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**REPORT OF  
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OF THE OSCE ON COMBATING ANTISEMITISM**

**TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE OSCE**

Vienna, 20 November 2008

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# **1. Projects on combating anti-Semitism**

## ***1.1. Letter to the heads of state of the OSCE participating states***

In my two Reports to the Permanent Council in 2007 I informed you about the letter I wrote to the heads of state of the OSCE participating states inquiring about efforts undertaken to combat antisemitism. A follow-up letter I sent on April 21, 2008 yielded a number of additional answers. As of today I received answers from 30 of the OSCE participating states informing me about the general situation of the Jewish community in the respective countries and highlighting efforts to combat antisemitism and promote tolerance. Overall the answers have been very positive and encouraging. A great number of OSCE participating states is very active in combating antisemitism by means of education, law enforcement and promotion of Jewish life and culture. Although not adopted as it stands, the working definition of antisemitism by ODIHR and FRA provides a basis for law enforcement concerning hate crimes in many states.

Besides the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism in Great Britain, which I highlighted as a best practice in my report last year, the answers I received yielded an overview of further noteworthy measures: Canada and Finland are at the forefront of establishing nation-wide, standardized systems of data collection on hate crimes; in the Czech Republic crimes against Jews and the Jewish life are registered separately. Sweden has an Ombudsman against Ethnic Discrimination while the United States of America established a Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism in 2004, who released his report in March 2008. In the Czech Republic an interministerial commission was convened to fight against extremism, racism, and xenophobia while the French President established an Interministerial Commission for Combating Racism and Antisemitism (CLRA). Spain sets another interesting example with its National Commission against Violence in Sports and the Surveillance Bureau for Violence, Racism and Xenophobia in Sports.

Yet other countries have established National Action Plans to fight xenophobia and discrimination including measures in areas like education, monitoring and interreligious dialogue. I regard this as a positive sign that most of the OSCE Participating States are aware of the problem and very determined in combating anti-Semitism across the board.

## ***1.2. Expert Forum on Combating Antisemitism in the German Bundestag***

On my initiative an expert forum was held in the German Bundestag on January 25, 2008 to coincide with the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This conference brought together experts on the topic of anti-Semitism coming from different backgrounds – academia, parliaments, and civil society. German Chancellor Angela Merkel was present to give a keynote speech on the importance of combating antisemitism and sharing best practices. Recent developments concerning anti-Semitism in different social contexts as well as best practices to combat such phenomena were discussed in four plenary sessions:

- 1) Education on the Holocaust and Antisemitism

- 2) Antisemitic Tendencies in Football (Soccer) and Successful Strategies to Combat Them
- 3) Antisemitic Tendencies in the Academic Context and Successful Strategies to Combat Them
- 4) The Role of Europe's Parliaments in Combating Antisemitism

### ***1.3. Hearing of the Committee of the Interior in the German Bundestag on “Antisemitism in Germany”***

One outcome of the expert forum on combating anti-Semitism was the expressed will by many members of the Bundestag to have a hearing in one of the standing committees on anti-Semitism in Germany. I encouraged my colleague in the SPD group, Sebastian Edathy as the chairman of the Committee of the Interior to have a committee hearing on that issue. The hearing took place on June 16, 2008. It assembled a number of experts on anti-Semitism that shared their insights and discussed the issue with the members of the Committee of the Interior.

The following agenda items were discussed:

- 1) anti-Semitism in Germany - current developments
- 2) The role of the Federal State in combating anti-Semitism
- 3) The role of security authorities in combating anti-Semitism
- 4) Expectations of the Jewish community and actors of the civil society

### ***1.4. Side Event on Antisemitism at the HDIM in Warsaw***

At the annual OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw I convened a side event on anti-Semitism that highlighted current developments Lithuania and Poland. The event was attended by members of the official delegations of the OSCE participating states and representatives of various NGOs.

