call for action" against Jews living in the town of Whitefish, Montana, claiming that they were causing damage to the business of Richard Spencer's mother (one of the most prominent leaders of the "Alt-Right" movement). The article included telephone numbers, email addresses, and Twitter accounts of residents of Whitefish, as well as their images marked with the yellow star.



ANTISEMITISM IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION REGION

Trends in the former Soviet Union in 2016 ran contrary to the general trends. In fact, the number of anti-Semitic incidents reported in 2016 was the lowest number recorded since the beginning of the 1990s. This figure joins the downward trend in incidents in the region seen in recent years. Furthermore, this is the first year since monitoring of incidents began in which the number of reported anti-Semitic incidents in Russia and the Ukraine were equal, constituting a significant change, since in the past the number of incidents in Russia was significantly higher in numbers than in the other countries in the region.

Contrary to the decline in the overall number of incidents reported in this region, the number of violent incidents (threats, assaults, harassment) increased compared to 2015, yet their part in the total number of incidents remained relatively small.

While in the past it was not possible to recognize different characteristics of the Antisemitism in each country, in recent years there has been a clear difference between the types of Antisemitism typical of Russia such as: political propaganda, social Antisemitism and Antisemitism in the public sphere, as opposed to the types characteristic of the Ukraine, such as: vandalism, use of Antisemitism for political purposes and a complex attitude towards the events of world War II, and in particular towards the role of locals in the extermination of the Jewish population during the Holocaust.

RUSSIA

Over the past several years, anti-Semitic propaganda in Russia concentrates on a number of major issues, such as the part Jews played in the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, the dismantling of the Soviet Union in 1991, Jews taking control of Russia's treasures, participation of Jews in the new government in the Ukraine (alongside accusations that it is an anti-Semitic and fascist regime), the place of Jews in the anti-government opposition in Russia, and more.

Russia is undergoing a gradual and consistent transformation in the historical viewpoint presented to the general population, with groups known for their anti-Semitic stances and for responsibility for the continuing abuse of Jews throughout Russian history, such as "the Union of the Russian People" and "the Black Hundreds", are portrayed as positive forces, whose only aspirations were the promotion of Russian culture and its glorification, without any mention of the anti-Semitic and extreme nationalist components of their activities.

The leading distributors of anti-Semitic propaganda in Russia are the various media outlets, including the national news agency "Russia Today", and in particular the English-language state television channel RT, which for a long time has been disseminating not only

anti-Semitic propaganda, but also publishes grave anti-Israeli fabrications. Thus, for instance, in June, the channel accused Israel of blocking the water sources used by the Palestinian population, expressing blatant anti-Semitic claims, despite the denial of this claim by the PA several days earlier.

Following the Sarona attack in Tel Aviv in June, the television channel's website published an article entitled "Orthodox Jews committed murder in Tel Aviv", a falsehood that was not removed even after it became clear that this was a case of Palestinian terror.

The most prominent manifestation of prejudice in connection with Jewish control of the world was presented last year, when Russia's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova, who on a popular television program, said explicitly, while imitating a Jewish accent, that Donald Trump's election to the US presidency was led by Jews. It should be noted that statements of this type have not been publicly voiced in Russia by an official administration spokesman for many years.

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In April, a candidate in the primaries of the ruling party, "United Russia", accused the Jews of responsibility for the high mortality rates in the country, since they "carried out a revolution and gained control over Russia".³⁶
- In April, the English-speaking Russian television channel RT showed a clip mocking the behavior of ultra-Orthodox Jews during flights. The clip appeared on the channel's Facebook page and was entitled "Traveling with orthodox Jews – never a dull moment". The report claimed, inter alia, that flights "were delayed for 11 hours because of ultra-Orthodox men who were unwilling to sit next to women", and that "riots broke out during a flight when the ultra-Orthodox were displeased with the film that was shown".³⁷
- In June, unknown assailants tried to set fire to the synagogue under construction in the city of Arkhangelsk, throwing Molotov cocktails at the building.³⁸
- In August, a documentary was broadcasted on the REN-TV channel accusing the Jews for the sinking of the Titanic, the Chernobyl disaster and the terrorist attacks on 9/11.³⁹
- In September, a group of young Russians buried a pig's head on the construction site of a Chabad synagogue. The act was videotaped and uploaded on YouTube in protest against the decision of the Governor of the Perm Region to allocate the site to Chabad, claiming that in Perm there is an absolute Russian majority.⁴⁰

