



**Testimony of Kenneth Jacobson
Deputy National Director
Anti-Defamation League**

**Before the
Committee on Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight**

***Combating Anti-Semitism: Protecting Human Rights*
April 14, 2010
Washington, DC**

The history of the Jewish people is fraught with examples of the worst violations of human rights - forced conversions, expulsions, inquisitions, pogroms, and genocide. We have experienced and understood that violations of human rights and freedoms are indeed the early warning signs of war and conflict. We were the victims of possibly the worst example of how the progressive erosion of Jewish rights broke apart the very fabric of European society and led it down a slippery slope toward unspeakable atrocities.

Anti-Semitism and the persecution of Jews was the touchstone for the creation of some of the foundational human rights instruments in the aftermath of the Holocaust. The Jewish community was and has remained deeply engaged in maintaining robust international human rights standards and institutions. When rights are being violated for anyone anywhere, we are committed to interrupt the progression that we witnessed and, sadly, experienced 65 years ago.

Even before the Holocaust stirred the conscience of the world, Jews were involved in the development of key human rights principles like the principle of accountability for Crimes Against Humanity, which became the cornerstone of the Nuremberg Principles after WWII. We were there at the creation of these institutions, from the body of legal treaties and documents, the drive to create offices like the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights or the State Department Office of International Religious Freedom or Violence Against Women programs. Thus, the Jewish people are inextricably linked to and invested in the elevation of human rights into the mainstream of international diplomacy and world affairs. We want international institutions that truly hold perpetrators accountable for their inhumanity.

Fighting Anti-Semitism, Advancing the Struggle for Human Rights for All

We view the fight against anti-Semitism today as enhancing and strengthening the fight against all forms of hatred and hate crime. Anti-Semitism is a major concern for the Anti-Defamation League – not just because we are a Jewish community organization, but because anti-Semitism, the longest and most persistent form of prejudice, threatens security and democracy, and poisons the health of a society as a whole. The Anti-Defamation League was established in 1913 with its core mission to combat the then horrific discrimination against Jews in all facets of American life and the growth of anti-Jewish movements and organizations peddling their hate around the world. Over nearly a century, as part of the fight against anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry, we have been at the forefront of the campaign to secure historic civil rights achievements,

pioneered the development of model hate crime laws and developed anti-prejudice education models to address all forms of prejudice and to prepare the next generation to live in our increasingly diverse society. And we have seen that, where anti-Semitism flourishes, no minority group is safe.

We work in a rights-based framework here in our communities and around the world. Human rights are universal, and our community has experienced the truism that, by safeguarding Jewish rights, we advance the cause of rights for everyone. The Jewish community worked with this Committee and many dedicated Members of Congress to put the issue of the denial of the right of Jews to emigrate from the USSR onto the US policy agenda and ultimately onto the world stage. This was the basis for the Jackson Vanik Amendment that tied Most Favored Nation trade status to free emigration and that initiative was one of this country's most important and successful human rights initiatives. Indeed this advocacy movement served as an inspiring model for the campaign to pass the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998

In our own nation's past, our campaign to address anti-Semitic hate violence as a civil rights issue and in the context of opposing hate violence against all groups blazed a trail for the creation of a model hate crime monitoring and response policy here in the US and we are replicating these efforts in Europe and the FSU.

What is Anti-Semitism?

Anti-Semitism is a form of hatred, mistrust, and contempt for Jews based on a variety of stereotypes and myths, and often invokes the belief that Jews have extraordinary influence with which they conspire to harm or control society. It can target Jews as individuals, as a group or a people, or it can target Israel as a Jewish entity. Criticism of Israel or Zionism is anti-Semitic when it uses anti-Jewish stereotypes or invokes anti-Semitic symbols and images, or holds Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel. I have appended to my statement a brief description of anti-Semitism and the manifestations we are seeing today.

What is the Nature and Magnitude of the Problem?

In appendix I, I note the key themes of contemporary anti-Semitism, Appendix II outlines select incidents grouped by country that exemplify some of the trends discussed below. As a practical matter, anti-Semitism manifests in two primary areas, anti-Semitism promoted as an increasingly acceptable part of the public discourse and harassment, vandalism and hate violence. As such, while anti-Semitism can require distinct responses, a number of the recommendations we have to fight anti-Semitism are also components of a comprehensive hate crime response strategy.

The Data Deficit

The first question you should have is: what is the scope and magnitude of anti-Semitism today? The answer to that question points to the first challenge we face in fighting the problem. There is a massive data deficit across dozens of countries who do not monitor and document anti-Semitic incidents. Even in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), whose Participating States have committed to gather data on anti-Semitism and hate crime, only 8 of 56 OSCE Participating States submitted information to ODIHR on anti-Semitic incidents. Even where there is some kind of data collected, the data are rarely comparable, which makes region wide trend analysis very challenging. I have appended to my statement a report prepared jointly by the Anti-Defamation League and our colleagues at Human Rights First that scores the performance of OSCE Participating States in specific areas of performance in monitoring and countering hate crime. This assessment aimed to measure the performance of governments not by where incidents are happening most, but where the governments have instituted policies and procedures to quantify and address them.

The obstacles to comprehensive data collection by police – and the disincentives for reporting for victims of these crimes – are significant. Studies have revealed that some of the most likely targets of hate violence are the least likely to report these crimes to the police, but data collection is an essential jumping off point for

prevention and response. In order to count these crimes, you must define, recognize, and train police to understand their meaning. Where there is data, there is awareness, where there is awareness, there is action.

What follows is an overview of the trends based on the known information.

Overview and Trends

A rise in anti-Semitic violence has been documented worldwide, by governmental agencies, NGOs and institutions like the Tel Aviv University's Stephen Roth Institute. Of course a growth in numbers may also reflect better monitoring by Jewish communities or governments and greater cooperation between them. Violence against Jews and Jewish institutions has occurred mostly in Western Europe. The largest concentration of incidents reported is in the UK and France, which have large Jewish communities in addition to governmental and NGO monitoring. There are other factors in play which I will discuss below.

Everyday Insecurity, Harassment, Vulnerability

The Anti-Defamation League is deeply involved in fighting discrimination today and, during our century of work, discrimination had been a major barrier for Jewish participation in the life of the countries in which they live, including the US.

Today, overt discrimination is not the chief barrier to the full realization of the rights of Jews to live in security with dignity and freedom to express their identity. It is an extreme form of discrimination, of the ugly acting out of hatred, violent hate crime, which targets Jews and visible Jewish sites such as schools, synagogues and cemeteries. It is not a law of the land that prevents Jews in so many places from being able to express who they are, to freely wear yarmulkes, Stars of David, or even T-shirts bearing Hebrew lettering or slogans. Rabbis, parents, students live with the knowledge that walking the streets bearing an identifiable Jewish symbol puts you at risk of violence, intimidation and harassment. This is the unwritten rule many Jews are forced to live by.

Stroll through some Jewish neighborhoods around Paris and you will find bearded Jewish men wearing baseball caps instead of yarmulkes. Ask yourself what it would mean if in St. Louis or Minneapolis or Huntington Beach, your Orthodox Jewish constituents were forced to abandon or hide their traditional dress and symbols and to disguise their identity just to avoid the kind of harassment that has become commonplace.

In so many communities, when we ask Jewish leaders about the nature and levels of threats, they discount stunning incidents of harassment as simply the discomfort that is a fixture of the landscape in their society. They don't always even gather information or acknowledge incidents and situations that in any of our own cities would be scandalous and cause for national attention. This is part of the routine trepidation and caution that Jews navigate. This is impossible to measure, but it is possible, indeed vital, to address. Governments must meet their international legal obligations to keep Jews and all their inhabitants safe from discrimination and hate violence.

Anti-Semitic attacks, Linked to Incidents in Israel

Successive reports by both Inter-Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations note a direct link between flares of Israeli-Palestinian tensions and a spike in anti-Semitic hate violence. This was most pronounced in Western Europe. The European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency notes that: "Anti-Semitic activity since 2000, is increasingly attributed to a 'new antisemitism' characterized primarily by the

vilification of Israel as the Jewish collective, and perpetrated primarily by members of Europe's Muslim population.”¹

Expressing disagreement with Israeli action through violence against one's Jewish neighbor or the Jewish community is untenable and a violation of rights. Yet, as Israel defended her citizens from Hamas' missiles, Jews around the world also came under attack. Anti-Israel rallies and demonstrations were the scene of anti-Semitic rhetoric and imagery. Jews were beaten on the street. Synagogues were fire-bombed. One newspaper in Qatar ran an article noting plainly that all Jews bear responsibility for what is happening in Gaza.

Two other examples:

- Last January, in Sweden, the mayor of Malmö, Ilmar Reepalu, said that neither Zionism nor antisemitism was acceptable in Malmö and that the Jewish community could help reduce tensions in the city by condemning Israeli actions. He then criticized the Jewish community for organizing a pro-Israel demonstration, since that “could send out the wrong signals.”²
- Venezuela's President Chavez called on the Venezuelan Jewish community to speak out against the actions of Israel. "I hope that the Jewish community in Venezuela pronounces itself against these barbaric acts. Do it! Don't you reject forcefully any act of persecution? Don't the Jews reject the Holocaust? And what are we living now? Do it! Put your hands in your heart. Be fair. We should all be fair!"³

In two countries with sound statistics on anti-Semitic acts, France and the UK, we see clear evidence of a spike following Operation Cast Lead. According to France's Jewish security organization, the SPCJ, there were 354 incidents in January 2009. Every other month in 2008 and 2009 showed totals ranging from 23 to 62 incidents. In the UK, the Community Security Trust reported 288 anti-Semitic incidents in January 2009, the highest monthly total they have ever recorded since beginning to keep count 1984, compared to 44 in January 2008. By April 2009, the number of incidents returned to pre-war levels. A similar spike in incidents was documented during Israel's conflict with Hezbollah in 2006 and Israeli Palestinian tensions in 2002.⁴

Rabbi Menno ten Brink an Amsterdam-based Rabbi summed up this sentiment in an interview in January: “Their reasoning goes something like this: Israelis are Jews, Palestinians are Arabs, so we Moroccan ‘Arabs’ in the Netherlands are going to take on Dutch Jews.”⁵

Anti-Semitic Hate Speech: Demonization of Israel

Among the most prevalent expressions of anti-Semitic hate speech relating to the debate around Israel is the equating of Israel with the Nazi regime. Caricatures that depict Israelis as Nazis appeared with alarming frequency in the Arab press, in Latin America, and even in some mainstream European newspapers.

This widespread use of Holocaust and Nazi analogies go well beyond legitimate criticism of Israel. Particularly dangerous and disturbing is the use of Nazi imagery to depict Israelis and comparisons of Israel's actions to the absolute evil perpetrated by the Nazis in the Holocaust. These comparisons and

¹ European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, *Antisemitism, Summary Overview of the situation in the European Union from 2001-2007*, Jan. 2008, page 19.