Speakers at the event were Rabbi Andrew Baker, director of International Jewish Affairs of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) Norbert Hinterleitner, Adviser on Anti-Semitism Issues at ODIHR, Dr. Jolanta Ambrosewicz-Jacobs, Head of the Research Section for Holocaust Studies at the Centre of European Studies (Jagiellonian University in Krakow) and Ruta Puisyte, assistant executive director of the Vilnius Yiddish Institute.

### ***1.5. All-Party Motion in the German Bundestag - “Strengthening the fight against antisemitism, continuing promotion of Jewish life in Germany”***

On November 4, 2008 all parties in the German Bundestag supported a motion on combating anti-Semitism and continuing to foster Jewish life in Germany. The motion calls for the application of the OSCE working definition of Antisemitism by law en-

forcement authorities, a periodic report on anti-Semitism in Germany to be compiled by an expert committee, financial support for Jewish academic, cultural and social institutions, continued support for successful pilot projects, increased pedagogic efforts to teach about Jews, Israel and the very cornerstones of our democracy, as well as intensified efforts to halt the distribution of anti-semitic agitation via satellite programmes. The following is an unofficial translation of the original motion.

**German Bundestag**  
**16th electoral term**

**Printed paper 16/10775 (new)**  
04.11.2008

## **Motion**

**tabled by the CDU/CSU, SPD, FDP and Alliance 90/The Greens parliamentary groups**

### **Stepping up the fight against anti-Semitism and continuing to foster Jewish life in Germany**

The Bundestag is requested to adopt the following motion:

I. The German Bundestag notes:

Over six decades after the end of the National Socialist dictatorship in Germany and 70 years after the terror of *Reichspogromnacht* (Night of Broken Glass) on 9 November 1938 Jewish life has put down new roots in Germany. The resurgence of Jewish life and Jewish culture in Germany is a cause for great joy. In addition to kindergartens, schools and other social and cultural institutions, this positive development is documented in particular by the building of new synagogues. Gratitude is owed to the many players from civil society who have made the reconstruction of synagogues possible.

State and civil society institutions show great commitment in fighting anti-Semitism and fostering Jewish life in Germany. The German Bundestag welcomes the many different instances of institutional and financial support extended to the Jewish community by the Federation, the *Länder* and the municipalities, in particular the new agreement between the Central Council of Jews in Germany and the Federation on increased support for the work of the Central Council, as well as the funding for Abraham Geiger College provided by the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Despite this progress, anti-Semitism continues to be a serious social problem in Germany which even manifests itself sporadically at sporting events. All Jewish facilities in Germany are protected by security and are often under permanent police protection. Year after year criminal offences are committed against Jewish men and women in Germany. According to the annual report

published by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, 1541 anti-Semitic criminal acts were committed in 2007, including 59 acts of violence.

It is a cause for concern that anti-Semitism can be found at all levels of the population, often going hand in hand with anti-Americanism and anti-Zionism.

Solidarity with Israel is a non-negotiable part of Germany's principle of state. Nobody who takes part in demonstrations at which Israeli flags are burned and anti-Semitic slogans are chanted is a partner in the fight against anti-Semitism. Showing solidarity with terrorist and anti-Semitic groups such as Hamas and Hizbollah goes beyond the bounds of acceptable criticism of Israeli policy.

New forms of anti-Semitism are emerging increasingly in the Islamist thinking. This Arab and Islamist anti-Semitism is a global danger. One only has to mention the speeches of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran which call repeatedly for Israel to be wiped from the map.

Anti-Semitism is not, however, a phenomenon restricted to political extremism; it must be combated resolutely and on a broad front by the state and civil society and prevented from spreading.

Particular consideration needs to be given here to school curricula. As well as an awareness of history and of how to deal with historical knowledge, there is also a need for schools to deliver ethical education. Repudiation of anti-Semitism needs to be not only learned but internalised so that young people and children are immunised against anti-Semitic attitudes and that values such as human dignity and democratic awareness become firmly embedded.

