Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism

Measuring the Hate

The State of Antisemitism in Social Media

By Dr Andre Oboler

The Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism

The Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism (GFCA) is the premier biennial gathering for assessing the state of Antisemitism globally, and formulating effective forms of societal and governmental response. The GFCA is an active coalition of public figures, political leaders, heads of civil society, clergy, journalists, diplomats, educators and concerned citizens dedicated to the advance of tolerance towards the other in public life and the defeat of Antisemitism and other forms of racial and ethnic hatred. The Forum serves as an important meeting place for exchange of knowledge and formulating the global work plan for combating Antisemitism.

The Online Hate Prevention Institute

The Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI) is Australia's only national charity dedicated to reducing the risk of harm resulting from online hate. Focusing mainly on social media, OHPI tackles Antisemitism, racism, xenophobia, cyberbullying, misogyny, homophobia, religious vilification and other forms of online hate. We improve systems and work to make online hate as unacceptable as real world hate. OHPI runs the FightAgainstHate.com reporting system, produces detailed reports, runs campaigns, manages incidents, empowers public action, and advises governments, technology companies and civil society organisations.

The FightAgainstHate.com reporting tool

The FightAgainstHate.com reporting system is developed and operated by the staff of the Online Hate Prevention Institute. The software was designed to provide the metrics first called for by the 2009 Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism. The system allows members of the public to report antisemitism and other forms of hate in social media into a central global database. NGOs, government agencies, academics and other experts can access the collected data. This report provides an example of what can be done with the data from FightAgainstHate.com. The system can also filter content based on the country of the people who reported it.

The author, Dr Andre Oboler

Dr Andre Oboler is CEO of the Online Hate Prevention Institute, co-chair of Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism's working group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media, and a member of the Australian Delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). He is a Distinguished Visitor for the IEEE Computer Society, an executive member of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria, and a Councillor on the Executive Council of Australian Jewry. Dr Oboler is a 2015 winner of Australia's Jewish changemakers award, a member of the ROI Community, and an alumnus of the Legacy Heritage Fellowship and of Monash University's John Bertrand Leadership program. Dr Oboler holds a PhD in Computer Science from Lancaster University (UK), a Juris Doctor from Monash University (Australia) and completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Bar-Ilan University (Israel).

The cover artist, Ben Garrison

Ben Garrison is a freelance cartoonist living in Montana, USA. His political cartoons with a Libertarian style feature in newspapers and online. Mr Garrison is one of the foremost targets of Neo-Nazi trolls who edit his cartoons to promote antisemitic messages and Nazi ideology, often leaving his signature on the altered works. They also create sites and social media accounts impersonating him. Mr Garrison has been active in combating such hate with anti-racist cartoons and online content, and serves as OHPI's Cartoonist in Residence. His website is http://www.grrrgraphics.com/ and his new book "Rogue Cartoonist: The Internet Perils of a Citizen-Muckraker" is available through Amazon. For the story of Ben Garrison in a cartoon, see "The Internet's Most Trolled Cartoonist" by David Blumenstein at The Nib

Measuring the Hate

The State of Antisemitism in Social Media

By Andre Oboler

Cover art by Ben Garrison

Prepared by the Online Hate Prevention Institute, for the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism

Executive Summary

On January 9th 2015 four French Jews were killed in an attack on the Hypercacher kosher supermarket in Paris, which was targeted following the attack on the offices of Charlie Hebdo and an aborted attack on a Jewish center which left a police woman dead. On February 15th Dan Uzan, a community security volunteer, was killed outside the Great Synagogue in Copenhagen, Denmark. In Israel there were a multitude of fatal knife attacks on Jewish targets. The far right is gaining in popularity, particularly in parts of Europe, while antisemitism from parts of the Muslim and Arab world inspire self-radicalisation and violent extremism. These are just some of the results of rising antisemitism in 2015, and highlight the need for urgent action.

Through the Internet, antisemitic content and messages spread across national borders, feeding not only anti-Jewish hate, but violent extremism more generally. Removing the online incitement which leads to knife attacks in Israel is part and parcel of tackling the larger problem of online incitement which has also led to a dramatic increase in attacks on refugees in Germany. Responding to the rising social media incitement and very real consequences, German prosecutors opening an investigation into the possibility of criminal liability of senior Facebook executives in late 2015. Following this move an agreement was reached between the German Government, Facebook, Google and Twitter to see content that violated German law removed within 24 hours. Facebook has since gone further and announced a project to tackle online hate in Europe.

As 2016 starts it is clear we have reached a point where the status quo is no longer acceptable. Social media platforms are being clearly told by governments around the world that if they don't do better to combating incitement, hate and the use of their systems by violent extremists, government will look to legislate to impose increased regulation. Social media platforms are starting to respond, but some are doing so more effectively than others.

As governments increase their efforts to tackle threats in social media, antisemitism remains a core part of the wider fight against hate speech, incitement and violent extremism. It is an area where international efforts are well established, and where experts have been working on the problem since it was first raised at the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism in 2008. Through its Working Group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media, the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism has continued to work steadily on this problem and released a major report of recommendations and a review of work to date in 2013, and an interim version of this report in 2015.

This report represents the latest research and a major step forward in efforts to tackle online antisemitism. It also lights a path for tackling other forms of online hate and incitement. Hate in social media is explored empirically, both with respect to its relative prevalence across the major platforms, and with respect to the nature of the antisemitic content. Most significantly, the rate of removal of antisemitic hate speech is reported on by social media platform and by antisemitic category over the last 10 months.

The report is based on a sample totalling 2024 antisemitic items all from either Facebook, YouTube or Twitter. The categories the hate were classified into were: incitement to violence (5%), including general statements advocating death to the Jews; Holocaust denial (12%); traditional antisemitism

(49%), such as conspiracy theories and racial slurs; and New Antisemitism (34%), being antisemitism related to the State of Israel as per the Working Definition of Antisemitism.

The results in this report indicate significant variation in the way antisemitism is treated both between companies and also within a single company across the four categories of antisemitism. Positive responses by the platforms remain far lower than a concerned public or the governments who represent them would expect.

The best initial removal rates occur on Facebook for Holocaust denial where 46% is removed within 3 months. The best overall result is for incitement on Facebook with only 25% of the content remaining online. The worst case was YouTube New Antisemitism where after 10 months 96% of the New Antisemitism on YouTube remained online. This reflected an overall problem on YouTube with 91% of the classic antisemitism, 90% of the Holocaust denial, and 70% of the incitement found on YouTube remaining after 10 months. Twitter is removing content on an ongoing basis but at a slow rate.
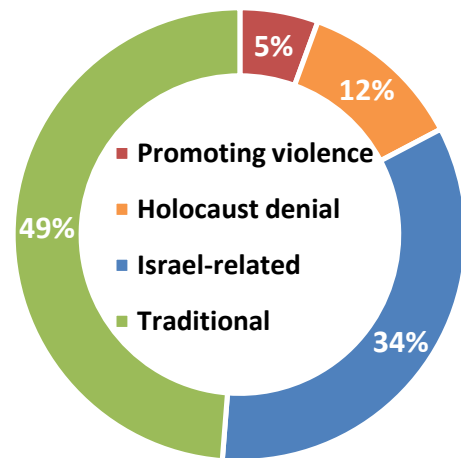

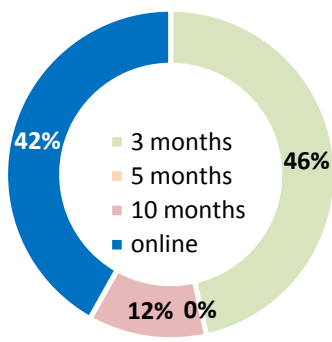Figure 1 Categories of Antisemitism

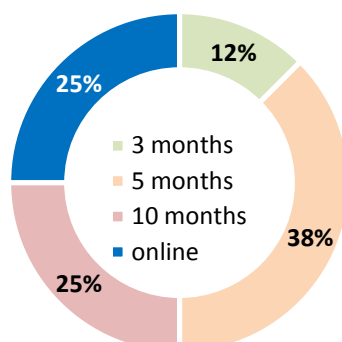Figure 2 Facebook takedowns of Holocaust denial

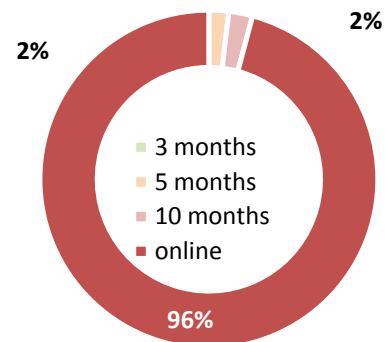Figure 3 Facebook takedowns of incitement

Figure 4 Youtube takedowns of New Antisemitism

On Twitter, classic antisemitism is the most likely to be removed (25% removed) and incitement is the least likely to be removed (14% removed). Changes to policies to move away from US legal standard which require a specific and immediate threat, and towards a wider definition covering advocacy or support for violence, do not appear to have had an impact on this data. In contrast the high response rate for classic antisemitism seems to reflect Twitters focus on racial slurs.

The German Government's moves, forcing the companies to apply domestic legal definitions of hate, and not those developed by the companies, is one way to close the gap between public expectations and current response rates. Another approach would be for the companies to actively work with civil society and governments to lift the internal standards close to public expectations. This applies not only to antisemitism, but to hate speech, incitement, and violent extremist content more generally.

We hope this report sheds light on the areas where improvement is most urgently needed, and that it will encourage a closing of the gap between public expectations on how social media companies should respond to antisemitism and the reality of what is currently occurring.

Contents

Introduction

Four French Jews were killed on January 9th 2015 in an attack on the Hypercacher kosher supermarket in Paris, which was targeted following the attack on the offices of Charlie Hebdo and an aborted attack on a Jewish center which left a police woman dead. Dan Uzan, a community security volunteer, was killed outside the Great Synagogue in Copenhagen, Denmark, on February 15th. The multitude of fatal knife attacks on Jewish targets in Israel is ongoing and has become known as the "Knife Intifada".[1] The far right is gaining in popularity, particular in parts of Europe, while the antisemitism flowing out of parts of the Muslim and Arab world is inspiring self radicalisation and violent extremism. The Internet, specifically social media, is empowering a rise in hate speech, incitement, and violent extremism.[2]

The call for data on antisemitism in social media

The 2008 Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism was the first forum to specifically raise the issue of antisemitism in social media. The paper "*Online Antisemitism 2.0: Social Antisemitism on the Social Web*" released at this meeting warned of "the use of online social networking and content collaboration to share demonization, conspiracy theories, Holocaust denial, and classical antisemitic motifs with a view to creating social acceptability for such content".[3] The conference also heard of the need to shift the focus from traditional websites run by extremists to social media platforms which were being used by antisemites as powerful freely available tools.

The third Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism, which took place in 2009, created the Working Group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media. A report from this first working group meeting highlighted areas of concern, key recent incidents, and positive initiatives. It also outlined a number of policy recommendations and the major challenges to combating online antisemitism.

The first major challenge was to address the fact that:

> We have a lack of metrics on:
>
> a. The number of problem items in specific platforms e.g. reported groups in Facebook, reported Videos on YouTube
> b. The number of items resolved on specific platforms e.g. groups shut down, videos removed, complaints reviewed or dismissed
> ...
> d. The time delay between something being reported and action being taken in a specific platform

The working group has been seeking to meet this major challenge. In 2011 a meeting of working group experts took place in Jerusalem, and a detailed design documents for software to meet this challenge were discussed. The 2013 Global Forum saw the released of a major report, "Online

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[1] See further commentary, http://ohpi.org.au/online-incitement/
[2] Mike Wendling, "The year that angry won the internet", BBC, 30 December 2015. Online at: http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-trending-35111707
[3] Andre Oboler, Online Antisemitism 2.0. "Social Antisemitism on the Social Web", Post-Holocaust and Antisemitism Series, JCPA, (April 2008, No. 67). Online at: http://jcpa.org/article/online-antisemitism-2-0-social-antisemitism-on-the-social-web/

Antisemitism: A systematic review of the problem, the response and the need for change", which reiterated the challenge from 2009, as well as surveying work undertaken in the field and adding further recommendations.[4] The 2013 Working Group meeting called for action and one of its recommendations was to:

> Create a global database of antisemitic material, to understand how many websites, Facebook pages; videos, etc. are/were online.

Responding to the call

Through January and February 2015 a sample of 2024 items of antisemitism were gathered through the FightAgainstHate.com reporting system. Reporting was promoted through the "Spotlight on Antisemitism" campaign,[5] which explained the reporting process and encouraged public participation. The campaign focused on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter and provides a live count of the number of unique antisemitic items as they were reported. Staff of the Online Hate Prevention Institute also contributed to the reporting.

As items were reported, the person reporting them categorised them into one of four types of antisemitism: Traditional antisemitism, New Antisemitism, Holocaust Denial, and Promoting violence against Jews. This report includes sections on each of these categories with detailed explanations of what is included within the category.

Research Methodology

Based on the recommendations of the Global Forum, the Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI) in Australia developed FightAgainstHate.com, a cloud based tool for reporting, monitoring, and measuring the response to online antisemitism as well as other forms of online hate. Using the tool the public can report various types of online hate speech and assign both a category and sub-category to the hate they report. The tool was launched in December 2014 in Sydney, Australia, by The Hon Paul Fletcher MP on behalf of Australian's then Communications Minister, The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP.

In February and March the Online Hate Prevention Institute ran an online campaign encouraging people to use the new tool specifically to report items of online antisemitism. A counter was added to the campaign site showing the number of unique items reported in real time.

2024 unique items of social media content were reported. Each time an item was reported it was categorised by the reporter as one of:

- *Traditional antisemitism* which accounts for conspiracy theories, antisemitic tropes, racist slurs etc.

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[4] Andre Oboler and David Matas, "Online Antisemitism: A systematic review", GFCA Report, 201. Online at: http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/AboutTheMinistry/Conferences-Seminars/GFCA2013/Documents/OnlineAntisemitism.pdf
[5] http://fightagainsthate.com/soa/

- *New antisemitism* where the State of Israel and Jewish people by association are demonised
- *Holocaust Denial*
- *Violence* being promoted against Jews

The system recorded the type of content (e.g. differentiating between a Facebook image and a Facebook page) and filtered out duplicates where the same item was reported multiple times in the same category. There were 33 items which were reported under more than one category of antisemitism and these are treated as distinct items for this research. This report is therefore based on a sample of 2057 categorised items.

At the start of April the classified data was extracted from the system. OHPI staff reviewed the items and archived the content by taking screenshots of Tweets and Facebook content and downloaded copies of the reported YouTube videos. The data was analysed holistically to examine the relative amount of antisemitism by platform and by category.