² Cnaan Lipshiz, *Swedish mayor calls both Anti-Semitism and Zionism forms of 'unacceptable extremism'*, Ha'aretz, Jan. 29, 2010, <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/pages/1146123.html>.

³ Hugo Chavez, Remarks at the Teresa Carreño Theater in Caracas, Jan. 5, 2009, <http://www.noticias24.com>.

⁴ See generally *Anti-Semitic Incidents Report 2009*, Community Security Trust, 2010, <http://www.theccst.org.uk/docs/CST-incidents-report-09-for-web.pdf>.

⁵ Karel Berkhout, *Anti-Semitism on the rise in Amsterdam*, NRC Handelsblad (Netherlands), Jan. 26, 2010, http://www.nrc.nl/international/article2468489.ece/Anti-Semitism_on_the_rise_in_Amsterdam.

imagery feed the age-old myths of Jews as a satanic and conniving force which endeavors to take over the world.

The OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights documented an analogous phenomenon during the 2006 conflict between Israel and Hezbollah: "Analyses and investigations of these incidents show that the projection of anti-Israel sentiment onto Jewish communities throughout Europe was a widespread pattern in 2006, with the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah frequently being used as a justification for anti-Semitism. This found its expression in both organized and spontaneous violence. In this context, direct reference to the Third Reich was often made, with Holocaust imagery being used as a rhetorical device to threaten Jews or to equate them with the perpetrators of the Holocaust."⁶

The Anti-Defamation League has followed how political cartoons have promoted anti-Semitic imagery in commenting on everything from the publication of the UN's Goldstone Report, to the American presidential elections. Anti-Semitic incitement was horrific during Operation Cast Lead, and conflated Israelis with Jews. Newspapers across the Arab and Muslim world published editorial cartoons, articles and opinion pieces laced with age-old anti-Semitic themes, including blood-libel accusations and demonic large-nosed, bearded Jews plotting to rule the world. The articles and editorial cartoons appeared in mainstream newspapers from Egypt and Jordan, to Syria, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

European and Latin American media have also included clearly anti-Semitic articles and caricatures.

In Greece, the leader of a far-right party published an editorial that accused Israel of acting in Gaza like the Nazis, claiming that such could be expected of Jews because they are "Christ-killers." The editorial also included the phrase, "it is known all over the world that a Jew smells of blood."



Spain's *El Mundo*, January 8, 2009

Venezuela's *Diario Vea* published on January 9, 2009 a drawing of Hitler with the caption, "Those Zionists are really out-doing me!"

⁶ OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, *Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses*, Sept. 18, 2007, http://www.osce.org/publications/odihr/2007/09/26296_931_en.pdf.



On January 12, 2009, Bolivia's *La Prensa* ran an op-ed in the form of a fictional letter to Eva Terezin, a 9 year old girl who was murdered in Auschwitz. The author compares Israeli soldiers to Nazis and lists names of Jewish children who "unlike her, survived the holocaust and became the trunk of families of merciless soldiers like those that terrorized you in your dreams." The article ends with the sentence: "Death, beautiful Eva, saved you from giving birth to the new Nazis."

Anti-Semitic hate speech was also noted at anti-Israel demonstrations around the world, including in the United States. In the United Kingdom, the Community Security Trust reported shouts of "Kill the Jews," "Heil Hitler," "Dirty Jews go to Hell," and "O Jews of Khaybar, the army of Mohammed is returning."

Conspiracy Theories Gaining Acceptability in Public Discourse

One of the constants of anti-Semitism is that, in every generation, it traffics in conspiracy theories that appeal to people from the fringes of society into parts of the mainstream. In Sweden, last fall, a false and malicious report in a Swedish newspaper that Israeli soldiers abducted and killed Palestinians, including children, to harvest their organs mushroomed into a global conspiracy theory. Within months, the story generated several conspiracy theories about Jewish plots to harvest organs from victims around the globe, including from kidnapped Algerian and Ukrainian children and from Haitians pulled from the rubble of the earthquake that devastated their nation.

The conspiracy theory related to the Israeli rescue teams in Haiti reached all the way to the British House of Lords, where Baroness Jenny Tonge called on Israel to launch an investigation into the conduct of its military in Haiti. Tonge made the comment after an English-language Palestinian newspaper, *The Palestine*

Telegraph, published an article that cited a report by Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV regarding the organ trafficking allegations. The Palestinian paper lists Tonge as one of two members of a "board of patrons." Following the story, Tonge apologized. However, Nick Clegg, the leader of the Liberal Democrat party, called Tonge's comment "unacceptable" and he subsequently removed her from her position as party spokeswoman on health issues.

The conspiracy theories have been reported as fact by Iranian and Arab media, including Syrian TV, Press TV, a state-funded Iranian TV news channel, and leading pan-Arab satellite news networks Al Jazeera and Al-Arabiya. In addition, newspapers in Jordan, Oman, Qatar and other Arab countries published series of editorial cartoons that depicted Israelis as vicious butchers who were gleefully cutting off the body parts of Arabs and trading in Palestinian organs.

The Economic Crisis – A Touchstone for Scapegoating

Despite the growth of the European Union and the acceptance by new countries of the frameworks for integration and non-discrimination, the economic crisis, social problems and the growing diversity taking hold across European society gave fodder to extremist groups and some right wing populist political parties which play on populist anti-Roma, anti-foreigner and, in some cases, anti-Semitic sentiment.

At the outset of the world financial crisis, ADL found that anti-Semites across the ideological spectrum increased their propagandizing on the classic theme of Jewish control of banks and governments and alleged that Jews and Zionists were responsible for the U.S. economic recession. In a survey conducted last year, as the economies around the world were faltering, 31% of the respondents in seven countries in Europe blamed Jews in the financial industry for the current global economic crisis. Overall, 40% of Europeans in the countries polled believe that Jews have too much power in the business world.

Holocaust Remembrance and the Perversion of Memory

Holocaust education and remembrance must not only tell the story of the past, but institutionalize its lessons for the future. As President Obama stated on Holocaust Remembrance Day: "The memories of the victims serve as a constant reminder to honor their legacy by renewing our commitment to prevent genocide, and to confront anti-Semitism and prejudice in all of its forms. We must never tolerate the hateful stereotypes and prejudice against the Jewish people that tragically continues to this day."

I previously discussed how the use of Nazi imagery to portray the Jewish state perpetuates the myths which have plagued the Jewish people for centuries. Beyond that, the images of Jews as Nazis committing genocide is a perversion of memory, an insult to those who perished in the Holocaust, an affront to those who survived the horrors of Nazi Germany and to those who fought to defeat the Nazis.

Teaching about the Holocaust is moving into a new and more positive phase in many respects. Yet overcoming historical distance from the events by exposing students to eyewitnesses is becoming difficult as the survivor population dwindles. Teachers and communities face resistance or even hostility to teaching the subject or to public remembrance activity.

Political anti-Semitism - Case in Point: Hungary

We are deeply disturbed by the return of political anti-Semitism in Hungary, home to Central Europe's largest Jewish community. The openly anti-Semitic and anti-Roma Jobbik took more than 15 percent of the vote in this past Sunday's election. They took third place behind Hungary's center-right party Fidesz which won by a landslide and were just two points behind the Socialists who had previously been the governing party. This marks a sea change in Hungary's post-communist political landscape.

There are a few things you ought to know about this party:

- Their presidential candidate, Krisztina Morvai, has publicly insulted Hungarian Jews, declared “your kind’s time is over,” and suggested that Jobbik will treat Jews just as Hamas does.
- During a TV interview, Jobbik’s prime ministerial candidate and party leader, Gabor Vona, was asked whether his party supported an upcoming major neo-Nazi rally in Budapest. He answered: "if you are so interested in Jewish issues I suggest you move to Israel."
- One of Jobbik’s election posters shows Israeli president Shimon Peres with the Star of David and promises that under Jobbik’s leadership Israel will not occupy Hungary.
- Last summer Jobbik entered into a cooperation agreement with a Hungarian police trade union that advocated anti-Semitism as “the duty of every Hungarian patriot” and called on its 5,000 members to “prepare for armed battle against the Jews” in its newsletter.
- Jobbik has a paramilitary arm, the Hungarian Guard, which was declared illegal, yet continues to manifest itself.

Trends Echoed in Latin America

When we talk about anti-Semitism in Latin America, for many of us, the first thing that comes to our minds as the devastating terror attack on the AMIA/DAIA, the headquarters of the Argentine Jewish community, which killed 85 people and also wounded hundreds in 1994. This made it especially disconcerting when we saw the vicious reaction to Israel’s operation in Gaza including graffiti near the AMIA/DAIA building which read, “the third bomb is coming.”

Anti-Israel rallies were the scene of anti-Jewish rhetoric and images and numerous incidents of violence against Jews and Jewish institutions were reported in the past year. In Argentina, rallies proclaiming “Judios asesinos” (Jews assassins) erupted in front of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, in parks, on the streets, and in front of Jewish businesses. Jewish businesses and products were boycotted. Flags and insignia of the Lebanese terrorist group Hezbollah, responsible for two terrorist attacks in Argentina, were openly displayed. Jews celebrating Israel’s 61st anniversary were violently attacked by a gang armed with clubs and other weapons, and Jewish cemeteries around the country — even the tombs of children — were desecrated and destroyed.

Separate and apart from events in the Middle East, Latin America has also been a place where Jews have figured as the scapegoat during times of political and economic crisis and upheaval. In October 2009, during the political stalemate in Honduras, conspiracy theories and anti-Semitic statements emerged. False allegations spewed by President Zelaya that Israeli mercenaries were trying to assassinate him, and remarks by the director of a radio station saying that Hitler should have "finished his job" with the Jews made the headlines of mainstream newspapers.

For the past several years, we have been deeply concerned about Venezuela because of the atmosphere of anti-Jewish intimidation promoted by President Chavez and his government apparatus. The intimidation reads like a dictionary example of behavior that violates the European Union FRA Working Definition of Anti-Semitism.

In Venezuela, anti-Semitism has been used as a political tool, fostered by those at the highest levels in government. Chavez and other government leaders have issued a series of inflammatory statements and have taken actions, including ending diplomatic relations with Israel and expelling the Israeli ambassador and other diplomatic staff from Venezuela.

His statements have fostered an atmosphere of intimidation and fear for the Jewish community, as Chavez has held the community accountable for events completely outside of their control. One of the latest anti-Semitic attacks occurred on January 31, 2009, during the Jewish Sabbath, when a synagogue in Caracas was violently profaned and vandalized leaving behind graffiti that said "Fuera / Get out," "Muerte a Todos / Death to All," and "Maldito Israel, Muerte / Damn Israel, Death."