It is, moreover, of the utmost importance for young people to be given comprehensive knowledge of the conditions which enable our democracy to function so that they understand the elements of democracy and their vital importance for fundamental freedoms, free self-determination and the freedom to form one's own opinions and exercise one's will. The aim is for young people consciously and of their own accord to distance themselves from hostile attitudes based on prejudices.

At an expert forum on anti-Semitism held in the Bundestag on 25 January 2008, the Federal Chancellor, Dr. Angela Merkel, spoke of the important political task of effectively outlawing anti-Semitism and violence and the need to make this very, very clear to the younger generation by example.

Anti-Semitism poses a danger not only to our fellow Jewish citizens but to our fundamental values of democracy, diversity and the observance and upholding of human rights.

In the face of the unfortunate continuing widespread incidence of anti-Semitic prejudice in the population, the high incidence of anti-Semitic incitement in the internet, the continuing large number of anti-Semitically motivated acts and the perpetuation of anti-Semitic myths and clichés in public debate, it is imperative to counter the causes and symptoms of anti-Semitism with undiminished vigour.

A long-term perspective is needed here. Projects to combat anti-Semitism which receive funding from the Federation can enjoy lasting success only if they are supported by society as a whole and are financed on a long-term basis. Model projects which have enjoyed success in the fight against anti-Semitism should therefore be put on a secure long-term financial footing.

The dangers of anti-Semitism have repeatedly been the subject of debates in the German Bundestag and treatment in the committees, most recently in a public hearing of the Committee on Internal Affairs of the German Bundestag held on 16 June 2008. This dealt among other things with the regular publication of a report on anti-Semitism.

## II. The German Bundestag resolves

to recommend that in their work state agencies take into account and use the working definition of anti-Semitism formulated by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Fundamental Rights Agency.

## III. The German Bundestag calls on the Federal Government

to continue to provide intensive political support and protection for Jewish life in Germany in all its manifestations by

1. commissioning an expert body made up of academics and practitioners to publish a report on anti-Semitism in Germany at regular intervals and in it to make recommendations on drawing up and further developing programmes to combat anti-Semitism;
2. providing funds from the Federation's budget to promote the establishment and upkeep of Jewish academic, cultural and social institutions, e.g. the establishment of the Hebraic Graduate School of Europe in Berlin;
3. lobbying for an expansion of school curricula to include subjects relating to Jewish life, Jewish history and present-day Israel and in addition knowledge to provide children and young people with an understanding of democracy to enable them to act with awareness and free from anti-Semitic attitudes;
4. examining whether existing federal programmes to combat anti-Semitism adequately take into account the protection of victims of anti-Semitic

crimes and expanding and strengthening federal programmes in this respect. A review needs to be carried out in the first quarter of 2009 to examine how the financing of particularly important and successful model projects to combat anti-Semitism can be secured on a lasting basis;

5. stepping up efforts to bring an end to the broadcasting of anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic propaganda in Germany via third country satellite television.

#### IV. The German Bundestag renews its commitment

to respond resolutely and with the utmost determination to any form of hatred of Jews and anti-Semitism before it has an opportunity to take hold. We are happy to have Jewish life and Jewish culture here in Germany again. A strong and diverse Jewry will enrich co-existence in German and Europe and strengthen cohesion in Europe.

Berlin, 4 November 2008

**Volker Kauder, Dr Peter Ramsauer and parliamentary group**

**Dr Peter Struck and parliamentary group**

**Dr Guido Westerwelle and parliamentary group**

**Renate Künast, Fritz Kuhn and parliamentary group**



## **1.6. Letter to the Ministers of Education of the German Federal States**

In order to promote the widespread use of the Teaching Material on combating anti-semitism that have been developed by ODIHR in cooperation with the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, I wrote to all the State Ministers for Education of the German Federal States. Education lies within the sole competency of the individual states and because of this I urged the Ministers for Education to promote the use of these materials among teachers and referred to the website where the material can be ordered for free. It is very encouraging that the "Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung" (Federal Center for Political Education) could report that by October 2008 10.000 copies of the Teaching Materials and 3.500 copies of the Hand-outs had already been ordered by individuals.