36 CFA website

37 <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/766/051.html?hp=1&cat=666&loc=7>

38 CFA website

39 http://everydayantisemitism.com/2016/08/11/russian-tv-blames-jews-for-sinking-of-titanic-chernobyl-and-911/?mc_cid=eb4c9d8eba&mc_eid=042d32eadf

40 CFA website



- In October, a man armed with a pistol and a gasoline container broke into a synagogue in central Moscow, attacked a security guard, and threatened to burn down the synagogue if he would not be allowed to see the Chief Rabbi of Moscow, Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt.⁴¹

THE UKRAINE

The Ukraine continued to lead in the number of vandalism incidents perpetrated against Jewish sites: cemeteries, memorials for the victims of the Holocaust and other places with direct and indirect connection to Jews. Moreover, the feebleness of the Ukrainian authorities has allowed, for the third year in a row, the emergence of the phenomenon of "returning desecration"- attacking the same Jewish sites while the authorities do nothing to prevent it. Thus, in 2016, the Babi Yar memorial site, the local Jewish cemetery of Kolomyia and memorial sites in the cities of Nikolaev and Poltava have continued to be desecrated.

In 2016, the use of anti-Semitic content and messages in the internal political struggle within the Ukraine has intensified, and the fact that the elected Prime Minister is a man with obvious Jewish roots encouraged attempts to accuse the country's entire leadership of hiding their Jewish roots. These perceptions also seeped into the general population that has begun to view Jews as being responsible for their poor economic situation, without the authorities taking any steps to prevent this phenomenon.

The severe political confrontation between Kiev and Moscow led to the strengthening of nationalist sentiments, and a search for historical precedents glorifying the Ukrainian struggle against foreign oppressors, particularly the Russians. As a result, members of the World War II nationalist underground movement are elevated to the rank of national heroes, while completely ignoring their active participation in the extermination of the Polish and Jewish population during the war. These perceptions were clearly reflected in the events marking the 75th anniversary of the Babi Yar massacre, with nationalist parties demanding, while being supported by the authorities, that members of the underground be presented as victims of Nazism, without mentioning their role in the extermination of the Jews. The sharp criticism voiced by Israeli President Reuven Rivlin against this during his speech in the Ukrainian parliament in September 2016 was received with opposition by the nationalists, who once again voiced claims that some Jews harassed the Ukrainian population in the service of the Soviet regime, and in particular accused them of being responsible for the great famine in Ukraine between 1932-1933, without taking into consideration that Jews were also victims of this policy.

⁴¹ <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/836/719.html?hp=1&cat=666&loc=1>

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In February, protesters made anti-Semitic speeches at the Maidan Nezalezhnosti Square in Kiev, during an event organized by political groups protesting against government policies.
- In May, vandals burned an Israeli flag near a monument for the Jews killed by the Nazis and their helpers in Babi Yar, Ukraine.
- In August, an Israeli journalist named Yitzhak Hildesheimer was attacked by young neo-Nazis in the city of Kharkov during the Ukrainian Independence Day celebrations.⁴²
- In October, a gang of young neo-Nazis attacked the Jewish restaurant 'Jerusalem' and dishonored the Israeli flag.
- In October, a Chabad Hasid was viciously attacked near the train station in Zhitomir, and was wounded very badly. The man was found bleeding by passersby, who called the police and emergency services.
- In December, in Uman, the grave of Rabbi Nachman was vandalized. The attackers entered the tomb complex, sprayed red paint all over to simulate the color of blood, sprayed tear gas on people inside the tomb and threw a pig's head in the compound.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In February, the Political Council of the "All-Ukrainian Union Fatherland" party expelled from its ranks Sergey Grigornko, head of the party's Lutsk district and deputy mayor of Lutsk. He was expelled due to anti-Semitic remarks he made during a meeting of the executive committee of the City Council.