Incubator, Broadcaster: The Arab and Muslim World

For decades, the Anti-Defamation League has focused on monitoring and exposing the anti-Semitism that has pervaded the Arab and Muslim print media. Our particular monitoring focus has been editorial cartoons, where we have found that the exaggerations intrinsic to these caricatures all too often propagate age-old anti-Jewish stereotypes and myths.

In Arabic newspapers across the Middle East one can find a steady stream of images depicting Jews and Israelis drawing on a series of incendiary themes:

- Jews and Israelis as stooped, hook-nosed and money-hungry, as snakes (a particularly nefarious figure in the Arab world) bent on world domination.
- Israeli leaders are regularly depicted as Nazis, at the same time that other articles deny or diminish the Holocaust.
- Jewish caricatures shown as manipulating the United States government, as the puppeteers behind the President, the Secretary of State and Congress.
- Other caricatures show the US and Israel as partners plotting to dominate the world, the United Nations, the Arabs, the Palestinians.
- Anti-Jewish conspiracy blaming Jews and Israel for things like the H1N1 outbreak, criminal organ harvesting from Palestinians, Algerians and Haitians (depending on the conspiracy theory).
- Jews are subtly scapegoated, depicted as fomenting and benefiting from internal conflict in the Arab world.

ADL has called on Arab leaders to denounce the anti-Jewish manifestations featured in their newspapers and they universally respond with excuses, equivocations and downright denial of the problem. Instead of responding with disgust and condemnation, they rigorously defend these ugly pictures as legitimate manifestations of political commentary. Some government leaders, such as Egyptian Prime Minister Hosni Mubarak, have cited freedom of the press as the reason they cannot control anti-Semitic manifestations in their state media. This argument rings hollow given the reality that in Egypt, as in most of the countries where these images proliferate, the only real freedom the media appears to enjoy is the freedom to scapegoat Jews and Israel. Moreover, the respect for press freedom, which we certainly champion, does not absolve political leaders of the responsibility to exercise moral leadership and to publicly denounce these expressions of gutter-level anti-Jewish hatred.

We have also heard from Arab leaders that these caricatures are not anti-Semitic, but are legitimate expressions of criticism of Israel and Israeli policy. This is clearly not the case. In no way should images such as a contorted, stereo-typical Jewish figure, straight out of *Der-Sturmer* crushing the Arab world, or of Israel as a snake strangling Uncle Sam (images which harkens back to age-old canards of Jewish power) be construed as fair criticism of Israeli policy.

On occasion, we have heard some Arab leaders say that the Israeli media is guilty of demonizing Arabs, implying that this somehow balances out the scales. We respectfully reject such equations. When, on occasion, there is a case of an insensitive or even demonizing depiction of Arabs or Muslims in the Israeli media, government leaders, non-governmental organizations and community leaders are quick to condemn it. This is the case outside of Israel as well. In the infamous controversy over the Danish cartoons in 2006, Jewish organizations, including ADL, called on the media to take into account the sensitivities of racial, ethnic and religious groups, while defending the right of newspapers to be free to publish controversial content without fear of censorship or intimidation of their writers and editors. This has also been the case in

the United States, when on numerous occasions American Jewish organizations have supported American Muslim complaints about insensitive depictions of Arabs or Muslims in film, television programs and in editorial cartoons.

While there have been notable op-eds and articles by Arab personalities condemning Arab anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial, they have been few and far between compared to the unrelenting stream of anti-Semitism.

Anti-Semitism is also broadcast on television across the Arab and Muslim world. Among the most infamous examples are two dramatic, multi-part, mini-series which were broadcast during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan – the major "sweeps" period for Arab television. The Egyptian-produced *Horseman Without a Horse* – aired on Egyptian state television in 2002, and the Syrian-produced *Ash-Shatat* – aired in 2003 on the Hezbollah owned Al-Manar satellite network.⁷

Horseman featured base stereotypical depictions of Jews living in nineteenth century Egypt plotting to take over Palestine, the Middle East, and the entire world, guided by the infamous anti-Semitic forgery, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. *Ash Shatat* was saturated with horrifying stereotypes of Jews, references to the *Protocols*, and included a shocking dramatization of the slitting of the throat of a Christian child by a rabbi draining his blood to make matzah. In both dramas, Jews were presented as conspiring, violent, evil, and manipulative, characters who would quickly betray their native country and even their community for their own interest.

In more recent years, Arab dramas produced for Ramadan have focused more on drama and romance, and less on Jews. However, organizations monitoring major Arab satellite and state-run television networks, as well as television stations affiliated with the Palestinian Authority and Hamas, have documented anti-Jewish statements and characterizations permeating news programs, religious broadcasts and documentaries.

Among recent examples:

- Iranian television regularly broadcast speeches by Iranian leaders, such as President Ahmadinejad, questioning the Holocaust, and talk shows featuring infamous Holocaust deniers.
- MEMRI (The Middle East Media Research Institute) released video of a January 2010 program on Syrian Television alleging that Israeli rescue workers in Haiti were harvesting the organs of earthquake victims for trafficking. In the panel discussion, Dr. Jassem Zakariya, Professor of International Relations, Damascus University, states:
“Of course, when we watch the scenes in this fine report, Shakespeare immediately comes to mind...
Moderator: Shylock...
Dr. Jassem Zakariya: Shylock, yes. As we see, the Jew has not changed – especially the Zionist Jews, who are now gathered in the so-called "Israel," which is the largest concentration in history of war criminals, who committed crimes against humanity. This is how they will be remembered if they continue with this.”⁸
- Al Aqsa TV, the Hamas-run television station, incites hatred of Jews and Israelis. The station, directed by Palestinian Legislative Council member Fathi Ahmad Hammad, began broadcasting in the Gaza Strip in January 2006. Much of Al-Aqsa TV programming that glorifies violence is geared towards children, including music videos. In April 2007, the show “Tomorrow’s Pioneers” featured a Mickey Mouse-like character, Farfour, promoting a message of radical Islam, anti-Semitism and

⁷ Al-Manar has a long record of incendiary anti-Jewish, anti-Israel and anti-American programming. It appears to be the source of the conspiracy theory that claimed that 4,000 Israelis were absent from their jobs at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, thereby implying that Israel was in some way behind the attack. The story was posted on its Web site on September 17, 2001 and picked up by extremists around the world. It has been banned from broadcasting several European countries and the United States.

⁸ The Middle East Media Research Institute, *Syrian TV and Organ Transplant Experts: Israel Reminiscent of Shylock, Engages in Organ Trafficking in Haiti and Worldwide*, Jan. 27, 2010, <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/2370.htm>.

hatred for the West. Farfour encouraged comments from children such as a call to "annihilate the Jews." On April 3, 2009, Hamas' Al-Aqsa TV broadcast a play that included the ancient blood libel of Jews using blood for religious rituals. The play, "The House of Sheikh Yassin" was performed at the Hamas-affiliated Islamic University in Gaza City, featured the character of an ultra-orthodox Jewish father. According to a translation by the Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center at the Israel Intelligence Heritage & Commemoration Center, the father declares: "We Jews hate Muslims. We like to kill Muslims. We Jews drink the blood of Muslims and Arabs." He then turns to the audience and asks, "Are you Arabs? Are you Muslims? I hate you. I hate you for the sake of [our] God's will." Later, the father says to his son, "Shimon, I want to teach you some things: first of all, you have to hate Muslims." Shimon answers, "I don't like them, I hate them." The father continues, "You have to drink Muslim blood. We have to wash our hands in Muslim blood" [in the context of Jewish ritual hand washing before prayer], and adds, "We have to conspire against Arabs and Muslims to satisfy God. We will destroy the Arabs and the Muslims."⁹

- Sermons by Muslim clerics broadcast on stations across the region are peppered with anti-Semitic accusations and references. For example, a MEMRI transcript of a speech by Egyptian cleric, Ahmad 'Eid Mihna, broadcast in January 2010 on Egypt's Al-Shabab TV in which he stated: "The history of the Jews shows that they are against any reform movement in the world. Any reformer, Muslim or not, will be attacked by the Jews. The Jews are like that. They thrive only on civil strife, on the selling of arms, on usury, on whorehouses, and so on.... Jews will be Jews-everywhere and always. Their innate characteristics include lying, deceiving, the practice of usury, and the selling of arms. Even when it comes to our brothers in Hamas - may Allah grant them victory - their number one source of weapons is the Jews. They buy weapons from Jewish traitors."¹⁰

Teaching Generations of Youth to Hate

After decades of these demonizing depictions generations of Arabs in the Middle East have only encountered Jews as images of evil, threatening, subhuman figures to be feared, hated and fought against. For example, the most recent State Department Country Report on Human Rights in Saudi Arabia noted the anti-Semitism propagated by Imams like the broadcast on Al Jazeera of Saudi cleric Khaled Al-Khlewi referring to Jews as "treacherous, disloyal, deceitful, and belligerent by nature" or high school textbooks saying, "Jews' lives are ruled by materialism, and usury consumes them."

Compounding this problem is the instantaneous, global transmission of these images via the internet and satellite television, from the Middle East to Europe, Africa, and the United States, reaching and potentially radicalizing a much larger audience.

We know well the connection between charged rhetoric and violent action. Incitement can create an environment conducive to, and accepting of, violence and terrorism. Anti-Semitic tenets are deeply rooted in the founding manifestos of al-Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah, and other Islamic extremist groups. We have also seen that where Jews are scapegoated and demonized, incendiary anti-American rhetoric flourishes as well, inviting extremists to step in with violent action.

The incitement also undermines prospects for the Arab-Israeli peace these governments purport to seek.

Recent peacemaking efforts have taught us that the dissemination of hate makes the road to peace ever more difficult. Achieving diplomatic breakthroughs depends not only on political leaders taking bold steps, but also on their preparation of the public for peace.

Take, for example, an Egyptian born in 1979 at the time of the signing of the Camp David Accord, the peace

⁹ Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center at the Israel Intelligence Heritage & Commemoration Center, The hate industry: Hamas incorporates crude anti-Semitism into its battle for hearts and minds, Apr. 8, 2009, http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/malam_multimedia/English/eng_n/html/hamas_e069.htm.

