

**Follow-up Report**  
Pledges presented at the Malmö International  
Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and  
Combating Antisemitism

## Introduction

To promote and advance Holocaust education, remembrance and research worldwide, the Swedish Government organised the Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism – Remember-ReAct – in October 2021, urging all delegations to make pledges that would bring their work forward. As a result, 60 delegations made around 150 pledges in relation to the Forum themes and related areas.

The focus of the pledges made them directly relevant to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) and Sweden therefore pledged to follow up on all the pledges as part of its IHRA Presidency in 2022–2023.

As a first step, the Swedish IHRA Presidency prepared a short overview report where the pledges were presented by theme. The overview report was presented to the IHRA Plenary meetings in Stockholm in June 2022 along with an online reporting tool where all pledging delegations were invited to submit their progress reports after a first year of implementation.

In their responses, reporting delegations were invited to indicate which pledge/s that had been fulfilled and to provide an update on the status of the pledges that were still in progress. The delegations were also invited to mention any challenges in the implementation process and to submit information on any new related initiatives taken since the Malmö Forum.

The following 160 pages gather the delegations' reports and show that substantial progress has been made. The follow-up report is meant to provide an overview of the work, facilitate collaboration at all levels and across borders, and inspire efforts by both new and existing stakeholders. The follow-up report also aims to illustrate what the IHRA, its member countries, observers, and permanent international partners can achieve during a single year as they move forward together for impact. Furthermore, the report wants to enable more progress, learning and exchange as the organization, in line with a decision taken at the IHRA Plenary meetings in Gothenburg in December 2022, continues to follow the pledges until 2024.



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This report was first published in February 2023 and updated in March 2023 with the responses of Ukraine. The responses of the delegations are presented as they have been submitted by each delegation. The Swedish IHRA Presidency does not take responsibility for the content or formulation of the responses made by others than Sweden.

## Follow-up reports – Countries

### 1. Argentina

#### Completed pledges

2<sup>nd</sup> pledge: In relation to the teaching of the Holocaust and the fight against antisemitism, the Ministry of Education, through the Education and Memory Programme, is committed to carrying out: training activities for teachers with a national scope; support and assistance to technical teams for the inclusion of the topic in schools across Argentine provinces; the development of educational materials for the implementation of content related to the teaching of the Holocaust and the fight against antisemitism.

3<sup>rd</sup> pledge: Conduct a survey of museums, memory sites and documentary collections related to the Holocaust in Argentina.

4<sup>th</sup> pledge: Review and introduce specific educational content and materials on the Genocide of the Roma.

#### Results so far

2<sup>nd</sup> pledge: Training activities for teachers with a national scope

Update: In May 2022, a training course consisting of three modules of three months each on “Teaching about the Holocaust and other genocides” was launched. Module 1 is specifically dedicated to the Holocaust. The number of available open places for participants has also tripled. Historically, the course was planned for up to 1 000 participants; it is now fully operative for 3 000 participants. A total of 25 virtual classrooms have been set up.

Support and assistance to technical teams for the inclusion of the theme in schools in the provinces: A national meeting of provincial referents was held with a focus on teaching about the Holocaust, in which all the national referents visited the Holocaust Museum in Buenos Aires. The development of educational materials for the implementation of content related to Holocaust education and the fight against antisemitism: two educational

materials were developed and a third material on Holocaust denial and hate speech is under development.

a. “Dialogues. Researching and teaching about the Holocaust”. 10 research of Argentinian universities speak about this work and how this contributes to renew teaching about the Holocaust. These are 10 interviews with academics from Argentinean universities researching on the Holocaust.

<https://www.educ.ar/recursos/158260/dialogos-investigacion-ensenanza-delholocausto>

b. The book “Tales and Traces” (Relatos y Huellas) was published in 2022: it is a student project related to the contribution of the Jewish immigration in Argentina. The book is written both in Spanish and Yiddish. This subject is specifically oriented to the fight against antisemitism.

Two additional pledges announced by Argentina during the Stockholm Plenary of the Swedish presidency of IHRA, 20-23 June 2022.

**3<sup>rd</sup> pledge: Conduct a survey of museums, memory sites and documentary collections related to the Holocaust in Argentina**

Update: An inter-agency team was set up to take the task forward and a work plan was drawn up. Work is already underway. Progress is being made on the registration and mapping of archives and places of memory dedicated to Holocaust remembrance located throughout the country with the participation of civil society organisations that are part of IHRA’s Local Chapter.

The objective is to create a guide and a navigable map, accessible to the public, which allows for geolocation with standardized information on each of the places and institutions. In addition, based on the results of the survey, various educational materials will be developed and disseminated.

To this end, information is being collected on: Provincial and/or national monuments; museums; commemorative plaques; tributes, commemorations,

or legislation on days of remembrance and archives, documentation centres, libraries and newspaper libraries.

The launch of the guide and map is planned for the International Day of Remembrance in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (27 January 2023).

4<sup>th</sup> pledge: Review and introduce specific educational content and materials on the Genocide of the Roma

Update: A section within the “Teaching on the Holocaust” course was included to address specific aspects of the Genocide of the Roma.

#### Examples of best practices

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> pledge, working together with some of the civil society organisations that are part of IHRA’S local chapter.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> pledge, coordinating the development of the survey between the three national Ministries involved – Education, Justice and Human Rights and Foreign Affairs – while also reaching out to the civil society organisations that make up the Local Chapter of IHRA.

#### Examples of challenges

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> pledge, gathering information that up to know had not been collected in a centralised way.

## **2. Australia**

#### Completed pledges

Australia has taken action on all five of its pledges:

- Australia recognises the importance of continuing to act with regards to racism in the community and welcomes the Australian Human Rights Commission’s ongoing consultations on developing a National Anti-Racism Framework.



- Australia pledges to support efforts to preserve and pass on the memory of the Holocaust by undertaking and promoting activities of Holocaust Memorial Week and International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27).
- Australia pledges to call out antisemitism online, facilitate public reporting to online service providers, and encourage public engagement in this process.
- Australia welcomes the upcoming Gandel Philanthropy and Deakin University Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness in Australia survey, the first and largest of its kind, which will assist research and future policy directions.
- To further endeavours on preserving and passing on the memory of the Holocaust, Australia is working toward Holocaust Museums or Education Centres in each jurisdiction. We appreciate the ongoing assistance and leadership of philanthropic organisations to fulfil this ambition.

### Results so far

The Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) has finalised the initial scoping phase of its National Anti-Racism Framework project. A Conversation and Consultation Report is currently being drafted by the Commission and is expected for public release in November 2022. The report will include a process solution to progress a framework using a human rights approach. In the 2022-23 October Budget the Australian Government provided the AHRC with ongoing funding of \$7.5 million over four years for a national anti-racism strategy, to tackle racism and promote racial equality in Australia. The AHRC's National Anti-Racism Framework Project and its Racism. It Stops With Me campaign will be supported through this funding.

On 27 January 2022, then Prime Minister Scott Morrison delivered a speech at the Australia-wide virtual commemoration of the International Holocaust Remembrance day and the Liberation of Auschwitz, hosted by members of the Australian Holocaust Museum Alliance. Survivors and leaders within the wider community shares stories and messages to combat racism and discrimination in order to ensure that the lessons from the Holocaust continue to be passed on to future generations. The Australian Government has also provided funding for initiatives aimed at increasing knowledge and awareness of the Holocaust and its lasting impacts among school students, including \$30,000 to Deakin University, on behalf of the IHRA Education Working Group, to develop resources and lessons plans for school teachers about the Holocaust for Holocaust Memorial Week 2022 (2022 Theme – Holocaust Remembrance). The materials were launched on 5 May 2022 and will continue to support teachers and students to engage with connections between the Holocaust and Australia.

Australia has taken action to call out antisemitism online, facilitate public reporting to online service providers, and encourage public engagement in this process. Australia's online safety regulator, the eSafety Commissioner, has a range of powers to address online harms under the Online Safety Act 2021 (the Act), which came into effect on 23 January 2022. The Act provides the eSafety Commissioner with stronger powers to tackle online harms, including cyberbullying of children, cyber abuse of adults, illegal and restricted content such as pro-terror material, and the non-consensual sharing of intimate images. The eSafety Commissioner's eSafety Guide provides general guidance on how to report online harms to social media services, apps and platforms. eSafety's website has advice on how to report to eSafety's reporting schemes. eSafety's website also includes its research about Australians' experiences of online hate speech, as well as information on how the Act supports communities and individuals most at risk of serious harm due to their race, religion, cultural background, gender, sexual orientation and disability.

The Gandel Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness in Australia Survey was published in January 2022. It is Australia's first comprehensive national

survey of Holocaust knowledge and awareness. The Survey was commissioned by the Gandel Foundation and undertaken by a team of researchers from Deakin University, including IHRA delegates Dr Steven Cooke and Dr Donna-Lee Frieze. The report found, inter alia, that 88% of the population agree that “we can learn lessons for today from what happened in the Holocaust” and that there was a strong correlation between Holocaust awareness and pro-social feeling towards minority groups, refugees, and First Nations Australians. Among the report’s recommendations was including the Holocaust on the Australian curricula and supporting teachers with ongoing accredited professional development.

The Australian Government has funded Holocaust Museums or Education Centres in every Australian state and territory.

### **Examples of best practices**

The Gandel Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness in Australia Survey (GHKAS) is the first national, large-scale survey of Australians’ knowledge of the Holocaust, their attitudes to Holocaust education and commemoration, their feelings towards Jews and their perspectives on the regulation of antisemitism and hate speech. The survey, which consisted of over 70 questions and reached over 3,500 people across all Australian states and territories, is the largest survey of its type ever undertaken.

The survey was designed by the Deakin University research team, in consultation with the Gandel Foundation, the GHKAS Advisory Group and the Social Research Centre, Melbourne. Data were collected via the Social Research Centre’s Life in Australia™ online probability panel in September 2021. There are 3,522 respondents in the sample. In probabilistic terms, the maximum margin of error to apply to this survey is  $\pm 2\%$ . This sample is more than twice the size of comparable existing studies of Holocaust knowledge and awareness. Data are also weighted to ensure representativeness. The weighting means that the sample matches key demographic parameters of the Australian adult population, including age, gender, education, household composition, languages spoken at home, state

of residence, and capital city versus rest of state. The data are representative of Australians aged 18 years or older.

### **New initiatives**

The Australian Parliamentary Friends of IHRA was launched on 27 October. Members of the group intend to provide a non-partisan forum for parliamentarians to meet and interact with Holocaust commemorative organisations, survivors and their families on matters relating to strengthening and promoting Holocaust education and remembrance and combating antisemitism.

## **3. Austria**

### **Completed pledges**

New Austrian exhibition in Auschwitz: On invitation of the director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Piotr Cywinski, and the President of the Austrian Parliament, Wolfgang Sobotka, the exhibition was inaugurated on 4 October 2021 in the presence of Austrian Federal President Alexander van der Bellen, Polish Deputy Prime Minister Piotr Tadeusz Glinski, leading members of the Austrian government, and above all, Auschwitz survivors and their relatives and descendants.

National Strategy against Antisemitism (NAS): The first measure of the NAS which has been fully implemented is the unanimous adoption by the Austrian parliament of the Federal Act on safeguarding the Austrian-Jewish Cultural Heritage on 24 February 2021 (Bundesgesetz über die Absicherung des österreichisch-jüdischen Kulturerbes, BGBl. I Nr. 39/2021). This act aims to offer sustainable prospects to Jews in Austria and ensures a yearly financial support of 4 million Euro to the Jewish community.

A first implementation report of the NAS was published on 31 January 2022 and submitted to the Austrian parliament. According to the report, 9 out of 38 measures of the NAS have been fully implemented, 18 measures partially and 11 measures are long-time measures (certain stages of the

implementation process have been completed or implementation has begun).

Moreover, on 13 June 2022 a civil society platform against antisemitism (Nationales Forum gegen Antisemitismus) was convened for the first time. The members of this platform from federal government, regions, communities, corporate bodies, civic institutions, NGOs, sports associations, youth organisations, the Jewish Religious Community, churches, religious communities and other bodies will meet regularly to discuss current developments and to put forward potential solutions.

Simon Wiesenthal Prize: The first Prize was bestowed in 2022. 284 applications from over 30 countries were assessed by the jury. The main prize was awarded to four contemporary witnesses to honour their lifelong engagement: Lily Ebert, Zwi Nigal, Karl Pfeifer and Liliane Segre.

Shoah Wall of Names Memorial: The Memorial to the more than 64,000 Jewish children, women and men of Austria who were murdered in the Shoah has been inaugurated in Ostarrichi park in Vienna on 9 November 2021. It will be a central yet peaceful place to commemorate the fate of the victims and to honour their lives. Due to the historical importance of the memorial, the City of Vienna and the National Fund will jointly assume responsibility for its maintenance and ongoing operation.

The pledges Stepping up training for educators and adapting teacher training curricula and Centre for research on Antisemitism at the Austrian Academy of Sciences are partially completed: A trilateral research Project (Austria-Germany-Switzerland) developed recommendations for teacher training institutions (teacher training colleges and universities) in the field of prevention of antisemitism through education. The main recommendation is that all future teachers, regardless of their field of study, should participate in mandatory training on how to prevent antisemitism through education. The Austrian Minister of Education, Science and Research presented the recommendations in September 2022. The Centre for research on Antisemitism at the Austrian Academy of Sciences is built up step by step.

