

CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM



in Britain 2022-2024



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Contents

4	Foreword
6	Executive Summary
9	Introduction
9	Jewish student life
10	What is CST?
11	University-related antisemitic incidents
11	What is an antisemitic incident?
12	National antisemitic trends over this period
12	Antisemitism in UK universities
14	Antisemitic incident categories
14	Extreme Violence
14	Assault
15	Damage & Desecration
16	Threats
17	Abusive Behaviour
18	Literature
18	Antisemitic or anti-Israel?
20	When and where do university incidents happen?
20	Online incidents
22	On campus
22	Off-campus
23	7 October
27	Incident perpetrators
27	Incidents by university staff
29	Incidents by students' union officers or student societies
31	Hostile environment for Jewish students
33	Implicit and explicit support for terrorism
35	"Death to Zionists" - exclusionary attitudes
40	Encampments
42	University complaints procedures
45	Recommendations

Foreword

Universities are often seen as bastions of progress, tolerance, and critical thought—a place where young people come together to learn, grow, and debate freely. For Jewish students, however, this ideal is increasingly overshadowed by an alarming rise in antisemitism. The findings of the CST Campus Antisemitism Report 2022-2024 paint a stark picture of the challenges faced by Jewish students and staff on UK campuses. It is clear that urgent action is needed.

Over the past two academic years, 325 university-related antisemitic incidents were recorded—more than double the figure in CST's previous report. This includes verbal abuse, threats, assaults, and the desecration of Jewish property. It even highlights incidents involving university staff and student union officers who should be trusted allies to all students. Perhaps most troublingly, 2023/24 saw a record 272 incidents, with over 85 taking place in October 2023 alone, a time marked by global turmoil and profound Jewish grief following the horrors of 7 October.

The late Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel reminded us that *“the opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference.”* Universities must not be indifferent to the rise of antisemitism within their institutions. The findings in this report highlight areas where universities fall short in their duty of care to Jewish students—whether through slow responses to complaints, inadequate disciplinary action, or reluctance to adopt and implement the IHRA definition of antisemitism. These failures leave

many Jewish students feeling isolated and vulnerable in what should be non-discriminatory spaces of learning.

It is essential to recognise that antisemitism does not exist in a vacuum. The legitimisation of extremist rhetoric on campuses around the world, including support for terror groups, emboldens protestors and further alienates Jewish students. Universities must reaffirm their commitment to being inclusive spaces by taking strong and unequivocal stances against all forms of hate.

I am proud of the 9,000+ Jewish students I represent for continuing to be strong and resilient in the face of such a turbulent rise in antisemitism. As I travel around the country, UJS continues to witness and contribute to vibrancy on campus life, even in the face of hostility. No student should need to choose between their faith and their education or feel unsafe expressing their identity. If universities fail to protect Jewish students, they fail in their broader mission to foster safe and inclusive communities for all.

This report is not just a documentation of problems; it is also a call to action. It outlines practical recommendations to help universities build better frameworks for addressing antisemitism. From implementing independent and impartial investigations to ensuring timely responses and protecting students' anonymity, these measures can restore trust and help create a more equitable environment.

At UJS, we remain committed to advocating for Jewish students, ensuring their voices are heard and building partnerships with universities to drive meaningful change. We are grateful to CST for their ongoing support and expertise in combating antisemitism on campuses. Together, we will continue working to ensure that all students can thrive without fear or prejudice.

To every Jewish student reading this: you are not alone. You are part of a community that will stand with you and fight for you. And to our allies—thank you for your support.

Let us all unite against hate, ensuring that campuses remain spaces for education, not exclusion.



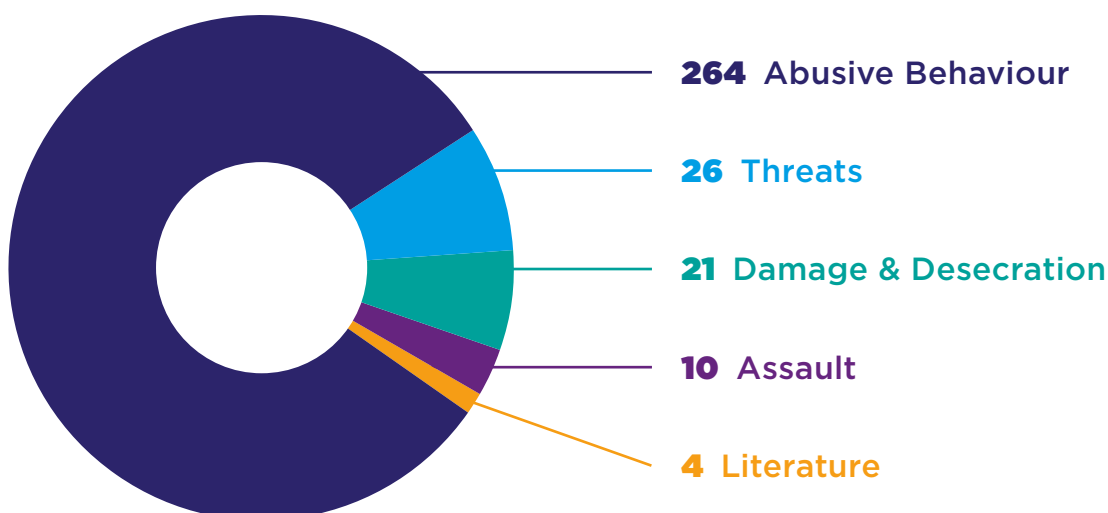
Sami Berkoff
UJS President,
2024-2025

Executive Summary

- **CST recorded a total of 325 university-related antisemitic incidents in the last two academic years:** 53 incidents in 2022/23 and 272 in 2023/24. This is a record total for university-related antisemitic incidents and marks a 117 percent increase from the 150 university incidents recorded in 2020-2022 – the two academic years covered in our previous report.
- In 2023/24, the 272 university-related antisemitic incidents recorded by CST marked the **highest total recorded for a single academic year.** This can primarily be attributed to the wave of anti-Jewish hatred following the 7 October Hamas terror attack on Israel and the subsequent ongoing war in the Middle East that has led to a sharp rise in antisemitic incidents nationwide. CST recorded 85 university incidents in October 2023, which accounted for **over a years' worth of incidents in a single month** and included 11 threats towards Jewish students and the wider Jewish community. In comparison, the previous record monthly total of university-related antisemitic incidents was 55 during the 2021 Israel-Gaza war.
- Over the last two academic years, **81% of university-related incidents were categorised as Abusive Behaviour,** totalling 264 incidents. This category includes all forms of verbal and written antisemitism both online and offline, other than those that include direct threats.
- **23 threats were made to Jewish students in the academic year 2023/24** compared to three university-related threats in 2022/23. Of the 26 university-related incidents in the category of Threats over the past two academic years, 16 occurred online and ten offline.
- There were **ten instances of assault,** one occurring in the academic year 2022/23 in Leeds, and nine in 2023/24, two of which occurred in Cambridge and one each in Belfast, St Andrews, Exeter, Birmingham, Middlesex, Wandsworth and Hertfordshire. In one incident, eggs were thrown at a group of visibly Jewish students in St Andrews, while returning from an event with the Chief Rabbi.
- There were **21 instances of Damage and Desecration of Jewish Property over the past two academic years,** four occurring in the academic year 2022/23 and 17 in 2023/24. These took place in Nottingham, Birmingham, Leeds, Kent, Norwich, London, Sussex, Oxford, Liverpool, Canterbury, Brighton and Sheffield. In one case, the Leeds Hillel House (a Jewish student centre) was vandalised with graffiti stating “*IDF off campus*” and “*Free Palestine*”.
- CST recorded **four university incidents involving the distribution of mass-produced antisemitic Literature** in the academic years 2022/23 and 2023/24, two taking place in each academic year.
- None of the university-related incidents recorded by CST during the two years covered by this report were in the category of Extreme Violence.
- **One hundred and fifty-two of the university incidents took place online,** 138 of which were recorded during the academic year 2023/24. Online incidents reported to CST from 2022-2024 included antisemitic messages sent via email, text or social media to Jewish students or Jewish societies, antisemitic messages in group chats, and antisemitic online posts by students, staff, or students' union officers.

- **One hundred and thirty university incidents occurred on campus and 43 took place off campus.** CST defines on-campus incidents as any offline antisemitic incident that occurs within university premises, including at events hosted on campus, in lectures and seminars, and in university-owned halls of residence. Off-campus incidents include any offline incident that takes place outside the university premises, but where the incident relates to the victim's student, staff, or academic status.
- **CST recorded 24 university incidents perpetrated by staff, some of whom had a prior record of expressing allegedly antisemitic views in other settings.** Twenty-three occurred in the academic year 2023/24, of which seven occurred in the first week following the 7 October attack. Such incidents can potentially affect Jewish students' confidence that their lecturers or tutors will treat them fairly. As one of the most complicated and sensitive aspects of university-related antisemitism, it is essential for institutions to develop appropriate and proportionate rules and policies for when students make a complaint about alleged antisemitism from their own lecturers or tutors.
- **Twenty-one antisemitic incidents were recorded involving students' union officers or student societies** over the two academic years covered by this report. This includes 18 incidents in the academic year 2023/24 and three during 2022/23. These incidents can often leave Jewish students reluctant to engage with student union officers elected to represent them or to participate in specific student societies.
- The significant rise in extreme rhetoric on campuses, expressed by both students and staff, legitimising or glorifying terrorist violence and/or proscribed terror groups in the wake of 7 October and the subsequent hostilities, was repeatedly reported to CST as a significant concern for many Jewish students. Support for the 7 October attack, in which more Jews were killed in a single day than any other since the Holocaust, and support for terror groups with a history of explicit antisemitism and targeting Jewish communities around the world, has for many Jewish students **contributed to the perception of an increasingly hostile environment for Jewish students on campus.**

Incident category breakdown



- Universities have a duty of care to protect all students at university. However, it is not always the case that they succeed in providing robust support to Jewish students. This is sometimes seen in how some academic institutions handle complaints of antisemitism made by Jewish students. This report details cases where, on occasion, **investigations and disciplinary procedures have been marred by slow responses, unequal treatment, the acceptance of vexatious counter-complaints, the misuse of complaints processes to target Jewish societies, inaction regarding support for terrorism or proscribed organisations**, and a failure to use the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism in an appropriate way.
- Recommendations for change suggested by CST include: **ensuring that an impartial and fully independent party investigates complaints**; issuing responses within mandated time frames; maintaining frequent contact with the complainant to provide updates as to any delays or actions taken; where possible allowing for anonymity and the involvement of third party representation at the students' request; **taking appropriate disciplinary action against students or staff demonstrating explicit support for proscribed organisations and terrorism**; appropriately intervening in the event of safeguarding or radicalisation concerns regarding student 'encampments'; and avoiding the use of anonymous feedback forums, especially during times of heightened inter-communal tension.

Introduction

Jewish student life

There are currently over 9000 Jewish students studying at universities across the United Kingdom, with a total of 86 active Jewish societies offering students a rich engagement with Jewish cultural and religious life during the entirety of their university experience. Both Jewish students and societies are supported by

numerous communal organisations, chief amongst them are the Union of Jewish Students (UJS), University Jewish Chaplaincy (UJC) and Chabad. All of these organisations are essential in providing Jewish students access to Friday night dinners, lunch and learns, socials, guest speaker events and holiday festivities during term time. For both newer students and those deep into their university experience, involvement in Jewish societies and other

communal organisations gives students the opportunity to meet new people; keep active within the community; and to continue, or embrace, Jewish customs and traditions during their studies. Some of the more popular universities for Jewish students are Birmingham, Leeds, Nottingham and London. This is partially due to there being facilities such as kosher food and/or accommodation on campus, vibrant and active Jewish societies, and easy travel back home to family.

The exponential rise in antisemitism on university campuses over the past year has led many Jewish societies to take a leading role in calling on their universities and student unions to tackle antisemitism.

For most Jewish students, anti-Jewish hatred does not mar their university experience. However, in the last academic year there was an unprecedented increase in antisemitic incidents occurring on and off campus following the 7 October attacks in Israel and the subsequent Israel-Gaza war. This has contributed to a hostile

environment for many Jewish students on campus. Many Jewish students identify with Zionism, have connections to Israel, or are visibly Jewish and have valid concerns about being targeted for hostility and abuse due to the backlash from the ongoing conflict.

The exponential rise in antisemitism on university campuses over the past year has led many Jewish societies to take a leading role in calling on their universities and student unions to tackle

antisemitism. In this environment, Jewish societies have been invaluable in signposting victims of antisemitism to CST, UJS, and UJC, so that they can receive welfare support and advice regarding security and reporting complaints to their university or students' union.

