



הסוכנות היהודית
ללארץ ישראל
THE JEWISH AGENCY
FOR ISRAEL

ההסתדרות הציונית העולמית
WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION



ANTISEMITISM STATE OF AFFAIRS REPORT

Department of Combating Antisemitism and Enhancing Resilience

General Review and Situation Report | January 2023



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**DEPARTMENT OF COMBATING ANTISEMITISM
AND ENHANCING RESILIENCE**

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■ Introduction

What is Antisemitism? Antisemitism is not only spraying graffiti on synagogue walls and desecrating tombstones, as many believe. It is first and foremost directed toward Jews whoever and wherever they are.

In its modern version, antisemitism is a negation of the right of the Jewish state to exist and to be the homeland of the Jewish people. Antisemitism is currently expressed in the call for boycott on Israel and in degrading the Holocaust. An examination of these phenomena in the present report shows clearly that antisemitism has been expanded and it currently occupies a significant space in the global public sphere as well as on the web.

Antisemitism is an old term, yet it certainly still exists, intensifies, reflects and maintains the fierce hatred of Jews and of the state of Israel. The hatred of Jews and the incitement against the state of Israel exist regardless of the political, demographic and geographic unique reality of Israel. Sometimes, even mentioning Israel, Zionism or the Jewish religion ignites fierce hatred. The ongoing consequences of the global Covid 19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukraine war, during the last year, brought an antisemitic outburst in the public sphere and the social networks. Antisemitic and anti-Zionist organizations created a false connection between the war and Israel as well as disseminated the hatred of Israel by the use of demonic expressions. By Relying on freedom of speech these organizations took advantage of democratic values and spread fake news and propaganda against Israel and Jews all over the world. Such activities against Israel were done by using stigmas, Middle Ages style caricatures, and calls for boycott on Israel, including comparing the state of Israel to Nazi Germany.

Such phenomena constitute a slippery slope for incidents similar to those we witnessed in the previous century and must not be ignored. They require continuous involvement of relevant bodies both in the educational and in the legal realms, but also continuous diplomatic work.

THE STATE OF ISRAEL HAS FIRM JEWISH AND DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND SOCIAL RESILIENCE, AND IT WILL ALWAYS BE A HOMELAND FOR EVERY JEW

All over the world the Jewish communities deal on a daily basis with the challenges of the rising antisemitism. Life under threat is not simple and the Jews' resilience is measured by their joint efforts as a community against such challenges. The obligation of the Jewish community to safeguard its members does not diminish the obligation of the state of Israel to secure and protect the Jews in the diaspora.

History teaches us that political, economic and social crises were and will be catalysts for pointing a finger at Jews. It is easy today, as it has been in the past, to inflame the 'hungry' mob against the 'fat' Jew stereotype, and to turn him into an object of hatred. In spite of all that, we should not be pessimistic – we do have many successes – yet the way is still long and complicated.

The state of Israel has firm Jewish and democratic values and social resilience, and it will always be a homeland for every Jew.



SPECIAL THANKS

to the Chairman of the World Zionist Organization,
Mr. Yaacov Haguel,
the Chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel,
Major General (in reserve duty), Doron Almog
And to the Department of Combatting Antisemitism
and Enhancing Resilience team
who took part in preparing this report
With hope for a peaceful and healthy year in Israel and the diaspora.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raheli".

Raheli Baratz-Rix

The Head of the Department of Combatting Antisemitism and Enhancing Resilience, the World Zionist Organization, Joint Chairman of the Task Force for Combatting Antisemitism, the Jewish Agency for Israel

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■ Abstract

The antisemitism state of affairs for 2022 is based on data collected and monitored by the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency for Israel, as well as data from other public resources, including local and international reports, official bodies in different states, such as the local police, Jewish community organizations, research institutes and more. The report presents the main trends and the current state of global antisemitism in the world, in comparison to the previous year, as well as other analyses.

The definitions according to which an incident is categorized as antisemitic differ from one place to another and from one organization to another, and in spite of the efforts of the UN and IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance) to set a globally agreed-upon definition, there are still differences

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in definitions, and accordingly, differences in the number of reported antisemitic incidents. Such differences are sometimes significant since most incidents are picked up by the Jewish communities and mostly do not reach the local authorities and the security forces.

In addition, many incidents are not reported in real time, or are not reported at all, because sometimes the victims of such incidents need time to process what they were forced to go through. About **80% of the Jews** who were involved in such incidents, **did not report them to the authorities**. Thus, when we came to consider the data, we focused mainly on the trends revealed, both specifically in several chosen states, and globally.

It should be noted that the report deals only with antisemitic incidents which took place outside the borders of Israel.



Highlights of the Report

- In spite of the general decrease in the number of antisemitic incidents in the world, in 2022, **there are still more than ten reported incidents a day**. It should be noted that many incidents are not reported and so the actual total number of incidents is much higher.
- In 2022 there were 2 deaths of Jews in France which were related to antisemitism but are still under the examination of the authorities.
- There is an increase in the number of antisemitic incidents as well as in the media hype related to them in North America, in comparison to the previous year.
- In 2022 more propaganda incidents against Jews and less vandalism incidents were reported, a reversed trend to the trend seen in the previous year.
- The invasion of Russia to Ukraine, like the Covid 19 pandemic (war or pandemic events) served as a catalyst for the intensification of conspiracy theories against Jews and the state of Israel.



ALTHOUGH THE RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM AROUND THE WORLD HAS STOPPED, MORE THAN TEN SUCH INCIDENTS A DAY ARE STILL REPORTED

Additional Highlights

- Russia-Ukraine war. When the war broke out, there was an increase of propaganda incidents which included, among other things, conspiracy theories blaming the Jews of causing the war and of controlling the global economy. In the 2021 report, there was a decrease of antisemitic incidents in Russia. Yet, in 2022, a reversed trend was noted, that of an increase in antisemitic incidents and intensification of their nature against the Jewish community in Russia.
- The Russia-Ukraine war brought an increase in antisemitic incidents in countries bordering the war zone, including Poland and Romania.
- In Britain during the first half of the year there was a decrease in antisemitic incidents. In comparison to the previous year, it was a decrease of about 43%.
- In the U.S. there was an intensification of antisemitic incidents which were done by segments of the population, which were not previously identified as having a tendency for antisemitism.

Trend Changes

In 2022 **the increase in antisemitism incidents globally was halted** after their gradual increase during the last decade. Yet, the total number of incidents was still higher than that noted at the beginning of the decade and included physical violence against Jews in the public sphere.

In the political realm of struggle against antisemitism, an increase in the number of states and organizations which adopted the IHRA definition, was marked. Other states and organizations throughout the world acknowledged the BDS organization as an antisemitic organization and thus adopted rules that limited or forbade its activities as well of similar organizations which supported the boycott on Israel.

■ Antisemitism in Numbers and General Trends

Although in 2022 the increase in number of antisemitic incidents in most monitored states came to a halt, the numbers were still high in comparison to the last decade. According to the data gathered from all the reports, we can cautiously say that this year the number of antisemitic incidents in the world has been decreased, in comparison to 2021. Yet, it should be emphasized that the number of incidents is still very high and amounts to more than 10 reported incidents a day, while many of them include physical abuse and occur on the street. This year, unfortunately, there were several incidents in the world, in which Jews were murdered, on an antisemitic background. Although these cases are still under investigation, they constitute an escalation in comparison to the previous year, in which no Jew was murdered.

The passing year was characterized by two continuous and significant events which brought an increase in antisemitism: The first was the Russia-Ukraine war and

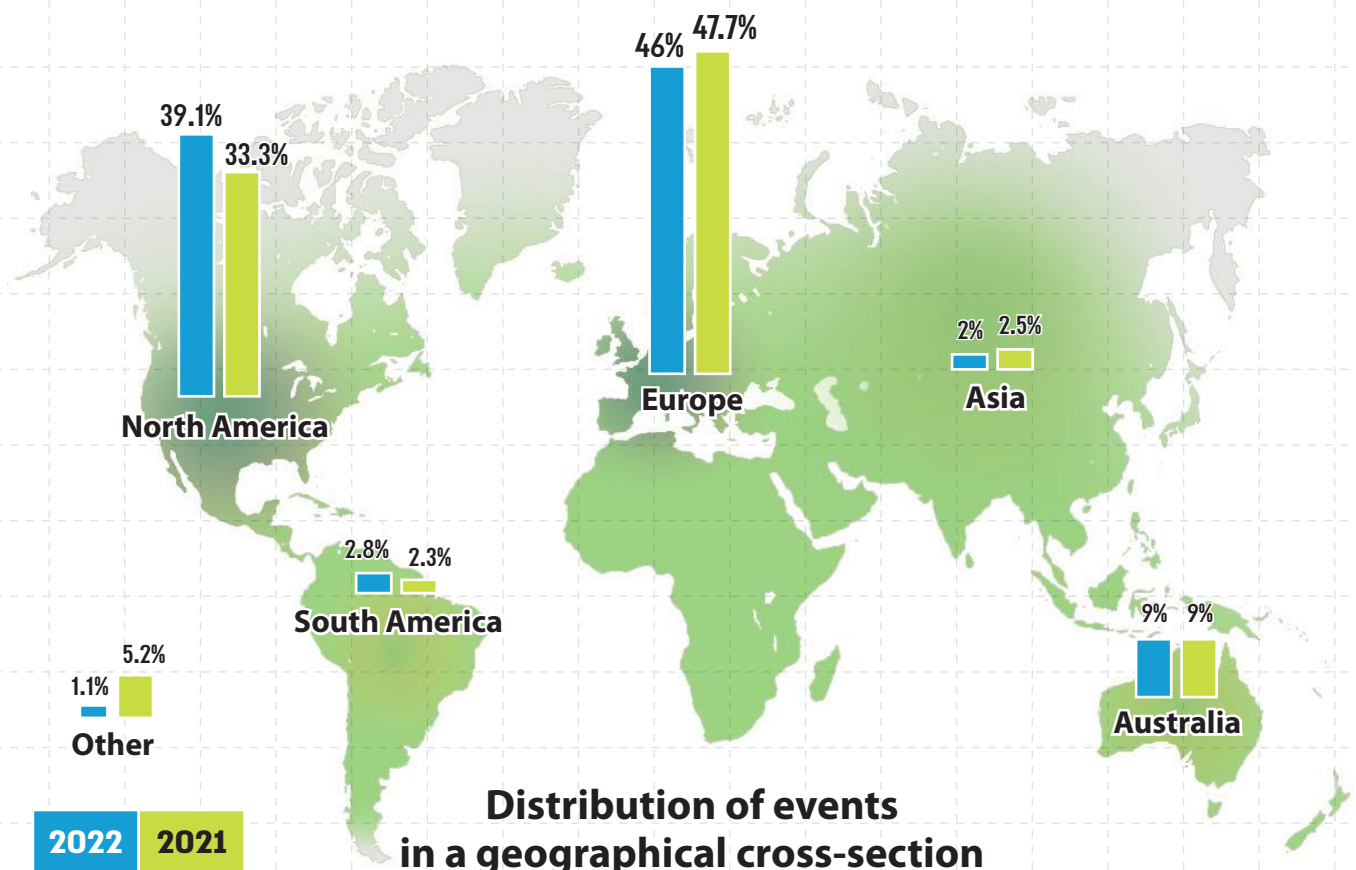
the second was the change which occurred among certain ethnic groups in regard to the U.S. Jews.

Stopping the spread of the Covid 19 pandemic contributed to the halt in spreading conspiracies about Jews.

Yet, such conspiracies were replaced by harsh criticism against Israel and by taking advantage of the FIFA World Cup in Qatar as an international sport event, to intensify the calls against the state of Israel.

Geographic Slicing

Antisemitism incidents occur all over the world. This year we have seen, for the first time, **an increase in reports of antisemitic incidents in North America, in comparison to Europe.** The rise in incidents can be explained by the rise in media reports and by the public atmosphere in the U.S. (to be elaborated later).



A note: the graphs presented in this chapter express a general trend and are based on incidents which were monitored and reported to the World Zionist Organization and were published in the global media.

During 2022 in North America including the U.S., a greater number of incidents was reported in comparison to previous years. Such an increase in reported incidents is apparent with regard to the global slicing. The slicing of the different states in the U.S. shows that the greatest number of incidents took place in New York, California, Florida, Texas, Massachusetts and Illinois, similar to the 2021 data.

Europe is still at the top of the list with the greatest number of antisemitic incidents on its territory. The leading states in terms of number of incidents are Germany, Britain, Italy, France, Ukraine, Hungary and Russia.

The Nature of Incidents

All incidents were divided into 6 categories: **physical violence, verbal violence, propaganda, demonstration, vandalism and de-legitimation of Israel.**

Physical violence included violent incidents including shooting, physical injury on the street, chasing Jews, Spitting on Jews, and more. Verbal violence included incidents like abusing behavior, cursing, sending letters of antisemitic nature to individuals and more. Propaganda incidents included sticking posters on the streets, distributing antisemitic brochures in building yards, bus stops and other public places, expressing antisemitic beliefs in the media or antisemitic posting on the social networks. Vandalism included incidents like desecration of cemeteries, memorial stones, antisemitic graffiti spraying on walls, setting fire to public buildings owned by Jews while they were not there, and more. De-legitimization included antisemitic incidents related directly to the state of Israel.

It can be seen that most of the incidents which took place throughout the world in 2022 were propaganda against Jews (39%), then, vandalism (28%), physical violence (14%) and verbal violence (11%). We believe that verbal violence was significantly underestimated.

Distribution of anti-Semitic events at 2022

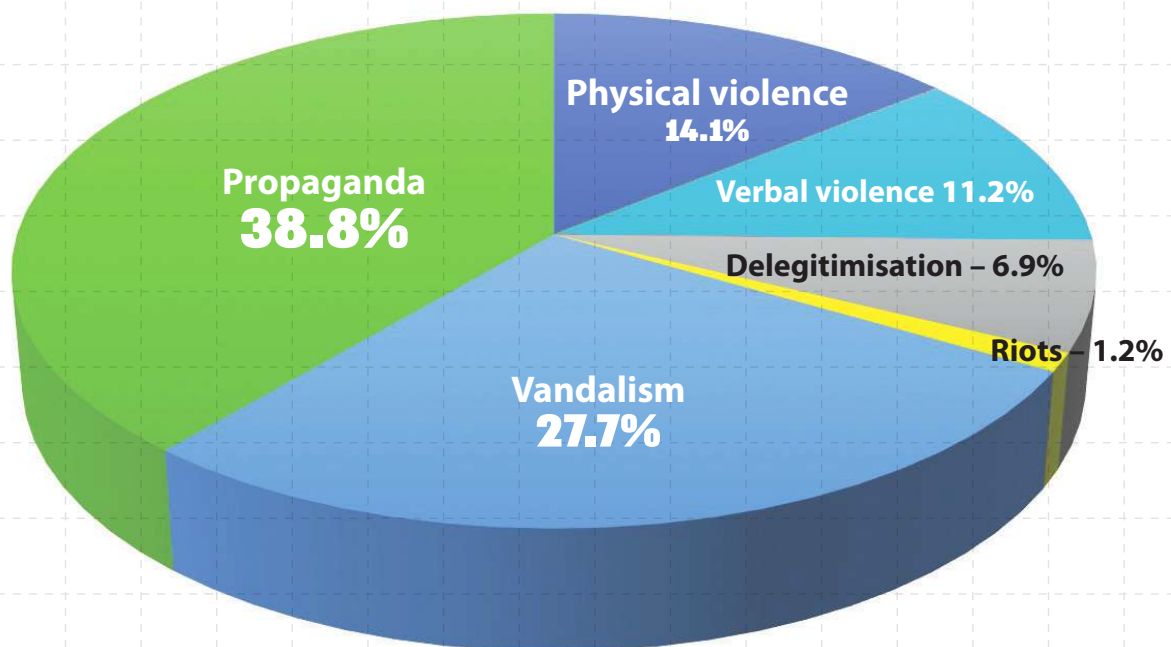
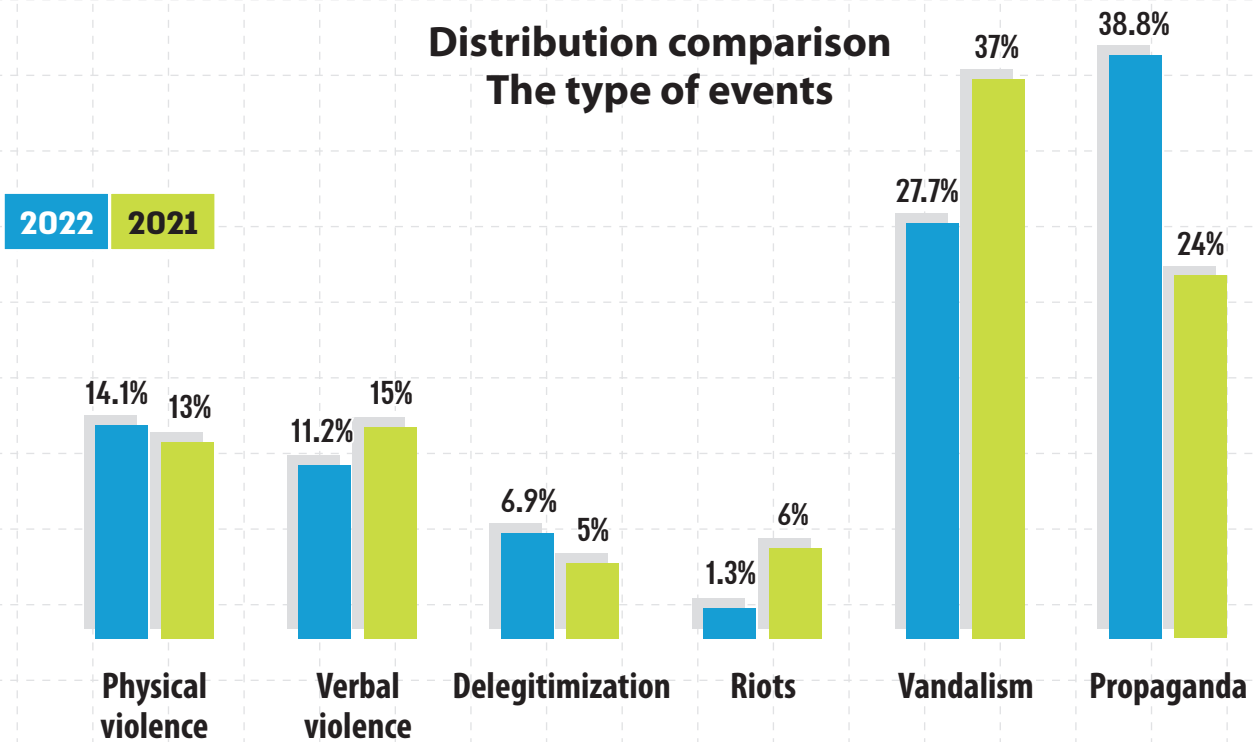




Image via @mrmeholson_/Twitter

Distribution comparison The type of events



The graph presents the changes that took place in types of antisemitism between 2021 and 2022. The significant decrease in demonstrations can be explained by the 'Shomer Homot' events which took place in May 2021 all over Europe. The propaganda during last year was mainly directed against Israel and less directed against Jews.

A general note: The annual reports of the different organizations throughout the world have not been updated yet, and thus the total number of antisemitic incidents is expected to be greater. Yet, it seemed that the same trends were maintained in all the reports which were published so far.

■ The Twenty Most Salient Antisemitism Incidents in 2022

This list was composed of the list of the Ten Most Salient Incidents, published by the Wiesenthal Center¹ as well as of significant incidents which were published during the last year.



1. France – The murder of Eyal Hadad of blessed memory

Eyal Hadad was murdered by his Muslim partner. The killer's admission of his antisemitic motives caused a commotion in the Jewish community in France who claimed that the authorities concealed the real motives of the killer.



2. France – Jeremy Cohen of blessed memory

A young Jew was attacked and bitten by an antisemitic gang. Cohen managed to escape from his attackers, yet a few meters from the attack place, he was hit by an electric tram and was killed on the spot. As a result of the documentation of his attack on the social networks, there was a commotion in France in which claims were raised against the cover-up of the authorities that suggested that he had been run over by the tram and killed.



3. U.S. – Taking hostages in a synagogue in Texas

Malik Faisal Akram has entrenched himself with four hostages in a synagogue in Colleyville on Saturday. 10 hours later the Rabbi and the three worshippers were released by the security forces in the area.



4. Germany – Attacks on Jews in the public sphere:

- Molotov cocktail was thrown on a synagogue in Buchum;
- Shooting toward the Rabbi's house in Essen – 4 shoots were shot in the direction of the house of the community Rabbi in Essen;
- A Rabbi and his son were attacked during a train ride in Berlin.



5. U.S. – Physical violence in New York:

- Jason Kish, a resident of Staten Island, was accused of air gun shooting toward an ultra-orthodox man and his son in front of a grocery in Staten Island;
- A stranger attacked a 63 year old Jew and shouted 'Kanye West 2024'.



6. Britain – An attack of 3 Jews in one day

Abdalla Korshi attacked three individuals in one day: a 14 year old child on his way to school, a 64 year old man on his way to the synagogue and a teacher. According to Korshi's claim, it was a coincidence that all 3 victims had a Jewish appearance.

1. <https://www.wiesenthal.com/assets/pdf/2022-top-ten-worst-global.pdf>



7. U.S. – Kanye West’s harsh antisemitic utterances

The American rapper took advantage this year of his influence on the social networks and expressed himself in a variety of utterances against Jews and disrespect to the Holocaust. *“Jews, forgive Hitler... The Jews Holocaust is not the only Holocaust... Jews should work for Christians... You cannot force your pain upon everyone... Jews can control the narrative. History is written by the winners... Jews were among the initiators of slavery and took advantage of Blacks”*.



West’s vast influence as a celeb with many followers has had consequences such as hanging signs supporting West’s utterances on a highway bridge in Los Angeles and selling shirts with swastika after West’s declaration of his running for presidency.



8. Sweden – Projecting the words ‘The Holocaust was a Fraud’ on buildings in Malmo

during an international forum for combatting antisemitism. Among such buildings was the main synagogue of the city. The Nordic Resistance Movement took responsibility for the deeds.



9. Britain – Verbal assaults of Jews:

- **An assault of a 13 year old girl on the bus** – A man has pointed toward a girl on the bus, as if holding a pistol and said ‘I’m Adolf Hitler and I will kill the Jews’.
- **An assault of a mother and her daughter in London** – A man verbally assaulted a Jewish woman and her 14 year old girl.
- **An assault in Stamford Hill** – A girl was assaulted by a stranger who followed her and shouted ‘dirty Jew’ while grabbing her shopping bag and throwing it on the pavement.