### Results so far

For pledges New Austrian exhibition in Auschwitz, Simon Wiesenthal Prize, Shoah Wall of Names Memorial, National Strategy against Antisemitism, see above.

Stepping up training for educators and adapting teacher training curricula: a process to adapt existing teacher training curricula was started.

<https://www.erinnern.at/themen/artikel/massnahmenpaket-praevention-von-antisemitismus-durch-bildung> The adaption of the teacher training curricula will be accomplished by the end of 2023.

Furthermore, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education plans the expansion of educational offers for educators to enable them to appropriately deal with current challenges with regard to antisemitism and racism in classroom. To support this goal, cooperation and exchange measures with international educational institutions, including Israel will be expanded.

Centre for research on Antisemitism at the Austrian Academy of Sciences: in 2022 a fellowship programme started as a first initiative for the future centre.

### Examples of best practices

The recommendations of the trilateral research Project (Austria-Germany-Switzerland) on teacher training and prevention of antisemitism through education have been endorsed by the relevant working groups/committees of the IHRA. The research project forms an integral part of the Austrian National Strategy against Antisemitism; the recommendations represent a substantial fulfilment of the obligations that derive from the Austrian National Strategy against Antisemitism.

## 4. Belgium

### Completed pledges

The federal government has committed to take further steps to strengthen victim protection, including on improving the recording and collection of

data on hate incidents and hate crimes by law enforcement and judicial authorities. The aim is to develop an effective and efficient method of recording the motive of hatred in a consistent manner in the police and justice registration systems.

Reliable official data are essential to develop policy measures that will effectively combat antisemitism offline and online. In doing so, more detailed and reliable figures on hate crimes, hate speech and discrimination will be available, as well as specific figures on antisemitic offences.

- To this end, a working group composed of the police, the public prosecutor's office, UNIA (Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities) and IEFH (Institute for the Equality of Women and Men) has been set up to work on improvements to the registration of complaints related to what can be described as hate crimes, and the resulting statistics. The work of this technical group concluded with a solution to be validated by competent authorities. The National Interfederal Plan of Action against Racism, the aim of which is to establish an integrated policy to combat racism, which includes antisemitism, is in its final phase of elaboration. In parallel, the Federal Government has already adopted a number of measures that will be included in this plan. These measures aim, among other things, to raise awareness, monitor and intensify the fight against hate crimes and to fulfil Belgium's various international commitments. In addition, the Anti-Semitism Monitoring Unit is replaced by the National Coordination Mechanism for the Fight against Anti-Semitism, whose mission is to monitor measures to combat antisemitism in Belgium.
- The Government of Flanders:

Flanders continues to grant financial support to the Special Committee for Education to Memory as well as to Kaserne Dossin (Memorial, Museum and Research Center on the Holocaust and Human rights).

This autumn, the Special Committee for Remembrance Education will update its publication for teachers to teach about the holocaust and

antisemitism. This publication includes good practices, suggestions and examples to support teachers.

The Special Committee will collaborate with partners on the European project ‘Multi-Perspective Holocaust Remembrance in Contemporary Europe’, which will also provide support for teachers.

An exhibition on the topic of homosexuality in Nazi-Europa will open in 2023 in Kazerne Dossin. This exhibition will contain a special educational offer for young people.

A videoblog that tells the story of a Jewish girl (called Fee) during World War 2 was realized and is still available, amongst others for teachers to use. This is called: ‘De vlog van Fee’.

- Wallonia-Brussels Federation:

Through its online pedagogical platform e-class the Wallonia-Brussels Federation will continue to equip teachers with various tools related to the fight against racism, antisemitism, xenophobia, racial stereotypes, the duty of memory or intercultural dialogue.

The “Democracy or Barbarism” Unit of the Ministry of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation will continue to coordinate and develop the Federation’s actions in the field of citizenship education through its approach, among other things, to the work of memory and history on the violence and mass crimes of the contemporary era.

At school level, and in order to ensure that adequate responses are provided to antisemitic incidents, the filing of complaints will be encouraged by developing a support system for victims when necessary.

In July 2022, a new Reference Framework that describes the knowledge, skills, attitudes and resources to be acquired by students has been adopted. A place is specifically and systematically devoted to issues of



racism, antisemitism, discrimination, stereotypes and the history of colonialism.

### **Results so far**

At federal level the Government adopted a number of concrete measures to raise awareness, monitor and intensify the fight against all forms of hate crimes, including Antisemitism.

The Anti-Semitism Monitoring Unit has been transformed into a more operational National Coordination Mechanism to fight against Antisemitism.

The Governments of Flanders and Wallonia-Brussels Federation continue to support many initiatives to combat Antisemitism. On the education field they constantly adapt teaching methods as to focus on the teaching of history, including the Holocaust.

As part of the Belgian Presidency of the Arolsen Archives – International Center on Nazi Persecution – the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs financed a travelling exhibition entitled #StolenMemory, aiming at returning personal belongings of missing persons in the camps to their family. The exhibition began on 8 May and travels through a dozen cities in the country.

### **Examples of best practices**

As part of the Belgian Presidency of the Arolsen Archives – International Center on Nazi Persecution – the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs financed a travelling exhibition entitled #StolenMemory, aiming at returning personal belongings of missing persons in the camps to their family. The exhibition began on 8 May and travels through a dozen cities in the country.

### **Examples of challenges**

The challenges are most of an internal nature in a Federal State and have to do with coordination matters.

### New initiatives

In 2022, a research project was launched on the role of the National Railway Company SNCB in the context of deportation during the Second world War.

On June 15 this year, as part of NOA project (Network Overcoming Antisemitism), the first report on Government measures to combat antisemitism and foster Jewish life was presented in Brussels, and Belgium was the first country who accepted being reviewed.

## **5. Bosnia and Hercegovina**

### Results so far

Since the Malmö conference, president Sefik Dzaferovic's office have been in dialogue with the Srebrenica Memorial Centre and Jewish Society "La Benevolencija" in relation to our pledge about creating special room in the Srebrenica Memorial Centre dedicated to preserving memory of Holocaust.

We hope to see preliminary steps in the first six months of 2023.

Srebrenica Memorial Centre informed us that they will co-operate with the international institutions dedicated to preserving the memory of Holocaust. The Centre informed us that they have an already established partnership with relevant Holocaust memorial institutions in Balkans and abroad.

Jewish Society "La Benevolencija" expressed their will to help Srebrenica Memorial Centre to establish further connections with the relevant Holocaust memorial institutions.

The goal of the project is to show the depth of violence in 20th century in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Balkans, to stress that there is somewhat similar historical experience of destruction of minority ethnic communities.

### Examples of best practices

Co-operation between Cabinet, Srebrenica Memorial Centre and La Benevolencija.

### Examples of challenges

Need for assistance of experts for memorialization of the Holocaust.

### New initiatives

Presidency of BiH adopted on 22nd July 2022 IHRA's definition of antisemitism.

## **6. Bulgaria**

### Completed pledges

Bulgaria has, so far, one entirely completed pledge, namely the pledge which reads as follows: "The position of the National Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism will be upgraded into a permanent one, at the level of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs."

On 2 November 2022 the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria adopted a decision on transforming the position of the National Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism into a permanent one, at the level of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The latter will be designated by an order of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This would build upon what has already been achieved and would further ensure continuity and consistency in the activities of the National Coordinator.

Apart from that, the decision also stipulates the functions and the members of the Contact group on enhancing the inter-ministerial coordination and communication of the measures aimed at countering antisemitism, under the presidency of the National Coordinator.

## Results so far

Submitting the four national pledges during the Malmo International Forum further enhanced the effect of the efforts to fight against antisemitism, intolerance and hate speech, putting the issue even higher on the foreign policy agenda.

On 2 November 2022 the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria adopted a decision on transforming the position of the National Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism into a permanent one, at the level of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The latter will be designated by an order of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This would build upon what has already been achieved and would further ensure continuity and consistency in the activities of the National Coordinator.

<https://www.bta.bg/en/news/bulgaria/353696-national-coordinator-for-combating-antisemitism-becomes-permanent-post>

A significant progress has been made on to the Pledge on finalizing the National Action Plan on Combating Antisemitism by the end of 2022. It is currently being drafted within the framework of a joint project of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Norwegian Centre for Holocaust and Minority Studies.

The implementation activities started by conducting a public opinion survey that was the first of its kind in Bulgaria. At the beginning of the year, the general public and the Jewish community were asked about the “Public Attitudes Towards Antisemitism and Hate speech in Bulgaria”.

The outcomes of the survey were presented publicly in April 2022 and can be qualified as positive and encouraging. The survey showed an overall appreciation by the general public for the contribution of Bulgarian Jews to our society and state and the clear perception of the Bulgarian Jews that they belong to the Bulgarian society and are well integrated in it. The survey results are an excellent guide in defining many of the concrete measures to be included in our National Action Plan.

<https://www.mfa.bg/en/news/33581>

On that solid ground as well as building upon the strong tradition of tolerance of the Bulgarian society and the rich heritage of the Bulgarian Jews, an expert working group is currently drafting the National Action Plan. The team consists of experts from the MFA, the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Education and Science as well as representatives from academia and civil society.

The voice of the national authorities and the Jewish community in Bulgaria, guide the expert team in defining the concrete measures to be included in the Action Plan.

The final draft is to be delivered by the end of the year.

#### **Examples of best practices**

Drafting the National Action Plan on Combating Antisemitism and Preserving Jewish Cultural Heritage is a significant challenge, particularly when it comes to identifying the concrete measures that would best fit such strategic document. In this endeavour the regular consultations with all relevant state authorities and Jewish community organizations is of utmost importance.

Building our efforts on a nationwide survey on the public attitudes on antisemitism and hate speech could also be identified as a best practice as the survey, undertaken right before the drafting procedure, provided an up-to-date data on various aspects related to the issue.

#### **Examples of challenges**

No major challenges related to the pledge implementation have been identified up until now.

#### **New initiatives**

Apart from our work on the Malmo pledges, in 2023 we are about to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the salvation of the Bulgarian Jews during the WWII.

This is a powerful positive example of how to stand against antisemitism that provides modern-day inspiration as well. A special coordination committee with the participation of all relevant authorities and organizations will be set up with the aim to prepare the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary's calendar of events.

## **7. Canada**

### **Completed pledges**

Canada continues to be dedicated to combat antisemitism, Holocaust denial and distortion, hate crimes and all other forms of racism and to protect at-risk communities through Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy, under which Canada is engaging with Jewish communities toward the development of our National Action Plan on Combatting Hate.

The position of Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism has been established as a permanent position, supported by dedicated resources.

Canada continues to expand publicly accessible Holocaust-related material through support to educational programs and relevant institutions throughout the country.

Canada continues to promote the domestic and international adoption and implementation of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism, which remains a part of Canada's federal anti-racism strategy.

Canadian officials, government representatives, and experts continue to work together to determine how best to introduce legislation to combat serious forms of harmful online content, and to strengthen the Canada Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code to more effectively combat online antisemitism and hate.

### **Results so far**

Canada's Results so far:

1. Commemoration of key memorial days in Canada and at representative missions abroad;
2. Introduction of Holocaust Education Month (November), unique to Canada, which includes federal, provincial and municipal awareness raising events and initiatives at which Canadian officials engage with Jewish and other communities, civil society and Holocaust education organizations.
3. Educational events and training conferences for government officials, parliamentary members, civil society, legal and medical professionals, students and academics.
4. Support of the UN General Assembly resolution on Holocaust denial and distortion, participation in webinars on Holocaust denial and distortion, and support of IHRA's #ProtecttheFacts campaign on Government channels.
5. Participation in international forums on Holocaust restitution.
6. Supporting IHRA's recommendations on teaching on the Holocaust through the Canadian delegation to IHRA whose government and expert members share information to practitioners in Canada; supporting the IHRA in combatting mass atrocities, particularly as regard to Russia's criminal aggression in the Ukraine; and doubling Canada's contribution to the IHRA for 2022.
7. Bilateral and multilateral engagement toward building awareness and strengthening global efforts to counter antisemitism and preserve Holocaust remembrance.
8. Participation of Canada's Special Envoy in forums of the Inter-Parliamentary Taskforce to Combat Online Antisemitism; the tabling of legislation to combat hatred online – including proposed amendments to the Criminal Code and the Canadian Human Rights Act; and engagement with social media officials regarding accountability concerns.

### Examples of best practices

**Consultation:** Canadian officials regularly participate in consultative discussions with other government officials, members of parliament and community leaders to share information and lessons learned, including the importance of integrating Holocaust survivor witness testimony into Holocaust education.

**Collaboration:** Consultations with key domestic stakeholders such as the Canadian Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission; the Jewish Public Servant Network; the Immigration and Refugee Network. Canada's network of missions and Ambassadors abroad were engaged in promoting the principles of the IHRA and Canada's pledges. Canada's Special Envoy participated in the first-ever meeting of Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism (SECCA) at Yad Vashem and liaised with the Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE), the World Jewish Congress, the United Nations, the European Union, the OAS, and UNESCO, among others which enabled broader understanding and the ability to synthesize this information into better policy discussions.