42 <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/818/749.html>



OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION REGION

In other countries in this region, only a few anti-Semitic incidents were recorded in 2016, mostly incidents of "classic" Antisemitism: accusing Jews for all of the country's problems, desecration of Jewish memorial sites or attempts to shake off their responsibility for the local extermination of Jews during the Holocaust. A few attempts were also made to involve Jewish issues in local political activity, and the most notable example being the attempt to blame the authorities for violating Jewish burial sites, without noting that the transfer of the graves was conducted in full cooperation with the local Jewish communities and accompanied by Rabbinical representatives.

As to anti-Israeli sentiment, although historically the Soviet Union battled Zionism and spread anti-Semitic propaganda, currently, with the exception of several familiar figures known for their extreme anti-Israel views, there are no notable anti-Israeli phenomena in the post-Soviet region.

POLAND

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In April, the administration of the University of Technology in Bialystok notified all foreign students to stay in the dormitories and not walk around campus due to a parade and celebrations marking the 82-year anniversary of the establishment of the neo-Nazi radical nationalist movement 'Oboz Narodowo Radykalny'.
- In July, Poland's Minister of Education Anna Zalewski, when speaking in an interview about the role of the Poles in the massacre of Jews during the Holocaust said that the historical evidence that Poles committed massacres against the Jews are "biases".
- In August, the Polish government passed a law imposing a fine or imprisonment of up to three years for anyone claiming that the country collaborated with the Nazis. The law is also expected to pass in parliament.⁴³
- In August, Polish football fans set fire to puppets of Jews, and waved an anti-Semitic banner calling for the burning of Jews in preparation for the derby match.
- In August, the Polish newspaper 'Gazeta Polska' published an image of children in Auschwitz in an article about a Polish boy who was taken from his parents by social services in Germany, and compared the conduct of the German authorities to the acts of the Nazis during the Holocaust.
- In December, the director of the Polish Institute in Berlin was fired because she "pro-

⁴³ <http://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/1.3041175>

moted too much Jewish content". This is part of the new policy of the Polish government to dismiss managers of branches of the Polish Institute that are perceived as too liberal and that promote content that does not present Poland in a positive light.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In November, a court in Poland sentenced a man to 10 months in prison for burning an effigy of an Orthodox Jew in a demonstration against refugees in Wroclaw in 2015. In the verdict, the judge stated that he had tarnished Poland's international reputation and incited hatred.

HUNGARY

A survey conducted by the Action and Protection Foundation (TEV) in November 2015, shows that a third of all Hungarians, and 41% of supporters of Fidesz, hold anti-Semitic views. 23% of the adult Hungarians hold anti-Semitic views to a "high degree", while 12% hold these views "Moderately". As to their division according to parties - 59% of the voters or supporters of JOBBIK and 41% of Fidesz supporters identify with anti-Semitic views.

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In January, the Hungarian Holocaust drama "The son of Saul" won the best foreign film category at the Golden Globe awards, a wave of anti-Semitic comments swept the internet and the media.
- In August, the journalist Zsolt Bayer, who made several racist and anti-Semitic comments, and called Jews "the stinking excrement", was awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Excellence.
- In September, a memorial exhibition dedicated to Hungarian victims of the Holocaust was vandalized in Budapest, a few weeks after a neo-Nazi site published an article threatening to destroy the place.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In January, a court in Budapest sentenced a Hungarian man to 3 years suspended sentence for public denial of the Holocaust.
- In August, the Budapest court ordered a temporary blockage of about 20 websites with Holocaust denial content.