10. Germany – Antisemitic art at Documenta Exhibition

Works of art of an antisemitic nature were presented at the International Art Exhibition in Germany, the most important art event in the world. Among others, one work of art depicted the Jews as satanic creatures and SS soldiers and Israeli soldiers as Mossad Agents pigs.



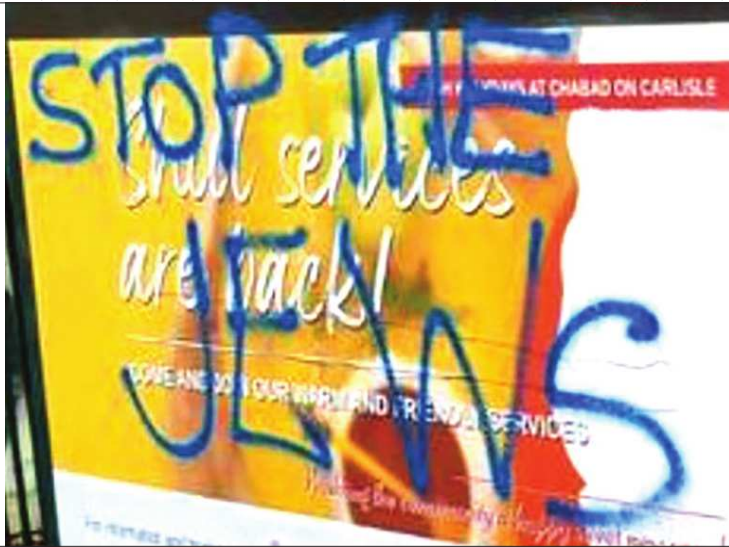
11. The Palestinian Authority – Abu Mazen’s speech in Berlin

In August, the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmud Abas (Abu Mazen) gave a speech in a press conference, in the presence of Chancellor of Germany. His speech caused a commotion after claiming that Israel has committed ‘50 Holocausts’.



12. Japan – The Chairman of NHK party, Kurokawa Atsuhiko presented conspiracy theories against Jews & their bad influence upon the U.S.

He claimed that the educational system in Israel was designed to raise spies and blamed Ben Gurion for cooperating with the Nazis and having ‘a secret agreement’ with Adolf Eichmann.



 **13. Italy – The Lawyer Francesca Albanese compared Israel to Nazi Germany**

 **14. U.S. – Calls for boycott in universities:**

- **Harvard** – During February, posters of the student organization 'Hillel' were torn off the walls and destroyed in the university.
- **Barkley** – During August there has been a modification of the Law School Articles of Association so that pro-Israeli activities in campus have been banned.

 **15. Australia – Calls for academic boycott on Israel**

The student organization of Malborne University (UMSU) voted for a decision of boycott on Israel. The decision blamed Israel for committing apartheid crimes and continuous ethnic purging of Palestinians, and the student organization declared its support for an academic boycott on Israel and called the university to sever its relationship with Israeli academic institutions, researchers and academics.

 **16. Sweden – Dreyfus affair 2022**

A Jewish doctor was laid off from a hospital on the background of his religion, after complaining that he was harassed by his colleagues on an antisemitic background.

 **17. Hungary – Antisemitic calls were heard in the train announcement system**

'The streets will be flooded with bodies of Jewish babies' were the words heard in the train announcement system in Budapest.

 **18. Ukraine & Poland – Heavenly Jerusalem**

According to this common conspiracy of 'Heavenly Jerusalem' Jews residing in Israel are planning to move to East Hungary and are responsible for the war between Russia and Ukraine.

 **19. Canada – Disrespect of the Holocaust in a protest against Covid 19 vaccination**

Ottawa citizens who objected to Covid 19 vaccination demonstrated and compared the requirement to be vaccinated to the Holocaust while using Nazi symbols and swastika.

 **20. Boycott on Israel and on Israeli sportsmen**

In several instances this year sportsmen from Arab countries refused to compete against Israeli sportsmen. Among such incidents was the world championship in taekwondo, tennis competition in the Emirates, and more.



■ Major trends in Antisemitism



The United States

During the last year there has been a decrease in the number of hate crimes against Jews all over the world, yet in the U.S. we witnessed a disturbing increase of antisemitic incidents. The Russian invasion to Ukraine and the campaign related to the Covid 19 pandemic were accompanied by antisemitism expressions, besides some exceptional incidents such as utterances against Jews by figures from the culture world and sports, such as Kanye West.

In addition, the Mid-Term Elections for the American Congress which took place this year, served as a fertile soil for dissemination of hatred and antisemitism.

Disturbing continuous trends were the strengthening of the White Supremacy organizations and the increase in antisemitic utterances on behalf of the American Progressive Left.

The discourse of radical progressive groups against the state of Israel and Zionism has been intensified and the progressive left supporters described Israel as a colonial state governed by the oppressive 'white man'.

These antisemitism trends permeated the whole spectrum of political stances in the U.S.: the more the American internal social discourse became more radical, the scope of remarks and hate activities toward Jews has been expanded.

According to the data of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and Stand With Us organization, during 2022 there were more than 350 antisemitic incidents on campuses in the U.S.²

The rise in antisemitism incidents in the U.S. **has led the American administration to act vigorously and lately, the White House has announced³**

2. <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/americas/1665726252-adl-over-350-anti-jew-incidents-on-us-campuses-in-2021-22>.

3. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/12/12/statement-from-white-house-press-secretary-karine-jean-pierre-on-inter-agency-group-to-counter-antisemitism/>.

the formation of a special team designated for formulating a strategy for the struggle against antisemitism. Yet, it seems that many of North America Jews are sceptic regarding the ability of the establishment to act against antisemitism, and thus are trying to deal with the phenomenon by themselves. Media reports reveal that many Jewish communities in North America intensified the security around themselves and allocated great resources for that cause.⁴

During the year a decrease was noted in violence incidents of White Supremacy organizations against Jews and in terror incidents against Jews, yet the Jews in the U.S. continue to suffer from many violence incidents. Between 2020 and 2021 there has been a rise of 61% in violence acts or in planned violent acts against Jewish institutes (e.g., synagogues). According to a report of NYPD, in November 2022, in comparison to November 2021, there was an increase of about 125% in hate crimes against Jews in the state of New York.⁵ A similar trend is seen in the CSHE (The Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism) report, according to which there was a rise of 5% in hate crimes against Jews in the U.S., while in main cities such as Chicago, New York and Los Angeles there was a rise of about 20% in such crimes, during the first half of 2022 alone.⁶

It should be noted that during the year many Jews in the U.S. were harassed⁷ by getting letters containing antisemitic contents. Jewish residents in Jacksonville (Florida), for example, were astonished to find in their mailbox antisemitic letters and brochures with neo-Nazi characteristics, which were sent by White Supremacy organizations.

4. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/article-721044>.

5. <https://nypost.com/2022/12/06/anti-semitic-hate-crimes-in-nyc-soared-125-in-november/>.
<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoieYjg1NWl3YjgtYzkzOS-00Nzc0LTkwMDAtNTgzM2l2M2JmYWWE1liwidCl6lji0WY1N2V-iLTc4ZDEtNDZmYi1iZTgzLWEyYWZkZDdjNjA0MyJ9>.

6. <https://www.csusb.edu/sites/default/files/2022-08/Report%20To%20The%20Nation8-4-22.pdf>.

7. [https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-714851\(16.8.2022\)](https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-714851(16.8.2022)).

In the American business world, a significant number of employers have expressed negative attitudes toward Jews. A national survey among human resources managers showed that about one quarter of the respondents who were in charge of recruiting employees said that they were not interested in hiring Jewish employees. 23% of them said that they wished that less Jews were employed in their industry, while 17% said that the management asked them to avoid recruiting Jews. The reasons given were concerns regarding 'Jews' power and control' (38% of respondents), their exaggerated wealth, the fact that they saw themselves as the chosen people, their greediness, their being an inferior race, their being oppressive, less skilled and the murderers of Jesus. While 56% of the human resources managers said they could tell that the candidates were Jewish since they mentioned it themselves, 33% said that they were able to tell according to the candidates' second names, and 26% said they identified the Jews according to their looks. Other managers said they identified Jew candidates according to their 'voice', 'manners', or because they were 'very frugal'⁸.

Many media storms centered around antisemitic remarks of famous musicians and sportsmen. The utterances of the rapper Kanye West and the basketball player Kyrie Irving, served as a fertile soil for encouraging antisemitism and violence against Jews. A further discussion of this topic can be found in Appendix A.

Another factor which adversely affected the antisemitism in the U.S., as mentioned before, was the **Mid-Term Elections for Congress**, which took place this year.

Elections are a fertile soil for conspirations and antisemitic campaigns. The data of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) show that during this period, the antisemitic twittering rose significantly⁹. Some of the political left candidates expressed attitudes with antisemitic and anti-Israeli hue. Some hinted to the effect of U.S. Jews' power and money on the American administration and claimed that U.S. Jews were over-affected by Zionist organizations, while expressing contempt to U.S. Jews' Zionist views

8. <https://www.jns.org/a-quarter-of-us-hiring-managers-discriminate-against-jews-survey-shows/>

9. <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/31/politics/misinformation-mid-terms-antisemitism-what-matters/index.html>.



and their affinity to the state of Israel. Still others identified Israel with White Supremacy or negated the legitimacy of the state of Israel and its right to exist as a Jewish state. A few candidates of small left parties or activist groups expressed even more radical views. They blamed Israel for committing genocide or expressed their support for an armed conflict against it.

It should be noted that the attitude of the American left parties toward Israel is not uniform.

Some of the candidates of left movements expressed justified criticism against the policy of Israel, while others expressed critical attitudes, believing that such attitudes were compatible with their criticism of other states which violate, to their opinion, human rights. Less radical candidates condemned antisemitic attacks and apologized when the Jewish community criticized their rhetoric. In many cases, left movement candidates express antisemitic attitudes only in a few twittering on the social networks, but even if they expressed such antisemitic sayings only seldom, the mere fact of their presence in the media caused harm to the U.S. Jews. The utterances of politicians, as aforesaid, are added to a long line of antisemitic and anti-Israeli expressions.

The antisemitic and hostile attitudes toward Israel, expressed during the Mid-Term Elections for the congress, were part of a broader trend of progressive discourse intensification, which was based on 'politics of identities', that depicted Jews as a 'privileged group' which suppressed other population groups.

According to such view, Jews constitute a privileged group due to their white skin and their social and economic power, and they use their power to suppress minority groups. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict, thus, is interpreted through prisms of American racial dynamic according to which Israel is depicted as 'apartheid state' and a Jewish support of Israel is interpreted as cooperation with a racial state. A survey made in 2022 by Pew Research Center¹⁰ confirmed the abovementioned trend and showed that 55% of the U.S. citizens sympathized with the state of Israel and 67% of them sympathized with Israeli citizens. Yet, when slicing the data according to political stances, a clear decrease in sympathy was found among Democrat voters, so that 53% of them sympathized with the state of Israel, in comparison with only 27% of the Republican voters.

BDS 2022

The Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement (BDS) against Israel keeps drawing support in American universities and colleges. Yet, it had several failures this year, which may be an encouraging sign for success of the struggle against it.¹¹ The failures of the BDS movement are apparent in the business, legal, social and cultural realms.

In the business-commercial realm, we can point to two salient instances. The first was Ben and Jerry's' change of mind regarding its decision to stop the supply of its products in Israel and the West Bank. The second was that the shareholders of the mother company of Google, Alphabet, voted against the suggestion to postpone the work of Google on Nimbus project in Israel, and thus confirmed the continuation of the important initiative designated to supply advanced technological services ("public cloud") to the Israeli government.

In the legal realm, the struggle against the BDS activity has been expanded. The House of Representatives of the state of Virginia has published a condemnation against BDS and against the call for sanctions against Israel¹²; and Tennessee and Ohio states legislated national laws against the activity of the organization. In Ohio for example, a law which obliged businesses to declare that they do not intend to boycott Israel as a condition for doing business with the state, has been ratified. The law, which was passed in 2016 was ratified during the last year. In addition, a federal court in Arkansas (8th Circuit) passed a law that forbade organizing for the purpose of boycott on Israel, in spite of a petition submitted on behalf of contractors in the state against the law. That was the first time a federal court in the U.S. overrode a petition with the claim that the BDS and its activities limited the freedom of speech, anchored in the first amendment of the U.S. constitution.

In the social realm, elected officials and community leaders from all political parties condemned an initiative of the BDS supporters who created a map that marked organizations and institutions in Massachusetts which were allegedly responsible for harming Palestinians. More than 30 American legislators called for a federal legislation in this regard and the FBI said that it would examine the website in which the map was presented.

In the cultural realm, the BDS had several failures in the musical field. The movement representatives called musicians and artists to avoid performing in Israel, and during the last years had several successes in affecting musicians' decisions to cancel their performances in Israel. This year Big Thief cancelled its performance in Israel due to such political pressures.

In spite of the call for boycott on Israel in the realm of music performances, some musicians did arrive to Israel during the last year. In May the American Pop-Rock band Maroon 5 gave a performance in Tel Aviv in front of about 50,000 people. Publishing the intention of the band to arrive to Israel caused a commotion among the boycott movement supporters and led to a counter-campaign which called the band not to perform in an 'apartheid state'.¹³ Yet the band

10. <https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2022/07/11/american-views-of-israel/>.

11. <https://www.ajc.org/news/five-2022-failures-of-the-bds-movement>

12. <https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2022/07/11/american-views-of-israel/>.

13. <https://www.ajc.org/news/five-2022-failures-of-the-bds-movement>



members did not submit to the pressures and enjoyed a successful performance in Ha'yarkon Park. During the show, the lead singer, Adam Levin held the Israeli flag on stage and expressed his sympathy to the state: "I haven't been in Tel Aviv and Israel, and I must tell you – this place is amazing. We were received with open arms [...] this is a dream come true for us!"¹⁴

The BDS Activity in U.S. Campuses¹⁵

The BDS keeps expanding its activity in the academic realm: During the year, an increase was noted in the number of verbal and physical violence incidents on campuses all over the US, as well as of incitement, hate and humiliation activities against Jewish students and Jewish institutions.

At Illinois university, for example, Jewish students were attacked during a demonstration of SJP organization (Students for Justice in Palestine) against the activities of the IDF. During the demonstration, which took place on April 18, the demonstrators threw stones on Jewish students. No casualties or damage to property were reported and the stone throwers were accused of committing hate crime.¹⁶ Such violence was indeed exceptional, but during the

year there were many cases of verbal violence and vandalism against individuals or organizations related to the Jewish world and the state of Israel.

According to the AJC organization data, during 2021-2022 academic year there were 11 cases of vandalism related to Israel, including damaging of pro-Israeli signs and their replacement with pro-Palestinian ones. The most salient case was damaging the symbol of the Jewish student organization Hillel.¹⁷ According to the data of the organization, during 2021-2022 19 cases were reported in which student supporters of BDS harassed individuals or small groups of Jews / Zionists or Pro-Israelis while using hatred and humiliation expressions.¹⁸

According to the October 2021 survey made by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the global Hillel organization, one out of three Jewish students in the U.S. attested that he / she experienced antisemitism during the academic year, and almost 80% of these students experienced such attitude more than once. This trend escalated during 2022. According to the Annual Campuses Report of the ADL, during 2021-2022 there were more than 350 antisemitic incidents in the U.S. campuses. Many Jewish students all over the U.S. reported that they were excluded from

14. <https://www.ynet.co.il/entertainment/article/bygn9uil9>

15. <https://www.adl.org/resources/report/anti-israel-activism-us-campuses-2021-2022>

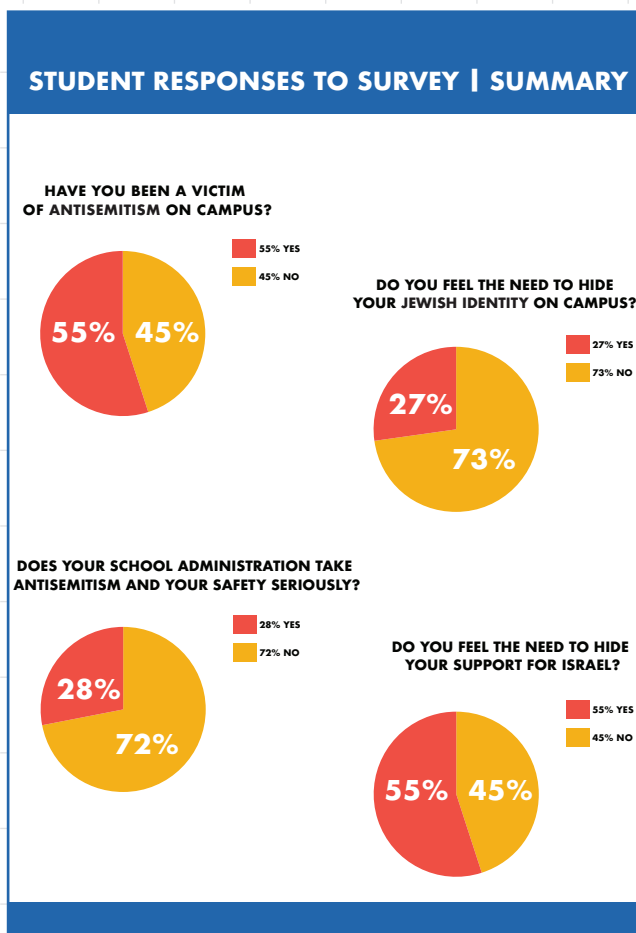
16. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-709333>

17. <https://www.ajc.org/news/five-2022-failures-of-the-bds-movement>

18. <https://www.adl.org/resources/report/anti-israel-activism-us-campuses-2021-2022>

student organizations, assaulted on social networks and suffered harassment during classes, by students and instructors alike. Such assaults and harassments, according to these students' reports, took their toll in terms of emotional wellbeing, adversely affected their academic achievements and brought anxiety and feelings of loneliness. As a consequence, many Jewish students felt insecure at campus and were forced to hide their Jewish identity or their support of Israel.¹⁹

Following are data of a survey made among students all over the US:



Data are taken from: Stop Antisemitism U.S. Campus Report²⁰

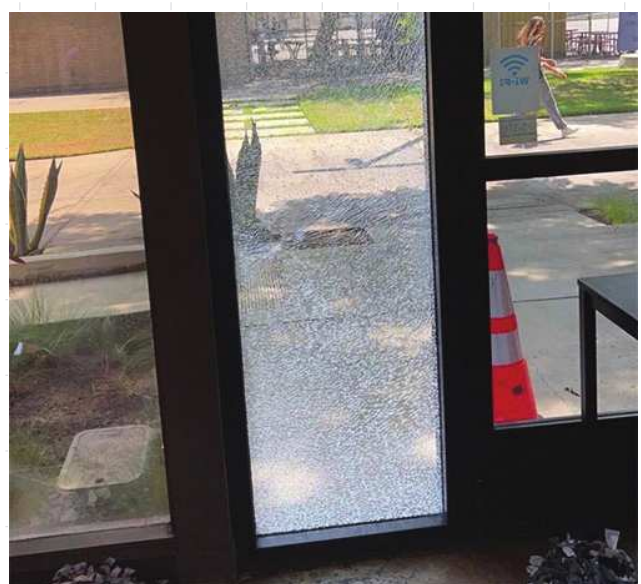
19. <https://www.zman.co.il/348217/popup/>
 20. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5cc20f51ca525b73bdd50e3a/t/6329e329e09c3b4b18017de6/1663689517936/2022+Antisemitism+on+U.S.+Campuses+report.pdf>



HARVARD UNIVERSITY
 Palestinian protestors shouting antisemitic falsities during the first day school



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON
 Antisemitic messages written in chalk on school sidewalks on the first day of school



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
 The Hillel building was vandalized on the first day of school

The most common anti-Israeli activity in the American campuses is demonstrations against Israel and Zionism. During 2022 there were about 165 demonstrations and activities in universities and colleges all over the U.S., which were initiated by students and / or faculty members. Some of the protests were 'typical' demonstrations within the campus, in which anti-Israeli and anti-Zionist pamphlets were distributed, and some of them included much severe phenomena such as harassing students and speakers with Zionist attitudes, or disruption of pro-Israeli events. Other initiatives included presentations of 'Apartheid Walls' in which the demonstrators placed 'walls' which allegedly represented the Israeli security territories along the green line and inside the West bank. SJP branches and other groups established 17 such walls in different universities, including prestigious ones such as Boston University, Minnesota University and Harvard University.²¹

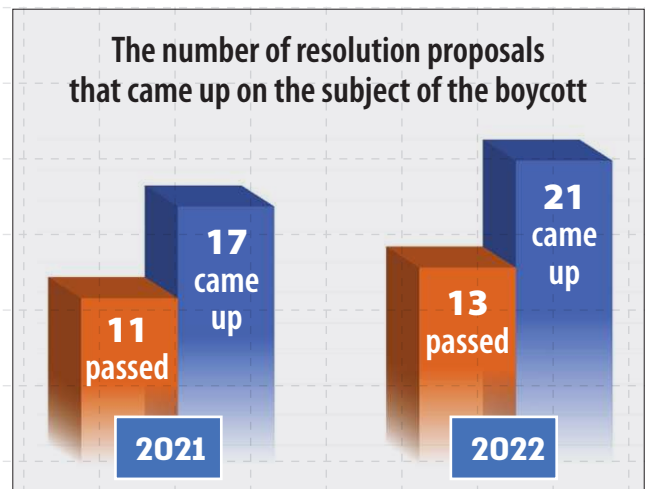
In many instances, the anti-Israeli activities on campuses developed to antisemitic incidents. In Barkley University in California, the student organization Justice in Palestine (LSJP) announced a comprehensive boycott on anyone who expressed a sympathy for Israel or Zionism. 8 student organizations in the Faculty of Law in Barkley University adopted the decision and forbade the expression of support of Israel or Zionism. The boycott initiators obliged all student organizations which adopted it to hold guidance meetings at the university called 'Palestine 101' and students were



21. <https://www.adl.org/resources/report/anti-israel-activism-us-campuses-2021-2022>

invited to a special event on 'Palestine 101 Training'.²²

The influence of BDS movement is seen also in the academic activities of the higher education institutions in the U.S.: Many universities and colleges hold conventions and online seminars of an anti-Israeli nature, panels with speakers who negate the legitimacy of the state of Israel and propagate hostile messages, and events which encourage students to join the boycott on Israel movement and to support it, such as the '101 BDS' convention mentioned above, which took place in Yale University (Connecticut).²³



The growing activity of the BDS movement raises concerns, yet surveys made among American students depicted a more optimistic picture. In a study made lately by the Department of State among students in the U.S. about 50% of the participants reported a sympathy toward Israel, in comparison with 36% who didn't feel such sympathy. It was also found in that study that 48% of all American students saw Israel as an asset for the U.S. in comparison to 24% who didn't think so. Yet, the sympathy stands in contrast to the growing presence of the BDS movement on campuses. According to the abovementioned study, one of two students (49%) was exposed to calls for boycott on Israel and 56% of them supported such calls. It should be noted that the attitude toward Israel was more positive among students who identified with the Republican Party and conservative values, and among students who were older than 30, data which are compatible with the trends seen among the general population in the U.S.