### Examples of challenges

The challenge of undertaking education, collaboration, and consultation within the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining the health and safety of participants is one many can identify with. Additionally, Covid-19 has exacerbated the challenge of fragmentation amongst domestic and international organizations while in person forums were on hold. The pandemic also stoked conspiracy theories and led to a sharp rise in antisemitic commentary and action both online and offline as conspiracy theorists, terror groups, and ordinary citizens spread antisemitic tropes.

A domestic protest that referred to itself as the 'Freedom Convoy' unfolded in the capital city of Ottawa's downtown core, resulting in the sharing of images including yellow stars, swastikas and a Nazi, comparing government mask and vaccine mandates to Nazi measures. This unanticipated addition to the fight against antisemitism, racism, and all forms of hate provided both a



challenge and an opportunity to discuss the rise of Holocaust distortion and importance of mainstreaming education regarding these symbols and how best to stand up against hate.

### **New initiatives**

Canada addresses antisemitism as part of our efforts to combat racism and protect human rights. Canada's commitment has emerged into a focused, substantive initiative to preserve the memory of the Holocaust and expand on educational resources for years to come.

An important part of combatting Holocaust distortion and antisemitism is to keep alive the memory of those murdered during the Holocaust and combat both historical distortions and Holocaust denial. Canada's National Budget 2022 provides funding to support the construction of a new Holocaust Museum in Montréal, an investment for the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre, and support to the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver.

Canada's Budget 2022 calls for a new National Action Plan to Combat Hate. This is a distinct and integrative whole of government framework to address hate as it relates to racialized and faith and belief communities in Canada, and includes initiatives anchored in community consultations; intersecting forums involving targeted groups; enhanced training and tools for public safety agencies, and support for digital literacy to counter disinformation, distortion, and incitement to violence.

## **8. Croatia**

### **Completed pledges**

Pledge 1: We have partially completed our first pledge, which is the Croatian IHRA Presidency in 2023–2023.

Pledge 2: We have completed the digital project in Jasenovac and have modernized and upgraded the museum material.

Pledge 3: We have completed promoting education to prevent antisemitism and have strengthened Holocaust research.

Pledge 4: The Operative Program for National Minorities for the period 2021-2024 is partially completed and is now going into the final phase of gaining public voting and advising before being approved and implemented. The Program should be completed by the end of the year.

Pledge 5: The Government's Office for Human Rights and National Minorities started the process of establishing an action plan for execution of the National Plan for Roma Inclusion for the period of 2023–2025 in October 2022, after updating the Operative Program for National Minorities in June 2022.

#### **Results so far**

Pledge 1 (Croatian IHRA Presidency): We have established a Working Group that consists of 14 government institutions and offices, the Jewish community in Croatia and our IHRA delegation. The Working Group has now met twice and we have started discussing our priorities and programs. We also established a Secretariat and are working on our budgets.

Pledge 2 (Jasenovac): The Jasenovac camp was destroyed at the end of Second World War and there are no traces of the buildings or barracks left at the site of the camp. In order to give visitors, especially young people, better understanding of the history of the camp, Holocaust and genocide, Jasenovac Memorial has finished work on virtual reconstruction of the camp, which is now displayed at the permanent exhibition at the Memorial museum in Jasenovac.

The Jasenovac Memorial Site has included in their permanent visiting tour and educational activities the virtual reconstruction of the main camp in the complex. Produced by SPECS Lab and Eodyne Systems in collaboration with the Jasenovac Memorial Site, as part of the Horizon2020 iC-ACCESS project (<https://www.campscapes.org>), this new digital perspective on the history of the site has the potential to intervene in the cycle of

appropriations and memory conflicts surrounding the former Ustashe camp in Croatia. As of today, 15 tablets and a digital room have been implemented within the permanent museum exhibition of the Jasenovac Memorial Site.

For the YouTube videos of the reconstruction please visit

<https://www.vecernji.hr/vijesti/predstavljena-3d-rekonstrukcija-logora-jasenovac-1350039>, <https://www.campscapes.org/uncategorized/the-digital-reconstruction-of-jasenovac-is-now-available-on-site/>.

Pledge 3 (Holocaust and Antisemitism Education): In 2022, in cooperation with the Mémorial de la Shoah Museum, Croatia continued to take part in the organization of international seminars in the form of expert dialogues with neighbouring countries. The first, Adriatic Dialogue with Italy and Slovenia, was held in March in Zagreb, and the second, Balkan Dialogue with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, was held in May in Sarajevo.

The goal of these dialogues is to start from the history of the Holocaust as a common heritage to create a space for dialogue between neighbouring countries with different national narratives related to the Second World War or the Holocaust. Another goal is to encourage teachers to think about their own national history, discuss opposing perspectives and deal with sensitive issues through a scientific approach.

Croatia also continued its cooperation with Yad Vashem by organizing a seminar for teachers in Jerusalem in June 2022.

Pledge 5 (National Plan for Roma inclusion): In partnership with the minority civil sector and elected representatives of national minorities, the Croatian Government continually and successfully works to implement the Operative Program for National Minorities and the National Plan for Roma Inclusion for the period 2021–2027.

### **Examples of best practices**

Pledge 2 (Jasenovac): The visitors of the Memorial museum have better understanding of the history of the camp, locations of the buildings and

barracks within the camp, forced labour of the prisoners and places of mass executions of victims.

The VR/AR digital technology applied within the Jasenovac Memorial Site permanent exhibition particularly led to a better understanding of a historical camp site among the younger generations in Croatia and abroad. Additionally, Croatian Ministry of Education simultaneously implemented a special budget for all Croatian elementary schools and high schools to be able to visit Jasenovac Memorial Site and learn about the Holocaust and the Second World War past in situ, through digital tools primarily adjusted to young people.

Pledge 3 (Holocaust and Antisemitism Education): As a result of the joint cooperation of the teams of teachers, learning activities are created after each Memorial de la Shoah dialogue. In 2022, teachers from two dialogues developed two learning activities lasting two school hours. The first is Standing Women on the Rolling Borders, which aims at students' understanding of the complexity of political and social relations in the area of the Adriatic Littoral and their impact on the lives of individuals, minorities and ethnic communities living there. The second is Weapons of war- gender violence against women in the Holocaust. Through this activity, using the concept of gender on the examples of women in the Holocaust, teachers wanted to show how the politics and ideology of Nazism and their allies committed gender-based violence. It is important for students to see how there was a breakdown of social norms and ethical values during the war and to understand how sexual violence was used as a kind of "tool of oppression".

Both learning activities were presented to dialogue participants at a follow-up meeting, usually 6 months after the seminars in Zagreb and Sarajevo.

Thanks to the continuity of joint seminars/dialogues with the Mémorial de la Shoah Museum and teacher education at Yad Vashem, a wide and diverse network of teachers has been created who have developed their competencies in the field of teaching and learning about the Holocaust and

antisemitism, and who can cope with modern pedagogical challenges such as antisemitism, anti-Roma racism, and discrimination, conspiracy theories, etc.

Cooperation of teachers in new projects on teaching about Holocaust and cooperation of teachers with Jewish Municipalities introducing the Jewish religion, culture and way of life to their students.

<https://www.zoz.hr/hr/informacije-za-turiste/>

New teaching materials prepared by teachers as follow-up to seminars and educational programs.

Initiative for establishing Croatian national node for EHRI.

### Examples of challenges

Pledge 2 (Jasenovac): New technologies need constant maintenance. The virtual panorama of former Jasenovac camp is one of the pioneer projects of such kind and implementation still requires occasional updates.

Although new Jasenovac digital exhibition, which offers fact-checked narratives joined with hundreds of primary source photos and documents, led to more dialogue between otherwise conflicted groups surrounding Jasenovac Memorial Site, long-standing contested memories of Jasenovac among different national and religious groups still burden a peaceful and joined memory and commemoration, and remains a challenge.

Pledge 3 (Holocaust and Antisemitism Education): The most challenging is the dissemination of the results of the HSP dialogue, i.e. the organization of piloting learning activities in the participating countries.

Due to epidemiological measures, training for Croatian teachers on teaching about the Holocaust at Yad Vashem was postponed in the year 2021, as well as educational process and extracurricular teaching for students in Jasenovac.

With the abolition of epidemiological measures, educational activities were continued as planned.

<https://mzo.gov.hr/vijesti/obavijest-o-odgodi-edukacije-o-poucavanju-o-holokaustu-u-yad-vashemu-i-ponavljanju-natjecaja/4385>

Pledge 4 (Operative Program for National Minorities): The biggest challenge regarding what we do in the IHRA is including combating antisemitism into the Program. The program does include raising awareness about the IHRA antisemitism definition, but it does not go into how to adopt it or implement it. Although the Program does include raising awareness about genocide committed during World War II in the broadest sense, the Holocaust and Samudaripen are included as a sub-group.

#### **New initiatives**

Pledge 2 (Jasenovac): Thematic area: Archives and Research

An upcoming international Volume/Edited Book on manipulations, controversies and historical revisionism surrounding Jasenovac Memorial Site is planned to be published in late 2022 or early 2023 (just before the Croatian IHRA presidency) with Routledge Taylor and Francis. The Volume is titled Jasenovac Concentration Camp: An Unfinished Past and is edited by Andriana Benčić Kužnar, Danijela Lucić and Stipe Odak.

Pledge 3 (Holocaust and Antisemitism Education): Thematic area: Holocaust Education

With the abolition of epidemiological measures related to the educational process and extracurricular teaching Croatia reopens a grant scheme for school trips to former concentration camps today memorial site in Jasenovac extended with visiting Roma Memorial Center Uštica

<https://mzo.gov.hr/vijesti/realizacija-terenske-nastave-u-spomen-podrucju-jasenovac/3410>

The Education and Teacher Training Agency and the Jewish Municipality of Zagreb, the Šoa Academy signed an Agreement on Cooperation in Holocaust Education in Zagreb, which will enable education on Holocaust in the Independent State of Croatia. <https://www.azoo.hr/potpisan-sporazum-o-suradnji-u-obrazovanju-o-holokaustu/>

Additional boost to the fight against the growing phenomenon of antisemitism within a grant scheme for non-governmental organizations that deal with non-institutional education <https://mzo.gov.hr/istaknute teme/natjecaji-196/natjecaj-za-dodjelu-bespovratnih-sredstava-projektima-udruga-u-podrucju-izvaninstitucionalnoga-odgoja-i-obrazovanja-djece-i-mladih-u-skolskoj-godini-2022-2023/4951>

Pledge 4 (Operative Program for National Minorities): Thematic Area: Action Plans and Strategies and Combating Antisemitism

Once the procedure of public voting is completed, there will be an opportunity to either add a National Action Plan for combating antisemitism into the Operative Program or one will have to be made to satisfy the EU Strategy for Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life obligation. The IHRA antisemitism definition needs to be adopted in the next four months before the start Croatian IHRA Presidency.

Pledge 5 (National Plan for Roma inclusion): Thematic Area: Anti-Roma discrimination and genocide of the Roma

The Government of the Republic of Croatia has pledged support for the project of a "Wall of Pain memorial," which will be built next to the recently constructed Roma Memorial Centre and inaugurated in 2020. This is included in the updated Operative Program for National Minorities.

With a focus on education and activities of Roma genocide/Samudaripen suffering in WWII through the activities of Roma Memorial Center "Uštica", their annual commemoration, and support for the work of the Center, the Government continued to increase funding for the main pillars of Roma

inclusion - education, employment, housing, and health - and continuously supports the efforts of the Roma community and the Croatian Romani Union "KALI SARA" in all pillars of Roma inclusion.

The IHRA anti-Roma discrimination definition needs to be adopted in the next four months before the start of the Croatian IHRA Presidency.

Unrelated and new: Thematic area: Archives and research:

We are working on creating a national node of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI) and on acquiring membership in the permanent organisation of EHRI–ERIC. In terms of archives, we are working on identifying and describing collections relevant to the Holocaust period (1933–1952).

## **9. Cyprus**

### **Completed pledges**

1. Adopted the IHRA definition on Holocaust Denial and Distortion,
2. Completed a specialized training program on antisemitism, for police and law enforcement officers.
3. Voluntarily contributed to the IHRA budget for 2022 and will do so again for 2023.

### **Results so far**

The results have been excellent. Specifically with regards to the training seminar/program, we intend to hold additional ones in the coming years.

### **Examples of best practices**

With particular regard to the training program, and as a result of it, the relevant manual used by police and law enforcement officers when handling cases of suspected anti-Semitism has incorporated the IHRA working definition.



### Examples of challenges

No particular challenges were encountered.

### New initiatives

Regarding the thematic area of Holocaust remembrance, Cyprus is now considering a specific project related to the commemoration of the experiences of 53 thousand Jewish refugees – nearly all of whom Holocaust survivors - who were held in internment camps in British-era Cyprus between 1946 and 1948.

Regarding the thematic area of education, having adopted the definition on Holocaust Denial and Distortion, this is now in the process of incorporation in secondary-level teaching and other related activities which include, among others, essay competitions.

## 10. Denmark

### Completed pledges

The work to complete the pledges is progressing well and according to the plan. At this stage the following pledges have been completed: Pledge to step up our fight against antisemitism significantly; Pledge to protect the Danish Jews; Pledge to strengthen knowledge about contemporary forms of antisemitism in Denmark. The implementation of the remaining four pledges is in progress as planned.