SOUTH AMERICA

In 2016, several developments occurred in Argentina in connection with the murder of Alberto Nisman, the prosecutor who investigated the attack on the Jewish Community Center building in Buenos Aires (AMIA) in 1994, who was found dead in his apartment hours before he was intended to testify in Congress and present his accusations against the President of Argentina and her colleagues in covering up of the attack's investigation. In February, Argentina's Attorney General confirmed that Nisman was murdered, as opposed to rumors published that he took his own life. In addition, he noted that the evidence indicates that someone had tried to obstruct the investigation, and moved his body after the shooting.⁴⁴ In August, a Federal judge in Argentina ordered the reopening of a criminal complaint filed against former President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, in which she was accused of planning to eliminate the investigation of the attack.⁴⁵

In Mexico, it is evident that the public visibility of extreme right movements and organizations has diminished greatly. In addition, the transition to more pluralistic and multicultural definitions of citizenship have paved the way for a series of constitutional reforms that promote penalties against discrimination, such as laws setting prison sentences for charges of Antisemitism.

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In February, vandals broke into the home of the mayor of El Hatillo in Venezuela, David Smolenski, stole his belongings and left political and anti-Semitic writings on the walls.
- In March, David Fremd, 54-year-old Jewish resident of the town of Paysandú in western Uruguay, was stabbed to death by a man who shouted "Allahu Akbar". He was stabbed ten times and taken to a nearby hospital in very serious condition, where he died a short time later.
- In May, the Venezuelan Ambassador to the United Nations, Rafael Ramirez, made an anti-Semitic speech in an informal discussion of the UN Security Council concerning the protection of the Palestinian people, and said: "What does Israel intend to do with the Palestinians? Will they disappear? Is Israel planning a final solution, like the one against the Jews?"
- In July, Hezbollah announced that it intends to register as a political party in Peru.
- In July, a bottle full of cement was thrown into a 'Maccabi' club in Santa Fe, containing a threat in the name of the Islamic State that the next time they will throw explosives at the club.

⁴⁴ <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4770947,00.html>

⁴⁵ <http://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/america/premium-1.3033351>

- In August, students from the Jewish 'ORT' school were attacked in Buenos Aires by pupils from the German school in the capital, who drew swastikas and Hitler mustaches on their bodies.
- In September, high school students in the city of Mendoza in Argentina posted racist messages on social networks, and inter alia tweeted photos and messages on Twitter that mocked the Jewish community, as well as praised Nazi symbols and racist phrases.
- In October, two cases of vandalism occurred in the synagogue 'Agudas Achim' in Mexico City. The attackers broke tables and chairs, smashed windows and sprayed graffiti against Jews.
- In December, a housekeeper in Uruguay suffered severe injuries to her body and face following an anti-Semitic attack. She said the attacker referred to the fact that she was a "servant" of Jews and that "all Jews must die".
- In December, Ecuador's ambassador to the United Nations equated the crimes of Nazism with Zionism during a meeting on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, saying: "We repudiate with all our strength the persecution and genocide that the Nazis unleashed against the Jewish people, But I cannot recall anything more similar in our contemporary history than the eviction, persecution and genocide that today imperialism and Zionism carry out against the Palestinian people".

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In July 2016, more than 200 leaders from Israel, the US and Latin America gathered to launch the first Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism in Latin America, headed by the Foreign Ministry. During the forum, participants formulated recommendations to combat Antisemitism in four areas: Web and media, education, inter-religious dialogue and legislation & enforcement.

AUSTRALIA

The number of anti-Semitic incidents in Australia over the past year has increased by 10% with the leading region being New South Wales, whose capital is Sydney.

In 2016, a total of 210 anti-Semitic incidents occurred in Australia⁴⁶, which included graffiti and e-mails, phone calls and threatening messages. Additionally, pamphlets were found on various campuses entitled "The Greatest Hoax of All Time", explaining that the Holocaust was a conspiracy.

Of the 210 anti-Semitic incidents reported - 42 of the violent incidents occurred in New

⁴⁶ Data from ECAJ)Executive Council of Australian Jews (report)



South Wales, 37 occurred in the state of Victoria. 109 events took place in New South Wales. 84% of the incidents included, swearing, abuse and intimidation.

Among the violent incidents there were 31 cases of anti-Semitic graffiti, 30 threatening e-mails, 22 cases of property damage and vandalism, 17 threatening phone calls, text messages and faxes, 12 physical attacks and 12 threatening posters. Another report indicated that the number of anti-Semitic incidents on social media, particularly Facebook, is higher than last year - and is a priority on the community's agenda.