22. <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/event/palestine-101-training/>.

23. <https://stayhappening.com/e/palestine-andamp-bds-101-E3LUX-EK1KJRH>



Canada

There were several salient antisemitic incidents in Canada during the last year, yet there were also many achievements in the struggle against antisemitism.

A salient example for an antisemitic incident occurred on January 31. A demonstration of truck drivers took place in Ottawa due to the vaccination requirement. The demonstration which included flags with swastikas and comparisons to the Holocaust was known as the 'freedom demonstration'. On February 7 the confederation flags with swastika were presented.



ON MARCH 11, THE FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE OF CANADA, PROF. IRWIN COTLER, FOUND HIMSELF ACCUSED OF 'ANTI-PALESTINIAN RACISM' BY SOME FACULTY MEMBERS, FOLLOWING A SPEECH ON THE THEME OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS HE GAVE AT TORONTO UNIVERSITY ON THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST DAY.

On March 11, the former Minister of Justice of Canada, prof. Irwin Cotler²⁴, found himself accused of 'anti-Palestinian racism' by some faculty members, following a speech on the theme of equality of rights he gave at Toronto University on the International Holocaust Day. Cotler's speech on January 26 raised complaints on behalf of 45 faculty members of Toronto University who claimed that he 'strengthened the anti-Palestinian racism in a way which was in line with a wider pattern of silencing and erasing Palestinian voices'. In a reply to the complaints against Cotler, more than 300 faculty members of Toronto University have signed an open letter which was meant to 'draw attention to the lies, the twisted logic and the antisemitic rhetoric included in the letter sent by the other faculty members'.

A Canadian parliament member (Joel Harden of the left-wing party NDP) had to apologize for blaming

Israel in violence in the Middle East and for blaming his Jewish neighbors for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The things were said in an interview to Ottawa Forum on Israel-Palestine. Harden's party members threatened him with sanctions unless he would apologize. He published an apology and promised to 'be aided by Jewish customs in order to better understand what antisemitism meant'.²⁵

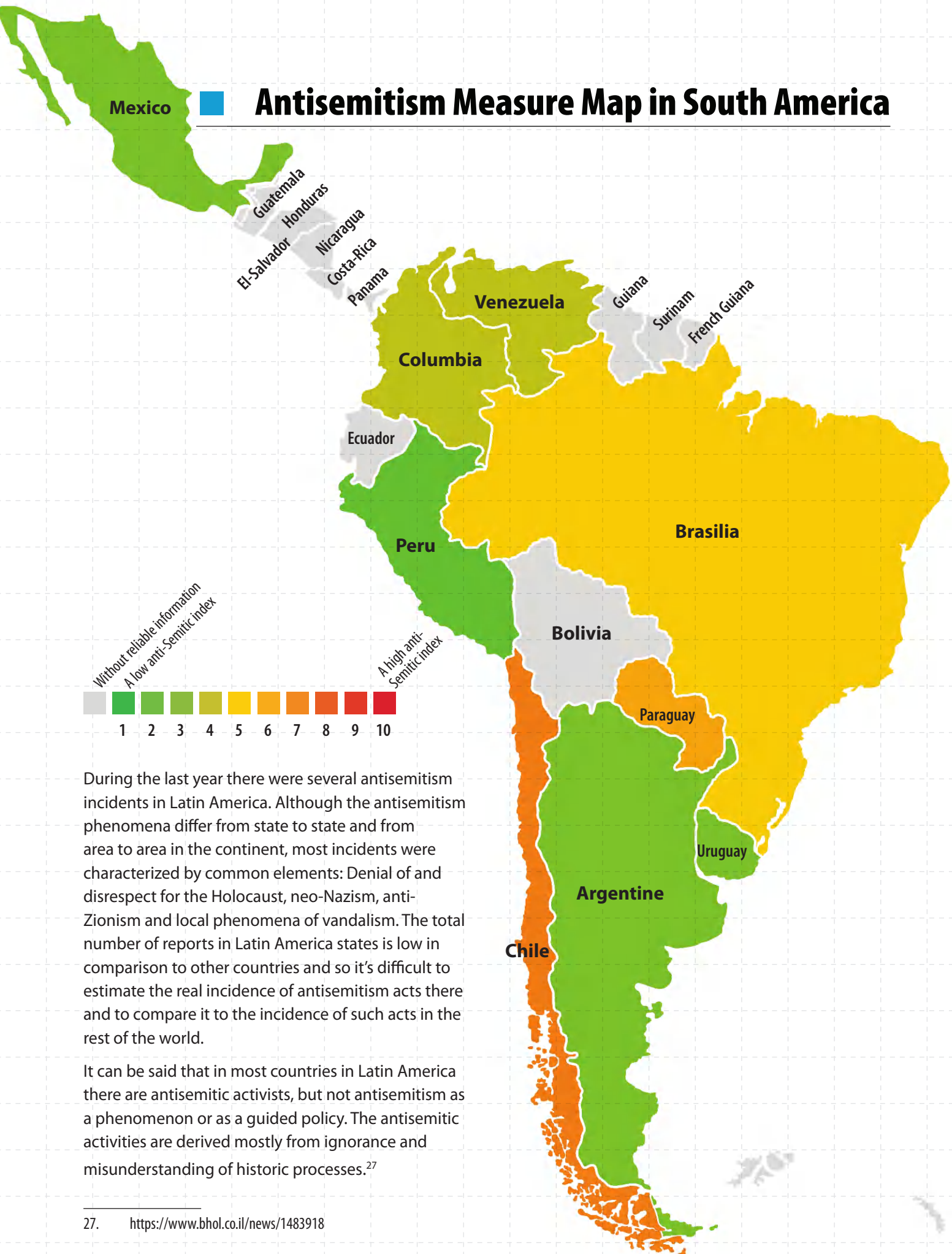
On the success side, it should be noted that on April 8 a law was

passed according to which denial of the Holocaust is an offence. At the end of August, Leith Maruf, a political advisor who incited against Israel has been laid off. Maruf was hired as a senior advisor by the Community Media Advocacy Center (CMAC) of Trudeau administration. He received a fee for having seminars on racism in the media, prior to the revelation that he posted tens of racist and antisemitic twittering. Jonathan Key from 'Quilt' exposed Maruf's twittering and several days afterwards, the federal government stopped its financing, suspended the project and criticized Maruf's twittering which were related to supporters of Jewish white supremacy, and which named the former federal minister of Justice, Irvin Cotler 'the great magician of Zionism'.²⁶

24. https://www.thesuburban.com/news/city_news/cotler-bnai-brith-condemn-fed-funded-antisemitic-seminars/article_87037a4b-6934-5874-b6b1-4bbc6cf4f0d6.html

25. Ottawa Politician Apologizes for Demonizing Israel | Jewish & Israel News Algemeiner.com

26. https://www.thesuburban.com/news/city_news/cotler-bnai-brith-condemn-fed-funded-antisemitic-seminars/article_87037a4b-6934-5874-b6b1-4bbc6cf4f0d6.html



During the last year there were several antisemitism incidents in Latin America. Although the antisemitism phenomena differ from state to state and from area to area in the continent, most incidents were characterized by common elements: Denial of and disrespect for the Holocaust, neo-Nazism, anti-Zionism and local phenomena of vandalism. The total number of reports in Latin America states is low in comparison to other countries and so it's difficult to estimate the real incidence of antisemitism acts there and to compare it to the incidence of such acts in the rest of the world.

It can be said that in most countries in Latin America there are antisemitic activists, but not antisemitism as a phenomenon or as a guided policy. The antisemitic activities are derived mostly from ignorance and misunderstanding of historic processes.²⁷

27. <https://www.bhol.co.il/news/1483918>



Argentina

During the last year several antisemitism incidents took place in Argentina, most of which were vandalism acts. At the beginning of the year several incidents took place at Buenos Aires: a threatening graffiti was sprayed in the vicinity of a synagogue²⁸; hundreds of copper tablets were stolen from tombstones in the Jewish cemetery in town²⁹; and the AMIA representatives, the main Jewish organization in Argentina, were surprised to find out that the memorial monument for a terror act, has been stolen.³⁰ A statue for memorialization of Anna Frank was stolen. Later on, that year³¹, Jewish cemeteries were sprayed in Rosario³², and antisemitic and neo-Nazi graffiti were sprayed in different places in Argentina: in a train station in Buenos Aires³³, in a synagogue in Santa Fe³⁴ and in a private house in Salta³⁵.

The intensification of antisemitism and anti-Zionism in Argentina was expressed also in the political arena. During June, the politician Alejandro Buderate said difficult things against the Jews and the Zionists on the social networks.³⁶ The second vice president

condemned his utterances, expressed his support of Israel and asked a roof organization of the Jewish communities in Argentina (DAIA) to examine the antisemitic utterances of the politician.³⁷

A clear expression of antisemitism in the Argentinian politics was noted when the president, Alberto Fernandez, compared the number of deaths from Covid 19 to the number of deaths during the Holocaust.³⁸ His utterances were condemned globally, and many expressed their disgust with them. Bnei Brit organization, for example, published a statement according to which comparing the Covid 19 pandemic to the Holocaust was unacceptable and showed disrespect for the victims of the Holocaust.

In September 22nd³⁹ the roof organization of the Jewish communities in Argentina (DAIA) published the Annual Antisemitism Report of Argentina for 2021, which showed the strengthening of antisemitism in the country. Although the numbers of antisemitic incidents grew by 3 per cent only in comparison to 2020, the incidents became more severe in nature. In addition, the report stated the high frequency of antisemitic expressions on the digital media in Argentina: 76% of all complaints against antisemitism were related to web and social networks incidents.

28. <https://www.canal26.com/general/ataque-con-pintadas-frente-a-templo-y-centro-educativo-de-la-comunidad-judia-en-el-barrio-de-once--313407>
29. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/judaism/judaism-news/article/6901350>
30. <https://www.notaalpie.com.ar/2022/01/11/memoria-activa-denuncio-la-vandalizacion-de-un-monumento-a-las-victimas-del-atentado-a-la-amia/>
31. https://www.jta.org/2022/03/04/global/vandals-steal-anne-frank-statue-in-buenos-aires?utm_campaign=sprout&utm_medium=jtasocial&utm_source=facebook&fbclid=IwAROV0Kh2ihgc7_oNdtjQOBiqLKC6CrUVDjOtD-CV24DEDRMkKJKfWS7v3S4
32. https://visavis.com.ar/2022/02/01/un-nuevo-golpe-al-cementerio-nuevo-de-rosario/?utm_source=FACEBOOK&utm_medium=POSTEO_REDES&utm_campaign=1022022&fbclid=IwAR1tuLpMAdSk0xHpc-HuU3XxktnAjDtd-gtz9Tbb3cc3UEpZQ1D_YSZrovs
33. <https://identidades.com.ar/tras-la-gestion-de-la-daia-el-municipio-de-lomas-de-zamora-se-encargo-de-tapar-la-repudiable-pintada-hitler-es-dios/>
34. https://visavis.com.ar/2022/10/13/pintaron-una-cruz-esvastica-en-la-puerta-del-templo-judio-de-santa-fe/?utm_source=FACEBOOK&utm_medium=POSTEO_REDES&utm_campaign=13102022
35. <https://www.tribuno.com/salta/nota/2022-10-31-21-25-0-la-municipalidad-borro-nuevas-pintadas-antisemitas-en-macrocentro-de-la-ciudad>
36. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-708565>



Brazil

Anthropologies in Brazil express their concern regarding the rise of neo-Nazi groups in the country. According to a study which was published in January 2022, there were about 530 active neo-Nazi groups, with about 10,000 members (out of a population of more than 200 million residents). The results show an increase of such groups between January 2019 and May 2021, so that their number has increased by 270, which is a rise of 6%.⁴⁰

During the last year, there were several incidents in Brazil which were related to disrespect of the

37. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-715633>
38. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChtFD3Kb42c>
39. <https://www.infobae.com/sociedad/2022/09/14/informe-de-la-daia-sobre-antisemitismo-en-argentina-preocupa-el-crecimiento-de-grupos-neonazis/>
40. https://g1-globo-com.translate.goog/fantastico/noticia/2022/01/16/grupos-neonazistas-crescem-270percent-no-brasil-em-3-anos-estudiosos-temem-que-presenca-online-transborde-para-ataques-violentos.ghtml?_x_tr_sl=pt&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=iw&_x_tr_pto=wapp

Holocaust. At the beginning of February, it was reported that a German Holocaust denier has escaped from detention in Germany to Brazil, there he continue to spread hatred utterances.⁴¹ Later on in February, a popular podcast called to the Brazilian government to acknowledge a Nazi party as legitimate.⁴² In addition, in April pamphlets of diabolical nature against the Jewish community were distributed in the vicinity of synagogues and Jewish clubs in Rio de Janeiro.⁴³



Chile

Winning the elections for presidency last year by Gabriel boric who was known for his left tendency and his hostility toward Israel, raised concerns among the Jewish leadership. Indeed, several months later, the president refused to receive the Charter of the Israeli ambassador in the country.⁴⁴

One may find a connection between the president's opinions and the growth of the Palestinian community in Chile during the last years, that led to the intensification of the anti-Zionist atmosphere in the country.⁴⁵ Chile Jews' concern regarding the government is related to an incident which took place in June, when the advisor of the Chilean Minister of Health was interviewed to a show named 'Israel Murderous Policy against Palestine' and expressed clear anti-Zionist and antisemitic views.⁴⁶

Another storm broke out last July following the publication of an antisemitic advertisement poster of alcoholic drinks company⁴⁷ with a stereotypical caricature of a man with a skullcap and a 'Jewish nose'. The advertisement made use of familiar antisemitic motives: the painted figure was depicted as 'a ridiculous and evil Jew' and the caption 'cash only' was

41. <https://www.jta.org/2022/02/09/global/a-prominent-german-holocaust-denier-is-escaping-arrest-by-hiding-in-brazil>

42. <https://www.jta.org/2022/02/09/global/popular-brazilian-podcaster-says-the-country-should-recognize-a-nazi-party>

43. <https://westobserver.com/news/latin-america/police-of-rio-de-janeiro-investigate-antisemitic-attack-in-copacabana/>

44. <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/2022-09-19/ty-article/premium/00000183-51a2-dd68-adc7-d1f206e50000>

45. <https://ellibero.cl/actualidad/actualidad-informativa/el-asesor-clave-del-minsal-que-defiende-a-putin-al-regimen-irani-y-al-chavismo-con-millonario-sueldo-del-estado/>

46. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/bji7wxjsq>

47. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/bji7wxjsq>



meant to perpetuate the stereotypical image of Jews as material individuals who deal with money. The ad demonstrated the escalation in negative attitudes toward Jews in Chile. Another antisemitic incident occurred in Temuco when harmful graffiti was sprayed on a Chanukah lamp, exactly one year after it had been inaugurated.⁴⁸



Mexico

One of the phenomena which raises concern in Mexico is disrespect for the Holocaust. Such disrespect is expressed in the social atmosphere, the utterances of political leaders and in the Ministry of Education. At the beginning of the year, for example, a teacher from CESSA university in Mexico City, in an online lesson in front of tens of students, told a joke about setting fire to Jews during the Holocaust. The university management published an apology and announced that the teacher was laid off.⁴⁹ In another incident, a history teacher disguised herself as Hitler during a lesson in high school. An investigation revealed that the teacher encouraged her students to do the Nazi salute, ordered a Hitler puppet and 'shot' the students with a fake pistole during a class activity. In spite of Jew Students' complaints in that regard, the school management ignored their complaints.⁵⁰

48. https://visavis.com.ar/2022/03/26/pintadas-antisemitas-en-la-janukia-de-temuco-chile-fuera-judios-y-fuera-sionistas/?utm_source=FACEBOOK&utm_medium=POSTEO_REDES&utm_campaign&fbclid=IwAR3dlfADdzva1ZOD_GKod5oJQ6D6C-t4TNd-21662x_RwV-JZk8qjSU4Etg

49. https://www.algemeiner.com/2022/01/21/teacher-at-mexico-city-university-fired-for-joke-mocking-holocaust-victims-in-zoom-class/?fbclid=IwAR1JD-ZGyhG_R2SSGrz5sJlZ3n4ii8ar5MINwiKbCJzBbzMRYjaL9tH80I

50. <https://www.facebook.com/537012216809974/posts/1353082545202933/?sfnsn=mo>

The disrespect for the Holocaust earned headlines in the Mexican press due to some other cases as well. For example, in July the Mexican president compared a salient Jewish Mexican figure to Adolf Hitler.⁵¹ Another disturbing incident was a wedding of a Mexican couple who decided to design their wedding according to Nazi motifs and used many Nazi costumes and symbols, while distorting historical facts about the Nazis and their customs. Following the unusual event, many citizens called the Mexican leadership to adopt the antisemitism definition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) and to integrate it in the national legislation in order to prevent such radical behavior.⁵²



Besides such exceptional incidents, acts of vandalism continued to be a common practice. In September a demonstration took place near the Israeli embassy building in Mexico, during which the demonstrators sprayed malicious graffiti on the building walls. The demonstration was unrelated to Judaism or Zionism, yet the demonstrators took advantage of the event to destroy the building and even damaged the security cameras of the embassy.⁵³



Venezuela

During the year, a well-known businessman in the country expressed antisemitic attitudes. In a television interview he denied the Holocaust and added that he would have wished to ask Adolf Hitler why he didn't

51. <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/mexico-president-doubles-down-hitler-comparison-with-jewish-analyst-after-2022-06-30/>
52. https://www.wiesenthal.com/about/news/wiesenthal-center-outraged-by-3.html?fbclid=IwAR1AjdwlauoVtfGjjf9QQZk1ckGlx-kqpamd40Zh0ZiABv9NUKwIGUisM_M
53. <https://www.laprensalatina.com/israeli-embassy-in-mexico-vandalized-in-protest-over-ayotzinapa-case/>

finish what he wanted to do. The Jewish community of Venezuela condemned his utterances and published an acute response.⁵⁴

In addition, during a trial which was related to the corruption in Venezuela, the judge quoted from the antisemitic text 'The Protocols of the Elders of Zion'. The incident was condemned by the Jewish Union of Caracas (CAIV) and by the Jewish Association of Venezuela.⁵⁵



Peru

During April, the former prime minister, Anibal Torres, gave a speech in a government meeting and presented Adolf Hitler as an example of a successful economic leadership. The government meeting was convened as a reaction to the protests against the increase in fuel and fertilizer prices, and the former prime minister presented Hitler as a leader who developed the infrastructure in Germany and turned it to a 'leading economic powerful country in the world'.⁵⁶



Uruguay

The relationship between Uruguay and Israel is mostly friendly, yet the anti-Israeli hostility has penetrated to Uruguay as well. The hostility is mainly expressed in the sport realm: at the beginning of June, anti-Zionist social organizations demanded from the Uruguay football team (AUF) to boycott Israel.

'We turn to AUF in a request [...] not to lend a hand to the image laundering of the military occupation and the Apartheid of Israel by the 'beautiful game' and sport'. They added that 'Israel murders and corrupts Palestinian football players and sportsmen. Palestinian players are being imprisoned and tortured frequently and their stadiums are bombed'. They ended the letter with harsh words against the state of Israel and called the Uruguay team to protest against it.⁵⁷

54. <https://runrun.es/noticias/481321/comunidad-judia-de-venezuela-repudia-declaraciones-antisemitas-de-esteban-trapiello/>
55. <https://visavis.com.ar/2022/02/21/un-juez-venezolano-cito-una-publicacion-antisemita-en-una-sentencia-de-la-corte-suprema-del-regimen/>
56. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/04/07/peru-minister-hitler-mussolini/>
57. <https://970universal.com/2022/06/02/organizaciones-sociales-pidieron-a-la-auf-que-seleccion-uruguay-no-realice-preparacion-en-israel/>



Some points to consider

The antisemitism processes in Latin America require consideration of the intensified influence of Iran in the area. Already at the beginning of the revolution in Iran, it acted to establish relations with several states in Latin America in order to harm its main enemy – the U.S., and to present itself as an alternative for the Western World.⁵⁸ These activities of Iran are integrated with ‘the pink wave’, the current trend in South America, led by left pro-Iranian parties which disagree with the U.S. and sometimes even express overt anti-American attitudes.

Therefore, Iran seeks to strengthen its relations with anti-American bodies in Latin America, hoping for economic and military gains. Thanks to its relations with South America states, Iran has earned billions of dollars and even increased its nuclear capabilities: Its relations with Venezuela, Bolivia and other states, allowed it to continue its uranium and lithium mining and to further develop its nuclear weapon. Latin America states which identify with Iran’s anti-American ideology, share with it also technological knowledge related to nucleus, cooperate with it in developing tools for cyber-attacks and smuggle weapon systems to its territory.

The activities of Iran constitute a source of threat on the Jewish communities of South America in terms of classical terror, more than in terms of antisemitic risk. The dangerous acts of Iran to the state of Israel and the Western world, are done through the spread of its ideas in the region and through Hizballah cells which are scattered in the continent. A clear example to the activity of Iran with Hizballah activists could be seen in last June, when Argentina detained an airplane secretly owned by Iran.

In addition, Iran has established religious centers throughout South America, which acted to promote conversion to Islam, pro-Iranian and anti-American education, and recruited many activists to their ranks. The Shi’ite Islamic Center of Peru, for instance, served as a fertile soil for antisemitic beliefs based on Islamic ideology.

Although many governments in Latin America defined Hizballah as a terror organization, the organization which was activated by Iran continues to expand its activity in South America, while planning violent acts against Jewish targets all over the world.⁵⁹

The Iranian presence and the status of the activities described above, including Hizballah cells and similar cells in Latin America, have significant consequences for the Jewish communities as well as for the state of Israel. Weapon smuggling and the Iranian support of terror organizations, with their focus on the tri-border area (Argentina-Paraguay-Brazil) and the border cities, constitute an international problem which requires vigilance, regular tracking and monitoring and building a political and organizational reply against such activity, on a regular basis.