### Results so far

There have been several tangible results after the pledges at the Malmö Forum. The following results can be highlighted in particular:

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> pledge: In January 2022 the Danish government launched a comprehensive plan to fight antisemitism in Denmark. The action plan is broad in its initiatives and includes among other initiatives preventing antisemitism in particular environments, more research on antisemitism and protection of Danish Jews and Jewish institutions.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> pledge: The Danish government has ensured an annual grant of DKK 300 000 to the Jewish Community's Department for Mapping and Knowledge Sharing of Anti-Semitic Incidents (AKVAH).
- 4<sup>th</sup> pledge: The Danish Working Environment Authority is currently developing training for inspectors in identifying and reacting to antisemitism and negative acts against religious minorities in the work place.
- 5<sup>th</sup> pledge: Holocaust has become mandatory in the curriculum for the upper secondary educations (STX) in the subject History. Holocaust will also become a mandatory subject in primary and lower secondary education in the subject History by including the Holocaust in the history canon. Furthermore, a continued education program for teachers of primary and upper secondary education has been initiated. The purpose is to enhance the qualifications of teachers to teach about Holocaust and other genocides. Additionally, funds have been allocated for supporting projects that promote education and remembrance about Holocaust and other genocides with focus on activities that engage pupils.
- 6<sup>th</sup> pledge: The Danish Government has launched two application pools in order to raise more awareness of Jewish life and culture in Denmark.
- 7<sup>th</sup> pledge: Denmark has strengthened its focus on antisemitism internationally. Denmark has supported UN resolutions and joint statements on antisemitism. Denmark has stepped up its engagement in the IHRA.

### Examples of best practices

In January 2022 the Danish Government launched a comprehensive plan to fight antisemitism in Denmark. A link to the action plan in English can be found here: <https://www.justitsministeriet.dk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Antisemitism-action-planpdf.pdf>

## Examples of challenges

### New initiatives

Several new initiatives have been initiated since the Malmö Forum. With the adoption of the action plan in January 2022, several new initiatives were initiated. See the action plan for more details

(<https://www.justitsministeriet.dk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Antisemitism-actionplan-pdf.pdf>). Several of the initiatives are related to the seven pledges and are presented in the section on results.

## 11. Estonia

### Completed pledges

1. We have erected a memorial stone to the murdered Estonian Jews, at Liiva cemetery, Tallinn, as planned, in November 2021. The inaugural ceremony took place there on January 27, 2022, in the presence of the President of the Republic. <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/news-archive/estonia-unveils-memorial-holocaustvictims-tallinn>

2. In compliance with the Concept for Measures against Antisemitism, adopted by the Government in April 2021 and which we pledged to implement in all aspects, main structures have been put in place and main activities started: an inter-ministerial working group is created; regular consultations between the Police authorities and representatives of the Jewish community have started in several localities over Estonia; educational materials and teachers' training possibilities are under scrutiny to be updated; a system to better collect data on antisemitic incidents is in a preparation phase.

### Results so far

In addition to information given in p. 4., and concerning our pledge no. 2, we can point out an enhanced dialogue and cooperation in security and safety matters between state agencies and Jewish organisations. We can also

stress that Estonia's policy is guided by the non-legally binding IHRA working definition of antisemitism. In the field of holocaust education, cooperation modalities between the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research and Yad Vashem were recently updated and study visits started again. <https://opleht.ee/2022/09/haridustootajad-yad-vashemis/>

### **Examples of best practices**

As noticed by all participants, the key to swift results on our two pledges has been the good interaction between representatives of state institutions, the national IHRA delegation and the working group to implement the Concept on Measures against antisemitism, in dialogue and cooperation with Jewish organisations. All relevant ministries and other institutions have been contributing by sharing both costs and know-how.

### **Examples of challenges**

A vision on how to create a system to better collect data on antisemitic incidents needs to be agreed upon between relevant actors.

### **New initiatives**

No new initiatives, as work to implement the Concept for Measures against Antisemitism is ongoing.

## **12. Finland**

### **Completed pledges**

Safeguarding human rights, freedom, tolerance and equality; combating hate speech; highquality research and education; ensuring the safety of religious communities; work against antisemitism in international organizations; and a seminar on The Holocaust around The Holocaust Remembrance Day.

### **Results so far**

The Finnish Government has published an action plan to combat racism and discrimination and promote good relations between population groups. It includes actions against antisemitism that will be followed up.

The action plan to combat racism and discrimination includes measures against hate speech. A follow-up study on the effects and prevalence of hate speech will be carried out. Education material on hate speech will be introduced to public authorities.

The IHRA Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust have been translated into Finnish and Swedish. The Finnish Academy finances a five-year-research project on Finland's role in the Holocaust.

The Finnish security authorities have closely cooperated with the Jewish community in Finland in order to assure the security of their premises and activities. All religious communities have been consulted in connection with legislation that concerns them.

Finland has continued to actively participate in the work against antisemitism in international organizations. Finland has adopted the IHRA working definition on antisemitism and has appointed a national coordinator for antisemitism.

The Finnish Government participates annually at ministerial level in the event for the Holocaust Remembrance Day organized by the Finnish Holocaust Remembrance Association and partially finances this event.

### **Examples of best practices**

In the implementation of all the pledges, close cooperation between the public authorities, religious communities, and civil society organizations has proved particularly fruitful. The Finnish Government continuously interacts with the civil society in the preparation and implementation of its policies. For example, a National Advisory Board on Romani Affairs (<http://www.romani.fi>) has been created to enhance the equal participation of the Roma population in the Finnish society, to improve their living conditions and socio-economic position and to promote their culture.

### Examples of challenges

The COVID-19 pandemic unfortunately prevented the organization of a live event around The Holocaust Remembrance Day. It was therefore decided to organize a closed event that was televised on national television. The Finnish Minister of Justice spoke at the event.

### New initiatives

A national coordination group for antisemitism is being formed.

## 13. France

### Completed pledges

- Implementation of new educational tools for professionals : new teaching materials and additional trainings; about 600 new educational projects including documentaries, debates, conferences, live shows; creation of a national team “principles of the republic” to help teachers facing discrimination events; support to memorial institutions to increase school-based interventions; creation of a pilot team "racism and antisemitism" in Universities.
- Implementation of new tools to fight hate on line: implementation of online complaint and immediate appearance procedures; implementation of new trainings in police training schools; dissolution of 2 extremist religious groups in 2021.
- Victims support: financing and training support to specialised associations; creation of specialised reception teams in police stations; implementation of new trainings for judges.
- Internet platforms and social networks regulation: increasing financial and human resources devoted to the Interior Ministry’s reporting platform PHAROS; implementation of a new and more efficient anonymous procedure allowing to lead investigations by the PHAROS investigators; creation of a prosecutor’s office specialised in digital

affairs; collaboration with the civil society with the creation of an hate online Observatory gathering platforms, associations and researchers as well as the creation of a 1M € Funds by Facebook to help online civic mindedness; new public financing dedicated to fight hate speech and complotism; participating to a 6 countries justice network to check good practises in fighting online antisemitism.

- Measures and initiatives during the French presidency of the EU on the 1st 2022 semester: adoption of the Digital Services and Digital Market Acts; adoption by the EU Council of Conclusions remembering the EU member States commitment to fight racism and antisemitism; inclusion of online offenses in the eurocrimes list.
- Memorial institutions support: increasing by at least 12% of public grants to memorial institutions; approximately 7M € public grants given to nearly 40 organisations committed in combatting hate and antisemitism, including memorial institutions

#### Results so far

- Implementation of new educational tools for professionals: completed both in secondary schools and universities.
- Implementation of new tools to fight hate on line: constant improvement of means and instruments.
- Victims support: improvement of institutional means and support to associations.
- Internet platforms and social networks regulation: strengthening national capacities to fight hate online ([www.internet-signalement.gouv.fr/PharosS1/](http://www.internet-signalement.gouv.fr/PharosS1/)).
- Measures and initiatives during the French presidency of the EU on the 1st 2022 semester: several measures and initiatives implemented

(<http://www.digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/digitalservices-act-package>; [www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/03/04/counciladopts-conclusions-on-combating-racism-and-antisemitism/](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/03/04/counciladopts-conclusions-on-combating-racism-and-antisemitism/)).

- Memorial institutions support: strengthening of the public financing support.

#### Examples of best practices

- Implementation of new educational tools for professionals : creation of an internet site intituled “Eduquer contre le racisme et l’antisémitisme” ([www.reseau-canope.fr/les-valeurs-de-larepublique/eduquer-contre-le-racisme-et-lantisemitisme](http://www.reseau-canope.fr/les-valeurs-de-larepublique/eduquer-contre-le-racisme-et-lantisemitisme)); creation of a best practises guide by the education minister; organisation each year in school of the week against racism and antisemitism ([www.gouvernement.fr/semaine-d-education-et-d-actions-contre-le-racisme-etl-antisemitisme](http://www.gouvernement.fr/semaine-d-education-et-d-actions-contre-le-racisme-etl-antisemitisme)).
- Implementation of new tools to fight hate on line : online complaint ([www.declarer.org](http://www.declarer.org)); reporting platform ([www.internet-signalement.gouv.fr/PharosS1/](http://www.internet-signalement.gouv.fr/PharosS1/)).
- Strengthening the collaboration with Israel: restarting the bilateral antisemitism dialogue with Israel – 5<sup>th</sup> edition organised in September 2022 ([www.il.ambafrance.org/Dialogue-bilateral-France-Israel-sur-l-antisemitisme-Paris-12-13-septembre-2022](http://www.il.ambafrance.org/Dialogue-bilateral-France-Israel-sur-l-antisemitisme-Paris-12-13-septembre-2022)).
- Excellent cooperation and interaction between public authorities and the civil society organisations.

#### Examples of challenges

- Increasing of the hate online during the pandemic.



- Finding the balance between regulating internet platforms and social networks and respecting freedom of expression and fundamental liberties in general.
- Increasing of communautarism which reinforces antisemitism, in opposition to the universalist and republican French tradition.

#### New initiatives

- Archives and research: 2022 French presidency of the Arolsen archives.
- Action plans and strategies: coming publication in October 2022 of the new National Plan against racism and antisemitism.
- International activities: strengthening the collaboration with Israel by organising the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the bilateral dialogue between France and Israel on antisemitism (<http://www.il.ambafrance.org/Dialogue-bilateral-France-Israel-sur-l-antisemitisme-Paris-12-13-septembre-2022>).

## 14. Germany

### Results so far

#### Remembrance of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Sinti and Roma

Germany will contribute to making eyewitness accounts accessible to more people everywhere by means of digitising remembrance of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Sinti and Roma, in particular in memorials and museums in Germany and abroad.

Germany will campaign through the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the continued existence of the Global Task Force against Holocaust Distortion and the implementation of its findings and calls on all IHRA member countries to become involved in these efforts.

- Germany funds several projects regarding the digitisation of remembrance of the Holocaust, for example projects in cooperation with Yad Vashem or the Leo Baeck Institute.
- Germany continues its campaign for the continued existence of the Global Task Force against Holocaust Distortion. See for instance: <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/baerbock-b-nai-b-rith/2507914>

## II. Holocaust education

Germany will develop independent funding for Holocaust education from the perspective of survivors and survivor organisations.

Germany will, working through the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future, advance a novel education agenda on Nazi injustice, imparting lessons from the National Socialist past in a historically aware and energising way.

Germany will strengthen remembrance of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Sinti and Roma by continuing to systematically incorporate the perspective of survivors and their advocacy groups.

Germany will develop innovative approaches to Holocaust education in a post migrant society.

- The Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany have agreed on sustainable cooperation on Holocaust education, one of the most important follow-up tasks in connection with compensation for National Socialist injustice. Thus, the specific perspectives of the survivors and the institutions representing them will be brought into the process of communicating the Holocaust and Nazi injustice to future generations in the long term. The programme is funded by the BMF and administered by the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ). The

programme will start before the end of 2022. Its quality is ensured by an advisory board formed at the EVZ.

- Within the framework of “Future-oriented educational work on Nazi persecution”, the German Government grants the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility, Future (EVZ) a subsidy for selected projects of national importance in the field of political-historical educational work on Nazi persecution. The promotion of this work is a special federal interest. The programme has existed since 2021 and is supported financially by the BMF. In 2021, 17 projects were approved. Nine projects have been approved so far in 2022. Further projects are in the planning phase.
- On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Luxembourg Agreement, which marked the beginning of Germany’s ongoing assumption of responsibility for National Socialist injustice, the German Government is funding numerous documentaries produced by survivors’ advocacy groups that deal not only with the history of compensation but also with the historical events on which this compensation is based on a survivors’ perspective.
- Furthermore, Germany plans to expand German-Israeli youth exchange supported by a German-Israeli Youth Office. An important component of the exchange will be Holocaust memory preservation as well as dealing with antisemitism.
- Since 2015, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth has been funding memorial trips for young people aged 14 to 26, which are organised and carried out outside of school and university. Through the federal programme “Jugend erinnert” (Youth remembers), which started in 2019, the memorial trips are also funded by the Federal Foreign Office.
- The project “Der Gang der Geschichte(n)” funded by the Foreign Office and the Federal Agency for Civic Education examines narratives about

Jews, the Shoah and Israel in the countries of origin of immigrants and the corresponding communities in Germany. The aim is to gain basic knowledge and make it usable for civic education.