Despite the statistics displaying an unprecedented increase in antisemitic incidents nationwide, the individual experience of the vast majority of Jewish

students was positive, with students able to engage with student societies, have an active social life and enjoy their academic journeys. However, for many Jewish students, since 7 October 2023 their positive experience has been tainted by the terrorist attack and the subsequent war (due to family, friends and other connections to Israel), anxieties about the increase in antisemitic incidents in the UK, and worries about the emergence of hostile elements within the student activist movement.

What is CST?

Community Security Trust (CST) is a UK charity that advises and represents the Jewish community on matters of antisemitism, terrorism, policing and security. CST received charitable status in 1994 and is recognised by government and the police as a best practice model of a minority-community security organisation. CST provides security advice and training for Jewish schools, synagogues and Jewish communal organisations and

gives assistance to those bodies that are affected by antisemitism. CST also assists and supports individual members of the Jewish community who have been affected by antisemitism and antisemitic incidents. All this work is provided at no charge. An essential part of CST's work involves representing the Jewish community to police, legislative and policy-making bodies and providing people inside and outside the Jewish community with information to combat antisemitism. CST has recorded antisemitic incidents in the United Kingdom since 1984. CST works alongside UJS and other campus-based organisations to support students, academics and others who experience antisemitism in a higher education setting. CST's campus team gives advice to Jewish students and Jewish societies on campus regarding how to organise events safely. CST also works with different organisations to teach students about topics relating to antisemitism and extremism on campus.

University-related antisemitic incidents

What is an antisemitic incident?

CST defines an antisemitic incident as any malicious act aimed at Jewish people, organisations or property, where there is evidence that the act has antisemitic motivation or content, or that the victim was targeted because they are (or are believed to be) Jewish. This sets a higher threshold for what CST considers as an antisemitic incident than that used by the criminal justice system, which defines an antisemitic hate incident as *“any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by a hostility or prejudice based on a person’s religion or perceived religion”*. Antisemitic incidents can take several forms, including physical attacks on people or property, verbal or written abuse, hate mail (including antisemitic emails), antisemitic leaflets and posters or abuse on social media.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism is a helpful tool for identifying the various types of antisemitic language and discourse that may be used in an incident. This working definition provides a list of potential behaviours that ‘could, taking into account the overall context’ indicate antisemitism. As such, IHRA is not a strict definition providing an exhaustive list of what is considered antisemitic but acts as a guide that aids in the identification of antisemitism, especially when this involves language related to Israel. It states, for example, that ‘criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic’, while stating that antisemitic language and rhetoric may be employed when discussing Israel – such as ‘using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism

(e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterise Israel or Israelis or comparison of Israel to Nazi Germany.

CST categorises an antisemitic incident as a university incident if it concerns any student, staff or academic at a UK university, in their academic or student capacity. This includes not only on-campus incidents, but also off-campus incidents relating to the victim’s student, academic or staff status, such as damage to private Jewish student accommodation, or antisemitism directed at campus-focused organisations, such as UJS or University Jewish Chaplaincy. These incidents can be offline or online.

Online university-related antisemitic incidents can include posts on X (formerly Twitter); WhatsApp group chat messages (such as those made for student societies, academic courses and accommodation blocs); Facebook comments and posts; and posts/comments on university online forums. CST does not proactively seek out incidents of online antisemitism on social media platforms to include in statistics. CST will, however, record antisemitic comments or posts from internet forums or transmitted via social media that have been reported to CST by a member of the public, and that show evidence of antisemitic content, motivation or targeting of a UK-based student, staff member or campus-affiliated organisation.

University incidents recorded by CST are analysed by location as well as by institution, as many incidents take place in the town centres of places with multiple universities. Oxford, for example, has students from both the University of Oxford and Oxford Brookes University who often visit the same spaces. In cities such as Leeds, there is a joint Jewish

Society which includes students from three different institutions within the city. This methodology excludes London, where multiple universities are spread over a large geographical area, and therefore a single total for the number of incidents in London would be less meaningful.

National antisemitic trends over this period

The increase in the number of university-related antisemitic incidents recorded by CST should be viewed within the context of rising levels of antisemitic incidents reported to CST in recent years across the country as a whole, and in particular the record totals for antisemitic incidents of all kinds in 2023 and the first half of 2024. It is also likely that increased awareness among university students of the need and importance of reporting incidents to CST has contributed to the increase in reports of incidents during the two years covered by this report. It is likely that a number of antisemitic incidents will remain unreported, but this additional total is impossible to estimate and has not been factored into the incident totals included in this report.

This rising trend was reflected in the number of antisemitic incidents reported to CST during the period covered by this report. CST recorded 4,103 antisemitic incidents across the UK in 2023, the highest total ever recorded by CST in a single calendar year. This was an increase of 147% from the 1,662 anti-Jewish hate incidents recorded by CST in 2022 and is 81% higher than the previous annual record of 2,261 incidents, reported in 2021. CST recorded 1,684 antisemitic incidents in 2020, and 1,813 in 2019. The record total in 2023 was caused largely by antisemitic responses to the 7 October terror attacks in Israel and the subsequent conflict between Israel and Gaza.

Universities are in some respects a microcosm of wider society and likewise underwent an unprecedented increase of anti-Jewish hate during the academic year 2023/24. As this report will show, CST logged record numbers of university-related antisemitic incidents following the 7 October attacks. Therefore, the reports of university-related incidents included in the yearly totals and explored in detail in this report, must be seen in the context of this broader phenomenon.

Antisemitism in UK universities

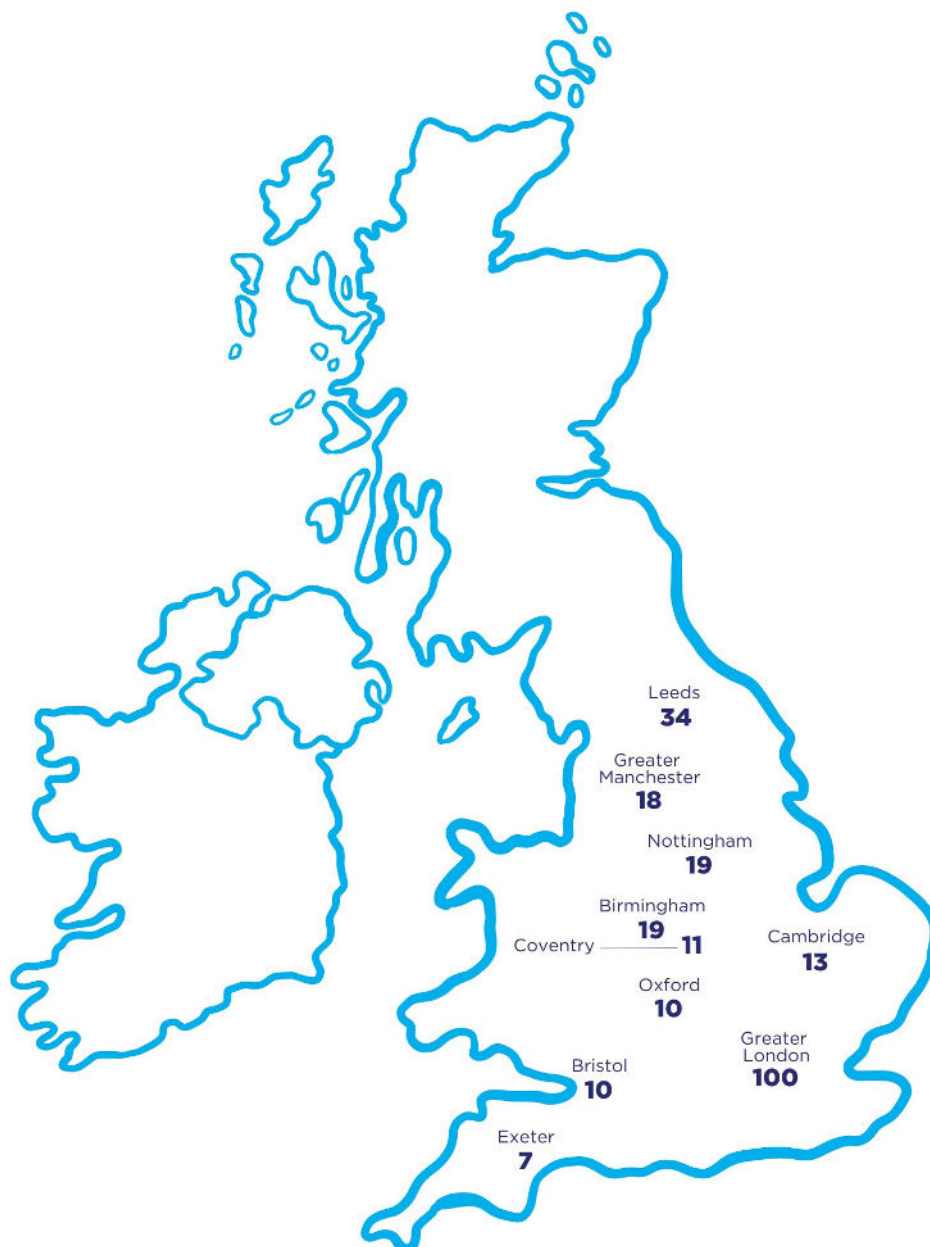
This is the third report produced by CST presenting an analysis of the antisemitism faced by Jewish academic staff and students. The first report covered the two academic years from 2018-2020, while the second report covered the academic years 2020-2022. Prior to these two publications, CST recorded university incidents by calendar year (CST still publishes statistics for university-related incidents by calendar year in its annual Antisemitic Incidents Report).

CST recorded a total of 325 university-related incidents over the two academic years covered by this report: 53 incidents in 2022/23 and 272 in 2023/24. This is a 117% increase from the total of 150 campus incidents recorded from 2020-2022 (the two academic years covered in our previous report into campus antisemitism). Within the period covered by this report, there was an increase of 413% from academic year 2022/23 to academic year 2023/24, further showing the impact of the 7 October terrorist attacks.

The 325 incidents recorded by CST throughout the academic years 2022/23 and 2023/24 took place across 33 cities. The ten cities with five or more recorded incidents during this period were: London (100), Leeds (34), Nottingham (19), Birmingham (19), Manchester (18), Cambridge (13), Coventry (11), Bristol (10), Oxford (10), and Exeter (7).

This data must be viewed in the context of the number of Jewish students studying in each city. With the exception of Coventry, Cambridge and Oxford, the cities with ten or more incidents, which includes London, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham and Nottingham, are locations with large Jewish student populations, and therefore follows the national trend in which more incidents are reported in locations with larger Jewish populations.

Top 10 universities with highest number of incidents



Antisemitic incident categories

CST classifies antisemitic incidents by six different categories: Extreme Violence, Assault, Damage and Desecration to Jewish property, Threats, Abusive Behaviour, and mass-produced antisemitic Literature. The definitions of each one, with totals and examples of university antisemitic incidents recorded during the period covered by this report, are given below.

Extreme Violence

Incidents of Extreme Violence include any attack potentially causing loss of life or grievous bodily harm (GBH). CST did not record any university-related incidents of extreme violence in the 2022/23 or 2023/24 academic years. Nor did CST record any event of Extreme Violence in the 2020/21 or 2021/22 academic years.

Assault

Incidents of Assault include any physical attack against a person or people, which does not pose a threat to their life or cause GBH, but instead may be considered actual bodily harm (ABH) or common assault. This includes attempted assault, even if it fails; and throwing objects at Jews, including where the object misses the target. CST recorded nine university-related incidents of assault in the academic year 2023/24, two in Cambridge and one each in Belfast, St Andrews, Exeter, Birmingham, Middlesex, Wandsworth and Hertfordshire. In comparison, CST recorded one instance of assault in the academic year 2022/23, which took place in Leeds.

A total of three instances of assault was recorded in the academic years 2020/21 and 2021/22 combined.

CASE STUDY

Jewish student spat at

In May 2024, CST received a report from a student that while walking between university departments in the city centre, wearing a Jewish Society fleece, they were spat at by an individual walking past them on the street. This was raised with both police and the university, with the university granting mitigation for the student who was the victim of this assault.

CASE STUDY

Jewish students egged after Chief Rabbi visit

In November 2023, it was reported to CST that a group of visibly Jewish students at a university in Scotland had eggs thrown at them by a small group of unknown individuals while walking back from an event attended by the Chief Rabbi. After this incident, a couple of the students remained at the place in which the incident occurred due to the shock, recomposing themselves, and the assailants ran away. However, they returned and threw more eggs towards the Jewish students.