¹⁰ The Middle East Media Research Institute, *Egyptian Cleric Ahmad 'Eid Mihna: The Jews Are Behind Misery, Hardship, Usury, and Whorehouses*, Jan. 10, 2010, <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/0/0/0/0/0/2409.htm>.

treaty between Israel and Egypt. He or she is now 30 years old and has lived an entire life in the era of peace between Israel and Egypt. Yet, given the images in the media and other influences in society, it is more likely than not that this Egyptian has incorporated the age-old anti-Semitic canards about Jews and Judaism into a world view. He or she has also been educated to believe anti-Semitic conspiracy theories – told that Jews introduced AIDS to Egypt; that Israel developed a special gum sold in Egypt that promotes promiscuity among young Egyptian girls; even a claim in the Egyptian weekly *Al-Usbu'* that Israel was responsible for the Tsunami as a result of an Israeli nuclear underground test that was conducted in the Indian Ocean. Given these ingrained prejudices, this Egyptian, more likely than not, doesn't understand or support Egypt's diplomatic relationship with the Jewish state. Even deeper prejudice, hatred and suspicion of Jews would likely be found on the streets of Saudi Arabia, Syria, the Gulf States and others.

The demonization of Jews also conveys to Israelis that the Arab/Muslim world will never be reconciled to the existence of the Jewish state, and that peace is impossible.

Official Responses: Fear, Denial, and Ambiguity

As a community, we have had meaningful access and opportunity to raise the issues with leaders at the highest levels in most places where Jews are targeted and there are examples of leadership that have made a difference. In both France and the UK, anti-Semitic attacks reached all-time highs in 2009, yet we commend both governments for their serious and sustained responses, including unambiguous condemnations by President Nicolas Sarkozy and Prime Minister Gordon Brown. However, all too often, even where there are documented cases or examples of public incitement, leaders at the highest levels of government often dismiss them as “isolated.” Other times, when a case is being investigated, we are told that since a process is underway, the leadership must not comment on an ongoing investigation or trial. While prosecution of anti-Semitic crimes is vital, the minority of cases that make it to prosecution are resolved many months or even years after the community has suffered the impact of the incident. Further, even where there are such laws, the lack of faith of targeted groups in the police or judicial system makes victims reticent to even initiate action.

In many places there are laws prohibiting anti-Semitic violence or discrimination, but what good is a law if the political leadership does not lay down a marker affirming that anti-Semitic accusations and conspiracy theories have no place in a country that respects Jewish rights, minority rights, human rights? Due to our experience in the US, we attach great importance to the value of leaders condemning anti-Semitic hate speech and believe that it can go further to protect vulnerable communities than some legal remedies available in other countries.

Even where hate speech is prohibited by law, judicial remedies in no way substitute for the swift statement from a political leader that sends an unequivocal message to extremists, reassuring the community that they are a valued part of their country, and that their rights enjoy the support and backing of the government.

The key is to overcome the denial and defensiveness that prevents solution oriented action. Time and again, governments respond to ADL reports and even our polling data with one reflexive response: “The data is flawed because my country is not an anti-Semitic country.” We remind governments that the real measure of the how a society measures up is not the presence of anti-Semitic attitudes or the documentation of incidents but rather how robust a response and prevention mechanism is in place to help the victims, to ensure that these incidents are investigated and prosecuted, and that the attitudes and rhetoric are rejected by the leaders.

UN and International Organizations: Challenges, Failures, and New Successes

The United Nations, given its origin and mission, should be a lead organization taking a strong and sustained stand against anti-Semitism. Unfortunately, its record has been mixed.

As Congress and successive US Administrations have experienced, the United Nations – particularly the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council – has called into question its effectiveness and credibility

as a voice on human rights through its fixation and excessive focus on Israel and its extreme criticism of Israeli policy and actions.

On some notable occasions, this harsh criticism of Israel crossed the line into overt anti-Semitism. Indeed the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency's Working Definition of Antisemitism notes that branding the State of Israel as "a racist endeavor" or applying to it "double standards" is a manifestation of anti-Semitism.

The most infamous example of anti-Semitism at the United Nations was the 2001 U.N. World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa. Members of the U.N. and a host of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) participated in this third international conference on racism, which was intended to examine effective mechanisms to combat racial discrimination and promote understanding and awareness of this global problem. Despite these laudable goals, the conference was hijacked by a number of NGOs and Arab states who attempted to focus on Israeli-Palestinian issues, and used their platform to delegitimize Israel and to promote base anti-Semitism. For example, at the NGO conference, the Arab Lawyers Union distributed material with caricatures depicting hook-nosed Jews as Nazis, Jews with moneybags, and dripping with blood. A poster around the conference had a picture of Hitler with the words: "What if Hitler had won? There would be no Israel, and no Palestinian bloodshed." Copies of the infamous "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" were on sale at booths. Jewish participants at the conference felt personally threatened in the overwhelming hostile and hate-filled atmosphere.

While Mary Robinson, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the convener of the conference condemned the anti-Semitism at Durban, far too many participating NGO's and state representatives were silent, or downplayed the problem. The 2001 Durban conference will long be remembered as tainted for branding Israel as racist and for anti-Semitic incitement. This was chiefly evident at the NGO forum where the incitement led to even mistreatment and intimidation of Jewish participants.

Following Durban, and in the midst of a resurgence of anti-Jewish violence in Western Europe, efforts were made to address the issue of anti-Semitism at the U.N. Led by the Secretariat, special events have been organized to examine anti-Semitism and the U.N. has institutionalized annual commemoration of the Holocaust. Among these positive developments:

- In June 2004, at the first U.N. Department of Public Information Seminar on Anti-Semitism, Secretary-General Kofi Annan described what he called "an alarming resurgence of this phenomenon." In his remarks to the conference, the Secretary General acknowledged that "the United Nations' record on anti-Semitism has at times fallen short of our ideals" and made specific reference to the GA resolution of 1975, equating Zionism with racism, as "an especially unfortunate decision." In concluding his speech, the Secretary General called on the U.N. to take up the fight against anti-Semitism and proclaimed that "Jews everywhere must feel that the United Nations is their home, too."
- On November 23, 2004, the United Nations Third Committee passed a resolution on the "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance," which included anti-Semitism. The resolution recognized "with deep concern the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia."
- In January 2005, the General Assembly held a special session marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps during which a Holocaust exhibit was on display in the lobby of U.N. headquarters in New York. Annan visited Yad Vashem in a show of support. Even more significant, on November 1, 2005, the General Assembly passed a resolution establishing January 27 as an international Holocaust Memorial Day. The resolution was sponsored by the United States, Australia, Canada, Russia, and Israel and it was fully supported by Annan. January 27 is now commemorated annually at every United Nations facility.

- On January 26, 2007, the U.N. General Assembly adopted a resolution which "rejects efforts to deny the Holocaust." The resolution, introduced by the United States and co-sponsored by more than 100 countries, was adopted by consensus.

While these initiatives are extremely valuable in making clear that the international community has learned from the Holocaust, condemns anti-Semitism, and rejects Holocaust denial, unfortunately – just as experienced at Durban – anti-Semitic speech from official U.N. podiums is rarely countered or stopped and no mechanism exists to censure those who use U.N. organs to propagate anti-Jewish hate speech.

The most obvious example is the now-regular spectacle of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's anti-Semitic addresses from U.N. podiums. At the opening sessions of the General Assembly in 2008 and 2009, Ahmadinejad blamed Jews as the source of upheaval in the economy and in international conflicts. At the April 2009 Durban Review Conference in Geneva, Ahmadinejad made similar accusations, as well as statements denying the Holocaust.

While numerous delegations walked out to protest the Iranian leader's anti-Semitic statement at the Durban II Conference and in the 2009 General Assembly, it is notable that his speeches were greeted by delegate applause and that the U.N. apparatus continues to welcome him and his involvement in U.N. events. For example, following Ahmadinejad's speech in 2008 to General Assembly, then-General Assembly President Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann stood and embraced him. Commendably, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has repeatedly strongly condemned President Ahmadinejad's anti-Semitic statements.

Similar incidents have occurred in various U.N. bodies where anti-Semitic statements and material are entered into the official record with little comment or censure. On April 23, 2008, in a statement to the Security Council, the Libyan Deputy Ambassador, Ibrahim Dabbashi, compared tactics used by Israel to the Nazi efforts to exterminate the Jews. Significantly, the ambassadors from Costa Rica, Belgium, the United States, Britain and France left the chamber in protest after the comments were made.

At the March 2010 session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, a Libyan-funded NGO, EAFORD, submitted a statement to the Council – which is included in the Council's website and permanent record – accusing Israel of harvesting organs of "dead, kidnapped and killed Palestinians" in a conspiracy involving "Israeli physicians, medical centers, rabbis and the Israeli Army." According to UN Watch, the HRC has the right to vet such submissions – and have done so to other submitted declarations and publications – yet, declined to do so in this instance.

This last example harkens back to other incidents. In March 2002, the Algerian representative to the U.N. Human Rights Commission, compared Israeli actions to those of the Nazis during World War II. Algerian Ambassador Mohamed-Saleh Dembri stated: "Kristallnacht repeats itself daily and Masadas are perpetrated against the ghettoized Palestinian people ... We must end this 'night and fog', nacht und nebel, inflicted on the Palestinian population by the inheritors of the Shoah ... And what about the Israeli soldiers, the true disciples of Goebbels and of Himmler, who strip the clothes from their Palestinian prisoners in front of the cameras of the world and inscribe numbers on their bodies, just as they were tattooed in the concentration camps ... Must we wait in silence until new death camps are built, new massacres like at Babi Yar?" In March 1997, Ambassador Nabil Ramlawi, Permanent Observer of Palestine to the UN Commission on Human Rights, made a statement to the body: that "the Israeli authorities have infected by injection 300 Palestinian children with the HIV virus during the years of the Intifadah." In both of these incidents, the statements remain on the official records of the U.N. without comment, refutation or censure by the UN.

Other international entities suffer from the same problem. For example, speaking at the Organization of the Islamic Conference on October 16, 2003, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad of Malaysia told the assembly of leaders of 57 nations that Jews "rule the world by proxy" and "get others to fight and die for them." He called for a "final victory" by the world's 1.3 billion Muslims, who, he said "cannot be defeated by a few million Jews." While numerous world leaders condemned Mahathir's statements in the aftermath of the

speech, of the 57 nations assembled in the conference room, nobody stood up, nobody walked up and nobody challenged the base hatred in his declaration.

OSCE: An Inter-Governmental Organization Taking the Lead Fighting Anti-Semitism and Hate Crime

When we first were confronted by the surge of anti-Semitic hate violence in the OSCE region, we were a community still scarred by the United Nations World Conference Against Racism in Durban and the realization that the international community did not view anti-Semitism as a legitimate human rights issue. For Jewish communities targeted in ways they hadn't seen in decades, there was no one to call, no focal point of responsibility, and an international community largely in denial. Our groups came to Congress, to the Administration with a simple request: if international bodies such as the U.N. could not address the human rights violation that is anti-Semitism, let the OSCE, the largest regional security organization, with a body of commitments to fight anti-Semitism, convene a conference to address the racism of anti-Semitism.

