Modern anti-Semitism in Europe.

Dear colleagues,

Our center has been analyzing Xenophobia for many years, including anti-Semitic and Islamophobic manifestations in Europe. In 2017, we recorded a further increase in these manifestations actually in all countries of our monitoring. The growth of anti-Semitism was recorded in France (20%: + 10%)), in Hungary (27%: + 7%), in Italy (25%: + 1%). The highest level of anti-Semitism was recorded in Greece (69%). This country has been the most anti-Semitic country in Europe for many years. Poland follows it with 33% of anti-Semitic sentiments, but note that about 1000 people are registered in Poland like Jews (ie, for Xenophobia you don't need the subject of phobia).

A high level of anti-Semitism persists in Slovakia (30%) and in Ukraine (29%). It is interesting that among Catholics the level of anti-Semitism in Ukraine is higher than among the Orthodox - 48%. Positive dynamics is present only in Britain (5%: -2%), Poland (-4%) and Russia (4%: -2%). Let me remind you that the outbreak of anti-Semitism in Europe occurred at the beginning of the zero years, when a phenomenon such as "new anti-Semitism" appeared, when European Jews were identified with the policy of Israel.

But I would like to pay special attention to Ukraine. The General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine gives distorted statistics, including on issues of anti-Semitism. It reports on 65 common crimes of hatred. Meanwhile, according to nongovernmental organizations, including bodies affiliated with the Ukrainian government, there were committed 41 crimes only on the basis of anti-Semitism. Obviously, in reality the were committed more crimes.

Anti-Semitism in Ukraine is a logical consequence of the policy of the authorities, since in 2015 the law "On the legal status and commemoration of the fighters for the independence of Ukraine in the twentieth century" was passed there. Among these "fighters", whose criticism by law became criminalized, were the OUN-UPA, which operated in the first years of the Nazi occupation in alliance with the Nazis and was "famous" for the Lviv Jewish pogrom and the Volyn massacre of the Poles, as well as one of the leaders of the Ukrainian People's Republic (1918). -1919) S. Petlura, whose soldiers were "famous" for the most severe Jewish pogroms during the Civil War in Russia. The division of the SS "Galichina", which fought in the ranks of the Wehrmacht during the Second World War, was equated with the fighters for the independence of Ukraine.

It is obvious that if the executioners of the Jewish people become heroes, it is not surprising that a significant part of the population does not see anything shameful in anti-Semitism. If the authorities say that it is necessary to take an example from the heroes of the OUN / UPA, it is logical that people who are well aware of their "heroism" will take an example from them. This is the way to escalate anti-Semitism, and violent actions against Jews.

I would like to turn to the leadership of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to take under control the situation with anti-Semitism in Ukraine.