- In June 2021, the Central Council of Jews in Germany together with the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs, as well as the Joint Federal and State Commission to Fight Antisemitism and Protect Jewish Life, published a joint recommendation on dealing with antisemitism in schools. In June 2022, the bodies involved in this held a specialist conference to discuss and further operationalise the implementation of the recommendation.
- In order to further understanding of the genocide of the Sinti and Roma, the Federal Foreign Office will fund an international project run by the Research Centre on Antigypsyism (RCA) at Heidelberg University: “Enzyklopädie des NS-Völkermordes an Sinti und Roma in Europa” (Encyclopaedia of the Nazi Genocide of the Sinti and Roma in Europe).
- In view of the rise in right wing extremism, racism and antisemitism, a Cabinet Committee to combat right wing extremism and racism was set up in 2020. As well as implementing measures already adopted, the committee has drawn up a catalogue of 89 individual measures. One of the measures listed was tasking an academic independent expert body on hostility against Muslims to submit a report on that matter. The report will be based upon comprehensive research studies of the phenomena of discrimination and hatred against Muslims and hostility against Islam and issue recommendations to combat hostility against Muslims in Germany. The report will be finalised in 2023 and presented publicly by the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community.

### III. Antisemitism in social networks and on social media platforms

Germany will develop both a network of experts and a federal working group on online hate.

Germany will finance a study on digital news skills as well as scientific studies on right wing extremism, in particular the links between right wing extremism and antisemitism.

- Since October 2017, antisemitism on the internet has been countered in Germany with the Network Enforcement Act (NetzDG). The NetzDG introduced compliance obligations with fines for providers of large social networks. Providers of social networks with at least two million users in Germany are required to set up a complaints management system and report on it. Specifically, providers must accept complaints from users about illegal content, review them and delete illegal content within certain deadlines. For obviously illegal content the deadline is 24 hours, for other illegal content the deadline is generally seven days. Illegal content within the meaning of the NetzDG is content that violates certain provisions of the German Criminal Code. They include provisions fighting antisemitism such as incitement of the people (including denial of the Holocaust), the dissemination of propaganda material of unconstitutional organisations (e.g. neo-Nazi propaganda materials) and the use of symbols of unconstitutional organisations (e.g. swastika).
- Furthermore, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth has set up a Competence Centre on online hate speech as part of the federal programme “Live Democracy!”. It currently consists of four partners (HateAid, jugendschutz.net, Neue Deutsche Medienmacher\*innen and Das Netztz). The Competence Centre provides and develops expertise for nationwide professional practice, especially in the sphere of children’s and youth work. They offer advice to those affected by online hate speech and conduct monitoring on hate on the internet. In addition, they provide information services to the public. The Competence Centre addresses several phenomena linked to online hate including antisemitism.
- In addition, the federal working group on digital hate (BAG Hass im Netz) aims at strengthening the exchange between civil society actors

who deal with the issue of hate online. The BAG's activities include research on online phenomena that are hostile to democracy.

- Furthermore, in February 2022, a new Central Reporting Unit for Criminal Content on the Internet (ZMI) was established (see <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-battle-against-online-hate-speech/a-60613294>)

#### IV. Combating antisemitism, antigypsyism and racism

Germany will continue to actively combat antisemitism, antigypsyism and racism in all spheres of life and in peoples' daily interactions.

Germany will further anchor a holistic approach to preventing and combating all forms of antisemitism, antigypsyism and racism as a cross cutting task across all levels and policy fields and will draw up a national strategy against antisemitism and for Jewish life.

Germany will strengthen research into antisemitism, establishing and promoting research networks to this end.

Germany will further develop prevention and study projects on the connection between right wing extremism and antisemitism as well as between racism and antisemitism.

Germany will support the development of a civil society monitoring process to record antisemitic assaults and continue to anchor it in the Competence Network against Antisemitism (KOMPAS), which is funded by the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the federal programme "Live Democracy!".

Germany will establish a civil society monitoring process to record antigypsyist assaults and, based on the Competence Network on Antisemitism, will develop a similar body on antigypsyism to gather information and provide expert advice.

- The National Strategy against Antisemitism and for Jewish Life is in its final state of conception and will be adopted by the end of the year. Furthermore, commissioners for the fight against antisemitism in the public prosecutor's offices of the 16 federal states have been appointed.
- In addition, the national strategy entitled "Fighting Antigypsyism, Securing Participation!" for the implementation of the EU Roma Strategy 2030, is being implemented in Germany and further developed in close cooperation with self-organisations.
- Since 2015, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) has been funding various measures at the municipal, regional and national level through the programme "Live Democracy!" that address the issue of antisemitism on the basis of preventive educational approaches. Since the beginning of 2020, a separate competence network in the field of antisemitism with experienced civil society organisations has been funded by the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the programme "Live Democracy!", which bundles information nationwide, provides expert advice and is intended to ensure a transfer of successful prevention approaches to federal, state and municipal structures. The competence network consists of the following civil society organisations: (1) the Anne Frank Zentrum, (2) the Bildungsstätte Anne Frank, (3) the Kreuzberg Initiative against Antisemitism, (4) the Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS) and (5) the Competence Centre for Prevention and Empowerment of the Central Board of Jewish Welfare in Germany (ZWST). The main focuses of the competence network are: (a) historical-political educational work, (b) antisemitism from the right and left, (c) antisemitism in an immigration society, (d) educational work critical of antisemitism, (e) prevention and empowerment, (f) development of monitoring and advisory structures. In addition, within the programme "Live Democracy!"  
<https://www.demokratie-leben.de/projekte-expertise/kompetenzzentren-und-netzwerke/kompetenznetzwerk-im->

[themenfeld-antisemitismus](#)) 15 model projects in the field of antisemitism prevention are being funded. They deal with questions of historical-political education, educational work critical of antisemitism, interfaith dialogue, current forms of antisemitism and also take into account empowerment measures and include Jewish perspectives. The main target groups are children and young people, multipliers and educational professionals in schools and out-of-school settings.

- Since 2015, the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) has been funding various measures at the municipal, regional and national level through the programme "Live Democracy!" that address the issue of antigypsyism on the basis of preventive educational approaches. Since the beginning of 2020, a separate competence network in the field of antigypsyism with experienced civil society organisations has been funded by the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the programme "Live Democracy!". It bundles information nationwide, provides expert advice and is intended to ensure a transfer of successful prevention approaches to federal, state and municipal structures. The competence network consists of the following civil society organisations: (1) the Documentation and Cultural Centre of German Sinti and Roma, (2) Amaro Drom and (3) the Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin. The main focuses of the competence network are: (a) sensitising the majority society to antigypsyist prejudices and stereotypes, (b) supporting the social participation of Sinti and Roma, (c) empowerment, (d) historical-political education with reference to the persecution and murder of Sinti and Roma under National Socialism, (e) professional exchange and (f) multiplier training. (<https://www.demokratie-leben.de/projekte-expertise/kompetenzzentren-und-netzwerke/kompetenznetzwerk-im-themenfeld-antiziganismus>) Nine pilot projects in the field of antigypsyism prevention are being funded. They deal with questions of historical-political education and continuing discrimination against Sinti and Roma, educational work, and also take into account empowerment measures and include the perspectives of Sinti and Roma. The main



target groups are children and young people, media, multipliers and educational professionals in schools and out-of-school settings.

- In addition, more than 330 partnerships for democracy are being funded at the local level under the programme "Live Democracy!", which are also active in the field of preventing antisemitism and antigypsyism, among other things. (<https://www.demokratie-leben.de/das-programm/ueber-demokratie-leben/partnerschaften-fuer-demokratie>)
- Through the programme "Live Democracy!", democracy centres are being funded in all federal states, which support counselling services for those affected by right-wing, racist, antisemitic or antigypsyist violence. (<https://www.demokratie-leben.de/das-programm/ueber-demokratie-leben/landes-demokratiezentren>)
- The project "Bildungsbaustein Israel" funded by the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community and the Federal Agency for Civic Education aims to develop and test innovative methods for the prevention of Israel-related antisemitism and to make these accessible. The aim is to enable teacher-training institutions in particular to work on the topic independently and on a permanent basis. For this purpose, the Federal Agency for Civic Education is looking for cooperation partnerships for long-term events. Educational materials will be created for different target groups. In addition, the conception and realisation of a web portal is planned, designed to bundle existing educational resources on the subject of Israel/Middle East conflict/antisemitism and make them available to everyone.
- The funding programme "Strengthening anti-racist/critical racism in civic education" – in Branch L: Civic education and plural democracy of the Federal Agency for Civic Education (running from 2022 to 2024) aims to strengthen projects that establish, further develop and consolidate anti-racist civic education as well as projects that focus on empowerment, equality and participation strategies in this context. Specific forms of racism, among these anti-Roma discrimination and

racism against Roma and Sinti as well as antisemitism and the furthering of empowerment processes herein are a specific focus of the programme. Within this programme, the department is supporting two specific antigypsyism projects: “Antiziganism-Sensitive Education and Democracy Education” by the Heidelberg University of Education (Pädagogische Hochschule Heidelberg) and the project “We are here! Self-empowerment and antigypsyism Education in Saxony” by the organisation Romano Sumnal. Additionally, the programme supplies funding for “Antiracism Sensitivity and Empowerment through Film and Theatre” by the organisation Cinetheater ResilArt and the project “Train to Empower” by the Bildungsstätte Anne Frank, both of which deal with the intersection of racism and antisemitism.

- The project “Blickwinkel. Antisemitismuskritisches und rassismuskritisches Forum für Bildung und Wissenschaft” (Perspective. Antisemitism and racism critical forum for education and science) funded by the Federal Agency for Civic Education provides a framework for a professional exchange between academics and practitioners in the field of antisemitism and racism prevention. At annual conferences held in different cities, about 140 participants from heterogeneous learning/teaching contexts develop answers to current problems in civic education. It is organised by an interdisciplinary steering group consisting of the project partners.
- The Centre for Research on Antisemitism, TU Berlin, has been appointed as a supporting institution for the funding line “Current dynamics and challenges of antisemitism”. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research has been supporting ten research networks at universities and non-university institutions all over Germany with around 12 million euro since 2021. In a total of 31 sub-projects, the dynamics and facets of antisemitism are being investigated from different disciplinary perspectives. Participants include researchers from the spheres of theology, education, political science and law, as well as numerous partners from the field. The selected projects range from "antisemitism in online media", "antisemitism in the context of justice",

“Christian aspects of antisemitism” to antisemitism prevention in education. Jewish perspectives are systematically included. It is a network of research and practice partners that addresses the phenomenon of current antisemitism from different perspectives using different research methods. In ten collaborative projects with over 30 projects and around 50 research and practice partners, the aim is both to explore the causes of antisemitism and to shed light on stereotypical narratives and lines of argumentation. Furthermore, the projects strive to explicitly include a Jewish perspective, which has not been a matter of course in previous research on antisemitism.

- Germany has established a civil society monitoring mechanism, the Antigypsyism Reporting and Information Centre (MIA) on the basis of the recommendations of the Cabinet Committee to combat right-wing extremism and racism. On 1 October 2021, MIA started its work. Regional reporting centres were established and a cooperation network with partner organisations from civil society and self-organisations is to be established.
- Germany will further strengthen the fight against antigypsyism and for the life of Sinti and Roma in Germany with the Commissioner against Antigypsyism, who took up office on 1 May 2022. He is based at the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. With the appointment of the Commissioner against Antigypsyism, one of the central recommendations for action by the Independent Commission on Antigypsyism was implemented. The Commissioner will coordinate the actions of the German Government against antigypsyism, implement the recommendations made by the Independent Commission against Antigypsyism and act as a central contact point for the Sinti and Roma minority in Germany. On this basis, the Federal Government Commissioner initiates the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission on the persecution of Sinti and Roma in the Federal Republic of Germany – in close cooperation with Sinti and Roma self-organisations. The aim is to restore trust in democratic and constitutional

institutions and to end the discrimination and segregation of Sinti and Roma in Germany that persists to this day.

- Germany will continue to support the Competence Network against Antigypsyism, which now consists of three experienced organisations. The network gathers information on the issue of antigypsyism and provides expert advice on preventive educational work.

## **15. Greece**

### **Completed pledges**

Organization of an International Conference entitled “Fighting Antisemitism and Holocaust Distortion and Denial on the Digital Battlefield”. It took place in the city of Ioannina, on 7–9 October 2022.

### **Results so far**

The International Conference “Fighting Antisemitism and Holocaust Distortion and Denial on the Digital Battlefield” was successfully organised in the city of Ioannina, on 7–9 October 2022, bringing together politicians, academics and members of the civil society from Greece and the rest of Europe, America and Australia.

### **Examples of best practices**

During the Conference best practices of how to fight antisemitism and Holocaust denial and distortion online from several countries were presented. Emphasis was put on education, but best practices regarding technology, justice etc were also presented.

### **Examples of challenges**

A challenge that emerged several times during the discussions of the Conference, was the perpetual change of forms and ways that hate speech is spread online, which makes more challenging and difficult the fight against it.

### New initiatives

During the Conference the Greek Government announced the beginning of the procedure for the creation of a national action plan against antisemitism.

## 16. Ireland

### Completed pledges

#### Commemoration of Holocaust remembrance in Ireland

Ireland remains committed to Holocaust remembrance and to combatting antisemitism. On 30 January 2022, the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth participated in the National Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration, organised under the auspices of Holocaust Education Trust. The President of Ireland gave a keynote speech at the event. As part of the commemoration, guests heard the testimonies of those who had survived the horrors of the Holocaust. The Irish Government provides annual funding to support this event, which commemorates the lives of those persecuted during the Holocaust. Consideration is now being given to planning for 2023.