The qualitative research approach involved staff who reviewed the data creating a summary for each category of antisemitism, giving an overall feel for the items found within that category. Each summary was supported by a selection of three examples of content from each of the three platforms for that category of antisemitism. Explanatory notes were created to explain the antisemitic nature of the items. These examples provide a feel for the larger sample of hate within the category.

The quantitative research first presented the division of items within each category by social media platform. Each platform was then further divided between channels for publishing content and items of content. In the case of YouTube the dividing is between channel which are YouTube Channels / Users, and items which are individual videos. On Twitter the division is between users (as channels) and tweets as items of content. On Facebook the division was made between pages and groups as channels, and items and user accounts as items of content. Users were included with items as a report of a user was most likely to relate to their name, profile picture or cover image rather than the use of the profile to share a stream of antisemitic content.

A draft report with this content was distributed at the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism in May 2015. Following this Facebook, YouTube and Twitter were each offered the list of addresses to content on their platform which was included in the report. Twitter and YouTube accepted this offer agreeing to review the list of provided items. The platforms were given the month of July to review the data. At the start of August all the content was checked a second time to see if it was still online. A further check was carried out in January 2016 prior to the release of this report.

The removal rates are represented in this report by platform across the entire sample, and also by platform within each category. The removal rates signify the items taken down by June 11th (3 months), the items removed by August 7th after Twitter and YouTube had an opportunity to review the data set (5 months), and by January 25th 2016 (10 months). The relative division of the antisemitic content from the sample within each category as it stands at the time of this report is also provided. Where a platform's share of the remaining antisemitic content is higher than its share at the start, this demonstrates the platform is responding to the problem of antisemitism comparatively less well than other platforms.

High Level Results

Platforms based results

The majority of the antisemitic items included in this research are still online. Only 20% of the sample has so far been removed (see Figure 5). This demonstrates a significant gap between what the community understand to be antisemitic, and expects to be a violation of community standards which prohibit hate speech, and what social media platforms are currently willing to remove.
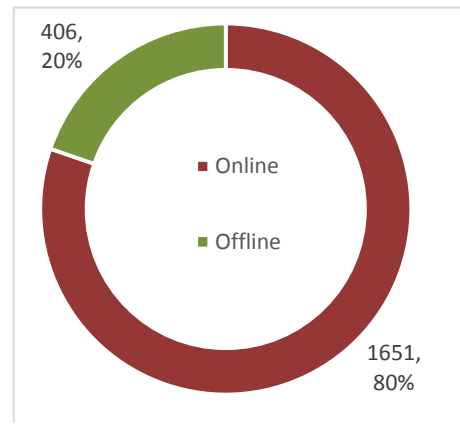

Figure 5 Current status of antisemitic items

The initial level of antisemitism is not uniform across the social media platforms. As shown in **Error! Reference source not found.**, YouTube has the most antisemitism (41% of the sample), followed by Twitter (36%) and then Facebook (23%). At the end of this research, as shown in Figure 7, Facebook has significantly reduced its share of the antisemitism from 23% down to 18%, Twitter has done slightly better than remaining static, and YouTube has fallen behind rising from 41% of the antisemitism to 47%. Another way of looking at this is in terms of the rate of removal which for Facebook is 37% (i.e. 1-(301/477)), Twitters is 22% (i.e. 1-(584/746)), and YouTube is 8% (i.e. 1-(766/834)). The percent of antisemitic items remaining on each platform over time is shown in Figure 8.

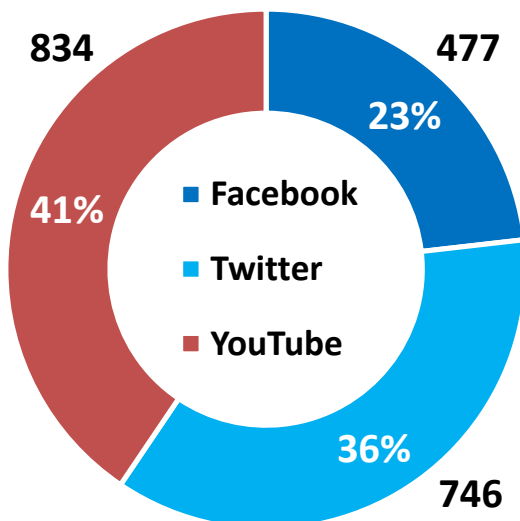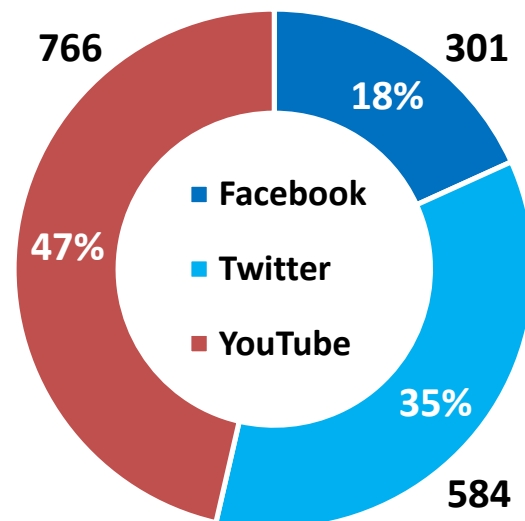**Figure 6 Initial antisemitism by social media platform**

Figure 7 Final antisemitism by social media platform

These results strongly suggest that the reason YouTube has the largest starting point is because the cumulative volume of antisemitism on YouTube is growing over time (relative to the other platforms) due to YouTube's lower removal rate. Facebook's smaller share by contrast is in part a result of their efforts at removal which means there was less antisemitism for people to find and initially report.
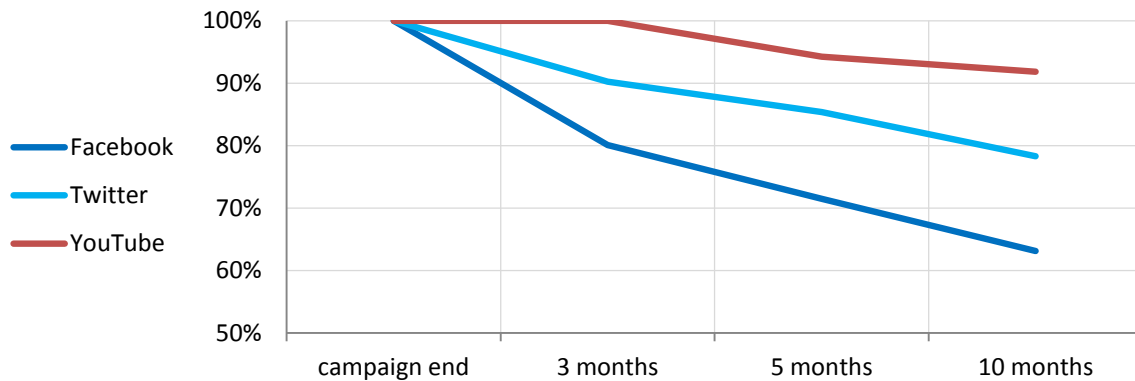
5

Figure 8 Percent of items remaining by Platform over time

The volume of antisemitism, or any form of harmful or dangerous content, which can be found online, is a combination of two factors. The first is the volume of harmful content uploaded, and the second is the effectiveness the platform in removing it. As demonstrated, Facebook is the most effective and YouTube the least effective when it comes to removal. We can also examine the relative rate at which antisemitism is attracted to each platform. This is calculated by comparing the initial levels of antisemitism across each platform, as shown in Figure 6, with the levels we would expect to see if the upload rates were the same, and the removal rates were those previously identified.

Assume 100 items of antisemitism were uploaded to each platform. After 10 months, we would expect there to be 92 items on YouTube, 78 items on Twitter and 63 items on Facebook. This is based on deducting the removal rate for each platform multiple by the initial 100 items. There are now 233 remaining items and then remaining items for each platform can be expressed as a percentage of this. This gives an expected 39% of the items on YouTube, 33% of the items on Twitter and 27% of the items on Facebook in a case where the rate of antisemitism being uploaded was the same across the three platforms. Comparing this to the data in Figure 6, YouTube and Twitter in reality each have each have a little more of the hate than expected, while Facebook appears to have a little less than expected. This suggests that the initial rate antisemitism is attracted to each platform is not equal, and that YouTube and Twitter are in fact attracting more of the hate than Facebook.

One hypothesis that seems likely is that Facebook's more active removal of hate creates a deterrent to those spreading hate. The difference is relatively small, and may relate to a reduction in repeat offenders rather than a reduction in the initial willingness of people to upload hate. Twitter has recently become more proactive in remove hate, so the impact on online culture may not yet have been felt. If this hypothesis is correct, it means that a failure to tackle online antisemitism, and likely other problems like the promotion of online extremism, is itself an exacerbating factor in the rise of such content on social media platforms.

Category based results

The most common category of antisemitism overall, at 49% of all reported items, was *traditional antisemitism* which accounts for item like conspiracy theories, antisemitic tropes, and racist slurs. The second most common category at 34% was New Antisemitism where the State of Israel and Jewish people by association are demonised. Holocaust denial accounted for 12% and content promoting violence against Jews accounted for 5%.
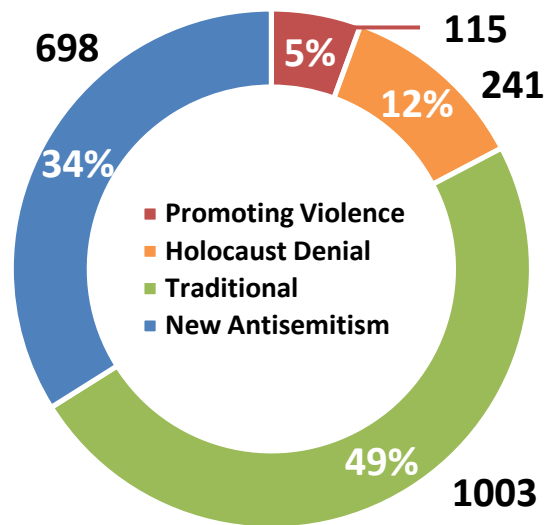

Figure 9 Antisemitism by category

The spread of categories across the social media platforms varies, and conversely the dominance of the different platforms within each category, varies. Take down rates are also not consistent within a single platform across multiple categories. This data is best examined in depth category by category through the rest of this report. Table 1 provides a summary of the removal rates for each platform and category combination, as well as the average removal rates by platform and by category. The table can be used to predict the likelihood of an item of antisemitism coming down eventually (after 10 months) if the platform and category are known. At the extremes, an item of Holocaust denial on Facebook has a 58% chance of being removed, while an item promoting New Antisemitism on YouTube has only a 4% chance of being removed. Of particular concern is the fact that the promotion of antisemitic violence has only a 14% chance of removal on Twitter.

	Traditional	New Antisemitism	Holocaust Denial	Violence	Plat. Avg.
Facebook	42%	27%	58%	75%	37%
Twitter	25%	20%	20%	14%	22%
YouTube	9%	4%	10%	30%	8%
Category Avg.	21%	16%	22%	26%	

Table 1 Removal Rates for Antisemitism in Social Media

As can be seen, the likelihood of reported antisemitic content being removed differs considerably based on both the platform and the category of antisemitism, with major variations both within categories (across the platforms) and within platforms (across the categories).

General Recommendations

The following recommendations are made in light of these findings:

Recommendation 1: The approach to combating antisemitism in social media needs to occur on a per platform basis and with specific attention to different types of antisemitism, particularly those which are not being effectively controlled on the given platform.

Recommendation 2: Resources and training are needed to equip those tackling antisemitism in social media. As older forms of antisemitism re-emerge, older resources will need to be adapted for the internet age and a new generation of anti-racism activists.

Recommendation 3: Action is needed to close the gap between the informed public and expert understanding of antisemitism and the existing understanding of the social media platforms.

Recommendation 4: Greater efforts are needed to ensure reported items are correctly assessed and areas with a low removal rate on a particular platform may require further focused discussions between experts, governments and platform providers.

The category of promoting violence against Jews

Promoting violence against Jews is the most direct form of antisemitic hate expressed online. This also applied when the violence is expressed as being against "Israelis" or "Zionists", as both terms are used to refer entirely or predominantly to Jews in this context of this violence. The ubiquity of such content on the Internet has played a role in the increase in violent attacks against Jews and Jewish establishments around the world, and particularly in Europe, in the last few years. Violent speech encourages violent actions, and when people read, see and hear calls for violence against Jews, it normalises the concept.

FightAgainstHate.com allows the categorisation of such antisemitic content into a dedicated category of "Promoting violence against Jews". This captures content covered by the example of "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion" in the working definition of antisemitism.[6]

The sample contains examples of a spectrum of violent antisemitism, from Facebook pages calling for the killing of particular Jews to slogans calling for war against the Jewish people (Tweets such as "Gas the kikes. Race war now"). Content calling for the annihilation of Israel, such as Facebook pages calling for "death to Israel", were also included since such calls are a promotion of genocide.

Analysis of the data suggests that this category of "promoting violence against Jews" is most prevalent on Twitter. This is not surprising given that Twitter operates on anonymity and catchy and emotional hashtags. Such an environment encourages people to become increasingly irresponsible in their expressions in the hope of being noticed. One of the vilest hashtags to go viral on Twitter during the height of the Israel-Palestine conflict last year was #HitlerWasRight. In justifying the attempted genocide of the Jewish people, it was one of the most vocal, public and direct attacks on Jews on Twitter. Past years have seen similar problems with #UnBonJuif ("a good Jew") becoming the third post popular trending hashtag in France 2012.[7]

In recent months, Twitter has acknowledged that the abuse and vitriol on its platform needs to be addressed,[8] and has been taking steps to remove such content and identifying and respond to repeated offenders.[9] has introduced an "email report" button on its reporting system that will send you an "email that packages the threatening Tweet and URL along with responsible Twitter username and URL and a timestamp, as well as your account information and the timestamp of your report."[10] This can be presented to the law enforcement agencies as evidence of threats and threatening speech.

In 2015 many virulently antisemitic Twitter users had their accounts blocked or suspended. However, given their past lack of action, a large volume of such content is still circulating on the platform.