Damage & Desecration

This category includes any physical attack directed against Jewish-owned property, or property that is perceived to be connected to Jews, which is not life-threatening. This includes the daubing of antisemitic slogans or symbols (such as swastikas) – including fixing stickers and posters – on Jewish property; and damage caused to property where it appears that the property has been specifically targeted because of its perceived Jewish connection. As this type of incident is usually only seen after the act has been completed, it is often very difficult to get any information about the perpetrators.

CASE STUDY

Chabad house graffitied

In June 2024, a Rabbi who provides services to university students in the Midlands reported to CST that the wall of the Chabad house had been graffitied with the message “FREE PALASTIAN [sic]”. This was reported to the police and the local council, who organised its prompt removal.

CST recorded 17 instances of Damage and Desecration in the academic year 2023/24, occurring in Nottingham, Birmingham, Leeds, Kent, Norwich, London, Sussex, Oxford, Sheffield, Brighton, and Canterbury. In comparison, CST recorded four instances in the academic year 2022/23, occurring in: Leeds, Nottingham, Liverpool and Sheffield.

There were no recorded university-related incidents of Damage & Desecration in the 2020/21 or 2021/22 academic years combined.

CASE STUDY

Antisemitism at a society bar crawl

In March 2024, CST received a report that during a bar crawl organised by the Medical Society and Law Society of their university, which included T-shirt drawing, students wrote “I [heart] Hitler”, “Jew” and drew a caricatured Jewish face on the back of a known Jewish student’s T-shirt.



Threats

This category includes only direct antisemitic threats, whether verbal or written. This would include potential improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that are designed to be hoaxes, if they do not contain any explosive material.

CST recorded 23 incidents under this category in the academic year 2023/24, 15 of which occurred online and eight occurred offline; and three incidents in the academic year 2022/23, two offline and one online.

In comparison, CST recorded seven incidents in this category over the academic years 2020/21 and 2021/22 combined.

CASE STUDY

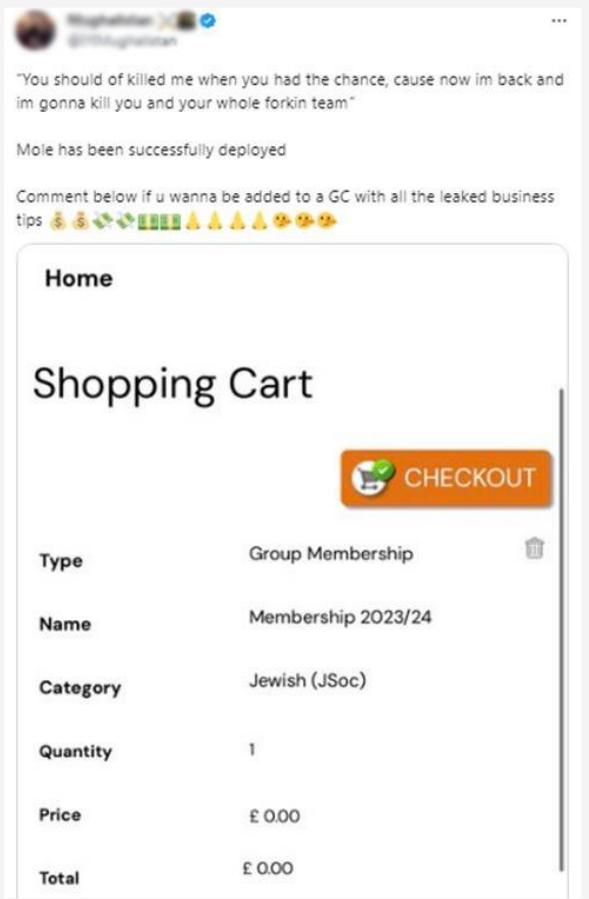
Jewish society receives bomb threat

In April 2024, a university Jewish Society, along with numerous other Jewish communal organisations received a bomb threat via email. The email stated: *“I placed multiple explosives inside of the Synagogues. The explosives are well hidden and they will go off in the morning. Everyone inside will die in a pool of blood”* and *“GIVE OUR NAMES TO THE MEDIA OR WE WONT STOP CAUSING CHAOS.”* This was promptly reported by the JSoc to CST and the police, who took action to check the Jewish student centre for any explosives or threats. These emails were found to be a hoax, designed to intimidate Jewish communities across the country.

CASE STUDY

Jewish society receives death threats

In August 2023, CST and UJS received a report that an X account had posted death threats towards a University Jewish Society. The threatening post included a picture of the payment page for JSoc membership, alongside a UFC fighter quote: *“You should of killed me when you had the chance, cause now I’m back and I’m going to kill you and your whole forkin team [sic]”*. This was followed by the message: *“Mole has been successfully deployed”*.



Abusive Behaviour

This category includes verbal and written antisemitic abuse. The verbal abuse can be face to face or via telephone calls and voicemail messages. The category also includes antisemitic emails, text messages, posts on social media and social media comments, as well as targeted antisemitic letters (that is, one-off letters aimed at and sent to a specific individual), irrespective of whether the recipient is Jewish. This is different from a mass mailing of antisemitic leaflets, pamphlets or group emails, which is dealt with by the separate Literature category. Antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property is also included in the Abusive Behaviour category.

CST recorded 221 abusive behaviour incidents in the academic year 2023/24, with 46 incidents being recorded just in the first two weeks following 7 October. In comparison, CST recorded 43 in the whole academic year 2022/23. This total of 264 Abusive Behaviour incidents for the past two academic years makes up 81% of the total number of recorded incidents over the period covered by this report.

For comparison, CST recorded 140 incidents of Abusive Behaviour in the academic years 2020/21 and 2021/22 combined, which accounted for 93% of the total number of incidents during that period.

CASE STUDY

“Kikes out” found in student union toilets

In March 2024, CST received a report that an unknown individual had scratched “Kikes Out” onto a toilet cubicle wall in a student union building in the North of England.



CASE STUDY

Hitler glorification in student WhatsApp group

On 15 October 2023, a family member of a student from a London university reported to CST that a member of a student criminology WhatsApp group chat had sent messages explicitly glorifying Hitler. Messages included: “I’m actually starting to not feel bad about what Hitler did.”; “I’d bring Hitler back if I could.”; “No offence to anyone but it’s very irritating how those people from Palestine can’t get a break in their own land”. This was reported to the university and subsequently to the police.

CASE STUDY

PHD candidate sharing antisemitic conspiracy videos

In January 2024, CST received a report via social media that a PHD candidate at a university in Wales shared a video on X titled “*Humanity united against AshkeNAZI*”. The video includes extreme antisemitic conspiracy theories such as: the terror group ISIS secretly being “*the Israeli secret intelligence service*”, claims that “*the majority of Muslim terrorist leaders are actually Jewish*”, and that “*the ADL covertly support so called American Nazi movements*”.

Literature

This category covers mass-produced antisemitic literature that is distributed in multiple quantities. This can involve a single mass mailing or repeated individual mailings, but it must involve the multiple use of the same piece of literature to fall into this category. This is different from one-off cases of hate mail targeted at individual people or organisations, which would come under the category of either Abusive Behaviour or Threats (depending on the content). This category includes literature that is antisemitic in itself, irrespective of whether or not the recipient is Jewish, and cases where Jews are specifically targeted for malicious distribution, even if the material itself is not antisemitic; such as, for instance, the mass mailing of neo-Nazi literature targeted at Jewish organisations or homes, even if the literature did not mention Jews.

This category also includes antisemitic emails that are sent to groups of recipients. The statistics for this category give no indication of the extent of distribution: a single mass mailing of antisemitic literature is only counted as one incident, although it

could involve material being sent to dozens of recipients. Thus, the number of incidents reflects the number of offenders and their actions, rather than the number of victims.

CST recorded two incidents in this category in the academic year 2023/24 and two in the academic year 2022/23, totalling four university-related incidents of antisemitic Literature during the past two academic years.

CST did not record any university incidents in the Literature category in the 2020/21 or the 2021/22 academic years.

CASE STUDY

Antisemitic newspaper left in sociology department

In November 2022, it was reported to CST that staff members in the sociology department at a university in the North of England had found copies of the antisemitic conspiracy newspaper ‘The Light’ in the foyer of the sociology department. This newspaper is notable for articles promoting white supremacists, Holocaust revisionism and defending explicit antisemitism such as references to Jewish people as “*rats*” and “*filth*”. Staff members informed police and reported this to the university.

Antisemitic or anti-Israel?

CST is often asked about the difference between antisemitic incidents and anti-Israel activity, and how this distinction is made in the categorisation of incidents. The difference between the two can be subtle and the subject of much debate. Clearly, it would not be acceptable to define all anti-Israel speech and action as antisemitic. Nevertheless, it cannot be ignored that

contemporary antisemitism can occur in the context of, or be accompanied by, extreme feelings over the Israel/Palestine conflict, and that hostility towards Israel may be expressed via, or motivated by, antisemitic rhetoric and conspiracy theories. Discourse relating to the conflict is used by antisemitic incident offenders to abuse Jews, and anti-Israel discourse can sometimes repeat, or echo, antisemitic language and imagery. For example, the terms “*Zionist*” and “*Zionism*” will often be used in arguments about Israel and the Middle East; sometimes they are used accurately while at other times they are deployed in an antisemitic way. CST must identify when these terms are used as euphemisms for “*Jewishness*” and “*Jews*”. Similarly, the phrase “*Zionist Lobby*”, when it is reserved for Jewish organisations and individuals regardless of whether they have taken a public stance on Zionism, walks the line between discussion of dedicated Israel lobbying groups and the conspiracy theory that Jews have a disproportionate political power and influence, and the antisemitic trope that Jews are not to be trusted. Drawing out these distinctions and deciding on where the dividing lines lie can be one of the most difficult areas of CST’s work in recording and analysing hate crime.

Sometimes a particular incident can suggest an intention to intimidate or harass Jews on the part of the offender. For example, if anti-Israel posters or graffiti appear to have been deliberately placed close to a synagogue or other Jewish building, or in an area with a large Jewish population, then they are more likely to be classified as an antisemitic incident. If anti-Israel material is sent unsolicited to a synagogue or another Jewish venue at random then it may well be recorded as an antisemitic incident (because the synagogue was targeted on the basis of it being Jewish and the offender has failed

to distinguish between a place of worship and pro-Israel political activity). Similarly, if cars draped in Palestinian flags are driven through the heart of Jewish communities, or shouts of “*Free Palestine*” or comments and questions demanding an opinion on the Middle East are directed at Jewish people – simply because they are perceived to be Jewish – it will probably also be considered an antisemitic incident.

If, however, anti-Israel material (containing no antisemitic language) is sent unsolicited to specifically pro-Israel organisations, then this incident would not be classified as antisemitic. Similarly, if a Jewish individual or group engaging in public pro-Israel advocacy subsequently receives anti-Israel material, comments or questions, this would most likely not be classified as antisemitic (unless, again, it contains antisemitic language). The political discourse used in an incident may also be the reason why the incident is or is not considered antisemitic. In particular, incidents that equate Israel to Nazi Germany would normally be recorded as antisemitic because the comparison is so deeply hurtful and abusive, using Israel’s self-definition as a Jewish state as the basis for the insult. However, incidents that compare Israel to, for example, apartheid South Africa, would not normally be recorded as antisemitic incidents. While the charge that Israel practises apartheid upsets many, it does not contain the same visceral capacity to offend as the comparison with Nazism, which carries particular meaning for Jewish people because of the Holocaust; nor does it play on Israel’s Jewishness as a way of causing hurt.

When and where do university incidents happen?

University incidents can occur in one of three environments: on campus, off campus, or online. It is crucial to differentiate between these distinct environments, as the effect on the victim can vary considerably. Each person will react differently to experiences of antisemitism, but, for example, it may be more distressing for students to be a victim of an antisemitic incident at their own university campus in comparison to when an incident occurs elsewhere, and an offline in-person incident can be more directly threatening than an online incident; whereas persistent harassment online can be more insidiously intimidating.

Online incidents

Online incidents included antisemitic messages sent via email, text or social media to Jewish students or Jewish societies, antisemitic messages in group chats, and antisemitic online posts by students, staff, or students' union officers that have been reported to CST.

In the academic year 2023/24, CST recorded a total of 138 university-related

online antisemitic incidents. In the academic year 2022/23, CST recorded a total of 14 online incidents, bringing the total number of online incidents over the past two academic years to 152, or 47% of the overall incident total across both years. The jump from 14 online incidents in 2022/23 to 138 in 2023/24 is an increase of 886% across the two academic years.

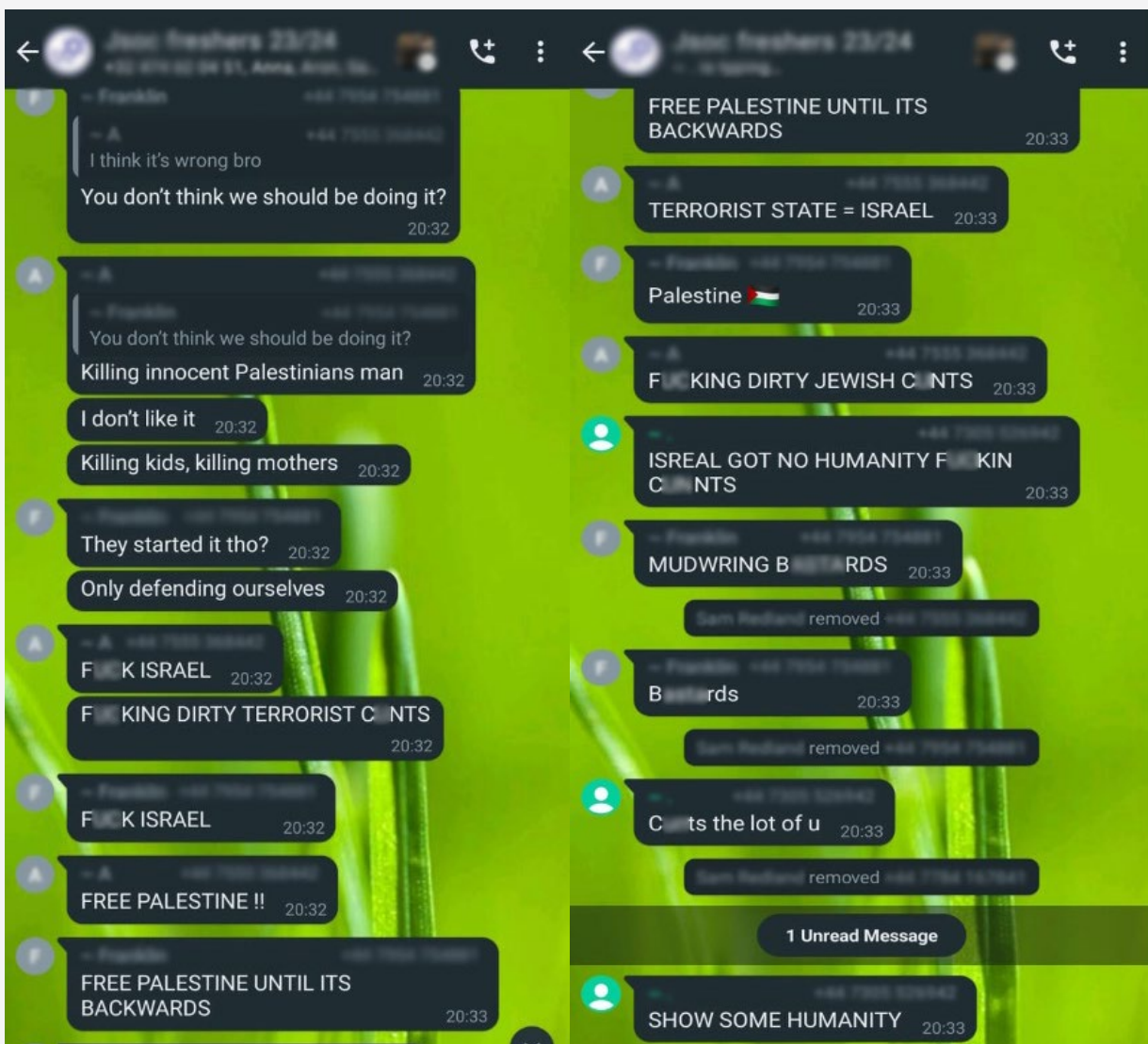
Thirty-five online incidents took place in the first two weeks following the 7 October attacks, when there was a national surge in anti-Jewish hate crime and hate incidents inspired by antisemitic responses in the UK to the Hamas terror attack in Israel. This accounts for 23% of all university-related online incidents over the academic years 2022/23 and 2023/24.

The 152 online university-related incidents recorded in the period covered by this report is an 85% increase from the 82 online incidents recorded over the previous two academic years: 68 online incidents in 2020/21 and 14 online incidents in 2021/22.

CASE STUDY

Jewish society group chat subjected to coordinated harassment

On 12 October 2023, Jewish Society members reported to CST and UJS that at least three unknown individuals had joined the JSoc freshers WhatsApp group chat and had sent a large amount of abusive and antisemitic messages. The individuals began by engaging in a fake conversation between themselves in which one asked “U selling any kosher meat? Struggling to find some round here”, after which one asked “Everyone agree w [with] what’s going on in Israel right?”. This was immediately followed by the three individuals sending a tirade of messages including: “F*CK ISRAEL”, “F*CKING DIRTY TERRORIST C*NTS”; “F*CKING DIRTY JEWISH C*NTS”; “MUDWRING B*ST*ARDS”; and “SHOW SOME HUMANITY”. Because of this privacy breach, the JSoc was immediately advised to remove the unknown individuals, close the group chat and set up a new one in which members required prior approval from a JSoc committee member. This is an example of how antisemitism forces Jewish students to implement extra security measures for their activities. Following this incident, senior university staff frequently held check-in meetings with JSoc committee members and JSoc events were provided significant support and reassurance from the university’s security team.



On campus

CST defines on-campus incidents as any offline antisemitic incident that occurs within university premises, including at events hosted on campus, in lectures and seminars, and in university-owned halls of residence.

In the academic year 2023/24, CST recorded a total of 103 offline incidents that occurred on campus or university property. CST recorded a total of 27 offline, on-campus incidents in the academic year 2022/23, bringing the total for the past two academic years to 130 offline on-campus incidents.

This is a 100% increase compared to the 65 offline on-campus incidents recorded in the previous two academic years, 2020/21 and 2021/22, which comprised 27 offline incidents in 2020/21 and 38 in 2021/22.

CASE STUDY

Jewish student told to leave area near encampment

In May 2024, a Jewish university chaplain reported to CST that a visibly Jewish student had been told to leave an area due to their appearance.

The student was wearing a kippah (skullcap) and walking on the other side of the road from the campus's pro-Palestine student encampment when he bumped into friends and spoke for approximately a minute. At this point a private security guard told the student to move along because he was being "*provocative*", despite no engagement with the encampment or its members. As a result, the student concluded that the only provocation the security guard could have been referring to was his wearing a kippah.

CASE STUDY

Senior staff member called "Jew Lover" in graffiti

A staff member from a London university reported to CST in December 2023 that student activists had extensively graffitied the students' union building in protest at their alleged links to Israel. One of the messages graffitied on the building referred to a senior member of staff as "*a Jew lover*". The university promptly removed this graffiti, and identified the student responsible, allowing for a disciplinary process to take place.

Off-campus

An off-campus incident refers to an offline incident that took place outside the university premises, but where the incident relates to the victim's student, staff, or academic status. This includes incidents at venues hosting student nights or frequented by students, as well as incidents in private student accommodation and in student residential areas.

CST recorded 31 off-campus university-related antisemitic incidents in the academic year 2023/24, and 12 in the academic year 2022/23. This brings the total for the past two academic years to 43 off-campus incidents.

In comparison, in the previous two academic years (2021/22 and 2022/23) there was a total of 18 off-campus incidents: meaning the total for this incident type more than doubled from 2020-2022 to 2022-2024.

CASE STUDY

Swastikas at NUS conference

In April 2024, it was reported to CST by UJS delegates attending the National Union of Students (NUS) conference in Blackpool, that on at least two occasions there had been swastikas graffitied in different toilets in the venue. This contributed to a significant unease amongst delegates as they had already been concerned by extreme rhetoric and explicit hostility displayed by several NUS delegates (further information provided in our Hostile Environment section).



CASE STUDY

“Free Palestine” shouted at visibly Jewish students

In October 2022, student CST volunteers at a university in the Midlands reported that while a group of ten visibly Jewish students were walking back from a Shabbat lunch, a car stopped beside them and the driver shouted “*Free Palestine*” at them before driving away.

CASE STUDY

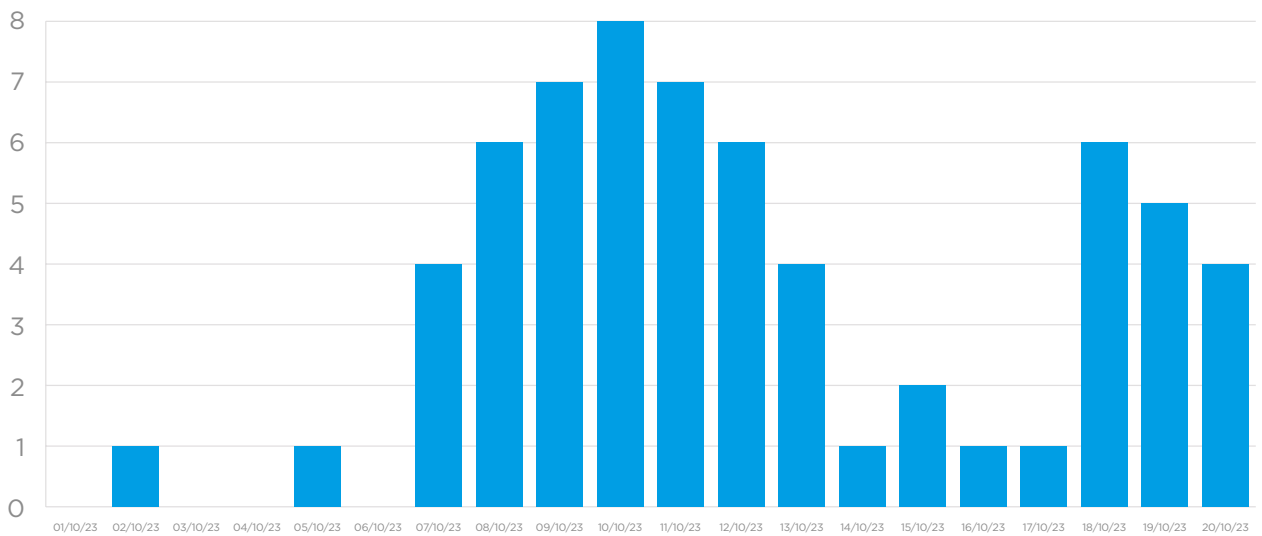
Jewish students intimidated walking back from Friday night dinner

On 20 October 2023, students reported to CST that while walking back from a Friday Night Dinner event held at a local synagogue, a car slowed beside them, and the driver put his middle finger up towards them and waved a Palestinian flag. He subsequently drove back past the students and the synagogue.

7 October

The events of 7 October led to an immediate spike in antisemitic hate crimes and hate incidents across the UK and is largely responsible for CST recording the highest number of antisemitic incidents that CST has ever recorded in a single calendar year (CST has written about this previously in the Antisemitic Incidents Report 2023, available on the CST website). Almost a third of the annual total was recorded in October 2023, which is the highest monthly figure ever reported to CST and is more than the three previous highest monthly totals combined.

Daily incident totals, 1-20 October 2023

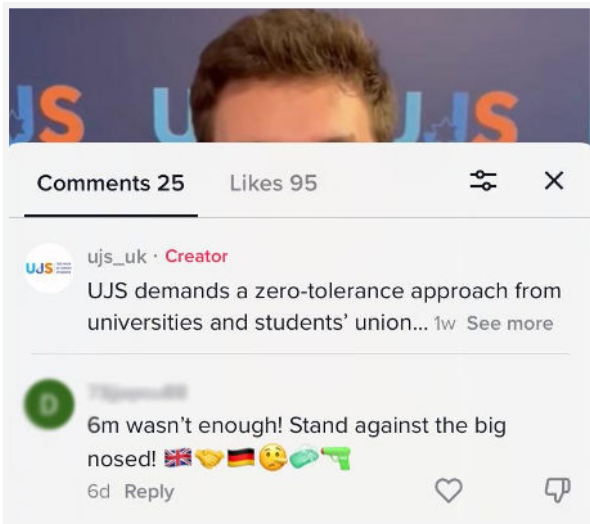


This national trend is reflected in the reported university-related antisemitic incidents, with 85 incidents being recorded in October 2023, which is the highest monthly figure for university-related incidents ever recorded by CST. In comparison, the previous highest monthly total of university-related antisemitic incidents was 55 recorded incidents in May 2021, due to reactions to a previous conflict in Israel and Gaza. To put the number of university-related antisemitic incidents in October 2023 into further perspective, it constituted more than the previous two annual totals for university-related antisemitic incidents (52 incidents in 2022/23 and 55 in 2021/22). Of the 85 recorded incidents in October 2023, 48 occurred online and 37 occurred offline.