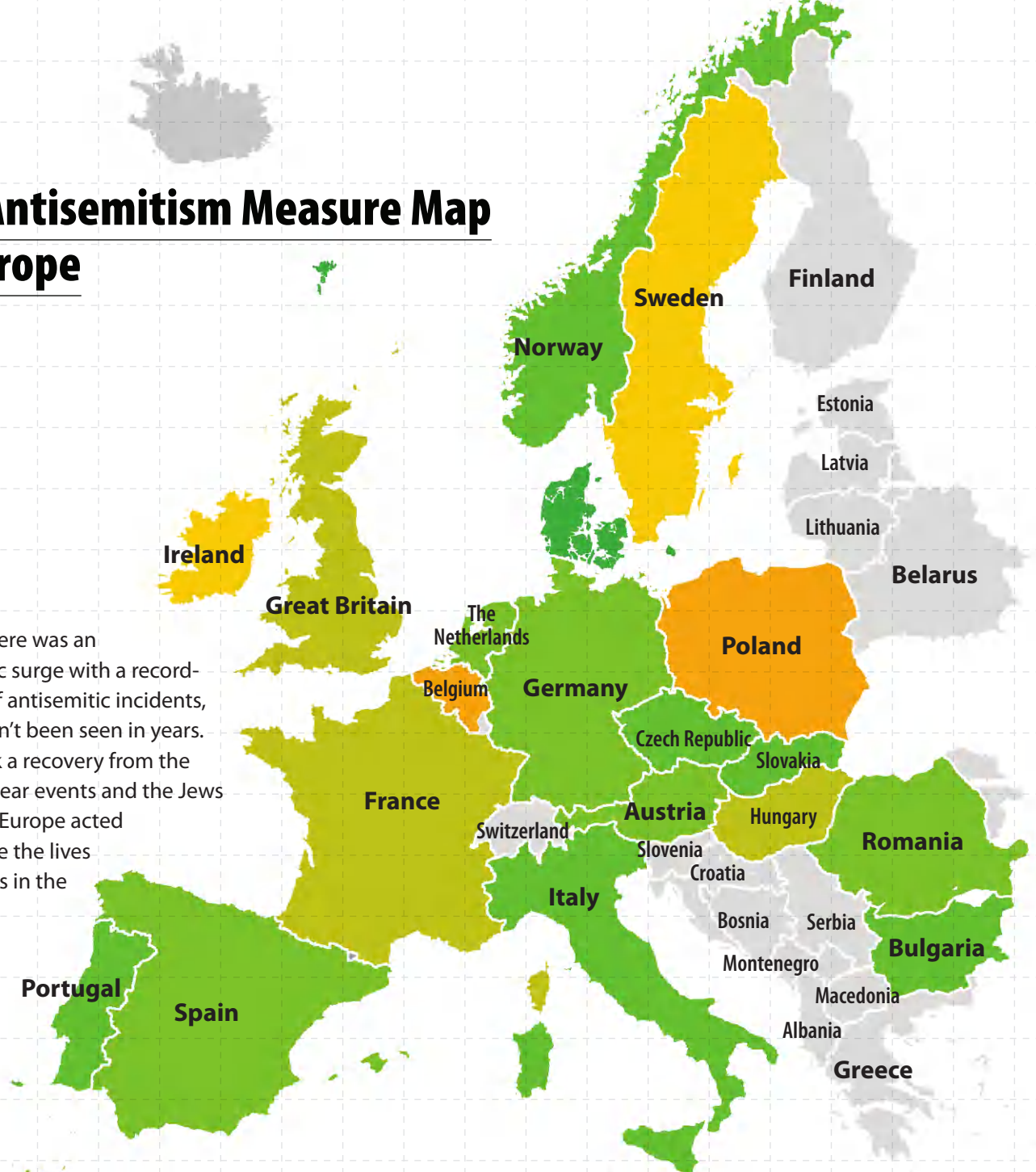
THE ACTIVITIES OF IRAN CONSTITUTE A SOURCE OF THREAT ON THE JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF SOUTH AMERICA IN TERMS OF CLASSICAL TERROR, MORE THAN IN TERMS OF ANTISEMITIC RISK

58. <https://www.adl.org/resources/blog/jewish-issues-watch-lat-in-america-2022>

59. <https://www.meteg.co.il/%D7%94%D7%AA%D7%9E%D7%A0%D7%95%D7%9F-%D7%94%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%A0%D7%99-%D7%91%D7%97%D7%A6%D7%A8-%D7%94%D7%90%D7%97%D7%95%D7%A8%D7%99%D7%AA-%D7%A9%D7%9C-%D7%90%D7%A8%D7%94%D7%91/>

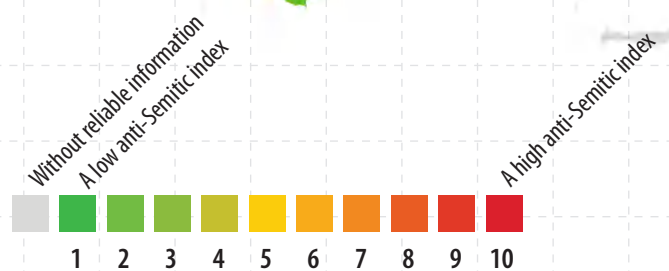
Antisemitism Measure Map in Europe

In 2021 there was an antisemitic surge with a record-number of antisemitic incidents, which hasn't been seen in years. 2022 mark a recovery from the previous year events and the Jews leaders in Europe acted to examine the lives of the Jews in the continent.



In June the European Jewish Association Annual Conference took place in Budapest. A study made by the Jewish organizations Association in Europe (the European Jewish Association – FJA), in cooperation with the British Institute for Study of the European Jews Policy was presented, that focused on the question: Which European country was best for Jews?

The study examined the current state of the Jewish life in 12 European states in which big Jewish communities live, and their governments actions to ensure prosperity of the Jewish communities on their territory. Each state received a grade according to different parameters which were obtained by follow-ups and surveys, such as actual activities against antisemitism, security feeling in the Jewish community, freedom of religion, cultivation of Jewish culture and even the votes of the state for Israel in the



U.N. According to the results of the study, the best states for Jews in descending order were **Italy (79), Hungary (76), Denmark (75), Britain (75), Austria (75), The Netherlands (74), Sweden (73), Germany (72), Spain (70), France (68), Poland (66), Belgium (60).**⁶⁰

60. <https://www.jta.org/2022/06/21/global/which-european-countries-are-best-for-jews-a-new-study-offers-unexpected-answers>

When we examine the specific parameters, it can be seen that the security feeling of the Jews in Denmark and Hungary is the greatest, while in Germany, Belgium and France it is the lowest. Yet, the activities of the governments for the Jewish communities are greater in Germany, Austria and France, while Spain and Belgium were at the end of the list in this realm.

When we combined the results of the abovementioned study with the reports of the number of antisemitic incidents and their intensity in Europe and classified them according to the traffic light method, we found that Denmark was the state in which Jews felt most secure (green), unlike Poland and Belgium which were at the bottom of the list (yellow tends to red). This measure is of low sensitivity level since the parameters refer to the personal estimation of Jews in their community and due to the variance between report rates of different states. The purpose of the map is 'to create a scientific comparative foundation regarding Jews' quality of life in different European states, and to assist the community leaders and the government leaders to determine what active steps should be taken in order to overcome the challenges with which European Jews deal today'.⁶¹

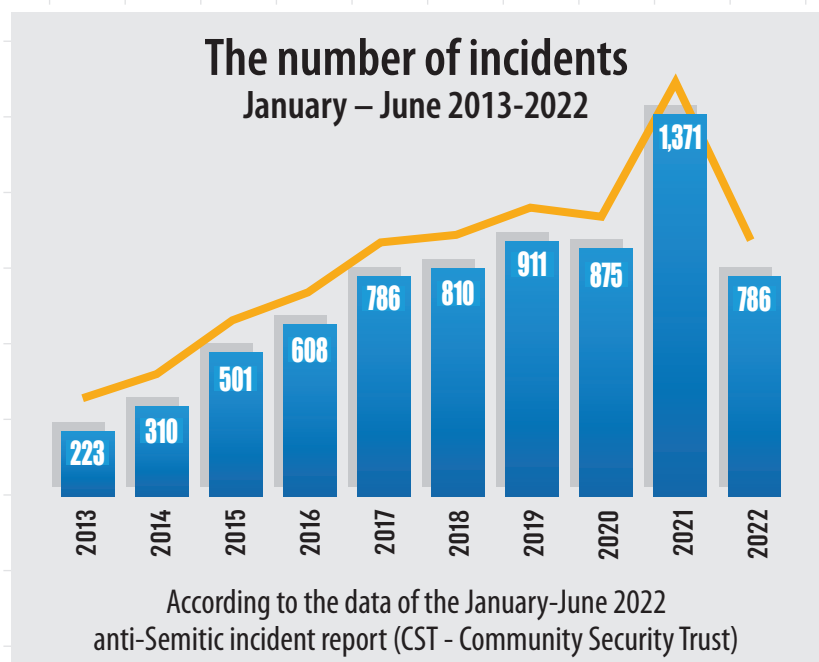
The rise of antisemitism in Europe in the current era is related to **the growing power of the radical political factors in different European countries**. During the last years, a clear trend can be seen according to which radical parties increased their power in terms of electorate, from one year to the next. Such trend was expressed in several elections which took place this year: In Italy and France radical right parties with fascist roots won the elections, in Hungary a conservative leadership which opposed minority rights, continued to rule, and in France the radical right party, whose founder was known for his antisemitic attitudes, increased its power.



Britain

The Antisemitic Incidence Report (January – June 2022) of the Community Security Trust (CST) shows that during the first 6 months of the year there were 786 reported antisemitic incidents in the United Kingdom, an equivalent number to that of all antisemitic incidents in the U.K. in 2017. This figure points to a decrease in the number of incidents in comparison to the previous year:

During the first 6 months of 2021 there were 1,371 reported incidents – a record number of all times.⁶²



According to the report, in 2022, for the first time since 2017, there were no triggering events. In 2020 the Covid 19 pandemic led to antisemitic utterances while in 2021 Shomer Homot Operation was a trigger for the rise of antisemitism in Britain. Yet, this year, no such rise in incidents has been noted, in spite of Shover Galim Operation and the death of the journalist Shirin Abu Akla. The 'Alot Ha'shahar' operation in Israel which took place at the second half of the year, did not bring another rise in Britain. It seemed that these events were covered globally in a different way from the way the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was presented in previous years, and as a consequence, did not lead to strong antisemitic reactions.

61. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/bydrsk0kq>

62. <https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2022/08/04/antisemitic-incidents-report-january-june-2022>

Examination of the current situation in Britain requires mentioning the many political changes which took place in the United Kingdom in the last six months: The death of Queen Elizabeth after 70 years of Reign, the coronation of her son, Charles for a king, and the replacement of two prime ministers in a short period of two months.

Britain has undergone this year a regime instability which probably affected the Jewish community and the level of antisemitism in the state. The new prime minister of Britain, Rishi Sunak is known for his support in Israel, and for his firm opposition to BDS and antisemitism. Sunak declared in the past that Jerusalem is the historic capital of Israel and expressed support of the idea to transfer the British embassy to Jerusalem. His attitudes give rise to optimism among the Jewish citizens in the state.⁶³

Antisemitism in the British Educational System

A study which has been done this year on antisemitism in British schools found that during the last five years there was an increase of 173.3% in the number of antisemitic incidents at schools which included inappropriate behavior, bullying or harassing students on antisemitic background. In addition, between 2021 and 2022 there was an increase of 29.13% of antisemitic incidents which occurred inside educational institutions.⁶⁴

A survey that was done last March for the CAA (Campaign Against Antisemitism) has found that there was an increase in feelings of fear among Jewish students.⁶⁵ These results are added to the data of the National Union of Students in Britain (NUS) and the Union of Jewish Students (UJS) which reported on antisemitic content in the study materials⁶⁶ and lack of activities against antisemitism.⁶⁷

As a reply to the antisemitism in the British educational system, an advisory report to the government has been published on December 2022, in which it was written: 'schools in Britain should teach

students about antisemitism as a part of a wider move for dealing with anti-Jews hatred'.⁶⁸ The report, which was published by Lord John Mann, the advisor of the British government for antisemitism, expressed his concern regarding the expansion of antisemitism among youngsters, which sometimes led to hatred and violence crimes against the Jewish community members, including school students. The report see education as a factor which influences the whole society, and thus as an appropriate tool for improving the current situation.

It should be noted that high schools in Britain teach about the Holocaust, yet the topic of the modern antisemitism is not included in the curriculum. 'To teach about the Holocaust is not enough', wrote Mann in the report, and called the ministers to ensure financing for schools in order to teach about current anti-Jewish hatred. The report calls for a more diversified curriculum, which reflects and criticizes the colonialism heritage, out of the 'understanding that any kind of racism in society should be dealt with'.⁶⁹



Germany

According to the data of the German Federal Criminal Police (Bundeskriminalamt – BKA) during January – September 2022, 1,555 antisemitic incidents were reported, an average of 5 incidents a day.⁷⁰ In an article of the Die Welt newspaper which covered the topic, it was mentioned that 936 suspects of committing antisemitic acts were identified, yet no arrest warrants were issued. Most cases, according to the article, were related to incitement to hatred, insulting Jews, damaging their property and 'using symbols of illegal organizations' (including swastika). In addition, it was published that during that period 55 incidents of violent attacks against Jews were registered, 44 of them occurred during the first six months of the year. The publication emphasized that the final data about antisemitic incidents in 2022 would be published later, and that the current numbers for the first three quarters of the year may rise till the end of the year.⁷¹

63. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/news/geopolitics/article/13210755>

64. <https://henryjacksonsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Antisemitism.pdf>

65. <https://www.thejc.com/news/news/jewish-students-'living-in-fear'-at-uk-universities-B57nfylozdRaC8y64aKCg>

66. <https://www.maariv.co.il/news/world/Article-953315>

67. <https://www.bbc.com/news/education-63246005>

68. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-725235>

69. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-64012628>

70. <https://www.bhol.co.il/news/1457810>

71. <https://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/article241798233/Judenhass-Jeden-Tag-mehr-als-fuenf-antisemitische-Straftaten.html>

THE ARREST OF THE ORGANIZATION MEMBERS, INCLUDING MILITARY PERSONS AND POLICEMEN, EXPOSED THE FACT THAT THEY WERE RELATED TO SEVER VIOLENCE AND ANTISEMITISM INCIDENTS

Yet, in comparison to previous years, we witnessed a decline in antisemitism incidents in Germany: in 2020 there were 1,957 incidents, while in 2021 there was a significant increase and 2,738 incidents were registered, 1,850 of them occurred during the first three quarters of the year. According to a report by RIAS (Federal Department for Research and Information on Antisemitism) the increase in antisemitism in 2020-2021 was related to the Covid 19 pandemic and to the 'Shomer Homot' operation in Israel.⁷²

Toward the end of the year, in December 2022, the German government decided to adopt 'a new strategy against antisemitism and for Jewish life'. The strategy, first of its kind, set a goal to unite all ranks of the German government and the German district states, the cities, the communities and the civil society organizations, in the fight against antisemitism. The strategic document was created in the office of the coordinator for fighting antisemitism and Jewish life, Felix Klein. The Jewish communities in Germany acted to foster the plan, and the strategy was approved in the German cabinet.⁷³

The plan includes various steps for increasing the security of the German Jews and the site of Jewish lifestyle in Germany, through data collection and research, cooperation between different authorities and ranks and data exchange regarding antisemitic offences, as well as digitation of the data for follow up purposes. In the framework of the fight for security and against antisemitism, relevant training of judges and law enforcement professionals would take place, so that they would be able to utilize the laws against antisemitism. The general prosecutors in the different districts are required to appoint coordinators for the fight against antisemitism and to examine harsher punishments and enforcement in this regard. The plan wishes to promote the issue as a preventive measure against antisemitism, to maintain a memorialization-culture and to develop awareness to history. In contrast to the rest of the existing plans for preventing antisemitism, this initiative demands from the Ministry of Education to include the Holocaust

subject in all University faculties, sometimes in a way appropriate to each study course or professional training. In addition, the plan includes the Jewish present and past: the Jewish communities will receive additional support and the government will foster the establishment of institutions for memorialization of the Holocaust. The strategy adopted by the German

government is very encouraging, yet at the beginning of December 2022 it was revealed that a radical right organization named The Council (Der Rat) wished to make an anti-democratic coup d'état in Germany. The group that belonged to the Reichsbürger (the citizens of the Reich – a German radical right movement), tried to evoke chaos and a civil war in Germany in order to take over, in an attempt to reestablish a monarchical government in Germany according to the tradition of the German Empire.⁷⁴ The group which was considered in the past by the authorities in Germany a marginal movement, lacking political significance in the activity realm of the radical right, began to raise concerns on 2016, when its members committed violent acts against policemen. Thanks to a long federal tracking in the last year, beside a big operation of the German police and the special forces of the state, the group was declared as a terror organization, its activity has been stopped, and some of its activists were arrested for their attempt for coup d'état.

The arrest of the organization members, including military persons and policemen, exposed the fact that they were related to severe violence and antisemitism incidents. The radical views of the organization members included conspirations related to politics and the Covid 19, as well as denial of the Holocaust.⁷⁵ The 2018 Federal Office Report for Defense of the German Constitution (BfV) described how the group expressed its hatred for Jews and based its antisemitic ideology on fake documents (for instance, The Protocols of the Elders of Zion).⁷⁶ In fact, most of

72. https://report-antisemitism.de/documents/Antisemitic_incidents_in_Germany_Annual-Report_Federal_Association_RIAS_2021.pdf

73. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/r1ge95ivi>

74. [https://he.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D7%9E%D7%96%D7%99%D7%9E%D7%AA_%D7%94%D7%94%D7%A4%D7%99%D7%9B%D7%94_%D7%94%D7%92%D7%A8%D7%9E%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA_\(2022\)](https://he.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D7%9E%D7%96%D7%99%D7%9E%D7%AA_%D7%94%D7%94%D7%A4%D7%99%D7%9B%D7%94_%D7%94%D7%92%D7%A8%D7%9E%D7%A0%D7%99%D7%AA_(2022))

75. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/news/world-news/europe/article/13411568>

76. <https://theconversation.com/what-is-the-reichsburger-movement-accused-of-trying-to-overthrow-the-german-government-196233>

their antisemitic activity has been done on the web and included conspiracies dissemination about the Jews and support of hatred activities against them. No doubt that one of their missions in the framework of the attempt to take over was dispossessing and harming minorities, including Jews.



Italy

According to some Jewish organizations in Italy, during the last year there were several violence acts against Jews in the state, as well as an increase in antisemitic incidents. The most salient example occurred in January 2022 when a group of youngsters attacked a Jewish 12 year old boy. The youngsters cursed the boy and hit him on his head because he was Jewish. According to the Italian media reports, the attackers used statements like: 'you should be quiet since you are a Jew... you should have died in the stove'. The boy's father said that no one interfered or tried to protect the boy during the attack.⁷⁷

Additional antisemitic incidents which occurred in Italy were vandalism and malicious graffiti against Jews. During November, 84 years after the Crystal Night, the words 'Jews are the new racists and fascists' were sprayed on the walls of the synagogue in Trieste.⁷⁸ In another incident the inner walls of the train station in Rome were sprayed with malicious graffiti including calls for burning Jews, beside swastikas and other Nazi symbols.⁷⁹ In yet another incident in Genova, swastikas and antisemitic graffiti were painted on the walls of the local high school.

The elections which took place in Italy this year were accompanied by antisemitic utterances. The fight between the right-wing and left-wing parties to establish a government spurred antisemitic utterances which were previously uttered by the Italian Democratic Party, the biggest left-wing party in the country. During the election campaign, the party representatives expressed their support of the fight against antisemitism, yet old sayings of the

left representatives were published in the media. The chairman of the party in Basilicata County, for instance, was criticized for the things he said 9 years earlier, 'UFOs and the state of Israel has one thing in common – both do not exist'. He resigned after expressing remorse for uttering them.⁸⁰

In the end, the radical right-wing party 'Brothers of Italy' won the elections. It was known by its neo-fascist roots, and the antisemitic utterances of its members throughout the years. Authorities in the Jewish community claim that the stance of the party in the matter cannot be clearly classified.⁸¹ Although they were concerned of the rising power of the radical right in Italy, they believed that it was too early to know how the Jewish community would be affected by the election results and if the antisemitism situation in the country would change.⁸²

Antisemitism in the Italian Educational System

During the last year a survey regarding antisemitic attitudes among high school students in Rome has been made by Memoria Project for the memorialization of the Holocaust and CDEC (Contemporary Documentation Center Jewish Foundation) and focused on the students' attitudes in 2021-2022.

According to the results of the survey, 64% of respondents believed that there was hostility against Jews in Italy. 25% of respondents said that its source was antisemitism, 5% said its source was anti-Zionism, and 30% said that such hostility was derived from both factors. When they were asked about the importance of the memorialization of the Holocaust, most of the respondents said they believed that it was important. The survey results showed a positive picture, especially regarding the wish to continue the memorialization of the Holocaust in the country, which may encourage schools to promote the discourse about history and the Jewish community in the state and to act for raising the awareness of antisemitism.⁸³

77. <https://www.ynet.co.il/news/article/rjagy0cat>

78. <https://www.now14.co.il/%D7%94%D7%99%D7%94%D7%95%D7%93%D7%99%D7%9D-%D7%94%D7%9D-%D7%94%D7%A4%D7%A9%D7%99%D7%A1%D7%98%D7%99%D7%9D-%D7%94%D7%97%D7%93%D7%A9%D7%99%D7%9D-%D7%92%D7%A8%D7%A4%D7%99%D7%98%D7%99-%D7%90%D7%A0/>

79. <https://www.bhol.co.il/news/1450204>

80. https://www.mako.co.il/news-world/2022_q3/Article-b86e-325ba2ac281026.htm

81. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/bkxymhbzi>

82. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/news/world-news/article/13092124>

83. <https://osservatorioantisemitismo.b-cdn.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Indagine-Studenti.pdf>

Yet, it should be noted that in one of the high schools in Rome **an art teacher has threatened Jewish students**. The teacher who was known for his offensive utterances toward students, related to the gas chambers in the Nazi concentration camps and said 'you [with] big noses, should have been burnt'. When the management took actions against the teacher, the students reported that the teacher's remarks were not the only antisemitic incidents at school and that they were exposed to many antisemitic and offensive remarks.⁸⁴



France

2022 opened with a blustery election campaign for presidency in France and in April the president Emmanuel Macron was elected for a second term, a fact which suggested that most of the citizens of France, including the Jewish population, wished to maintain the moderate nature of the state. Yet, the blustery election campaign marked for many the rise of the radical factions in France, which encouraged antisemitism, racism and foreigners' hatred. 41.4% of voters (13 million French citizens) voted for Marine Le Pen, the head of the radical right, and in the first round of the elections, Melançon, the leader of the radical anti-Zionist left received a great number of votes, especially among the youngsters. It should be noted that during the elections campaign, Le Pen has tried to prove that she does not hold antisemitic views like her father, yet her claims did not convince the Jews in France and the Crif organization – the committee that represents the Jewish institutions in France banned her, as well as Eric Zemmour, a main radical right candidate, in spite of his Jewish roots.