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[6] See Appendix A

[7] http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2012/10/16/good-jew-hastag-third-most-popular-on-french-twitter/

[8] Tiku N & Newton C "Twitter CEO: 'We suck at dealing with abuse'" Feb 4, 2015, theverge.com http://www.theverge.com/2015/2/4/7982099/twitter-ceo-sent-memo-taking-personal-responsibility-for-the

[9] Dayal A "Twitter Tightens Security; Makes It Easier To Report Threats To Authorities" March 26, 2015, ibtimes.com http://au.ibtimes.com/twitter-tightens-security-makes-it-easier-report-threats-authorities-1431121

[10] Ibid

Promoting violence against Jews
(breakdown by social media platforms)

In the case of content promoting violence, the dominant platform is Twitter (see Figure 10) and relative to other platforms the problem is getting worse over time (see Figure 11).
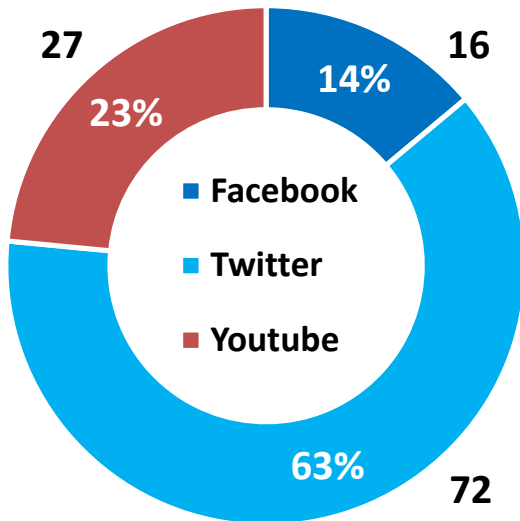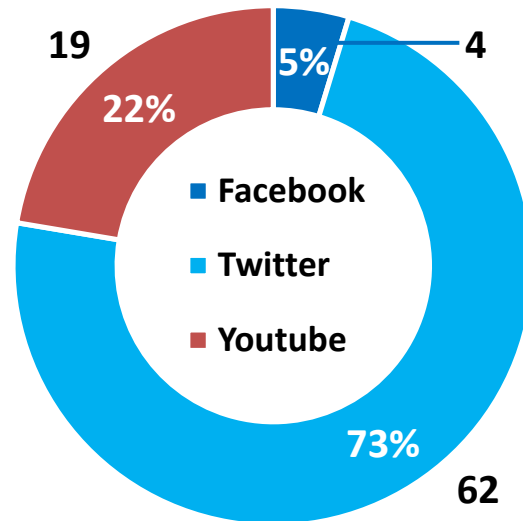

Figure 10 Initial promoting violence

Figure 11 Final promoting violence

Figure 12 suggests Facebook is in a process of continual improvement in this area, while YouTube appears to have improved once then stalled. Twitters rate of improvement is shallow compared to the other platforms.
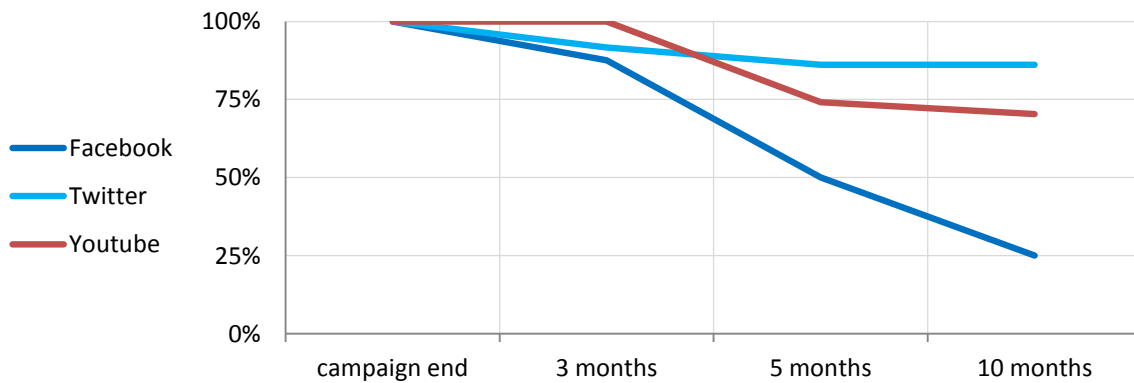
Figure 12 Percent of items promoting violence removed over time by platform

Facebook items
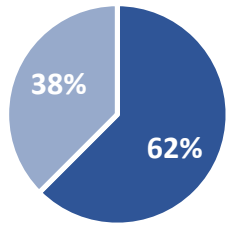
38%

62%

- pages & groups
- users & items

YouTube items

96%

- users & channels
- videos

Twitter items

26%

74%
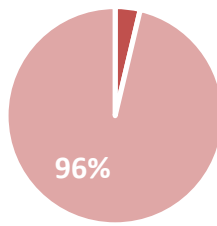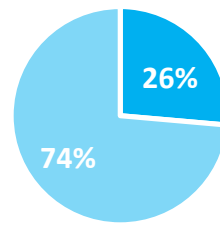
- users
- tweets

Figure 13 Breakdown between channels and items for promotion of violence

Facebook takedowns
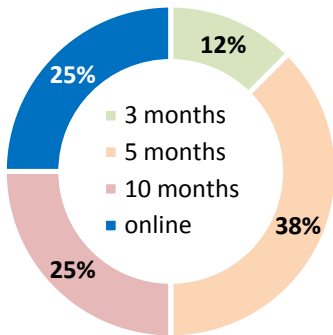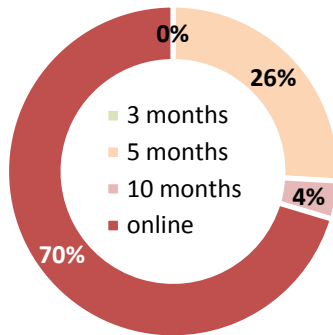
12%
25%
38%
25%

- 3 months
- 5 months
- 10 months
- online

Youtube takedowns

0%
26%
4%
70%

- 3 months
- 5 months
- 10 months
- online

Twitter takedowns

8%
6%
0%
86%

- 3 months
- 5 months
- 10 months
- online

Figure 14 Takedowns over time by platform for promotion of violence

As shown by Figure 14, the category of promoting violence is receiving very difference responses by the different platforms. The situation also appears to be in flux as seen in Figure 12.

Examples from YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXWddg8iZCY
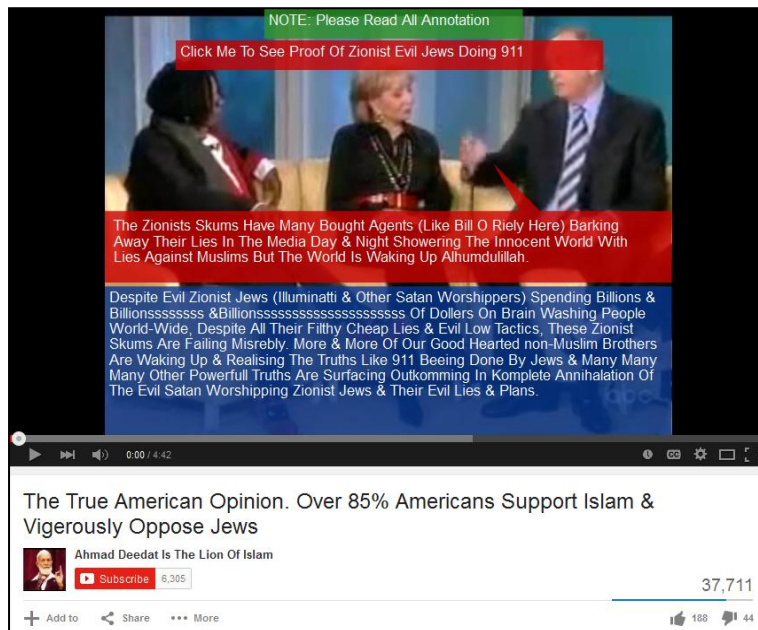
This video promotes, through its annotations, the "Komplete Annihilation of The Evil Satan Worshipping Zionist Jews".

Taking a segment from *The* View, in a discussion on the Ground Zero Mosque, this YouTube user has annotated the video in such a way as to imply that Bill O'Reilly is a Zionist puppet. Bill's primary line of discussion is that the location is inappropriate for a Mosque, resulting in two other guests walking out when he says "Muslims killed us on 9/11" (1:52); a statement he apologises for as he meant to specify "Muslim extremists" or "terrorists", and did not intend to demean all Muslims (3:10).

The annotations added to the video by the user "Ahmad Deedat Is The Lion of Islam" accuse Bill O'Reilly of being an agent of "Zionist Skums" whose purpose is to discredit Muslims in the media and cover up "Proof Of Zionist Evil Jews Doing 911".The annotations also accuse him of being a paedophile, supplied with preteen victims "In Exchange For His Komplete Obediance To The Evil Satanists Jewish Illuminatti" (0:46). The annotations throughout are the sort of antisemitic accusations common to parts of the Arab world, with claims that the other guests represent an alleged 85% of Americans who "Realise 911 Was Done By Evil Jews" (1:56).
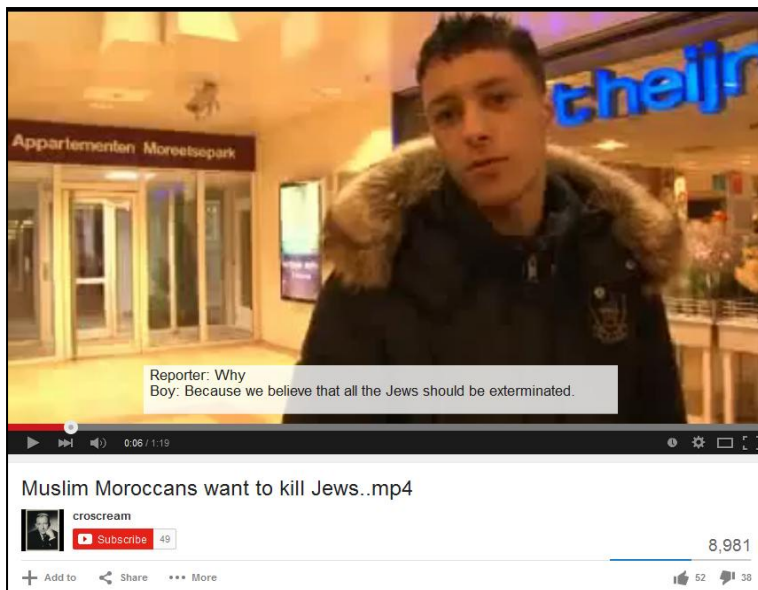
One annotation displayed through the full video also cross-links to the first in an 80 part series blaming Jews and Israel for committing 9/11.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8_lk-0_zpk

Kill The Jew !

Chan

Subscribe 6

112 views

Add to   Share   ••• More   0   1

In this video titled "Kill the Jew!" a group of British teens are playing in a park. As two play tag and wrestle, one male onlooker shouts "Gas 'im" (0:13), which is repeated by a female onlooker (0:17) who then continues "Gas the Jew" (0:18).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6g9u3nQOoxw

Reporter: Why
Boy: Because we believe that all the Jews should be exterminated.

Muslim Moroccans want to kill Jews..mp4

croscream

Subscribe 49

8,981

Add to   Share   ••• More   52   38

In this video a reporter is told "all the Jews should be exterminated" (0:04).

The report is asking for opinions about anti-Israel demonstrations from a couple of boys. The boys explain their support for genocide by saying they are against Israel because "it's a Muslim country and therefore also our country" (0:14).

They also insist that "the Jews and Israelis they are all the same" (0:48) and that they want to attack them and support those who do

attack them. They go on to say that "Those weird little hats" make them "want to beat them, want to stab them" (0:40).

From its original source the video may have been meant as an anti-hate video, but in this context is presented as a typically antisemitic discourse. The comment thread attracted typically overt antisemites, though with a counter by anti-Muslim respondents.

Examples from Twitter

https://twitter.com/mauripalestine/status/572838500300693507

This Tweet overtly calls for "Death to Israel!" It features a picture with a hand in the shape of a gun and coloured as the Iranian flag shooting a Magen David below the words "the Last Encounter coming soon…"

The account this posts comes from includes content in support of Hamas 'freedom fighters' against 'Zionist human rights abusers', and making claims that Israelis kidnap and mass-murder children.

This tweet demonstrates a call for genocide against Israelis and other Zionists alike. Note that it is from 3 March 2015, and not during a period of intense conflict.

https://twitter.com/TCforEuthanasia/status/560005051964731392
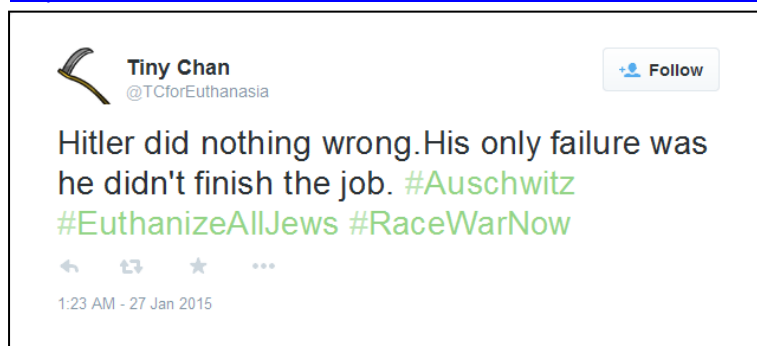
This tweet endorses the actions of Hitler and his 'final solution' in attempting to exterminate the Jews.

The Twitter account promotes the idea of voluntary human extinction, and promotes wiping out humanity's 'undesirables' in a Nazis like fashion.

https://twitter.com/TheLinderFiles/status/578669872621617152
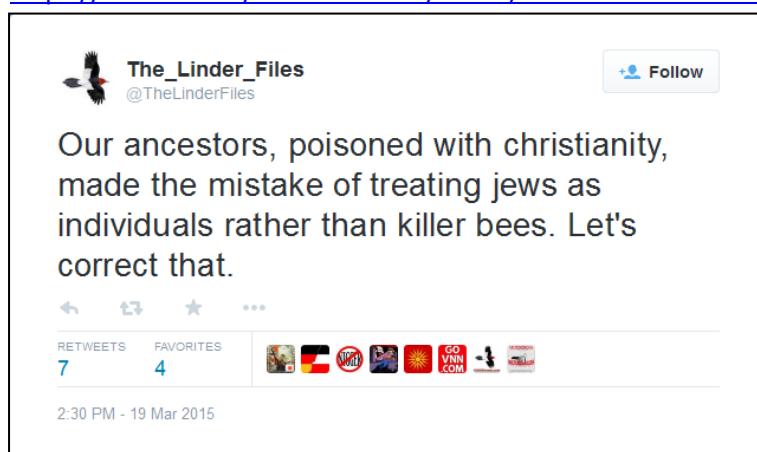
This tweet takes an anti-theistic stance against Christianity, and its acceptance of other religions, and implies that Jews should be treated as dangerous insects and wiped out accordingly.

It is one of many antisemitic posts by a Twitter user who often pushes white-supremacist ideals.

Examples from Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/matchsticks7

The title of this page calls for "Death To Israel". It is repeated in Hebrew, indicating the audience of the message is Israelis themselves.

This page posts many horrific photos of children injured or killed in what they allege are Israeli attacks in Gaza.

It attempts to push the claim of Israel as a bloodthirsty baby-murderer, in doing so it aims to dehumanise Israelis and justify its call for genocide.

This Facebook group is called "Nuke Israel for 9/11". It calls for genocide against Israel while promoting a conspiracy theory.

The content in this group suggests the world would be a better place if Israel was destroyed.

This page blames Israel for 9/11, and propagates antisemitic conspiracy theories such as 9/11 and other terrorist attacks being 'false flag' operations by Mossad. It accuses Jews of taking over banks, the Catholic church, and being behind historical assassinations of prominent Americans.
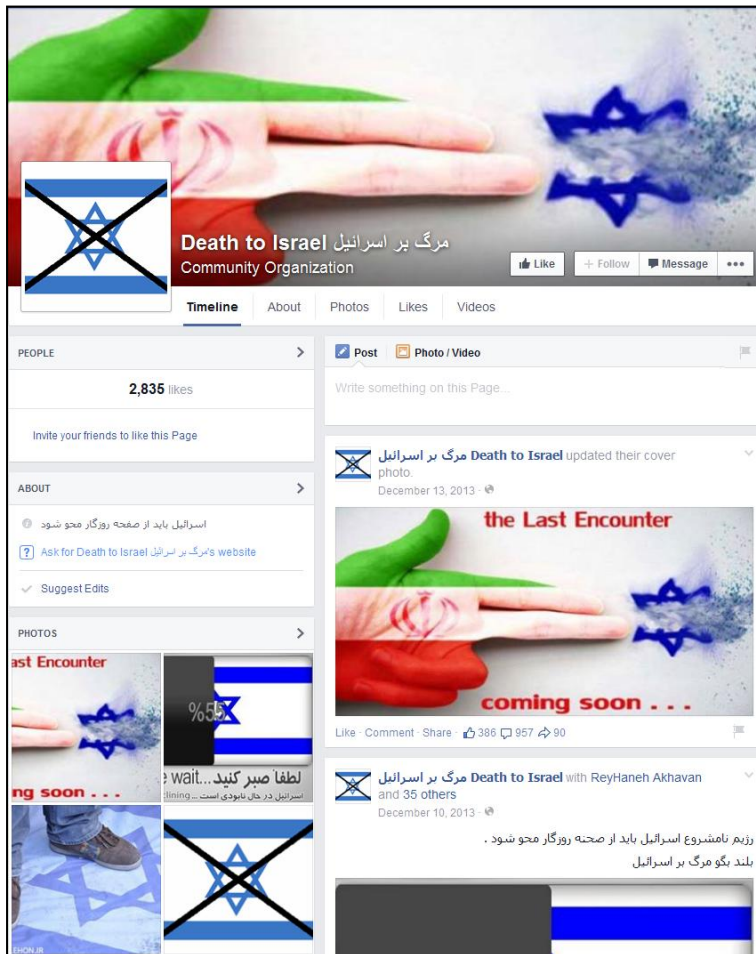
The Facebook page "Death to Israel" is another call for genocide. It feature the same symbolism of a hand in Iranian colours shooting a Magen David previous seen on Twitter.

This page has symbolic images rather than images of graphic violence like the previous page. The images include pictures of Israel's flag being stepped on, and antisemitic and pro-Palestinian memes.

This page seems to have ceased regular activity however due to a strong pro-Israeli backlash in many of the posts' comment threads.

The category of Holocaust denial

Holocaust denial had been largely limited to discredited academics and fringe groups. However, the spread of social media has allowed such groups to reach out to the mainstream without the intermittent filters and checks, such as academic bodies or journalists.

This category captures content covered by the examples of "Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust)" and "accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust" in the working definition of antisemitism.[11]

Holocaust denial on social media takes place in two forms. First is outright denial of the fact that the Holocaust ever occurred or claiming that the number of Jews killed is grossly exaggerated. The second form mocks the victims of the Holocaust. In this section we look at how such deliberately offensive content is aimed to demonize and dehumanize the Jewish community.

Holocaust denial is also linked to Modern Antisemitism, a concept explained at the special plenary session of the United Nations General Assembly on January 22, 2015, by the French philosopher and writer Bernard-Henri Lévy. He explained that the argument goes, "The Jews are all the more detestable because they are believed to base their beloved Israel on imaginary suffering, or suffering that at the very least has been outrageously exaggerated. This is the shabby and infamous denial of the Holocaust".[12] Thus, it encourages hatred against Jews by suggesting that they demand special privileges based on a lie.

A breakdown of data suggests that Holocaust denial is most prevalent on YouTube. Many of the examples are supposed documentaries making dubious claims, clips of speeches and talks by famous Holocaust deniers and discredited academics, and people uploading videos of themselves denying the Holocaust. Many videos carry an air of faux-professionalism, which makes it easier for a layperson to accept the conspiracy theories without verification.

 On Facebook and Twitter we also see content mocking the Holocaust by ways of cruel memes, cartoons and jokes. These platforms work as vehicles for YouTube videos denying the Holocaust to be circulated more widely.

---

[11] See Appendix A

[12] Levy, BH, "Against the New Anti-Semitism: Remembering the Holocaust Protects Us All" 22 January 2015, huffingtonpost.com http://www.huffingtonpost.com/bernardhenri-levy/against-the-new-anti-semi_b_6526364.html

Holocaust denial
(breakdown by social media platforms)
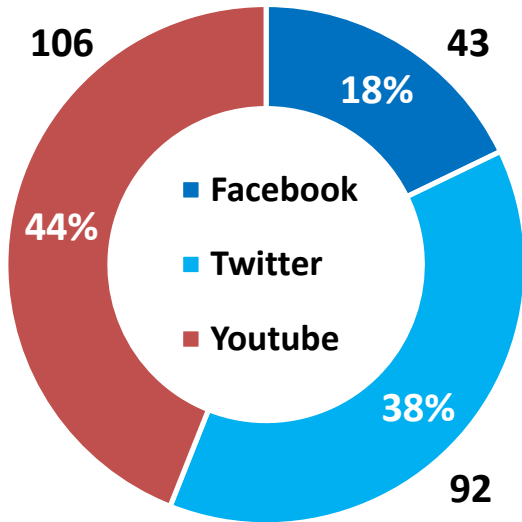
Figure 15 Initial Holocaust denial content

Figure 16 Final Holocaust denial content

YouTube is the largest problem when it comes to Holocaust denial, though both YouTube and Twitter appear to have difficulty in removing Holocaust denial. Facebook by contrast is responding rapidly to remove around half the Holocaust denial (see Figure 17) with further content combine down over time.
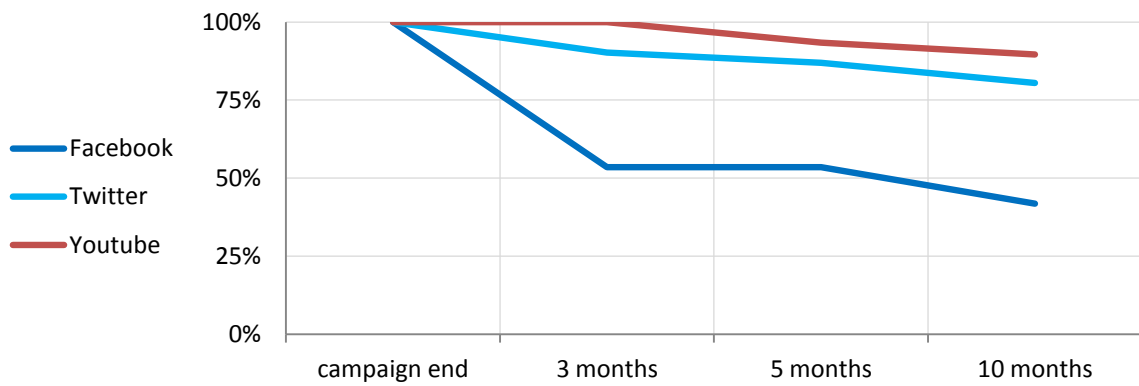
Figure 17 Percent of items promoting Holocaust denial removed over time by platform

19

Facebook items
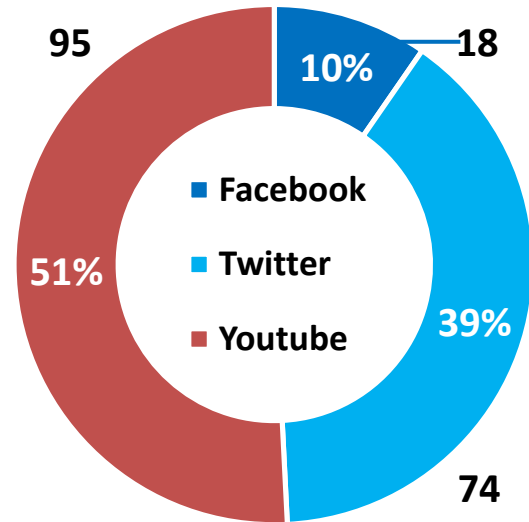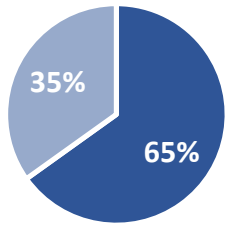

- pages & groups: 65%
- users & items: 35%
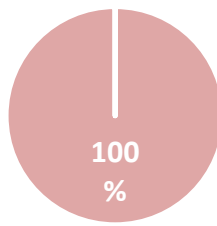
YouTube items

- users & channels
- videos: 100%
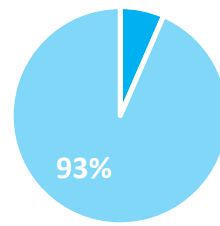
Twitter items

- users
- tweets: 93%

Figure 18 Breakdown between channels and items for Holocaust denial

Facebook takedowns
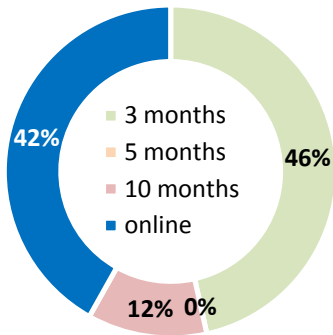
- 3 months: 46%
- 5 months: 0%
- 10 months: 12%
- online: 42%

Youtube takedowns

- 3 months: 0%
- 5 months: 6%
- 10 months: 4%
- online: 90%

Twitter takedowns
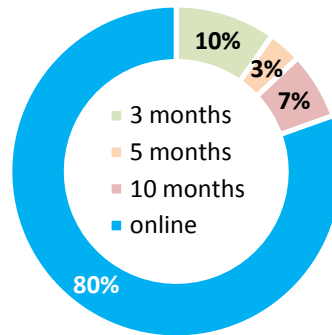
- 3 months: 10%
- 5 months: 3%
- 10 months: 7%
- online: 80%

Figure 19 Takedowns over time by platform for Holocaust denial

20

Examples from YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ln-IusbIIEc

Opening with a Holocaust denial video inside another Holocaust denial video (0:18), this video alleges that the Holocaust is a false narrative and its promotion is a profitable industry.

The video claims that, "Since an early age, everyone in the West has been the target of the fiercest, most prolific propaganda campaign. Ever." The video claims the "false narrative" is propagated throughout both news and fictional media.

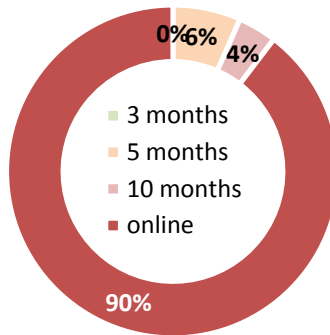The video, for example, suggests Family Guy (1:02) leverages Holocaust jokes as part of a broader conspiracy rather than mere tacky humour. The video also claims the efforts to portray Holocaust denial as illegitimate are a means to silence "honest and innocent researchers like David Irving" (2:24). This is a defence of someone a court of law has found "persistently and deliberately misrepresented and manipulated historical evidence" and who the Hon. Mr. Justice Gray described in the judgement as an "active Holocaust denier", "anti-semitic and racist".[13] The video goes on to say "if something were true, you wouldn't need a law to protect it from scrutiny". This is followed by a series of extracts from Don Heddesheimer's *The First Holocaust* (a popular reference cited by Holocaust deniers and revisionists). The latter half of the video (6:35) is two other Holocaust denial 'documentaries' which have been appended for their alleged 'proof' of gas chambers not existing.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Os0eldMv-wE

This is an almost 50 minute long 'documentary' claiming to debunk the extermination aspect of concentration camps such as Treblinka, culminating in statements that Germans were tortured into giving false confessions of overseeing the murder of Jews.

Irving v. Penguin Books Limited, Deborah E. Lipstat [2000] EWHC QB 115[13]

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X2vUMh9Hr0

This video is a series of text panels (styled in generic red on black throughout) reciting Holocaust 'facts' denying the existence of gas chambers, challenging the authenticity of The Diary of Anne Frank, and claiming that Rudolph Hess was tortured and forced to give a fake confession.

Examples from Twitter

https://twitter.com/tpac245/status/572794050400665600
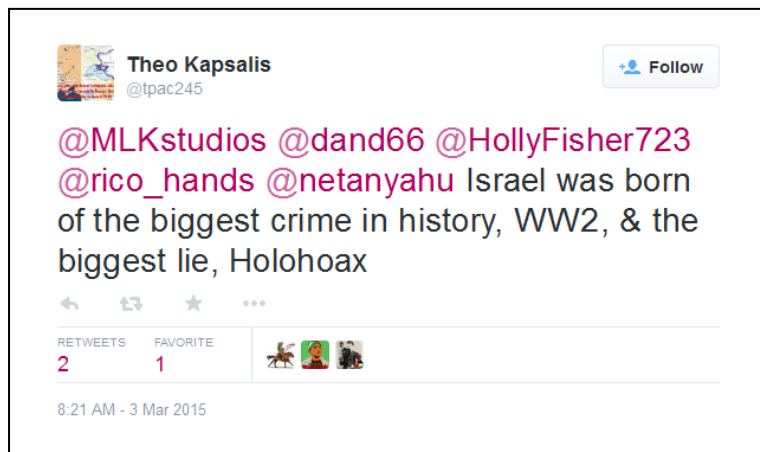
This tweet is part of their narrative that Jews fabricated the Holocaust, and arranged the transfer agreement with Hitler, in order to establish Israel through fraud as a front for terrorist activity. The user behind this Tweet elsewhere promotes antisemitic conspiracy theories, including Zionist 'deceptions' and Mossad assassinating JFK.

https://twitter.com/fuzeyuji/status/543400242658279424

This tweet alleges the Holocaust was a fraud and false narrative, with criticism being censored by the 'JewMedia'.