Ireland also continues to engage with representatives from academia and Jewish organisations in our Standing Committee on Holocaust Education, Research and Remembrance and with Holocaust Education Trust Ireland.

### Results so far

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lives of those persecuted during the Holocaust. Consideration is now being given to planning for 2023.

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#### **National Action Plan Against Racism**

The Government established an independent Anti-Racism Committee to strengthen the Government's approach to combatting individual and institutional racism and build on the antiracism actions included in the Migrant Integration Strategy (MIS) and the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy (NTRIS).

Following an extensive public consultation, including engagement with international experts, the Committee submitted its action plan against racism to Minister O'Gorman on 27 June 2022. The Minister formally discharged the Committee of its Terms of Reference and the Committee was formally brought to a close at its last plenary on 20 July 2022. The Department is currently engaged in an inter-departmental process to agree year-one implementation plans to bring to Government with the National Action Plan Against Racism.

The Minister intends to bring the Committee's plan to Government for approval.

#### **Hate Crime Bill**

We pledged to introduce new hate crime legislation and update the 1989 Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act.

Ireland is currently developing legislation which will update existing laws on incitement to hatred and introduce hate crime laws for the first time. A new Bill will be published in October 2022; the Criminal Justice (Incitement to Violence or Hatred and Hate Offences) Bill 2022 which will repeal and replace the 1989 Act by introducing new offences of incitement to hatred

which are clearer and simpler. These offences will target communications or behaviour that intentionally or recklessly incites hatred or violence against a person or persons because they are associated with a protected characteristic. The Bill will also introduce new, specific hate aggravated offences for crimes motivated by hatred against protected characteristics.

The protected characteristics defined in the Bill include race; colour; nationality; religion, ethnic or national origin; descent, sexual orientation; sex characteristics, gender; or disability. The protected characteristics of descent, ethnic origin and religion have been included as part of Ireland's efforts to combat antisemitism.

The Bill includes a new offence of publicly condoning, denying or grossly trivialising crimes of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity or any act specified in Article 6 of the Charter of the International Military Tribunal appended to the London Agreement of 8 August 1945 so as to ensure that Holocaust denial is expressly provided for.

## **17. Israel**

### **Completed pledges**

1. We are supporting annually the work of Yad-Vashem with budgetary means as well as cooperation on expanding the partnerships and training through Israel's embassies around the world.
2. We support research institutions and have two common projects starting this year one with Tel-Aviv University, second with INSS.
3. We are running a yearly project on Holocaust remembrance called "my story is your story" in which young people from 20 countries partner with Holocaust survivors to tell their story on social media platforms
4. We partner with CAM (civil society coalition for combating antisemitism) on several projects as well as sharing of data monitoring antisemitic incidents

5. We partner with FAO – an NGO made of young volunteers that works on removing toxic content from social media platforms.

6. We run dialogues with governments on antisemitism and Holocaust remembrance.

### Results so far

We are working on our pledges and creating new opportunities as well.

### Examples of best practices

- The creation of a working group of special envoys for combating antisemitism.
- The strengthening of the cooperation between the government academia and civil society organizations within Israel as well as with Jewish and other organizations around the world.

### Examples of challenges

- Bringing the Tech companies to the table as full partners to the effort.
- Expanding the coalition – it takes time and patience.

### New initiatives

- Research projects with INSS and Tel Aviv university.
- “My Story is Your Story” project mentioned above.

## 18. Italy

### Completed pledges

We are swiftly advancing in implementing the National Strategy for combating Antisemitism which, of course, is bound to stay a work in progress and somehow a living document adaptable according to changing



circumstances, as well as promoting our Guidelines for contrasting antisemitism in the school system.

### **Results so far**

As far as the National Strategy is concerned the Italian Association of Local Communities (ANCI) has transmitted the Document for its approval by all its members. Training on how to recognize antisemitism (according to the IHRA WDA) will be provided this fall to the Judiciary and Police Forces. It has been requested to the Soccer Clubs to introduce in their ethical codes of conduct a special mention on the need to prevent antisemitism. The Strategy has been illustrated to the Italian Episcopal Conference, the Federation of Evangelical Churches and the main associations representing the Islam world in the country.

Concerning the Guidelines on combating antisemitism in Schools they will be circulated, starting this September until March 2023, throughout all the Country in cooperation with the Regional Offices in charge of Education. This, as well as a ministerial circular recently emanated by the Ministry of Education which recommend the adoption of the Guidelines by all Schools, will facilitate a capillary dissemination, and practical use, of this very innovative tool.

### **Examples of best practices**

A growing awareness at the Institutional level of the importance of having a National Strategy which involves a vast number of actors (Judiciary, Police, Teachers, Universities, Media, Sport, Religious organizations, civil society, political parties) applying a holistic and multidisciplinary approach. Action at the local level is complemented by a close and constant cooperation at the EU level. Jewish Communities and Jewish Institutions such as Museums and Memorial sites, are always consulted and involved in adjusting and improving the overall process. It should also be mentioned that very productive contacts with certain social media (Google, Tik Tok, Facebook, YouTube) have permitted to start addressing, in a constructive and cooperative manner, the delicate and urgent issue of distortion of the Shoah

and hate speech online. Italy is also following a proactive approach aiming at countering cyberhate by promoting positive counternarratives and non-biased facts on the Holocaust and related issues and themes and not only by removing distorted and heinous content.

### Examples of challenges

The main challenge for the introduction of the Guidelines in the Schools is the proper training of Teachers. Then, at another level, combating antisemitism effectively may request some changes in the Penal Code and there is a lack of legislation for regulating the social media and remove illegal speech, access to data is not always easy, reporting should be made simpler and more encouraged. It may sound banal to say it but times of crises (war, high inflation, migrations, pandemic, climate change) make it all the more difficult to tackle this very ancient disease called antisemitism, which means simply blaming the Jews for all the troubles and difficulties the world is experiencing.

### New initiatives

2.3 Archives and Research. Italy has recently translated into Italian the IHRA Guidelines for Identifying Relevant Documentation for Holocaust Research, Education and Remembrance. For the proper use of the Guidelines by Italian Archivists and Researchers in the translation some reference to the Italian Personal Data Protection Law and examples of Italian Archival Funds have been added.

2.8 Antisemitism on social platforms. An agreement has been recently signed between the Italian Prime Minister Office and Google. It has been agreed that Google will place high in the results of a research on topics related to antisemitism and Holocaust, sionism, Jewish culture and Heritage, the punctual and well informed definitions prepared by the National Coordinator for combating antisemitism together with experts and scholars.

## **19. Latvia**

### **Completed pledges**

The Museum of the Occupation of Latvia will host an exhibition entitled “The Death is among us. The deportations to Riga and the Holocaust in Latvia” (Der Tod ist ständig unter uns. Die Deportationen nach Riga und der Holocaust in Lettland) from 31 October until 11 December, 2022.

### **Results so far**

The Project “Remembrance place Riga – The Deportation from the German-speaking territory and the Holocaust in Occupied Latvia 1941 – 1944” was launched at the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial in collaboration with German and Latvian Partners. 2021 was the 80th year since the start of the deportation from the German Reich to Riga. Between November 27, 1941, and October 26, 1942, 25 trains from the German Reich (including the connected Austria and the annexed Czechoslovakia) left to Riga. Almost 25 000 Jewish men, women and children from 16 cities and surrounding regions were affected. Only some 1 080 people from these deportation transports survived Riga, the subsequent National Socialist mass crimes and witnessed the liberation. The Exhibition, created during the Project, aims to commemorate the fate of German and Austrian Jews who were deported to Riga during the Holocaust in 1941 and 1942.

### **Examples of best practices**

The Project “Remembrance place Riga – The Deportation from the German-speaking territory and the Holocaust in Occupied Latvia 1941– 1944” was launched at the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial in collaboration with German and Latvian Partners. 2021 was the 80th year since the start of the deportation from the German Reich to Riga. Between November 27, 1941, and October 26, 1942, 25 trains from the German Reich (including the connected Austria and the annexed Czechoslovakia) left to Riga. Almost 25,000 Jewish men, women and children from 16 cities and surrounding regions were affected. Only some 1080 people from these deportation transports survived Riga, the subsequent National Socialist mass

crimes and witnessed the liberation. The Exhibition, created during the Project, aims to commemorate the fate of German and Austrian Jews who were deported to Riga during the Holocaust in 1941 and 1942.

### Examples of challenges

Refers to the question #8 (the Law on Goodwill Compensation to Latvian Jewish Community): Since regaining its independence, Latvia has carried out significant work to fully identify the events of the World War II and the crimes committed by totalitarian regimes, to honour the memory of the victims and to restore historical justice. One of such issues was the restitution of property belonging to the Latvian Jewish community. As this topic touched upon a number of historically, legally and politically complex aspects, it inevitably provoked debates in society as well as among historians and politicians. The appropriate and comprehensive explanation of the history of the Holocaust played a key role in these debates, as the law concluding the restitution process was adopted outside the legal framework of the existing denationalisation process as an act of goodwill of the state.

### New initiatives

In 2022, the Law on Goodwill Compensation to Latvian Jewish Community was adopted in the Saeima (Parliament), thus concluding the restitution process of immovable property to the Latvian Jewish community that began in 1991, and concurrently fulfilling commitments under the Terezin Declaration.

After the restoration of independence in 1991 Latvia addressed the issue of restitution of immovable property confiscated or otherwise wrongfully seized during and after the World War II, including Holocaust-related confiscations, to its rightful owners with the highest political responsibility. Restitution legislation in Latvia was among the most liberal in the countries of the Central and Eastern Europe, providing that private property was returned to all persons with a rightful claim. The legal framework ensured the restitution of immovable properties regardless of the current citizenship and place of residence of a previous owner or heir. The restitution process

that started in 1991 under the existing legislation was completed in 2006. In addition, during the denationalization process, ownership of more than 40 communal and religious properties have already been restored to the Latvian Jewish community since 1991.

Given that as a result of the Holocaust perpetrated by Nazi Germany and its collaborators in the territory of the occupied Latvia the majority of its Jewish population, the heirs of the abovementioned estates and the successors of public and religious organisations were exterminated, many real estate properties could not be recovered within the framework of the restitution process. Therefore, the Government of Latvia maintained a regular and close dialogue with the Jewish community and took an additional step to minimise the unjust consequences of history outside the general framework of the denationalization process by adopting a law on goodwill compensation to the Latvian Jewish community addressing heirless communal and private property. Reimbursement provided by law of EUR 40 million will be directed to the Latvian Jewish Community Restitution Fund established by the Latvian Jewish community.

In the context of the thematic areas in the overview report it should be noted that, according to the objectives defined in the law, financing under the law shall be used for the implementation of measures and projects of the Jewish Community in Latvia, including: restoration and preservation of the Latvian Jewish cultural and historical heritage; support for the Latvian Council of Jewish Communities and other organizations of the Jewish community in Latvia; for the management of the property of the Jewish Community of Latvia; to support the museums in Latvia the work of which is aimed at researching the Jewish community of Latvia in all its aspects and the history of the Holocaust in the territory of Latvia; for the financing of events and projects related to religion, culture, education, science, health care, history, sport and charity; for the maintenance and improvement of Holocaust memorial sites; and to promote cohesion, unity and development of civil society of Latvia. The funding may also be used for the provision of social and material assistance to survivors of the Holocaust in Latvia who now live outside of Latvia.

## 20. Lithuania

### Completed pledges

Review of all actual educational curricula for the grades from 1 to 10 has been completed. The review process aimed at the modernization of the educational system. In the new curriculum of history, International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust (the Recommendations) played an important role. The schools will start using updated programs from the 2023 academic year.

In Lithuania, 23 September is commemorated as the Day of Remembrance of the Genocide of Lithuanian Jews to honour the memory of the victims of senseless mass killings during Nazis' occupation of Lithuania. The Prime Minister, politicians, members of the Lithuanian Jewish community and public, foreign diplomats, guests from abroad, teachers and students attended the memorial ceremony in Vilnius. Moreover, about 160 education institutions (schools, museums, cultural centers, libraries, etc.) organized commemorative events on that day in different Lithuanian cities and towns. This year alone, more than 1 500 schoolchildren participated in various Holocaust commemoration events throughout Lithuania. More information on these commemorative events can be found in the Newsletter ([https://www.komisija.lt/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Newsletter\\_September-23-2022.pdf](https://www.komisija.lt/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Newsletter_September-23-2022.pdf)).

In the field of non-formal education, main activities were devoted to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Holocaust in Lithuania. The Secretariat of the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania (the Secretariat) initiated the Memory Road across Lithuania. The participants retraced the paths that the Holocaust victims were forced to walk to the sites of their massacre. The students, teachers, politicians, other citizens joined the Memory Road in 40 municipalities. On 28 October 2021, President Gitanas Nauseda joined the participants in the procession who walked in silence along the road where almost 10 000 Jews had been forced to go and meet their death at the

Kaunas Ninth Fort eighty years ago. The Secretariat organized 46 lectures and seminars for teachers and educationalists, mostly on the history of Holocaust and its analysis, in the period of 2021–2022. In addition, the Secretariat implemented 25 school projects on the subjects of the history of Lithuanian Jews and the Holocaust in 2022.