SOUTH AFRICA

As part of a delegation to the South African Parliament, representatives of the Jewish community (SAJBD) appeared before the South African foreign relations committee. SAJBD President, Mary Kluk, expressed concern that anti-Israel sentiments in the country frequently deteriorate into hatred of Jews in South Africa, and cited several examples of anti-Israeli campaigns that led to blatant Antisemitism. "Fostering hatred and division amongst fellow South Africans is harmful to our society and does nothing whatsoever to bring an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement closer", said Kluk.⁴⁷

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In 2016, vandals sprayed the word "Hezbollah" in Arabic and "Death to Jews" in English on a wall near Lake Zoo in Johannesburg.⁴⁸
- In July 2016, two brothers aged 23 were accused in a Johannesburg court of support for a terrorist organization, incitement and conspiracy to commit acts of terrorism. The brothers are supporters of the Islamic State (ISIS), and planned to carry out terrorist attacks against the American embassy in Pretoria and Jewish institutions in the country.⁴⁹

⁴⁷ http://www.parliament.gov.za/live/content.php?Item_ID=9921

⁴⁸ http://everydayantisemitism.com/2016/03/07/vandals-spray-johannesburg-wall-with-pro-hezbollah-message/?mc_cid=7d6be2839b&mc_eid=042d32eadf

⁴⁹ <http://news.walla.co.il/item/2978219>

SCANDINAVIA

DENMARK

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In March, a kosher butcher shop in Copenhagen was vandalized for the second time in a year by an attacker who threw a brick at the shop window display and shattered it. The previous attack, which occurred less than a year ago, included anti-Semitic text such as "Jewish pig" on the shop window.⁵⁰
- In March, a 16-year-old girl was indicted for planning an attack on a Jewish school in the capital Copenhagen, and on another school in the country. The girl and another suspect had managed to obtain chemicals and tried to manufacture explosives, with the intention of carrying out terrorist attacks on both schools.⁵¹
- In December, Denmark's Medical Association issued a recommendation to stop circumcision of babies. The organization published an opinion that only an adult should decide whether to carry out his own circumcision, but avoided making it illegal for fear this would lead to unregulated surgery.⁵²

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In February, it was decided to establish an educational information center focusing on the Jewish community in Denmark, funded by the City of Copenhagen. The center will be established in order to familiarize the general population with the Jewish minority in the country and to fight against Antisemitism.⁵³

50 <http://www.jpost.com/printarticle.aspx?id=448458>

51 <http://m.jpost.com/Diaspora/Danish-16-year-old-girl-charged-with-planning-to-bomb-Jewish-school-447227#article=6017NjFENTYzQTBfMTI5M0VDOENGNEI3QTMxQ0E0QkYyRDg=>

52 <http://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/europe/.premium-1.3149101>

53 <https://www.algemeiner.com/2016/02/12/denmarks-policies-have-led-directly-to-antisemitism/>



NORWAY

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In September, a clip was posted by a group of actors from the theater of Norway stating that they intend to boycott 'Habima' Theater because it performs in the "occupied Palestinian territories". It also stated that "while we collaborated with 'Habima', Israel bombed the Gaza Strip horribly, and while 500 Palestinian children were killed, 'Habima' Theater was busy entertaining soldiers", and "we didn't know that Israel was using art as a tool to present itself as a humane country, rather than expose its face as an apartheid state."⁵⁴

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In October, the Norwegian government published an 11-point plan to combat Antisemitism, including - enabling police districts to register Antisemitism as a motive for hate crime and awarding grants to the Jewish community.⁵⁵
- In November, the Lutheran Church of Norway officially denounced the anti-Jewish writing of Martin Luther, the German 16th century theologian that initiated the Protestant Reformation. The General Council of the Church in Norway stated that "on the anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, we as a church must clearly move away from the anti-Judaism tradition that Luther left behind".⁵⁶

54 http://www.mako.co.il/news-military/israel-q3_2016/Article-de08f699bec5751004.htm

