



Federal Foreign Office



**10th Anniversary of the
OSCE's Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism**

**High-Level Commemorative Event and
Civil Society Forum**

12 – 13 November 2014

Berlin, Germany

FINAL REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2004, high-level representatives of OSCE participating States gathered in Berlin to explore challenges related to manifestations of anti-Semitism in the OSCE region at a conference hosted by the German government. OSCE participating States acknowledged that anti-Semitism had assumed new forms and poses a threat to security and stability in the OSCE region in the ensuing Berlin Declaration. At the time, and at subsequent Ministerial Council Meetings, OSCE participating States assumed responsibility for addressing this challenge (MC Decisions No. 12/2004, No. 10/2005, No. 13/2006, No. 10/2007, No. 9/2009, No. 3/2013). In particular, they pledged to enact a comprehensive set of measures to respond to violent manifestations of anti-Semitism, whilst also committing themselves to implement educational activities to raise awareness about anti-Semitism and promote remembrance of the Holocaust. Ever since, the commitment to address and respond to anti-Semitism and other biases has been part of the OSCE's work in the human dimension of security.

Ten years after the Berlin Declaration, it was time to take stock of how these commitments were implemented and to review them in light of new challenges. To this end, a High-Level Commemorative Event was convened on 13 November 2014. This event was attended by 495 participants, including 181 delegates and members of parliament from 42 participating States, nine representatives from two OSCE Partners for Co-operation, ten representatives of the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship, nine representatives of seven international organizations, seven representatives of three OSCE Institutions, one representative from an OSCE Field Operations, and 237 civil society representatives. Conversations about challenges and good practices in countering anti-Semitism were facilitated in two high-level and a civil society panel. In addition to assessing what has been achieved since the adoption of the 2004 Berlin Declaration, this meeting provided OSCE participating States with an opportunity to commit themselves to addressing today's challenges related to anti-Semitism in line with human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The event provided civil society organizations and youth representatives with the opportunity to develop and present recommendations to OSCE participating States. To this end, the community and civil society representatives met in a Civil Society Forum on 12 November 2014, which was designed to discuss the implementation of OSCE commitments on anti-Semitism, with a view to producing a comprehensive list of recommendations to be presented to participating States. In light of the Swiss Chairmanship's efforts to "enhance involvement of civil society and in particular young people in the work of the OSCE", the civil society forum also included representatives of youth organizations. Participants used the opportunity to share good practices and experiences that illustrate what can be done to effectively and sustainably prevent and address anti-Semitism, and to facilitate and enhance coalition-building, exchange and co-operation among civil society organizations throughout the OSCE region.

This report summarizes the discussions that took place during the High-Level Commemorative Event. The annex includes opening remarks and the introductory speech, and presents the civil society recommendations as well as the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship conclusions. In addition, it documents the 2004 Berlin Declaration and the Declaration on Enhancing Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism, which was adopted in the follow-up of the event by the OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Basel on 5 December 2014.

OPENING SESSION

Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Federal Foreign Minister of Germany

Didier Burkhalter, Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Michael Georg Link, Director, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

The Federal Foreign Minister of Germany, Frank Walter Steinmeier, welcomed the participants, recalling that OSCE participating States gathered in 2004 to make a statement against anti-Semitism in the city where the Shoah had been conceived, planned and executed. Steinmeier characterized the 2004 Berlin Declaration as a milestone in the international fight against anti-Semitism. With the Berlin Declaration, he elaborated, OSCE participating States did not only acknowledge that anti-Semitism poses a threat to democracy, human rights and security in Europe, but they also agreed to undertake a concrete set of measures to address this challenge at the national and international levels. In light of this, Steinmeier explained, it is important to assess whether words have resulted in action. Reflecting on the situation in Germany, the Federal Foreign Minister stated that Jewish life is flourishing. He stressed that manifestations of anti-Semitism are an attack on the heart of society, as anti-Semitism goes against the constitution, against civilization and challenges everything we have learned and believe in. Therefore, he argued, fighting anti-Semitism is not only a way of protecting the rights and safety of a minority, but also protecting the core of society. Steinmeier then provided an overview of the measures undertaken by Germany to raise awareness and teach about anti-Semitism in addition to developing legal responses to anti-Semitism and supporting Jewish life.

Minister Steinmeier moved on to express concerns about the wave of anti-Semitic incitements and attacks that had occurred in the months preceding the conference in many European cities, including in Germany, and emphasized that nothing can justify these expressions of anti-Semitism. Noting that latent anti-Semitism masked as criticism of Israel had existed before, he stressed that the events that occurred during recent months had taken these challenges to a new level. The Federal Foreign Minister stressed that these manifestations of anti-Semitism are of concern for everyone and recalled that together with his French and Italian colleagues he had called for a zero tolerance policy towards anti-Semitism during the summer. He stressed the significance of both political leaders and civil society rejecting anti-Semitism and presented a recent demonstration against anti-Semitism that took place in Berlin as an example for such joint leadership. Frank Walter Steinmeier closed by supporting the practice of drawing on civil society recommendations when developing responses to anti-Semitism.

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Didier Burkhalter, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship and put the event within the context of two Chairmanship priorities: implementing OSCE commitments in the human dimension and enhancing the involvement of young people and civil society in the work of the OSCE. He acknowledged the importance of Holocaust remembrance and educational work that encourages young people to help combat anti-Semitism. Burkhalter noted that anti-Semitism continues to threaten security in the OSCE region and undermines human rights and democracy. He stressed that the purpose of the meeting was to send a strong message against anti-Semitism. The Chairperson-in-Office recalled that the Helsinki Final Act provides a solid normative

basis for engaging in efforts to address anti-Semitism and acknowledged the efforts undertaken by the OSCE, both through the Personal Representatives of the Chairmanship and ODIHR, in supporting the implementation of commitments on combating anti-Semitism. He elaborated on the need for political leadership in turning commitments into action and stressed that political leaders play a role in speaking out against anti-Semitic incidents, including in political discourse. He also spoke of the need to unambiguously declare that international developments never justify anti-Semitism, ensure that adequate monitoring and reporting mechanisms are in place and help preserve the memory of the Holocaust.

Burkhalter also stressed the importance of civil society and civic engagement in addressing anti-Semitism and in holding participating States accountable if they fail to live up to their commitments. He also noted that civil society can play a vital role in developing tools to effectively address contemporary manifestations of anti-Semitism, such as anti-Semitism on the Internet and the need to raise awareness about this challenge. On behalf of the Chairmanship, he expressed his intention to take note of the civil society recommendations that were presented at the high-level commemorative event and stressed that co-operative and comprehensive approaches to security will continue to guide the OSCE's efforts in dealing with anti-Semitism. Stressing once again the importance of engaging with young people in dialogue and of education on anti-Semitism, as emphasized in the 2004 Berlin Declaration. Burkhalter concluded by sharing some thoughts and practices from Switzerland, including its support for the Council of Europe's "No hate speech movement" and for a leadership and dialogue project undertaken by the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities. The Chairperson-in-Office stressed that every act of anti-Semitism is a negation of pluralism and called on participating States to vigorously counter anti-Semitism and live up to their commitments. He concluded by calling on civil society and youth representatives to make the fight against anti-Semitism a collective endeavour.

Michael Georg Link welcomed the participants on behalf of ODIHR and thanked the governments of Germany, Italy, Serbia, Switzerland and the United States as well as the Foundation Remembrance Responsibility and Future (EVZ) who made it possible for ODIHR to invite many grass roots activists from all over the OSCE region to Berlin. He noted that the event was not just designed to be commemorative, but also signaled that anti-Semitism remains a concern and that there is a need to build on the Berlin Declaration and expand upon it. Reflecting on the fact that the high-level commemorative event took place in Berlin, the ODIHR Director recalled two recent anniversaries: that of the fall of the Berlin wall and the anniversary of the pogrom that took place on 9 November 1938 in Berlin and elsewhere. The ODIHR Director noted that anti-Semitism continues to pose a challenge in today's world and expressed his concern about anti-Semitic attacks and expressions that had taken place during the summer.

He then elaborated on the status of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the area of combating anti-Semitism. Recalling that the Berlin Declaration had put the need for a specific educational approach to counter anti-Semitism on the OSCE's agenda, he spoke about the teaching materials on anti-Semitism ODIHR developed with the Anne Frank House and implemented in different OSCE participating States. He also cited the implementation of ODIHR's Training against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) and Prosecutors and Hate Crimes Training (PAHCT) as successful tools that have helped OSCE participating States implement their commitments. Turning to challenges related to the implementation of commitments on anti-Semitism, Michael Georg Link noted that since 2006, only twelve

participating States have reported specific data on anti-Semitic hate crime annually. He also elaborated on the underreporting of hate crime by victims. The ODIHR Director called on OSCE participating States to work with ODIHR in raising awareness about anti-Semitism and also called on civil society to use the tools, trainings and fora provided by the OSCE, including the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw. The ODIHR Director referred to the Civil Society Forum that had preceded the high-level commemorative event and conveyed that ODIHR stands ready to address the challenges identified by civil society.

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL I: From 2004 to 2014: Reflecting on Efforts across the OSCE Region since the Berlin Declaration

INTRODUCTORY SPEECH by **Ambassador Samantha Power**, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Member of Cabinet

The speakers on this panel were asked to look back at ten years of addressing anti-Semitism in the OSCE region. This included a joint reflection on the significance of the 2004 Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism and progress made in solving challenges in this area. The panel was also asked to explore to what extent anti-Semitism continues to pose a challenge to security and stability in the OSCE region. All speakers were invited to present a short introductory statement, followed by a panel discussion.

U.S. Ambassador to the UN Samantha Power began her remarks by reflecting on the significance of two historical events that took place on 9 November: the pogrom on 9 November 1938 and the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989. She said that although the values of liberalism and pluralism have prevailed since the fall of the wall, there is an increase in anti-Semitic attacks and attitudes in many parts of Europe, which in itself poses a threat to the liberal ideals and values that Europe has been built on. She qualified this statement with statistics from the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency's survey of eight countries in which 90 percent of Europe's Jews live, notably that one in four respondents had been the victim of an anti-Semitic attack or harassment in the previous year. Three quarters said that anti-Semitism increased in their country over the past five years. Ambassador Power also spoke about the increasingly anti-Semitic rhetoric and actions of those in favor of the rights of Palestinians. She then looked back to the 2004 Berlin Declaration and noted that it had occurred in the context of a similar rise in anti-Semitism in Europe and questioned why, ten years later, the same problems are apparent and what can be done to reverse these trends.

To answer this, she spoke about the value of high-level condemnation of anti-Semitism. In relation to the role governments can play, she spoke of the value that a dedicated special envoy on anti-Semitism would be for countries. She noted that governments must ensure that perpetrators of anti-Semitic acts are held accountable and spoke of the need for rigorous legal processes and training of the sort provided by ODIHR. In relation to this, she stressed the need to raise awareness among Jewish communities that hate crime legislation exists. She then spoke about the indispensable role of civil society in preventing anti-Semitism and the need for co-operation between governments and civil society. Ambassador Power underscored the commitment of the United States to this by highlighting the diverse range of civil society leaders at the conference as part of the U.S.'s delegation. Next, she revisited anti-Semitism in the context of pro-Palestinian or anti-Israeli rallies and the need to protect the essential rights of citizens to protest but for them to do so in a non-anti-Semitic way.

Moving on from the steps needed to be taken to address rising anti-Semitism, she talked about the threat of anti-Semitism for Europe and the European project to promote liberal democracy and fundamental freedoms. She noted that rises in anti-Semitism often correlate with periods of erosion of human rights in general. Power then mentioned the rise of the far right in Europe and proposed that the rise of anti-Semitism is the canary in the coal mine for the degradation of human rights more broadly. She added that the Jewish community, having borne the cost of silence and inaction in the past, takes its responsibility in the defense of other minorities seriously. Moving away from Europe, she spoke about anti-Semitism in the

United States where she mentioned some examples of anti-Semitic attacks and used this to stress that anti-Semitism is not just a European problem. She finished the speech with the example of the Jewish patrol group Shomrom in the UK, which was formed in response to a spate of anti-Semitic attacks. During the wave of anti-Muslim attacks after the murder of a British soldier, Shomrom helped Muslim communities patrol their neighborhoods. She used this anecdote to demonstrate that a Europe where anyone feels endangered because of the actions, beliefs or speech of a neighbor is a Europe where everyone's rights are at risk.

Panellists:

Miroslav Lajčák, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovak Republic

Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Foreign and Consular Affairs, Canada

Paavo Lipponen, Former Prime Minister, Finland

Tzachi Hanegbi, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel

Moderator:

Melissa Eddy, New York Times Correspondent in Berlin, United States of America

Miroslav Lajčák started by saying that manifestations of anti-Semitism are the first indicator that something is wrong in societies. Looking back at the last ten years, he noted that some progress has been made in the fight against anti-Semitism and explained that new legislation has been adopted, educational programs have been introduced and Holocaust remembrance days have been established in many countries. He noted, however, that it is not possible to declare the mission accomplished because the fight against anti-Semitism is a process and the challenge remains present in the OSCE region. His speech then focussed on the move to current challenges related to anti-Semitism, notably the impact of the economic crisis, the fact that Jewish communities all over the world are being blamed for the actions of the Israeli Government and manifestations of anti-Semitism in the digital world. He spoke of the need to react to this contemporary phenomenon and the fact that anti-Semitism has moved from the far right to the political mainstream. He then spoke of the need to fight anti-Semitism in cyberspace and how unprepared we are to fight on this front. Mr. Lajčák also discussed the increasing phenomenon of far right extremism in Europe and how it is tied in with the economic crisis. Looking forward, he noted that it would be important to continue the existing activities on anti-Semitism, to develop new tools and obtain better data and to strengthen the OSCE in the fight against anti-Semitism. Lastly, Mr. Lajčák stressed the importance of moving from words to action.

Lynne Yelich stressed that Canada supports efforts to combat all forms of racism and anti-Semitism, characterizing anti-Semitism as a unique form of racism. She explained that Canada's hate crime data shows that Jews are the most likely religious group to be targeted for hate crimes, even though they constitute less than one per cent of the Canadian population. She stressed the significance of ensuring that younger generations remember the lessons of the Holocaust and elaborated on recent initiatives in this regard. She also mentioned hate crime data collection mechanisms that are in place in Canada that, combined with law enforcement training, allow the authorities to better address violence against groups at risk, including the Jewish community. In this regard, she mentioned the "Communities at Risk" programme, which allows non-profit organizations to apply for funding to allay the costs of security infrastructure improvements for places of worship and community centres vulnerable to hate crime. Turning to Canada's international efforts to fight anti-Semitism,

Ms. Yelich mentioned the fact that Canada had hosted the Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism conference in November 2010, which gathered parliamentarians from around the world and led to the Ottawa Protocol on Combating Antisemitism. She concluded by noting that Canada recognizes new forms of anti-Semitism that often portray themselves as anti-Zionism and rejects the right of the Jewish people to a homeland. She called on participating States to adopt a zero-tolerance approach towards anti-Semitism by supporting the Stockholm Declaration on the Holocaust, the London Declaration on Combating Antisemitism and to fully implement the provisions of the 2004 OSCE Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism.

Tzachi Hanegbi stated that the rise in anti-Semitism is no longer a myth. In order to substantiate his claim, he stated that the recent survey prepared by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights proves that Jewish communities are at risk in many places 70 years after the Holocaust. Mr. Hanegbi also drew on a recent survey undertaken by the Anti-Defamation League on anti-Semitic stereotypes. He conceded that many measures have been undertaken to address anti-Semitism, but looking at the reality, he concluded, more needs to be done to address anti-Semitism. Mr. Hanegbi indicated that Jewish communities do not feel safe, especially seeing that extremist parties are gaining support in different countries. Turning to the Berlin Declaration, he recalled that the Declaration notes that international developments, including in Israel, never justify anti-Semitism. In this regard, he argued that what was known as the old anti-Semitism has very much changed and turned into new manifestations of anti-Semitism that target Israel. Jewish communities outside of Israel, Mr. Hanegbi explained, are blamed for developments in Israel. He expressed concern about the misuse of the freedom of expression and cautioned against those hiding behind freedom of expression when expressing anti-Semitism. He called on more OSCE participating States to take action against anti-Semitism, report data on anti-Semitic hate crime, appoint a special envoy to deal with anti-Semitism and develop media strategies and educational programmes to counter anti-Semitism.

Paavo Lipponen shared his concerns about what he regards as the worrying rise of populism and nationalism that could be observed in 2014. In some cases, he explained, this may be more a form of social protest, while in other cases it is clear that racism and anti-Semitism are resurfacing and need to be tackled. He noted the significance of dealing with the past when addressing anti-Semitism and wondered why every country did not address their past. Turning to his own country, Finland, he noted that the Finnish parliament is currently discussing the government's human rights report, which also touches on the issue of countering racism and anti-Semitism, which Finland regards as human rights concerns. He stressed the significance of social media in this regard and also underscored the fundamental importance of education. In Finland, he explained, Holocaust education projects are underway. Mr. Lipponen noted that it is important to pay attention to the economic situation in Europe, to the challenges that emerge from high numbers of unemployment.

In the ensuing discussion, Ms Yelich underlined that the significance of the OSCE's Berlin Declaration lies in the fact that it identifies new forms of anti-Semitism. Mr. Lajčák stressed the importance of remembering the past and of promoting tolerance. He expressed concern about the role of anti-Semitism in political discourse and called on political leaders to adopt a zero-tolerance policy on anti-Semitism and to address online anti-Semitism. Mr. Hanegbi also mentioned the issue of political leadership, when reflecting on the fact that only very few OSCE participating States implement their commitment to collect and report data on anti-

Semitic hate crime. When asked about the biggest achievements that can be reported on with regards to implementing the Berlin Declaration, Mr. Lipponen noted that governments have built their capacity to combat anti-Semitism and racism and legislation is in place. At the same time, he noted, political leadership is needed in addressing anti-Semitism, especially in times of crisis.

Following the discussion, there were several interventions from the floor. Representatives of OSCE participating States referred to the significance of the forthcoming 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz Birkenau and expressed their commitment to promote Holocaust remembrance and education. Government representatives also affirmed their commitment to implementing the Berlin Declaration and the various measures it lays out to address anti-Semitism, including education and measures related to the training of law enforcement. The discussants also referred to recent anti-Semitic incidents, including the terrorist attack on the Jewish Museum in Brussels, which was characterized as a threat to democracy, as well as the spike in anti-Semitic incidents reported over the course of this summer in countries like the United Kingdom. In this regard, it was stressed that it is important for governments to work hard on gathering data on anti-Semitic hate crime and provide for the security of Jewish communities, in collaboration with these communities. Several participants stressed the critical role played by hate speech on the Internet with regard to anti-Semitism. The importance of intercultural and inter-religious dialogue was also emphasized in some of the interventions as well as the role dialogue can play in improving civil society hate crime data collection. One participant mentioned the country visits of the Personal Representatives of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism and noted the importance of paying attention to the recommendations made during these visits. Another speaker argued that it was important to recall the role played by parliamentarians in preparing the way for the Berlin Declaration. This participant called on civil society to approach parliamentarians with their concerns about anti-Semitism and the implementation of commitments related to fighting anti-Semitism. The role of civil society and the need to co-operate with civil society was also stressed in other interventions.

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL II: From Words to Action: Countering Contemporary Anti-Semitism

Panellists:

Petra Pau MP, Vice-President, German Bundestag

Christian Ahlund, Chair, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), Council of Europe

Heiner Bielefeldt, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief

John Mann MP, Co-founder and Chairman, Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism (ICCA)

Moderator:

Michael Georg Link, Director, ODIHR

The focus of the second high-level panel was on analyzing what can and has been done by governments and political leaders to address anti-Semitism. All speakers were invited to present a short introductory statement, followed by a panel discussion.

Petra Pau expressed her commitment to promoting civic rights and democracy while combating right-wing extremism, racism and anti-Semitism. She elaborated that anti-Semitism is not only a problem associated with the extreme right and that it can be found in mainstream society. Therefore, she argued, it poses a particular challenge. Reflecting on the situation in Germany since 2004, she noted three developments: anti-Semitism has become less of a taboo than before, an increase in the number of anti-Semitic crimes, which, she explained, is a general trend in Europe and a political shift to the political right. She shared her thoughts on manifestations of anti-Semitism during the Gaza war and noted that superficial reporting of the media can play a role in fuelling hatred. Recalling the report that was produced by the expert commission convened by the German Parliament, she noted that no single and effective strategy that can solve the challenge posed by anti-Semitism has yet been found. In light of this, Ms. Pau argued, it is important to confront anti-Semitism at all times, stressing that, whoever attacks Jews because of who they are is attacking human beings because they are human beings. She noted that the same applies to attacks against homosexuals, Roma or people with disability. Finally, she also reflected about a recent demonstration against anti-Semitism in Berlin, which she noted was only attended by some 8000 people, which led her to conclude that anti-Semitism is not taken seriously. She called on participants to continue countering anti-Semitism.

Christian Ahlund noted that anti-Semitism still manifests itself in physical attacks as well as in attacks against synagogues, and observed that additional security measures are often needed for Jewish communities to feel safe. He expressed concern about reports which indicate that Jewish people are leaving OSCE participating States due to anti-Semitism, stressing that it takes many actors and joint efforts to address this situation. Mr. Ahlund then elaborated on the role of the Council of Europe's European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in countering anti-Semitism, explaining that ECRI's rapporteurs meet representatives of Jewish communities during country visits. He argued that hate speech on the Internet and in social media networks pose a big problem, noting that such expressions often precede anti-Semitic attacks on Jews and on the property of Jewish communities. He shared the observation that most countries do very little to sanction hate speech on the

Internet and identified this as an urgent issue that was already taken up by some civil society groups with the main Internet service providers. Mr. Ahlund also presented ECRI's General Policy Recommendations, which can serve as a helpful tool in addressing anti-Semitism and concluded by identifying the underreporting of anti-Semitic incidents as one of the main challenges.

Heiner Bielefeldt argued that while anti-Semitism continues to be related to political extremism, the challenge should not be reduced to a manifestation of political extremism. Rather, he pointed out that anti-Semitism manifests itself often in subtle and indirect ways which makes it difficult to tackle the problem. In many instances, Mr. Bielefeldt explained, anti-Semitism reveals itself not so much in what it is that people say but rather through the tone, i.e., through the tone in which it is said. Discussions about and criticism of Israel, he noted, are a case in point in that, he observed, an additional emphasis that can be detected whenever people are stressing that it should be possible to criticize Israel, implying that a special censorship is being applied with regard to this particular issue. This, he explained, poses the question of how best to deal with these subtle forms of anti-Semitism. Mr. Bielefeldt then moved on to addressing the debate about circumcision that took place in Germany and stressed that he does not regard the discussion itself as anti-Semitic. He was, however, shocked to detect the spiteful tone used by people who took part in the discussion, suggesting that Jewish parents were committing a barbarous act against their children. Mr. Bielefeldt added that such comments could also be observed in the media, with some suggesting that Jewish people were exploiting feelings of guilt when fighting for their rights. He concluded by calling on the participants not to trivialize anti-Semitism and to abstain from downplaying anti-Semitism as a phenomenon to be found on the fringes of society.

John Mann shared his experiences in organizing the Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism. This coalition follows the principle that elected members of parliament have a duty to lead the fight against anti-Semitism, given that governments come and go, but parliaments remain in a democracy. He stressed that it is the responsibility of parliamentarians to address all forms of hate and that many parliamentarians across political divides are very committed to addressing challenges related to anti-Semitism by reviewing the effectiveness of legislation or by looking into the events that occurred this summer, which saw many anti-Semitic attacks. He also noted that the issue of anti-Semitism on the Internet features prominently on the agenda and shared some of the abuse that he and his Jewish colleagues have been subjected to because of their active stance against anti-Semitism. He stressed that what is being done to counter online anti-Semitism is inadequate and insufficient. John Mann also mentioned the London Declaration, the Ottawa Protocol and the formation of a working group on anti-Semitism in the European Parliament as critical contributions made by parliamentarians. He then moved on to note that there is a need to improve the sharing of best practices when it comes to education and recommended organizing a gathering of youth organizations to tackle anti-Semitism. He concluded by recommending to civil society to show what actions they demand from politicians and what responses they receive and stressed the important role of political leaders in moving forward with taking action against anti-Semitism.

In the ensuing discussion, Petra Pau noted that politicians don't do enough against manifestations of anti-Semitism and shared her regret that not all parties and civil society groups were represented at a recent demonstration against anti-Semitism. She recalled that some people were attacked and insulted in connection with this demonstration and stressed

the importance of developing adequate law enforcement responses to such situations. Reflecting on the 2004 Berlin Declaration, she noted that the document stipulates a range of measures yet to be implemented. Heiner Bielefeldt added that it was important to build broad alliances against stereotypes in order to signal to show solidarity to Jewish communities and signal to them that they are not left alone. In this regard, he noted speaking out is not only the obligation of community leaders, but also of ordinary citizens. People who spread anti-Semitism, he stressed, should not feel that they speak on behalf of a silent majority. In this regard, he mentioned the United Nations Rabat Plan of Action which stipulates calls for more speech against hate speech and stressed that journalists, trade unions and civil society in general play an important role in addressing intolerance. Christian Ahlund elaborated on the challenge of underreporting which ODIHR Director Michael Link had once again raised and noted that improving registration routines may be a step forward. He stressed that it is important to overcome barriers that prevent people from reporting anti-Semitic hate crimes. John Mann then added to the discussion by elaborating that he motivates parliamentarians to join the fight against anti-Semitism by presenting the facts and by raising awareness. Once people are aware of the problem, he noted, it is easier to decide whether one wants to move to action.

Following the discussion, there were several interventions from the floor. Several participating States expressed support for efforts to fight anti-Semitism through international co-operation. Speakers reported about legislative developments in their country, underscored their commitment to promoting Holocaust remembrance and education and shared their respective experiences in the area of tolerance and non-discrimination, paying attention to Jewish life and religious dialogue in their country and providing information on how hate crimes are addressed in different participating States. One delegation stressed the importance of counter-speech when it comes to fighting hate speech and raised concerns about challenges to Jewish religious practices, which have a strong impact, particularly on small communities. One delegation expressed concern about neo-Nazism and Holocaust denial. The role of the media in fighting anti-Semitism was also mentioned. Another delegation elaborated on the importance of political leadership and stressed that governments should not deny the existence of anti-Semitism. One delegation shared that specialized prosecutors had been put in place to address challenges related to hate on the Internet and called for new tools in this area. In conclusion, the panelists stressed that the OSCE should continue to address this problem and find a solution to a problem that has a strong impact on the everyday lives of Jewish people. All speakers stressed the role of education, which had also been highlighted in some of the interventions from the floor, and framed the fight against anti-Semitism as an issue that bridges parliamentary divides.

CIVIL SOCIETY PANEL: Mobilizing the Base: Recommendations from Civil Society

Panellists:

Deidre Berger, Director, American Jewish Committee (AJC) Berlin Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, United States of America

Jane Braden-Golay, President, European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS)

Wade Henderson, President and CEO, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, United States of America

Ilja Sichrovsky, Founder and Secretary-General, Muslim-Jewish Conference (MJC)

Juliane Wetzel, Senior Researcher and Senior Staff Member, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin, Germany

Michael Whine, Government and International Affairs Director, Community Security Trust (CST), United Kingdom

Moderator:

Cristina M. Finch, Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, ODIHR

The third panel gathered civil society representatives to present concerns voiced and recommendations made during the civil society forum that took place on 12 November. Following the presentation of the recommendations, speakers were asked to elaborate on some of them in a moderated discussion.

Deidre Berger started off by reflecting about the fact that ten years ago, the civil society forum had not been part of the official conference, unlike in 2014. She then summarized some of the concerns voiced at the civil society forum, including the concern that anti-Israel sentiment spills over into anti-Semitism and lack of funding for programs on education. She stressed the significance of expressing support for the working definition of anti-Semitism originally developed by the EUMC and stated that there is a need to improve the monitoring of anti-Semitism, with governmental organizations playing a significant role in reporting on anti-Semitism and providing security for Jewish communities. She noted that while political leaders make commitments to fight anti-Semitism, implementation is often lacking. Deidre Berger noted that legislation related to the fight against anti-Semitism should be reviewed and stressed that more support needs to be given to educational programs that address anti-Semitism so that effective educational approaches can be tested and developed. She also stressed the importance of organizing more meetings where governmental officials can hear concerns voiced by civil society.

Juliane Wetzel stated that the need to condemn Holocaust denial had been stressed during the civil society forum, where a working definition on Holocaust denial recently adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance had also been presented and referenced. While Holocaust education is very significant, she stated, it is not clear whether it constitutes the right way to counter anti-Semitism. Visiting a concentration camp after an anti-Semitic incident in a school may not help address the problem, she stressed. She also elaborated on the importance of recognizing and protecting the rights of Jews to practice their religion, noting that debates about circumcision may be abused as platforms to express anti-Semitism. Reflecting on the civil society forum, she emphasized the importance of speaking out against anti-Semitism, including hate crime, and to refrain from using anti-Semitic stereotypes in

political discourse. Juliane Wetzel also stressed the importance of providing support to the efforts of civil society networks that combat anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance and expressed the hope that the recommendations from civil society would be endorsed by a Ministerial Council Decision.

When asked about the key challenges in the area of combating hate crime, Mike Whine explained that organizations such as ODIHR are not receiving enough data on anti-Semitic hate crime. He noted that only twelve OSCE participating States provided ODIHR with data on anti-Semitic crime and stressed that it would be important to make every effort to collect better data following this conference, because it can help address anti-Semitism. Elaborating on the data that is available, he explained that Jewish community suffer a huge amount of abuse from different directions and specific strategies need to be developed to address these challenges. In addressing this challenge, he added, participating States should reach out to civil society, because civil society organizations can not only provide some context to the data, but they can also provide data, because victims may feel more comfortable reporting to civil society. In this regard, he mentioned the "Facing Facts" project funded by the European Commission as a positive example. Recalling recent terrorist attacks, including the ones in Brussels and Toulouse, he stressed that an attack against Jews is an attack against the state.

Jane Braden-Golay shared her concerns about hate speech on the Internet and noted that it has not yet been possible to figure out how to counter online anti-Semitism effectively. She observed that different people experience the Internet in different ways. Because of that, she explained, people experience the Internet in different ways and are exposed to different phenomena. She moved on to reflect about how social media can aggravate already existing political or social divides, drawing on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as an example: social media has, she argued, deepened the divide between the Israel and the Palestinian sides. She mentioned the work of an Israeli student organization in countering anti-Semitism online, but observed that although anti-Semitism manifests itself as online hate speech, it can be addressed offline. In this regard, she emphasized the importance of informal education and peer-to-peer education programs that focus on raising awareness about how words matter, how online hatred is used and how one can protect oneself. Jane Braden-Golay stressed that more needs to be done to explore how best to deal with online hate speech.

Wade Henderson explained that the leadership conference stands for the principle that there is strength in coalition, because no single community has strength on its own unless it is a part of a coalition. He emphasized their presence at the high-level commemorative event and civil society forum was designed to signal that fighting anti-Semitism is not only a Jewish problem. He then went on to present some additional recommendations, including the need for governments to work with civil society in collecting data on hate crime. Furthermore, he added, in order to move from words to action when fighting anti-Semitism, national summits should be convened by participating States in order to address the issue of hate crime in order to ensure that all OSCE participating States implement their commitments, not just a few. He also stressed that the issue of anti-Semitism should be debated more frequently in this intensity and that there is a need for national plans of action and for more education on anti-Semitism. Mr. Henderson noted that in the absence of national action plans, coalition-building plays a vital role in bringing about change and recommended that the OSCE reach out to different communities when discussing anti-Semitism.

Ilja Sichrovsky talked about challenges related to anti-Semitism and stressed that it is important not only to identify the sources of anti-Semitism, but to take action and work towards a solution. He shared the experience of the Muslim-Jewish Conference in promoting dialogue between Jews and Muslims and stressed the significance of dialogue and interaction. Ilja Sichrovsky noted that the conferences organized by his organizations have helped many people challenge and overcome their stereotypes, providing them with an experience that turns them into multipliers for diversity. He stressed that there are very few initiatives that promote this kind of dialogue. Reflecting on some of the conversations he has had with people who were sceptical about the risks of opening up to dialogue, he emphasized that it is worth taking risks when taking action and promoting understanding. He also stressed the importance of youth and civil society driven initiatives and noted that such initiatives often achieve a lot of change on small budgets. He concluded by stating that fighting all forms of racism is important for us all, and for our future.

In the ensuing discussion, Deidre Berger characterized Holocaust denial and distortion as facets of contemporary anti-Semitism, with many debates revolving around how distinctive the Holocaust is. She stressed that governments should carefully monitor political movements that spread Holocaust denial and provide funds to support educational initiatives. When asked about her experience as a member of the expert commission of the German Bundestag, Juliane Wetzel noted that there was little follow-up to its recommendations and stressed that it is important for governments to take such reports seriously. She reiterated concerns related to limited governmental funding for projects to counter anti-Semitism, while Deidre Berger added that there is a need for national and European action plans against anti-Semitism, which bring together governments, parliaments and civil society. Wade Henderson agreed that political leadership is important and stressed that there is a need for more recognition of the existence of anti-Semitism. He reiterated that the Jewish community cannot solve the problem itself.

Following the discussion, there were several interventions from the floor. Participants, including civil society representatives, shared their concerns about contemporary manifestations of anti-Semitism and provided examples of the challenge from both ends of the political spectrum, on the Internet, in the media as well as in desecrations of graveyards, in attacks on Jewish institutions, including during the recent escalation of tensions in the Middle East. One participant called for a more systematic approach to combating anti-Semitism and expressed concern about the fact that many OSCE participating States have not enacted hate crime legislation, or are not implementing the latter properly. The participant also identified corruption as an obstacle to developing better responses to anti-Semitism in parts of the OSCE region. Another concern raised was the fairly common ignorance of Jewish culture and history. Concern was also expressed about the exploitation of anti-Semitism by some governments in the OSCE region. One participant praised the Helsinki process as a unique partnership between government and civil society. Another speaker shared the experience of a non-governmental organization involved in educational projects about anti-Semitism that target mainly Muslim youth. The participant noted that a respectful approach that abstains from stigmatizing youth as well as a heterogenous team has contributed to the success of this particular initiative. The work of ODIHR and the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism was also mentioned in the interventions, which called for the expansion of the OSCE's activities on anti-Semitism, including raising awareness about conspiracy theories. The participants called on OSCE participating States to implement their commitments and to not remain silent in the fight against anti-Semitism.

REFLECTIONS ON THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN ADDRESSING ANTI-SEMITISM

Harlem Désir, Minister of State for European Affairs, France

Harlem Désir began by welcoming those present and gave civil society representatives a special mention. He reminded everyone that, 70 years since the end of the Second World War, anti-Semitism still exists and emphasized that our guard should not be lowered. He reflected on the 2004 Berlin Declaration and the commitments made and noted that ten years later it is necessary to intensify the fight against anti-Semitism. He then expressed his deep concern about recent anti-Semitic attacks in France and Belgium and used them to reinforce the need for governments to act. Reflecting on the responses developed in France, he listed four ways in which France has strengthened its tools to fight racism and anti-Semitism over the last two years. First mentioned was the national action plan against racism and anti-Semitism adopted in 2012. Second was the increased statistical capacity of France in this area, with data having been submitted to ODIHR's annual hate crime report. Third, Harlem Désir spoke about the online reporting tool set up in France. Finally he mentioned two new memorial sites established by the President and Prime Minister in 2012. He stressed that all these measures were undertaken in close consultation with French Jewish institutions. Moving on from France, Harlem Désir mentioned the crucial role of the OSCE in increasing awareness and implementing action in its participating States. He noted that the conference was a proof of the opportunities offered by co-operation. He concluded by reminding the audience that the fight against anti-Semitism is not only the struggle of Jewish communities but that all Europeans must be collectively responsible and never rekindle the flames of the past. He then gave the commitment of the French authorities in the fight against anti-Semitism.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism

Ivica Dačić, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Serbia

Before presenting the concluding document on behalf of the Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE, Rabbi Andrew Baker addressed the audience and shared his reflections about anti-Semitism in the OSCE region since the 2004 Berlin Declaration, which he characterized as a significant achievement. He started by noting that the EU Fundamental Rights Agency's report had revealed a high level of anxiety among Jewish communities in Europe and expressed apprehension about the frequently voiced concerns about the future of Jewish life in Europe in light of challenges related to anti-Semitism. In that sense, Rabbi Baker, noted, the event had become more than a commemorative event. If Jews wonder about their future, he asked, should Europe wonder about its future as well? He moved on to present the concluding remarks of the Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE which can be found in the annex of this report.

Ivica Dacic stated that Serbia, as the next chair of the OSCE, will do all in its power to ensure that this organization remains a leader in the fight against anti-Semitism and committed to promoting Holocaust remembrance. Dacic underlined that even in the second decade of the 21st century, anti-Semitism is still a widespread phenomenon and explained that it has assumed new forms and manifestations, which together with other forms of intolerance, stand as a serious threat to democracy, to the general values of civilization and, finally to overall security. He underlined that political leaders have the greatest responsibility in the fight against anti-Semitism, adding that the crucial element of this fight is prevention. He stressed that political leaders are obliged to prevent anti-Semitism through the education of young people. He announced that Serbia will make efforts to ensure that the OSCE continues to deepen co-operation with ODIHR and relevant intergovernmental and governmental institutions, as well as with civil society, in addressing this challenge. He stressed that the high-level commemorative event had marked an important opportunity to reaffirm existing commitments on anti-Semitism and welcomed the recommendations made by civil society.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Agenda



**10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
OSCE'S BERLIN CONFERENCE ON ANTI-SEMITISM**

**HIGH-LEVEL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT AND
CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM**

**12-13 November 2014
Weltsaal, Federal Foreign Office, Berlin**

AGENDA

12 NOVEMBER 2014 – CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM ON ANTI-SEMITISM

09:00 – 09:30

OPENING SESSION

Welcome Remarks:

Felix Klein, Ambassador, Special Representative for Relations with Jewish Organisations, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Heidi Grau, Ambassador, Head of the OSCE Chairmanship Task Force, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism

Cristina M. Finch, Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

09:30 – 11:00

PLENARY SESSION

Panellists:

Dániel Bodnár, Chairman of the Board, Action and Protection Foundation, Hungary

Ilja Sichrovsky, Founder and Secretary-General, Muslim-Jewish Conference (MJC)

Jane Braden-Golay, President, European Union of Jewish Students (EUIS)

Hanne Thoma, Coordinator, Task Force Education on Antisemitism, Germany

Karen Polak, Project Manager, Anne Frank House, Netherlands

Vitalii Bobrov, Coordinator of Educational Programs, Ukrainian Center for Holocaust Studies

Moderators:

Deidre Berger, Director, American Jewish Committee (AJC) Berlin Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, United States of America

Juliane Wetzel, Senior Researcher and Senior Staff Member, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin, Germany

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00 **WORKING GROUPS**

Working Group I: Strengthening Political Leadership in the Fight against Anti-Semitism

Roger Cukierman, President, Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France (CRIF)

Jardena Lande, Director, Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism (ICCA)

Wade Henderson, President and CEO, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, United States of America

Yury Kanner, President, Russian Jewish Congress

Moderator: Sergey Lagodinsky, Head of Department EU/North America, Heinrich Boell Foundation, Germany

Working Group II: Challenges to the Security of Jews and Jewish Communities

Ron Azogui, Chief Executive, Jewish Community Protection Service (SPCJ), France

Elisa Massimino, President and CEO, Human Rights First, United States of America

Michael Whine, Government and International Affairs Director, Community Security Trust (CST), United Kingdom

Jonathan Alexander Fischer, Vice Chairman, The Jewish Community in Denmark

Moderator: Tomáš Kraus, Executive Director, Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic

Working Group III: Countering Anti-Semitism on the Internet

Jonathan Leman, Researcher and Educator, Expo Foundation, Sweden

Ronald Eissens, General Director, Magenta Foundation, Netherlands

Sacha Reingewirtz, President, Union of French Jewish Students

Moderator: Anton Troianovski, Berlin Correspondent, Wall Street Journal, United States of America

Working Group IV: The Relationship between Nationalism and Anti-Semitism

Solomon Bali, President, B'nai B'rith, Bulgaria

Ilya Lensky, Director, Museum "Jews in Latvia"

David Gergely, Vice-President, European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS), Hungary

Moderator: Christian Staffa, Director of Studies "Democracy and Church", Protestant Academy Berlin, Germany

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:30

WORKING GROUPS

Working Group V: Responding to Holocaust Denial and Distortion

Mark Weitzman, Director, Government Affairs, Simon Wiesenthal Center, International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), United States of America

Stephan J. Kramer, Director, European Office on Antisemitism, American Jewish Committee (AJC), United States of America

Stefano Gatti, Researcher, Foundation Jewish Contemporary Documentation Center (CDEC), Italy

Eduard Dolinsky, Director General, Ukrainian Jewish Committee

Moderator: Alison Smale, Berlin Bureau Chief, International New York Times, United States of America

Working Group VI: Addressing Anti-Semitism against the Background of the Conflict in the Middle East

Dave Rich, Deputy Director Communications, Community Security Trust (CST), United Kingdom

Guy Muller, Chief Researcher Anti-Semitism, Israel Information and Documentation Centre (CIDI), Netherlands

Sacha Stawski, President, Honestly Concerned, Germany (t.b.c.)

Ido Daniel, National Director, Israeli Students Combating Antisemitism (ISCA)

Moderator: Sabine Simkhovitch-Dreyfus, Vice-President, Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities

Working Group VII: The Impact of Recent Challenges to Religious Ritual Practices

Dan Rosenberg Asmussen, Chairman, The Jewish Community in Denmark

David R. Katz, Member, The Board of Deputies of British Jews

Rabbi René Gutman, Conference of European Rabbis, Chief Rabbi of Strasbourg, France

Anna Chipczyńska, President of the Board, Jewish Community of Warsaw, Poland

Moderator: Alexander Hasgall, Executive Board, Working Group of Jewish Social Democrats, Switzerland

Working Group VIII: Fostering Civil Society Networks to Combat Anti-Semitism

Zainab Al-Suwaij, Co-Founder and Executive Director, American Islamic Congress, United States of America

Hillary O. Shelton, Director, Washington Bureau, and Senior Vice-President, Advocacy and Policy, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, United States of America

Mee Moua, President and Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC), United States of America

Jasjit Singh, Executive Director, Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, United States of America

Moderator: Stacy Burdett, Government and National Affairs Director, Anti-Defamation League (ADL), United States of America

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 18:00 **PLENARY SESSION**

Panellist:

Gideon Behar, Ambassador, Director of the Department for Combating Antisemitism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel

Moderators:

Deidre Berger, Director, American Jewish Committee (AJC) Berlin Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, United States of America

Juliane Wetzel, Senior Researcher and Senior Staff Member, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin, Germany

18:45 **Bus transfer to the Embassy of Switzerland
Otto-von-Bismarck-Allee 4, 10557 Berlin**

19:30-21:30 **Reception hosted by the Embassy of Switzerland and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany**

13 NOVEMBER 2014 – HIGH-LEVEL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

- 10:30 – 11:00 **OPENING REMARKS**
- Frank-Walter Steinmeier**, Federal Foreign Minister of Germany
Didier Burkhalter, Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
Michael Georg Link, Director, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)
- 11:00 – 12:00 **HIGH-LEVEL PANEL I: From 2004 to 2014: Reflecting on Efforts Across the OSCE Region since the Berlin Declaration**
- 11:00 – 11:10 **INTRODUCTORY SPEECH by Ambassador Samantha Power**, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Member of Cabinet
- Panellists:*
- Miroslav Lajčák**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovak Republic
Lynne Yelich, Minister of State for Foreign and Consular Affairs, Canada
Paavo Lipponen, Former Prime Minister, Finland
Tzachi Hanegbi, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel
- Moderator:*
- Melissa Eddy**, New York Times Correspondent in Berlin, United States of America
- 12:00 – 12:45 **Interventions from the Floor**
- 12:45 – 14:00 Lunch Break
- 14:00 – 15:00 **HIGH-LEVEL PANEL II: From Words to Action: Countering Contemporary Anti-Semitism**
- Panellists:*
- Petra Pau MP**, Vice-President, German Bundestag
Christian Ahlund, Chair, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), Council of Europe
Heiner Bielefeldt, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief
John Mann MP, Co-founder and Chairman, Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism (ICCA)
- Moderator:*
- Michael Georg Link**, Director, ODIHR
- 15:00 – 15:30 **Interventions from the Floor**

- 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00 – 17:00 **CIVIL SOCIETY PANEL: Mobilizing the Base: Recommendations from Civil Society**
- Panellists:*
- Deidre Berger**, Director, American Jewish Committee (AJC) Berlin Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, United States of America
- Jane Braden-Golay**, President, European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS)
- Wade Henderson**, President and CEO, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, United States of America
- Ilja Sichrovsky**, Founder and Secretary-General, Muslim-Jewish Conference (MJC)
- Juliane Wetzel**, Senior Researcher and Senior Staff Member, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin, Germany
- Michael Whine**, Government and International Affairs Director, Community Security Trust (CST), United Kingdom
- Moderator:*
- Cristina M. Finch**, Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, ODIHR
- 17:00 – 17:30 **Interventions from the Floor**
- 17:30 – 17:40 **Reflections on the Role of Civil Society in Addressing Anti-Semitism**
Harlem Désir, Minister of State for European Affairs, France
- 17:40 – 18:00 **CONCLUDING REMARKS**
- Rabbi Andrew Baker**, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism
- Ivica Dačić**, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Serbia

Annex 2: Opening remarks

Opening speech by Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier at the event marking the 10th anniversary of the OSCE Berlin Declaration

Didier Burkhalter, Michael Link,
Fellow members of the Bundestag,
Colleagues,
Excellencies,
Representatives of Jewish organizations,
Guests of the Federal Foreign Office,

Ten years ago, representatives of the OSCE states met here in Berlin – the city in which, more than 70 years ago, the worst crime against humanity, the Shoah, the annihilation of European Jews, was decided, planned and then executed.

They met here in Berlin in 2004 to state their shared commitment to combat anti-Semitism.

Today, all of you – representatives of the OSCE participating states, governments, parliaments and civil society – have again accepted our invitation to come to the German capital to look back ten years on at the Berlin Declaration adopted at that time and to discuss in the many fora where we stand. I'm delighted that so many of you are here today!

The Berlin Declaration ten years ago was a milestone in the international fight against anti-Semitism. In it, the states not only condemned anti-Semitism as a danger to democracy, human rights as well as security and cooperation in Europe. They also expressed their support for concrete operational steps against anti-Semitism at national and international level.

Today's event, therefore, is not just about remembering but also taking stock.

Have we done enough to turn our words of ten years ago into deeds? That's one of the key questions occupying us today.

For my own country, Germany, I'd like to give you an answer in two parts.

Firstly, I'm glad to be able to say to you: Jewish life is flourishing once more in Germany!

There are new synagogues, nurseries, schools, cultural institutions – despite all the wounds of history, Germany has become a new, open home for tens of thousands of Jewish people. But that's not all:

Thousands of Jewish people, mostly young Israelis, live here in Berlin. They were attracted by this city's creativity and are contributing to it themselves. The largest Jewish song and dance contest in Europe regularly takes place here in Germany. Next year, the largest Jewish sporting event in Europe is coming to Berlin: the European Makkabi Games with more than 2000 Jewish athletes. And you won't believe it but today you can even get a decent bagel in Berlin ...

From all of these highlights of Jewish life, I'd like to pick out one which I found especially moving.

A few weeks ago I was in Wrocław, once a centre of Jewish life in Europe.

Charlotte Knobloch, on 1 September we went to Wrocław, 75 years to the day after Germany's invasion of Poland unleashed the Second World War. That day 75 years later, I sat in the old White Stork Synagogue where I witnessed the first ordination of rabbis since the war – four young rabbis who were trained here in Berlin and Potsdam – at the Abraham Geiger College, whose rector, Walter Homolka, is here today.

That was a moment which touched everyone present and which I'll never forget!

Yes, Jewish life is flourishing again in Germany and in Europe.

Given our history, that's nothing less than a miracle and a blessing – a blessing in which many of you here today have played a role! Jewish life is back at the heart of our society – and that's where it belongs! That's a source of happiness, an enrichment for our society, whose true importance many in our own country haven't yet realised.

And because that is so, ladies and gentlemen, friends, I want to be just as honest and just as forthright in the second part of my answer:

Anti-Semitism is a stab in the heart of our society! Anti-Semitism goes against our constitution, against our civilisation – against everything we believe in and everything we've learned!

Therefore, today is not just about the protection and the rights of a minority, rather it goes to the very heart of our society: ladies and gentlemen, there is no place – nor can we allow there to be a place – for anti-Semitism in our understanding of a free, democratic and tolerant Germany.

That's why we in Germany have been active on many fronts during the ten years since the adoption of the Berlin Declaration. We've initiated public awareness programmes, integrated this issue into school lessons and youth work, promoted initiatives which tackle anti-Semitism and much more. Of course, we've also actively combated anti-Semitism with the means available to us under the rule of law and, above all, by fostering Jewish life.

A few weeks ago, I had the honour of presenting the Knight Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel in New York.

It was a lovely, dignified ceremony for this man whom we all admire.

However, he said something to me that day which made me stop and think, which indeed should make us all stop and think.

He said that if someone had told him in 1945 that he would still be fighting against anti-Semitism as an old man in 2014, he wouldn't have believed it. But now the danger was there again.

We're horrified by the spate of anti-Semitic hate-mongering and attacks which we've seen in many European cities during the last few months. Unfortunately, the phenomenon of latent anti-Semitic sentiment, which comes in the guise of criticism of Israel, has long been with us. However, what we experienced this summer reached a new scale: Jewish citizens were attacked and people shouted slogans expressing a level of hatred which beggared belief. Not only in Germany, but sadly *also* in our country, an open, brutal anti-Semitism has again reared its ugly head. It poses a danger to Jewish citizens in particular but also to the rest of us, to our values and to our civilisation, which is marked by humanitarianism and tolerance.

That is why I say very clearly that nothing, including the dramatic military confrontation in Gaza, justifies the attacks we have seen in recent weeks. That's why the zero tolerance towards anti-Semitism called for in the Berlin Declaration is so important now. I publicly reaffirmed this together with my French and Italian counterparts in Brussels this summer.

But, as I've already said: it was not just us politicians but society as a whole which stood up to repudiate anti-Semitism. In mid-September, thousands of people taking part in a large-scale demonstration at the Brandenburg Gate raised their voices and called out: anti-Semitism has no place here!

It's not only at moments such as this one at the Brandenburg Gate that the commitment we so urgently need is demonstrated by a responsible civil society.

It was evident yesterday how many civil-society organizations are actively working to combat anti-Jewish sentiment. Yesterday, you got together in working groups to discuss and assess the current OSCE commitments from the Berlin Declaration of 2004 and to draw up recommendations for further action by the OSCE participating states. You'll be presenting them this afternoon.

I want to say to you now that you are the ones who see what is going on every day in society and we should therefore do all we can to ensure that your ideas and proposals flow into our policies wherever possible.

I therefore wish you all not only a productive conference but hope you will come up with conclusions which help us in our fight against anti-Semitism and hatred of Jewish people. Thank you very much.

Opening address by the President of the Swiss Confederation, Mr. Didier Burkhalter, at the Conference on Anti-Semitism of the OSCE

Dear Mr Steinmeier and Mr Link (dear co-organizers)

Dear Mr Dacic and Mr Gentiloni (dear colleagues)

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Earlier this year, in January, I visited the Auschwitz Memorial Site to pay my respects to the victims of the Holocaust. I was accompanied by a young Swiss woman by the name of Nathalie. She had written a school essay on the story of her grandfather, an Auschwitz survivor. It is a moving account of the Holocaust seen through the eyes of a young person who had become aware about the grave dangers of anti-Semitism in long conversations with her grandfather.

Nathalie's essay was published as a book and drew considerable public attention. I mention this because one of the two key messages I wish to convey to you today is the essential role that the young generation can and should play in addressing anti-Semitism. We often hear that it is radicalised young men and women who commit anti-Semitic crimes. The more important it is to emphasise and tap the enormous positive potential of young people – and more broadly of civil society – in tackling anti-Semitism.

It is our responsibility to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive and to provide education in ways that enable and encourage young people to help combat Anti-Semitism.

Which brings me to my second main message: What is needed most today in preventing and addressing anti-Semitism is political leadership. Since the Berlin Conference a decade ago, OSCE participating States have made a series of commitments to combat anti-Semitism. It is the responsibility of political leaders to ensure that these commitments are fulfilled. Political leadership is key to addressing anti-Semitism effectively.

When the Swiss Chairmanship was asked a few months ago to co-organise this conference as an OSCE event, it was clear to me that this was the right thing to do. Anti-Semitism continues to threaten security in the OSCE area and to undermine human rights and democracy. Since the Berlin Declaration of 2004, the OSCE has developed an important role in dealing with this challenge. And it just so happens that improving the implementation of OSCE commitments in the human dimension and enhancing the involvement of civil society and young people in OSCE matters are two Swiss priorities for our Chairmanship year.

It is therefore an honour and a pleasure for me to welcome you to this conference. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of you – delegates, representatives of international organizations, and the more than 200 representatives of civil society and youth organizations.

Let me also express my gratitude to Frank-Walter Steinmeier and his team for hosting this important event, and also to them and Director Link and ODIHR for their excellent cooperation in organising it.

We are gathered here today in the spirit of the 2004 Berlin Declaration to send a strong message against anti-Semitism and to state unequivocally that we must step up our efforts to

prevent and combat all forms of anti-Semitism. Let us make this conference more than a commemorative event – let us make it agenda-setting.

Ladies and gentlemen

The Helsinki Final Act that was worked out four decades ago was a remarkable document. It provided the common foundations for European security at a time when our continent was deeply divided. And it broadened the notion of security by making respect for human rights and the domestic conduct of governments a legitimate subject of international scrutiny.

The normative framework of the Final Act was an important reason why the fall of the Berlin Wall 25 years ago and the end of the Cold War took place without violence. While the grave violations of the Helsinki Principles in the context of the Ukraine crisis have done damage to this normative framework, there is a broad recognition that it remains the indispensable basis for European security and must be reconsolidated.

With its provisions regarding human rights, fundamental freedoms, non-discrimination, and human dignity, the Helsinki Final Act provides a solid basis for engaging in efforts to combat anti-Semitism. The Berlin Declaration channelled this engagement through concrete commitments. These commitments included the implementation of national measures to effectively combat various forms of anti-Semitism, the promotion of relevant educational programmes, and the promotion of Holocaust remembrance.

Since Berlin 2004, the OSCE has built up capacities to support participating States in combating anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance. There are now three Personal Representatives of the Chairmanship focusing on different forms of discrimination and intolerance. One of these Representatives, Rabbi Andrew Baker, is dealing specifically with anti-Semitism. His country visits and his reports should help participating States to effectively combat anti-Semitism.

Much work is also being done by the ODIHR in this field. I will not go into details here because I gather that you, Director Link, will provide an overview. But I wish to commend you and your Office for these efforts. Activities such as the gathering of data on anti-Semitism, the Hate Crime Reporting website, and the facilitation of exchanges of good practice in dealing with anti-Semitism are essential to assist participating States in implementing the commitments they have signed up to.

The ODIHR has become an important platform for dialogue on the challenges and the means of dealing with contemporary anti-Semitism. It helps participating States to address the specificities of anti-Semitism while placing them in the context of other manifestations of intolerance. (To Mr. Link:) You can count on Switzerland's continuing support for the invaluable work done by the ODIHR.

Ten years after the Berlin Declaration, we need political leadership to make full use of these OSCE capacities. And we need political leadership to translate abstract commitments into concrete realities at the national level. The more we improve the implementation of OSCE commitments, the more effective we will be in addressing anti-Semitism and other challenges to European security.

Let me make four points in this regard:

First, political leaders need to speak out strongly whenever anti-Semitic incidents and other hate crimes occur. They must signal to the communities concerned and to the general public that such acts will not be tolerated. They should also speak out whenever politicians and political parties spur anti-Semitism or, conversely, when they make unjustified accusations of anti-Semitism to further their political aims.

Second, as stated in the Berlin Declaration, political leaders should unambiguously declare that international developments or political issues, including those in Israel or elsewhere in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism.

The statement by the foreign ministers of France, Germany, and Italy condemning anti-Semitic violence that occurred in protests against Israel's Gaza policy this summer set an important example in this regard. Criticising States – including Israel – is legitimate; freedom of expression is a human right that we should all defend. But such criticism must never have anti-Semitic undertones or translate into any form of anti-Semitic action.

Third, political leaders should make sure that there are adequate monitoring, reporting, and law enforcement schemes in place to combat anti-Semitism at the national level. We need laws and institutions that ensure that anti-Semitic stigmatisation, discrimination, and violence have no place in our societies. It is also important that measures to combat anti-Semitism be integrated into relevant national and local strategies and action plans across a number of key areas – including human rights, equality, crime and violence prevention.

Fourth, and finally, political leadership is required to preserve the memory of the Holocaust. As Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, I used this year's International Holocaust Remembrance Day to call on all participating States to step up their efforts to combat anti-Semitism, xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, and to raise awareness of the Holocaust, especially among young people.

Ladies and gentlemen

It is up to policymakers to provide adequate conditions to effectively and sustainably combat anti-Semitism. But it is important to note that addressing anti-Semitism is a task that concerns society at large. Each and every citizen can and must contribute to ensure the non-discrimination and security of Jewish and other minority communities.

This is why I consider the participation of representatives of civil society and youth organizations at this conference to be particularly important.

You play a seminal role in monitoring trends of anti-Semitism and holding States accountable if they fail to live up to their commitments. You are also an important source of know-how when it comes to developing tools to effectively address contemporary manifestations of anti-Semitism, such as the growing challenge of the spread of anti-Semitism via the internet and social media. And you are an essential force to raise awareness among fellow citizens about the dangers of anti-Semitism and ways of standing against it.

I was glad to hear from Swiss civil society representatives that the discussions in the Civil Society Forum were concrete, fruitful and forward-looking. The Swiss Chairmanship will take good note of the recommendations that will be presented by the Civil Society Panel this afternoon. Cooperative and comprehensive approaches to security are a hallmark of the OSCE and will continue to guide our efforts in dealing with anti-Semitism.

I mentioned at the beginning the importance I attach to involving young people in OSCE activities. A key task of policymakers is to provide good conditions for the next generation, which is why it is so important that we politicians remain in constant dialogue with young people, listen to their needs and ideas, and encourage them to get involved in political matters themselves.

Alerting young people to the danger of anti-Semitism and motivating them to address this danger should be a priority for all of us. The Berlin Declaration has underlined the importance of educational tools in this regard.

Switzerland supports the “No hate speech movement”, a youth campaign of the Council of Europe with which the OSCE is working closely in the field of tolerance and non-discrimination.

I would also like to draw your attention to Likrat, an interesting leadership and dialogue project that was conceived by the Swiss Federation of Jewish Communities. Promoting intercultural learning, Likrat facilitates visits to Swiss schools by Jewish adolescents who talk about Judaism there and engage with their peers of different religions in discussions on religious and social issues. This seems a promising way of effectively reducing stereotypes and preventing anti-Semitism, and I was pleased to learn that the Likrat project is now being implemented in other European countries too.

Ladies and gentlemen

Every act of anti-Semitism is an attack against our society as a whole, a negation of pluralism and of respect for human rights. The Swiss Chairmanship calls on all participating States to vigorously counter anti-Semitism and to live up to their respective commitments. And we call on civil society and youth representatives to continue to engage with the OSCE and make the fight against anti-Semitism a collective endeavour; a collective endeavour because it is our common history and our common future.

Opening address by Michael Georg Link, Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Excellency, President of Switzerland,
 Excellency, Minister Steinmeier,
 Ministers,
 Excellencies,
 Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great honour for me to welcome all of you on behalf of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.

Let me especially greet the representatives of Jewish community organizations, Jewish student organizations and grass roots initiatives that counter anti-Semitism at the local level. Let me welcome the experts committed to the topic and all civic leaders and activists who have come here with the strong commitment to promote dialogue and build coalitions against anti-Semitism. We at ODIHR are your ally in the struggle against anti-Semitism.

Let me also thank our generous supporters and donors who have made it possible for us to invite you to Berlin:

- The Federal Government of Germany, represented by our host, Minister Steinmeier,
- the Swiss Government, represented by the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, President Didier Burkhalter,
- the governments of Italy, Serbia and the United States,
- and the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The fact that so many of you have come here today makes one thing very clear: We are not only gathered to commemorate the 2004 Berlin Declaration, we are here because we remain concerned about anti-Semitism in the OSCE region, and because we stand ready to face this challenge and build upon the Declaration and even take it a step further.

The city of Berlin is an excellent place for this meeting because it symbolises the history of the 20th century. Some of you may have had a chance to arrive early and experience the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9th. While this day marks one of the happiest episodes in German history, it also stands for one of its darkest chapters: The “Pogromnacht”, or, as it is sometimes called in English, the “Night of the Broken Glass”. November 9th eternally reminds us, in the midst of the joyful reunification celebrations, about the fragility of civilisation if anti-Semitism isn’t fought at its very roots.

On November 9th, 1938, Nazi Germany finally revealed its ugly face with this series of co-ordinated attacks against Jews and their property. And as we think back with horror about how the streets of Berlin and other German cities were littered with shards of broken glass from the smashed windows of Jewish-owned stores, buildings, and synagogues, we all know that this only marked the beginning of the incomprehensible crime against humanity which later became known as the Holocaust.

While these events took place some 70 years ago, the issue of anti-Semitism still exists and remains of great concern to us.

It remains a concern here in Germany, where recent statistics have shown a surge in anti-Semitism, and in many other places. And while the Gaza conflict reached a new degree of escalation this summer, we were all shocked to see a new wave of anti-Semitic assemblies and attacks all over Europe.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today is a day for us to discuss these disturbing developments, and to take stock about the implementation of our OSCE commitments.

As ODIHR Director, it is my responsibility to support OSCE participating States with the implementation of their human dimension commitments – but it is also my duty to speak out when these commitments aren't met.

The special significance of the 2004 Berlin Declaration and subsequent Ministerial Council Decisions is that they provide the foundation of this commitment to take on the challenge of anti-Semitism and provide clear measures for an effective response, from the importance of education to the investigation and prosecution of anti-Semitic hate crime.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Luckily, a lot of progress has been made and there are many positive stories that can be told on a day like this: About committed political leaders who do not hesitate to condemn anti-Semitism wherever and whenever it shows itself, about police officers who work on the front line and provide support to victims of hate crime, about educators who use their insights and creativity to identify effective ways to teach about anti-Semitism and about civil society activists who use their limited resources to make a difference.

Indeed, a lot has been put in place since 2004: First and foremost, the Berlin Declaration put the need for a specific educational approach to counter anti-Semitism on the OSCE's agenda. The teaching materials ODIHR developed with the Anne Frank House as a consequence of the Berlin Declaration have been successfully implemented in 14 OSCE participating States. It is thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of the non-governmental organizations, but also local educational authorities and government agencies, that this tool reached so many teachers and students. Let me use this opportunity to thank all the experts that have spearheaded this project in collaboration with ODIHR – many of you are here today.

Another key area is hate crime. My institution has created a number of technical assistance programmes for law enforcement and prosecutors, exemplified by our Training against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) and Prosecutors and Hate Crimes Training (PAHCT) programmes. Since 2007, for example, Poland has with ODIHR's help trained more than 70,000 police officers on hate crime. Croatia and Bulgaria have trained many thousands more, and we are currently working on implementing these programmes in Italy, Montenegro, Greece and many other countries all over the OSCE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are not gathered here to only talk about the positive effects of our work. The most important part of taking stock is to address the challenges we're facing: Of the many areas for action in addressing anti-Semitism effectively, one of the most serious and challenging is anti-Semitic hate crime. Since 2006, annual data released by ODIHR reveals several stubborn trends on states' responses to anti-Semitic hate crime. Since 2009, only twelve participating States have reported specific data on anti-Semitic hate crime annually. Furthermore, the data that does exist suggests significant under reporting by victims. This is a worrying indication of the implementation gap when it comes to OSCE commitments on recording anti-Semitic hate crimes and encouraging victims to report it.

Today is an opportunity for OSCE participating States to recommit to the Berlin Declaration and even to take it a step further. I invite the governments of our participating States to use ODIHR as a key partner in raising awareness about anti-Semitism.

Let me also send a special message to civil society and invite you to co-operate with ODIHR wherever possible –use our tools, trainings and the fora provided by the OSCE, I am thinking in particular of the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meetings in Warsaw. Call on us to take action wherever and whenever you think we can make a difference in facilitating conversations with your government about anti-Semitism and challenges related to Holocaust remembrance and education.

One of the main themes that ran throughout the discussions during yesterday's Civil Society Forum was the need to build strong civil society intercommunal and interfaith networks. Another topic that came up several times was the request to call upon participating States to strengthen ODIHR's monitoring capabilities in the area of anti-Semitism. We stand ready to take up this challenge.

Thank you very much for your attention!

Annex 3: Introductory Speech

Remarks at the 10th Anniversary of the OSCE's Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism Samantha Power, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Berlin, 13 November 2014

Thank you, all. Thank you, Foreign Minister Steinmeier, President Burkhalter, for convening this critically important conference. It could not be more timely. Thank you, Director Link, for all of your human rights work across a range of issues, including anti-Semitism.

We are gathered in Berlin -- a great, great city -- that marked two anniversaries this week. The first -- November 9th, 1938 -- was Kristallnacht, "the night of the broken glass," which unleashed savage violence and destruction against Jewish homes, synagogues, schools, and businesses by Nazis in Germany and Austria.

Writing from the American Consulate in Leipzig, an American official named David Buffum recounted events in a diplomatic cable that -- even today, 76 years later -- has the power to shock. Buffum wrote: "In one of the Jewish sections, an eighteen-year-old boy was hurled from a three-story window to land with both legs broken on a street." Firemen made no effort to put out the fires that consumed Leipzig's three synagogues, he wrote, or the pyres of sacred texts burning outside of them. Instead, they hosed down the adjoining buildings to ensure that they did not catch fire. In the Jewish cemetery, tombstones were toppled and graves desecrated. In another part of Leipzig, "the insatiably," he wrote, "the insatiably sadistic perpetrators threw many of the trembling [residents] into a small stream that flows through the Zoological Park, commanding horrified spectators to spit at them, defile them with mud, and jeer at their plight."

As we know, the terror of Kristallnacht was just a prelude to the horror that would follow. In the immediate aftermath, 30,000 Jews were arrested to be sent to the concentration camps. And over the course of the Holocaust, of course, six million Jews would be systematically murdered.

The second anniversary -- November 9, 1989 -- was of course the day, 25 years ago, when the Berlin Wall came down, and along with it, the repressive system that prevented tens of millions of people in Central and Eastern Europe from exercising their human rights and fundamental freedoms -- including the freedoms of expression and religion. In many ways, the fall of the Wall also marked the triumph of the ideas undergirding the contemporary European system -- a system built on the values of liberalism, pluralism, and fundamental freedom.

I invoke these anniversaries because they tell us a lot about the moment in which Jews in Europe, and all Europeans, find themselves today. On the one hand, Europe has come a long way -- so very far -- from the horrors of Kristallnacht. Today is not 1938. Genocide of the Jews in Europe is, thankfully, not a threat in 2014.

And yet, on the other hand, in the decade that has passed since 55 countries in the OSCE came together to declare our commitment to combatting all forms of anti-Semitism, we've actually seen an alarming increase in anti-Semitic attacks and attitudes in many parts of Europe. This trend is not only dangerous in and of itself, but it speaks to a deeper, more insidious threat to the European liberal ideal that rose up when the Berlin Wall came down.

Today, I will discuss rising anti-Semitism, the robust steps must be taken to stop it, and the stakes of this effort. Anti-Semitic attacks are not only a threat to the Jewish community; they are a threat to the larger project of European liberalism and pluralism – and should be treated as such. Anti-Semitism threatens the core principles upon which a peaceful and stable Europe has been built.

Everyone here is familiar with the alarming statistics on anti-Semitism's rise. According to the recent European Union Fundamental Rights Agency survey of eight countries – the eight countries in which over 90 percent of Europe's Jews live – approximately one in four of those surveyed reported having been the victim of an anti-Semitic attack or harassment in the previous year. One in four. Three-quarters of the respondents surveyed said that anti-Semitism in their country had gotten worse over the past five years.

We've seen these alarming trends reflected within individual countries in Europe. In France, for example, where Jews account for less than one percent of the population, in 2013 they were the victims of 40 percent of reported attacks based on race, religion or ethnicity. And since 2000, anti-Jewish violence in France has averaged rates that are seven times what they were in the 1990s, according to the Society for the Protection of the Jewish Community.

And we know well the horrifying physical attacks: the March 2012 attack on a Jewish day school in Toulouse, in which a teacher and three children – ages 8, 6, and 3 – were killed. The attack on the Jewish museum in Brussels in May that killed four people. The July firebombing, in Wuppertal, of the Bergische Synagogue – a synagogue that had originally been burned to the ground during Kristallnacht, and had only been rebuilt in 2002.

We have also seen, particularly since the most recent conflict in Gaza, rallies in favor of the rights of Palestinians or against Israel's policies and actions increasingly feature vicious anti-Semitic rhetoric and, in some instances, even transform into anti-Semitic mobs. At rallies in Dortmund and Frankfurt in July, there were chants of "Hamas, Hamas, Jews to the gas!" The same week, protestors marched on a synagogue in Paris, reportedly screaming, "Death to the Jews," and "Jews to the oven" – and then tried to force themselves inside, where worshippers were gathered. They were held at bay by security guards and police.

This is not without precedent. Indeed, it was a surge in anti-Semitism that led to the 2004 Berlin Declaration, and that was in large part tied to Israeli-Palestinian tensions and the Second Intifada. Taken together – and in the context of rising anti-Semitism across the continent – these incidents and the feelings behind them pose a real threat to the viability of European Jewish communities. Roughly half of Jews living in Europe surveyed by the Fundamental Rights Agency said they have contemplated emigrating as a result of anti-Semitism. Faced with these statistics ten years after the Berlin Declaration, we must ask ourselves: Why are we coming up short? What can we do to reverse these trends?

One way, as has been said, is to swiftly and unequivocally condemn these attacks when they occur, and to make the struggle against anti-Semitism a national priority. In September, Chancellor Merkel not only showed up at a national rally against anti-Semitism in Berlin, but rightly called attacks on Jews "monstrous," and declared: "We are making unmistakably clear with this rally that Jewish life belongs to us — it is part of our identity and culture." Months earlier, President Hollande declared, "the government remains absolutely uncompromising with respect to anti-Semitic acts because they are all attacks on France." And Prime Minister

David Cameron said to the House of Commons: “There can never be any excuse for anti-Semitism, and no disagreements on politics or policy should ever be allowed to justify racism, prejudice or extremism in any form.”

When leaders show up, nations take notice. So it was a testament to the commitment of the participating OSCE states to the 2004 Berlin conference that 55 countries participated, nearly one-third of whom dispatched ministers or cabinet members, as the United States did by sending then-Secretary of State Colin Powell. That is why President Obama sent me, a member of his cabinet, to Berlin for this conference, as part of the first ever U.S. Presidential Delegation to attend an OSCE conference. It is also why – the same year as the initial OSCE conference – the U.S. Congress passed, and President Bush signed into law, legislation creating the permanent position of a US Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism. It is a demonstration of how seriously our government takes this issue. Our current Special Envoy, Ira Forman, is a member of our Presidential Delegation here today.

It is also why, frankly, it is deeply concerning that even as anti-Semitism is rising in Europe, a third fewer countries are participating in the 2014 conference than took part in the 2004 conference; and only one in three of the countries that sent a foreign minister or other cabinet level official in 2004 has sent one at that level to this conference. Now this is not meant in any way to disrespect the high-ranking officials who are here today or the members of parliament who have such an important role to play in this cause. But it does beg the question: Doesn't this issue – at the very least – merit the same show of solidarity and commitment from governments today as it did a decade ago?

That is why it is critically important that OSCE states follow up on the Berlin Declaration this year, and rally around an updated plan of action that charts a concrete, unified path forward, which responds to the problems as we see them in 2014. And make no mistake, we have a problem.

One way to ensure sustained attention to anti-Semitism is to appoint a high-level envoy. There is a lot going on in the world right now: ISIL, Syria, Ebola, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Mali, South Sudan – I could go on and on. Elie Wiesel said to me not long ago: “The winds of madness are blowing.” It's official. And knowing how consumed senior policy makers are with burning crises around the world, I can personally attest to how useful it is to have a dedicated special envoy, who has the specific mandate to combat and monitor anti-Semitism. Governments who appoint high-level officials to coordinate whole-of-nation efforts to combat anti-Semitism, and give them the political backing and resources they need, will see the difference it makes. And we know the OSCE has benefited tremendously from the leadership of appointing a personal representative on combatting anti-Semitism, a position currently held by Rabbi Andrew Baker.

Governments must also ensure that the perpetrators of anti-Semitic acts are held accountable. This means vigorously arresting, investigating and prosecuting attacks when they occur; passing hate crimes legislation, and strengthening it where it already exists – without, of course, infringing on civil liberties and due process. And it means ensuring that people have the knowledge and trust to come forward when these crimes are committed. It also means making sure law enforcement officers learn how to recognize such crimes, and to build the trust of communities that is critical to such crimes being reported and effectively investigated. Prosecutors must be trained to effectively prosecute hate crimes, as the OSCE's Office for

Democratic Institutions and Human Rights is doing through their workshops and training guides.

Here, too, there is reason for concern: roughly half of European Jews surveyed by the Fundamental Rights Agency had no idea that hate crimes legislation existed. And the vast majority of Jews surveyed, who felt that they were victims of crimes because of their religion, said that they did not report the most serious incidents to authorities. When hate crimes are not reported, impunity reigns, perpetrators are emboldened, and victims become more vulnerable. We have to bridge the trust and the knowledge gaps.

I've spoken a lot about governments and what we can do, but civil society has an absolutely indispensable role to play in this effort – from preventing anti-Semitism through community outreach and education; to building the bridges between religious and ethnic groups that are the foundation to harmonious communities; to joining governments in swiftly condemning anti-Semitic acts when they occur. So our governments must work with energy and creativity to bring civil society groups into this effort, and to amplify the voices of those who are already exercising grassroots leadership on this issue. Without these partners, our efforts cannot succeed.

President Obama's delegation to this conference includes a diverse range of civil society leaders who have been leading advocates for justice in the United States and around the world – and justice of all kinds. The leaders represent groups from the Anti-Defamation League to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP; the American Islamic Congress; Human Rights Campaign, which is the largest US advocacy group for LGBT rights. President Obama and these civil society leaders, who I had the chance to meet with just before coming here, understand that combatting anti-Semitism is not, and cannot be seen as, a Jewish issue – it is a human rights and civil rights issue. When a civil society delegation includes only Jewish representatives, it will be far harder for them and us to break through. It is essential that we -- when we gather, again -- that we broaden the representation in civil society so that it represents a cross section of the human rights community, because those are the stakeholders we need to engage on this issue.

With respect to anti-Semitic rhetoric and attacks that occur in the context of pro-Palestinian or anti-Israeli rallies – and the spikes in anti-Semitic violence that occur when tensions rise in the Middle East – our message must be unified and it must be unequivocal: We liberal democracies hold sacred the right of citizens to express their political views and to offer criticism of government – whether of foreign governments or of our own. Protests and other forms of political expression are cornerstones of our democracies. But we must be equally unified and unequivocal that such protests can never be an excuse for anti-Semitism or incitement to violence. The violence in Gaza in recent months was devastating, and it generated strong reactions from many governments and individuals. Governments must allow space for people's views to be aired in the public sphere – whether in a conversation or at a protest. Just as there is a way to express criticisms of Palestinian policies and actions without expressing Islamophobic views or attacking Muslims; so too is there a way to express criticisms of Israel's policies and actions without making anti-Semitic remarks. Our nations pledged to uphold the clear distinction between anti-Semitism and legitimate acts of political expression when we signed the Berlin Declaration, which states unambiguously that: “international developments or political issues, including those in Israel or elsewhere in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism.” Ten years later, our job as governments is still to guard that distinction vigilantly.

So I have spoken about the robust steps that are needed to address rising anti-Semitism in Europe. But before I close, I would like also to try to grapple a little bit with the question of how the rise in anti-Semitism threatens the greater European project to promote liberal democracy and fundamental freedoms. Just as growing hostility toward Jews in a country tends to dovetail with a rise in illiberalism and other forms of repression, so can efforts to combat anti-Semitism play a critically important role in advancing Europe's most sacred principles – democracy's most sacred principles.

The periods when we see alarming surges of anti-Semitism are often the same periods when we see an erosion of human rights in general, including the repression of members of other minority groups. The recent rise in anti-Semitism has come as right-wing, nationalist parties have made alarming gains in Europe. Look at May's European parliamentary elections. In Denmark, the anti-immigrant Danish People's Party finished first. In France, the far-right Nationalist Front won over a quarter of the vote – more than any other party. In Greece, the overtly anti-Semitic and xenophobic Golden Dawn received 10 percent of the vote. The list goes on.

In Hungary – where the extreme ethnic nationalist Jobbik party finished second in May elections, and where public opinion polling has shown a high level of anti-Semitic attitudes, the government has cracked down as well on the independent press and civil society groups. According to international media watch dog, the Committee to Protect Journalists, Hungarian authorities have pressured the media to tone down or abandon sensitive, critical stories and punish the journalists and media outlets that press ahead. All this at the same time a new government-commissioned monument to the Second World War depicts Hungarian “victims of German occupation” – but makes no mention of the major role the Hungarian government and citizens played in the mass extermination of Jews.

There is an important lesson here: rising anti-Semitism is rarely the lone or the last manifestation of intolerance in a society. Quite the contrary, it is often the canary in the coal mine for the degradation of human rights more broadly. When the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Jews are repressed, the rights and freedoms of other minorities and other sectors are often not far behind. Unique as the horrors experienced by Jews in Europe are, and, as essential as it is to give the Jewish community special vigilance, we must constantly situate our efforts to defend the human rights of the Jewish people within the struggle to advance universal human rights more broadly. And when we promote and defend universal human rights around the world, we must ensure that these efforts always includes the human rights of Jews.

In this sense, we can learn a great deal from the Jewish community, which having borne the immeasurable cost of silence and inaction, takes seriously its responsibility to come to the defense of other minorities to promote and protect their fundamental rights. That is why a decade ago, the American Jewish community was so forceful in its condemnation of the atrocities being committed in Darfur, and why it pressed for the United States to declare that those crimes constituted a genocide. And it is why, two decades ago, when the city of Sarajevo was under siege by Bosnian Serbs, a small Jewish community center, La Benevolencija – whose name meant “good will” and came from the community's Sephardic roots – opened its doors to Muslims, Croats, and Serbs alike. Throughout the 1,400 long days and nights of Sarajevo's siege, the center provided the people of the city – people of all faiths – with free meals, shelter, and medical care.

We have come to Berlin to discuss anti-Semitism in Europe. But the truth is that every region, every country, and every community needs to be talking about this enduring problem, and working to confront it, both in places that have staggering levels of anti-Semitism, and in those where it is less prevalent.

The United States is certainly no exception. Our country has a proud history of religious freedom, which was one of the founding tenets of our nation and is enshrined in the first amendment to our Constitution. We have worked diligently to make ours a nation of respect for civil rights. Yet we too see the ugly manifestations of anti-Semitism. According to a 2000* report by our Federal Bureau of Investigation, nearly two-thirds of religious-driven hate crimes in the United States target Jews. In April, on the eve of Passover, a neo-Nazi opened fire outside a Jewish community center and assisted living home called Village Shalom in Kansas City. He killed three people: 14 year-old Reat Griffin Underwood; his 69-year-old grandfather, Dr. William Lewis Corporon; and 53-year-old Terri LaManno. Reat and his grandfather were Methodists; Terri was also a Christian. Terri was shot while visiting her mother who, while not Jewish herself, lived in a Jewish assisted-living home.

In upstate New York, less than two hours' drive from where I live, Jewish students attending public schools in the Pine Bush Central School District started to find swastikas everywhere – on the walls of their classrooms, their school desks, their lockers, even a playground slide. Over several years, Jewish students said they heard jokes about the Holocaust, were pelted with coins, punched, called names, and told to get money out of garbage cans. Anti-Semitism is a global problem, and this must -- there must be a perpetual effort, in the United States, Europe, and beyond, to fight it. Our work will never be finished. And it is an effort that will not only advance the human rights of Jewish people, but all of the communities that make up our incredibly diverse nations.

That is the lesson I take from a final story – a story of a small Jewish patrol group called Shomrim, in Stoke Newington, England. Taking its name from the Hebrew word for “safety,” the Shomrim was formed in 2008, in response to a series of anti-Semitic attacks on the local Jewish community. The group of a few dozen members carried out rudimentary patrols of the neighborhoods where many Jews lived.

Then, in May of 2013, two men brazenly attacked and killed a British soldier in the streets in London, claiming it was revenge for the killing of Muslims by British soldiers in the Middle East. A wave of anti-Muslim attacks in England followed – including 11 attacks on mosques in the week after the killing. Fearing that they would be next, members of the Muslim community in Stoke Newington turned to their Jewish neighbors. They asked if the Shomrim, having suffered similar attacks, would help patrol the mosque and a local Muslim community center as well as their synagogue. The Shomrim said yes and began patrolling immediately.

What the Shomrim understood was that, by patrolling the mosque and community center, they were not patrolling solely on behalf of the Muslim community, but also their own. The rights they were defending were not only the human rights of Muslims, but the human rights of Jews as well. The Shomrim understood that a Europe where anyone feels afraid or endangered because of the actions, beliefs, or speech of a neighbor is a Europe where everyone's rights are at risk. We would all do well to embrace the same lesson.

Thank you so much

Annex 4: Civil Society recommendations

The following recommendations were submitted and presented by civil society during the High-level commemorative event and civil society forum designed to mark the 10th anniversary of the OSCE's Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism on 12-13 November 2014.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OSCE HIGH-LEVEL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM *as of November 13, 2014*

The continuing resurgence of anti-Semitism in the OSCE region has prompted a High-Level Commemorative Event marking the 10th Anniversary of the OSCE's Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism, recalling the 2004 Berlin high-level conference, to renew government commitments to fighting anti-Semitism.

These government efforts are augmented and strengthened by the participation of civil society groups. At a Civil Society Forum on Anti-Semitism in Berlin on Nov. 12, 2014, the following recommendations to the OSCE for intensifying the fight against anti-Semitism were passed. In particular, we call on OSCE Participating States to:

1. **Recall the 2004 Berlin Declaration** that “declared unambiguously that international developments or political issues, including those in Israel or in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism.”
2. **Use the EUMC Working Definition on Anti-Semitism** when monitoring and recording acts of anti-Semitism.
3. **Institute teacher training and educational programs** at all levels to combat anti-Semitism, focusing in particular on the growing dissemination of anti-Semitism in social media as well as on growing societal diversity.
4. **Comply with commitments on monitoring and prosecuting anti-Semitic hate crimes**, in partnership with civil society, disclosing detailed statistical information on the nature of the incidents, publicizing the data and sharing it with ODIHR.
5. **Designate a commissioner or coordinating body** to ensure comprehensive cooperation on monitoring, prosecution, public awareness and education against anti-Semitism.
6. **Issue an annual report on anti-Semitic incidents** and on government efforts to combat anti-Semitism.
7. **Promote cooperation of all European agencies** concerned with combating anti-Semitism, eliminating competing roles and enhancing strategic and practical cooperation amongst them.
8. **Review and enforce legislation** countering anti-Semitism.

9. **Convene annual summit meetings** amongst government officials, justice and law enforcement agencies, Jewish communities, and other community stakeholders.
10. **Improve security for Jewish institutions** by ensuring adequate police protection, training police and law enforcement to identify anti-Semitic hate crimes, funding security measures for Jewish institutions, and engaging Jewish leadership to encourage higher levels of reporting.
11. **Promote media literacy and anti-hate counter-speech** and provide financial support for civil society initiatives that promote programs and methods to curb online anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial.
12. **Condemn all expressions of Holocaust denial and efforts to distort its meaning**, with reference to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) “Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion.”
13. **Strengthen assistance for civil society and intercommunal networks** to speak out against anti-Semitism and all forms of racism, independent of their differing views on the Middle East conflict, to provide support in times of crisis.
14. **Recognize and protect the rights of Jews to their religious practices.**
15. **Refrain from using or instrumentalizing anti-Semitic stereotypes** blaming political actors or other governments.
16. **Denounce and investigate anti-Semitic comments and incidents** made by ultra-nationalist groups.
17. **Reject trivialization of the Holocaust** through historical revisionism that equates totalitarian regimes without historical distinctions.
18. **Support efforts of civil society networks to combat anti-Semitism** and other forms of intolerance, establishing task forces or working groups in which law enforcement authorities and governmental stakeholders may participate.
19. **Wherever possible secure endorsement for these recommendations** through appropriate PC and Ministerial Council decisions.

Annex 5: Swiss OSCE Chairmanship conclusions



10th Anniversary of the OSCE's Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism

High-Level Commemorative Event

Berlin, 12-13 November 2014

Swiss OSCE Chairmanship conclusions

Distinguished delegates,

Ten years ago, OSCE participating States met here in Berlin and committed to undertake a range of actions to combat anti-Semitism, including to, “strive to ensure that their legal systems foster a safe environment free from anti-Semitic harassment, violence or discrimination in all fields of life,” to “combat hate crimes,” to promote “educational programs for combating anti-Semitism” and “education about the tragedy of the Holocaust,” and to “collect and maintain reliable information and statistics about anti-Semitic crimes and other hate crimes.”

The disconcerting events that took place in the summer of 2014 – attacks on Jewish people, on synagogues, Jewish schools and other buildings as well as anti-Semitic threats expressed during assemblies, on the Internet and elsewhere – have highlighted that anti-Semitism remains a challenge to stability and security in the OSCE region.

Against this background, let me sum up the proceedings of what I would like to call the *Berlin Plus Ten Conference*.

During discussions, OSCE participating States

Recalled the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 and the commitment of participating States to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

Reaffirmed the 2004 Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism and the commitments made by OSCE participating States at subsequent Ministerial Councils;

Welcomed the recommendations developed by the Civil Society Forum that took place on 12 November 2014;

Acknowledged the essential contribution made by civil society to preventing and responding to anti-Semitism and the importance for States to engage with civil society;

Reaffirmed that international developments, including those in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism;

Expressed deep concern about recent violent and deadly attacks on Jewish individuals, by threats against Jewish people and institutions, and about reports which indicate that Jewish people no longer feel safe in parts of the OSCE region to visibly express their religion and publicly identify as Jews;

Expressed deep concern about anti-Semitic expressions, online and in other settings, including in the context of conflicts in the Middle East and during times of economic crisis, about Holocaust denial and trivialization and by attempts to reference the Holocaust in order to offend, intimidate and threaten Jews;

Expressed deep concern about attempts to use anti-Semitism as a political instrument, and about initiatives that reveal a lack of awareness of, sensitivity towards and respect for Jewish religious practices;

Called on political, religious and civil society leaders to use the freedom of expression, the freedom of the media and the freedom of peaceful assembly as a starting point for dialogue, coalition-building and open debate, including about conflicts in the Middle East, without justifying or resorting to anti-Semitism;

Anticipated the seventieth anniversaries of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the end of the Second World War and the need for governments to step up their efforts in identifying effective ways to promote Holocaust remembrance and education and address attempts to distort, trivialize and deny the Holocaust;

Noted that the Working Definition of Anti-Semitism, disseminated by the EUMC in 2005 and employed by monitoring organizations in various OSCE participating States, remains a useful document for governments and civil society in explaining how anti-Zionism is frequently a mask for anti-Semitism, and Jewish communities are often targets for anti-Israel animus;

Recognized the need for governments to provide political and financial support to the work undertaken by civil society in the area of countering anti-Semitism and the importance of strong partnerships with non-governmental organizations;

Emphasized the need for co-operation and coordination among intergovernmental bodies in this area.

During the 2014 High Level commemorative OSCE Berlin Conference on anti-Semitism, the OSCE participating States discussed ways to:

- Encourage government leaders to speak out strongly and quickly when anti-Semitic incidents and other hate crimes occur to send a signal to the embattled communities and a message to the general public that anti-Semitism should not be tolerated.
- Urge law enforcement agencies to address the very real threats to Jewish community security, which also include attacks from extremists.
- Review existing legislation that addresses anti-Semitism and other hate crimes and enforce existing regulations and revise or adopt legislation where necessary.
- Provide to police and prosecutors appropriate training to enable them to better understand and respond to anti-Semitic crimes and other hate crimes.

- Redouble efforts to meet their already-stated commitments to monitor hate crimes and collect data and provide ODIHR with disaggregated information on anti-Semitic hate crime.
- Effectively investigate and prosecute perpetrators of anti-Semitic hate crime.
- Develop educational programs designed to deal with the special challenges that anti-Semitism poses and provide young people with opportunities to learn about anti-Semitism together.
- Establish channels of communication and co-operation with Jewish communities and experts on freedom of religion or belief in order to ensure that Jewish communities are systematically consulted on legislative and policy initiatives pertinent to Jewish religious practices, and to sensitize relevant government officials for the specific concerns Jewish people may have with regard to freely practicing their religion.
- Welcome the visits of the three Personal Representatives on tolerance issues and follow-up on the recommendations presented in the respective country reports.

- Encourage ODIHR to:
 - support participating States in their efforts to counter anti-Semitism by consulting civil society to develop tools that enable governments to effectively identify and address contemporary manifestations of anti-Semitism;
 - support participating States in their efforts to respond to, prosecute and collect data on anti-Semitic hate crime, in co-operation with civil society;
 - encourage the establishment of channels of communication and co-operation between governmental officials and civil society on issues related to anti-Semitism as well as hate crime, Holocaust remembrance and freedom of religion or belief;
 - provide a forum for dialogue among governmental and non-governmental experts on effective educational approaches and ways to raise awareness about anti-Semitism and overcome challenges to Holocaust education; and
 - support initiatives promoting dialogue and strengthen the capacity of civil society to promote mutual respect and understanding in order to foster co-operation and coalition-building among different communities.

Annex 6: Concluding Remarks

Speech delivered by First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivica Dačić at the High-Level Commemorative Event on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism Berlin, 13 November 2014

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to express my thanks for the invitation to attend this event of high importance, and also for the opportunity to address you on behalf of Serbia, the incoming OSCE Chair. My special gratitude goes to German Federal Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, President of the Swiss Confederation Didier Burkhalter, and to the Director of ODIHR Michael Link, for gathering us here in Berlin and for their opening statements at the beginning of the Conference.

I am particularly thankful to Minister Steinmeier for his hospitality over the last two days.

As you all know, during the current and the following year, we are to mark important anniversaries in European and world history – 100 years of the start of the First World War, 70 years since the end of the Second World War, 70 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, and also 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Even today, in the second decade of the 21st century, anti-Semitism remains as widespread as ever. Ten years after the adoption of the Berlin Declaration which paved the way to OSCE's engagement in combating anti-Semitism, it is our obligation, at both the national and international levels, to continue developing frameworks that will facilitate efforts to recognize and counter all forms of anti-Semitism in the modern world. By adopting various documents and putting in place international tools, OSCE participating States have committed themselves to combating all forms of intolerance and discrimination. Implementation of these commitments is an important factor in promoting stability and mutual trust and confidence in the OSCE region and beyond. Unfortunately, we are still witnessing numerous challenges in the implementation of our common responsibilities. Participating in the discussions at this event, we were able to hear in greater detail about the measures taken and challenges that may arise in countering manifestations of anti-Semitism.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Anti-Semitism is today assuming new forms and expressions, which along with other shapes of intolerance, poses a serious threat to democracy, the values of civilization, and finally, overall security. For these very reasons, I am convinced that this event is the proper place to reiterate our shared commitment to unequivocal condemnation of any occurrence of anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination, as spelled out in the Berlin Declaration.

One of the issues raised in the discussions was the role of political leaders in combating anti-Semitism. I am convinced that political leaders bear the greatest responsibility in fighting anti-Semitism. I believe that the key element in this is prevention. As political leaders we are

obliged, first and foremost, to act preemptively through educational activities for the youth. The importance of preemptive action and focusing on youth is all the greater, taking into consideration that young people form their outlook on realities influenced by a wide variety of factors, often outside the reach of institutions and society. Therefore, it is all the more important to educate youth on the horrors of the Holocaust, since the generations of its survivors, eyewitnesses able to convincingly pass on their memories and experiences to younger generations, are fading away slowly. One of our commitments as the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office, is to mark the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and initiate a joint reflection on how to best keep the memory of the Holocaust alive. As the incoming OSCE Chair, Serbia will do everything in its power to maintain the Organization's status of one of the leaders in combating anti-Semitism, resolved to preserve remembrance of the Holocaust.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Anti-Semitism, like other forms of extremism in the world of today, uses powerful weapons such as modern information technologies and social networks. We must not lose sight, either, of the fact that current events in various parts of the world further incite the anti-Semitic activities in certain countries. All these are reasons that add complexity to our countries' efforts against anti-Semitism and pose new challenges requiring efficient and effective response.

In the two days of debate we have heard many statements leading to a conclusion that combating anti-Semitism calls for a comprehensive response. We believe that the OSCE, as an international organization addressing security in a comprehensive and cross-cutting manner, is a more than a fitting framework for devising international mechanisms aimed at combating anti-Semitism. To that end, as the incoming Chair, we will be committed to OSCE/ODIHR further intensifying the cooperation with all the representative institutions within the United Nations, the European Union and the Council of Europe, and other relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions as well.

In the Common Working Plan of the Swiss and Serbian consecutive OSCE Chairmanship, we agreed to strengthen ties with the civil society and promote its active participation, especially with regard to implementing commitments related to the OSCE human dimension. The role of civil society organizations in the fight against anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination is invaluable. Accordingly, I would like to draw your attention to the recommendations defined during yesterday's Civil Society Forum, as well as the overall contribution of non-governmental organizations to the constructive debate at this event.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The past must not be forgotten. The lessons learnt from the past must help us to overcome prejudice, illusions and avoid mistakes in the future, at the same time striving for greater stability, security and social well-being, both within individual societies and in relations among states.

Thank you for your attention.

Annex 7: Berlin Declaration (2004)



Bulgarian Chairmanship The Chairman-in-Office

Distinguished delegates,

Let me sum up the proceedings of this Conference in what I would like to call
“Berlin Declaration”.

Based on consultations I conclude that OSCE participating States,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which proclaims that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, religion or other status,

Recalling that Article 18 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights state that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, Recalling also the decisions of the OSCE Ministerial Councils at Porto and Maastricht, as well as previous decisions and documents, and committing ourselves to intensify efforts to combat anti-Semitism in all its manifestations and to promote and strengthen tolerance and non-discrimination,

Recognizing that anti-Semitism, following its most devastating manifestation during the Holocaust, has assumed new forms and expressions, which, along with other forms of intolerance, pose a threat to democracy, the values of civilization and, therefore, to overall security in the OSCE region and beyond,

Concerned in particular that this hostility toward Jews -- as individuals or collectively – on racial, social, and/or religious grounds, has manifested itself in verbal and physical attacks and in the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries,

1. Condemn without reserve all manifestations of anti-Semitism, and all other acts of intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities based on ethnic origin or religious belief, wherever they occur;
2. Also condemn all attacks motivated by anti-Semitism or by any other forms of religious or racial hatred or intolerance, including attacks against synagogues and other religious places, sites and shrines;
3. Declare unambiguously that international developments or political issues, including those in Israel or elsewhere in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism;

In addition, I note that the Maastricht Ministerial Council in its Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, tasked the Permanent Council “to further discuss ways and means of increasing the efforts of the OSCE and the participating States for the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination in all fields.” In light of this Ministerial Decision, I welcome the April 22 Permanent Council Decision on Combating Anti-Semitism and, in accordance with that Decision, incorporate it into this Declaration.

1. The OSCE participating States commit to:
 - Strive to ensure that their legal systems foster a safe environment free from anti-Semitic harassment, violence or discrimination in all fields of life;
 - Promote, as appropriate, educational programmes for combating anti-Semitism;
 - Promote remembrance of and, as appropriate, education about the tragedy of the Holocaust, and the importance of respect for all ethnic and religious groups;
 - Combat hate crimes, which can be fuelled by racist, xenophobic and anti-Semitic propaganda in the media and on the Internet;
 - Encourage and support international organization and NGO efforts in these areas;
 - Collect and maintain reliable information and statistics about anti-Semitic crimes, and other hate crimes, committed within their territory, report such information periodically to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and make this information available to the public;
 - Endeavour to provide the ODIHR with the appropriate resources to accomplish the tasks agreed upon in the Maastricht Ministerial Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination;
 - Work with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to determine appropriate ways to review periodically the problem of anti-Semitism;
 - Encourage development of informal exchanges among experts in appropriate fora on best practices and experiences in law enforcement and education;

2. To task the ODIHR to:
 - Follow closely, in full co-operation with other OSCE institutions as well as the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UNCERD), the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) and other relevant international institutions and NGOs, anti-Semitic incidents in the OSCE area making use of all reliable information available;

- Report its findings to the Permanent Council and to the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and make these findings public. These reports should also be taken into account in deciding on priorities for the work of the OSCE in the area of intolerance; and
- Systematically collect and disseminate information throughout the OSCE area on best practices for preventing and responding to anti-Semitism and, if requested, offer advice to participating States in their efforts to fight anti-Semitism;

This Decision will be forwarded to the Ministerial Council for endorsement at its Twelfth Meeting.

Annex 8: Declaration on Enhancing Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism (2014)

OSCE Ministerial Council Declaration No. 8 on Enhancing Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism

We, the members of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, recall the OSCE Conference on Anti-Semitism held in Berlin in 2004, at which the OSCE participating States condemned all manifestations of anti-Semitism and committed themselves to common efforts to combat anti-Semitism throughout the OSCE area.

We express our concern at the disconcerting number of anti-Semitic incidents that continue to take place in the OSCE area and remain a challenge to stability and security.

We reject and condemn manifestations of anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination against Jews.

We recall the commitment to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction to race, sex, language or religion, as enshrined in the provision of the Helsinki Final Act of 1975.

We appreciate the 2004 OSCE Chairman-in-Office's Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism and reaffirm the relevant OSCE commitments.

We take note of the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship conclusions on the tenth anniversary of the Berlin Conference on Anti-Semitism.

We acknowledge the essential contribution made by civil society to preventing and responding to anti-Semitism, including by their active participation in the relevant OSCE and OSCE-related events, in particular during the high-level commemorative event on the 10th anniversary of the OSCE's Berlin conference on anti-Semitism in 2014.

We stress the importance of States collaborating with civil society through effective partnerships and strengthened dialogue and co-operation on combating anti-Semitism.

We declare unambiguously that international developments, including with regard to the situation in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism.

We call on political, religious and civil society leaders to engage in open discussions with a view to combating and preventing anti-Semitism while fully respecting fundamental freedoms and human rights.

We call upon the participating States to:

- Encourage political leaders and public figures to speak out strongly and promptly when anti-Semitic incidents occur;

- Promote educational programmes for combating anti-Semitism and provide young people with opportunities for human rights education including on the subject of anti-Semitism;
- Increase efforts to implement existing OSCE commitments related to monitoring hate crimes and collecting relevant data, including motivated by anti-Semitism;
- Investigate effectively, promptly and impartially acts of violence motivated by anti-Semitism and prosecute those responsible;
- Promote and facilitate open and transparent intercultural, interfaith and interreligious dialogue and partnerships;
- Encourage the inclusion of religious and belief communities in public discussions of pertinent legislative initiatives;

We call upon the ODIHR to:

- Offer to participating States best practices on efforts to counter anti-Semitism, including by consulting civil society, to effectively identify and address contemporary manifestations of anti-Semitism;
- Facilitate co-operation between governmental officials and civil society on issues related to anti-Semitism, including hate crime and Holocaust remembrance;
- Assist participating States in their efforts to collect data on anti-Semitic hate crimes, in co-operation with civil society, as appropriate;
- Facilitate the exchange of best practices among participating States on educational initiatives and other measures to raise awareness of anti-Semitism and overcome challenges to Holocaust education;
- Promote dialogue and strengthen the capacity of civil society to foster mutual respect and understanding in order to advance the cause of co-operation between different communities.

We highlight the work of the three Personal Representatives on tolerance issues in support of overall efforts of the OSCE to combat intolerance and discrimination, in particular through their country visits, the resulting recommendations and their reporting to the OSCE Permanent Council.

We encourage the participating States to elaborate Ministerial Council Declarations on enhancing efforts to combat intolerance and discrimination, including against Muslims, Christians and members of other religions.