CST received four reports of university-related antisemitic incidents on the day of 7 October. One of these incidents included threatening behaviour involving an unknown male knocking on the door of a university Jewish chaplaincy couple, asking if it was a Jewish house and stating, “We’re watching you”. Reports continued to rise in the following days with incidents of explicit

support for the Hamas attacks and abusive and/or threatening behaviour directed towards Jewish societies and students. These included incidents of visibly Jewish or known Jewish students being spat at, “Yehuda” shouted at them, being harassed online and threatened via social media.

Of the 23 university-related antisemitic incidents involving threats recorded during the academic year 2023/24, 11 were recorded in October 2023 following the 7 October attacks, making up 48% of the total number of threatening incidents for the entire year. Furthermore, 15 of the 23 recorded threats during that year were carried out online via social media platforms, and eight of the 11 incidents recorded in October 2023 were also carried out online. This included a Jewish student receiving the message “*May a slow and painful death be granted to you and every other Zionist like you*” on a University of Birmingham student WhatsApp group, and the Bristol Jewish Society receiving the message “*Wherever you are in the world, we will take you out of your homes and perform a dance of victory and happiness over your bodies*”.



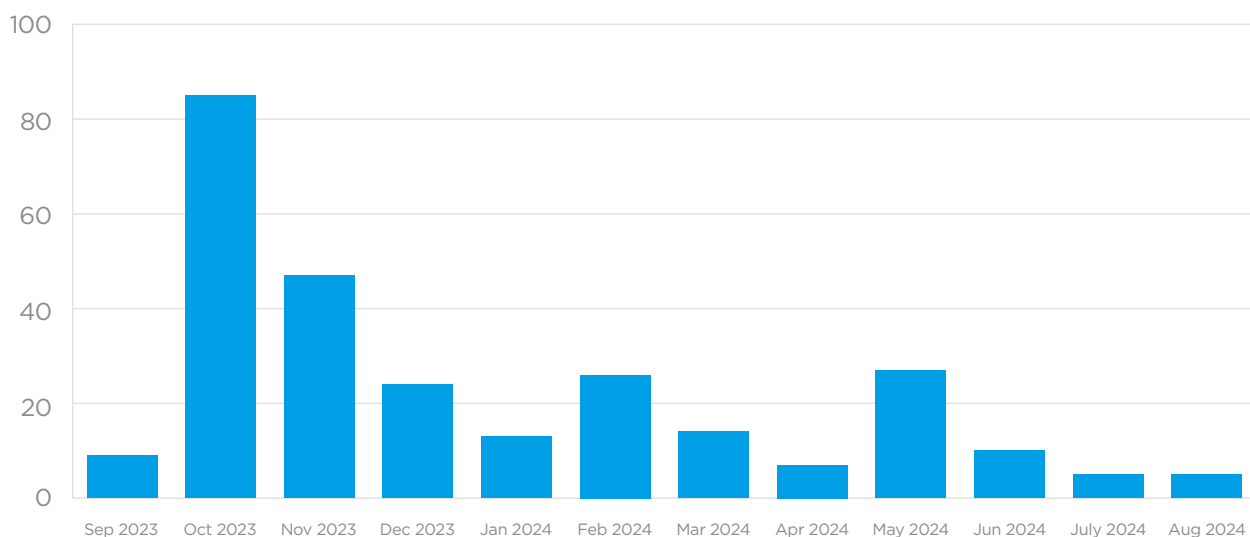
Antisemitic incitement underneath a Jewish student organisation's TikTok post, October 2023

Due to the continued backlash following 7 October and the subsequent conflict, although recorded incidents declined after October, monthly university-related incidents remained significantly higher than monthly incident totals recorded previously. In November 2023, there were more university-related incidents recorded than there were between 1 January and 7 October 2023 combined. Moreover, the monthly totals of university-related incidents recorded in December, January, February and March during 2023/24, were higher than the incident totals recorded in the respective months during the previous eight years.

CST recorded seven incidents of university-related Damage and Desecration of Jewish Property in October 2023 following the attacks. This amounts to 33% of the 21 incidents of this type recorded in the academic years 2022/23 and 2023/24. Additionally, 63 university-related Abusive Behaviour incidents were recorded, making up 29% of the total number of Abusive Behaviour incidents recorded in the academic year 2023/24.

Following the initial spike in October 2023, there were two noticeable spikes in recorded incidents in February 2024 and May 2024, with 26 and 27 university-related antisemitic incidents respectively in those months. These spikes correspond with key events unfolding in the Middle East regarding the area of Rafah, in Gaza, which became prominent in the national awareness and amongst pro-Palestinian campaigners during those two months: in early February 2024 Israel launched airstrikes and began warning of a ground invasion of Rafah, which subsequently began in May and continued throughout the month.

Monthly Incident totals, 23/24



Monthly incident totals, 2019/20-2023/24

Year	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	TOTAL
19/20	4	5	8	11	3	6	4	4	1	0	1	1	48
20/21	0	2	2	1	2	5	4	3	47	6	6	2	80
21/22	4	13	6	3	5	6	2	7	3	3	4	1	57
22/23	4	11	7	8	3	5	1	1	5	2	3	3	53
23/24	9	85	47	24	13	26	14	7	27	10	5	5	272

Incident perpetrators

Incidents by university staff

Incidents by university staff are those where the perpetrator is part of the academic body or professional staff at the university. University staff members can include academic staff such as professors, assistant professors and lecturers, as well as non-academic staff including administrators, caretakers and building managers.

Due to the position of these individuals, incidents perpetrated by staff members can often be more concerning and intimidating for students to report and/or engage in a formal complaints process. This is because staff members may have direct authority over the student (i.e. if they are a lecturer, supervisor or personal tutor), and as staff members are part of the university institution, students can feel as if raising a complaint against a staff member may result in negative repercussions against the reporter. Students are often hesitant to report an incident if they are taught (or their work is marked) by the subject of their complaint, due to concerns regarding their grades being affected. It is for this reason that some students do not report incidents that occur in lectures or seminars or choose to do so anonymously and/or via a third party such as CST or UJS. Nevertheless, it is essential that students report any antisemitic incidents perpetrated by university staff

members. Staff members not only have positions of power over students but are also often employed by the same university over extended periods of time, meaning that if they were to hold and/or express antisemitic beliefs, they risk affecting successive cohorts of students who may be taught by them in the future.

CST recorded 24 antisemitic incidents involving university staff in the two academic years covered in this report. Twenty-three of these incidents were reported in the academic year 2023/24 and one in the academic year 2022/23. Of the 23 incidents reported to CST over these two academic years, seven were reported in the first week following 7 October, making up 29% of reports regarding university staff in the academic years covered by this report.

Comparatively, in the two previous academic years covered by CST's Campus Antisemitism Report 2020-2022, CST received a total of five reported incidents involving university staff. Four incidents were recorded during the academic year 2020/21 and one incident was recorded during 2021/22.

CASE STUDY

Lecturer posting extreme antisemitism

On 10 October 2023, it was reported to CST that a faculty member at a university in the Midlands had posted explicitly antisemitic messages on X. His posts included *“Hebrew propaganda reveals some very devious lies. The ease with which the Jew, whether ordinary or influential, describes the mutilations of war is indicative of a placid cruelty”* and *“Ethnic cleansing is their proven goal. Blood is their only guide, their master is the devil”*. On the same day he also posted a Martin Luther quote invoking blood libel stating: *“The Jews have been the bloodthirsty sleuths and murderers of all Christendom for over fourteen hundred years”*.

The screenshot shows three tweets from a user named 'Mamad El Kadiri' (@Mamad_ElKadiri). Each tweet is accompanied by a profile picture and a three-dot menu icon.

- Tweet 1:**

1/4 La propagande hébraïque révèle de biens sournois mensonges. La facilité avec laquelle le juif, quidam ou influent, décrit les mutilations de guerre, est indicative d'une cruauté placide qu'elle élève au dessus de tout argument sur la colonisation illégale qu'elle fait taire.

Translated from French by Google

1/4 Hebrew propaganda reveals some very devious lies. The ease with which the Jew, whether ordinary or influential, describes the mutilations of war is indicative of a placid cruelty that it elevates above any argument about illegal colonization that it silences.
- Tweet 2:**

4/4 Ce sont des arguments tout droit sortis d'un asile de fous, tant leur esprit est malade et souillé de crimes. Il ne se réfèrent pas a un idéal, projet humain et sociétal. L'épuration ethnique est leur objectif avéré. Le sang est leur seul guide, leur maître est le diable.

Translated from French by Google

4/4 These are arguments straight out of an insane asylum, so sick and soiled are their minds with crimes. They do not refer to an ideal, human and societal project. Ethnic cleansing is their proven goal. Blood is their only guide, their master is the devil.
- Tweet 3:**

“Les Juifs ont été les limiers et les assassins assoiffés de sang de toute la chrétienté depuis plus de mille quatre cent ans... Ils ont été accusés alors... d'enlever les enfants, de les transpercer avec des poinçons et de les mettre en pièces...” Martin Luther. Dieu nous garde.

Translated from French by Google

“The Jews have been the bloodthirsty sleuths and murderers of all Christendom for over fourteen hundred years... They were accused then... of kidnapping children, stabbing them with awls and killing them. tear to pieces...” Martin Luther. God keep us.

CASE STUDY

Lecturer proactively disrupts Jewish Society event

In February 2024, Jewish students reported to CST that a lecturer disrupted a Jewish Society event regarding the persecution of Mizrahi Jews, through obstructive behaviour and continual interruptions. This included shouting over the speaker to deny several instances of anti-Jewish persecution in the Middle East prior to Israel's statehood.

Upon arriving to the room the event was booked in, the president of the JSoc found that unknown individuals were already in the room and that the event's location had been leaked. She alerted security who subsequently asked for the names of the unknown individuals, who all complied barring a lecturer. This lecturer refused to provide his name twice and initially refused to provide his ID for security officers. He then asked to see the ID of the security officers and began to take a video of everyone in the room.

When the Jewish Society event began, activists including this lecturer refused to leave and continuously interrupted speakers through shouting and heckling. Interruptions included the denial or revisionism of Mizrahi Jewish persecution in Iraq (Farhud pogrom) and Libya (Tripolitania pogrom). Due to the continued interruptions, security advised the event organisers to wrap up the event and move to the room next door. Following these events, despite a student complaint to the university no disciplinary action was taken against the lecturer.

Incidents by students' union officers or student societies

Incidents by students' union (SU) officers or student societies are incidents directly involving SU-affiliated clubs or societies; or perpetrated by an elected officer or staff member of an SU. This includes incidents perpetrated by society or club members at an official event, or by a society/club committee member in their capacity as a committee member of an SU-affiliated society or club.

Despite SU officers and society committee members often being students or recent graduates, antisemitic incidents perpetrated by SU officers or affiliated society committee members can have a significant impact on the victims and/or the Jewish student community as a whole. These officers are elected to represent specific aspects of, or identities within, the student body (i.e. women's officer, welfare officer, LGBTQ+ officer), or to perform specific functions serving the entire student body. Therefore, when an officer representing a specific aspect of student life or identity demonstrates antisemitism, Jewish students can often be reluctant to engage with this officer regarding their area of responsibility due to concerns that they may be treated in a discriminatory manner. Similarly, when a committee member for an SU-affiliated society or club perpetrates an antisemitic incident in their role as a committee member, Jewish students are likely to avoid participating in that society

...Jewish students are likely to avoid participating in that society due to concerns over the presence or acceptance of antisemitic attitudes

due to concerns over the presence or acceptance of antisemitic attitudes within the culture of the society in question. As a result, Jewish students with a passion for the particular interests or activities of that society will be less likely to engage with that society, thereby limiting their student experience and potential extra-curricular activities. This has been especially pertinent since 7 October, due to many student societies engaging in strong rhetoric about the conflict, some of which extended to implicit or explicit hostility towards the Jewish community.

In the academic years covered by this report, CST recorded 21 antisemitic incidents involving SU officers or student societies. This includes 18 incidents in the academic year 2023/24 and three incidents during the academic year 2022/23. Of the 18 recorded incidents from 2023/24, eight occurred within the first week following 7 October, making up 38% of the total reported incidents involving SU staff or societies over the two academic years covered in this report.

A comparison with previous academic years is unobtainable as CST did not include the number of incidents involving students' union officers and student societies in previous Campus Antisemitism reports. The inclusion of these totals in the current report reflects the number of this type of incident reported to CST following 7 October, and reports from Jewish students that they perceived unfriendly or hostile attitudes from specific student societies and SU officers.

CASE STUDY

Marxist society glorifying 7 October

On 17 October 2023 the student newspaper The Tab reported that a Marxist society had been suspended by its students' union. The Tab wrote that *"The suspension comes following the society's refusal to take down posters which the SU deemed to be 'inciting violence.'"* The posters advertise a meeting in support of Palestine, with the headline: *"Intifada until Victory! The fight for a free Palestine."* In the wake of 7 October there was a wave of such activism that either overtly or covertly praised the 7 October massacres. The students' union should be commended for taking such action, often despite tremendous pressure not to act, in order to ensure they remain an inclusive space for all students.

CASE STUDY

Jewish students intimidated during problematic Student Union debate

In November 2023, CST received a report that a university's students' union passed a *"Ceasefire Now"* motion, which included an article calling for the students' union to invest educational resources into *"How to spot lies, propaganda and Zionism"*. Jewish students who attempted to speak against this motion were reportedly intimidated and harassed, with one student who took the stage to speak being escorted out by security for his own safety. Two Jewish students who were present had panic attacks due to the intense hostility directed towards them by other student delegates.

CASE STUDY

Student Union officer glorifying 7 October

CST received a report from Jewish students that their students' union officer for campaigns and democracy had posted numerous stories on Instagram on 7 October glorifying the Hamas attacks. One story included a video of a separation barrier being torn down by Hamas fighters with the message *"for the first time ever, Palestinians are now controlling Gaza, Historic."* Another story was a shared post from another account justifying the attacks, stating: *"If you support Palestine understand that necessitates supporting our right to defend ourselves and liberate our homeland by any means necessary"* and *"Freedom has always been achieved through resistance!"* CST and UJS supported the Jewish Society in reporting this to the university and attending subsequent follow-up meetings. Despite a university investigation into the SU officer, no action was taken and they remained in their role until the end of their term.

Hostile environment for Jewish students

In recording antisemitic incidents, CST distinguishes between pro-Palestinian campaigning and antisemitic or extremist activity. The incident statistics in this report do not include general pro-Palestinian campaigning on campus, but are limited only to cases that involved anti-Jewish language, motivation or the targeting of Jewish students, staff or campus-related Jewish organisations.

However, the antisemitism detailed in this report occurs in a broader environment that cannot be ignored when understanding its impact on Jewish students and staff at universities. This broader context can often worsen the impact of antisemitism rather than creating an environment in which Jewish students and academics are provided with support and sympathy when dealing with victimisation or anxiety about their security or status within the university.

Following the 7 October terrorist attacks and the subsequent war in Israel and Gaza, CST received an unprecedented number of reports of pro-Palestinian campaigning at universities that featured extreme, sometimes violent, rhetoric towards Israel, but did not meet CST's criteria for recording as antisemitic due to a lack of clear evidence of anti-Jewish language, motivation or targeting. These reports are not included within our incident statistics, but they are worth noting because they reflect the anxiety felt by many (although not all) Jewish students, academics, staff and the wider connected community such as family members and friends regarding what was perceived to be a hostile environment on campus. This is a complex issue, as some Jewish students and

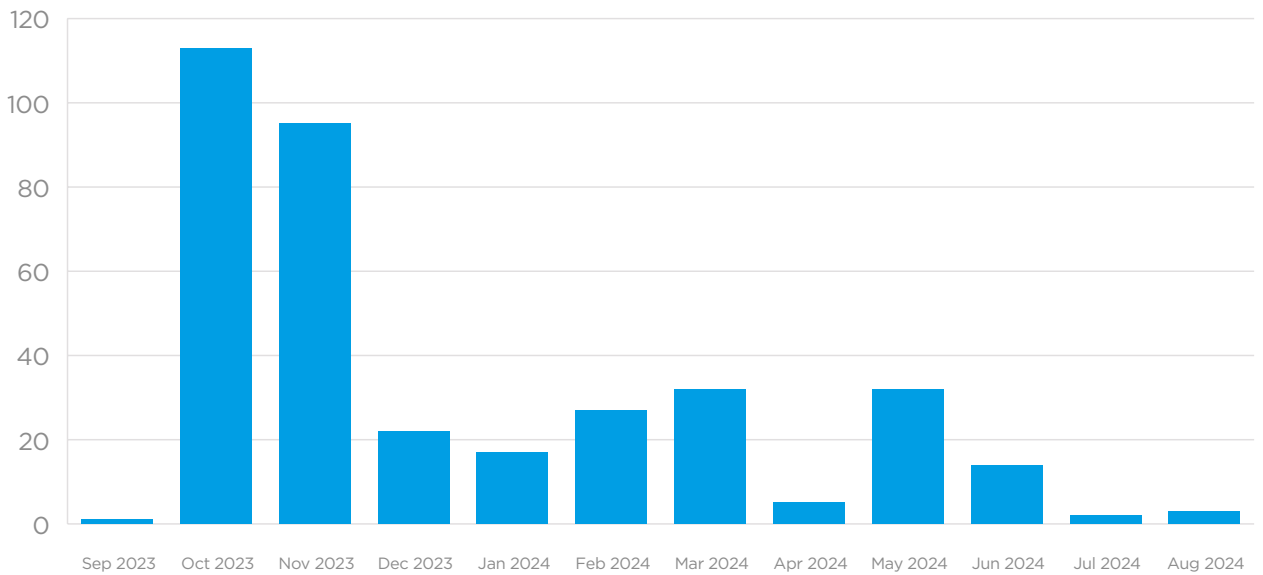
academic staff supported, and participated in, pro-Palestinian campaigns on campus.

It is also important to note that although these 'non-incident' reports were not categorised as definitively antisemitic, many involved examples of extreme rhetoric regarding Israel, Zionists and implicit support for terrorist violence. Due to the majority of Jewish students identifying with Zionism and having connections with Israel, and some having personal connections to the victims of the 7 October attacks, these instances contributed towards an environment that was perceived by many Jewish students to be implicitly or inadvertently hostile for Jewish students and staff within universities.

In the academic year 2023/24, CST received 363 non-incident reports relating to universities. As shown in the chart on p.32, the bulk of these reports came in the immediate aftermath of 7 October, with additional spikes amidst significant events in the Israel-Gaza war such as the temporary ceasefire between 24-30 November. For context, CST recorded a total of 3,344 non-incidents nationally during the same period.

For comparison, CST received approximately four non-incident reports relating to universities in the academic year 2022/23, within a total of 704 non-incidents nationally during the same period. This vast increase from 2022/23 to 2023/24 can be explained largely by the surge in extreme anti-Israel rhetoric and campaigning on university campuses after 7 October 2023 that did not meet CST's criteria for antisemitic incidents, but nevertheless disturbed Jewish staff and students sufficiently for them to be motivated to report.

Non-incident monthly totals, 2023/24



The combined impact of both the increase in university-related antisemitism and the sustained, and sometimes extreme, anti-Israel campaigning on campuses, is reflected in a recent survey conducted by the Intra-Communal Professorial Group (ICPG) of 497 Jewish staff and students, which found that only 21.7% of respondents felt comfortable about *“being open about your Jewish identity”* after 7 October; 69.6% of respondents felt somewhat or very uncomfortable; and; 60% of respondents felt unsafe on campus.

It is important to stress that much pro-Palestinian activism is legitimate and not antisemitic. The following case studies are intended to highlight how the use of extreme rhetoric and messaging by elements within the protest movement can sometimes create an environment which many Jewish students and staff perceive to be hostile and in some cases intimidating.

Implicit and explicit support for terrorism

University protests began in the days and weeks following the 7 October attacks,

organised by several student societies and external activist organisations across the country. Due to protests starting prior to any substantive Israeli response, in many cases beginning while Hamas and other armed Palestinian groups were still within Israel’s territory, many within the university Jewish community perceived this activism as being supportive of Hamas and the 7 October attack that killed 1,200 people and led to over 250 being taken hostage.

This perception of the protests was reinforced by chants repeated at several demonstrations across the country. As well as typical chants previously heard at Palestinian protests such as *“Free Palestine”* and *“From (your town) to Palestine ... Occupation is a crime”*, in the wake of 7 October, there were numerous reports of chants such as *“Resistance is justified, when people are occupied”*, *“From (your town) to Gaza, long live the intifada”* and *“Intifada until victory”* becoming widespread at university protests as well as demonstrations across the UK. While the terms *“resistance”* and *“Intifada”* are ambiguous and can be interpreted in different ways, both terms

have in the past been used by Hamas and other groups to indicate violence, including terrorism against civilians.

Similarly, there were numerous reports within the first week after 7 October of posters being circulated on campuses across the country stating “*Intifada until victory*”, apparently by student supporters of the Revolutionary Communist Party (formerly Socialist Appeal). Although this rhetoric is subject to varying interpretations, the speed at which these chants and posters were adopted immediately following the 7 October terrorist attacks signified to many, especially within the Jewish community, a genuine support for, or justification of, 7 October. More explicitly, on at least two occasions in October and November 2023, Socialist Workers Party (SWP) activists were seen distributing booklets which included a section titled ‘A revolutionary perspective on Hamas’, which stated: “*We consider Hamas to be a resistance movement against Zionism and imperialism. From this perspective we unconditionally support Hamas when it is engaged in military or non-military struggles against Israel*”. Despite Hamas’ full proscription in 2021 as a terrorist organisation, this



Uprisings against colonial rule are violent because violence is an inherent part of imperialism and colonialism.

That's why the resistance by Palestinians against the racist Israeli terror state is wholly justified. All the deaths, horrors and destruction—all of them—are rooted in violent Israeli occupation and dispossession. And this is the case not just in Palestine. Wherever imperialism has gone, violence has followed.

Colonialism means states viciously enforcing their rule, snatching resources for themselves and subjecting citizens to dire inequality and reigns of terror.

That violence took its form in how 48 million died in major famines between 1770 and 1943 in India caused by British colonial rule. It manifested in over a million dying in famines manufactured by the British in Ireland.

Violent colonisation led to the elimination of Indigenous populations by the Spanish and British and to European nations carving up and ransacking Africa for their own greed and domination.

SW

#freepalestine #FreeGaza #palestineunderattack #palestinewillbefree #franzfanon #endoccupation #antiimperialism #endisraeliapartheid #algeria #endisraelioccupation #blm #StandUpFightBack #anticolonial #marchforpalestine #israeliwarcrimes #colonialism #endisraeliwarcrimes #israelisanapartheidstate #settlercolonialism #fromlondonontogaza #islamophobia #antiracist #socialismfrombelow

50 w

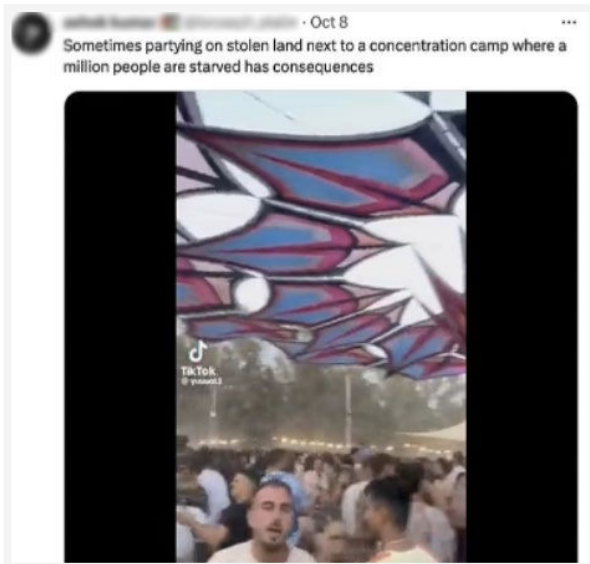
Liked by [profile] and 5 others
17 October 2023

Add a comment...

document (or extracts from it) was shared on social media by numerous Socialist Workers Student Societies (SWSS) – the student branches of the SWP – which included a restatement of their “*unconditional but not uncritical*” support for Hamas.

