



## PROGRAMME FOR THE EXPERT MEETING ON COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE OSCE REGION

### 1 February

**15.00-15.05** Opening of the meeting by Ambassador Ulrika Sundberg, Swedish Special Envoy on Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue

**15.05-15.15** Welcome address by the Chairperson-in-Office (CiO) of the OSCE, Ann Linde, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden.

**15.15-15.25** Introductory remarks by Rabbi Andrew Baker, CiO Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism;

**15.25-15.30** Presentation by Matteo Mecacci, Director of OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

### **15.30-16.10 Panel 1. How to prevent anti-Semitism and enhance security for Jewish communities through effective crisis management – sharing of best practices.**

ODIHR's recent hate crime report indicated that in 2019 some 22 percent of all hate crimes were anti-Semitic in nature, even though Jews constitute less than one percent of the population in the OSCE region. In 2020 we witnessed a rise of anti-Semitism during the pandemic and continued violent attacks with anti-Semitic intent. Providing security for the Jewish community remains a critical challenge for all participating States. The panel of experts will explore how anti-Semitism and hate crimes can be prevented and share best practices on prevention and inclusion, initiatives to enhance security and crisis management.

**Moderator:** Yfat Barak-Cheney, Director for International Affairs, World Jewish Congress.

**Speakers:**

- Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov, OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities;
- Associate Professor Dr. Regina Polak, CiO Personal Representative on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions;
- Ambassador Mehmet Paçacı, CiO Personal Representative on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims;
- Katerina Vyzvaldova, Policy analyst, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights;
- Johan Tynell, Scandinavian Jewish Community Security Initiative;
- Jonathan Boyd, Executive Director, Institute for Jewish Policy Research.

**16.10-16.50 Discussion with participants**

**16.50-17.00 Summary of deliberations**

- Summary of debate by Mikolaj Wrzeczionkowski, Adviser on combating anti-Semitism, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, ODIHR
- Concluding remarks by Rabbi Andrew Baker, CiO Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism.

**2 February**

**15.00-15.15 Presentation of Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism.**

The Swedish Prime Minister will host the Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism on 13-14 October 2021. The event will celebrate the

20th anniversary of the establishment of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) and the Stockholm Declaration.

**Speakers:**

Karin Wallensteen, State Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office;

Petra Mårselius, Head of Secretariat, Secretariat for the Malmö Forum.

**15.15-15.50 Panel 2: How to create broad coalitions including participating States, civil society actors, Jewish communities, other religious or belief communities, as well as international organizations, to combat anti-Semitism, racism and intolerance.**

The OSCE uniquely brings civil society and government representatives around the same table.

The 2014 Basel Ministerial Council Declaration stressed the importance of States collaborating with civil society through effective partnerships and strengthened dialogue and cooperation on combating anti-Semitism. Several participating States and international organisations have appointed special envoys, coordinators, or focal points to strengthen the fight against anti-Semitism. The panel will explore how to support coalition building and promote cooperation and coordination by participating States, civil society actors, Jewish communities, other religious or belief communities, as well as international organizations, to combat anti-Semitism, racism and intolerance.

**Moderator:** Felice Gaer, Director for Jacob Blaustein Institute for the advancement of Human Rights, American Jewish Committee

**Speakers:**

- Ahmed Shaheed, UN Special rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief;
- Daniel Hölzgen, Council of Europe's Special Representative on antisemitic, anti-Muslim and other forms of religious intolerance and hate crimes;

- Katarina von Schnurbein, Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism and fostering Jewish life, European Union;
- Karel Fracapane, Programme Specialist, UNESCO;
- Leon Saltiel, Coordinator on Countering anti-Semitism, World Jewish Congress.

#### **15.50-16.40 Discussion with participants**

#### **16.40-17.00 Summary of the two sessions and recommendations for future actions.**

- Summary of debates by Kishan Manocha, Head of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, ODIHR;
- Concluding remarks by Rabbi Andrew Baker, CiO Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism and Ulrika Sundberg, Special Envoy on Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden.