



CFCA

The Coordination Forum for
Countering Antisemitism

2014

The Coordination Forum for Countering Antisemitism - 2014 report - Present situation and tendencies

The Coordination
forum for Countering
Antisemitism





This report is based on data collected and published in the site of the Coordination Forum for Countering Antisemitism.

Naturally, the number of incidents published in the report does not reflect all the incidents that took place in practice, and the data is at times substantially different from the data published by the various Jewish communities, which has the most comprehensive database. However, in our view, the data on which this report is based reflect the tendencies.

www.antisemitism.org.il



Overview

- 2014 was marked by an alarming rise in antisemitic incidents, acts of terrorism and attempted attacks against Jewish targets, primarily by parties identifying with extremist Islamic movements or with the radical right. At the same time, there was worsening trend in street harassment toward Jews, and verbal and physical violence, a phenomena which increased mainly in Western Europe, in proximity to synagogues and Jewish schools. An increase of 400% in the number of antisemitic incidents of was recorded in July-August 2014, compared to the previous year, following the Israel–Gaza conflict in Operation Protective Edge.
- The campaign for the de-legitimization and demonization of Israel is a major threat against Jewish communities and against the State of Israel. In this context, the increasing anti-Israel activity on campuses across USA was prominently noticeable.
- The trend of blurring the lines between anti-Israel / anti-Zionism and antisemitism continued during the past year. The intensity and nature of the antisemitic wave in July and August demonstrate the organizations of extreme left-wing activists, along with Muslim immigrants, reflected in a record number of demonstrations with antisemitic features all over the world.
- The extreme right continues to be a major factor in antisemitic activity, but in most violent cases in which the perpetrators were identified, they were of Arab or Muslim origins.
- The trend of online hate speech and classical antisemitism in web sites, social media, and smartphones apps continues. Meanwhile, conspiracy theories, led by The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, continue to be popular in social networks and web sites.
- Since the available data are largely dependent on the willingness and the ability of victims to report the incidents, the number of incidents is probably larger than the number presented in this report. Data presented in this report represent the tip of the iceberg and constitute an indicator. We consistently work to improve the quality of the image that can be presented about this topic.

Antisemitism during Operation Protective Edge

Statements against IDF actions during the 2014 Israel–Gaza conflict, Operation Protective Edge, and criticism against the conduct of Israel, were revealed in many cases to be language laundering. Those masks were quickly torn and exposed the underlying truth: Antisemitism soaked in hatred that does not distinguish between Israelis and Jews.

This atmosphere of violence allowed ruthless escalation against both Israelis and Jews. Outbursts of antisemitism have become an integral part of the reality of Jewish communities around the world.

Expressions of antisemitism went beyond the borders of Europe. A significant portion of the antisemitic incidents and expressions occurred in South America's states, such as Chile and Argentina; South Africa; Australia; Canada and, as expected, also from Turkey. It should be emphasized that Europe is the home of the second largest Jewish community in the world, after the United States: a million and a half Jews.

France is the arena in Europe in which this phenomenon manifested itself with the greatest Intensity, when the conflict in Gaza triggered manifestations of hatred for Israel and released the hold over antisemitism.

In late July, eight synagogues in France were attacked within one week; kosher supermarket and pharmacy were broken into and ransacked. Demonstrations are being held almost daily in the country, with cries of "slit the throats of the Jews", and 'Kill the sewage filthy Jews ". Following anti-Israeli demonstration in Toulouse, one of the demonstrators threw two Molotov cocktails into the guard post of the Jewish Community Center. During a similar demonstration in Gap province in southwest France, protesters shuttered window of a house that had a Star of David hanged, and threatened to kill a woman who was there. There are many, innumerable, more examples,.

The number of antisemitic incidents in France in the first decade of the new millennium was seven times higher than in the nineties.

The number of reports on antisemitic incidents recorded following the beginning of Operation Protective Edge was considerably higher than the numbers recorded during the first half of the year, as well as the same period in 2013 .

The number of incidents recorded during the conflict and immediately afterward, was at least as high as the number of incidents reported during the first half of the year, and in some countries as high as four times. In addition, the incidents reported during the conflict were often more violent, and in greater numbers than in the past.

Operation Protective Edge brought tens of thousands of people to pro-Palestinian protests in the street of Europe, as well as all major cities in the world. The protests condemning Israel's conduct in Gaza, however, exceeded from anti-Israeli protests and turned into a display of violent antisemitism.

[According to a report by the Anti Defamation League \(ADL\)](#), following the operation, there was a dramatic increase in the activities of student groups working to isolate and delegitimize the State of Israel on campuses of universities and colleges in the United States.

During the fall semester, the number of anti-Israeli events that took place on US campuses was doubled. So far, in this time period, more than 75 anti-Israel incidents were reported on campuses across the country, compared to only 35 in the same period in fall 2013.

Another insight that can be obtained from the antisemitic manifestations reported after the beginning of the conflict is the creation of an increasingly blurred dividing line between legitimate criticism of Israel and antisemitism, especially in social media, where alternating use of 'Jew', 'Zionist' and 'Zionazi' is commonly done .

Islamic antisemitism

The new wave of antisemitism that had erupted in Europe is fundamentally different from previous waves. The source of the new antisemitism is not only the traditional Neo-Nazi manifestations; the source of a large part of the anti-Jewish spirit in Europe is with Europeans of Muslim origin. Islamic antisemitism takes place as the leading antisemitism in Western countries. Most of the reported antisemitic incidents were perpetrated by Muslims, especially in countries with large Muslim communities.

The current antisemitism is partly the result of utilizing the 'victim status', which too many Muslim Europeans have adopted. This feeling is even more complex, and based on duplicate feeling: that the history of Europe is not their history, and that they will never belong to it, so why should they bear the burden like the Europeans? However, for the most part it's a result of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Antisemitism is not the exclusive domain of the Muslims in Europe, nor are they the only ones promoting it today. Traditional antisemitism of the extreme right in Europe still exists, as well as the antisemitism of the extreme left, a negative side effect of the sympathy for the Palestinian liberation struggle. There is also antisemitism of the political center, which is a subcategory of the anti-American and anti-capitalist movements supported by many moderate Europeans; however, the rise of Muslim antisemitism is the one responsible for the current change in the tone of hatred in Europe.

In Germany, there was an increase in recent years in arrests of people of Arab and Turkish origin on suspicion of antisemitic activity. There has also been an alarming rise in antisemitic manifestations among immigrant students.

In Germany, for the first time since the Holocaust, calls of: "Jews to the gas chambers" were heard, this time by Muslim protesters. Police had to protect

Israeli tourist who walked near the protest, after the protesters spotted a hat he was wearing and rushed toward him while shouting: "Jew, we'll get you!"

In France, as response to Operation Protective Edge, thousands of Muslims surrounded a synagogue and stoned it, while the worshippers huddled inside. Two weeks later, 400 Muslim protesters attacked a synagogue and Jewish-owned businesses in northern Paris, shouting: "Death to the Jews."

In Belgium, which is partly similar to France in its characteristics, there has been an increase in antisemitic incidents during 2014, the most prominent of which was the attack on the Jewish Museum in Brussels, in May, by Mehdi Nemmouche, a French citizen.

The UK also continued to be a major European center of activity in the areas of antisemitism, with an emphasis on anti-Zionism. Anti-war demonstrations that took place in the UK did not become violent, but the number of antisemitic incidents had soared since the beginning of the conflict in Gaza.

[Radical Islam and Jihad](#)

One of the most significant threats to Jews arrives from radical Islam, which is spreading among Muslim communities around the world.

Radicalization in Muslim communities in Western countries is inspired by extreme Sunni organizations such as al-Qaida and ISIS. The radical ideology of the various Salafi groups advocates a holy war - jihad - against infidels, wherever they are, but emphasizes Jews as one of the main goals of jihad. Radical Islam's hostility toward Israel does not stem only from the effect of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It's a racist hostility that seeks to exterminate all Jews in the world and is fed by the "Fatwas" (religious rulings) of religious leaders and Islamic scriptures. Moreover, radical Islamic elements see in Israel an extension of Western culture in the heart of Islamic countries, and a factor that prevents the progress of the Islamic wave seeking to wash the Western world.



One of the characteristics of the radical Islamic activity in the West is operating in small groups, in cells and in an individual manner, with no hierarchy and no clear organizational affiliation. Muslim youths undergo a relatively rapid radicalization, as they are inspired by radical Islamic groups in the Middle East and Central Asia, and most of the contact with them is done via the Internet.

Some of those youths travel to join the fighting in Syria and Iraq, where they gain knowledge and operational experience that they wish to realize upon their return to the West. However, extremist elements operating online do not preach to realize jihad only by joining to the fighting in conflict areas, and emphasize the duty of every Muslim to wage a jihad against the infidels wherever they are and with whatever means available to them. There is extensive ideological and propaganda material accessible online that offers a variety of options for attacks using materials and tools that are accessible to everyone, while taking advantage of the weak points of each arena in the West.

In this was, for example, an American Muslim preacher is encouraging to take advantage of the option to purchase a weapon without restriction in the US in order to carry out terror attacks. Other online preachers are calling for Muslims around the world to commit “run over” car attacks, which have been proven effective in Israel.

The Extreme right

The way in which extreme right political parties in Europe treat Jews is a geographical matter today: an examination of most extreme right parties in Europe indicates that all antisemitic parties, except one (in Greece), operate in former communist bloc countries. On the other hand, all extremist parties which are not antisemitic operate in Western Europe, where the parties have chosen to distance themselves from antisemitism opinions, whether from reasons of real change or from tactical reasons.



In the Netherlands and Italy, the Party for Freedom and the Northern League are two parties, respectively, that do not belong, from their beginning, to the traditional extreme right, and can even be categorized as philo-Semitic. A significant part of the activists of these parties arrives from the European left, and they offer liberal economic concepts, unlike the traditional extreme right that support, for the most part, conservative economics combined with nationalist-racist views.

The reason for this is that the original radical right seeks to ensure the standard of living of the majority while denying the rights of minorities; while the parties in the Netherlands and Italy have identified, already at the beginning of the millennium, the problems of the European welfare policy that encourages illegal immigration and reliance on welfare rather than work. In Italy, the Northern Alliance, which in the past was claimed to have fascist and xenophobic views, changed its perceptions after the attacks of September 11, 2001.

An exception, as stated, is the Greek Golden Dawn Party, a neo Nazi party presenting rabidly antisemitic rhetoric, as well as racism towards other nations. In general, it can be generally located at the right end of the scale in Europe. This party has nostalgic views in regard of the 4th of August Regime, the fascist regime led in Greece between 1941 and 1936. Many of its members have swastika tattoo, and one of its speakers, Ilias Kasidiaris, even quoted from The Protocols of the Elders of Zion in the Parliament, as if it was a legitimate and authentic document.

On the other hand, in the former Communist bloc countries, even those belonging to the European Union today, there is an overt and wild antisemitism. In Hungary it is 'Jobbik', a far right party with distinctly antisemitic features that believes in a Jewish conspiracy to take over Hungary. In the elections held in April, 'Jobbik' had often made strong statements against Jews and Gypsies. It received 20.54 percent of the votes, becoming the country's third largest party, and the strongest far-right party in Europe.



Right-wing parties in Europe undergo changes. Parties which were in the past supportive of welfare state, anti-Americanism and antisemitism, have become conservative, pro-American and philo-Semitism, or at least Pro-Israel. Other parties are getting rid of extremists and are practically pulling themselves away from problematic declarations and actions. At the same time, some of the ideas of these parties, particularly criticism of the membership in the European Union and policies with regard to immigrants and immigration in general, become part of the political mainstream, after decades in which there were outlawed or marginalized.

The radical left

Today, there is a coalition of Islamic, Christian and anti-establishment antisemitism in the European radical left. It is a combination of action against Jewish associated with the establishment. All these anti-establishment bodies, including feminist and LGBT organizations, see the establishment as an entity which protects Jews. Therefore, if you are anti-establishment, you are anti-Jewish. The anti-establishment is pushing them to the same place, despite the cultural differences between them. Feminists and head-to-toe covered Muslim women do not meet anywhere else other than here, anti-establishment and anti-Jews .

Legitimate criticism against Israel and concealed antisemitism are not always easy to distinguish. However, recently there is an increasing use of terminology charged with classic anti-Semitism: accusation of the Jew in "the murder of Jews" (for example, article by Norwegian writer Jostein Gaarder that denied the right of Israel to exist) - similarly to the blood libel; and blaming Israel "as a source all the violence in the world" like the old antisemitic argument that sees Jews as the source of all the trouble.

According to polls, half of Europeans think so today, as well as that Israel behaves toward the Palestinians in the same manner as the Nazis behaves toward the Jews. In the past, it was the Nazis who said so, and today these are the allegedly 'enlightened'.

The link between classical antisemitism and what we see today in Europe is very strong. Contemporary antisemitism has all the hallmarks of a classic antisemitism - a long nose, bleeding, slaughtering children for matzah, etc.

The ADL global 100 survey

More than 50 thousand people in 102 countries [responded to the large antisemitism survey conducted by the Anti-Defamation League](#). The survey found that one in four people is infected with antisemitism. Respondents were given a list of negative prejudices about Jews. People that marked "True" to most of the questions were classified as holders of antisemitic attitudes.

The most common prejudice is that "Jews are more loyal to Israel than to country they live in" as 41% of the respondents believe. 35% hold the opinion that "Jews have too much power in international financial markets".

In Gaza Strip and in the West Bank, 93% of the people were found to have antisemitic attitudes, followed with Iraq, Yemen, and Algeria. The people of Laos were the least antisemitic, with only 0.2% of the population. With them on the list, are residents of the Philippines, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

The survey even attempted to map the scope of Holocaust denial around the world. According to the survey, two-thirds of the world population had never heard of the Holocaust or are denying the historical reports about it, and only 45% knew of its existence. "Despite the disturbing fact that only 54% of respondents had heard of the Holocaust, the data in Western Europe is much better, and 94% of respondents are aware of the history". said Foxman. "At the same time, the findings reveal an alarming gap between adults and young people. While adults are aware of their history, more than 70 years after World War II, young people probably have never heard or learned about the history of the six million Jews extinguished".

The survey also revealed that 18% believe that Jews are more than a tenth of the world's population, while the real figure is 0.19%. 74% of respondents claimed: "I have never met a Jew."

Antisemitism on the Internet

The internet continued to be a particularly fertile ground for the spread of antisemitism. A survey conducted this year by the Anti-Defamation League, found that no less than 69 percent of the youth in Israel had met antisemitic expression online. Nearly three-quarters of the respondents reported that they were exposed to antisemitic cartoons and to various antisemitic images and symbols, such as swastikas. Terrorist groups also use social media as a tool to encourage and promote violence against Israel.

The currently use of social networks to publish hate speech, antisemitism and Holocaust denial is extensive, and pose many problems. Many websites and social networks such as MySpace, Twitter And Facebook are being used as a fertile stage to publish their hate speech online. The various social networks are dealing, or not dealing, with the situation in various ways, but they all use their own terms of use, and not the law, as the threshold to determine whether things are a problem or not.

Anti-Israel and antisemitism groups are operating in Facebook without interruption, such as a group called "Israel Is NOT A Country, Delist It from Facebook As A Country!" with posts saying, among other things : "Don't erase it only from Facebook but from the map of the world, God willing" .

In addition, there is a group concerning the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, stating in its explanatory notes that this is "a Jewish Plan to conquer the world ".

Facebook and other social networks do not recognize antisemitism and Holocaust denial as manifestations of hate speech. Complaints from Facebook users on offensive or inappropriate content are rejected and the content remains in Facebook.



To eradicate the phenomenon of antisemitism and Holocaust denial in social networks, a number of measures has to be taken, such as search, monitoring, notification and publication of any offensive content of any kind uploaded to the network; reporting on the contents and spreading the idea of reporting so that more and more users will report; any incident of such content should be brought to public awareness, by means of public and private, online and offline media; the issue must be raised to make more and more people from all sectors discussing it; Commercial organizations that advertise on pages with offensive content should be contacted to remove their publications from those pages.

De-legitimacy

Definition

A range of countries, movements, associations and organizations do not accept the Jewish people's right to self-determination in Israel, and therefore Israel's Jewishness. These entities, which include, among others, Arab countries, third world countries, Islamic movements, European radical left movements and antisemitic groups, made the de-legitimization of Israel a constitutive pattern of their action. The above concept refers to the process leading to these entities to cooperate in diplomatic moves and propaganda against Israel.

The Boycotts Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, masked as a struggle for human rights, and operated under international law, was revealed to be an essentially antisemitic movement that target all of its actions to harm the State of Israel only.

The growing effort to de-legitimize the State of Israel, through boycotts and campaigns of dispossession by well-known personalities in the fields of culture and science, or by religious and business institutions or associations, will inevitably lead to deterioration in the situation of the Jews in many countries.

Goal

The aim of these groups is to isolate Israel in the international arena and eventually to turn it into a pariah state through demonizing of Israel, promoting a policy of boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) and waging a legal struggle against the state and its citizens.

The Strategy

Demonization

Demonization of Israel creates an ideological justification for taking concrete steps in order to undermine the legitimacy of the state. Demonization is rooted in the narrative describing Israel as an illegitimate colonial entity, which was born in sin and practices Nazism, apartheid and racism. This narrative plays out in several key arenas, such as public protests and demonstrations in the media and in campuses.

Even though apartheid terminology is claimed to describe Israel's policies toward the Palestinians, and does not constitute a promotion of delegitimization, in our opinion, this comparison, at least in many of the cases, is designated to shape Israel to an identity of pariah state. Thus, implicitly, the message is: what worked in white South Africa will also work in Israel. Only one-state solution, based on the formula 'One Person, One Vote', will bring a real solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, not only in the West Bank and Gaza but also in Israel itself.

Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS)

Calls for boycotts in variety of fields - for the implementation of the BDS campaign, were heard last year in the fields of academia, culture, science, defense, sports and the economy. The attempts to demonize Israel provided ideological and rhetorical platform to promote a policy of boycott, divestment and sanctions in the areas of academia, economy, culture, sports and defense. The BDS movement, composed of non-governmental organizations, was created in the first Durban conference.

Ostensibly, the BDS movement was designed to influence the policies of Israel and it does not promote de-legitimization. However, various organizations that are part of the BDS movement undermine the fundamental legitimacy of Israel. Although the BDS movement has limited success only in promoting boycotts against Israel, the main damage it causes is the association it creates between Israel and the discourse of boycotts and ostracism, as if Israel was a pariah state such as the white South Africa.

International legal warfare

Anti-Israel groups and individuals put their hopes on the legal arena as a means of struggle against Israel.

Despite the claim of legal offensive generators that they act only to promote humanitarian interests, Hamas involvement in some cases may indicate that the purpose of the legal battle against Israeli officers and political leaders is not always pure.

Moreover, a network of lawyers in the United Kingdom and other European countries had drawn up a list of wanted persons among army officers. This network is deployed in the UK, the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium and Norway, and its rules allow the issuance of arrest warrants against foreign citizens suspected of war crimes. The lawyers receive the information from pro-Palestinian activists who follow Jewish and pro-Israel organizations inviting army officers to lecture. According to one of the lawyers active in this network, a limited number of names of IDF officers is also found in a watch list of the British police that is supposed to issue a warrant for their arrest immediately on their arrival to the UK.

Review by countries

France

Over the past year, the level of antisemitism and anti-Jewish violence in France has reached new levels, placing France as the most dangerous country for Jews today .

Antisemitic incidents increased by 100%. Half of incidents that were classified as "racist" were directed against Jews, even though these are less than one percent of the population. During 2014 there were about 1,000 antisemitic incidents in different categories, including dozens of violent attacks. Dozens of Jews were beaten or attacked with cold weapons, and petrol bomb were thrown at synagogues and Jewish businesses .

The violence attacks hit a record in November: Three Muslims invaded the home of a Jewish couple in a suburb of Paris (Creteil) and robbed the house, saying all the while that they do so "because you're Jewish".

It should be noted that the large part of antisemitic attacks in France was carried out by Muslim citizens.

The umbrella organization of Jewish institutions in the country (SPCJ) expressed its concern over the new forms of violence against Jews, such as attacks done by organized gangs, attacks on synagogues, Jewish businesses destruction and terrorist activities.

During Operation Protective Edge, protests were held in France against Israel's actions in Gaza, spreading into violence against Jews, destruction of Jewish businesses and a siege of a synagogue in Paris. The protests have created concern among the Jews living in the country. "The feeling is that control of the streets is in the hands of the rioters, and the Jewish state is not safe at all," said World Zionist Organization representative in Paris, Simcha Felber.



A new survey conducted recently indicates, among other things, how antisemitism is expressed in different sectors of French society. It dealt with statements such as: "Jews have too much power in the area of ..." (Items distinguishing between areas of economy, media, politics), and also ridiculous theses ("There is a Zionist plot on a global scale" or "Jews are responsible for the current economic crisis"). It is striking that while most of the French population (53%) do not agree with any of these statements, public opinion surveys show that highest percentages of agreements are among the extreme right, extreme left and traditional Muslims.

United Kingdom

According to the data we received from the Community Security Trust (CST) in the UK, antisemitism reactions to this summer's conflict between Israel and Hamas, raised the antisemitic incidents in the UK to a record level.

The CST Organization recorded hundreds of antisemitic incidents during the months of July / August 2014, an increase of over 400 percent compared to incidents recorded in July / August 2013, and only slightly less than the antisemitic incidents recorded in all of the first six months of 2014.

Unlike France, where many violent incidents occurred, CST documented only few violent antisemitic attacks. None of them was classified as "very Violent", meaning that it included life threats or serious physical harm. None of the attacks ended in serious injury .

The majority of the antisemitic incidents in the UK can be classified as incidents of abuse, including swearing, antisemitic graffiti, antisemitic harassment in social media and a few cases of hate mail.

Mark Gardner, director of communications in the CST , said that while statistics about levels of antisemitic incidents helped the organization to measure what happened over the summer, "Perhaps more important was the manner in which Jews in the United Kingdom reported how they feel about what's happening".

"It included influential columnists, who do not speak generally about their Jewish identity, as well as the average Jew on the street", he said,

"The amazing feedback we received was that they had never felt so isolated and so anxious about implications it may have for their future. Now, as time goes by, many of those fears will seem forgotten, and the Jewish community will return to its normal vibrant life, but the negative impact will remain still " he said.

Belgium

In Belgium, about 30 percent of the population holds antisemitic opinions. This year, a woman was expelled from a store just because she was a Jew. Holocaust survivor called medical emergency center, and when the doctor realized that she was Jewish, he told her: "go to Gaza. There you will really understand what it is to feel bad".

The peak of the antisemitic incidents in Europe this year was the shooting attack at the Jewish Museum in Belgium. On May 24, 2014. Mehdi Nemmouche, a French citizen who returned from a round of Jihad in Syria, broke into the Jewish museum of Belgium in Brussels, while shooting an AK-47 assault rifle (Kalashnikov) in all directions. As a result of the shooting, four people were killed: Alexander Stearns, a Belgian citizen who worked in the museum, a French citizen who has volunteered there, and a pair of Israeli civilians, Emanuel and Miriam Riva, residents of Tel Aviv who have visited the museum. After the attack that lasted less than a minute, the shooter was able to escape from the place by car.

Security cameras showed that he wore a cap. During the investigation it was found that there were no guards at all in the place, and the shooter acted without interruption .

At the end of May 2014 Mehdi Nemmouche was arrested in Marseille, carrying a pistol and a rifle of the type that was used for the attack. In late July, was handed over to the Belgium police.

Netherlands

A difficult and violent wave of antisemitism had passed on Dutch Jews in 2014. These are some of the events of the past year: cars of Jews in Amsterdam were spray-painted swastikas and destroyed; Self-produced bomb was dropped on a residential building on which the flag of Israel had been raised; the home of the Chief Rabbi of the Netherlands, Benjamin Jacobs, in the town of Amsford, was stoned twice in one week.

The organization CIDI that monitors antisemitism and works for Dutch Jews, reported a large increase in antisemitic expressions in the media and the public during Operation Protective Edge: up from two or three cases a week to 30 cases, "...And you must take into account that these are only 10 percent of the cases that actually occur," says Esther Watt ,who heads the organization. "The Genie is out of the bottle. Antisemitism rises to the surface and people feel free to express it" .

Watt says that Jews are removing the Mezuzah from doorposts at the entrance to their homes, in order not to become a target for attacks .

According to CIDI analysis, about 70 percent of Dutch protesters against Israel and Jews are immigrants or children of immigrants, mostly Turks or Moroccans. The remaining 30 percent are Dutch who live in the country for four generations and more.

The situation in the Netherlands is complex because it also has an extensive racism against Muslims. The Dutch antisemitism against Jews, however, is rooted in the culture and in the language. Proverbs and jokes humiliating Jews are common. A common curse is: 'cancerous Jew', and in general, the word 'Jew' in Dutch, if said in a certain way, is a curse word. The protesters in the Netherlands call the police 'Jews', because in their eyes this is a curse word.

Germany

During 2014, the number of antisemitic incidents in Germany has doubled. Reports of the federal government indicate that over the past year hundreds of antisemitic incidents took place in Germany. The figure was published in response to a question raised in this issue by the Vice President of the Bundestag. For example, since the outbreak of the conflict in Gaza, Berlin Police recorded, during 20 days, 133 antisemitism related complaints. By comparison, during the entire previous year 195 incidents were recorded.

It should be noted that in contrast to previous years, when antisemitic incidents had mostly characteristics of the extreme right, this year, following Operation Protective Edge, there has been a significant increase in the rate of Muslims suspected of committing antisemitic incidents .

During Operation Protective Edge, turbulent demonstrations were held in Germany against Israeli actions in Gaza, with the participation of Muslim immigrants from Turkey, together with members of the extreme left and right, developing into blatant antisemitic protests. It reached a pick in Berlin, where for the first time since the Holocaust, people shouted: "Jews to the gas."

Dieter Graumann, head of the German Jewish Assembly, said: "The riots are the worst since the Nazis. You can hear in the streets cries of "Jews to the gas!" and "Jews to the crematorium!", which were not heard for decades in Germany. These aren't leaflets criticizing Israeli policy, but pure hatred against the Jews. And it does not happen only in Germany. We have a huge surge of hatred towards the Jews" .

A survey conducted in Germany shows an increase in antisemitism and anti-Israeli attitudes following Operation Protective Edge. A quarter of the German people believe that Israel behavior toward the Palestinians is the same as the behavior of the Nazis toward the Jews. The survey shows that in many ways, antisemitism in Germany has decreased over the past decade, but it also indicates a sharp increase in negative attitudes toward Israel and Jews in



general during June and September this year, at the same time of Operation Protective Edge.

Meanwhile, the phenomenon of antisemitism in football fields is increasing in Germany. In this framework, neo-Nazi groups are increasingly using sports clubs to promote their ideology. Thus, in recent months the word "Juden" (Jew) has become a common curse in the soccer fields, even if there is no Jewish player on the court Jew. It should be noted that this phenomenon can be seen all over Germany, and especially in the east of the country. The main victims of this phenomenon are "Maccabi" sports clubs, located at 15 cities across Germany.

German authorities have demonstrated, in turn, a rigid and lack of tolerance for antisemitism, and act harshly to perpetrators. After the antisemitism protests in Germany in July, the German authorities have banned protests against Israel.

Australia

Over the past year there has been an increase in the scope of antisemitism in Australia. A report published by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry indicates that there was an increase of about 40 percent of antisemitic incidents in 2014 compared to the previous year.

Most of the incidents took place in the New South Wales, where the most severe incidents occurred. 183 incidents were reported to the authorities. During the previous year, 126 incidents were reported in the same period. In the other regions, the number of antisemitic incidents was minor .

The report notes the violent events as "a very disturbing trend". A high wall was built around the Jewish school "Yeshiva Center" in Bondi, to prevent shooting on the school. The peak of the violent incidents was in August: eight men entered the transportation of 8-12 years old students and began to riot and threatened to harm to children.

Turkey

Following Operation Protective Edge, Turkey underwent a murky big wave of antisemitism that shook the Jewish community of about 20 thousand people. Erdogan took advantage of the presidential election to pour oil on the fire of hatred toward Jews. Various organizations are calling for a boycott of Jewish-owned businesses, and some of the owners have spoken against the Turkish Jewish writer Mario Levi. Despite the Jewish community's endeavor to keep a low profile, worshipers in Ortakoy synagogue were horrified to see protesters gathering outside the synagogue and throwing eggs at it.

Fanning the flames in some cases is the furious debate ongoing in Turkish social networks and advocating to attack Jews. For example, the singer Yıldız Tilbe twitted to her hundreds of thousands of fans praises of Adolf Hitler: “even though he did not finish the job”. This case demonstrates the acquiescence, the way Turkey perpetuates antisemitism by giving the stage to extremists.

The fact that the conflict in Gaza was going on during the presidential election campaign, only benefited Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the Prime Minister at the time and the current president. Erdogan took advantage of his election rallies for speeches where he explicitly compared Israel's actions in Gaza to Hitler's actions and declared that Israel "will sink in the blood it is shedding". Though Erdogan has expressed his displeasure from “any (bad) treatment of our Jewish citizens in Turkey”, his call fell on deaf ears since he did not take any real action against the extremists voices heard in the media or within his own party, the Justice and Development Party.

Government Press also became a stronghold of antisemitic hate discourse, and a crossword puzzle published by the newspaper Yeni Akit displayed the image of Hitler in its background. The chief editor of this newspaper is a regular guest at Erdogan's airplane. In other newspapers, Erdogan's supporters threatened the Jewish community with pogrom-like scenarios, if its members will not condemn Israel's actions in Gaza. Bulent Yildirim, chairman of IHH, the organization that send the Marmara flotilla to Gaza, who have

close ties with the Turkish government, said: "If the Turkish Jewish community will not put an end to Israel's actions, very bad things will happen because that is becoming difficult to restrain our young people".

It is most unfortunate fact that instead of acting to restrain these dangerous voices, the Turkish government was actually the main force standing behind them .

United States

This year, too, the US was marked by a high level of antisemitism, both in terms of number of antisemitic incidents and in terms of their severity .

Antisemitic incidents in the US included harassment, hate graffiti, desecration and violent incidents. The peak of those was in April, when Frazier Glenn Miller Jr., known as Glenn Miller, 74, a former leader of the White Patriots Party in North Carolina (formerly known as Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan), shot and killed three people, grandfather and his grandson and an elderly woman, whom he mistook for Jews, in front of Jewish facilities in Overland Park, Kansas.

Anti - Israeli activities in the campuses

Following Operation Protective Edge there was a dramatic increase in the activity of student groups working to isolate and delegitimize the State of Israel on campuses of universities and colleges in the United States. So far this semester, more than 75 anti-Israel events have been reported on campuses across the country, compared with only 35 in the same period in the fall of 2013.

Anti-Israel student groups are known for their use of contrarian tactics, such as protesters staging "die-ins," constructing "apartheid walls" on campus, and distributing mock eviction notices in dorms. Their false claims of ethnic cleansing, genocide and war crimes are rarely balanced with an acknowledgement of Palestinian terrorism against Israeli civilians, or recognition of Israel's continual efforts to make peace with the Palestinians.

Argentina

Following a period in which antisemitism in Argentina seemed to be dormant or, at least, quite well concealed, it had raised its head again, and the number of antisemitic incidents in the country had increased. The number of antisemitic incidents is not the only Indicator. The feeling in the Jewish community is that 2014 is a landmark in the country's attitude toward the Jewish community.

This time, as has happened on many occasions before, the excuse was the conflict in Gaza and Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes, which have been exacerbated very much due to the uneven media coverage by a large part of the local press that did nothing except repeating the portrayal of Jerusalem as the bad guy of this movie.

All this hatred has emerged gradually in 2014: incidents of slanderous inscriptions with swastikas and slurs on school walls and institutions that belong to the Jewish community reemerge; inscriptions were written on the railings protecting the Israeli embassy in front of TV cameras and press photographers during demonstrations organized, among other, by the Labor Party, the Socialist Workers' Party, Quebracho, the Socialist Workers' Movement and the "Mila" party.