55 <http://norwaytoday.info/news/government-increases-efforts-combat-anti-semitism/>

56 <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/11/25/norwegian-church-denounces-luther-anti-jewish-writings.html>

SWEDEN

MAIN INCIDENTS:

- In January, Sweden's Foreign Minister, Margot Wallström, instructed that an investigation be opened to determine whether Israel is guilty of extrajudicial executions of Palestinians as part of the wave of violence in recent months.⁵⁷
- In February, activists of the extreme right-wing 'Nordic Resistance Movement' held a demonstration a day before the International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Sergel Square, during which they burned the Israeli flag and hung a banner that read "We love Aryans".
- In April, it was revealed that in a video from 2009 Sweden's Housing Minister, Mehmet Kaplan, said that "Israelis treat Palestinians in a way that is very similar to that in which Jews were treated in Germany in the 1930s". Following this revelation, the minister resigned his post.⁵⁸
- In December, graffiti was sprayed on the wall of a building in southern Gothenburg with the words "dead Jew ("Die Juden SD 2018", SD = Swedish Democrats, a right-wing Swedish party) "Trump" and swastikas.

COMBATING ANTISEMITISM:

- In September, the city of Malmo launched an educational program against racism in general and Antisemitism in particular in all its schools. The program, funded by the Swedish Government Agency for Youth, includes videos, exercises and discussion materials. Nearly 300 local teachers and at least 7,000 students are expected to participate in this program.⁵⁹

57 <http://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4751964,00.html>

58 <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/770/183.html>

59 <http://www.haaretz.com/world-news/europe/1.740850>



WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM – THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Unlike the traditional definition of Antisemitism - contemporary Antisemitism comes in different forms and is expressed in various ways, making it difficult for legal authorities throughout the world to identify it and act so as to prevent it. The traditional definition of Antisemitism as "hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic or social group" – is no longer suitable for the diverse new and complex expressions of current Antisemitism.

In order to address this challenge, a decade ago, the "Working Definition of Antisemitism" was formulated at the initiative of the European Monitoring Centre Union on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), in collaboration with researchers and activists throughout the world. Its formulation was considered a great achievement for the EU in the fight against Antisemitism, and its primary purpose was to provide practical tools for identifying Antisemitism, anti-Semitic incidents and data collection, and to promote legislation and enforcement. The definition was distributed at the time on the website of the FRA (Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU), which was also used by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) that is engaged in combating Antisemitism.

In 2013, the FRA (Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU) suddenly removed the Working Definition of Antisemitism from its website for technical reasons, according to its directors. Since then Israeli representatives, individuals and organizations, Jews and non-Jews have been endeavoring to restore awareness of the definition as well as its use.

In May 2016, the definition was publicly adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), an inter-governmental body whose members include 31 countries. The IHRA's goal is to promote support by political and social leaders of the need for teaching about the Holocaust, Holocaust research and Holocaust remembrance, at both national and international level. Although the definition is not legally binding, adoption of the definition is an important step because it opens up many new opportunities in combating Antisemitism, and provides the various countries with practical tools to analyze and monitor anti-Semitic incidents. According to the organization, adoption of the definition is designed to serve as inspiration for other countries to adopt the definition and make it legally binding. Although, the main innovation in the working definition is that it also includes expressions of Antisemitism directed against the State of Israel, when it is perceived as a Jewish collective. In other words, the definition also refers to anti-Zionism in terms of negating the existence of the State of Israel or denying the right of the Jewish people to self-determination, as a form of Antisemitism.

The chairman of the IHRA, Ambassador Mihnea Constantinescu, said that "All IHRA Member Countries share concern that incidents of Antisemitism are steadily rising and agree

that IHRA's Member Countries and indeed IHRA's experts need political tools with which to fight this scourge. IHRA's 31 member countries- 24 of which are EU member countries- are committed to the Stockholm Declaration and thereby to fighting the evil of Antisemitism through coordinated international political action”.

In December, British Prime Minister Theresa May, announced that the UK would adopt the working definition of Antisemitism, due to the increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents in Britain and because fighting prejudice against Jews is an essential part of the effort to create a more just society.

One week earlier, the definition was discussed at a conference held at the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris, and immediately following it was discussed also at the conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), held in Hamburg. In both conferences, they addressed the subject of adopting the definition formulated by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) in May of this year, at Bucharest, Romania. At the UNESCO conference, the organization's Director General Irina Bokova, and Chairman of the IHRA, Mihnea Constantinescu, recommended that the definition be adopted. Both also expressed implied opposition to the resolution approved by UNESCO's plenum that the history and present of Jerusalem are Muslim only, and argued that “history must not be distorted”, and that “we must distribute the factual information, and maintain Jerusalem's heritage as a city that is sacred to all three monotheistic religions”.

In this context, it should be noted that according to the section in the working definition of Antisemitism, which identifies the denial of the Jewish people's right to self-determination as an expression of Antisemitism, the attempt expressed in UNESCO's resolution to deny the Jewish people their historical connection to the Temple Mount, Jerusalem and Jewish heritage, is grave anti-Semitic discrimination.

The attempt to adopt the working definition within the framework of the OSCE failed due to the opposition of Russia, which was the only country among the 57 member states to oppose the proposal, taking advantage of the organizational regulations requiring unanimous decisions. Thus, months of effort led by Germany's Foreign Minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, President of the OSCE, and Rabbi Andrew Baker, partner in the struggle against Antisemitism – were wasted.

In November, the US Senate passed the Antisemitism Awareness Act, which aims to combat growing Antisemitism in US campuses. The bill includes the Working Definition of Antisemitism as adopted by the US State Department. Following its enactment, a heated debate arose, since adoption of the definition is currently not legally binding. During the debate the adoption of another working definition of Antisemitism, more than a year ago, by an influential body such as the US State Department, was also mentioned.

In Austria, the Minister of Justice recently announced that the definition would be part of the training of judges and prosecutors in the country.



As stated, the renewed and vigorous work put into the definition of Antisemitism is the result of the efforts of a number of parties.

The formulation of the definition is the fruit of collaboration between organizations, scholars and activists, both Jewish and non-Jewish, that was adopted by the oversight body of the EU, and by its members stated at the beginning of 2005. This definition is a practical one, one page in length, that does not seek to delve in-depth into the identity and motives of the anti-Semites, nor the depiction the Jews in their eyes, but rather states, in one sentence, that Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews that is accompanied by feelings of hatred toward them, and these are translated into violent and verbal expressions against them, their communities and their institutions. After this sentence is a series of examples, such as incitement to harm Jews, myths invented about their imaginary power, various facets of Holocaust denial and accusations of dual loyalty. These are followed by examples of statements against Israel that constitute Antisemitism, such as the denial of the Jewish people's right to self-determination, use of classic anti-Semitic symbols and images, comparing citizens of Israel to the Nazis, and discussion of Israel's policy in a discriminatory manner.

ADOPTION OF THE WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

MOTION

Based on the recognition that Antisemitism is a common global phenomenon that affects individuals and Jewish communities around the world and in the State of Israel, and despite its scope and serious consequences, the State of Israel has yet to clearly define the totality of behaviors and ideas contained in it, for the purpose of monitoring and promoting the struggle against it in the local and international level;

The Israeli government has adopted the non-legally binding 'Working Definition of Antisemitism', submitted on the International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Adoption of a working definition of Antisemitism, as adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) at the session convened on 26th of May 2016 in Bucharest, as follows:

Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of Antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.

The following examples may serve as guidelines to illustrate the definition of Antisemitism:

Manifestations might include the targeting of the State of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." Antisemitism is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and actions, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of Antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could include, taking into account the overall context, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as a collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing com-



mitted by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.

- Denying the genocide of the Jewish people committed by Nazi Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II - the Holocaust. Denying the scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide.
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Examples of how Antisemitism can be expressed in reference to the State of Israel:
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic Antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel.
- However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic.

Criminal acts are anti-Semitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Anti-Semitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

Adopted by the Israeli Government on January 22nd, 2017.