## **2. Overview of further activities**

### **2.1. Coordination Meetings**

10.01.2008	Meeting of the Personal Representatives with the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship	Vienna	Coordination Meeting
26.02.2008	Meeting with the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship and ODIHR	Warsaw	Coordination Meeting

### **2.2. Visits**

23.-24.10.2008	Ukraine: Implementation of Teaching Materials and meeting with Ministries (with ODIHR Adviser on Anti-Semitism issues, Mr. Norbert Hinterleitner)	Ukraine	Visit
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The talks in Kiev focused on the OSCE commitments by Ukraine on tolerance and non-discrimination of minorities. One focal point was the introduction of Teaching Materials on anti-Semitism, which were developed by Ukrainian experts specifically for history lessons in the Ukraine. I also took part in the "Kyiv Talks" that this year dealt with "History and Politics of Remembrance in Ukraine and Europe".

All dialogue partners stressed the importance of combating anti-Semitism and xenophobia and assured their support in the implementation of OSCE projects.

**Agenda****Thursday, October 23rd**

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|-------------|---|
| 14.00-15.00 | Meeting with Viktor Kryzhanivskyi (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Special Representative of Ukraine for Transnistrian Settlement)  |
| 16.30-17.30 | Meeting with Olena Kuznyetsova (Department for International Cooperation and European Integration at the Ministry of Education) & Kasymyr Levkivskij (Deputy Director of the Institute for Information Technology and Content of Education)   |
| 18.30-19.30 | Meeting with Dr. Anatoly Podolsky (Ukrainian Center for Holocaust Studies) and Mr. Oleksandr Voytenko (All Ukrainian Association for History teachers – Nova Doba) to discuss their ongoing co-operation with ODIHR on the development and implementation of an Ukrainian version of the ODIHR teaching tools on anti-Semitism. |
| 20.30       | Participation at Welcome Reception for the Kievan Talks (Marijnski Palace)  |

**Friday, October 24th**

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 10.00 -11.00 | Meeting with Jaroslaw Sawtschyn (Ukraine Security Service, Head of Department for Combating Antisemitism and Xenophobia)                         |
| 11.15-12.15  | Meeting with the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, Ambassador Lubomir Kopaj and Mr. Todd Becker, Senior Project Manager.                      |
| 12.30        | Reception by Ambassador Dr. Hans-Jürgen Heimsoeth; Meeting with representatives of NGOs, the Jewish community, Ukrainian Ministries and the OSCE |

**Outcome of the meetings:**

- agreement with the Ministry of Education (MoE) to work on a Memorandum of Understanding between ODIHR and the MoE
- establishment of a working contact with the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
- establishment of working contact with NGOs
- discussion of future co-operation with ODIHR project partners

### **2.3. Participation in OSCE/ODIHR conferences and meetings**

21.- 22.02.2008	OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Winter Meeting	Vienna	OSCE PA
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02.06.2008	Presentation of ODIHR Teaching Materials on Antisemitism	Berlin	Presentation
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At the invitation of the "Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung" (bpb, Federal Center for Political Education) and the Federal Foreign Office, the German version of the Teaching Materials on antisemitism were presented to the public in Berlin on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008 on the occasion of their publication by the bpb. The materials were developed by the Center for Research on Antisemitism at the Technical University Berlin and the Fritz Bauer Institute in cooperation with ODIHR and the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam.

Dr. Juliane Wetzel of the Center for Research on Antisemitism moderated a panel discussion on "Commitment to combating anti-Semitism" with Dr. Susanne Reichrath, State Secretary for Education, Family, Women and Culture of the Saarland, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Benz of the Center for Research on Antisemitism, Dr. Harald Geiss of the Federal Center for Political Education in Bonn, Norbert Hinterleitner, Adviser on anti-Semitism at ODIHR, and myself.