The user's Twitter feed is filled with Neo-Nazi style content, including Jewish banking and media conspiracies. They promote white supremacy and accuse Jews of hijacking the world.
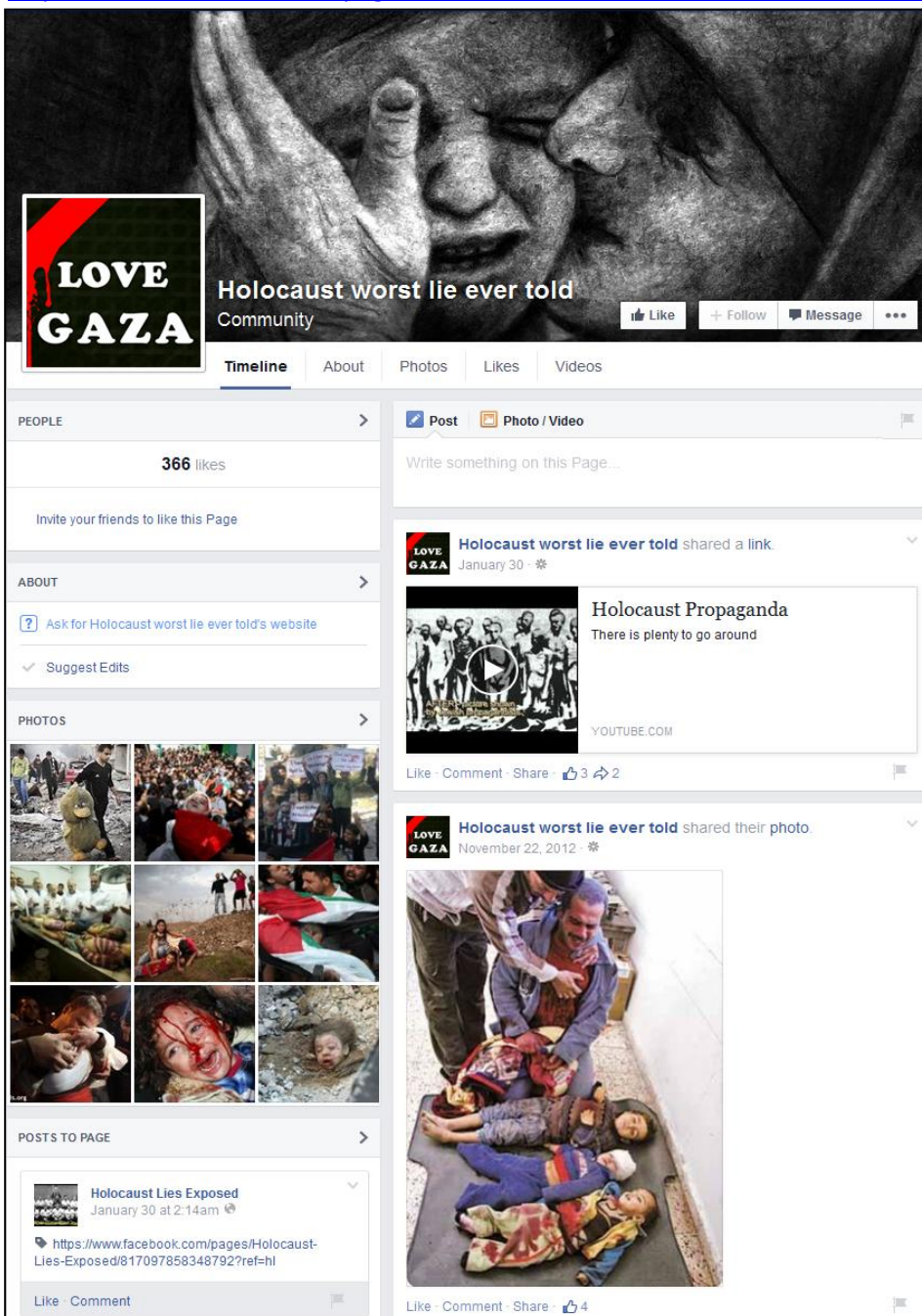
This tweet is one of several claiming that Holocaust museums are established to sustain a lie and sway opinion against Germany.

This pro-Hitler user posts a lot of antisemitic and anti-black content, they retweet Holocaust revisionist references and deny the legitimacy of Holocaust memorials.

Examples from Facebook

The Holocaust denial on this page is predominantly in the titling, with the majority of content being posts of bloodied victims, alleged to have been from Israel's military attacks on Gaza. The page also contains some direct links to Holocaust denial content. The imagery and page title together provide a form of Holocaust inversion.

The page from which this image was sourced includes both Holocaust revisionism and anti-Israel content. This particular image is cited as a reference that the 'Six million Jews' killed in the Holocaust is a fabrication.

Such images are, when not fabricated themselves, often used to leverage seeds of doubt regarding such events as the Holocaust. This occurs when information is taken out of context, and subsequently presented standing on its own rather than as part of the larger series of related circumstances.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Holohoax-Exposing-the-Holocaust/341398745964656

This is a dedicated Holocaust denial page which alleges that Zionists pushed for the Second World War, and manipulated the allies in order to lay claim to Palestine. It further alleges the claim of 6 million being a symbolic figure derived from Jewish teachings instead of the number who perished in the Holocaust, and that the Holocaust itself was part of a Zionist conspiracy.

The category of New Antisemitism

New antisemitism refers to a new form of antisemitism that has come about in the last two decades where the State of Israel, and Jewish people by association, are demonised. As Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of the British Commonwealth, has explained, "new antisemitism is different from the old. In the past Jews were hated for their religion, then for their race. Today they are hated for their nation state." He further notes that, "Criticism of Israel is not antisemitism, but demonisation is".[14]

Prof Alvin H. Rosenfeld described one aspect of the new antisemitism as "the singling out of the Jewish state, and the Jewish state alone, as a political entity unworthy of a secure and sovereign existence". He notes that this type of antisemitism sees "a conflation of interests among those on the far right, segments of the intellectual left, and radical Islam".[15]

New antisemitism is based on the premise that both Zionism and the State of Israel are evil, and anyone who – to a greater or lesser degree – supports or stands for the rights of these two are evil. Since, this would include most Jewish people around the world, they are automatically demonized under this category. None of their actions, demands or rights for safety, security, respect or self-determination are considered legitimate. In fact, being evil, they are promoted as being legitimate targets of hate, incitement and persecution.

The list of examples given by the working definition was suggested to those reporting New Antisemitism as a guide. Relevant parts of the definition include:[16]

- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with traditional antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Importantly, the Working Definition also notes that "criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic". This reiterates the points made by Rabbi Sacks of differentiating between criticism and demonization.

The data highlighted a number of key themes falling under the category of New Antisemitism. These are:

Zionism as Evil / Denying Israel's right to exist: Critics of Israel on social media often use the disclaimer that they don't stand against Jews but against Zionists / the State of Israel. However, they use such a broad brush to describe Zionism (anyone supporting Israel's right to exist) and have only one possible outcome to offer to Israel (cease to exist) that it leaves no room for discussion for a Jewish person, who in anyway

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[14] Sacks, J. Rabbi "The hate that starts with Jews never ends there" Aug 16, 2014, rabbisacks.org, http://www.rabbisacks.org/hate-starts-jews-never-ends-published-times/
[15] Rosenfeld, AH "Progressive Jewish Thought and the New Anti-Semitism" December 2006, American Jewish Committee http://www.ajc.org/atf/cf/%7B42D75369-D582-4380-8395-D25925B85EAF%7D/PROGRESSIVE_JEWISH_THOUGHT.PDF
[16] See Appendix A

supports Israel's right to exist. Promotion of such content via Tweets, Facebook Pages, posts and comments, YouTube videos and comments, though often looks like it is based on a political ideology, actually is a call to deny all Jews the right to self-determination and to its historic homeland.

The Israeli-Nazi comparison: Calling Israel a Nazi state, comparing its policies to that of Nazi Germany's, comparing Palestinian victims to the victims of the Holocaust, or saying that the Jews should know better and not behave like Nazis has become increasingly common on social media. Its use is aimed at causing distress to the survivors of the Holocaust and/or their children. More importantly, its prevalence on the Internet is no accident. As explained in The Australian[17], Hamas has been encouraging its supporters to compare the situation in Palestine to the Holocaust as part of a carefully orchestrated social media strategy. The strategy has been openly promoted to activists via official Hamas channels. MEMRI translated the guide in mid-July last year from Arabic to English. One of the points from the guide is to "Avoid entering into a political argument with a Westerner aimed at convincing him that the Holocaust is a lie and deceit; instead, equate it with Israel's crimes against Palestinian civilians".

Israel as a terrorist state: Such content is aimed at demonising Israel for actions that any modern state would take when in armed conflict with another. It decries Israel as a murderous state which unfairly targets innocent victims rather than acting legitimately as any government would in a conflict. Such portrayal of Israel on social media is very much a part of Hamas' social media strategy. Its social media strategy guide specifically states: "Anyone killed or martyred is to be called a civilian from Gaza or Palestine, before we talk about his status in jihad or his military rank. Don't forget to always add 'innocent civilian' or 'innocent citizen' in your description of those killed in Israeli attacks on Gaza."[18]

False flag: False flags generally refer to covert operations designed in such a way that they appear to be carried out by entities, groups, or nations other than those who actually planned and executed them. There are many conspiracy theories circulating on social media accusing Israel of orchestrating many global and national disasters. Our data shows Israel being accused of events from 9/11 terrorist attack (which is very popular) to the global financial crisis of 2007-08 and the Fukushima Daichii nuclear disaster in 2011.

---

[17] Oboler, A. "Rise of Anti-Semitism From This War Is No Accident" Aug 11, 2014, The Australian
http://ohpi.org.au/the-useful-idiots-gaza-holocaust/#sthash.V9VkOAww.dpuf
[18] Ibid

New antisemitism (Israel-related)
(breakdown by social media platforms)
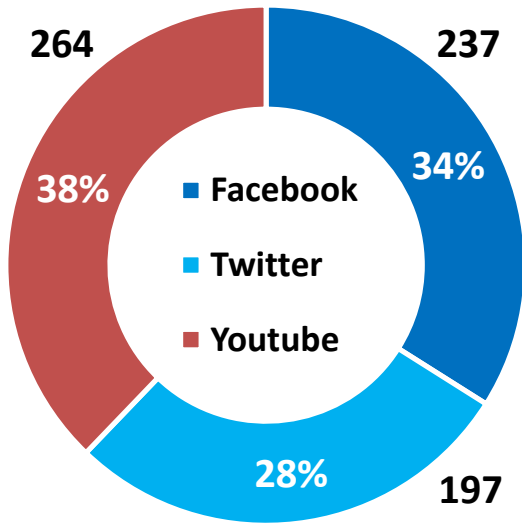
Figure 20 Initial New Antisemitism
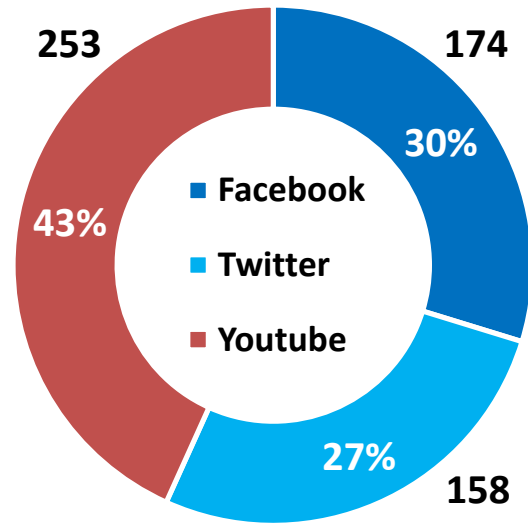
Figure 21 Final New Antisemitism
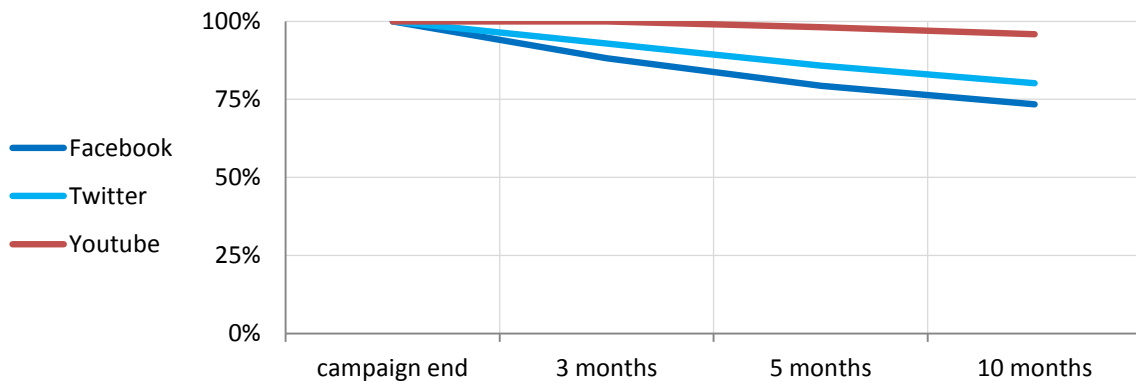
Figure 22 Percent of items of New Antisemitism removed over time by platform

As Figure 22 makes clear, YouTube is particularly problematic when it comes to removing New Antisemitism. This said, none of the platforms are particularly good in this area.

Facebook items
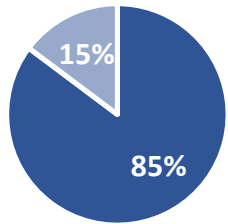
85% pages & groups
15% users & items

YouTube items
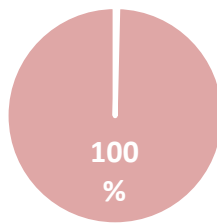
100% users & channels
videos
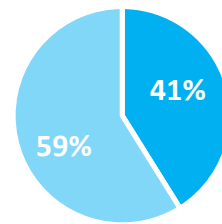
Twitter items

41% users
59% tweets

Figure 23 Breakdown between channels and items for New Antisemitism

Facebook takedowns
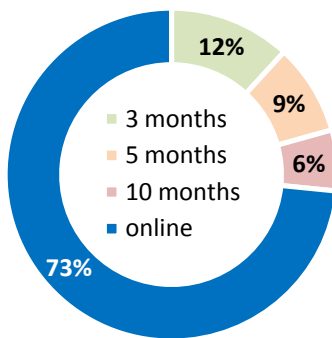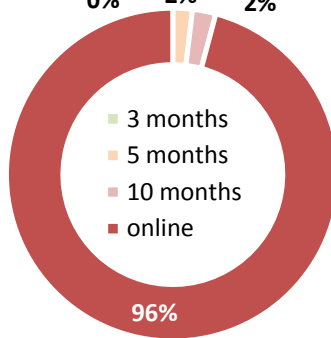
12% 3 months
9% 5 months
6% 10 months
73% online

Youtube takedowns

0% 2% 2%
3 months
5 months
10 months
96% online

Twitter takedowns
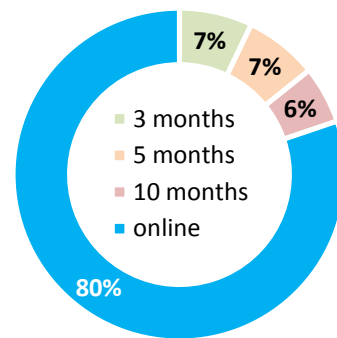
7% 3 months
7% 5 months
6% 10 months
80% online

Figure 24 Takedowns over time by platform for New Antisemitism

As Figure 24 demonstrates there is a low chance of removal when it comes to New Antisemitism. The removal rates are also staggered indicating many reports are repeatedly rejected before finally being upheld. YouTube is a clear problem in this area.