One of the most serious cases is the one in which a Buenos Aires Member of Parliament from MST, Alejandro Bodart, said in an interview he held at the end of an event he had organized in the legislature to denounce Israel: "I especially call upon the Jewish community to join in this humanitarian cause, since it can make an important contribution if it turns to its government and pressures it to abandon this plan of ethnic cleansing and genocide."

Former Soviet Union region

The former Soviet Union region was characterized in 2014 by the political crisis between Russia and Ukraine, leading to violence and civil war in practice in the eastern provinces of the latter.

On the background of this crisis, the Jewish issue had been used consistently and comprehensively by all parties involved in this conflict, when all parties accused each other of antisemitism and of direct attacks toward Jews.

Russian government continues to present the Jews in the media as a factor whose loyalty is questionable, mainly on the background of the confrontation with the West and the conflict with Ukraine.

In Ukraine, violent incidents have been on the increase, as well as repeated violation of Jewish facilities and sites, in light of the inability of the authorities to deal with the problem, alongside the growing use of antisemitism for political purposes (provocations in order to present the government / anti-regime as antisemites).

Operation Protective Edge events barely caused a rise in the level of incidents, except for the increase in propaganda from local pro-Palestinian activists and the penetration of the discourse to the local official media, including in foreign languages.

Struggle

At the same time, it should be noted that in view of the high threshold set by antisemitism, we have witnessed an increase in the threshold of the struggle with it in some countries.

Most Western countries practice a policy of zero tolerance for antisemitism. In most of the cases in which the perpetrators of antisemitism are exposed, they are treated harshly.

Examples are plentiful:

- In France, the Supreme Court banned the antisemitic comedian Dieudonne from appearing in the city of Nantes. Following this decision, other cities have canceled Dieudonne's shows which ultimately led to the cancellation of his show tour.
- In the UK, French soccer player, Nicolas Anelka, was charged for his quenelle gesture (an inverted Nazi salute) and was banned from five games, which led to his removal from his West Bromwich team.
- In Poland, Attorney General Andrzej Seremet announced that the country's legal system will stop its tolerance in regard of xenophobia expression in general and antisemitism in particular.
- In the United States, the mayor of Marionville community, Missouri, had resigned following antisemitic remarks he made in support of a white supremacist man who was charged with the murder of three people on the premises of the Jewish community in Kansas.
- In Russia, President Vladimir Putin signed a decree which ratify the law banning denial of the Holocaust and Nazi crimes during World War II.
- In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel and German politicians, celebrities, business persons and public opinion leaders joined the

project initiated by the popular German newspaper "Bild" entitled "Never Again Jew Hatred!"

- Almost all the leaders of Western countries, without exception, condemned the antisemitism protests that were held in their territory during Operation Protective Edge.

Summary

The wave of antisemitic incidents which struck Europe in the summer was not the first in the last 15 years. In each round of fighting in Gaza, the West Bank or Lebanon, the masses went out to the streets clamoring against the Jewish state and its actions. This was the case in outbreak of the second intifada, as well as during Operation Cast Lead in 2008-2009. If so, what has changed in the current wave?

The answer lies, probably, in the style and the scope, a too broad scope. It included assault and desecration of dozens of synagogues, including throwing petrol bombs in Germany and France; Anti-Israel demonstrations in France that had turned into mass riots outside of synagogues and Jewish-owned stores in Paris, as well as cries of "Jews to the gas" in Berlin. That, in addition to hundreds of cases of verbal harassment of Jews, in public and online. Accusing Jews of Israel's actions is becoming more and more acceptable.

The new wave of antisemitism in Europe is fundamentally different from previous waves. The source of the new antisemitism is not only the characteristic neo-Nazi manifestations; the truth is that much of the anti-Jewish spirit in Europe originates from Europeans of Muslim origin.

Antisemitism was not born among the Muslims of Europe, and they are not the only ones promoting it today. Traditional antisemitism of the extreme right in Europe is alive and well, as is the antisemitism of the far left, a negative side effect of sympathy for the Palestinian liberation struggle. Antisemitism of



the center also exists, which is a sub- category of anti-American and anti-capitalist movements supported by many moderate Europeans.

However, the rise of Muslim antisemitism is the one responsible for the fresh change in tone of hatred over the world. Until recently, antisemitism was largely half-hidden and anonymous. Today, antisemitism is neither hidden nor anonymous. Today, antisemites can lift their heads openly and sell their wares in the streets under the guise of "legitimate criticism" against Israel. Suffice it to recall Dieudonne and Alan Sorrell in France, George Galloway in the UK, and more recently, Gábor Vona in Hungary, who declares in any opportunity what has become the mantra of the new antisemites: "We have nothing against Jews. Our only problem is with Israel and Zionism". And if you ask them, this is not an antisemitism.

www.antisemitism.org.il