Since then, the OSCE has become more than a locus of activity and progress in raising awareness about new forms of anti-Semitism and the dangers they pose. The OSCE has been a forum for forthright recognition of and response to anti-Semitism in what continues to be a poisonous and politicized environment. The Commissioners know well, and were deeply involved in, the groundbreaking Ministerial Council Decisions, Parliamentary Assembly Resolutions and tolerance conferences that secured commitments for action by Participating States and for the OSCE institutions. The appointment by the Chair in Office of Personal Representatives on anti-Semitism, on Xenophobia and on Discrimination against Muslims has added political muscle to OSCE efforts to raise the profile of these issues. In only three years, we all agree that ODIHR has made tangible progress in fulfilling its tasking to monitor and report on hate incidents and to share promising programs with states.

So now, in the face of hate, there is a place to call, a locus for action, an intergovernmental partnership with civil society to spotlight and combat this problem. Institutions, including those of the United Nations, are using OSCE materials in areas like Holocaust remembrance and education.

The OSCE has adopted in just a few years; a sound body of commitments by the Participating States; a special representative for combating anti-Semitism who can bring political muscle and attention to the issue; and an impressive body of cutting edge program activity underway as part of the Tolerance and non-Discrimination program that grew out of these efforts.

This is a model for how, in the relatively brief time of seven years, an organization can transcend a reticence to address the problem and catalyze a serious IGO initiative to combat not just anti-Semitism but to address the growth of hate crime and discrimination on a comprehensive basis.

The Costs of the Politicization of Human Rights in International Organizations

Reflecting on the trajectory in the OSCE brings to mind perhaps the most tragic flaw in the workings of bodies like the Human Rights Council. The misguided and inappropriate political campaigns which can take over the process leave little space to advance protections for the real victims of discrimination and wide-scale repression.

Rather than allow the sessions of the Council to be taken over by debates over how much to curb free expression in the name of protecting a religion from critique, governments should be addressing the most lethal form of "defamation" or discrimination and manifestation of hate – hate violence. The global problem of anti-Semitism and all forms of hate crime, the barriers, harassment and difficulty faced by hate crime response advocates and NGOs has grown. Of course these barriers are pronounced and difficult in precisely those countries who load the HRC agenda with anything to distract attention from the treatment of their own minorities and the Council Members would do well to fight "defamation" and hate speech by first beginning in their own countries.

One example of how anti-Semitism is used as a diversion is in Egypt, an authoritarian regime that allows the strategic ebb and flow of anti-Semitism in their government run media such that, two generations after it signed a peace treaty with Israel, a prominent minister of culture has to publicly pledge to burn any Hebrew books found in any Egyptian library. Yes, when a synagogue was vandalized there were arrests, but the government has led people away from tolerance and toward a society where a Cairo bookseller would ask a customer why they were seeking a particularly rare version of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* when there are so many other versions readily available in the store. This is a country where the daily diet of anti-Semitism, where demonizing Jews is the background music in which children are raised, the political winds will not tolerate any presence of Jews or their culture or language. These regimes which tolerate, manipulate, foment and use anti-Semitism in this way are the same regimes that are sliding backward in their protection of human rights broadly.

US engagement with these countries must be honest enough, respectful enough to expect better from our allies in the Arab World. Ignoring the propagation of anti-Semitism emanating from the Arab and Muslim world has not provided any opening for improvement; it has not helped the other minorities who live in those places.

Recommendations for Action

The incidents and the trends they represent are tragic and challenging, but they point to important ways the US and other governments can institutionalize response tools as part of a systemic, comprehensive strategy. Many of our groups – as well as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights Michael Posner – have highlighted the need for the US to move from a reporting agenda to a protection agenda. Our recommendations provide a roadmap to apply that principle to combating anti-Semitism.

Governments bear the primary responsibility to ensure that Jews are afforded the same rights as others to live in security and with dignity in their communities. When it comes to anti-Semitism, governments should display similar resolve as they would against other threats to their security and the health of their democracy. Moreover, the will to act must be based upon an understanding of the issue at hand. Jewish communities were historically targeted by state-driven discrimination and persecution. While the hatred that motivated these policies is alive and well today, there is a crucial difference: in the majority of states where Jews live, they are protected by the laws and norms of democratic societies. In the democratic world, anti-Semitism is driven by toxic, backward-looking social forces, not by states. If, in the past, the challenge was to combat state-supported anti-Semitism, the challenge now lies in the need for states to make good on their pledges to fight anti-Semitism, by mobilizing political will and utilizing the human rights and anti-discrimination instruments related to anti-Semitism and intolerance.

1. What Political Leaders Can Do:

- a. **Use the bully pulpit to speak out.** Political leaders have the most immediate and significant opportunity in the aftermath of an anti-Semitic incident or when a public figure foments anti-Semitism to set the course of a nation's response. Nothing gives the community a greater sense of belonging and security than knowing that anti-Semitic myths and canards and accusations will be condemned and rejected by the leadership of a society. Nothing gives a greater sense of security than knowing that their government takes the right to live free of harassment seriously and that the state will investigate and prosecute anti-Semitic crimes expeditiously and to the full extent of the law. Even absent a sound hate crime law, where there is political will, where the police know anti-Semitism when they see it, when the local and national officials marginalize and reject those crimes, there is a way that can be found to respond. Of course, government leaders should begin by leading by example at home.
- b. **Take opportunities to shape public attitudes and set a tone of civility.** Political leaders should lead by example in their own country and must never engage in divisive appeals that

demonize any member of society based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or religion. When political leaders are determined to build political consensus across party lines that some behaviors are beyond the pale, we see real change. We know in our own country the power that words have to shape, not just our political debate, but the environment in which targeted communities live.

- c. **Zero tolerance for anti-Semitism in international forums.** We have cited examples of international forums that have given anti-Semitism a podium. By working together, nations have it well within their power today to play a very different role in international organizations and to use these opportunities to marginalize instead of to “tolerate” anti-Semitism. Those who come before the community of nations to project hatred for one group should face censure, not applause.

2. What the US Can Do:

- a. **Sustain US leadership and support for OSCE work on anti-Semitism and intolerance.** The US should support the specialized work of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) Tolerance and non-Discrimination Unit and help promote its education programs and other tools to combat anti-Semitism and hate crime. The vast majority of the events and programs that have built momentum in this process are funded through extra budgetary contributions from just a few Participating States. As part of its longstanding commitment to the OSCE Human Dimension, the US was a key supporter of the tolerance agenda and specific programs to fight anti-Semitism.
- b. **Prioritize combating anti-Semitism as a bilateral Issue.** We know well that where anti-Semitism flourishes, where hate crime goes unchallenged, security, and respect for human rights and the rule of law is not sound. The US should let our allies know that addressing anti-Semitism and hate crime is part of the discussion on our bilateral agenda. We value the specialized work of the Human Rights Bureau and the dedicated focus of Special Envoy Hannah Rosenthal to highlight and report on the distinct nature of how anti-Semitism manifests today and the tools needed to respond. In order to strengthen and institutionalize these efforts and a US response, they have to be integrated into the work of the Regional Bureaus in the State Department who have a chief role in shaping the bilateral agenda with those countries. Congress has a central role to play in promoting this emphasis both within the State Department and in your own bilateral contacts and outreach to foreign officials.
- c. **Sustain support for the Office of Special Envoy.** One of the primary reasons it is so important that Presidents Bush and Obama appointed Special Envoys to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism is because anti-Semitism is a continuously mutating phenomenon that is not always easy to discern. As this testimony has set out, it sometimes must be addressed in unique ways and it requires the attention of someone experienced to have a particular focus on crafting a strategy to address it.
- d. **Improving US reporting and response to anti-Semitism.** The State Department Country Reports on Human Rights have been increasingly attentive to the issue of how anti-Semitism in the public discourse puts Jews at risk, as well as how hostility toward Israel and Jews is too frequently comingled. But these issues are delicate and nuanced. Specific reporting instructions highlighting the key trends and manifestations of anti-Semitism would help reporting officers provide the State Department with more comparable information from different countries that would illustrate trends and help them detect emerging issues. While many Embassies have deep and longstanding relationships with Jewish community activists, there are many communities who have never had contact with their local US mission. Outreach to Jewish communities is one way to facilitate data collection and connect Jewish communities with US resources and efforts. Specialized training could also be offered in the Foreign Service Institute for diplomats, including Human Rights Officers, and incoming Ambassadors.
- e. **Combating anti-Semitism should be part of the full array of human rights and**

democracy programming, funding and public diplomacy efforts. For example, the State Department's International Visitor Programs and other US-funded exchange and public diplomacy programs should reflect the growing US and international recognition of anti-Semitism and of the problem of hate crime broadly. US assistance programs should fund prevention efforts as well as response. While part of the challenge is to institute legal norms and protections for victims of anti-Semitism, we also know that prevention efforts can head off tension, conflict, and violence that can erupt when anti-Semitism goes unanswered. US assistance programs could focus on public education campaigns to promote tolerance.

- f. **The US must not demur from addressing anti-Semitism with Muslim and Arab leaders.** In his Cairo speech, President Obama spoke directly to the Arab World about the centuries of persecution and anti-Semitism endured by the Jewish people. The President understood the challenge, that hatred of Jews is deeply rooted there and is poised to be part of the landscape for generations to come if it is not addressed. The instruments of US public diplomacy, and President Obama's emissary to the Organization of the Islamic Conference should actualize the spirit of the President's statement in Cairo and seek ways to address the issue of anti-Semitism where it is needed most. This can begin even in the cultural arena or at the local Embassy level. For example, when Riyadh's international book fair in March 2010 – billed as an event to display the Saudi Kingdom's "openness to the world" – displayed anti-Semitic titles, it would be important for the US to communicate that books like the Protocols of the Elders of Zion are inappropriate and offensive.
- g. **Provide training and assistance to improve the policing and prosecution of anti-Semitism.** US training and Technical Assistance programs such as rule of law and judicial assistance programs and police training delivered through US International Law Enforcement Academies are prime vehicles to reach governmental and law enforcement audiences around the world. We should not miss an opportunity to provide training on hate crime response generally – including legal tools, model policies and training on investigating, and prosecuting anti-Semitic crimes.
- h. **Strengthen the fight against anti-Semitism and intolerance at home.** Congress has been instrumental in advancing the fight against global anti-Semitism on the international stage. As legislators, each of you has the ability to also strengthen America's efforts to address and prevent anti-Semitism and hate crime here at home. The federal government has an essential role to play in helping law enforcement, communities, and schools implement effective hate crime prevention programs and activities. The latest ADL *Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents* found that, while overall numbers of incidents showed a decline, a troubling number of incidents took place in public schools against students, and often by students. In addition, according to the FBI annual Hate Crime Statistics Act report for 2008, over 900 of the 7,783 reported hate crime incidents (11.7%) took place at schools or colleges. We know of no federal anti-bias or hate crime education and prevention programming that is currently addressing youth hate violence. Members of Congress should authorize federal anti-bias and hate crime education programs to help schools and communities address violent bigotry.