Examples from YouTube

This video claims that 9/11 was a Mossad operation, and under the voice-over scrolls a series of threads from The Information Underground forum about alleged Jewish 'false flag' terrorist operations. It cites the allegations that the towers were wired for demolition by Israeli operatives, and that the Zionist World Order planned the event to engender sympathy for Israel.

This video is titled "Israel – The World's biggest terrorist state!" this accusation crosses the line from legitimate criticism into antisemitism.

The video is a running compilation of anti-Israel photos (including demolished buildings and soldiers) and captions such as "Israel was established upon the ruins of another nation that she destroyed" (0:30), and claims that Israel holds the records for most homes demolished and most civilians crippled (1:45).

Real Jews exposing 'Israel' as the Illuminati Satanic most Evil State !

Tiretheos peneTRUTH

Subscribe 1,141

40,197

Add to   Share   ••• More

578   78

This video promoted the arguments of the Neturei Karta, a small radical sect within Judaism who believe a Jewish state should not exist before the messiah comes.

The video is a prolonged rant about Jews living peacefully alongside Muslims in the region before 1948, and claims that Zionism appropriated Jewish ideas for political rather than religious purposes through fear tactics and scaremongering.

Examples from Twitter
https://twitter.com/devlonictus9/status/580857374350561280

IsraeliMossaddid9/11
@devlonictus9

Follow

#AskNetanyahu #ICC4Israel #AskHamas

BULLETS DONT KILL PEOPLE
ISRAEL DOES

FREE PALESTINE

3:22 PM - 25 Mar 2015

This tweet twists the classic "guns don't kill people" line in order to lay blame for violence in the region solely at Israel's feet.

It comes from of a particularly antisemitic user whose display name is "Israeli Mossad Did 9/11", promoting another antisemitic conspiracy theory.

This tweet calls for the death of Jews on account of Zionism, and alleges that Zionism is illegitimate as no country has an innate right to existence.

This tweet may have been posted in jest, but the lack of context result in it having an overall negative effect.

This user posts regular anti-Israel content, in this case a political cartoon for World Water Day which implies that Jews are greedy (making use of the common caricature), and that Israel steals resources from the Palestinians.

The hashtags also promote the claims of 'Israeli Apartheid', and suggest a pro-Hamas stance.

Examples from Facebook

A prominent anti-Israeli page which draws parallels between Israel and Nazi Germany posted this image promoting the idea that 'antisemitism' is a catch-cry to silence dissenters, rather than a legitimate claim of vilification.

The image also alludes to the 'Jew World Order' conspiracies with its claims of Zionist control and aggression by Israel.

This image comes from a page which uses logical fallacies as a basis for discrediting Israel in a recurring series of captioned images. This particular image places the onus of the Middle East conflict on Israel, implying that their defensive measures are proactive rather than reactive, and subsequently trying to make Israel accountable for the attacks historically carried out against it.

This page uses iconographic tropes in its header images to imply a correlation between Nazism and Zionism.

It promotes a variety of anti-Israel content including claims of genocide against Palestinians, and terrorist videos (such as public beheadings) being produced in secret Mossad television studios using green screens and other trickery to fake events.

The irony of the claims that Israel falsifies photos is that this page posts photos of 'Israeli soldiers assaulting Palestinians' which actually are proven fakes; discredited parts of the ongoing smear campaign by Hamas against Israel in social media.

The category of Traditional antisemitism

Traditional antisemitism includes conspiracy theories, lies and canards that are spread on social media to dehumanise, demonise and stereotype Jewish people. Many of these are well-established conspiracy theories – Blood Libel, deicide, Protocols of Elders of Zion etc – that have been publicly disproved time and again, but the Internet, and particularly, the social media, have given them new legs and a new audience.

The data also demonstrates the emergency of many new canards about the Jews as a collective. Usually, but not always, the classic forms of antisemitism fell into the following categories of the working definition of antisemitism:

1) Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
2) Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
3) Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations[19]

Some of the more prevalent conspiracy theories that populate the social media were:

Jews killed Jesus accusation (deicide): Despite the Second Vatican Council rejecting the idea that Jews killed Jesus, social media is rife with accusations that the Jews are collectively guilty for the death of Jesus, a key form of Christian antisemitism.

Blood libel: The blood libel is an accusation that Jews kidnap Christian children and drain their blood for use in rituals. It does back to medieval England and the mysterious death of 12 year old William of Norwich which was blamed on the local Jews. Blood libels accusations through history are well document, and social media often uses historical artefacts to argue the blood libel is real.

Jewish control of America conspiracy: Such content often accuses American members of parliament, members of the executive, heads of financial institutions, heads of American media houses and entertainment industry, to be Jews, hidden Jews, or somehow beholden to the Jews or the State of Israel. Thus, they have Israeli and Jewish interest at heart not American.

Rothschild conspiracy: Such content, taken together, suggests that all world events are currently controlled by one powerful Jewish banking family, the Rothschilds.

Illuminati conspiracy: The bizarre conspiracy theory accuses Jews of being connected to Illuminati practices and beliefs, including a "new world order" focused on empowering Jews as the sole leaders of the world. It is shockingly popular on YouTube.

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[19] See Appendix A

Star of David satanic correlation conspiracy: The claim that the origins of the Star of David hexagon symbol relate to Satan, or the hex, and that the symbol was chosen for the Israeli people because they are a cursed nation.

The Khazar myth: For many centuries there have been two distinct groups of Jews, the Ashkenazim and the Sephardim. The Ashkenazim are those Jews whose ancestors in the Middle Ages were from Franco-Germany and later Poland, while the Sephardim are those whose ancestors are from the Iberian Peninsula prior to the expulsions from Spain (1492) and Portugal (1498).[20] The Khazar myth argues that Ashkenazim are not real Jews but descended from the Khazars,[21] a confederation of Turkic-speaking tribes whose leader and many members of the ruling class converted to Judaism around the year 740.[22] Based on this myth an antisemitic argument is made to undermine the legitimacy of the Jewish state.

Distorting religious texts: Jewish religious texts, such as the Talmud, are misquoted or quoted out of context in order to present Judaism as a form of evil. Examples seen include the murder molestation of children, rape as well as killing animals.

Jewish world domination conspiracy: One of the many antisemitic conspiracy theories is the theory or prediction that Israel or the Jewish people have an ultimate goal to "control" or take over Europe, or the whole world.

Other conspiracy theories: There are many other conspiracy theories such as the Jewish people have supposedly evil alien ancestors. Another is that Jews are working to destroy the "white race".

Glorification of Nazi ideology: While Holocaust denial is a distinct form of antisemitism, a closely related form of antisemitism is the glorification of Nazism. Such content does not claim the Holocaust didn't happen, but rather that it did, and should happen again. Our database has shown a very strong Pro-Nazi presence on Twitter. Other examples includes content discrediting testimony by Holocaust victims or "documentaries" that aim to show "why Hitler was right". This content has been included here to distinguish it from Holocaust denial.

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[20] Rabbi Dr H. J. Zimmels (1976) *Ashkenazim and Sephardim: Their relations, differences, and problems as reflected in the rabbinical response,* p 9.
[21] Steven Plaut, "The Khazar Myth and the New Anti-Semitism", The Jewish Press, May 9 2007. http://www.jewishpress.com/indepth/front-page/the-khazar-myth-and-the-new-anti-semitism/2007/05/09/
[22] http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/316553/Khazar

Traditional antisemitism
(breakdown by social media platforms)

437   181
44%   18%
■ Facebook
■ Twitter
■ Youtube
38%
385
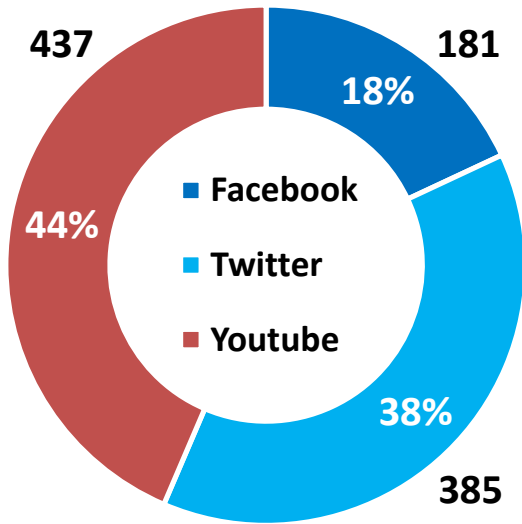
Figure 25 Initial traditional antisemitism

399   105
50%   13%
■ Facebook
■ Twitter
■ Youtube
37%
290
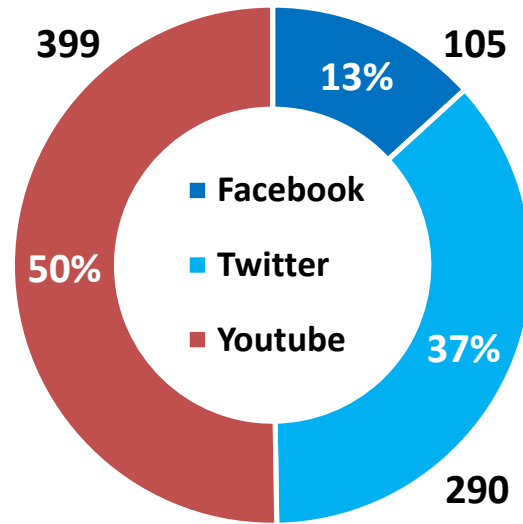
Figure 26 Final traditional antisemitism

— Facebook
— Twitter
— Youtube
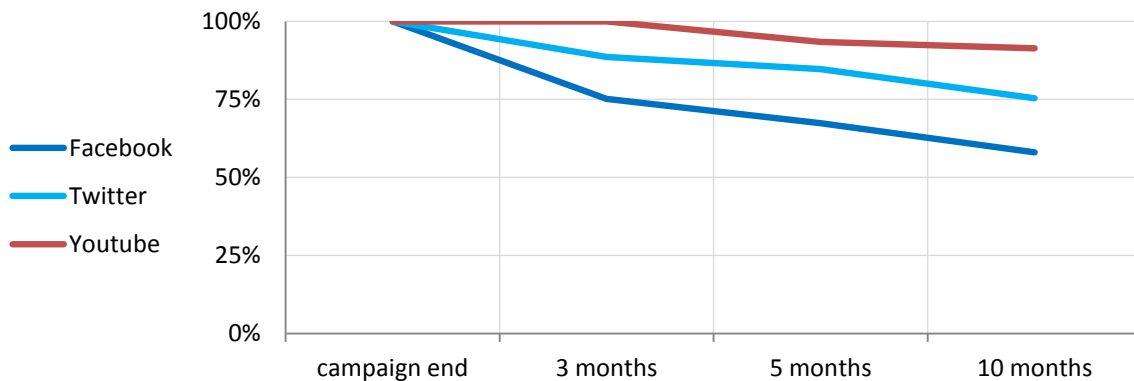
Figure 27 Percent of items of traditional antisemitism removed over time by platform

In this, the largest category in the sample, YouTube is again falling behind the efforts of the other platforms while Facebook is steadily showing improvement (see Figure 27). This is further illustrated in Figure 29.

Facebook items
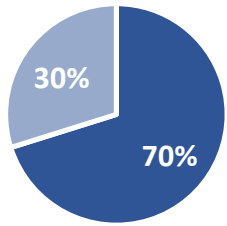
30%

70%

- pages & groups
- users & items

YouTube items

99%

- users & channels
- videos

Twitter items

38%

62%
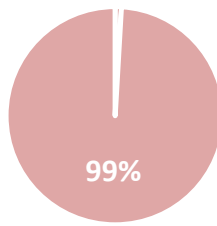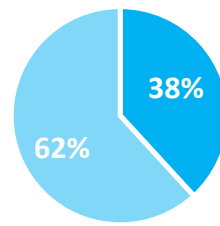
- users
- tweets

Figure 28 Breakdown between channels and items for traditional antisemitism
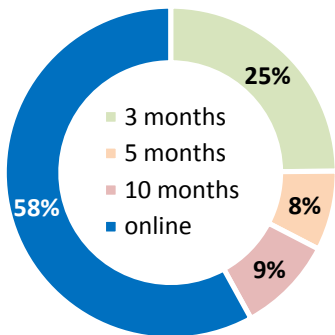
Facebook takedowns

25%

8%

9%

58%

- 3 months
- 5 months
- 10 months
- online

Youtube takedowns

2%

7%

91%

- 3 months
- 5 months
- 10 months
- online

Twitter takedowns

12%

4%

9%

75%
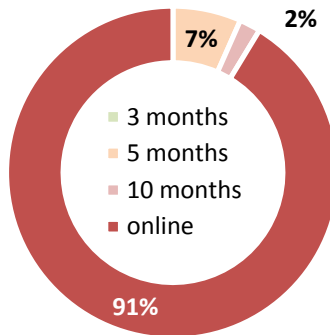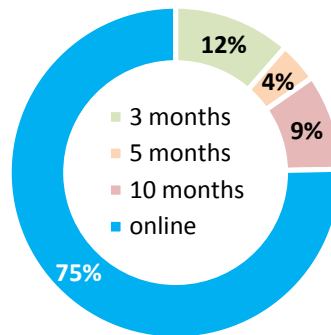
- 3 months
- 5 months
- 10 months
- online

Figure 29 Takedowns over time by platform for traditional antisemitism

Examples from YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ae1w3jcQSA

The description for this video makes conspiratorial claims of Jewish plans to exterminate the German people, accuses companies like Monsanto, and policies like Polio vaccinations, of being plots to affect fertility and brain function in 'white people'.

The video itself leads into footage of a classroom discussion on skin colour (0:35), which it alleges is part of anti-white brainwashing taking place in schools.

It transitions with a 'Jews as evil vampires' image (2:38) through to a segment on immigration as a Jewish plot to 'genocide white people', and again for a segment on multiculturalism as a conspiracy of 'Jewish Marxism' (3:57). The remainder (4:40) is a selection of statements and footage from various interviews, which are commonly used throughout many of these antisemitic compilation videos.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TggYOQuMB0

This is an old video which claims to expose the 'evils of the Jewish Talmud', including justification for blaming the Jews as Christ-killers and paedophiles. The first three minutes are spent citing many alleged passages from the Talmud in support of child sex offences.