ANNOTATIONS

The aim of this resolution is to provide guidance to state agencies, civil society organizations and activists, with regards to the different expressions of Antisemitism at the present time, in order to hone and focus the fight against Antisemitism.

The working definition describes various behaviors and actions that cross the boundaries of legitimate debate in a democratic society, and therefore, under certain circumstances, may be considered anti-Semitic acts.

GENERAL:

Unlike Antisemitism in the past, contemporary Antisemitism comes in different forms and is expressed in various ways, making it difficult for legal authorities throughout the world to identify it and act so as to prevent it. The traditional definition of Antisemitism as "hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic or social group" – is no longer suitable for the diverse new and complex expressions of current Antisemitism, and is incapable of containing the rapid changes in expressions of Antisemitism, such as the new trend of ridiculing the Holocaust and its consequences.

In order to address this challenge, a decade ago the "Working Definition of Antisemitism" was formulated at the initiative of the European Monitoring Centre Union on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), in collaboration with researchers and activists throughout the world. Its formulation was considered a great achievement for the EU in the battle against Antisemitism. Its primary purpose was to provide practical tools for identifying Antisemitism, anti-Semitic incidents and data collection, and to promote legislation and enforcement.

On the 26th of May 2016 in Bucharest, the formulation of the working definition was publicly and unanimously adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), an inter-government body whose members include 31 countries (including Germany, France and Britain, home to the largest Jewish communities in Europe), whose goal is to promote the support by political and social leaders of the need for teaching about the Holocaust, Holocaust research and Holocaust remembrance, at both the national and international level.

A similar version of the definition is currently in use by the US State Department.

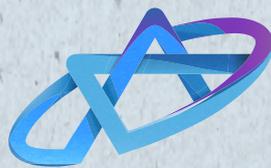
The adoption of the 'Working Definition of Antisemitism' by the State of Israel is a declarative act of great importance, and will serve as a compass and unit of measure for the country's institutions and its citizens in monitoring this phenomenon. Adoption of the definition emphasizes the importance that the State of Israel ascribes to combatting Antisemitism, constitutes a clear statement of values by the State of Israel that it will not tolerate Antisemitism, and sends a message of support to partner countries participating in this struggle. In addition, adopting the definition is expected to contribute to a public discourse that is free of accusations of Antisemitism and the use of anti-Semitic motifs, and to protect the memory of Holocaust victims.

The content of this resolution does not detract from the authority and responsibility of government ministries and other agencies that deal with this issue.



SUMMARY OF PROJECTS OF THE MINISTRY OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS IN 2016

- **Antisemitism Index Project** - setting standards for a uniform, global index for the phenomenon of Antisemitism, in cooperation with the ISGAP organization.
- **Internet Monitoring Project** - monitoring all forms of anti-Semitic incitement on the web, including incitement on social media networks, trade in anti-Semitic literature, and distribution of anti-Semitic content.
- **International Legislation Index** - establishing an international index that evaluates the quality of legislation against hate crimes in different countries, including Antisemitism and Holocaust denial, in cooperation with Kantor Center.
- **Definition of Antisemitism** - promoting the adoption of the definition of Antisemitism throughout the world and in Israel.
- **MOOC** - an academic level online course that is open to the public and presents the development of the phenomenon of Antisemitism and its various manifestations from the Second Temple period to the present day, in collaboration with Yad Vashem.
- **A series of professional publications for use in the fight against Antisemitism:**
 - Anti-Israeli legislation as anti-Semitic discrimination against Jews and Israelis.
 - Review of European legislation against on-line hate speech.
- **Annual report summing up the anti-Semitic trends and incidents over the past year** - submission of the annual report to the government on the International Holocaust Remembrance Day and writing ongoing reports about Antisemitism in various countries.
- **Operating a website to enable access to information and sending reports about anti-Semitic incidents.**
- **Adoption of the 'Working definition of Anti-Semitism' by the Israeli Government** on January 22nd, 2017, on the occasion of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day.



Ministry of Diaspora Affairs

Creating a common Jewish future

Combating Antisemitism Division