As well as some students engaging in this type of rhetoric, CST received numerous reports regarding academic, student union and university staff both implicitly and explicitly supporting and/or glorifying Hamas and the 7 October attacks. These reports included social media posts or public statements by academic staff from

the universities and/or student unions of Cambridge, Leeds, UCL, KCL, Exeter, St Georges, Birkbeck, Sussex, East Anglia and the Royal College of Arts. They include posts on X such as “*sometimes partying on stolen land next to a concentration camp where a million people are starved has consequences*” and pictures glorifying the attacks, posts and stories on Instagram justifying the attacks as a form of legitimate resistance, as well as in-person remarks legitimising the attacks made at demonstrations and associated educational events.



presumably in love and war should we be ok with rape?"

- *"They [feminists] needed me to confirm for them that Palestinians wouldn't do this. I know that it has never happened in Palestinian history, I know as a feminist that rape and sexual violence as a weapon of war is always subjected to oppress, not subjected by the oppressed... so they should have been thinking in terms of power relations between coloniser and the colonised".*



In an environment where some university and students' union staff engaged in implicit and explicit support for terrorism, many Jewish students at the related institutions expressed significant concern over the normalisation of rhetoric that appeared to legitimise or justify terrorism in the context of an attack that killed more Jews in any single day since the Holocaust.

"Death to Zionists" - exclusionary attitudes

CST also received several reports of cases in which threatening, intimidating or exclusionary attitudes towards Zionists were expressed by both students and staff. Zionism put simply is the belief in 'the self-determination and statehood for the Jewish people in their ancestral homeland, the land of Israel.'¹ According to a recent poll by the Institute for Jewish Policy Research (JPR), 78% of British Jews feel very or somewhat attached to Israel, and 65% self-identify as Zionists (only 10% self-identify as anti-Zionists).²

One such extra-curricular educational event was held in February 2024, titled 'Feminism & Palestine: Decolonisation beyond metaphor', overseen by a lecturer in Middle East politics. This event included statements that both implied the acceptability of rape as a weapon of war and questioned the validity of well-documented cases of rape during the attacks. Following an investigation conducted by the university, it was concluded that no disciplinary action would be taken due to it being a 'theoretical' discussion. Comments made during the event included:

- *"Rape of Israeli women soldiers, if they are soldiers is right, and everything is fair*

¹ [ADL, definition of Zionism](#)

² [A year after October 7: British Jewish views on Israel, antisemitism and Jewish life](#)

Several protests and demonstrations held on campus or adjacent to university property included threatening and/or exclusionary rhetoric towards Zionists after 7 October. One protest held in February 2024 (pictured below) included the banner “Zionists off our campus” and chants of “Death to Zionists”. At another protest held at a different university in March 2024, a staff member who attempted to start a dialogue with protestors was called a “filthy Zionist” after expressing their opinion about Hamas.



In yet another demonstration held in March 2024, a crowd of over 50 students surrounded an Israel Society stall, manned by ten Jewish students, to object to its presence on campus. Despite this incident beginning with civil engagement and dialogue, the situation quickly escalated after a student falsely accused the stall participants of killing their brother. Following this, a crowd began forming, with several protestors becoming actively hostile and threatening towards the stall, ripping up leaflets, pouring juice over an Israeli flag, taking pictures and videos of the stall members and shouting at university security

and staff to “Get them out” and “They are not welcome on this campus”. University security subsequently told the pro-Israel stall members that if they did not leave the area at that point, they could no longer guarantee their personal safety. Eight of the students at the stall, all of whom were Jewish, returned to their parental homes that week due to fears for their safety if they remained on campus attending seminars and lectures.

CST received three reports regarding anti-Zionist graffiti that did not cross the threshold for antisemitic abusive behaviour but contributed to an environment in which students who identify with Zionism felt unwelcome. These included graffiti in the public toilets of the universities of Surrey and Manchester stating, “Zionists not welcome” and “Zionists = babykillers” respectively.



CASE STUDY

NUS conference

The 2024 National Union of Students (NUS) Conference saw hostility directed towards multiple Jewish delegates and attendees, explicit support for Hamas declared in group discussions, Holocaust inversion rhetoric and a consolidated effort on the part of delegates to propose a motion declaring the Union of Jewish Students (UJS) to be no longer representative of Jewish students in the UK.

Over the three-day conference, delegates attended various sessions and policy workshops designed to facilitate student democracy and policy-making for the NUS. Many of the sessions offered at this conference focused on the Israel-Palestine conflict, and included numerous discussions about the sensitivities around the topic as well as policy-formulating discussions. It was during these sessions that Jewish delegates experienced hostile, abusive or extreme attitudes. One Jewish delegate reported that another delegate

had expressed explicit support for Hamas. This was subsequently reported to NUS staff who temporarily banned the student from sessions the following day, later reversed their decision, and then banned them again due to further problematic and hostile behaviour at a different session the following day. Another Jewish delegate reported that in a session regarding problematic language to use in relation to Israel-Palestine conflict, a delegate disagreed that Holocaust inversion was a problem and stated: *"If it's the same, it's the same"*. UJS attendees reported this to NUS staff.

As well as the two instances of swastika graffiti (described in 'When and where do university incidents happen?' section of this report), there were also two reported occasions in which *"F*ck Zios"* (short for Zionists) was graffitied in the venue's toilets. *"Zio"* is an insulting term that originated on the American far right and has been adopted in more radical parts of the anti-Israel movement.



As well as extreme rhetoric at the conference, Jewish delegates also raised significant concerns about policy formulation procedures that were allegedly used to target UJS. This involved NUS's democratic procedure committee allowing a vote on a proposal to declare UJS no longer representative of all Jewish students in UK, which passed in an initial vote due to arguments over UJS's alleged associations with Israel. This created a situation in which a majority non-Jewish delegate body was voting on whether the Union of Jewish Students is the legitimate representative body of Jewish students. It is important to note that the Union of Jewish Students

is the national representative body of Jewish students and has 86 Jewish Societies, and thousands of members, affiliated to it across the UK. All affiliated JSocs hold democratic elections voted on by society members, and every year each affiliated society has the opportunity to send delegates to UJS' annual convention in order to participate in democratic voting processes that formulate UJS policy and elect a president. NUS staff informed delegates in a follow-up session the next day that the motion would not be put forward to conference as it is not within the scope of the NUS to decide the representative organisation for Jewish students.

CASE STUDY

University of Leeds chaplain

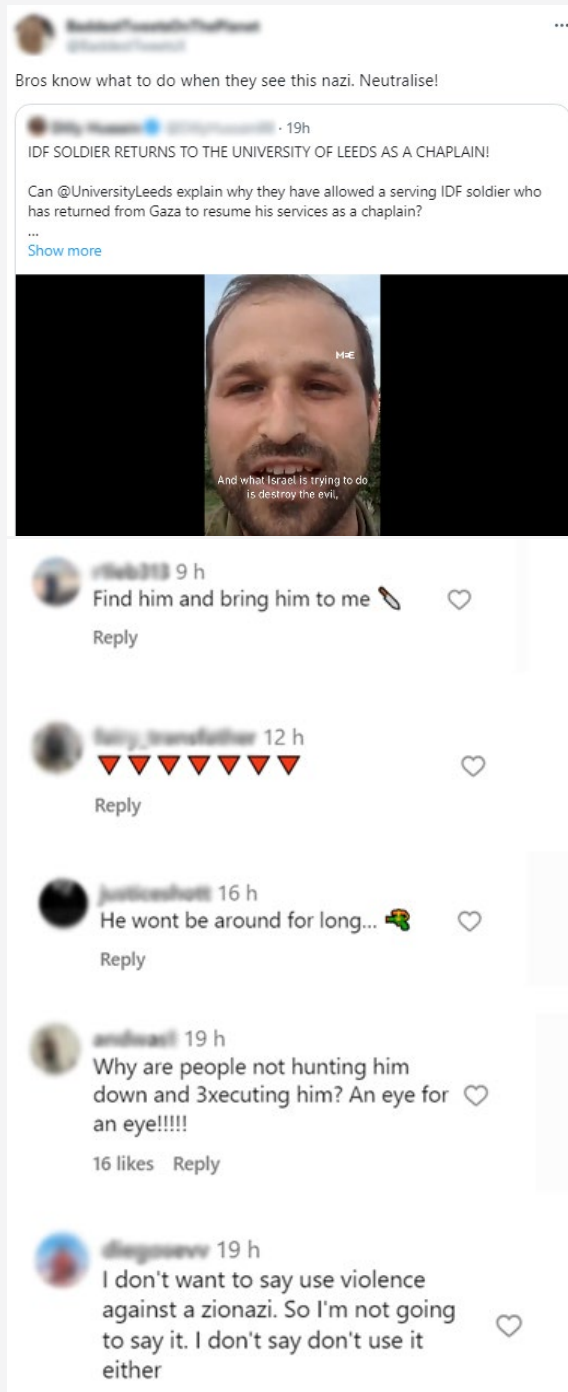
Perhaps the most telling case study illustrating the relationship between antisemitism and extreme anti-Israel rhetoric involved the Jewish chaplain at the University of Leeds during the academic year 2023/24. This case study contains numerous university-related incidents which CST categorised as antisemitic, including incidents of abusive behaviour, threats and damage and desecration to Jewish property. Although the direct target was the university Jewish chaplain, Jewish students were inevitably affected by the targeting of the chaplain and became the victims of antisemitic incidents themselves. It contributed towards an overall hostile environment towards the Jewish community at the University of Leeds.

Following the 7 October attack, the University of Leeds Jewish chaplain, Rabbi Zecharia Deutsch, who has a dual

Israel-British citizenship, was called up for reservist duty with the IDF as were many Israeli nationals living abroad. From Israel, he sent messages and videos of himself (relaying pro-Israel talking points) to a chaplain WhatsApp group chat. In November 2023 these videos and messages were leaked to the Leeds Palestinian Solidarity Group (PSG) and were later shared widely on social media and publicised by numerous pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel news outlets. In response to this leak, the Leeds PSG issued a demand for his removal on social media, resulting in numerous abusive comments being directed towards the chaplain online.

In February 2024, on the arrival of the chaplain back from Israel to his position at Leeds University, several activist news outlets and prominent extremist accounts publicised and denounced his return to the university. Following these posts, numerous comments included threatening messages

such as: “Find him and bring him to me [knife emoji]”, “Why are people not hunting him down and 3xecuting him? [sic]” and “Bros know what to do when they see this nazi Neutralise!”.



During this period the chaplain and his wife, in one night, received approximately 400 phone calls and messages which included explicit antisemitism and graphic threats. In

one call an unknown male declared: “You killed innocent Muslims, and they’re going to get you. I promise you now, we’re going to get you, I’m going to get you. We’re going to follow you home from Leeds, you and your wife, and we’re going to do the f***ing same as you’ve been doing in Israel. Us Muslims are going to come for you, you dirty Zionist motherf***er.” As a result of numerous death threats and security concerns, CST and West Yorkshire Police put extensive security measures in place, including advising the chaplain’s family to temporarily stay with friends outside of Leeds.

On 9 February 2024 it was reported to CST that the Leeds Hillel House (a Jewish student centre including student accommodation) had been vandalised in the early hours of the morning, with “Free Palestine” and “IDF off Campus”



being graffitied onto the building. CST logged this as an incident of damage and desecration, due to activists targeting the Jewish student communal building as a protest against Israel and the chaplain. The following day, CST received a report that a group of visibly Jewish students received death threats whilst walking to the Hillel House for Shabbat services. The incident involved a red van slowing down and the van's occupants shouting: *"We're going to beat the sh*t out of you, you Jewish bastards"*, and then reversing back

towards the students after the students had passed them.

The complexity of this case study demonstrates the interplay between open antisemitism; extreme hatred of Israel; and legitimate anti-Israel campaigning. These different types of behaviour do not always exist in neatly separate categories, but rather they can all combine to contribute towards the development of a hostile environment in which the entire Jewish student body is affected.

Encampments

In April and May 2024, several pro-Palestinian student encampments were established across the UK to pressure their respective universities to take various anti-Israel measures, inspired by the student encampment movement in the United States. By the end of May 2024, there were 36 encampments nationwide, all of which notably lacked any of the violent clashes or disorderly conduct that had been seen on a small number of US campuses.

In total, CST received six reports of antisemitic incidents associated with the student encampments, five of which were of abusive behaviour, and one involved a direct threat. Some of these incidents will be expanded upon later in this report. Rather than the encampments being a significant source of antisemitic incidents, they instead appear to have affected Jewish students and staff in a different way, causing concerns about being in the vicinity of the encampment location. These sentiments have been evidenced in the recent report published by the Intra-communal Professorial Group, in which approximately 500 Jewish students at

over 50 UK universities were surveyed. The survey results showed that in response to the question *"Have you tried to avoid certain student groups for fear of insult, harassment, or demonisation since 7 October?"* 74% said yes, and in response to the question *"Have you tried to avoid certain buildings or campus areas for fear of insult, harassment, or demonisation since 7 October?"* 62% said yes. It should be noted that a minority of Jewish students and academic staff supported the encampments or participated in them, indicating the complexity of managing this situation in a way that meets the needs of all involved.

Through conversations with students disturbed about encampments, CST found that the root of these anxieties was a concern over the rhetoric emerging from student activists within the encampments that appeared to implicitly or explicitly support violent resistance methods and acts of terrorism. For example, one banner displayed the broken-down wall of Kerem Shalom (one of the locations targeted during the 7 October attacks) with a dove emerging from the rubble; *"intifada until victory"* chalked onto the floor outside a university

encampment; and a 'Liberated Zone' reposting on X *"By any means necessary the plague of Zionism must be eradicated."*

More explicitly, in early May 2024 it was reported that a University of Oxford encampment required members of the protest to sign a Google form that included agreeing to the 'Thawabet' (Arabic for basic principles).³ The Thawabet was the stated ideology of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and includes the right to 'armed resistance'. Since then, a new national federation made up of 15 student Palestine groups has been created named the Student Federation for a Liberated Palestine (SFLP). Its manifesto states *"in building this network, we shall continually ground ourselves in the Al-Thawabit al Wataniyya"* and that SFLP supports the rights of Palestinian people to *"the right to resistance in all of its forms"*. Furthermore, the caption underneath their published manifesto states *"we will continue to hold our universities accountable, by any means necessary."*

One university staff member reported to CST that a small number of students who were members of the encampment had reported concerns to staff that older individuals, unrelated to the university, were regularly visiting the encampment wearing face coverings and promoting more extreme ideas and values to student members. These interactions reportedly led to several members of the encampment adopting increasingly extreme rhetoric, which prompted the reporter to feel uncomfortable with the ideological direction and tone of the encampment.

Within this climate, many Jewish students have told CST they are unwilling to make complaints to their university about antisemitism they have experienced due to an uncertainty as to the treatment they will receive, from staff or fellow students. This is how a hostile environment inhibits Jewish students from asserting their rights when they do experience university-related antisemitism.

³ [Jewish student is ordered to leave Oxford encampment after refusing to sign up to radical pro-Palestine pledge - as Cambridge protesters sing genocidal chants before tucking into batch-cooked pesto pasta lunches](#)

University complaints procedures

Jewish students are given advice, guidance and support by CST and UJS when they seek to report antisemitic incidents to their universities and affiliated students' unions (SU). In CST's two previous Campus Antisemitism in Britain reports (2018-2020, 2020-2022), there was an effort to highlight the issues and concerns Jewish students can encounter when dealing with universities' complaints procedures.

Despite some universities and SUs providing strong and effective support to Jewish students, in other cases it appears that complaints of antisemitism have not been dealt with appropriately. In the last two academic years there have been several instances in which complaints of antisemitism appear to have not been investigated or adjudicated in a fair, objective or timely manner. In more concerning cases, the complaints, investigations and disciplinary processes have been misused to target or silence Jewish students and staff members. With the unprecedented increase in university-related antisemitic incidents following

7 October, trust in the integrity of university complaints processes became even more vital as more Jewish students faced significant hostility and relied on their universities and SUs for safeguarding and support.

The following case studies provide an insight into the contrasting experiences students can face when reporting what they feel is antisemitic discrimination against them, and how reporting procedures can sometimes be misused to unfairly target Jewish students and staff. As demonstrated by these case studies, universities can create an environment in which Jewish students feel welcome in their institutions, if they adequately meet their duty of care towards Jewish students who complain about antisemitism. In contrast, universities or students' unions that fail to do this can intensify and compound the harm caused by the antisemitism that Jewish students experience.

CASE STUDY

Jewish and Israel society stall vandalised on Yom Kippur

In September 2023, it was reported to CST that a Jewish and Israel Society freshers stall had been vandalised on Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year in the Jewish calendar. As it was Yom Kippur, the stall was unmanned due to the Society observing religious traditions. This made it possible for a group of students to rip up leaflets (none of which referred to Israel), and place “Free Palestine” stickers and badges across the stall, whilst filming on their mobile phones. These students returned to the Jewish and Israel Society stall multiple times to replace these stickers and badges due to a Jewish student at an unrelated stall opposite removing them. To prevent this from occurring the Jewish student felt compelled to supervise the stall for the remainder of the fair.

The following day, the university students’ union organised a meeting with the Society president, a CST National Student Security Coordinator, Nottingham’s UJS sabbatical officer and the university chaplains to discuss the incident and develop immediate plans of action. Students’ union officers quickly confirmed that during the fair occurring that day there would be an increased security and student union presence in the vicinity of the stall. Furthermore, they agreed to hold a review regarding holding freshers welcome events during Jewish holidays and organised further antisemitism training for its staff and officers. In addition, one of the student union sabbatical officers attended student Friday Night Dinners and other communal events throughout the year, demonstrating to many students that they had support within the student union.

CASE STUDY

Israel society stall mobbed and subjected to abusive rhetoric

Following the above mentioned incident involving an Israel Society stall being surrounded by over 50 students (as discussed in the ‘Hostile environment for Jewish students section of this report), Jewish students reported the incident to CST, UJS and through formal university channels.

Despite the intense hostility these students faced and them officially reporting it to the university for investigation, in a follow-up meeting with a member of the university’s investigations team, students from the

stall were told that the university was investigating unreasonable conduct “on both sides” due to the presence of leaflets at the stall produced by the pro-Israel organisation CAMERA. However, following meetings between CST and the university, no formal investigation took place into the Israel Society, but additionally no disciplinary action was taken against hostile protestors. Students at the stall found this outcome to be deeply unsatisfactory due to the physical damage to the Society’s property and the antisemitic statements made by some protestors such as “*Jews are the ones that ruined the Middle East on behalf of the West*”.

CASE STUDY

Jewish society targeted on an anonymous feedback forum

At the end of October 2023, a Jewish Society of a medical school reported to CST and UJS that they were facing significant hostility on an anonymous university feedback forum, following a complaint made against them regarding an Instagram post highlighting that humanitarian aid sent to Gaza had previously been misappropriated by Hamas for military use. Despite evidence for this occurring, a senior university official directly responded to this complaint stating that he found the Jewish Society post *“hateful and shocking”*, assured an investigation by the Student Conduct and Compliance Team, and stated *“If you have suggestions for that group, I’m sure they would be welcome”*. This led to a flurry of suggestions by students on how to investigate and punish the JSoc and its committee members, including raising questions regarding their fitness to practice as healthcare professionals.

The university subsequently requested an *“informal meeting”* with the JSoc, but also warned the JSoc that *“we do need to make you aware that, if we believe that there are serious concerns regarding your professionalism following this meeting, the matter may be referred for formal investigation under the Procedure for Consideration of Fitness to Practise.”* As

disciplinary procedures against medical students and doctors are held on their records, Jewish Society members informed CST and UJS that they were concerned that any formal investigation, even if groundless, could significantly affect their future careers. The JSoc met with the Dean of Student Welfare and the Dean of Conduct and Compliance, with CST and UJS in attendance for support. After an uneasy discussion, the deans stated they were satisfied of the factual basis of the post and that the JSoc post was not motivated by malice, and that they would not pursue a formal investigation. However, when asked about the significant amount of hostility the JSoc received on the forum, they stated that they intended to be ‘lenient’ with students who had made ‘unintentionally offensive’ comments towards the Jewish Society due to what the deans considered the emotional toll of the current situation in the Middle East. This leniency and understanding had not been extended to the Jewish Society, who had been called to an informal meeting and warned of a formal investigation regarding a factual post about Hamas, uploaded within three weeks of 7 October. Furthermore, they did not address the senior university official’s comment in the forum calling the Jewish Society post *“hateful and shocking”* that had contributed towards the hostility towards the JSoc on that forum.

Recommendations

- It is important to ensure that whoever is assigned to investigate a complaint of antisemitism does not have a close working and/or personal relationship with the subject of the investigation. Otherwise, there is a risk that the investigation will not be objective, or will not inspire confidence that it is truly impartial. Departmental colleagues may be more likely to have a personal relationship or similar political views and thus sympathise or show greater support for a fellow staff member, to the detriment of a student's complaint. A process for complaints of discrimination, bigotry or hateful language should be developed by universities in a way that is independent. This means including staff to assess complaints that do not have a known or close relationship with the member of staff or student involved, where possible engaging external advisers with specialist expertise in the type of discrimination or bigotry being alleged.
- It is welcome that many academic institutions have adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism, as it is essential that institutions use a generally recognised, transparent definition of antisemitism as a framework for their investigations. However, the experience of several investigations in different institutions shows that the IHRA definition is not always being applied accurately, proportionately and effectively, and as a consequence some investigators are failing to recognise antisemitic language. Institutions ought to ensure that the adoption of the IHRA definition of antisemitism is accompanied by training for staff who will be investigating complaints so that they know how to use the definition, and have a wider understanding of the nature, language and impact of antisemitism on British campuses.
- In times of heightened tension, universities should take care to formulate public stances and messaging that emphasise support for all students and do not ostracise any student communities. This is particularly relevant for Jewish students during periods of conflict involving Israel, when past experience shows that Jewish staff and students are often subjected to increased levels of antisemitism. It is essential to recognise these periods and act accordingly, both to pre-empt a rise in antisemitism through strong messaging and to ensure that appropriate levels of support are available at such times.
- Students often relay their frustration at the length of time it takes for universities to process their complaint and issue their final outcome, particularly when this is longer than the mandated timeframes laid out in their guidelines. While delays cannot always be avoided, universities should nevertheless take care to act within a reasonable timeframe. Where delays cannot be avoided, every effort should be made to ensure frequent communication, informing the student of the delays, any progress made and when they can expect a response.
- The process of reporting a hate crime can be an overwhelming and intimidating experience. Some students who felt comfortable reporting antisemitism to

CST did not want to file a complaint to their university for fear of lack of anonymity. This is because the student may have a working or personal relationship with the subject of the complaint; whether that be a member of staff or fellow student. The knowledge that their identity will be revealed to the subject of their complaint may, in such circumstances, discourage them from reporting antisemitism to their university. Therefore, if a complainant's personal details can be kept confidential this would provide reassurance and encourage more students to report antisemitism.

- To avoid generalisation in responding to anti-Jewish hate crime and incidents, initial complaint and/or reporting forms can incorporate a space for students to say that they have specifically been the victim of an antisemitic hate crime. By signposting the exact type of discrimination the victim has endured, the university can respond with greater accuracy. This may include aforementioned recommendations in this report such as consulting external advisers with specialist expertise, and engaging Jewish organisations on campus to provide advice and victim support.
- Jewish students and staff have reported that one of their main concerns at university relates to the intimidating atmosphere generated by protest encampments. Pro-Palestinian campaigning is protected under free speech legislation and therefore should not be hindered when conducted lawfully and appropriately. Unfortunately, CST has received numerous reports of student encampment groups

implicitly and/or explicitly expressing support for terrorism and proscribed organisations both online and offline. This is compounded by the potential for external unknown individuals, masking their identity, to enter these spaces in order to promote extreme ideologies, posing a significant safeguarding issue for students. It is therefore recommended that universities should take action to ensure: encampments are not established in central areas of campus that impede or obstruct the regular flow of student life; external unknown individuals are restricted in their ability to access formal and informal (but established) student groups on university property; appropriate investigation and disciplinary procedures are taken against students within these groups that promote antisemitism or other forms of extremism.

In addition to the recommendations made in this report, the following resources are available and useful to guide universities in dealing with complaints and tackling antisemitism on campus:

[Community Security Trust - Educational resources on antisemitism](#)

[Universities UK - Tackling Antisemitism: Practical Guide for Universities](#)

[Antisemitism Policy Trust - A Guide to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Working Definition of Antisemitism](#)

[Office for Students - Briefing note on tackling antisemitism](#)

[Office of the Independent Adjudicator - Good Practice Framework](#)

CST's mission

- **Promote good relations** between British Jews and the rest of British society by working towards the elimination of racism, and antisemitism in particular.
- **Represent British Jews** on issues of racism, antisemitism, extremism, policing and security.
- **Facilitate Jewish life** by protecting Jews from the dangers of antisemitism, and antisemitic terrorism in particular.
- **Help those who are victims** of antisemitic hatred, harassment or bias.
- **Promote research** into racism, antisemitism and extremism; and to use this research for the benefit of both the Jewish community and society in general.
- **Speak responsibly** at all times, without exaggeration or political favour, on antisemitism and associated issues.



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