It then proceeds to cite alleged 'Jewish encyclopaedias' in claims that Jews see non-Jews as inferior, and were entitled to all of their land and property as the chosen people, alongside encouragement to kill non-Jews. It further sets Jews against Christians by claiming Talmudic references directly insulting Jesus and his mother.

The video attempts to maintain a divide between Jews and non-Jews, propagating traditional canards which paint Jews as enemies of Christians and Christianity.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2eMLfNLXUXg

This is a compilation video of excerpts by Steven Anderson, pastor of Arizona's Faithful Word Baptist Church; a fundamentalist institution which has been classified as a hate group due to racist and homophobic preaching.[23]

Adhering solely and strictly to the King James Bible, Anderson has many antisemitic sermons on his own YouTube channel. This video collects several segments which claim that Jews are not 'real Jews', but proponents of the 'Synagogue of Satan', and the associated comments are primarily by supporters of the ideas; including reciting the classical antisemitic conspiracies of 'fake Jews' falsifying the Holocaust and controlling the world through banks.

Examples from Twitter
https://twitter.com/TheLinderFiles/status/578682255758888960
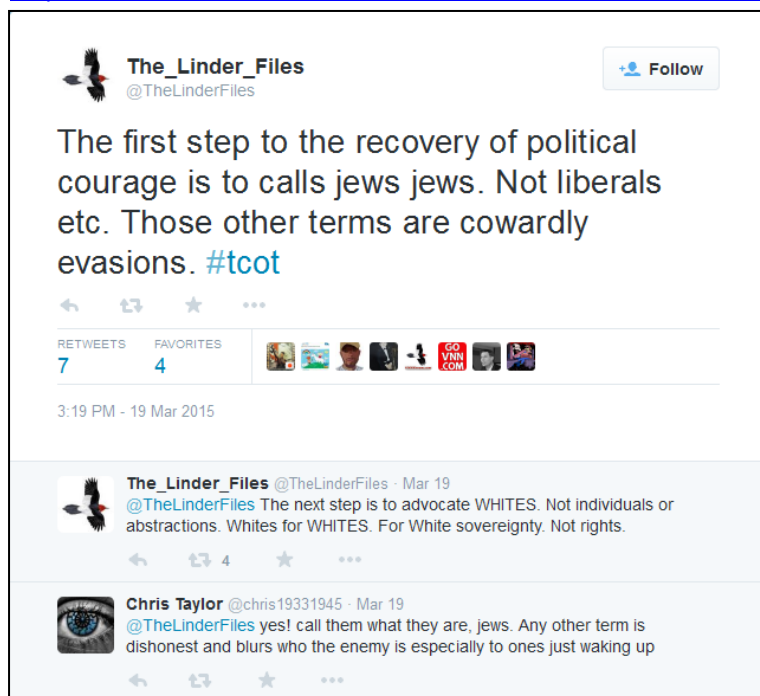
From a Twitter user who focuses on 'loxism' (alleged hatred of white people by Jews; a term coined by white supremacists), this is one of their posts alluding to left-wing liberal values being part of a broader Jewish attempt to undermine 'white power'.

As seen from the replies, this stance is used as a lead in to claims of Jews as 'the enemy', subsequently demonising them.

[23] http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report/browse-all-issues/2010/winter/the-hard-liners

DblBlackDs
@DblBlackDs

+.. Follow

@USKIsrael Jews are among the most, if not the most, greedy and selfish people on the planet. Still you have a right to exist, but STFU.

2:09 PM - 2 Mar 2015

Responding to a call for donations to Israeli soup kitchens, this user immediately jumped to the position that Jews only pretend to be poor and don't actually need their own meal charities, culminating in this outburst which goes beyond berating them for their post and enforces the classic opinion of the 'greedy Jew'.

KEEP CALM AND KILL A JEW

Kill The Jews
@Killuminigga

TWEETS
12

FOLLOWING
2

FOLLOWERS
1

Tweets   Tweets & replies

Kill The Jews @Killuminigga · 5 Dec 2013
#adolfhitler Mein Führer

Kill The Jews @Killuminigga · 5 Dec 2013
#killuminati Help us to stop the illuminati

Kill The Jews @Killuminigga · 5 Dec 2013
#killuminati Fuck the jews

Kill The Jews @Killuminigga · 3 Dec 2013
Kill every jew on the world

This user posted short-form statements in favour of Hitler or against Jews, alongside some related conspiracy content regarding the Illuminati. *This account has since been suspended and is no longer online.*

Examples from Facebook

This page mainly posts antisemitic cartoons, such as this one implying that Jews themselves are responsible for antisemitic vandalism in order to engender sympathy by perpetrating a false narrative of victimhood.

This page uses the far-right National Front's logo as its profile picture. It subscribes to the antisemitic conspiracy theories of Eastern-Europe; blaming Jews for the likes of Marxism and Bolshevism and any affiliated violence from those movements.

This particular allegation is of Muslim immigration as part of a Jewish plot to destabilise Europe, whilst establishing Muslims as 'patsies' to take the blame. *This account has since been suspended and is no longer online.*

https://www.facebook.com/780846238636266

Blood Libel is one of the most enduring classical antisemitic canards. This image is shared from a white supremacist website, and updates the traditional accusation of the blood of Christian children being used to make matzah for Passover. The revision alleges that animals (like this adorable puppy) are now ritually sacrificed in addition to children in some parts of the world.

This account has since been suspended and is no longer online.

Moving forward

This report provides a useful snapshot of antisemitism in social media. It also provides an example of what can now be done in the area of monitoring online antisemitism, indeed what can be done in monitoring a wide variety of forms of online hate, incitement and extremism. The technical challenges to monitoring this content have been met. The next challenge is to ensure greater reporting into the FightAgainstHate.com system, and wider use of the resulting data.

The items of antisemitism already collected and not yet removed still need to be tackled, but more items arrive daily. Tracking is needed to identify which of these items are not readily removed by the platform providers, and follow up is needed on these "hard cases". We also need to ensure social media companies learn more about antisemitism, and become more effective at identifying and removing the content themselves.

The diagram below shows the big picture which we believe will lead to positive change. We need a technologically powered partnership between the public and experts in government and the NGO sector. We have the tools, the challenge now is to make the best use of them.
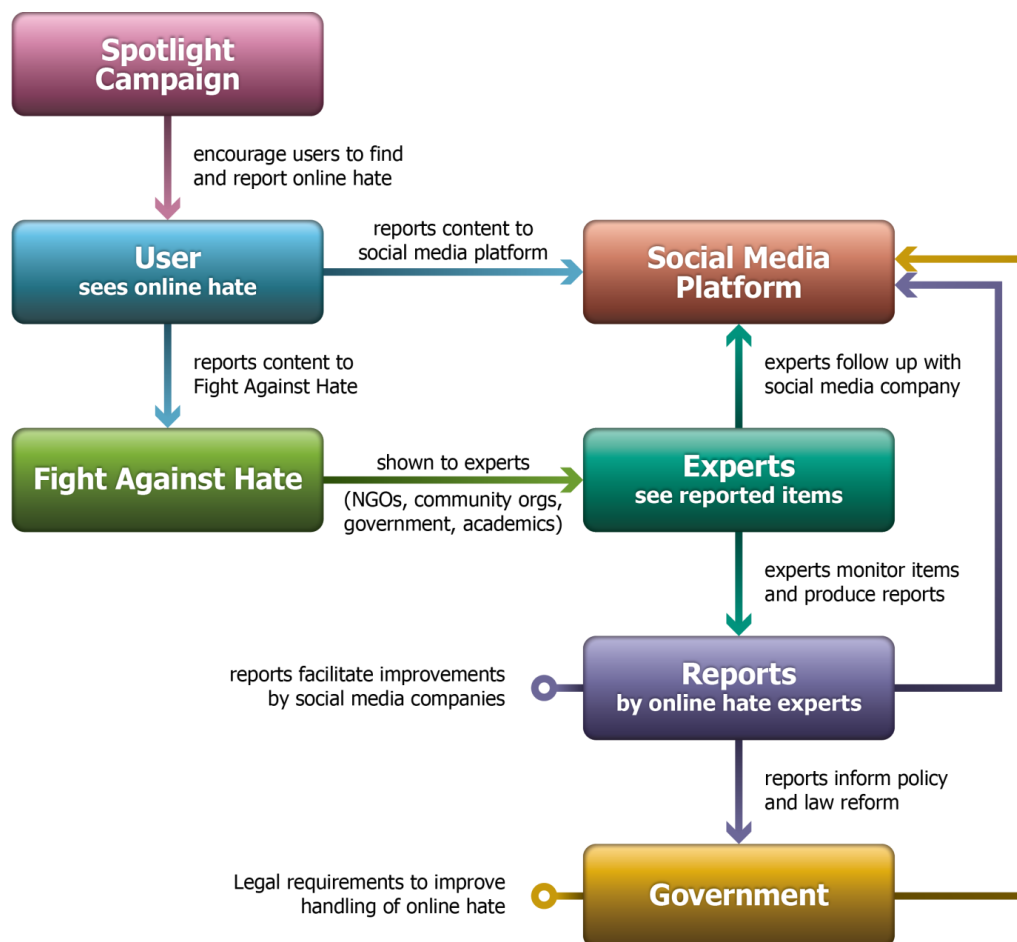
GFCA 2015 Statement on Combating Cyberhate and Antisemitism on the Internet

The information superhighway is an unprecedented tool for the spread of knowledge, free expression and global interconnectedness; but it presents equally unprecedented challenges to human dignity and public safety due to the ubiquity of unfiltered cyberhate and antisemitism. The internet community – industry, government, civil society and internet users – need to take urgent steps to increase the decency of the internet and prevent its abuse for the spread of cyberhate, while preserving its essential freedom.

Given the pervasive, expansive and transnational nature of the internet and the viral nature of hate materials, counter-speech alone is not a sufficient response to cyberhate. The right to free expression does not require or obligate the internet industry to disseminate hate materials. They too are moral actors, free to pursue internet commerce in line with ethics, social responsibility, and a mutually agreed code of conduct.

Therefore, internet service providers, web hosting companies, social media platforms and search engines should take the following measures:

- Adopt a clear industry standard for defining hate speech and antisemitism, a particularly prevalent and virulent form of hate speech.

- Adopt global terms of service prohibiting the posting of such materials.

- Inform the community of internet users through clear and well displayed guidelines on unacceptable materials.

- Create effective mechanisms for industry self-regulation and self-detection of hate speech, including active detection of hate sites.

- Provide an effective complaint process, and maintain a timely and professional response capacity.

- Ban Holocaust denial sites from the web as a form of egregious hate speech.

- Omit hate websites and content from searches, and initiate mechanisms for detection and reporting of flagrantly offensive search results.

- Develop strong tools for the detection and prevention of websites and other internet materials that promote terrorism and recruit to terrorist groups and actions.

Governments should take the following steps:

- Establish a national legal unit responsible for combating cyberhate

- Make stronger use of existing laws to prosecute cyberhate and online antisemitism, and enhance the legal basis for prosecution where such laws are absent.

- Require internet companies to adopt and abide by the global terms of service prohibiting the posting of hate speech and antisemitic materials.

- Evaluate internet companies' effectiveness in self-regulation: self-detection of hate speech and response to complaints and flagging of cyberhate and online antisemitism.
- Adopt stronger laws and penalties for the prohibition of internet materials promoting terrorism and supporting recruitment to terrorist groups.

NGO's and transnational bodies should:

- Advance the adoption of global terms of service prohibiting the posting of cyberhate and antisemitism.
- Recognizing the borderless and transnational nature of cyberhate, work to unite industry and governments in taking effective steps to confront cyberhate and online antisemitism.
- Urge global internet companies and governments to adopt this GFCA 2015 Statement on Combating Cyberhate and Antisemitism on the Internet

Jerusalem, May 14, 2015

Action Plan of the Working Group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media 2015

Since 2009 the Global Forum's Working Group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media has provided a forum for experts from civil society and governments to share information and formulate leading solutions to tackle antisemitism online and in the mass media. The working groups outputs include comprehensive reports on the state of online antisemitism and efforts responding to it, technical recommendation to improve online platforms, policy recommendations for the internet industry, media industry and governments, recommendations for action by stakeholders, and technical tools and assets to assist those combating antisemitism. With online antisemitism fuelling violent extremism, the working group also examines ways to combating the role of the internet in radicalization and extremism.

This action plan includes the recommendations of the Working Group at its meeting during the 5th Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism. These recommendations are in addition to those put forward by the working group in its last comprehensive report, Online Antisemitism: A systematic review, in 2013. From the recommendations listed here, the working group highlighted five principle recommendations and over 65 additional recommendations. These recommendations are outlined in this document.

We thank the working group members for their ongoing participation in the working group, and in particular for their input and participation related to the 2015 meeting of the working group.

Adv David Matas & Dr Andre Oboler
Co-Chairs, Working Group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media
Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism

May 2015

Key Recommendations
Moderation by the Media

The media should work to ensure effective moderation on below the line comments on their sites, and comments on any social media channels they run and in which they promote their articles.

Use of Definitions

Internet providers including social media should have terms of service which prohibit the posting of antisemitic material that:

a) use the definition of antisemitism defined by the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) in 2005, the United States Department of State, and other accepted definitions of antisemitism;

b) ban Holocaust Denial pages and groups as a form of hate speech; use the definition of Holocaust denial defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance to identify Holocaust denial.

Combating Terrorism

There must be zero tolerance of online terrorism in all its forms by internet and social network companies. Terrorism manuals and tutorials have no place in the internet and social networking. Such postings should be treated not as speech but as part of the marketing of terrorism. Activists should report such postings to both the online providers and appropriate authorities.

Internet Companies

The Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism recognises the progress the Internet companies have made since 2013 in countering cyberhate on their platforms, and encourages the companies to continue these efforts, in collaboration with concerned NGOs around the world to help better inform their decisions.

Capturing Data

The Internet Community needs tools for capturing data of antisemitism on the internet as first requested by the Forum in 2009. The Global Forum draws to the attention of the internet community the software **FightAgainstHate.com**, which was developed to perform this function.

All Recommendations to Combat Antisemitism

The information superhighway is an unprecedented tool for the spread of knowledge, free expression and global interconnectedness. but it presents equally unprecedented challenges to public safety due to the ubiquity of unfiltered cyberhate including antisemitism, a prevalent and virulent form of hate speech. The internet community - industry, government, civil society and internet users - needs to take urgent steps to prevent its abuse through the spread of cyberhate, while preserving its essential freedom.

Given the pervasive, expanding and transnational nature of the internet and the viral nature of hate materials, counter-speech alone is not a sufficient response to cyberhate. The right to free expression does not obligate the internet industry to disseminate hate materials. Internet providers - service providers, web hosting companies, social media platforms and search engines - are responsible actors, free to pursue internet commerce in line with codes of conduct.