3. For All Governments:

- a. **National and local authorities must call attacks on Jews and Jewish institutions what they are – anti-Semitism.** Far too many anti-Semitic incidents are still rationalized as hooliganism or as expressions of political disagreement with Israel. In fact, they are a violation of national law in many states and of international norms and treaties against incitement, religious intolerance, and hate violence.
- b. **Educate about anti-Semitism and provide tools to reject and combat it.** Anti-bias lessons which focus on the specific nature of anti-Semitism should be directly integrated into the curriculum and into after-school program activities. Education ministries should establish anti-bias teaching standards and model policies to protect students from school-based anti-Semitic incidents and harassment. Schools should adopt formal written policies

governing how teachers, administrators and security professionals identify and respond effectively to bias-motivated bullying, violence, and harassment. The policy should include formal reporting and complaint procedures and facilitate cooperation between educators and law enforcement officials.

- c. **Promote effective Holocaust remembrance and education.** There is increased recognition that Holocaust education alone does not counter anti-Semitism and that effective programs must also address contemporary anti-Semitism as a subject on its own. An ideal forum for the US to advance an initiative would be through UNESCO which has a new mandate on Holocaust Education and an existing mandate in the area of promoting tolerance and diversity.

4. Overcoming the denial and failure to monitor: Promote new thinking about what data on anti-Semitism means

Congress and the US government can play a role in changing how data on anti-Semitism is framed and viewed by foreign governments. Countries should be measured by their response to the problem and not just by the existence of the problem. The existence of a data collection mechanism is a sign that that government is recognizing the problem and taking the first step to respond. What the state does with it, how they interpret it, and determine which action flows from it constitutes the more important measure. By the same logic, the lack of recorded incidents in a country doesn't mean it is safe. Underreporting is denial, not success.

Physical assaults on Jews or Jewish institutions are not the only incidents that should be monitored. There are many countries where the discourse is extremely hostile toward Jews, even if there are few violent incidents, perhaps because there may be few if any Jewish targets. The lack of violent incidents in no way proves that the response mechanisms and the institutions and safeguards are sound in a particular country.

At ADL we know well the importance of contextualizing hate crime data. We work in close partnership with police and local authorities, raising awareness among leaders and communities about the meaning of hate crime data. In cities across the country, the Anti-Defamation League stands side-by-side with a gay victim, an African American, a Jewish victim. We also stand with the chief of police to release the annual hate crime numbers for that area to show that, even where incidents happen, the community should be heartened that officials and good people across the community are there when they need them.

5. **Utilize parliamentary forums.** Many of the initiatives I have described were the product of Congressional hearings and inquiries like this one. The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has mobilized some of the OSCE efforts. The All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry Into Antisemitism in the UK as also a model other parliaments could follow. Parliamentarians from different countries gathered last year in London for the founding Conference and Summit of the Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism, issued a "London Declaration on Combating Antisemitism" which any parliamentarian can endorse.

America's leadership in putting the fight against anti-Semitism and hate on the international agenda is a credit to successive Congresses that have worked in a substantive and bipartisan way to engage and shape the focus of administration after administration to stay committed to this fight. As the current Administration moves forward, as Assistant Secretary Posner has remarked, from a reporting agenda toward a protection agenda, we will look to this subcommittee to help support a sustained US commitment to build on the momentum that now exists and to invigorate American efforts in the fight against anti-Semitism and hate.

Appendix I: What is Anti-Semitism?

Anti-Semitism is a form of hatred, mistrust, and contempt for Jews based on stereotypes and myths. It can invoke the belief that Jews have extraordinary influence with which they conspire to harm or control society. It can target Jews as individuals, as a group or a people, or it can target Israel as a Jewish entity. Criticism of Israel or Zionism is anti-Semitic when it invokes anti-Jewish stereotypes, symbols and images, or holds Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel.

Anti-Semitism has existed over many centuries and the negative stereotypes it draws on have taken hold in the popular culture and thought of many societies. It can take the form of hate speech, discrimination, or violence against people or property. It may target individuals or communities on small or large scales. The most extreme example of this was the Nazi's organized plan to exterminate the Jews through the Holocaust.

Various forms of intolerance – racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism – share many elements in common. Stereotyping, seeing the victim as the other, are among these common elements. On the other hand, there are core characteristics unique to each type of hatred. In the case of anti-Semitism, it resides in a matrix of three beliefs about Jews:

1. They have almost mythical, overwhelming power;
2. They are more loyal to an outside party than they are to their own country;
3. They approach work or involvements, not merely as individuals, but rather in a cabal, in a conspiracy to achieve some sinister, Jewish-centric end.

This matrix is insidious and provides the fuel for a lethal form of hatred, political anti-Semitism. This belief system, when running rampant, created the justification for large-scale murders of Jews on the grounds that Jews were so poisonous that society had a right to defend itself in any way against this poison.

There is sometimes confusion around the term “Semitic,” which historically has referred to a language group that includes Arabic, Amharic, and Hebrew. “Semite” was a term that described a person who spoke one of these languages. Notwithstanding the traditional meaning of the word “Semite,” anti-Semitism in conventional English refers specifically to hatred of Jews.

The word “anti-Semitism” is generally attributed to Wilhelm Marr, who used the German term “Antisemitismus” in a book entitled “The Way to Victory of Germanicism over ‘Judaism,’” in 1879. Marr claimed that “scientific” research into the characteristics of the Jewish “race” justified hatred for Jews. The same year his book was published, Marr founded a political party, “The League of Antisemites,” which campaigned for the expulsion of Jews from Germany. Just over half a century later, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party took this racial hatred for Jews a deadly step further when they exterminated six million Jews in what they called “The Final Solution.”

There are two key points to understanding the origins of the word “anti-Semitism.” The first is that “anti-Semitism” was popularized as a term not by Jews themselves, but by individuals and political groups who openly proclaimed hatred of the Jewish people. The second is that “anti-Semitism” in modern English refers solely to hatred directed against Jews. Some who express prejudice or hatred toward the Jewish people claim that they cannot be anti-Semites because they too, as speakers of a Semitic language, are technically “Semites.” This semantic argument that a speaker of a certain language cannot by definition hold prejudice against Jews detracts from the real issue and undercuts the potential for dialogue about ways to end hatred of all kinds.

Today, it is all too common to find anti-Semitism under the guise of extreme criticism of Israel or of Zionism, the founding nationalist ideology of the Jewish state. In these cases, criticism of Israel crosses the line into anti-Semitism when such criticism invokes age-old anti-Jewish stereotypes, or when Israel is singularly demonized.

Holocaust denial is a form of anti-Semitism that minimizes or denies the Nazi regime's systematic mass murder of six million Jews in Europe during World War II. Holocaust deniers suggest that Jews pulled off a scam of monumental proportions, compelling governments, media, and academia around the world to acknowledge a catastrophe that never really happened.

The most vexing issue raised by anti-Semitism is its constant presence throughout history, across different societies and cultures, as well as its continued existence in our own time. It's important to note that the presence of a substantial Jewish community is not a necessary condition for anti-Semitism to emerge. An anti-Semitic campaign launched by Poland's communist regime in the late 1960s was described by one scholar as "anti-Semitism without Jews", because Poland's Jewish community, which numbered over 3 million before World War II, had already been decimated by the Nazi Holocaust and further depleted by the emigration of survivors. Today, the Arab and Islamic world is a major incubator of anti-Semitism towards Jews individually or as a collective, even though the Jewish population in these countries is nearly invisible.

The existence of anti-Semitism in societies where there are few or no Jews, and its evolution throughout history, demonstrates how deeply embedded anti-Semitism has been across different cultures and also why persecution has been a constant fear in Jewish life for centuries. Anti-Semitism has been compared to a virus which adapts to different conditions. As with a virus, when it comes to anti-Semitism, it is possible to identify both consistent elements and elements which, while borrowing from previous eruptions, are updated to suit a particular environment. Many of these elements – conspiracy theories, myths, mob violence and much else – recur throughout the history.

Raul Hilberg, an eminent historian of the Holocaust, telescoped the history of anti-Semitism like this: "The missionaries of Christianity had said in effect: You have no right to live among us as Jews. The secular rulers who followed had proclaimed: You have no right to live among us. The German Nazis at last decreed: You have no right to live. The German Nazis, then, did not discard the past; they built upon it. They did not begin a development; they completed it."

Appendix II: Select Examples of Anti-Semitic Incidents – 2009-2010

Argentina

April 1, 2010 - Santa Teresita – Swastikas and anti-Semitic phrases, such as "Morten Juden" (Death to Jews), were spray painted near a hotel where more than 200 people were celebrating Passover. Unknown vandals in motorcycle also shouted similar anti-Semitic slogans when passing by the hotel in the night of March 31.

January 13, 2010 - Mar del Plata – Vandals spray-painted a swastika near the entrance of the Miramar Synagogue, and a rock was thrown at one of its windows, shattering the glass pane.

December 21, 2009 – San Luis – Twenty-seven tombs and a wall of the Jewish cemetery in San Luis were vandalized with anti-Semitic graffiti, including swastikas and the slogans "Death to F** Jews."

December 8, 2009 - Buenos Aires - Six tombs in the Liniers cemetery, a Jewish cemetery in the western part of the city, were vandalized. The perpetrators took the lids off the tombs and dug up the area around the graves.

September 12, 2009 – Buenos Aires – A week before the Jewish High Holidays, 58 tombs were vandalized and robbed in the cemetery of La Tablada. Eight of the graves belong to victims of the 1994 terrorist attack on the AMIA Jewish community center.

May 17, 2009 - Buenos Aires - At least three people and a police officer were injured in a violent attack against a crowd celebrating Israel's anniversary. Members of Argentina's Jewish community were confronted by a gang of youths who were armed with clubs, knives and other weapons. The following day, two synagogues in the Buenos Aires neighborhood of Belgrano received bomb threats.

April 21, 2009 - Buenos Aires - An ancient Jewish cemetery was defaced on the Holocaust Remembrance Day. Vandals painted swastikas and crossed-out Stars of David on walls.

Australia

August 17, 2009 – Sydney – The number “88” – shorthand for “Heil Hitler” and a common calling card of racists – was painted on the home and footpath of Eric Roozendaal, the treasurer of New South Wales, who is known for speaking out against right-wing extremist groups.

January 5, 2009 - Melbourne - A synagogue was defaced with anti-Semitic graffiti.

Austria

March 5, 2010 – Upper Austria – Vandals defaced the walls of the former Nazi concentration camp Mauthausen with anti-Jewish and anti-Turkish slurs.

December 12, 2009 - Vienna - A local Chabad rabbi was violently attacked by a man who bit off part of his finger following a public menorah lighting ceremony celebrating Hanukkah.

Belarus

July 31, 2009 - Brest – Anti-Semitic epithets and a swastika were spray-painted on a Holocaust memorial.

May 9, 2009 - Brest - A Holocaust memorial was set on fire on the day commemorated as Victory Day over the Nazis.

Belgium

January 15, 2010 – Antwerp – A Molotov cocktail was thrown at the main entrance of the Bouwmeester synagogue. Some burn marks were left on the wall near the door, but no other damage was reported. Police are investigating.

July 5, 2009 – Antwerp – A car slowed down next to an identifiably Orthodox Jew who was walking on the sidewalk and the driver spit on him. The victim noted the license plate and reported the incident to police.

June 11, 2009 - Antwerp - A group of Arab teenagers threw rocks at children of the Belzer Hasidic community.

April 28, 2009 - Antwerp - A rabbi from Lyon, France, was insulted by a taxi driver. After the rabbi entered the car, the driver opened all the windows and said that there is a microbe in his car and that he should be wearing a mask.

April 21, 2009 - Antwerp - A 78-year-old Orthodox Jewish man was attacked and pushed to the ground. Witnesses tried to catch the perpetrator, but were unsuccessful. The victim was briefly hospitalized.

March 3, 2009 - Antwerp - Four Jewish men from the Belzer Hasidic community were attacked while walking down the street. The assailant hit them with a metal bar and screamed in Arabic “Allah Akhbar!” All four victims were hospitalized.

January 14, 2009 - Schaerbeek - Cobblestones were thrown at a synagogue, but did not cause any permanent damage.

January 7, 2009 - Charleroi - A synagogue was spray-painted with the words "Hezbollah," "Israel," and "Death."

January 6, 2009 - Schaerbeek - Four Molotov cocktails were thrown at a synagogue.

January 5, 2009 - Charleroi - Rocks were thrown at a synagogue.

January 5, 2009 - Forest - A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a synagogue.

January 4, 2009 - Antwerp - Belgian Jewish leaders say they have received dozens of death threats.

January 4, 2009 - Anderlecht - A brick and eggs were thrown at a Jewish school.

January 3, 2009 - Antwerp - Arson was attempted against a Jewish home.

Bulgaria

July 13, 2009 – Burgas – The doors of a synagogue and the facade of a Jewish community center were simultaneously set on fire. The fire caused minor damage to both buildings.

Canada

November 14-15, 2009 – Calgary, Alberta – Several Jewish buildings, including two synagogues and a Holocaust monument, were vandalized with anti-Semitic graffiti, including swastikas and slogans such as "Kill Jews" and "6 million more." Anti-Jewish graffiti was also discovered on bus stops, fences and mailboxes nearby.

October 21, 2009 - Ottawa – Vandals desecrated the Jewish Memorial Gardens near Greely, painting swastikas and anti-Semitic epithets on eight headstones and on the entrance to the burial grounds.

Egypt

February 21, 2010 – Cairo – A man claiming to be angry at Israel threw a suitcase containing a homemade bomb at the city's last active synagogue, Shaar Hashamyim. A 49-year-old man was arrested and charged in the incident.

France

March 18, 2010 – Marseille – "Jews are whores" was spray-painted on the Ohel Yaacov synagogue.

January 26, 2010 - Strasbourg – Swastikas and anti-Semitic phrases such as "Juden Raus" (Jews out) were painted on more than 30 headstones in a local Jewish cemetery. Some of the headstones were also damaged or overturned.

September 8, 2009 – Marseille – A local Jewish school, ORT Bramson High School, was attacked by vandals who threw aerosol cans soaked with flammable liquid at the school building. Nearly 400 students were in the building at the time of the attack, but none were injured.

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July 1, 2009 – Lannion – Many residents received leaflets containing anti-Semitic language in their mailboxes. The mayor urged the police to find those responsible as quickly as possible.

April 11, 2009 – Drancy – A five-foot black swastika and several anti-Semitic slogans were painted on a railway wagon that was used to deport French Jews. Two other large swastikas were daubed on a commemorative monument and on the wall of a nearby shop.

March 9, 2009 - Creteil - An 18 year old Jewish youth, wearing a yarmulke, was attacked by three strangers on his way to synagogue for Purim. They threw objects at him, including a jar of mustard that struck him on the head. The resulting injuries required stitches. The victim was able to provide description of his attackers to the police who apprehended them.

January 24, 2009 - Paris - A kosher supermarket's warehouse was firebombed, causing a major fire in the eastern Paris suburb of Montreuil. An unused Molotov cocktail was found at the scene.

January 17, 2009 - Creteil - Two 16-year-old Jews were beaten in front of a kosher restaurant by a gang that shouted "Palestine will win, dirty Jews!" One of the victims suffered head injuries, and the other was hit in the back. Seven were arrested in connection with the confrontation.

January 17, 2009 - Hayangue - A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a synagogue and burned the door.

January 15, 2009 - Fontenay-sous-Bois - Carjackers shouted anti-Semitic threats and stabbed a man four times after noticing his Star of David necklace. The victim suffered stab wounds to the head and neck.

January 15, 2009 - Villeneuve-Saint-Georges - A synagogue in a small town southeast of Paris was firebombed, causing the door to catch fire.

January 15, 2009 - Villeneuve Saint Georges - The door of a synagogue south of Paris was burned, when at least one Molotov cocktail was thrown at it. No other damage was reported.

January 14, 2009 - Mulhouse - "Death to Israel", "Long live Palestine" and "(expletive) France" were spray-painted on a synagogue.

January 13, 2009 - Lille - A swastika and the letters "ZOG" were painted on a synagogue. "ZOG" is a common anti-Semitic acronym for "Zionist Occupied Government."

January 11-12, 2009 - Bischeim - Three Molotov cocktails were thrown at a synagogue in Bischeim, near Strasbourg, damaging the exterior. No one was injured.

January 11, 2009 - Paris - Molotov cocktails were thrown at a synagogue in Saint Denis, a northern suburb of Paris. The firebombs bounced off the reinforced window and caused damage to an adjacent Jewish restaurant.

January 8, 2009 - Nice - "Death to Jews" was spray-painted outside of a primary school in Nice.

January 7, 2009 - Villiers-le-Bel - A 15-year-old girl accused a gang of ten people, including three schoolmates, of an anti-Semitic assault in a Paris suburb. She said she was thrown to the ground, kicked, and punched, and that the attackers told her that they were avenging Palestinians.

January 5, 2009 - Lingolsheim - A synagogue in a small town near Strasbourg was vandalized with graffiti, including the word "assassins."

January 5, 2009 - Toulouse - A burning car with a Molotov cocktail was rammed into the door of a synagogue while a rabbi was giving a class inside. Another car was also prepared with Molotov cocktails, but an alarm scared off the attackers before it was used.

January 4, 2009 - Paris - A 29-year-old Jewish man was attacked at a Paris subway station by a gang of about 20 people who yelled "Palestine will win." They hit him in the face and reportedly filmed the scene.

January 3, 2009 - Toulon - A car at the synagogue in Toulon was burned.

January 3, 2009 - Metz - An anti-Israel protest was directed at the synagogue in Metz.

January 2, 2009 - Valenton - A Jewish doctor, 70, was shot twice in the back as he left his office in a small town south of Paris. The police have no witnesses and no alternative theories about why he was attacked.

January 1, 2009 - Bordeaux - Two kosher food shops were vandalized.

Germany

March 26, 2010 - Berlin – A man and two women, all in their 20's, were beaten on a subway station platform. The three were approached by a man who asked if they were Jewish. He reportedly returned some time later with a group of youths who attacked the three, physically beating and kicking them and hitting them over the head with beer bottles.

November 7, 2009 – Dresden – A synagogue was vandalized with swastikas and other anti-Semitic hate symbols. The vandalism took place days prior to events commemorating the 71st anniversary of Kristallnacht.

January 28, 2009 - Laupheim - Vandals spray-painted several swastikas on the wall of a Jewish cemetery.

January 25, 2009 - Waren - A Holocaust memorial was desecrated the day after a commemoration ceremony. The perpetrators threw paint bombs at the memorial stone and the flowers which lay upon the stone.

January 14, 2009 - Berlin - A guard at a Berlin synagogue was attacked with an iron bar and had to be hospitalized. The assailant was subdued by other guards. The police described him as "stateless" and he claimed to be Palestinian.

January 12, 2009 - Bedburg - An old Jewish cemetery was defaced with a swastika and Nazi-symbols.

January 7, 2009 - Rostock - Vandals defaced the Jewish Center by throwing stones through the windows, one of which was decorated with the Star of David.

January 3, 2009 - Berlin - Berlin's Holocaust memorial was vandalized with anti-Semitic slogans and swastikas.

Greece

January 6, 2010 – Crete -- Unknown vandals broke into the island's only synagogue and set fire to the building using an improvised firebomb. The perpetrators also threw a bar of soap at the building, to illustrate the common Greek anti-Semitic expression "I'll make you into a bar of soap." The building sustained significant water and smoke damage.

June 3, 2009 - Ioannina - Six graves and the main memorial of a Jewish cemetery were vandalized. The perpetrators also covered the tombstones with blood from a turtle they had killed.

January 18, 2009 - Ioannina - Three tombs in a Jewish cemetery were attacked and broken.

January 8, 2009 - Athens - Graffiti reading “Israelites - Jews - Murderers” was found at the Jewish cemetery.

January 4, 2009 - Athens - The leader of a far-right party published an editorial that accused Israel of acting in Gaza like the Nazis, claiming that such could be expected of Jews because they are “Christ-killers.” The editorial also included the phrase, “it is known all over the world that a Jew smells of blood.”

Hungary

October 26, 2009 – Mako – The memorial plaque commemorating the 1944 death of Rabbi Dr. Armin Kecskemeti, a famous Hungarian chief rabbi, was shattered, and its wall defaced with anti-Jewish and Holocaust denying statements such as “What Six Million?”

India

January 5, 2010 - Mumbai – The local Chabad house received a letter threatening another attack. The letter read, "Israel is dogs. We will strike again -- heil, Hitler," and was accompanied by a photo of Hitler. The letter was received at the site of a terrorist attack more than a year ago that killed six Jews, including the rabbis who ran the center.

Italy

January 21-22, 2009 - Rome - Two members of the neo-fascist group Militia vandalized several Jewish-owned shops and put up a banner reading “Boycott Israel!” The young neo-Nazis were arrested by the police.

January 18, 2009 - Florence - A gas canister, rigged as an explosive device, was found at the entrance to the Chabad house. The device failed to explode and was safely removed.

January 12, 2009 - Pisa - Red paint was thrown at the town synagogue.