The Jewish community in France is the second biggest community in the world, after the U.S. and amounts to half a million Jews who are involved in every realm. The current prime minister and the president of the National Assembly are women of a Jewish descent. **Elizabeth Bern (Bernstein)**, the second woman in the history of France who serves as a prime minister of France, is a daughter of a Holocaust survivor, who was born in Poland. **Yael Brown Pivet**, the first woman to be elected to the president of the National Assembly, is a lawyer from a Jewish descent, whose grandfather escaped the Nazis. The two women belong to the

'Republic in Motion' party headed by the president Macron, and hold important jobs, yet get every once in a while antisemitic remarks and condemnations, while their Jewish descent is frequently mentioned. A few months ago, images of the prime minister in former Nazi military uniform were published, an incident which raised a public commotion.⁸⁵

During the last year, two salient antisemitic incidents occurred which brought headlines and criticism. In February, in one of the Northern suburbs of Paris, Germy Cohen, a French Jew with special needs has been hit by a tram and died. The local police classified the incident as a road accident, yet Germy's family made a private investigation to reveal details regarding the incident, due to information brought to their attention. About two months after the event, it was revealed that a few moments before he was hit by the tram, Germy was attacked by antisemitic gang of about 15 youngsters, who hit him for several minutes. He managed to escape his attackers, yet, while running, he did not notice the tram and was killed on the spot. Pursuant the publication of the attack which was documented by cameras located at the place of the event, there was a public commotion and many French citizens claimed that the authorities wished to silence the affair.⁸⁶

The second incident occurred in August: Eyal Hadad, a 34 year old Jew from a Tunisian origin was killed by his Muslim partner. The murderer, Muhammad Dridi, claimed at first that he committed the murder because of a monetary conflict, yet, during the investigation he admitted that he murdered him out of an antisemitic motive. The murder was very cruel: Dridi smashed his head with an ax, burned his body and buried it in an adjacent wood, near their house in Northern France. This case also brought a public commotion. When it was found out that the murderer acted out of antisemitic motive, the French Jewish community claimed that the authorities were trying to cover up the killer's antisemitic motives.⁸⁷

In spite of these events, in comparison to the previous year, there was a decrease in the number of antisemitic incidents in France. In last September,

84. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-722799>

85. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/discours/285722-elisabeth-berne-17072022-commeration-80-ans-rafle-du-vel-d-hiv>

86. <https://www.ynet.co.il/news/article/hkcgcyo7q>

87. <https://www.ynet.co.il/news/article/skk28wc1i>

**ELIZABETH BORNE
WHO SERVES AS A
PRIME MINISTER
OF FRANCE & YAËL
BRAUN PIVET,
THE PRESIDENT
OF THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY, THE TWO
WOMEN WHO COME
FROM A JEWISH
DESCENT,
GET EVERY ONCE IN A
WHILE ANTISEMITIC
REMARKS AND
CONDEMNATIONS,
WHILE THEIR
JEWISH DESCENT
IS FREQUENTLY
MENTIONED**

the French Minister of Interior, Gerald Darmanin, said that in the first six months of 2022, there were less antisemitic incidents in the country in comparison to the corresponding period in 2021.⁸⁸ The minister stated that 50% of such incidents included physical harm on an antisemitic background and added that there was a complete identity between attacks made on an antisemitic background and those made out of hatred of Israel.

Yet, when we examine the antisemitism trends in France during the last years, we see a rather gloomy picture, as reflected in the report of the American-Jewish Council (AJC).⁸⁹

The survey which was made among France Jews and the general population revealed that about three thirds (74%) of France Jews were victims of antisemitic incidents during their lives, which included insulting remarks (68%), threats on the social networks (28%), verbal threats (24%), and physical violence (20%).⁹⁰ More than one third of the Jewish respondents (37%) said they felt threatened due to their religion; 41% said they avoided overt use of mezuzah and other religious symbols; and 35% said they avoided wearing outfits that would identify them as Jews.

The survey shows that most of the respondents, both Jews (77%) and non-Jews (73%) believed that antisemitism was a major problem, not only for the Jews in the state, but also for the general French society. Yet, the survey also revealed that more Jews felt that the antisemitism in their country was increasing, in comparison with non-Jews: 85% of the French Jews believed that antisemitism was currently a common phenomenon in France, and 73% believe it increased during the last 10 years, while among the general population only 64% saw antisemitism as an increasing phenomenon. The survey also presented a concerning picture of the report of antisemitic phenomena. The increasing antisemitic trend

brought Jews to doubt that antisemitic criminals would be prosecuted and many of them avoided reporting antisemitic incidents.

80% of those who were involved in an antisemitic incident did not file a complaint to the French authorities and 76% did not report such incidents to community associations, such as the Jews Community Protection Service (SPCJ).

The survey also dealt with the attitudes of the general population of France towards antisemitism and the memorialization of the Holocaust. About half of the respondents (51%) thought that antisemitism was

dealt with appropriately in the media, while 34% claimed that it was not dealt with enough, and 15% thought that it was dealt with too much. In regard to the memorialization of the Holocaust, 45% of the respondents believed that it was important yet not necessary, 39% believed that it was necessary, and 16% believed that it was not important.

In September 2022, another survey was done on antisemitism on behalf of the Jewish Student Organization of France (UEJF – Union des étudiants juifs de France), among youngsters in France.⁹¹ The results showed that more than half of the French youngsters (56%) believed that the state of Israel used the Holocaust to justify its policy toward the Palestinians. One third of respondents claimed that the curriculum put an exaggerated emphasis on the Holocaust; 18% of respondents said that they had doubts about certain facts related to the Holocaust (number of victims, gas chambers and other facts), and 14% expressed their resistance for studying the Holocaust topic. Such data may reflect a new attitude among young people in France toward history and the Jewish community, according to which the Holocaust is not seen as a severe and exceptional event.

These trends raise concerns not only among the

88. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/ministre/gerald-darmanin>

89. <https://transatlanticinstitute.org/press-releases/ajc-surveys-french-jewish-muslim-and-general-populations-perspectives-antisemitism>

90. The survey was published in February 2022, so it does not include anti-Semitic incidents in the past year

91. https://www.i24news.tv/fr/actu/france/1663509637-france-34-des-jeunes-estiment-que-la-shoah-est-trop-abordee-dans-les-programmes-scolaires-sondage?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1663510192

Jewish leadership in France, but also the among the authorities. In July, the prime minister Elizabeth Borne who gave a speech in an assembly for Jewish citizens who were chased for warning against the danger of antisemitism, said that antisemitism was still killing and clarified that all schools in France were required to teach about the Holocaust and to prevent its denial, out of a moral duty to preserve its memorialization.⁹²

The Crif president, Yonathan Arfi who also gave a speech in the assembly has emphasized that the current antisemitism in France has many faces: Islamist, Holocaust denying, opposing Zionism, radical rightist and leftist, and is expressed also in the framework of the Yellow Vests and vaccination opposers movements.⁹³

It should be noted that during the year, president Macron condemned antisemitism and compared it to anti-Zionism. In June, for example, when a new memorandum site has been inaugurated in Pithiviers (where a train station once existed from which Jews were sent to Auschwitz), Macron condemned those who tried to rewrite history by false facts and lies and called to be aware of the current dangerous antisemitism.⁹⁴



Belgium

During the last years we witnessed a concerning trend of antisemitic incidents in Belgium. **The Belgic government is trying to support the fight against antisemitism yet is not successful in stopping it.** It can be seen, among other things, in speeches that include antisemitic statements and in antisemitic songs heard during football games. Clear evidence of the growing antisemitism in Belgium has been found in a study that examined the situation of the Jewish communities in Europe.⁹⁵

At the end of August Flemish National radicals planned to arrange a festival in Ypres in Northern

92. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/discours/285722-elisabeth-borne-17072022-commeration-80-ans-rafle-du-vel-d-hiv>

93. <https://www.crif.org/fr/content/crifvel-dhiv-le-discours-de-yonathan-arfi-a-la-ceremonie-nationale-dhommage>

94. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/discours/285730-emmanuel-macron-17072022-commemoration-rafle-du-vel-d-hiv-juillet-1942>

95. <https://www.jta.org/2022/06/21/global/which-european-countries-are-best-for-jews-a-new-study-offers-unexpected-answers>

Belgium with the participation of musicians related to Neo-Nazi movements. The mayor approved the festival yet cancelled it due to public concerns that the festival would turn to a Neo-Nazi demonstration of radical right representatives.⁹⁶

In September a vandalism incident on an antisemitic background took place in a cemetery when a swastika was painted on a Jew's grave whose whole family was murdered in the Holocaust. Yet in October, the Belgic government revoked the citizenship of a Moroccan religion man (Imam) who called for setting fire of Jews, due to the danger he posed to the national security.⁹⁷



Sweden

In September general elections for the parliament were held in Sweden. After eight years of rule of the center-left social-democratic movement, this year a conservative government has been elected, which included a significant representation of the radical right-wing party ('The Democrat Swedish').⁹⁸ This nationalistic and conservative party that some of its founders were neo-Nazis, increased its power during the last years and achieved a support of more than 20% of the votes this year.⁹⁹ The state of Israel boycotts the party due to its fascist and antisemitic background. Its growing popularity in Sweden raises concern among the Jewish community in the state, especially due to its objection to minority rights.¹⁰⁰

The growing power of the nationalistic forces in Sweden was expressed in several incidents: in September, during an international forum in Malmo, the words 'the Holocaust was a fraud' were projected in the city. One of the Neo-Nazi groups in the country (The Nordic Resistance Movement) initiated this antisemitic act and projected the words on the main

96. The Brussels Times August 2022

97. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/belgium-expels-imam-who-called-for-burning-of-jews-citing-national-security-threat/>

98. https://he.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D7%94%D7%91%D7%97%D7%99%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%AA_%D7%94%D7%9B%D7%9C%D7%9C%D7%99%D7%95%D7%AA_%D7%91%D7%A9%D7%95%D7%95%D7%93%D7%99%D7%94_2022

99. https://he.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D7%94%D7%A9%D7%95%D7%95%D7%93%D7%99%D7%9D_%D7%94%D7%93%D7%9E%D7%95%D7%A7%D7%A8%D7%98%D7%99%D7%9D

100. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/news/world-news/article/13070880>

synagogue and other buildings in town.¹⁰¹

This incident was added to other incidents of debasement of the Holocaust memory in Sweden by the radical right activists. Thus, for example, a clerk from the Democratic Swedish Party was suspended from office after calling Ana Frank 'immoral' and added some humiliating remarks about her diary in Instagram.¹⁰²

In another incident which took place this year, a Jewish doctor was laid off his job in Kliniska hospital after complaining about antisemitic harassment he underwent in his work.¹⁰³ The doctor, a neurosurgical who worked in the university hospital experienced antisemitic harassments from his colleagues including insults on antisemitic background as well as defamation on the social networks. The doctor who was laid off was not the only one who suffered such harassments: his Jewish colleagues also suffered from antisemitic verbal insults during the years. Doctors who wished to get even with him reacted by more antisemitic acts, spreaded rumors against him and harmed his work. The doctor turned to the Swedish Doctors Union and filled a claim against the hospital. A few months ago, the Labor Court resolved that the doctor has been laid off against the law and the hospital was forced to hire him again and to compensate him.¹⁰⁴



Poland

Antisemitism scope in Poland during 2022 was similar to its scope in 2021 yet it was greatly influenced by the increase in conspiracy theories regarding the war in Ukraine. The anti-Jewish and anti-Israeli narrative appeared in the public sphere, including in institutionalized news channels and the social networks.¹⁰⁵ The Polish government condemned

DURING THE LAST YEAR, ANTISEMITISM WAS EXPRESSED MAINLY BY PROTEST MARCHES AND NEO-NAZI AND NEO-FASCIST ASSEMBLIES AND OTHER FORMS OF HARASSMENT AND VIOLENT EXPRESSIONS AGAINST JEWS

antisemitic acts and incidents and took some steps to deal with the issue. Yet, there were concerns about the spread of antisemitism among the general Polish population. Beside increase in antisemitic expressions on the social networks in 2022, there was also a rise in physical violence incidents rate.

During the last year, antisemitism was expressed mainly by protest marches and neo-Nazi and neo-fascist assemblies and other forms of harassment and violent expressions

(mainly verbal) against Jews who constituted a minority within the Polish population. The U.N organization called Poland to take action against discrimination and to act to dismantle radical groups such as the All-Polish Youth, National Movement, National Radical Camp, Falange, and Pride and Modernity Association, which were established to spread hatred and Fascist ideology.¹⁰⁶ Yet in spite of evidence of such acts on behalf of these groups, significant actions in the legal realm have not been taken yet in order to ban such organization. The main supporters of such groups were mainly young men at the ages 18 – 34, with radical right beliefs.¹⁰⁷



A stereotypical caricature of a Jewish man which was shared on Instagram in the framework of the radical Polish right

101. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/holocaust-was-a-scam-projected-on-swedish-synagogue-during-antisemitism-summit/>

102. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/far-right-swedish-party-official-suspended-for-calling-anne-frank-immoral/>

103. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/rjchdhzq9>

104. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/s1vmqxckj>

105. U.S. Department of State, '2021 Report on International Religious Freedom: Poland' (Washington D.C.; U.S. Department of State, 2022).

106. TVP Word, UN Committee calls on Poland to delegalise radical right groups. Available at: <https://tvpworld.com/44459040/un-committee-calls-on-poland-to-delegalise-radical-right-groups> [Accessed 3 January 2023].

107. European Network for Countering Antisemitism through Education, 'Addressing Antisemitism through Education in the Visegrad Group Countries. A Mapping Report.' (Berlin, KlgA e.V., 2022), p. 17.



Like other such organizations in Europe, in Poland the members of these organizations traveled to Ukraine in order to express their support of neo-Nazi organizations that fought against Russia.¹⁰⁸ These groups disseminated stories from the battlefield and added antisemitic graffiti to them (see appendix 1). Their channels are very popular among radical right circles.

Starting on February, there was a great rise in the scope of antisemitic expressions and conspiracy theories related to the invasion of Ukraine on the social networks and the institutionalized media. Such conspiracies included accusations of Jews of the Russian invasion in order to benefit from it, to hurt Poland and to rule Ukraine.¹⁰⁹ The most popular and influential conspiracy was that of 'heavenly Jerusalem', according to which Jews from Israel were planning to settle in South-East Ukraine and were responsible for the war.¹¹⁰ This conspiracy was promoted and disseminated by individuals, including senior former administration officials, media personnel and public opinion leaders on the social networks, and was disseminated especially during the demonstrations in Warsaw and other Polish cities. In addition, Jews were blamed for being 'Trojan Horse'

among Ukraine refugees, who cooperated with the U.S. in order to try and take over the state.¹¹¹

During the last year there were several antisemitic incidents which had cultural and social roots that included, among others, publishing and promoting antisemitic books. For example, the cover of one of the books described a Jewish man in several outfits (a communist, a journalist, or a LGBT activist), to hint that Jews were involved in the establishment of these movements.¹¹² In one incident, in a book fair in Poland, books with rude antisemitic contents were presented. Those books promoted ideas of denial of the Holocaust and depicted Jews as greedy.¹¹³



108. Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, How Foreign Far-Right Volunteers Are Arriving to Fight in Ukraine. Available at: https://www.rosalux.de/en/news_3/id/46693/how-foreign-far-right-volunteers-are-arriving-to-fight-in-ukraine [Accessed 3 January 2023].

109. YouTube, Sojusz UPA" oznacza tylko jedno i żadnych wojen za Izrael Rafał Mossakowski. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37HtQ0pccFo> [Accessed 3 January 2023].

110. Never Again Association, 'Let's Maintain Solidarity with Refugees. Report' (Warsaw, NAA, 2022), p. 13.

111. *ibid*, p. 8.

112. Israel Hayom, Jewish groups condemn sale of antisemitic mugs in Poland. Available at: <https://www.israelhayom.com/2022/06/24/jewish-groups-condemn-sale-of-antisemitic-household-items-in-poland/> [Accessed 3 January 2023].

113. The Algemeiner, Antisemitic Books Pushing 'Ritual Murder' Myth On Display At Prestigious Fair in Poland. Available at: <https://www.algemeiner.com/2022/11/28/antisemitic-books-pushing-ritual-murder-myth-on-display-atprestigious-fair-in-poland/> [Accessed 3 January 2023].



Russia

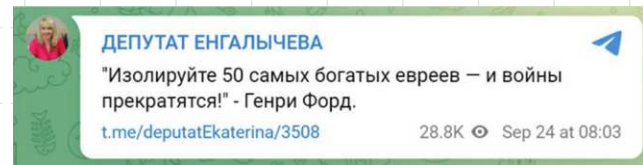
With the rise to power of Vladimir Putin in Russia, it seemed like, in contrast to the previous presidents, he was determined to combat antisemitism. The invasion to Ukraine was justified by him as an attempt to stop the Ukraine antisemitism and nationalism.

During the last decade there was indeed a decline in the number of antisemitic incidents in Russia and that fact was stated in the report of the World Zionist Organization for 2021.¹¹⁴ Yet, a study published in January 2022 proved that antisemitism was still rooted in the country. The study which was made by Levada Center has found that 13% of respondents do not wish to see Jews in Russia at all.¹¹⁵

Although there weren't many reports of antisemitic incidents in Russia during the year, in the institutional level it seemed that antisemitism was accelerating. The more the war against Ukraine continued and expanded, the anti-Jewish rhetoric in the Russian media has been intensified, with full legitimization on behalf of the government. This trend became stronger following the utterances of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sergei Lavrov regarding the Nazism in Ukraine. In an interview to an Italian newspaper in May, Lavrov referred to the Jewish origin of the Ukrainian president and claimed that 'the Jews themselves were the greatest antisemites'.¹¹⁶ His words resonated globally and threatened to harm the diplomatic relations between Russia and Israel. Around the time the Minister of Foreign Affairs uttered his words, accusations toward the Jews in the country were heard in the Russian media: Vladimir Soloviev, a media man of Jewish descent, accused the Jews in infidelity to Russia in a live broadcast. In addition, the author Dimitri Popov published in the newspaper *Moskovskij Komsomolets* a list of Jews whom he called 'foreign agents', a term used frequently by the Russian government in regard to the 'enemies of the state'. Popov added a cynical remark according to which after the removal from power of President Putin, 'the Jews may establish a government in beautiful Russia of the future'.¹¹⁷

114. <https://www.wzo.org.il/department/combating-antisemitism/antisemitism-annual-report-for-2021>
115. <https://www.levada.ru/en/2022/01/28/xenophobia-and-migrants/>
116. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bjn00u1tsq>
117. <https://lechaim.ru/news/prezident-federatsii-evrejskih-obshhin-rossii-raskritikoval-antisemitskij-post-deputata-mosgordumy/>

The City Council of Moscow, Yekaterina Yanglicheva wrote in her telegram chat box the known antisemitic sentence of the vehicle producer, Henry Ford: 'Isolate the 50 richest Jews in the world and the wars would stop!'



The president of the U.S., Joe Biden claimed that statements of the Russian government members that the war was designated to eradicate the Nazis in Ukraine are nothing but a disrespect of the Holocaust. Biden claimed that the Russian Government took advantage of the suffering of the Jewish people and the Holocaust survivors in order to justify its war against Ukraine and by doing so, compromised the efforts to combat antisemitism.¹¹⁸ Several months later, Dimitri Bavirin, a Russian expert for political science published a press article in which he blamed Biden that his claims against antisemitism resulted out of financial interests. The article with the headline 'Biden remembered to protect the Jews because of the money', claimed that the president of the U.S. only wished to tighten his relations with rich Jewish donors.¹¹⁹



Ukraine

In September 2021 an amendment to the law that officially defines the punishment for antisemitic expressions in Ukraine has been passed. The amendment related to article 161 of the Criminal Law ('Compromising Citizens Equality in Accordance with their Race, Nation, Religious Beliefs, Disability and Other Causes') and defined different punishments for antisemitic offences such as fines, imprisonment, and prohibition to practice certain activities for a certain period of time.¹²⁰

During 2021 there has been an increase in antisemitic incidents in Ukraine, yet since the beginning of

118. https://www.jta.org/2022/07/11/united-states/biden-administration-accuses-russia-of-antisemitism-and-exploiting-jewish-suffering?utm_source=JTA_Maropost&utm_campaign=JTA_DB&utm_medium=email&mpweb=1161-45924-32895
119. <https://vz.ru/world/2022/12/15/1191012.html>
120. http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=71165

the war against Russia, the number of reports of antisemitic incidents in the state has decreased. Presumably, these numbers are inaccurate. **The Ukrainian Jewish community keeps publishing reports of antisemitic incidents and observes the punishment measures on behalf of the law authorities. Yet dur to the war it is impossible to see the full picture of antisemitism in Ukraine.**

Most of the Ukrainian people is united in his support of the Jewish president, yet public figures expressed this year several utterances against Jews: Mykhailo Kovalchuk, a former member of the Kiev City Council accused the Jews in murder of children and in worship of Satan.¹²¹ In addition, the historical facts regarding the Holocaust of the Ukrainian Jews and the function of the Ukrainian people in the Holocaust were distorted. After the speech of president Zelensky in front of Israel's Knesset, there was a surge of reactions on the social networks, which claimed that the Jews were ungrateful since they didn't accredit the Ukraine people for their contribution and help during the Holocaust. In addition, sever claims were made against the state of Israel due to its refusal to supply advanced weapon to Ukraine, beside furious reactions of antisemitic nature claiming that the Jews were cheap and greedy.¹²²

Another point worth mentioning is the complex relationship between the Ukrainian Jews and nationalistic forces in the country. An example of such relationship is the Azob Regiment of the Ukrainian army, which is considered to be a radical nationalistic and antisemitic force, that includes also Jews. The regiment was accused in the past of being part of the neo-Nazi movement and was about to be announced as a terror group. Due to pressures on behalf of the Kiev authorities the regiment was integrated with the national forces of Ukraine and during the war its soldiers became national heroes, especially due to the fact that many of them fell in the Russian captivity after a siege of a factory in Mariupol.¹²³

The regiment commanders try to change its

121. <https://focus.ua/politics/523427-iudei-ubivayut-detey-eks-deputat-mihail-kovalchuk-popal-v-antisemitskiy-skandal?fbclid=IwAR2sTb9lDlfnksS5X2aXzhvJnEsdBuDq0fstiAUr5uqUKCs5X-elg1-w8PG8>

122. https://www.mako.co.il/news-n12_magazine/2022_q1/Article-c773e6631c6bf71026.htm

123. <https://www.ynet.co.il/news/article/b1500xporc>



nationalistic image and say that it includes quite a lot of Jews and that many radicals were expelled from the regiment. In December a delegation of the regiment representatives has arrived at Israel in order to refute its neo-Nazi image.¹²⁴ The regiment has some nationalistic characteristics and some of them are reminiscent of the SS symbols. Publications of the regiment captives in the Russian media attested that many of them bore tattoos similar to the SS symbols¹²⁵ and swastikas.