A. Recommendations for Stakeholders

Therefore, in combating incitement, the Working Group on Antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media adopts a plan of action to encourage the members of the Working Group to ask

i) the media

1) to work to ensure a level of moderation on below the line comments on their sites, and comments on any social media channels they run and in which they promote their articles.

ii) internet providers

2) to have terms of service which prohibit the posting of hate speech/antisemitic material. The prohibition should

    a)   be global and not limited just to postings in certain countries,

b) elaborate through guidelines on the content of the prohibition of posting of antisemitic material,

c) use the definition of antisemitism defined by the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) in 2005, the United States Department of State, and other accepted definitions of antisemitism,

d) ban Holocaust Denial pages and groups as a form of hate speech,

e) use the definition of Holocaust denial defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance,

f) apply to content of comments, and

g) require self-identification of posting individuals and for groups, the organizers the groups.

3) to work collaboratively with concerned NGOs to inform their decisions on hate speech/antisemitism on platforms.

4) to create mechanisms for self-regulation and self-detection of hate speech, including active detection of hate sites.

5) to omit hate websites and content from searches.

6) to offer users clear explanations of their approach to evaluating and resolving reports of hateful/antisemitic elements of user-generated content, highlighting their relevant terms of service.

7) to use pop-ups warning drafters of hate speech/antisemitic content before the message is sent.

8) to have a complaints process for posted matter alleged to have violated the terms of service standard prohibiting hate speech/antisemitism which

a) is transparent and fair both to the complainant and the target of the complaint,

b) provides user-friendly mechanisms and procedures for reporting hateful/antisemitic content,

c) has the power to suspend the posting of matter the subject of complaint pending disposition of the complaint, and

d) makes decisions without delay by specialized, expert panels.

9) in response to a violation of the prohibition on antisemitic material,

a) to enforce whatever sanctions the terms of service contemplate in a consistent and fair manner,

b) to remove anything determined to be incitement to hatred/antisemitic from the platform,

c) to ban individuals from using their platforms who have a demonstrated pattern of abuse

through posting antisemitic material.

10) to cooperate with law enforcement authorities in democratic countries subject to the rule of law by

     a) initiating communications with relevant local law enforcement when social media become aware of antisemitic criminal behaviour,

     b) providing information on request for the purpose of law enforcement investigation about IP addresses of the sources of posting of antisemitic material, and

     c) either imposing no limitations on legal jurisdiction of the requesting law enforcement authority or providing information on the jurisdiction from which the request must come.

11) to post on their websites

     a) hate speech search results,

     b) decisions and reasons on complaints, without identifying the complainants, both those accepted and those rejected, and

     c) a running total for complaints of the numbers, categories, dispositions and average time between complaints and dispositions.

12) to make their internal data bases available to concerned NGOs for the purpose of analysis of the complaints process and their response.

13) to give priority to removing hate/antisemitic messages with

     a) the greatest number of likes or followers or viewers, and

     b) the most obviously hate infested content.

iii) governments

14) to establish, identify and develop the capacity of national, regional and local legal units responsible for combating cyberhate/antisemitism.

15) to make stronger use of existing laws to prosecute cyberhate and online antisemitism.

16) to propose to legislatures, consistent with the free speech constraints of each country, enactment of the legal basis for prosecution of cyberhate and online antisemitism where such laws are absent.

17) to evaluate and make public internet companies' effectiveness in self-detection of hate speech/antisemitism and response to complaints.

iv) the Internet community (users, NGOs and transnational bodies)
When combating incitement in the media:

18) to identify the sources of media reports which incite to hatred.

19) to investigate the funding and affiliations of TV stations, newspapers, journalists, and press bureaus which incite to hatred and their related support.

20) to monitor media reports which incite to hatred and respond.

21) to localize responses to media reports because of the differing thresholds of freedom of expression in different countries.

22) to target responses both to media organizations and individual media personalities.

When combating incitement on the internet:

23) to advance the adoption of global terms of service prohibiting the posting of cyberhate and antisemitism.

24) to work together to address the harmful consequences of online hatred.

25) to train NGO staff and volunteers as well as university, college and high school students to monitor and respond to online hate/antisemitism in the way that is locally based and uses the major languages of the internet.

26) to identify, implement and/or encourage effective strategies of counter-speech - including direct response, comedy and satire when appropriate, or simply setting the record straight.

27) to share knowledge and help develop educational materials and programs that encourage critical thinking.

28) to encourage interested parties to help raise awareness of the problem of cyberhate/antisemitic and the urgent need to address it.

29) to welcome new thinking and new initiatives to promote a civil online environment.

30) to identify the sources of misinformation and point out the partisan or biased characteristics of the sources.

31) to provide readers with references to online material which provide counter arguments to the biases of this material.

32) to intervene to repeat the retraction of a falsehood, warn people of the dangers of believing the misinformation, keeping the information simple and brief, and focus on the similarities amongst partisan groups.

33) to advocate pluralism, emphasize integration of diverse positions and interests, present dissenting views, and help groups recognize their common, shared victimhood.

34) to educate the platform where complaints do not result in action.

35) to ask advertisers not to support platforms which host hate speech/antisemitism.

36) to initiate legal action where necessary.

37) to work collaboratively with internet providers and general human rights focused NGOs to combat hate speech/antisemitism on the internet.

38) to pay attention to smaller social networks as well as the majors.

39) to recognize positive steps taken.

40) to report online antisemitism to platforms providers and also to external systems run by governments and NGOs, and to law enforcement in criminal cases.

41) to use tools which have been developed for categorizing and capturing data on antisemitism on the internet.

v) experts in antisemitism
42) to produce research exploring trends in antisemitic messaging and changes in the level of antisemitism in social media over time, both overall and by type and platform.

43) to tackle cases of antisemitism which, after an extended period of time, have not been removed.

44) to aim to help social media companies understand why items are in fact antisemitic and how similar examples can be identified.

45) to respond to antisemitic/hate content not just to the platforms, but also to the network of users and followers.

46) to develop a repository of responses.

B. Action for the Working Group and the Global Forum

The Working Group further incorporates into its plan of action mobilizing the Global Forum

47) to draw to the attention of the internet community the TEMPIS taxonomy for categorizing types of online communication and the software FightAgainstHate.com system for reporting and analyzing online antisemitism, which were developed as the result of a resolution of the 2009 Global Forum which noted the then absence such tools.

48) to recognise the progress the Internet companies have made since 2013 in countering cyberhate on their platforms.

49) to publish an online summary report every six months between now and the next Global Forum on the level of antisemitism in social media.

50) to disseminate the reports of this Working Group

51) subject to resources, on an ongoing basis, create and disseminate content in social media which combats antisemitism through counter speech which makes use of memes, animated gifs, funny/sarcastic/satirical social network posts such as tweets, Instagram images, visual content, infographics, humorous content, parody, etc to popularise opposition to the spread of antisemitism

52) subject to resources, and in cooperation with local NGOs and communities, to provide local Jewish communities with the tools to actively engage antisemitism on the Internet. This effort should be particularly focused on empowering adults including older members of the community.

53) subject to resources, build capacity to combat online antisemitism in countries where action against antisemitism is less well developed. This should include educating institutional actors on the means and benefits of fighting hate speech and antisemitism on the internet.

All Recommendations to Combat Terrorism

Core recommendation: There must be zero tolerance of online terrorism in all its forms by internet and social network companies. Terrorism manuals and tutorials have no place in the internet and social networks. Such content should be treated as the marketing of terrorism, and not as speech.

A. Recommendations for Stakeholders

To combat terrorism, the Working Group encourages, as part of its plan of action, the members of the Working Group to ask:

i) All stakeholders

54) the relevant actors to apply the core recommendation to the combat against terrorism

ii) Governments

55) legislatures to adopt stronger laws and penalties for the prohibition of internet materials promoting terrorism and supporting recruitment to terrorist groups.

iii) The Public

56) activists to report the marketing of terrorism postings to both the online providers and appropriate authorities.

iv) Internet Industry

57) internet providers to:

a) develop tools for the detection and prevention of websites and other internet materials which promote terrorism and recruit to terrorist groups and actions,

b) give priority attention to how their platforms are being used by terrorists and terrorist groups to promote terrorism, to recruit potential new terrorists, and to foster self-radicalization

c) make their expertise available to those looking to generate and promote counter-narratives

d) work with interested stakeholders to analyze the impact of counter-narratives in terms of their reach, scope, and effectiveness

e) create a specific new terrorism category for users seeking to flag terrorism-related content

f) use their corporate voices to condemn terrorist use of their platforms and to explain why terrorist activity and advocacy is inconsistent with their goals of connecting the world.

Appendix A: Working definition of Antisemitism

The working definition was created in 2004 by the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), now known as the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union.

The definition has received widespread international use, for example in its adoption by the US Government for the State Department Report on antisemitism, and in its adoption by the British Police as part of their Hate Crimes Operations Guide.

Use of the definition is encouraged by the Global Forum to Com bat Antisemitism. The London Declaration of the Inter-Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Antisemitism, signed by members of Parliament from around the world, also adopts the Working Definition and encourages its widespread use. The definition includes a number of examples of the most common manifestations of antisemitism and provides a very useful tool, as well as a good reference point for discussion on antisemitism.

The Working Definition

The purpose of this document is to provide a practical guide for identifying incidents, collecting data, and supporting the implementation and enforcement of legislation dealing with antisemitism.

The working definition is: "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

In addition, such manifestations could also target the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.

- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

Examples of the ways in which antisemitism manifests itself with regard to the State of Israel taking into account the overall context could include:

- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with traditional antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property- such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries- are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

Appendix B: Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is an intergovernmental body whose purpose is to place political and social leaders' support behind the need for Holocaust education, remembrance and research both nationally and internationally. IHRA (formerly the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, or ITF) was initiated in 1998 by former Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson with the support of President Bill Clinton and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

IHRA currently has 31 member countries and ten observer countries. There are also seven Permanent International Partners, namely, the United Nations, UNESCO, International Tracing Service, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Council of Europe and the Claims Conference. The Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion was developed by IHRA experts in the Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial in cooperation with IHRA's governmental representatives for use as a working tool. Member countries adopted the Working Definition at IHRA's Plenary meeting in Toronto on 10 October 2013.

The Working Definition

The present definition is an expression of the awareness that Holocaust denial and distortion have to be challenged and denounced nationally and internationally and need examination at a global level. IHRA hereby adopts the following legally non-binding working definition as its working tool.

Holocaust denial is discourse and propaganda that deny the historical reality and the extent of the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices during World War II, known as the Holocaust or the Shoah. Holocaust denial refers specifically to any attempt to claim that the Holocaust/Shoah did not take place.

Holocaust denial may include publicly denying or calling into doubt the use of principal mechanisms of destruction (such as gas chambers, mass shooting, starvation and torture) or the intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people.

Holocaust denial in its various forms is an expression of antisemitism. The attempt to deny the genocide of the Jews is an effort to exonerate National Socialism and antisemitism from guilt or responsibility in the genocide of the Jewish people. Forms of Holocaust denial also include blaming the Jews for either exaggerating or creating the Shoah for political or financial gain as if the Shoah itself was the result of a conspiracy plotted by the Jews. In this, the goal is to make the Jews culpable and antisemitism once again legitimate.

The goals of Holocaust denial often are the rehabilitation of an explicit antisemitism and the promotion of political ideologies and conditions suitable for the advent of the very type of event it denies.

Distortion of the Holocaust refers, *inter alia*, to:

1. Intentional efforts to excuse or minimize the impact of the Holocaust or its principal elements, including collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany;

2. Gross minimization of the number of the victims of the Holocaust in contradiction to reliable sources;
3. Attempts to blame the Jews for causing their own genocide;
4. Statements that cast the Holocaust as a positive historical event. Those statements are not Holocaust denial but are closely connected to it as a radical form of antisemitism. They may suggest that the Holocaust did not go far enough in accomplishing its goal of "the Final Solution of the Jewish Question";
5. Attempts to blur the responsibility for the establishment of concentration and death camps devised and operated by Nazi Germany by putting blame on other nations or ethnic groups.

Appendix C: Memo on the spelling of Antisemitism

In 2015 the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) released a memo the spelling of antisemitism strongly recommending the non-hyphenated spelling. A similar recommendation was made by the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism in 2009.

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

With this memo, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) would like to address the spelling of the term antisemitism, often rendered as 'anti-Semitism' and Microsoft's auto-correct feature. IHRA's concern is that the hyphenated spelling allows for the possibility of something called 'Semitism', which not only legitimizes a form of pseudo- scientific racial classification that was thoroughly discredited by association with Nazi ideology, but also divides the term, stripping it from its meaning of opposition and hatred toward Jews.

The philological term 'Semitic' referred to a family of languages originating in the Middle East whose descendant languages today are spoken by millions of people mostly across Western Asia and North Africa. Following this semantic logic, the conjunction of the prefix 'anti' with 'Semitism' indicates antisemitism as referring to all people who speak Semitic languages or to all those classified as 'Semites'. The term has, however, since its inception referred to prejudice against Jews alone.

In the mid-nineteenth century, the derived construct 'Semite' provided a category to classify humans based on racialist pseudo-science. At the same time the neologism 'antisemitism', coined by German journalist Wilhelm Marr in 1879 to designate anti-Jewish campaigns, was spread through use by anti-Jewish political movements and the general public. The modern term gained popularity in Germany and Europe incorporating traditional Christian anti-Judaism, political, social and economic anti-Jewish manifestations that arose during the Enlightenment in Europe, and a pseudo-scientific racial theory that culminated in Nazi ideology in the twentieth century. Although the historically new word only came into common usage in the nineteenth

century, the term antisemitism is today used to describe and analyze past and present forms of opposition or hatred towards Jews. In German, French, Spanish and many other languages, the term was never hyphenated.

The unhyphenated spelling is favored by many scholars and institutions in order to dispel the idea that there is an entity 'Semitism' which 'anti-Semitism' opposes. Antisemitism should be read as a unified term so that the meaning of the generic term for modern Jew-hatred is clear. At a time of increased violence and rhetoric aimed towards Jews, it is urgent that there is clarity and no room for confusion or obfuscation when dealing with antisemitism.

Given that most communication today is electronic, and that Microsoft is a giant in that field, the Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial is concerned that Microsoft's default spelling in English is 'anti-Semitism'. Thus the Committee strongly recommends changing the default spelling of antisemitism so that it does not autocorrect to the hyphenated version of the word.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is an intergovernmental body whose purpose is to place political and social leaders' support behind the need for Holocaust education, remembrance and research both nationally and internationally. IHRA's Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial was created to address the upsurge in antisemitism and Holocaust denial and trivialization. With this memo, IHRA expresses its concern over possible confusion of a clear understanding of the word 'antisemitism'.