During the year of Kaunas – European Capital of Culture 2022, “That Which We Do Not Remember”, an exhibition by William Kentridge, and “Out of Darkness”, an exhibition by Jenny Kagan were dealing with the themes of memory and the Holocaust. In addition to this, The Litvak Cultural Forum was organized with participation of renowned artists, scholars and representatives of the cultural world.

Since the restoration of its independence in 1990, the State of Lithuania has consistently followed the principles of the restoration of historical justice. Lithuanian Government fully delivers on its commitments in compliance with the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Good Will Compensation for the Immovable Property of Jewish Religious Communities. Based on the Law, more than 37 million EUR transferred to the Good Will Foundation.

Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania funded 26 cultural and educational projects in 2021–2022 focusing on Holocaust, the history, cultural, religious heritage of Jewish community and its contribution to Lithuanian society.

### **Results so far**

The IHRA Recommendations for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust (the Recommendations) played an important role in updating the history curriculum of the secondary education. The renewed history program includes novelties prompted by the IHRA Recommendations. For example, various highlights of Jewish history before the Holocaust and the history of Holocaust, connecting history with the present, visiting memorial sites are parts of the new history curricula. The Holocaust, as emphasized in the IHRA Recommendations, is taught in the context of World War II (WWII),

covering a broad geography and chronology. The importance of critical thinking is emphasized.

The telling of the Holocaust history is individualized through personal stories. For example, the topic The History of the Holocaust in Lithuania: memories and testimonies of surviving children from the Vilnius and Kaunas ghettos; getting to know the history of Holocaust memorial sites in close proximity and visiting them; rescuers of Jews in Lithuania in 1941–1944 and their stories, the program mentions Ona Šimaite (Righteous Among the Nations), Abraomas Suckeveris and others.

In September, on the occasion of the Day of Remembrance of the Genocide of Lithuanian Jews, President Gitanas Nauseda awarded State Decoration the Life Saving Cross to those who placed their families and themselves in grave danger by saving Jewish people during World War II. In 2022, this Decoration was awarded to 37 (35 – posthumously).

When updating the history curriculum, the content is made more concrete, detailed and developed. Along with the topics new terms are introduced such as ghetto, pogrom, Einsatzgruppen, collaborator, deportations, Righteous Among the Nations, antisemitism, etc. More attention is devoted to the ethnic and religious diversity of Lithuania, development of national minorities in the course of the history. Alongside other national minorities the Roma are also mentioned. The extermination of Roma and other ethnic, religious or social groups during the Nazi era is discussed separately. The Recommendations had a significant influence on the emphasis on the topic of Roma history and their fate during the WWII.

The Recommendations are translated into Lithuanian language. Information about the Recommendations was published on the website of the National Agency for Education (<https://www.nsa.smm.lt/2021/04/08/isleistos-mokymo-ir-mokymosi-apie-holokaustarekomendacijos/>) which coordinated the program renewal process.



The renewed history curriculum can be found at  
[https://www.emokykla.lt/upload/EMOKYKLA/BP/2022-10-10/PATVIRTINTA\\_Aurelija/31\\_Istorijos%2BBP%2B2022-09-30.pdf](https://www.emokykla.lt/upload/EMOKYKLA/BP/2022-10-10/PATVIRTINTA_Aurelija/31_Istorijos%2BBP%2B2022-09-30.pdf).

Alongside with the review of the history curriculum, the recommendations for implementation of the history curriculum were prepared:  
[https://www.emokykla.lt/upload/EMOKYKLA/BP/2022-10-10/%C4%AER%202022-09-28/Istorijos%20VU%20IR\\_2022-09-28.pdf](https://www.emokykla.lt/upload/EMOKYKLA/BP/2022-10-10/%C4%AER%202022-09-28/Istorijos%20VU%20IR_2022-09-28.pdf).

Translated IHRA Recommendations for teachers about Holocaust teaching also will be used as useful and valuable source to explain Holocaust and Roma genocide.

Two museums devoted to Lithuanian Jewry are further undergoing renovation. Both will become branches of the Vilna Gaon Museum of Jewish History (<https://www.jmuseum.lt/en/>), which is a state museum: Memorial Museum of Holocaust in Lithuania and the Vilna Ghetto (<https://www.jmuseum.lt/en/memorial-museum-of-holocaust-in-lithuania-and-vilna-ghettoupcoming/>) and Museum of Culture and Identity of Lithuanian Jews (<https://www.jmuseum.lt/en/museum-of-culture-and-identity-of-lithuanian-jews-upcoming/>).

Paneriai is the biggest site of the mass killings organized and perpetrated by the Nazi regime in Lithuania (<https://www.jmuseum.lt/en/exposition/i/198/memorial-museum-of-paneriai/>). Discussions are currently underway on how to present Paneriai Memorial Complex to visitors. A special group will prepare a new concept for the Complex.

### Examples of best practices

It proved to be a successful initiative by the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Evaluation of the Crimes of the Nazi and Soviet Occupation Regimes in Lithuania (the Secretariat) to start establishing Tolerance Education Centers (TECs) in schools, local museums and educational centers in 2003. Today there are 159 TECs established in

different cities and towns across Lithuania. The Secretariat together with the TECs plays an important role in non-formal Holocaust education.

### **Examples of challenges**

Due to rising costs of the construction works, the renovations of the museums devoted to Lithuanian Jewry are experiencing some delays. Therefore, the new museums might be open to the public at the later date than initially planned.

## **21. Luxembourg**

### **Completed pledges**

Luxembourg's pledges have all been partially completed, with an ongoing implementation.

Luxembourg continues to implement the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Agreement on Outstanding Holocaust Asset Issues in close collaboration with the local Jewish Community and concerned non-state actors.

Signed between the Luxembourg Government and the local Jewish Community, the historic agreement, that was commended both nationally and internationally, contains a series of measures which includes a final lump-sum payment to Holocaust survivors, increased financial support for the Foundation for the Memory of the Holocaust, as well as additional funds for Holocaust remembrance and academic research to be realized over the coming years.

In line with the EU Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish life, presented on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021, Luxembourg is working to finalize its National Strategy on Combating Antisemitism.

### **Results so far**

In March 2022, the Luxembourg direct support payment program, administered by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, completed distributing 1 000 000 EUR to Holocaust survivors

from 13 countries who had applied to the program by the final deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

As part of the above-mentioned agreement, Luxembourg acquired and is currently developing the site of the “Abbaye de Cinqfontaines” which holds a unique place in our national history for being the only place of internment for Jews operated by the Nazis in Luxembourg during World War II and from where 658 Jewish men, women, and children, were deported to concentration and extermination camps.

The aim is to create a continuity from a place of remembrance to a place of education aimed at furthering/increasing tolerance and respect for Human Rights that shall prevent the roots of evil to corrode society again.

#### **Examples of best practices**

The management of the site is entrusted to the National Youth Service (SNJ). The activities are coordinated by the SNJ and the Zentrum für politisch Bildung (ZpB), supported by a support committee bringing together the Foundation for the Memory of the Shoah, the Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth, the Ministry of State, the ZpB and the SNJ.

The multidisciplinary team (pedagogues, historians, facilitators, experts and trainers), which will gradually be put in place, will work closely with the national associations and institutions concerned. This approach will contribute to offering the most varied program possible. The team will also develop international cooperation with organizations sharing the same missions.

The team works with concerned actors to further develop the existing educational offer. While construction and infrastructure work to refurbish the site and buildings are ongoing, programming has already started and is ongoing, with some pedagogical activities having already been organized on site and with others to follow. For example, guided tours and workshops on the topics above are regularly offered and are free of charge.

## **22. Moldova**

### **Completed pledges**

3. Deepening and consolidating the knowledge about the phenomenon of the Holocaust and introducing this knowledge in education and public policies.

Yearly, on 27 January – National Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration activities are organized in different locations of the country. The main commemoration ceremony is held at the Monument to the Victims of Fascism by the national authorities in partnership with the Jewish Community of Moldova. It is attended by high-ranking state officials, MPs, representatives of diplomatic missions, and representatives of civil society. In 2022, the gathering was held under the patronage of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova.

The Agenda of the Remembrance Week events organized on the margins of the Holocaust Commemoration Day, includes a series of thematic actions aimed at paying tribute to the victims and survivors of the Holocaust, including actions organized online: numerous flower laying at the memorials located in different cities and villages of the republic, debates, round tables, screenings of documentary films, theatre performances, photo-documentary exhibitions, competitions, lessons, conferences, virtual museum tours.

The need to extend the Holocaust remembrance agenda beyond the January commemoration week led to the acknowledgment of planning and organizing thematic activities throughout the year. In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration in partnership with the Jewish Community of Moldova plans a High-level Roundtable “Holocaust Remembrance – learning from the past for a just future”. The event aims at assessing the progress of the 2021–2024 Action Plan on Holocaust memory promotion implementation. The practice of the mid-term evaluation of the Action Plans as well as awareness raising on the importance of effective measures to tackle the areas covered by the document has been part of the cooperation between national institutions,

civil society, and Moldova's development partners mandated in the spheres of human and minority rights. The aim of this Roundtable is to assess the progress made and discuss potential ways of improvement, considering effective practices at the national and international levels.

4. Adjusting the national legislation to the international standards on combating antisemitism, racism, xenophobia, and intolerance.

The glorification of Fascism/Nazism and the use of fascists/Nazis symbols was prohibited by Law no. 78/2021, which supplemented the Criminal Code with a new component of the crime that punishes the violation of rights of citizens by propagating fascism, racism, and xenophobia and by denying the Holocaust (art. 176<sup>o</sup>). Actions are sanctioned by this component of the crime of: establishing, joining or supporting, in any form, an organization with a fascist character, racist or xenophobic; denying or contesting in public the Holocaust or its effects; manufacture, sale, distribution, possession for the purpose of distribution of fascist symbols, racist or xenophobic, as well as their public use (except for the situation where the actions are carried out in the interest of art or science, research or education). The Criminal Code was supplemented with art. 13419 which defines the Holocaust, namely: "The Holocaust means the systematic persecution supported by the state, the annihilation and the extermination of a large number of members of the Jewish community by Nazi Germany, as well as its allies and collaborators, in the period 1933-1945". Law no. 78/2021 the Law no. 64/2010 on freedom of expression was completed with provisions prohibiting the dissemination and/or use in public of fascist, racist or xenophobic symbols, the propagation and/or use for political purposes fascist symbols, as well as the promotion of fascist, racist or xenophobic ideologies and/or Holocaust denial. The Jewish Community of the Republic of Moldova has been promoting the respective modifications of the legislation for 10 years.

### Results so far

1. Acknowledging the importance of preserving the memory of Holocaust and at the same time giving due recognition to the contribution of the Jewish people to the development of our societies through history, we continue our

work on establishing the fully-fledged Jewish History Museum of the Republic of Moldova.

Established by a Government decision in 2018 as a national institution has not yet been assigned a location. Efforts are undertaken to consider allocating the premises of a former Heder School on Tsirelson, 6 (Chisinau) – in the vicinity of the Rabbi Tsirelson Synagogue. The ownership of the location is with the Ministry of Education and Research. On August 22, 2022, the Ministry of Culture, in accordance with the provisions of the framework regulation for the organization of the competition for the position of museum director, Annex no. 2 to the Ministerial order no. 1086/2008 regarding the approval of the Regulations for the implementation of the Museum Law no. 262/ 2017, launched the contest for the position of director of the Museum of Jewish History of the Republic of Moldova. The results have not yet been made public. The Jewish Community requested its inclusion in the selection committee as well as suggested the relaunching of the Working group composed of the representatives of the national institutions in charge, independent experts, and civil society to support the progress of the above-stated objective of launching the museum of Jewish history.

2. Continue developing the framework for education to prevent intolerance and antisemitism in general education system and of the teaching resources (digitization) to expand the scope of the optional subject “Holocaust: history and life lessons”. Education proved to be one of the most efficient instruments in promoting Holocaust remembrance, and we continue our work on developing programs, methodological regulation, and adapting teaching aids for antisemitism education.

In 2022, procedures were carried out to finalize the edited version of these didactic resources (in the Romanian and Russian languages) in colour format for all mainstream education institutions in the Republic of Moldova. Both the Methodological Guide to the course and the Student’s handbook should be distributed in mainstream education institutions by the end of 2022. The

costs for editing both curriculum products were borne by about the OSCE Mission in Moldova. 2021–2022 the course is studied in 53 educational institutions from 25 rayons and municipalities.

5. Facilitating expert research for the purpose of identifying and mapping sites and localities from where Roma were deported to concentration camps for mass execution during World War II with the purpose of increasing the visibility and investigation of the Roma community as victims of the Holocaust.

On 4 August - European Holocaust Remembrance Day against the Roma in World War II is marked in Moldova. The commemoration events are attended by members of the Parliament, representatives of state institutions, representatives of international organizations, Roma community leaders and community mediators. The social inclusion of Roma in Moldova and the fight against discrimination are the main topics addressed.

On 3 May 2022, the Ministry of Education and Research organized a working meeting regarding the implementation of the necessary actions in order to install a monument commemorating the victims of the Holocaust against the Roma during the Second World War. Senior officials and civil society organizations participated. It was agreed that the Chisinau municipality shall allocate land for the building of the memorial. The Agency for Inspection and Restoration of Monuments will ensure the organization of the competition to select the author of the memorial. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration will facilitate mapping the places of repression/ghettos and places of mass execution of Jews and Roma from the period of the Second World War.