Lithuania

January 20, 2010 – Vilnius – A statue commemorating Dr. Tsemakh Shabad, a near-legendary figure in Vilna Jewish lore, was defaced with paint.

Late August – Vezaiciai - A swastika and the Nazi slogan “Juden raus” were painted on a sign commemorating a site where Nazis murdered Jews.

January 17-18, 2009 - Klaipeda - “Kill Jews,” “Palestine,” and swastikas were painted on a Jewish community center.

January 18, 2009 - Amsterdam - A Molotov cocktail was thrown into a commercial building with a Hebrew inscription that houses a synagogue. The small fire was extinguished before major damage was done.

January 16, 2009 - Klaipeda - “Get rid of the Jews” and swastikas were painted on the wall of the Jewish community center.

Moldova

December 13, 2009 – Chisinau - A mob led by an Orthodox priest and shouting anti-Semitic statements pulled down a Menorah in a local square and replaced it with a cross. The mob used hammers and iron bars to pull down the menorah while shouting “We are an Orthodox country. Stephan the Great defended our country from all kinds of kikes, and now they come and put their menorah here. This is anarchy.” More

July 1, 2009 – Panasheshti – A group of eight or nine youths attacked a rabbi who was on a fishing trip with his students. The perpetrators shouted anti-Semitic insults as they assaulted and robbed him.

March 1, 2009 - Bendery - Vandals broke into a synagogue, desecrating a Torah scroll, the ark and prayer table. They also defaced the walls with neo-Nazi graffiti, burned posters, and stole religious objects.

Netherlands

July 11, 2009 – Amsterdam – Swastikas and the word “Jew” were scribbled on more than 20 cars in the Oud-Zuid region.

January 3, 2009 - Amsterdam - At an anti-Israel rally that included the participation of a Dutch legislator, the crowd chanted, “ Hamas, Hamas, Jews to the gas.”

Norway

May 15, 2009 - Oslo - The Jewish section of a cemetery was desecrated in an anti-Semitic attack. Vandals painted black swastikas and “The War is Not Over” on several tombstones at the historic Sofienberg cemetery, which is a national heritage site.

Poland

March 13, 2010 – Krakow – A former concentration camp, Plaszow, was defaced with anti-Semitic slogans such as “Juden Raus” (Jews out) and “Hitler Good.” The vandalism was discovered on the 67th anniversary of the Nazi liquidation of the Krakow ghetto.

June 13, 2009 - Wroclaw - Vandals painted a swastika, the SS symbol and the words “Jude Raus” (Jews out) on a synagogue and a nearby Jewish Information Center.

June 16, 2009 - Chelm - “Jews to the oven, for this is your place” was written in Polish on the entrance sign of the Gdansk-Chelm Jewish cemetery.

May 19, 2009 - Gora Kalwaria - Swastikas and insults, including “Jude Raus” (Jews out) were painted on walls of a burial chamber of the rabbis of Ger.

Romania

July 14, 2009 – Ploiesti – Vandals destroyed five tombstones of a Jewish cemetery.

Russia

March 17, 2010 – Tver – Leaflets with photos of Russia’s Chief Rabbi Berl Lazar were hung on lampposts with the phrases: “Remember, our main enemy is the Jew. If you see him, beat him!”

December 14, 2009 – Smolensk – A public menorah was damaged by vandals.

December 5, 2009 - Moscow - Two identifiably Jewish Israelis were attacked outside a Moscow yeshiva. Both men were hospitalized.

December 1, 2009 - Moscow - A 25 year-old identifiably Jewish man was assaulted in the subway. The attacker, an alleged neo-Nazi, shouted “Heil!” and hit the victim, who suffered minor injuries. The police detained an individual, but charged him only with “minor hooliganism.”

September 12, 2009 – Khabarovsk – Two Molotov cocktails were thrown at a synagogue. Four skinheads, aged 15 to 23, were arrested and charged with arson. The home of a police officer who investigates racist crimes was also firebombed the same night.

July 16, 2009 – Komi Republic – A rock was thrown through the window of the Syktyvkar Jewish community center. It was the second time this year that unknown vandals had attacked the building.

July 12, 2009 – Ryazan – Unknown vandals painted swastikas on the doors of a Jewish community center.

June 19, 2009 – Abakan – A swastika was spray-painted on the entrance doors of a Jewish community center.

May 14, 2009- Nizhny Novgorod - Fourteen Jewish graves were desecrated in Nizhny Novgorod in early May. The Marina Roscha cemetery had been the target of vandals on several previous occasions.

May 12, 2009 - Pskov - Swastikas were painted on the door of the Jewish social service center, “Chesed Itzhak.”

May 7, 2009 - Norilsk - A monument to Jewish victims of Stalin’s repression was spray-painted with crossed-out Stars of David and anti-Semitic epithets.

March 30, 2009 - Sebezh - A Jewish cemetery was desecrated. The perpetrators burned wreaths and damaged 18 tombstones.

March 11, 2009 - Petrozavodsk - A Holocaust memorial in a Jewish cemetery was vandalized.

February 17, 2009 - Yaroslavl - Rocks were thrown through the windows of a synagogue. No one was injured.

Serbia

July 6, 2009 – Vrsac – Anti-Semitic graffiti containing the phrase ‘EU and NATO are diabolic Jews’ was spray-painted on the walls of a building.

June 1, 2009 - Subotica - Eleven gravestones in a Jewish cemetery were destroyed.

Slovenia

January 18, 2009 - Maribor - A Jewish community center and historic former synagogue was vandalized with slogans, including “Juden Raus” (“Jews get out”) and “Gaza.”

Spain

February 1, 2010 - Madrid – A young Hasidic Jew was stopped on the street in the center of Madrid by a woman who slapped him and repeatedly hurled insults, including “Dirty Jew,” “You Jews are responsible for all the evil in the world,” and “You Jews are thieves.” Bystanders called the police, who arrived while the woman was still there and are investigating.

January 30, 2009 – Barcelona – A man with a baseball bat repeatedly struck the nameplate of a synagogue. When an employee of the synagogue approached the man, he was hit in the arm and head. Passersby alerted the police, and the attacker was arrested. The synagogue employee required hospitalization for a fractured arm and head contusions.

January 12, 2009 - Barcelona - The windows of the Chabad house in Barcelona were broken and “assassins” was spray-painted on the building.

Sweden

March 14, 2010 – Stockholm – Rocks were thrown at the Jewish community center, breaking a window.

January 13, 2009 - Malmo - Vandals threw Molotov cocktails at the burial chapel of a Jewish cemetery. The synagogue was slightly damaged.

January 5, 2009 - Helsingborg - A Molotov cocktail was thrown at the synagogue. No damage was reported.

January 5, 2009 - Helsingfors - A Molotov cocktail was thrown into the synagogue.

January 4, 2009 - Malmo - Arsonists attempted to burn down a Jewish burial chapel. The structure suffered minor damage from soot and smoke.

Switzerland

January 11-12, 2009 - Geneva - Windows were broken overnight at a kolel, a Jewish study center.

January 11, 2009 - Zurich - Graffiti comparing the Star of David to a swastika was sprayed on walls of a restaurant on the outskirts of the city.

January 3, 2009 - Bern - Anti-Israel protesters carried signs equating Israel with Nazi Germany.

Turkey

January 6, 2009 - Ankara - An Israeli basketball team fled from the court into the dressing room, because the crowd became threatening, calling them “killers” and shouting “death to Jews.”

United Kingdom

October 11, 2009 – Manchester – Two men shouted racist slurs and punched a 16-year-old teenager as he was walking home from synagogue with his mother and sister.

January 19, 2009 - London - A 31-year-old Jewish man was beaten by several men who shouted “for Gaza” as they attacked him, leaving him with a black eye and several bruises.

January 3, 2009 - London - Assailants tried to burn a synagogue in the Brondesbury section of London.

Ukraine

December 9, 2009 - Kaments-Polsky - Vandals threw rocks left to honor the deceased at a Holocaust memorial, damaging the structure. Four youths were arrested in connection with the attack and charged with desecrating gravestones.

October 26, 2009 - Nikolaev - Vandals splattered black paint on the monument marking the home where Lubavitch Rebbe Menachem Schneerson was born. It was the second time vandals struck at the site this year.

September 13, 2009 – Kyiv – The front door of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) offices was defaced with Nazi symbols. Responding to suspicious noises in front of the building, a guard saw three young men leaving the area.

August 30, 2009 – Melitopol – Vandals painted swastikas and anti-Semitic slogans on the main entrance of a Jewish charity’s building in southern Ukraine. Similar graffiti appeared in nearby towns. During World War II, Melitopol was in the part of Ukraine that fought against Nazi invasion.

June 11, 2009 - Kremenchug - Four unknown vandals threw cans of brown paint on walls of a synagogue.

April 17, 2009 - Voskresensk - Vandals defiled a Holocaust memorial. Swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti, including “Death to Jews” in German and Russian, were painted on the monument.

February 26, 2009 - Nikolayev - A monument that honors the late Lubavitcher Rebbe was vandalized. The granite plaque was damaged apparently with hammers, and the perpetrators also attached xenophobic fliers to the memorial.

February 2, 2009 - Lutzk - A homemade bomb, consisting of a large bottle with white powder and a timer, was discovered in the basement of a synagogue. The staff was evacuated and the explosive device was successfully neutralized by the police.

Uruguay

January 13, 2009 - Montevideo - The facade of the the headquarters of the Israelite Association Jaime Zhitlovsky, located in the neighborhood of Palermo, Montevideo, was firebombed with Molotov cocktails. The cultural center building sustained only slight damage, and no one was injured.

Venezuela

June 17, 2009 - Caracas - During a demonstration by a group loyal to the Chavez regime, the residence of the governor of the State of Miranda, Henrique Capriles Radonsky, whose grandparents were Jewish, was vandalized with swastikas and and other graffiti calling him a Nazi. The demonstrators, who were led by the mayor of the municipality of Guaicapuro, all wore red shirts with the symbol of the national oil company PDVSA and were believed to be municipal employees.

June 16, 2009 - Caracas - A group of alleged students from a government-run university spray painted anti-Semitic graffiti on the walls surrounding the Tiferet Israel Synagogue, the site of an anti-Semitic attack four months earlier. The graffiti included Stars of David equated with swastikas, "Get out of our Country Zionists", "The crisis should be paid by you Zionist Assassins" and other anti-Jewish epithets.

January 30, 2009 - Caracas - About 15 armed men overpowered and tied up a security guard and forced their way into a synagogue, defacing its administrative offices with anti-Semitic graffiti and throwing Torah scrolls to the ground in a rampage that lasted nearly five hours. Graffiti left at the scene included the phrases "Damn the Jews, "Jews out" and "Israel assassins" and a picture of a devil. More