17.06.2008	Conference of the Finnish Chair- manship: ODIHR Meeting of the Na- tional Points of Contact on Hate Crimes	Helsinki	Conference
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29.06.- 03.07.2008	OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Summer Meeting	Astana	OSCE PA
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27.- 28.10.2008	OSCE Mediterranean Conference	Amman	Conference
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On October 28<sup>th</sup> I took part in the Session on "The OSCE's human rights and tolerance commitments and their relevance to the Mediterranean region" at the OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Amman, Jordania. The session was moderated by HE Mr. Ian Cliff, United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE; Ms. Entela Gjika from Albania served as Rapporteur. The session focused on:

- Applying OSCE commitments on combating intolerance and discrimination to promote mutual respect and understanding;

- Inter-cultural dialogue, including as a conflict prevention tool in the Mediterranean region;
- National human rights institutions and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights, with special focus on migrants;
- The role of civil society in supporting reforms, economic, social, and cultural development and the democratic process, exchange of views on the experience of the OSCE participating States and the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.

Speakers at the session included Ms. Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport; Council of Europe Coordinator on Inter-cultural dialogue and H.E. Dr. Muhyieddeen Touq, Jordan Human Rights Commissioner. Ambassador Ömür Orhun, Personal Representative of the OSCE CiO on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims and myself served as discussants.

#### ***2.4. Participation in conferences, meetings, and round tables***

29.01.2008	Hearing of the U.S. Helsinki Commission "Taking Stock: Combating Antisemitism in the OSCE Region"	Washington, D.C.	Hearing
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This was the first of a series of hearings by the Helsinki Commission of the U.S. House of Representatives focused on reviewing efforts to monitor and combat anti-Semitic activities throughout the OSCE region. Together with Dr. Kathrin Meyer, then Adviser on Anti-Semitism Issues at ODIHR, I served as a witness to the members of the Helsinki Commission.

**Statement by Prof. Gert Weisskirchen****Prof. Gert Weisskirchen**

Member of the German Parliament  
Spokesman on Foreign Affairs of SPD-Group  
Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office  
of the OSCE on Combating Antisemitism

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Berlin, January 2008

Since 2005 I have been appointed by the respective Chairman-in-Office to the position of Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism. Now, in my third year of this mandate, it is time to take stock of the current situation, point to successes and positive trends, make critical assessments, and then look ahead to the future.

**OSCE conference in Bucharest**

The mandates of the Personal Representatives of the Chairman-in-Office were created as a consequence of OSCE anti-Semitism conferences held in Vienna, Berlin, Paris, Brussels, and Cordoba. A further OSCE conference was held in Bucharest from 7 to 8 June 2007: the High-Level Conference on Combating Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding. It was preceded by a NGO meeting.

The Bucharest Declaration contains the following passage:

"Recognizing its unique and historic character, [the participating States] condemn anti-Semitism without reservation, whether expressed in a traditional manner or through new forms and manifestations. [They] Reiterate previous OSCE declarations that international developments or political issues, including in Israel or anywhere else, can never justify anti-Semitism."

Prior to that the NGOs formulated nine recommendations and made reference in this context to the special role of education and parliaments. I strongly support all of these recommendations and in particular the appeal issued by the NGOs to take action against expressions of racial hatred and anti-Semitic discourse on the Internet. I have listed these recommendations for you at the end of this part.

As of June 2007 a total of 48 separate commitments had been made by OSCE participating States in reference to the fight against anti-Semitism. These commitments are necessary. There is a need now to strengthen the political will to implement these commitments in all OSCE countries. Many countries have been quite exemplary in this area. Unfortunately there are other countries whose efforts have not been sufficient.