Judo-Bandera

(Жидобандеровцы) is a movement of Jewish Ukrainians who identify themselves as Jews yet support Ukrainian nationalism. The name

is a combination of the pejorative for Jews (zhyd) and the name of Stephan Bandera, a famous antisemitic who is a national hero in Ukraine.¹²⁶ The term was used in the past as a kind of curse by individuals who hated both Ukraine and the Jews, yet got a new meaning in 2014, when the Ukrainian nationalists tried to prove that they were not antisemitic and that some of them were Jews. Since the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine war, the phenomenon of Jews who identify themselves as supporters of nationalism in Ukraine (and especially oppose the Russian occupation), has expanded. These Jews even wear a badge with the symbol of Ukraine and the Star of David on their outfit.

124. <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-725351>

125. <https://iz.ru/1338089/2022-05-22/eksperty-raskryli-izvesti-iam-znachenie-tatuirovok-plennykh-azovtcev>

126. <https://www.mk.ru/politics/2014/12/18/otkuda-poshli-zhidobandervocy.html>

Some points to consider

The political changes in Europe and the rise of the radical right in many states raises questions about the future of moderate Europe and remind historical events that had an antisemitic aroma. Yet, several states including Italy, Germany and Romania¹²⁷ included the Holocaust studies in the curriculum as core studies and the issue was put on the public agenda due to disagreements.

The AJC survey led to criticism and to alarmed reactions of the Jewish communities in Europe, especially of Belgium, which was located toward the bottom of the list, both in terms of the Jews' security feeling and the governmental activity for them. Such feelings were intensified during the last years on the background of the Belgium government decisions to decrease the security of the Jewish communities without consulting with them, and to forbid a Kosher Shechita in several counties, and even examined moves for forbidding circumcision.

THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR, LIKE THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC DURING 2020-21, BROUGHT A RISE IN ANTISEMITISM BOTH IN THE INVOLVED COUNTRIES AND IN THOSE THAT BORDER THEM

The Russia-Ukraine war (like the Covid 19 pandemic during 2020-21) brought a rise in antisemitism both in the involved countries and in those that border them. The groups of refugees caused resistance of the local population and like in previous economic crises, the Jews and the state of Israel were soon blamed for causing the war, supporting the invading country, Russia, avoiding giving assistance to Ukraine, having a strict policy regarding offering shelter to Ukrainian refugees, and escape of Jews from the battle areas. Such accusations increased the rate of antisemitic incidents in these countries as well as the sensitivity threshold of the Jewish communities.



127. <https://www.makorishon.co.il/news/443063/>

■ The Russia-Ukraine War



The war between Russia and Ukraine broke out in February 2022, with the invasion of the Russian army to the territory of Ukraine from several battlefronts¹²⁸. The president of Russia, Vladimir Putin described the invasion as a 'special operation' for purging Ukraine from the neo-Nazi movement,¹²⁹ yet the reactions to the operation demonstrated the absurd of such description: A short while after the invasion began, the media on both sides of the border, the Russian and the Ukrainian, were flooded by antisemitic expressions and distortion of the historical facts, while the common denominator of such expressions was blaming the Jews in the situation.¹³⁰

128. https://www.ynet.co.il/topics/%D7%9E%D7%9C%D7%97%D7%9E%D7%AA_%D7%A8%D7%95%D7%A1%D7%99%D7%94-%D7%90%D7%95%D7%A7%D7%A8%D7%90%D7%99%D7%A0%D7%94

129. <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/2022-02-27/ty-article/premium/0000017f-f87f-d887-a7ff-f8ff15090000>

130. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/opinions/article/129863563>

The on-going war is accompanied by antisemitic expressions against the Jewish communities in both states, beside conspiracies regarding the involvement of Israel in the war. We will review first the effects of the war on antisemitism during the last year and later will relate to the antisemitism expressions in Russia and Ukraine, which are not necessarily related to the present war.

Conspiracy Theories regarding the Jews and the State of Israel

The Russia-Ukraine war is accompanied by many conspiracy theories according to which the Jews plan to take over the world. Such theories are disseminated mainly on the social networks. Those who spread such conspiracies found continuity between the 'influence of the Jews' during the Covid 19 pandemic period and the 'Jewish conspiracy' which allegedly stood behind the war. During the last year an old conspiracy

raised it head again, the 'heavenly Jerusalem Project' according to which the Jews wish to exterminate part of the Ukrainian people in order to establish a new Jewish state on the territory of Ukraine, and the present war is a stage in the realization of this plan.¹³¹ This conspiracy is disseminated both on the Russian side and on the Ukrainian side. Hence, when Alexei Arestovich, Ukraine president's advisor, compared Ukraine to 'new Israel' in the context of a comparison with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, his utterance stirred excitement among the adherents of the Heavenly Jerusalem conspiracy.¹³²

Conspiracy theories regarding the war were disseminated not only among Russian speakers but also among antisemitic and nationalistic groups in the U.S. and Europe. They claimed that the war is 'managed' by Jews in order to get financial hold and to increase their power in the world. Other claims were disseminated like that of the 'Khazar Invasion' according to which East European Jews are the descendants of the Khazar people which allegedly converted their religion to Judaism during the 8th century and still live in Ukraine. According to this theory, the invasion of Putin to Ukraine was designated to help the Ukrainians to deal with the invasion of the Khazar Jews, and so was justified by the theory holders. Anti-Zionist activists use another conspiracy rhetoric according to which the state of Israel and the Zionist world use the Russia-Ukraine crisis in order to promote their Zionist causes.¹³³

One of the antisemitic videos showed Brother Nathanael, an antisemitic 'street evangelist' who disseminated the 'Jews murder non-Jews' conspiracy on the web, in a video named 'Bloody Passover in Ukraine'. He claimed that the Jews used the blood of non-Jews in religious rituals and that the war was based on Jews' 'passion for blood and murder'. The video, which had 22,000 viewings stated that Jews were trying to reach the top of the world with 'the blood of Ukrainians, Americans and European NATO soldiers'.¹³⁴

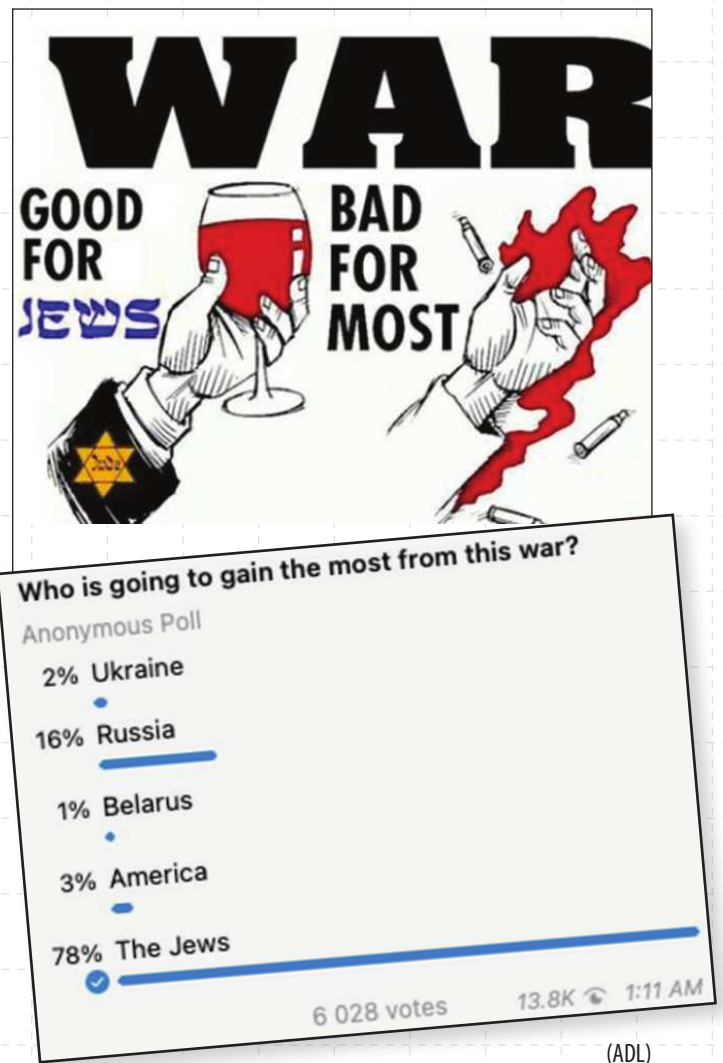
131. <https://rnbee.net/2022/10/23/novyj-izrail-budet-stroitsya-na-ruin-ah-ukrainy/>

132. <https://detaly.co.il/sovetnik-aleksej-arestovich-ukraina-eto-novyj-izrail/>

133. <https://lasvegas.adl.org/antisemitic-conspiracy-theories-abound-around-russian-assault-on-ukraine>

134. <https://lasvegas.adl.org/antisemitic-conspiracy-theories-abound-around-russian-assault-on-ukraine>

Such conspiracies which are disseminated on the web permeate the public awareness, especially of those who hold nationalistic and racist views. Another example can be seen in a survey which included tens of thousands of respondents who supported white supremacy and were asked who, in their opinion 'was the greatest benefit receiver of the war in Ukraine'. The reply of most respondents was 'the Jews' (78%).¹³⁵



The Ukrainian president, Vladimir Zelensky's Jewish descent also triggered antisemitic calls in both states. Zelensky, who did not hide his Jewishness, suffered verbal antisemitic remarks throughout the year. In December 2022, the spokesperson of the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry, Maria Zakharova said that Zelensky 'pretends to be Ukrainian, yet 'he does not belong to the Ukrainian people'¹³⁶ In another incident

135. <https://lasvegas.adl.org/antisemitic-conspiracy-theories-abound-around-russian-assault-on-ukraine>

136. https://www.mid.ru/ru/foreign_policy/news/1843964

the same month, a host of the Russian Television show 'A Meeting Point' mocked the Jewish descent of the president.¹³⁷



A caricature shared on Twitter by the Russian Embassy in which Zelensky is presented with a long nose

During the year statements of disrespect to the Holocaust were heard both in Russia and in Ukraine in which the present war was compared to the Holocaust of the European Jews. The Ukrainians repeatedly compared the deeds of the Russian army in Ukraine to the deeds of the Nazis during the Holocaust, while the Russian claimed that the Jewish soldiers in the Ukrainian army betrayed their Jewish people and cooperated with the rising neo-Nazi movement which, according to the Russians, was taking over Ukraine.¹³⁸ An online news site in Russia used fashion photos from Vogue magazine to compare the Ukrainian president and his wife to Adolf Hitler and Eva Brown.¹³⁹

Furthermore, it should be noted that the global rage regarding the Russian invasion and the sanctions

137. https://tsargrad.tv/news/po-prezidentu-norkin-prevratil-vozhzh-zelenskogo-v-ssha-v-novyyj-anekdot_691998
 138. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/s10200mtlc>
 139. <https://ria.ru/20220727/zelenskiy-1805438352.html>

against it brought claims according to which the global hostility against Russia reminded the Germans' treatment of the Jews in 1939.

The war between Russia and Ukraine takes place not only on the battlefield but also on the media and the social networks. At present we are not be able to estimate its effects on the Jewish population in the former Soviet Union and the way in which it would influence the attitude toward the Jews.

Mariupol's Rabbi said last Hanukah, following the discovery of an intact Chanukah menorah within the ruins of a synagogue: "the light that always pierces through darkness, tears and destruction, and the hope to rebuild and be built again – reappear in front of our very eyes. This clearly shows that a little light push aside a lot of the darkness"¹⁴⁰.



The Leningrad band with their clip 'No Entrance' which compares the attitude of Europe toward the Russians to the attitude toward the Jews in Nazi Germany



A Russian fashion designer offers for sale a yellow badge as a protest against the attitude of European states toward the Russians

140. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/rjb2knjfo>



Australia

Australia has a reputation for being a pluralistic and integrating state that accepts all individuals with sympathy. Throughout the years the Australian government believed that the state has a role in combating the international antisemitism and acted accordingly. Many leaders treated antisemitism as a 'disease of the old world' and of the third world and believed in the idea of 'fair justice' for all. They were sure it gave their country immunity against antisemitism. Yet during the last years it became clear that antisemitism existed also in Australia and the political leadership had to act in a responsible manner and deal with it.

Studies show that in spite of the citizens' objection to antisemitism there is an increase in the rate of antisemitic phenomena in Australia. A study by the Gandel Institute¹⁴¹ that was published in January this year pointed to an awareness of the importance of learning about the Holocaust, yet also included data which raised concern: more than 60% of the Australian population do not see dissemination of false messages related to the Holocaust as a problem. In 2021 there has been an increase of 35% in antisemitic incidents in the country including 272 vandalism incidents and physical and verbal attacks; 175 threats directed toward Jews by the telephone and the e-mail, and more.¹⁴²



In addition, the elections in Australia which took place in May this year were accompanied by several antisemitic expressions. Although the results of the elections pointed to a general positive direction of the Australian society, the election campaign was accompanied by hate expressions against Jewish candidates. Kim Rubinstein, one of the Jewish candidates for the Australian Senate, experienced personal antisemitic defamations which included the use of a 'yellow Star of David'.¹⁴³ Although the antisemitic campaign was condemned by representatives of a variety of political parties, it certainly raised concern.

Furthermore, during the election campaign, the rhetorical opposition to the BDS activity was less intensified. Some of the parties that were elected to the Australian parliament were disputed regarding the definition of the Holocaust according to the IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Association).

141. <https://gandelfoundation.org.au/gandel-holocaust-survey/>.

142. <https://www.jwire.com.au/anti-jewish-incidents-in-australia-up-35-in-2021/>
https://english.tau.ac.il/news/2021_global_antisemitism_report

143. <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/7720408/police-investigate-neo-nazi-defacement-of-corflutes/>



PRESIDENT'S NEWS

Statement regarding 'UMSU stands with Palestine - BDS and Solidarity Policy' motion

BDS in Australia

The BDS movement gains a growing popularity in the Australian campuses and acts to spread the idea of de-legitimization of the state of Israel and the Jewish people. The organization members disseminate messages which are seen as legitimate political criticisms of the actions of the Israeli government, yet in fact the act for persecution of Jewish students and their exclusion.

Three central incidents demonstrate this trend:

- In August 2022 the Students Organization of Melbourne University (UMSU) voted for a boycott on Israel.¹⁴⁴ The decision blamed the state of Israel in committing apartheid crimes and continuous ethnic purging of the Palestinians. The students' organization declared its support of academic boycott on Israel and called the university to sever its relations with academic institutions, researchers and Israeli academics. The students' organization also criticized the cooperation of the Australian government with the 'continuous crimes' of Israel.¹⁴⁵ The Jewish Students Organization in Australia (AUJS) called the Melbourne University management to take strict steps against the students' organization of the university and to act to condemn the BDS in every campus in Australia.

144. <https://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/news/article/7852/Presidents-News-6-May-2022/>

145. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-714748>.

- In October 2022, the National Union for Education expressed its objection to adopt the definition of the IHRA for antisemitism, as suggested by the BDS Palestinian activist, Fahad Ali. The National Union for High School Education in Australia (NTEU) voted for solidarity with the Palestinians and objected to adoption of the IHRA definition of antisemitism at Australian universities.¹⁴⁶ The suggestion included a commitment to tighten the relations with Palestinian organizations, to forbid officials or NTEU workers to visit and tour Israel or to support pro-Israeli organizations, and also to support the BDS activity.
- In August 2022, calls for 'death to Israel' were published in the newspaper of Adelaide University in Australia.¹⁴⁷ In the shadow of Alot H'shahar operation, the activist Haviva G'aghuri published an article in the students' magazine of Adelaide University in which she called for 'death to Israel'. Jewish students in the university reported that after the publication of the article the hostility toward them has increased.



146. <https://www.australianjewishnews.com/motion-labelled-disgrace/>

147. <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/asia-pacific/1662319764-australia-university-magazine-article-calls-for-death-to-israel>



New Zealand

The antisemitism report for 2022 in New Zealand hasn't been published yet, but 2021 data give a picture of the antisemitism in the country. According to a survey made in 2021, 70 Jews who lived in New Zealand experienced antisemitic insults and 3 Jews were physically attacked.¹⁴⁸ Yet, it should be noted that the survey included only 10% of the Jewish community members, so the data were lacking statistical reliability and the state of antisemitism may be different.

According to a study made by the Israeli Institute of New Zealand (IINZ), online pro-Palestinian groups publish regularly antisemitic remarks similar to those of the radical right on the social networks.¹⁴⁹

Additional data were obtained from a survey made by Curia Research according to which almost **twenty percent of the participants didn't know almost anything about the Holocaust**, and **six percent agreed with the statement 'The Jews have brought the Holocaust upon themselves'**.¹⁵⁰ It was also found that **one out of five New Zealanders believed that Jews had too much power in the international financial markets**, and **one out of ten believed that they had too much control of the global media**.¹⁵¹

In spite of these data, the Human Rights Commission in New Zealand (the body which collects the data regarding minority or ethnic groups persecution) denied that there was a Holocaust denial in the country. The Commission stated the difficulty inherent in tracking the published contents.¹⁵² In addition, the Commission did not condemn Parliament members of the Greens Party who called for an ethnic purging of Jews from Israel¹⁵³ and did not condemn Joe Carolan who called in Oakland for 'inflaming the intifada' and encouraged violent acts toward Jews.¹⁵⁴ The



disregard of hatred expressions against Jews by the Human Rights Commission and the membership of parliament members in antisemitic organizations raise a great concern.

During the year an exceptional incident of calls for boycott on the cinema festival Doc Edge was marked. In this event pre-Oscar prizes are given to New Zealander movies. The demand was that the organizers of the event will sever their relations with the 'Apartheid Israeli Embassy'.

The New Zealand Jewish Commission (NZJC) collected data on antisemitic online incidents and uploaded a video which summarized its results. The video was prepared after systematic collection of surfers' contents on the web and online platforms in New Zealand during 2022.¹⁵⁵ Among the antisemitic contents were expressions such as 'Hitler was right and should have finished the job', caricatures of Jews combined with swastikas and other antisemitic expressions. The results showed that the global online antisemitism in general and that in New Zealand in particular, was the highest measured ever, and the video stated that the data point to a substantial risk for the Jewish community in New Zealand.¹⁵⁶

Yet, the international and local diplomatic efforts of Israel to recruit the natives in New Zealand to improve the image of Israel and to develop a positive attitude toward it, are encouraging. The Israeli Embassy in New Zealand is acting to create a coalition with the natives in the country and the politician Alfred Nagarro makes efforts in this direction. Last year he announced that he would assist in creating a coalition for Israel which will include information giving regarding Israel as well as activities for combatting antisemitism among the natives in New Zealand.¹⁵⁷

148. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/300215269/the-growing-issue-of-antisemitism-in-new-zealand>.

149. <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-713285>

150. <https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2022/03/new-survey-finds-shocking-number-of-new-zealanders-believe-jews-brought-the-holocaust-on-themselves-as-concerns-of-antisemitism-rise.html>

151. *ibid*

152. *ibid*

153. <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-713285>

154. <https://nzjc.org.nz/2021/06/12/unite-union/>

155. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDxNdlWGTt8>.

156. <https://www.1news.co.nz/2022/07/12/rise-in-anti-semitic-hate-speech-online-a-risk-to-jewish-community/>.

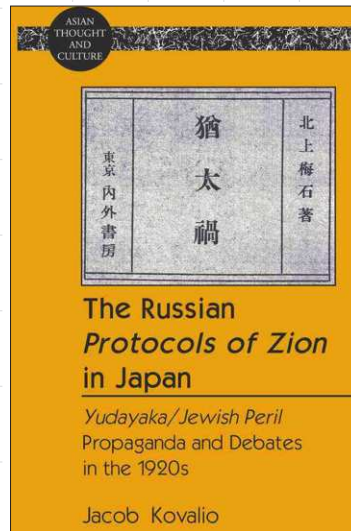
157. <https://www.ynet.co.il/news/article/syxdruzrtz>.



Japan

Throughout history very few Jews lived in Japan, so there was neither a religious and social antisemitism in the state, nor physical violence against Jews as in the Western world. In addition, the Japanese government has never supported antisemitism. The Japanese who disseminated Japanese antisemitic writings presented the Jews as 'ruling the world' but their power was seen as a positive thing; they were admired as the 'rich and smart Jews' and there were calls to learn from them.¹⁵⁸

For hundreds of years there was no Jewish community in Japan. At the end of the 19th century, with its opening to the West, hundreds of Jews arrived in Japan from Europe. In 1885 the Shakspearian play *The Merchant of Venice*, which was considered to be antisemitic, has been presented in Japan and was very successful. In the interpretation of the play, it was written that the Jews were similar to those who belonged to the ostracized class in Japan.



The Japanese also adopted 'The Protocols of the Elders of Zion' a fake document that blamed the Jews of planning to take over the world. The document was disseminated at the beginning of the 20th century by the Secret Russian Police in order to divert the public attention from revolutionary ideas against the Russian Regime. Between 1918-1920 Japanese officers were sent to Siberia in order to assist the Russian 'white army' in its efforts to stop the Communist revolution. Many of the

'white army' soldiers were antisemite. They blamed the Jews of the revolution, and their attitudes affected the Japanese officers. Upon their return to Japan the officers brought with them *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. Thus, in spite of the fact that in that period many Japanese intellectuals opposed antisemitism and expressed support of the Jewish people, antisemitic ideas began to be published in Japanese newspapers and magazines.¹⁵⁹

Hatred of Jews in Japan has expanded at the end of the 80', with the intensification of the economic struggle between Japan and the U.S. The Jews became scapegoats and during the 80' and the 90' there was a surge of antisemitic literature in the country.

