

Fighting Growing Antisemitism

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening virtually on 11-12 June 2021:

Notes:

- antisemitic attacks and hate speech have been on the rise all over Europe in recent years, especially this year;
- since the start of May 2021 alone, there has been an alarming increase in antisemitic incidents. There were attacks against the Jewish community and on synagogues, Holocaust memorials and Jewish cemeteries in cities such as Norwich, Madrid, Ceuta, Mannheim, Münster, Bonn, Düsseldorf, Gelsenkirchen and Ulm [i], and an intimidating convoy of cars through a neighbourhood with a large Jewish community in London [iii];
- on social media, users have been posting hate speech and inciting hate crimes against the Jewish community in Europe; Holocaust denial and Holocaust relativism remains widespread;
- history reminds us of the need to tackle such hatred on all levels in a strong and decisive manner;
- antisemitism is a threat not only to Jewish community members but to liberal society itself;
- as with all other minority groups, the Jewish community is entitled to equal rights and should be able to live in Europe without fear.

Believes that:

- antisemitism is a form of hatred that erodes the foundations of Europe and attacks core democratic values. In this fight, nothing less than the future of an open and liberal Europe is at stake
- both preventive and punitive measures should be implemented to address the current hate and incitement to violence;
- the Holocaust, the history of antisemitism and all types of racism should be studied throughout Europe.

Calls on all levels of governments, EU institutions, and ALDE members to:

- decisively tackle the threat of antisemitism towards the Jewish members of our communities as well as the liberal values of our societies as a whole;
- work with the relevant national authorities to include Holocaust and antisemitism education in their curricula in schools and integration courses;

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- end any kind of governmental support to organisations that promote hatred and antisemitism;
- adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism [iv];
- implement the above measures in line with respect for the fundamental liberal tenets of free speech and expression.

[i] www.adl.org/resources/fact-sheets/antisemitic-incidents-at-anti-israel-events-and-actions-around-the-world

[ii] www.timesofisrael.com/bullet-holes-found-at-ukraine-synagogue-as-mass-holocaust-victims-grave-raided/

[iii] www.times-series.co.uk/news/19306734.passengers-yell-f-jews-car-convoy-finchley-road/

[iv] ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/combating-discrimination/racism-and-xenophobia/combating-antisemitism/definition-antisemitism_en;
www.admin.ch/gov/en/start/documentation/media-releases.msg-id-83838.html

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