**Current state of affairs**

Despite the considerable efforts that have been undertaken in many participating States and the numerous conferences that have been held, there have been recurrent manifestations of anti-Semitism in many countries of the OSCE region. This includes countries whose governments and public institutions have had an excellent record in the fight against anti-Semitism. In Germany, for instance, a rabbi from the Jewish congregation in Frankfurt was injured in a knife attack. In addition to egregious acts of violence like this one, there are often other, much more subtle forms of anti-Semitism that are a cause for concern. What is dangerous, for instance, are attempts to make anti-Semitic attitudes predominant in public discourse.

One of my objectives is to create an awareness of different forms of anti-Semitic discourse. I can give two examples of this from my work.

In May 2007 the British University and College Union (UCU) called for an anti-Israeli boycott. Other unions followed this example with similar actions. I issued a press release immediately condemning this call for a boycott. I travelled to London in July to talk with the unions in a further attempt to raise public awareness of this matter.

There was a disquieting development in Croatia. The popular singer Marko Perkovic, alias "Thompson", started showing various symbols from the Ustasha era at concerts. During a country visit to Croatia in 2007 I was able to talk to a number of government representatives as well as representatives of the Jewish communities. The objective here was to reach a consensus with my Croatian interlocutors that nationalistic tendencies of any kind need to be nipped in the bud.

I wrote a letter to all the heads of government of the OSCE participating States in which I proposed that an inquiry similar to the British All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry be carried out. This was also recommended by the NGOs in Bucharest. I enclosed the Magenta Foundation report on the 1st International Conference on Academic Anti-Semitism and the ODIHR-FRA Working Definition of Anti-Semitism. In the meantime I have received answers from some of the governments. Most of them use the working definition of anti-Semitism that was jointly formulated by ODIHR and the Fundamental Rights Agency. Unfortunately none of the reply letters has made any concrete statements to the effect that plans are being made to use an instrument similar to the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry.

### **CiO Personal Representative mandates**

The role of CiO Personal Representatives encompasses three areas:

1. They implement the decisions taken by the participating states at OSCE Conferences.
2. They draw attention to both progress and setbacks in the implementation process.
3. They encourage efforts by civil society groups and promote national and transnational cooperation between social, parliamentary and governmental actors.

It will hardly be possible to carry out these tasks in a satisfactory manner with the current mandate structure. The Personal Representative mandates need to be equipped with further instruments if they are to be able to do justice to these functions. At the moment there is a considerable gap between what would actually be required and what exists in reality and this gap needs to be closed.

It would be nice if there were more support from the OSCE participating States. This year only one country visit has been agreed thus far, i.e. to Croatia. Unfortunately there have been no further invitations from other countries. Contacts and meetings with NGOs and representatives of the Jewish communities in the various countries is very important in terms of doing justice to the CiO Personal Representative mandates.

Prior to the appointment of the Personal Representatives the following six areas were declared to be in particular need of attention:

- 1) *Data collection*
- 2) *Legislation*
- 3) *Law enforcement*
- 4) *Education*
- 5) *Media*
- 6) *Parliaments*

Progress has been made over the past few years in most of these areas.

In November 2006 OSCE ODIHR held a Tolerance Implementation Meeting in Vienna on the subject of Data Collection. NGOs formulated various recommendations which I have listed in my written statement. I want to focus here on one of the most important recommendation the NGOs formulated:

We remind participating States of their commitment to provide hate crime statistics on a regular basis and to respond to violent manifestations of intolerance;

Various tools provided by OSCE ODIHR have proven to be very helpful. The OSCE ODIHR Law Enforcement Officer Programme has already been implemented in some countries and is in either the planning or preparatory stages in others. ODIHR is also working on a training programme for public prosecutors.

Teaching materials on the subject of anti-Semitism have been developed for a number of countries and are now in use there.

A code should be developed together with authors, journalists, and publicists that would constitute a voluntary moral and autonomous agreement to show tolerance and recognize the rights of minorities. A project of this kind has already been discussed with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

The OSCE PA can be used as a laboratory for testing new legislative approaches. National parliaments should be encouraged to strengthen their ability to monitor the results of decisions in the OSCE. An instrument comparable to the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry could be employed in other countries as well. It would be a good thing if OSCE PA national delegations were to promote an initiative of this kind in their parliaments.