Currently only few antisemitic phenomena can be seen in Japan such as the use of swastikas, yet they are usually derived from ignorance rather than from antisemitism. Several years ago, a popular girl's band gave a show in which they were dressed in Nazi uniform. A commotion was caused, and the band apologized and explained that they acted out of misunderstanding.¹⁶⁰

During the last year Israeli diplomats expressed concern regarding antisemitic expressions of two small parties in the country¹⁶¹ (the NHK party and Sanseito party) during the elections campaign. The representatives of the parties were elected to the Upper House of Japan and expressed on several occasions slander about Jews, spread conspiracy



A poster of the Sanseito party. A publication of the party dealt with 'international jewish money' that controlled Western societies

158. <https://www.globes.co.il/news/article.aspx?did=1000975986>

159. <https://www.iias.asia/the-review/russian-protocols-zion-japan>

160. <https://www.ynet.co.il/articles/0,7340,L-4873024,00.html>

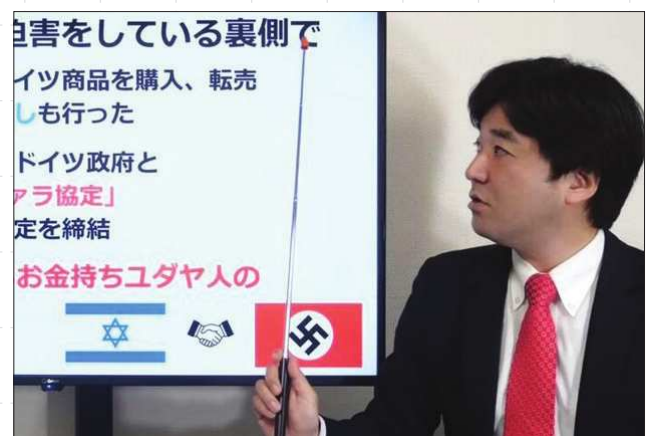
161. <https://www.ynet.co.il/judaism/article/syska8yt5>



theories regarding the Jews' control of money in the Western world and shared false statements about the Jewish influence penetration to Japan. The chairman of the NHK party, Kurokawa Atsuhiko shared a 40-minute-long video in his YouTube channel in which he presented different conspiracy theories. Among other things he spoke of the Jews' part in different wars in the world and their bad influence on the U.S. He claimed that the educational system in Israel was meant to raise spies and blamed Ben Gurion of cooperating with the Nazis and having a 'secret agreement' with Adolf Eichmann. One of his presentations included an image of the Israeli flag 'shaking hands' with the swastika. Kurokawa blamed the World Zionist Organization of cooperating with the Nazis and claimed that one of the members of an opponent party (Sanseito) is 'a Jewish brain-washed spy'. In response, the Sanseito party member denied the accusations and during an elections conference in Tokyo announced that he 'would not allow Jewish money to control Japan' (Yediot Ahronot).

Functionaries of the Sanseito party published lately a book with the platform of the party in which they mentioned 'several organizations led by international Jewish money'. According to their claim, these organizations controlled the West and marked Japan as a target. The antisemitic discourse which was managed by politicians was also related to the murder of the former prime minister, Shinzo Abe. According to publications in Japan, the assassinator blamed Abe of relations with the religious organization

'Unity Church' which was related, according to the assassinator, to the Jews. In the framework of the discussion on the involvement of religious organizations in the Japanese politics, the chairman of NHK party has spread rumors on the social networks according to which the origin of the Unity Church Organization was the Jews and blamed the Jews of interfering with the Japanese politics. The two above mentioned parties were not very popular yet won enough supporters and were able to get to the Upper House. The Israeli Embassy speaker in Tokyo said that event in particular was causing concern since that was the first time in which antisemitic expressions were heard from Japanese politicians and were disseminated on platforms with thousands of followers.



Atsuhiko Kurokawa, by the side of a picture of an Israeli flag shaking hands with a Nazi flag, blamed his enemy saying he is a "brainwashed Jewish spy"

■ The Half Full Glass

In spite of the global trend and the increase in the rate of antisemitic incidents, a silver lining can be seen in the global activities against antisemitism during the last year.

UNITED STATES



The speaker of the White House,¹⁶² Karin Jean Pier condemned the former president, Donald Trump's tongue-lashing of the Jews that they didn't appreciate him enough. She was also asked about the antisemitic remarks of the rapper Kanye West and added that such utterances should be condemned, since they were dangerous, full of hate and repulsive.

The declaration of the president of the U.S., Joe Biden¹⁶³ that he was committed to establishing an organization for coordinating the efforts of combatting antisemitism. In his declaration, the president emphasized that the organization would focus at first on developing a national strategy for combatting antisemitism.

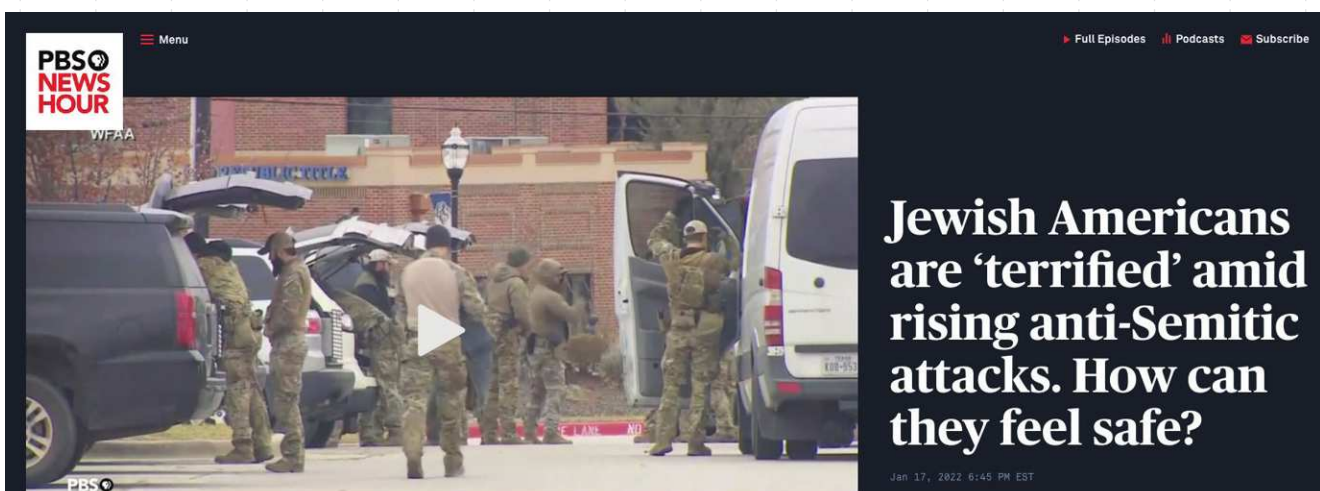
Four former NBA players¹⁶⁴ - Edi Johnson, Edi Carry, Michael Sweetney and Cedric Tony – have joined the

Max Project of the Maccabi World Union and Sighteer company, in a joint venture for combatting racism, antisemitism and intolerance.

The U.S. Ambassador for combatting antisemitism,¹⁶⁵ Debora Lipstadt, criticized severely the words of the Iranian Holocaust denier, Ibrahim Raisi who was interviewed for the '60 Minutes' show of the American CBS channel and expressed doubts that the Holocaust happened.

Ben and Jerry's ice cream¹⁶⁶ - after a year-long struggle Unilever has announced that the Israeli franchiser of the brand would be able to sell ice cream without restrictions in Judea and Samaria as well. The arrangement brought the dispute between the parties to an end.

The company expressed its disappointment and wrote in Twitter: 'We are aware of the new arrangement of the global Unilever. We still believe that selling our ice cream in the occupied territories is a mistake'. Due to the boycott, many pension funds withdrew their investments from Unilever, a move that damaged the company economically.



162. <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/world/america/2022-10-17/ty-article/.premium/00000183-e718-da05-a7ab-efbc8eb70000>

163. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/watch-live-white-house-holds-news-briefing-as-biden-restarts-immigrant-task-force>

164. <https://news.middleeast-24.com/sports/502311.html>

165. https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/us-envoy-lipstadt-calls-raisis-comments-on-holocaust-ludicrous-and-dangerous/

166. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/food/food-news/article/11933363>

EUROPE



The Netherland

This year a **Work Plan of the Coordinating Office for Combatting Antisemitism (NCAB)** was submitted to the Dutch government.¹⁶⁷

The Coordinating Office for Combatting Antisemitism¹⁶⁸ was established in 2021. It supplied advisory and information services for the Dutch government regarding discrimination, threats and activities against the Jewish community, while cooperating with the regime and society in fighting, supporting and encouraging initiatives for combatting antisemitism in Europe in general and in the Netherlands in particular.

The Work Plan written by Eddo Verdoner was sent to the Dutch Parliament by the Minister of Justice and Security, Dilan Yesilgoz-Zegerius. The plan focused on several main aspects: tracking antisemitic activities in the Netherlands; education; prevention of antisemitism and Holocaust memorialization.

The NCAB wishes to take a harder line regarding antisemitic expressions on the social networks as well as against antisemitic songs in football courts. It also calls for enforcement of antisemitic offences by sports clubs, as major tools in the fight against antisemitism.



Belgium

In January 2022¹⁶⁹ the Belgian government revoked the visa of the Imam Muhamd Togegani who called for setting fire to Jews in a video from 2009, while emphasizing that such statements constituted a threat to the national security. Togegani served as the Head of Moroccan Imams in Belgium and as a preacher in Al-Halil Mosque in Molenbeek – one of the biggest Muslim

**IN JANUARY 2022
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CALLED FOR SETTING
FIRE TO JEWS**

religion centers in Belgium.

In last June the parliament in Brussels rejected a Bill which forbade Kosher Shechita.¹⁷⁰ The Bill was submitted by parties with liberal, secular and humanistic agenda that expressed their objection to ritual slaughter of animals. The parliament rejected the Bill with a majority of 42 against 32. The Bill was brought as a consequence of the 2009 regulation of the European which dealt with animals' slaughter and forbade animal slaughtering without prior stunning, religious slaughter excluded. Yet the EU allowed its member states to set restrictions beyond those included in the regulation in order to enable a better protection of animals. Consequently, several European countries forbade Kosher Shechita, including Denmark, Slovenia, Sweden and two counties in Belgium.



France

In March 2022 the European Union Commission adopted the Conclusions and Recommendations Report on Combatting Racism and Antisemitism on behalf of the presidency of France.¹⁷¹

The report included recommendations for developing strategic action plans till the end of 2022, while implementing the action plan against racism of the European Union for 2021 to combat antisemitism. The plan emphasized the importance of education and training and called the member states to raise the awareness of their citizens for the fight against racism and antisemitism, to fulfill their duty for remembrance of the victims of racist violence and antisemitism and to support research and education on Jewish life, antisemitism, Holocaust, racism and slavery.

The recommendation was that the member states of the European Union encourage the media and social networks to implement codes of agreed-upon behavior; act for adopting solutions for identifying harmful contents and remove swiftly online illegal

167. The Netherlands - National coordinator antisemitism work plan presented to the House of Representatives - CFCA | The Coordination Forum for Countering Antisemitism

168. <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/ministeries/ministerie-van-justitie-en-veiligheid/organisatie/organogram/nationaal-coördinator-antisemitismebestrijding-ncab>

169. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/belgium-expels-imam-who-called-for-burning-of-jews-citing-national-security-threat/>

170. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/belgian-lawmakers-ditch-bill-to-ban-kosher-and-halal-slaughter-in-brussels/>

171. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/03/04/council-adopts-conclusions-on-combating-racism-and-antisemitism/>

hate expressions. Such activity would support their ability to legally punish hate crimes and illegal online antisemitic expressions, encourage the establishment of monitoring centers and online platforms on which individuals could report hate contents on the web.

The conclusions of the report call the member states to encourage victims and witnesses of racist and antisemitic incidents to report such incidents, to assure the investigation of such reports and to offer psychological, social and material support, if needed. The report suggested for the member states to include contents related to fight against discrimination, to train the law enforcement authorities, and to develop recommended work methods for identifying and supporting victims, as well as to examine developing by the member states a joint methodology for quantification of racist and antisemitic incidents for statistical purposes.



Greece

This year a summit conference with the participation of mayors and officials from local authorities around the world took place in Greece¹⁷² in order to declare their commitment for combatting antisemitism and to discuss solutions for protecting the Jewish communities in their cities. The conference was an initiative of the Movement for Combatting Antisemitism (CAM) together with the Jewish Impact Center (CJI) and the Jewish Federations in the U.S. (JFNA). Among the participants were representatives of New York, Vienna, Paris, Malmo, Albuquerque, Richmond, Salonika, Mississippi and more.

The Mayor of Athens, the host city and the Chairman of the Conference, Kostas Bakoyannis, spoke of the relation of Athens to the neo-Nazi 'The Golden Dawn' Party and said it should serve as a warning sign for other cities in the world.



Britain

The British government, led by the Minister of Culture, initiated a line of rules legislation for removal of antisemitic contents from the social networks as well as a special legislation for the fight against BDS. The Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, in a letter

172. <https://www.inn.co.il/news/584638>

to the Conservative Friends of Israel, expressed his liability to act for Israel and added that he intended to visit Israel next year, in the framework of the events for its 75th anniversary.^{173 174 175}

Conference of European Rabbis

held this year a special assembly in Munich on the Kosher Shechita issue, together with the European Union officials and other international bodies.¹⁷⁶ The Vice President of the European Parliament who participated in the assembly said: 'the European Union institutions were established in order to protect Europe and to keep it united and tolerant and especially to decisively protect minority rights'.

Nicole Bar who served as special envoy for the fight against religious discrimination and antisemitism said, 'the obligation of Europe and the European Union institutions is to nurture and protect the Jewish life in Europe'.

Daniel Holtgen the speaker of the European Committee and the special representative of the European Committee for combatting antisemitism and crimes on the background of hatred and religious intolerance, added 'the authorities in Europe should deal with ignorance and ideology that was created as a consequence of the resistance to freedom of religion, by education and consistent and determined fight in order to allow normative Jewish life'.

Katherina Von Schnurbein, the coordinator on behalf of the European Commission for combatting antisemitism and promoting Jewish life in Europe added, 'education is the key for protection from religious radicalism in Europe'.

The special envoy for freedom of religion on behalf of the human rights of the U.N., **Ahmed Shahid**, said, 'talking about religious rights is not enough – freedom of religion must express the religious rights of the Jewish communities. We should fight for the rights of the Jewish community'.

173. <https://www.jewishnews.co.uk/rishi-sunak-vows-to-visit-israel-next-year-for-landmark-75th-birthday/>

174. <https://www.jpost.com/bds-threat/article-723736>

175. <https://www.thejc.com/news/news/government-announces-crack-down-on-online-antisemitism-69170fylhMz8Y7LFLCuRqd>

176. <https://www.inn.co.il/news/567439>

SOUTH AMERICA

This year success was marked in Latin America when 73 organizations adopted the IHRA definition for antisemitism. Among those who made efforts in this regard we can find governmental organizations:

- San Luis Santiago del Astergo parliament
- Tiera del Fogo
- The City Council of Pormoza
- The local authority of Pinmar
- Academic institutions and sport institutions:
 - Cuyo university
 - Tucuman
 - Litoral
 - Rio Negro
 - The Federation of Buenos Aires University
 - The biggest student organization in Latin America¹⁷⁷
 - The Young Athletics Club of BOCA
 - The Athletic Club of River Plat

The activity was led by Wiesenthal Institute in Argentina which acted for combatting antisemitism and encouraging the regime authorities, public authorities, organizations and companies in Latin America to adopt the definition.



In February a **priest who preached for murdering Jews¹⁷⁸ was detained** after inciting against Jews for a

177. <https://aurora-israel.co.il/la-organizacion-estudiantil-mas-grande-de-america-latina-adopto-la-definicion-de-antisemitismo-de-la-ihra/>

178. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/judaism/world-news-judaism/article/8542521>

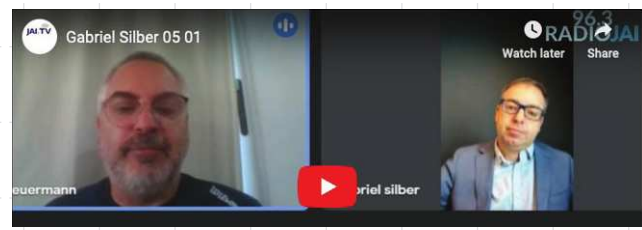
long period of time. In July¹⁷⁹ **he was sentenced to 18 years in prison.**

In December, the biggest online retailer in Latin America reported that it took off the shelves 89% of the products of antisemitic nature during the passing year.¹⁸⁰ The store, Mercado Libre which was opened in 1999 by a Jewish businessman, announced that it took off from its shelves books like Mein Kampf and The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, as well as coins, posters and Nazi souvenirs. The attitude of Mercado Libre was considered stricter than that of other retailers worldwide which usually only limited the access to such products and tended to add a waiver to products with radical content.

ANTISEMITISMO

Diputados chilenos solicitan combatir el Antisemitismo

POR REDACCIÓN RADIO JAI - HACE 3 SEMANAS - EN ANTISEMITISMO



Chile's parliament has passed a decision with a huge majority (112 out of 140, with only 1 opposer) which condemned antisemitism, racism and discrimination. The parliament members demanded that the president appointed a special envoy for the fight against antisemitism.¹⁸¹ It should be noted that last year, the Department of International Relations of the Jewish Agency for Israel has led, in cooperation with the community leadership, a research and tracking project on antisemitism in Chile, which was meant to give the Jewish leadership tools for promoting legislation efforts in this realm.

179. <https://brazil.postsen.com/news/1620/Court-sentences-pastor-to-18-years-in-prison-for-discrimination-against-Jews.html>

180. <https://www.jta.org/2022/12/23/global/latin-americas-biggest-online-retailer-says-it-reduced-antisemitic-products-by-89-this-year>

181. <https://www.radiojai.com/index.php/2023/01/05/137507/diputados-chilenos-solicitan-combatir-el-antisemitismo/>



A world that remembers the Holocaust.

A world without genocide.

Adopting the antisemitism Definition of the IHRA

During last year several countries and organizations have adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism¹⁸²: **Colombia, The Philippines, Finland, Bosnia-Herzegovina and New Zealand** – observer country. 13 governmental non-federal bodies have joined the 320 bodies which already adopted the IHRA definition¹⁸³ in 2016. Among the governmental bodies, which joined this year, were Colombia, Philippines, Finland, Bosnia – Herzegovina and New Zealand – as an observer state.

10 higher education institutions worldwide have adopted this year the **IHRA** definition. Nevada was the first state to adopt the definition,¹⁸⁴ without legislation or a governor’s order. 10 other states in the U.S.¹⁸⁵ adopted the definition and so the number of states which support the definition in the U.S. amounted to 27.

Aviation – the German Lufthansa group was the first aviation company which adopted the definition.¹⁸⁶ In February 2022 several mayors and municipal

council of Karakas in Venezuela¹⁸⁷ officially adopted the definition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). These were the first entities in Venezuela to adopt the abovementioned definition. Several mayors approved the integration of the Holocaust topic in the curriculum as well as including activities related to the Holocaust and hatred crimes in the public schools in their jurisdiction.

In June Colombia adopted the IHRA definition.¹⁸⁸ Jewish community representatives have participated in the execution event, as well as the president of the South American state who already expressed his support of Israel and the Jewish people in the past.

In July it was reported that the Antara Rios County in Argentina passed a law against antisemitism and discrimination¹⁸⁹, as well as adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism. The Argentinian football clubs Boca Juniors, River Plate and Estudiantes de La Plata,¹⁹⁰ joined and adopted the definition as well.

182. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/03/04/council-adopts-conclusions-on-combating-racism-and-antisemitism/>

183. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-701485>

184. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-723991>

185. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-694812>

186. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/lufthansa-adopts-ihra-antisemitism-definition-4-months-after-booting-jews-from-plane/>

187. <https://www.semanariohebreojai.com/articulo/5373>

188. <https://www.jns.org/colombia-adopts-ihra-definition-of-anti-semitism/>

189. <https://noticias.entrerios.gov.ar/notas/entre-ros-ser-la-primer-provincia-con-una-ley-contra-el-antisemitismo-y-la-discriminacion.htm#:~:text=Entre%20R%3%ADos%20ser%3%A1%20la%20primera,la%20Provincia%20de%20Entre%20R%3%ADos&text=GESTI%3%93N%20%2F%20GOBIERNO%20Lunes%204%20de,de%202022%20%3A10%20Hs.>

190. <https://estudiantesdelaplata.com/estudiantes-de-la-plata-hace-su-contribucion-a-la-lucha-contra-el-antisemitismo/>



Antisemitism

The root of the Holocaust and a persistent scourge

The Fight Against Antisemitism on Social Networks and the Private Sector

Nike

After Brooklyn Nets player, Kyrie Irving, has posted an antisemitic video on social networks, the giant sport company, Nike, terminated its contract with him, which was estimated by 11 million dollars. His apology did not prevent the termination of contract or the condemnation by the company.¹⁹¹



Adidas

The company has ended its partnership with Kanye West this year, following his antisemitic remarks.¹⁹²



Twitter and Instagram

The Twitter and Instagram accounts of the international rapper, Kanye West have been blocked for several days. Twitter and Instagram have announced that they removed his antisemitic posts. Elon Musk, the owner of Twitter said that the social medium suspended West's account following his twittering of a swastika inside a Star of David, breached Twitter's regulations and encouraged violence.¹⁹³



Ben and Jerry's

in July 2021 ben and Jerry's announced that they intended to stop selling their products in the Settlements claiming that selling their ice cream in the occupied Palestinian territories contradicted the values of the company. A judge in an American court rejected the attempt of Ben and Jerry's to prevent its mother company, Unilever, to sell Ben and Jerry's ice cream in the Settlements, claiming that there was no clear evidence that selling and marketing ice cream beyond the Green Line will cause an irreversible damage or confusion of customers.¹⁹⁴ Due to the boycott of the company, the Unilever stock fell and its loss was estimated as 26 billion dollars.¹⁹⁵ The fall of the stock was ascribed mainly to the success of the Jewish communities in the U.S. to create cooperation between 33 states in the U.S. which passed laws against the boycott on Israel and used them against Unilever, by withdrawing their investments, holdings and pension funds.



191. https://www.calcalist.co.il/sport_news/article/s1000ruxrs
 192. <https://forbes.co.il/adidas-cuts-ties-with-kanye-wesr/>
 193. <https://www.maariv.co.il/business/tech/Article-962664>

194. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/food/food-news/article/11933363>
 195. <https://fortune.com/2022/12/16/unilever-ben-jerrys-israel-west-bank-ice-cream/>

■ Summary

There were significant achievements this year in the fight against antisemitism. At the top of the list stood states, governments, organizations and international institutions which passed bills and laws related to the fight against antisemitism and adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism which offered tools that made it easy to identify antisemitic phenomena and thus to prevent it. A salient example for extraordinary achievement was the adoption of the IHRA definition by 73 organizations in Latin America.

In a similar vein, the fight against the BDS movement bore fruit and more states adopted rules that limited or forbade doing business with businesses that intended to boycott Israel. These rules were recognized by the Federal Court System that ruled for the first time that rules which forbade contracting with sources that intended to boycott Israel, were legitimate.

In a retrospective 2021 was a record-breaking year in terms of the antisemitic incidents against Jews monitored worldwide. In 2022 in comparison, there was a halt in the number of incidents, yet in spite of the encouraging trend, the number of incidents was still high and represented an average of more than 10 antisemitic incidents a day. In 2022 there were several significant events that had great affect. Among them

was the Russian invasion to Ukraine in February 2022 which led to conspiracy theories among antisemitic groups throughout Europe, according to which the Jews were responsible for the invasion and supported Russia. Other examples were the 'Shover Galim' operation in Judea and Samaria and the death of the journalist Shirin Abu Akla that drew global attention, yet, with a lower intensity in comparison to the military operations in Gaza strip in the past.

When examining the incidents and trends in 2022, several conclusions can be drawn:

- A salient and concern raising change of trend in the last years was the rise in the number and intensity of incidents in the U.S., in comparison to Europe.
- The radical right in Europe and U.S. continues to promote the conspiracy according to which the Jews are taking over the world while the invasion of Russia to Ukraine serves as a convenient envelope for this trend.
- Radical currents in the progressive left, especially in the U.S., undermine the legitimacy of the state of Israel, especially through the use of antisemitic propaganda.
- The BDS movement continues its efforts to negate the right of Israel to exist as the state of the Jewish people and promotes a pro-Palestinian narrative especially in events related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- Pandemics, conflicts and wars between states, such as the Russian invasion to Ukraine, serve as catalysts and incubators for dissemination of conspiracy theories and antisemitic activity against Jews, like the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020-2021.
- Taking advantage of international events such as the FIFA World Cup in Qatar in November-December 2022 for spreading hatred messages, boycotting and antisemitism inside and outside the stadiums, with emphasis on Palestinians' activity.



- An intensification of propaganda and delegitimization has been noted, beside a decrease in violence and vandalism acts. Yet it should be mentioned that there were many street incidents that included physical violence and other forms of violence, some of which ended without harm (a fact that affected the total number of incidents in the general counting).



The surveys and reports examined show a clear trend of great hostility toward Israel in the Western countries, and an intensification of this trend in the U.S., our best friend.

It seems that there is a long-lasting trend of a lesser sympathy toward Israel in the background of concrete frictions with the Palestinians, especially in the progressive left and on campuses. In such political atmosphere a support of Israel becomes inconvenient, if not difficult for some of the Western politicians, against their electorate. We get closer to the point in time in which these politicians would find it hard to go against their electorate and to risk their popularity, or even lose the elections, due to their support of Israel. There is no doubt that such lesser popularity and reduced political support of Israel may intensify antisemitic phenomena that a few years ago were ascribed to the most radical political currents, yet now become mainstream.

An example of such trend can be seen in the results of a survey made by the Euro Track¹⁹⁶ which showed that in most European countries included in the survey, a great majority of the population resents Israel (resentment which has increased significantly as a consequence of the May 2021 events (Shomer Homot operation), and the death of the journalist Shirin Abu Akla during Shover Galim operation). Thus, for example, in Britain the gap between those who oppose Israel and those who support it is 41%: 60% of respondents hold a negative view of Israel and only 19% hold a positive view. In several states there was a dramatic increase of resentment toward Israel, in comparison to previous surveys done at the beginning of February 2021: Denmark (39%); France (36%); and Germany (24%).

As has been in the past, antisemitism is still influential in all aspects of life and can be found in study books, sport, culture as well as economics. Throughout the world we witness an intensification of the anti-Zionist discourse, with an emphasis on **the academic sphere that became in many campuses around the world, a hostile and sometimes even a dangerous environment** for Jewish students and instructors.

A concern raising trend is lack of reports and report quality. There are many organizations in the world that act to document and monitor antisemitism. Part of such documentation is done at the local level and part in a wider geographical area. In some of the states, antisemitic incidents are not documented at all and the data regarding these states is derived from the media and social networks.

Lack of report from different reasons, beside the lack of unified definition and consistent methods for documentation, make it hard to understand the antisemitism state of affairs in some of the states and hence to take action to combat it.

196. EuroTrack: Israel's favourability falls following Gaza strikes <https://yougov.co.uk/topics/international/articles-reports/2021/06/04/eurotrack-israels-favourabilityfalls-following-ga>.

■ Recommendations for 2023



- The Covid 19 pandemic was accompanied by restrictions on the activity in the public physical space and created a new reality in which most of the activity was diverted to the social networks sphere. This reality affected the way of spreading antisemitic ideas and their assimilation and especially supplied platform and gave courage to those who spread antisemitic ideas and messages in the major social networks such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok. During the last year we witnessed an effort by many states to implement codes of behavior in the media, the social networks and to adopt solutions for identification and swift removal of antisemitic contents on the social networks. **We should keep strengthening regulation and control in the framework of freedom of speech including the capability to prosecute those who disseminate antisemitic messages and commit hatred offences, with emphasis on establishing monitoring centers and online platforms for reporting hatred contents.**
- According to our estimation the international trend for adopting the antisemitism **definition of the IHRA** (International Holocaust Remembrance Association) will continue. We should continue our efforts to promote activities in the diplomatic, legal and educational realms and to act for the

adoption of the IHRA definition by other sectors. We should also continue the activities and efforts with different governments, institutions and organizations, related to combatting antisemitism.

- The results of the different surveys¹⁹⁷ which were published during the last years¹⁹⁸ pointed to a worldwide ignorance regarding the Holocaust. In a survey made in the U.S., 63% of the youngsters did not know that 6 million Jews were murdered during the Holocaust and 36% believed that the number was '2 million or less'.

In addition, one of 10 individuals was not sure that the Holocaust took place. Such ignorance is directly related to the intensified expression of antisemitism during the last years.

We are therefore required to increase our efforts worldwide to raise awareness of the fight against antisemitism and racism among different populations and effectively manage the struggle against ignorance by encompassing long-term action strategies with achievable goals, concrete targets, alternative modes of

197. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2022/12/16/commentary/world-commentary/kanye-west-anti-semitism/>

198. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-724187>

action and success indices regarding the required activities, **with emphasis on the importance of education and of training teaching teams**, and raising awareness of online bullying and hatred. We should also promote pluralistic discourse among the young generation, while monitoring the commitment of the states for remembrance and memorialization of the victims of racist and antisemitic violence. **Last but not least, we should promote and encourage the research of Jewish life, antisemitism and the Holocaust.**

- A survey made by the Department for Combatting Antisemitism points to a need to train Israeli youth to deal with antisemitism on the social networks. According to our survey, most of the Israeli youngsters do not feel obliged and / or interested in the diaspora Jews. This state of affairs requires educational interference by the local authorities in order to raise awareness at schools, higher education and non-profit organizations. **The activity related to combatting antisemitism in the educational realm should focus mainly on strengthening the relations with the diaspora Jews and raising awareness for current expressions of antisemitism on the social networks as well as suggesting ways to deal with them.**

- The anti-Israeli Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement suffered this year some serious failures in its attempts to bring different bodies to sever their relations with Israel. The BDS continued its efforts which were directed toward governments, corporations, non-governmental organizations, artists and musicians, during the last year. **We should continue the fight against the movement and its activists and supply tools and information to support the pro-Israeli voices worldwide, while focusing on strengthening the community resilience, the Jewish identity and the relationships between the diaspora Jews and Israel.**
- Many Israeli youngsters go on a trip after the mandatory military service and before starting their higher education studies. These youngsters encounter more than once defamations against Israel and poignant questions. We believe that a thorough understanding of the historical facts by these youngsters hold a great potential for affecting the public opinion worldwide. **Our recommendation is to train and direct young Israeli travelers how to protect the legitimacy of Israel, to deepen their appreciation of the historical achievements of the Jewish state and to encourage them to lead the Israeli advocacy efforts worldwide, based on familiarization with the historical facts, and a convincing reply to the claims raised against the state of Israel.**



■ Appendix A Antisemitism in the Culture and Art Realms

During the last years we witness a gradual invasion of antisemitism to new spheres of life through which it reaches new audiences that were not directly exposed to antisemitism in the past.

One of such spheres is the art and popular culture in which antisemitic messages are spread under the cover of cultural activity, and justified by the right for freedom of expression, allegedly.

Antisemitic artistic expressions are not new! For hundreds of years Jews' hatred expressions appeared in literature, theatre and painting. Not infrequently artists depicted Jews in a negative manner, while emphasizing stereotypical characteristics ascribed to Jews.

Yet, in the modern era, the more the cultural expressions became sophisticated and accessible for the mob, this phenomenon has intensified. During the 30' and 40' of the 20th century, the propaganda mechanisms of the Nazi party produced narrative films presenting the Jewish people as inferior and despised. In addition, toys and games designed for spreading racist messages were made and turned the whole cultural arena to a political stage that served the Nazi party and its principles while excluding Jewish artists and presenting their works of art as 'decayed art'.

In the current technological and global era, we witness two opposing trends. On the one hand the Western world rejects racism expressions and distances itself from hatred of strangers and hostility toward minorities, as well as acts out of a liberal spirit which aspires for the politically correct reactions. On the other hand, the same liberal atmosphere brings hostility toward Jews. The radical version of Liberalism does not consider the Jews to be a minority group, but rather a white group, with great economic and social capital, that uses its power (allegedly) in order to 'rule the world'.

According to these progressive views, the state of Israel is nothing but a colonial state which suppresses the minority groups residing in its territory, and as such, deserves condemnation and boycotting. Thus, specifically now, in the 21st century, we witness a growing trend of antisemitic expressions in art, culture and the social networks.

Sometimes the presentation of Jews resembles the 'classical antisemitism' which depicted Jews as greedy and deceptive individuals who plot to acquire economic control.

An example of such view can be found in an ad for alcoholic drinks published this year in Chile and depicted a stereotypical Jew with a long nose, wearing a skullcap. The ad made use of familiar antisemitic motives: the figure was depicted as 'a ridiculous and evil Jew' and the caption 'cash only' perpetuated the stereotypical image of Jews as materialistic individuals involved with money. The ad demonstrated the escalation in negative attitudes toward Jews in Chile.

Antisemitism in the Media & the Social Networks

Many times, the antisemitic expressions are related to the state of Israel. This phenomenon is apparent mainly on the social networks that serve as a convenient platform for spreading fake news. Thus, antisemitic narratives that include inditement against the Jewish people, Holocaust denial and delegitimization of the state of Israel are easily spread.

The antisemitic discourse is intensified by cultural celebs and key figures on the social networks.

These individuals who share their views with millions of followers, have a significant influence on the public opinion and their antisemitic and anti-Israeli messages reach millions of young people worldwide.

During the last year, unfortunately, there were quite a lot such media incidents. A clear example was the statements of the rapper **Kanye West** on the social networks. He tweeted that he intended to announce an 'emergency situation against the Jewish people' (which was interpreted as a threat on Jews' lives). He shared an angry criticism of the global influence of Jews on Instagram and claimed on television that Jared Kushner (a Jew) acted to promote peace between Israel and the Arab states out of pure economic motives.¹⁹⁹

In another interview he uttered explicit threats about the routine of the U.S. Jews. He said that if he would

199. 202 <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/culture/music/article/13163414>



be elected for president of the United States, he would put cameras in Jews' houses and make them work for the Christians and obey his 'new' dictatorship regime.²⁰⁰ West also called the Jews to forgive Hitler and claimed that the Holocaust was no different from a miscarriage. Lately he uttered harsher expressions: in an interview with the antisemite preacher, Alex Johns, the rapper said that he loved Hitler.²⁰¹

Kanye West's antisemitic expressions aroused wide public reactions. In October a support demonstration in his views was held in Los Angeles. West's fans hung huge signs on a main bridge in Los Angeles and implored the drivers to honk as a sign of their identification with the messages against the Jews.²⁰²

The statements of the popular rapper raised great concern in Israel and among the leadership of the Jewish community in the U.S., especially since he was not the only celeb to use the social networks in order to spread antisemitic messages.

The NBA star, **Cary Irving**, for example, published on Twitter statements with antisemitic scent. Irving, a player on the Brooklyn Nets, expressed his support of an outrageous video which claimed that the Jews wished to subordinate the human population by a variety of means including viruses spreading.²⁰³ The basketball player uploaded a link to the video in Twitter and in his Instagram account²⁰⁴ and thus gave legitimacy to the conspiracy theories that blamed the Jews for the Covid 19 pandemic.

The reactions to Irving's words led to antisemitic calls and incitement against Jews.

The statements of West and Irving were condemned

200. <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-724187>

201. <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/culture/1669919284-kanye-west-tells-alex-jones-i-like-hitler-during-interview>

202. <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/24/us/los-angeles-demonstrators-kanye-west-antisemitic-remarks/index.html>

203. <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/29/sport/kyrie-irving-nets-antisemitic-documentary/index.html>

204. the film: "Hebrews to Negroes: Wake Up Black America" (2018)

by many. The American government and officials on both sides of the political barricade strongly condemned their words and the business sector used economic sanctions against them: sponsors and big apparel brands cut their commercial relations with West and Irving and stopped their employment as presenters of their products.

It should be emphasized that antisemitism in the media was not limited to these two figures. Other figures of the culture world voiced dangerous attitudes toward the Jewish world and condemned Israel, a fact that pointed to an intensifying trend.



The famous comedian, **Whoopi Goldberg** demonstrated ignorance when she claimed that the Holocaust was not related to race but was rather a hate crime of an upper-class white group against another white group. Her demagogic claims made great impact worldwide and were used by Holocaust deniers.

In the anti-Israeli context, it is worth mentioning the Hollywood actor Mark Ruffalo who published a link on twitter to El Jazira article which called for academic boycott on Israel. The publicity given to such articles support the BDS, emphasizes its presence in the media and encourage the public to adopt its principles.

Another example of the impact of the boycott on Israel movement can be found in the music realm. The BDS called artists not to perform in Israel and put heavy pressure on musicians who were planning to arrive to Israel. During the last year the movement has led campaigns against the performances of Marron 5 and the rapper 50 cent in Israel.²⁰⁵ The musicians decided to perform in Israel yet were defamed on the social networks. In the case of 50 cent, many web surfers threatened that in case he would perform in Israel they would no longer be his fans and would stop listening to his songs.

205. <https://www.newarab.com/news/50-cent-perform-israel-amid-bds-calls-boycott>

Antisemitism in the Art Arena

In the artistic realm we witnessed this year exceptional antisemitic displays in the international art exhibition Documenta, which took place in Kassel, Germany. The exhibition which is being held in the place every five years since 1955 is considered to be the most important art event in the world. The exhibition this year lasted three months (June–September 2022), yet Israeli artists were not invited to present their works of art. Several months prior to its opening, there were some claims against the curators in this regard, especially since some of the artists who were invited to present their works were known as radical left representatives who supported the BDS.²⁰⁶

The criticism against such conduct was not successful and the exhibition did not give a stage to Israeli art, while giving a wide stage for Palestinian artists and for works of art with antisemitic contents.

Already at the beginning of the exhibition a huge work of art by the Indonesian Taring Padi collective was presented with antisemitic images. The work of art which was called 'People's Justice' presented Jews and soldiers in a diabolical way, such as an image of a soldier with a pig face and a Star of David. On his helmet the word 'Mossad' was written. Another figure was of a Jew dressed in orthodox outfit with sidelocks and sharp teeth and a hat with Nazi symbols.

The outrageous display caused a commotion in the media. The German Minister of Culture, Claudia Roth expressed her reservations regarding the antisemitic character of the display but said that it was not part of her job to serve as a 'culture policewoman' or to approve the works of art to be presented. The Documenta management first denied the antisemitic character of the display but thanks to the wide protests against it which included demonstrations and petitions, the curators decided to cover the display and to remove it. The manager of the exhibition has resigned.²⁰⁷

The exhibition included other works of art with antisemitic and anti-Israeli contents.

A group of Palestinian artists named 'The Question of Funding' presented a series of works of art named 'Garnica Gaza' which combined images of the attacks



of the IDF with classic motives of works of art by famous artists such as Delacroix, van Gogh and Chagall. The title of the work echoed Pablo Picasso's *Garnica* (1937) which was created as a reply to the destruction of the Basque city by the Nazis during the civil war in Spain. The Palestinian artists hinted to the allegedly resemblance between the IDF and the Nazis and their allegedly similar destructive power.²⁰⁸

Another work of art presented at Documenta included sketches of the Syrian artist Burhan KarKutli which were taken from a brochure of the Palestinian Liberation Movement produced in Algiers in 1988. The sketches described Israeli soldiers as robots with Stars of David on their helmets. One of the sketches presented a woman kicking the crotch of an Israeli soldier with a stereotypical appearance.

In the framework of the exhibition Palestinian movies were screened in which Israeli soldiers were presented desecrating bodies in Christian cemetery. The purpose of the artists was to spread the claim that the IDF was responsible for the manslaughter in the refugees' camps Sabra and Shatila in Lebanon.

The multiplicity of antisemitic and anti-Israeli works of art in Documenta was harshly criticized. Many blamed the exhibition organizers that they supported the BDS

206. <https://www.calcalist.co.il/style/article/b1qswrv3q>

207. <https://www.israelhayom.co.il/news/world-news/europe/article/12565323>

208. https://www.amadeu-antonio-stiftung.de/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/zivilgesellschaftliches-lagebild-antisemitismus_10.pdf



and use the artistic platform for dissemination of their views, yet the curators claimed that the works of art did not have an antisemitic nature, but rather only expressed criticism of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The scientific committee of the exhibition was required to examine the works of art identified as antisemitic and published its findings in September.²⁰⁹ One of its main conclusions was that the artistic management, which this year was placed in the hands of an Indonesian collective, was responsible for presenting antisemitic works of art which presented Israel and its soldiers as violent and dangerous attackers. The committee determined that the exhibition indeed was imbalanced, did not include Jewish views of the Middle East conflict, and that the artistic managers chose works of art that were compatible with their own political views. The apologies for the antisemitic displays were soon heard and among other things, included reference to the cultural and ethnic descent of the artists.

The works of art presented at Documenta this year proved that art which deals with issues related to the Middle East conflict may easily turn into antisemitic. More examples can be found in the cinema, television and sport.

209. The Statement of Finding Committee - documenta fifteen (documenta-fifteen.de)

Antisemitism in Sport

The FIFA World Cup in Qatar which took place this year in Qatar were a fertile soil for spreading antisemitic and anti-Israeli views. The Israeli reporters had to deal with violence and aggression expressions and the international sport event turned into a political arena which was hostile toward Israel. During the tournament the anti-Israeli / anti-Zionist activity was expressed in two fields:

1. **The media field** – Israeli reporters experienced a growing hostility by the citizens of the hosting country, which included physical violence, verbal violence²¹⁰, curses²¹¹ and threats.²¹²
2. **The sport field** – in many games throughout the tournament there were quite a lot of anti-Israeli protests which were expressed by signs with messages for boycott on Israel.²¹³ Thus, in the framework of a sport tournament meant to unite nations and fans for promoting the international sport, the event was used for anti-Israeli protest²¹⁴ that won the support of the international boycott community.²¹⁵



210. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/04/world/middleeast/qatar-israel-world-cup-arab-palestinian.html>.
211. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-and-palestinian-soccer-fans-take-enmity-to-world-cup-in-qatar/>.
212. https://www.mako.co.il/news-columns/2022_q4/Article-c19dd74b238b481027.htm.
213. <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20221127-theres-no-israel-only-palestine-saudi-fan-tells-israel-reporter-he-is-not-welcome-at-qatar-world-cup/>.
214. <https://plus61j.net.au/plus61j-voices/football-protests-against-qatar-likely-to-sail-over-the-crossbar/>.
215. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-723449>.

Antisemitism in Cinema & television

In the cinema and television realm, the Jordanian movie, 'Farha' which depicted the Independence War in a demagogic way and the IDF soldiers as violent and brutal figures, lacking conscience and humanity, should be noted. The movie which was directed by Drin Gi Salam presented the Nakba from the point of view of a young Palestinian named Farha, who hid in the cellar of her house and watched the Israeli soldiers abusing Palestinians and occupying the village in which she lived. In the most difficult scene of the movie the Israeli soldiers killed, for no reason, a family of Palestinian refugees, including a baby who was just born. The father who was suspected as a terrorist due to blood stains on his clothes since he assisted his wife to give birth, was harshly investigated by the soldiers who hit him mercilessly. The movie represented Jordan in the Toronto 2021 Festival and is now available on Netflix. Millions of viewers are now able to watch it and rely on it as a legitimate source of hatred for Israel, and as a justification to antisemitic attitudes.²¹⁶

Palestinians praise **Netflix** film **Farha** for 1948 Nakba representation



Antisemitism in Theatre



In the theatre field we witnessed similar headlines when Jewish organizations brought to the cancellation of the production of the play 'Birds of a Kind' in Munich, claiming that it was antisemitic. The play that was written by the Canadian play writer from a Lebanese descent, Wajdi Mouawad was presented in the past in the Cameri Theatre in Israel.

The play deals with a forbidden love affair between an American student from a German Israeli family and an American Muslim student. One of the scenes shows the firm refusal of his family to his relationship with the Arab student. The scene aroused harsh criticism especially by the Jewish Student Organization that claimed that the Jews were presented in a racist way and as Arab haters. Anna Staroselski, the president of the union, expressed her objection to the play with the words, 'it is hinted by the play and was claimed in it that according to the Jewish tradition and history, Jews must hate Arabs'²¹⁷ and added that the movie distorted reality.

216. <https://neemopani.com/farha-israel-angry-over-netflix-film-on-palestinian-girl/>

217. <https://www.kan.org.il/item/?itemid=139585>