### Outlook

Many parliaments have been exemplary in their efforts to fight anti-Semitism and recognize the scale of the problem. Nonetheless, there has been growing acceptance of anti-Semitic statements and stereotypes in some countries, as was observed in the autumn of 2006.

As such, it is of crucial importance that civil society be included in the fight against anti-Semitism. We cannot afford to lose those who are in the middle of the political spectrum. It must be guaranteed that social initiatives and projects will receive the support they need to be able to do their work successfully. It is a task for the national parliaments to see to it that there is sufficient funding for civil society projects of this kind.

We need to work towards an exchange of information on promising methods of fighting anti-Semitism. We are currently able to say that there are a number of particularly successful projects that could be implemented in other countries.

In Sweden, for instance, there is an exit programme for radical neo-Nazis. Over a period of many years case workers have succeeded in getting numerous individuals out of the right-wing extremist scene. No one is given up for lost.

In France official data on anti-Semitic violence and other manifestations of anti-Semitism is compared with data received from NGOs. Since NGOs do not use the same strict criteria for data collection, a more precise picture emerges as to the scale of anti-Semitic crimes.

The appointment of special envoys responsible for dealing with the subject of anti-Semitism and relations with Jewish communities results in the problem being seen more clearly on the part of executive government as well. There are special envoys of this kind in the United States, France, Poland, Spain, and Germany.

The following countries stand out for their efforts to fight anti-Semitism through education by taking part in the ODIHR Anne Frank House Project and developing relevant teaching materials: Germany, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, and Ukraine. I have actively supported this ODIHR programme from the outset and I am pleased by the success it has had in many countries.

As has already been mentioned, the CiO Personal Representative mandates need to be expanded so that they can be carried out in a satisfactory manner. The provision of physical and human resources would be helpful in making our work more effective.

I am certain that we will continue to have strong support for carrying on the fight against anti-Semitism.

24.- 25.02.2008	International Conference of the Global Forum for Combating An- tisemitism	Jerusalem	Conference
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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Jerusalem and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Services and for Diaspora Affairs invited to an international conference on combating antisemitism. In a number of plenary sessions, experts from around the world discussed a variety of subjects: anti-Semitism under the disguise of anti-Zionism, government and parliamentary actions, anti-Semitism in the Muslim and Arab world, antisemitism in the media and the internet, anti-Semitism in the media and extreme liberal left circles, anti-Semitism in international organizations and human rights groups, as well as best practices. I served as Rapporteur at the Honorary Opening of this conference.

Abstract: Opening Remark for "Global Forum on combating AS" in Jerusalem

In April 2004 the Participating States committed to nine concrete measures to combat anti-Semitism across the OSCE region. These include commitments in the fields of, inter alia; legislation, data collection on anti-Semitic crimes, education on anti-Semitism and the Holocaust as well as the fight against anti-Semitic propaganda in the media and on the Internet. As of July 2007, 46 out of the 56 Participating States had submitted information about legislation, statistics and practical initiatives (or at least about one of these fields) to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). This level of cooperation in the fight against anti-Semitism is encouraging, but a lot of work still remains to be done. Provided the cooperation by the governments of the Participating States, it is my task as the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office for combating anti-Semitism to accompany the implementation of the aforementioned commitments and to be of help in this process whenever problems should arise.

28.02.2008	Conference "Education after Auschwitz – today"	Mannheim	Conference
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In cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation I organized a conference on "Education after Auschwitz – today" as part of the series "Forum Challenges of Democracy". Various experts reported on and discussed issues like democratic education to moral courage, the Holocaust in curriculae, educational projects with Youths and other topics.



16.04.2008	Speech on "Antisemitism in Europe" at Hebrew College in Boston (Yale Initiative for the Interdisciplinary Study of Antisemitism)	Yale, Boston	Seminar, Speech
18.09.2008	Regional Conference on Combating Antisemitism by the Foreign Ministry of Romania	Bucharest	Conference

At the invitation of H.E. Mr. Lazar Comanescu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania, a regional conference on combating anti-Semitism was held in Bucharest that brought together officials from the EU and the OSCE as well as representatives of NGOs. Current issues relating to anti-Semitism were discussed at four plenary sessions that dealt with combating anti-Semitism at the national level, legislative measures, the role of police and law enforcement bodies and the role of education and the mass media in addressing this problem.

**A G E N D A****Regional Conference on Combating Antisemitism**

- Bucharest, Palace of the National Military Center, 17 - 18 September 2008 -

**Wednesday, 17 September**

Registration of participants

**19.30 Reception offered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania, H.E. Mr. Lazăr Comănescu, to all participants**

*Location:* Diplomatic Club

**Thursday, 18 September**

**8.00 - 9.00** Registration of participants

**9.00- 9.45 Formal opening of the Conference**

*Moderator:* H.E. Mr. Lazăr Comănescu, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania

*Opening remarks:*

- H.E. Mr. Traian Băsescu, President of Romania (TBC)
- H.E. Mr. Călin Popescu-Tăriceanu, Prime Minister of Romania (TBC)

*Key-note speaker:* Prof. Gert Weisskirchen, Personal Representative of the Chairman in Office on Combating Antisemitism, OSCE

**09.45 - 11.45 Opening plenary session:**

*Topic:* **Current Issues related to Antisemitism at National Level**

*Moderator:* Mr. Norbert Hinterleitner, Adviser on Antisemitism Issues, OSCE/ODIHR

*Key-note speaker:* Mr. Paul Shapiro, Director of Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

*Interventions:* Heads of delegations (3 minutes)

**11.45 - 12.00** Coffee break

**12.00 - 13.30 Plenary session 1:**

*Topic:* **Legislative Measures for Combating Antisemitism**

*Moderator:*

*Key-note speaker:* Michael Shafir, Professor at the Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca - "Varieties of Antisemitism in Post-Communist Romania"

*Interventions:*

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania

31, Aleea Alexandru, Bucharest-1, Romania

Tel.: +4021-431.13.43, fax: +4021-319.23.67, e-mail: [luiza.popa@mae.ro](mailto:luiza.popa@mae.ro)

- Romanian Minister of Justice (TBC)
- Mr. Aurel Vainer, President of the Federation of Jewish Communities from Romania, MP of Romania
- Mr. Paul Goldenberg, OSCE/ODIHR (TBC)
- Mr. Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, Head of Unit Research and Data Collection, EU/AFR

**13.30 - 14.45 Working luncheon offered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania to all participants**

**14.45 - 16.15 Plenary session 2:**

*Topic:* **The Role of the Police and Other Law Enforcement Bodies in Fighting Antisemitism**

*Moderator:*

*Key-note speaker:*

*Interventions:*

- Romanian Minister of Interior and Administrative Reform (TBC)
- Mr. Paul Goldenberg, OSCE/ODIHR (TBC)

**16.15 - 16.30** Coffee break

**16.30 - 18.00 Plenary session 3:**

*Topic:* **The Role of Education and Mass-Media in Addressing Antisemitism**

*Moderator:* Mr. Daniel Mariaschin, Vice-President of B'nai B'rith International

*Key-note speaker:*

*Interventions:*

- Romanian Minister of Education, Research and Youth (TBC)
- Mr. Iulian Fota, Director of National Defense College of Romania
- Mr. Rolandas Racinkas, Executive Director of the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania

**18.00 - 18.45 Formal closing of the Conference**

*Moderator:*

*Closing remarks:*

- Romanian Minister of Culture and Religious Affairs (TBC)

*Key-note speaker:* H.E. Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director for International Jewish Affairs, American Jewish Committee