#### **Examples of best practices**

On Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> a Memorial to six thousand Jews who were executed by Nazis in Cosauti was opened in a moving ceremony that brought together people from across the Jewish and Roma communities. The memorial to the Jews shot at the city of Soroca is a composition of twenty bronze steles symbolizing chopped tree trunks.

In Soroca district, where locality Cosauti is located, several transit camps were built to transport Jewish and Roma people to the largest ghettos and camps in Transnistria which became a concentration point for Jews from throughout Bessarabia. The Cosauti Holocaust Memorial is on the site of one of the largest transit camps where thousands of Jews were brought in groups before being moved to Transnistria. At Cosauti, 6 000 people were killed and their corpses were thrown into mass graves. The Memorial stands on the site of this atrocity.

Thanks to both the efforts of specialists at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Center and the testimonies of relatives of the victims, it was possible to establish the names of 1 000 Jews who died in the area. The painstaking work to identify all of the victims is still ongoing. The opening ceremony of the Memorial was attended by members of the Jewish Community of the Republic of Moldova and other countries, representatives of state administration, diplomats, community leaders, and foreign delegations. The Memorial in the forest of Cosauti is the fourth in a series of monuments opened by the Jewish Community of the Republic of Moldova over the past two years.

### **Examples of challenges**

Preservation of Jewish heritage remains a challenge mainly due to the lack of material sources. The problem persists in regard to properly maintaining Jewish cemeteries across Moldova that are public property. Acts of vandalism and natural deterioration are being registered. The Moldovan authorities are aware of the need for a comprehensive approach and resource planning to preserve and protect Jewish heritage and property. To this end, the Moldovan authorities will also consider accessing the relevant European funds and international projects.

### **New initiatives**

Raising Awareness and Building Effective Communication with Law Enforcement Authorities on Addressing the Security Needs of the Jewish Community of Moldova is a new initiative. There will be a thematic event



organized by the OSCE ODIHR, OSCE Mission to Moldova, World Jewish Congress, European Commission, and the Jewish Community of Moldova under the auspices of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Moldova on 27 October 2022. The event aims at facilitating effective and meaningful communication and establishing coordination structures through designated contact points between the law enforcement agencies and the Jewish community in Moldova to institutionally counter antisemitism in all its forms. The event will gather approximately 40 participants - professionals and officials working at policy and operational levels in law enforcement as well as prosecutors and judges in Moldova and the members of the Jewish Community. The meeting will aim to result in enhanced monitoring capacities, increased recognition of antisemitic bias indicators, and the effective recording and processing of security incidents on the part of law enforcement and security agencies.

### **23. Monaco**

#### **Completed pledges**

- Monaco pledges to include the transmission of the memory of the Holocaust in its cultural and educational programs: Monaco follows the education programs of the French ministry of Education. The memory of the Holocaust is mainly taught in history, literature, fine arts and civic and moral education classes, through elementary to the end of secondary education. Teachers have also special training sessions where they are given ideas and knowledge on how to address this issue in front of the class.
- Monaco will emphasize the inclusion of the History of the Shoah in the school curricula and raise awareness among schoolchildren about genocides and mass crimes: Similar answer than above. Each year, activities are performed by pupils, mostly in the upper secondary levels (lycée) on January 27 (International Holocaust Remembrance Day) or May 27 (National Day of Resistance) at other periods of the year. They

involve participating at conferences, meeting survivors, text readings or theatrical plays acting, movie viewings, etc.

- Monaco will develop educational programs that address antisemitism in a framework of human rights and global citizenship: Similar answer than above. This aspect is particularly developed in the civic and moral education classes. Pupils are being familiarised starting elementary school with the concept of tolerance, human rights, civil participation and sustainable development.
- School trips will be organized regularly to former concentration camps: School trips have been organized to concentration camps every year for pupils of year 10 (3ème) to year 13 (Terminale). Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, there has been no travels in 2021 and 2022. There will probably be a trip in 2023 if sanitary measures would allow it.

### **Results so far**

Very good. Teachers and students are generally receptive to the messages and enjoy participating and learning about that part of history, aside the rather emotional aspects linked to the subject. Every year there are events planned to tackle antisemitism and remember the Holocaust and the Shoah.

### **Examples of best practices**

An example could be the reading of texts relating memories of people who experienced the Shoah in a theatrical way, to convey the emotion and the horror, which was performed by high school students in 2022. The meeting of survivors is always very intense for students, who can experience in real life the testimony of the persons who lived through the Holocaust. Also, the training of teachers is very important, since they are given tools to explain and educate the students in that particular aspect of history, while trying to raise their awareness.

### Examples of challenges

None. These actions gain momentum every year. Any student that followed his entire primary and secondary curriculum in Monaco has at least heard, participated or worked three times (CM2, 3ème, Terminale), on the themes of Holocaust, Shoah or Antisemitism.

### New initiatives

No additional initiative has emerged since the Malmö Forum.

## **24. Netherlands**

### Completed pledges

1. The appointment of the National Coordinator for Countering Antisemitism (NCAB) in 2021. The NCAB's role is to offer advice, both solicited and unsolicited, on tackling intimidation, discrimination and threats against the Jewish community;
2. The Netherlands will host the headquarters of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI) in the Netherlands and contribute financially to the establishment of the EHRI. The task of the EHRI is to safeguard continuing international research into commemoration of and education about the Holocaust;
3. The proposal to include public denial of genocide, and other forms of hate speech explicitly in an existing criminal provision is about to be published for consultation;
4. According to the current core objectives for primary and lower secondary education, all pupils must pay attention to the Holocaust in education. The core objectives are revised in the context of the revision of the curriculum of primary and secondary education. The objectives will be described more specific as many teachers and method makers indicated the core objectives to be somewhat vague thereby hampering uniformity and quality of education. The announced revision of the core objectives will ensure that students also learn from and learn about the Holocaust. Political support will

be obtained by acceptance in the House of Representatives of an Order in Council (the WVO Implementation Decree 2020) containing the revised core objectives.

#### **Results so far**

1. The minister of Justice and Security is about to share the first workplan of the NCAB with Parliament.

The results of the other pledges have been incorporated in the preceding question.

#### **Examples of best practices**

The NCAB workplan.

### **25. North Macedonia**

#### **Completed pledges**

2. Mandatory visits of primary and secondary school's students to the Holocaust Memorial Center for the Jews from Macedonia. The students of the final grade of the secondary schools are obliged to visit the Holocaust Memorial Center, while the 8th and 9th grade students of the primary schools have recommendation to visit the Holocaust Memorial Center. We are working to change this recommendation to a mandatory visit.

3. Adoption of the non-legally binding IHRA working definition of Anti-Gypsism/Anti-Roma discrimination. The Government of North Macedonia adopted this definition on its session held on 1 February, 2022 and requested all state institutions to consider the definition in dealing with different Anti-Roma related issues.

#### **Results so far**

The pledge related to the inclusion of topics on the Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial in curricula of the final grades for students of the primary schools is part of the complex reform process that is subject of few

specialized working groups and that, in principle, should be accomplished in the course of the next two years.

## **26. Norway**

### **Results so far**

1) Norway will develop relevant education and aim at reaching out to new groups.

Key in our efforts is the Dembra program for schools, which is a program for the prevention of racism, group-based hostility and antidemocratic attitudes and led by the Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies. Dembra offers schools guidance, courses and online resources to prevent various forms of group hostility and undemocratic attitudes. Competence development is about building democratic competence. Inclusion, participation, critical thinking, and diversity competence are central to the offer. Thus, Dembra is also relevant for, and has overlapping themes with, competence development in a safe and good school environment. The basic principles of Dembra are based on the idea that students develop their identity, their attitudes, and their behavior in interaction with others. Democratic preparedness is built through knowledge and reflection, but not least through social experiences, experiences of equal interaction and dissent. Therefore, the development of a democratic and inclusive school culture is essential.

Between 30 and 40 schools participate in Dembra annually. This involves courses and follow-up of between 800 and 1500 teachers per year.

2) Countering contemporary antisemitism and other forms of racism online and offline.

In the spring of 2021, The Norwegian Centre against Racism conducted a pilot, which monitored antisemitism online, however, limited to Facebook, Twitter and TikTok. The pilot gave a unique picture of the extent of antisemitic statements on social media and how these are followed-up by big tech. A few years back the Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies presented a media analysis on antisemitism. Together, these reports

will help us to understand the extent of antisemitism on- and offline and be a basis for developing policies within the framework of freedom of speech.

Further implementation in this area is not foreseen.

### 3) Promoting Remembrance and fighting distortion.

In 2022, Norway will, through the Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies, launch a new population survey on attitudes towards Jews and other minorities in Norway. The survey has been conducted every few years since 2013 and is initiated by the Norwegian government.

The Day of the Commemoration of the Victims of the Holocaust is marked annually in several Norwegian cities, including in Oslo.

Knowledge can help to break down prejudices. There are several Norwegian institutions that provide knowledge about Judaism and Jewish cultural life and history in Norway. The Jewish museums in Oslo and Trondheim, the Falstad Centre and the Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies convey such knowledge to a wider audience. The Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies has in 2021 extended its exhibition area, which gives a potential for even more activities in the years to come. The Jewish communities in Trondheim and Oslo play a key role in disseminating knowledge and with the support of the Ministry of Local Government and Modernization, the Jewish Pathfinders Program was established five years back and will be continued in the years to come. The Pathfinders Program involves visit by young Jews to selected upper secondary schools in Norway.

The Norwegian Government has decided to continue a grant scheme for school trips to former concentration camps from World War II for the coming years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the activities have been less than we had hoped for.

## **27. Poland**

### **Completed pledges**

The fulfilment of all pledges is still in progress.

### **Results so far**

The project of the Warsaw Ghetto Museum – an architectural and construction project is being developed, involving both the adaptation of historic hospital buildings for exhibition purposes, as well as the creation of new spaces for museum purposes. In 2021 a contract was signed to design the headquarters and permanent exhibition of the Museum. So far, the design team has provided the Museum with the architectural concept as well as the concept of the permanent and temporary exhibitions. At the same time, efforts are being made related to the acquisition of the necessary artefacts. Work is underway on the construction design necessary to obtain a building permit.

The Museum in Treblinka – Former Nazi German Extermination and Forced Labour Camp – there will be new exhibition and educational facility; the result of an international architectural competition for the development of an architectural and urban concept has been released in November 2021 and contract signed in March 2022. The works should be completed in 2025.

Building new facilities: Visitors Service Center and a new permanent exhibition at the Auschwitz Memorial – completion of the Visitors Service Center (new hostel, conference facility, parking) is scheduled for mid-2023, while works on a new permanent exhibition will last longer since they need to be carried out in stages to ensure the smooth operation of the Memorial.

German Nazi Labour and Concentration Camp Plaszów in Kraków – since Ministry of Culture and National Heritage joined the project in 2021: investment schedules and cost estimates have been prepared, the conservation program has been updated, analyses were carried out on the

adaptation of the area to the Museum's Educational Center and cooperation agreement with the city authorities has been signed. Costs estimate – 11 mil. Euro, scheduled completion – 2025.

### **Examples of best practices**

All the Polish pledges are being implemented by state or local museums and memorials. In the case of Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum both projects involve extensive conservation and archaeological works. Therefore, their results have already contributed to the task of preservation of the authenticity of the site and expanding our knowledge about the former German concentration and death camp.

### **Examples of challenges**

After the Russian aggression in Ukraine due to much higher costs the implementation of all the pledges will probably take longer than initially expected.

### **New initiatives**

The official recognition of the IHRA non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism took place in October 2021. In January 2022 new “Action plan in the area of preventing hate speech and hate crimes based on nationality, ethnicity, race, and religion as well as counteracting the promotion of fascism and other totalitarian regimes for the years 2022–2025” has been approved and signed by the Deputy Chief of Polish Police. The Plan builds on the first Action Plan for 2018–2021 but embraces new developments, circumstances, and elements. In the section on definitions, the non-legally binding IHRA working definition on antisemitism has been adopted, with explicit reference to the source. Thematic areas: “Combating antisemitism (...)” and “Action plans and strategies”.



## **28. Portugal**

### **Completed pledges**

All three pledges (see below) have been partially completed; they imply a periodic (annual) implementation and one is waiting for a response from the IHRA.

### **Results so far**

Training program for civil/public officials on Human Rights and the Holocaust – a preliminary edition took place shortly after the Malmö Forum; a second edition was developed during the current year and scheduled to be concluded mid-December;

Translation of IHRA's Recommendations for Recognizing and Countering Holocaust Distortion – translation concluded and sent to PO last June;

Municipal Prize Aristides de Sousa Mendes – as a one-off event, the non-monetary prize had its first edition in the Summer of 2021 and proved to be a success; decision to have it on an annual basis; presently jury selecting the winners in the different categories.

### **Examples of best practices**

Only after having concluded this year's editions will we be able to assess results and identify short-comings and best practices in each of them.

### **Examples of challenges**

The training program for civil/public officials represents the most difficult challenge: basic training across the universe of civil and public officials or in-depth training for high-officials and leaders? So far the option has been for the latter, expecting knowledge to trickle down the hierarchy.

### **New initiatives**

Holocaust Education being a concern shared by the Government and many organizations of the civil society, numerous initiatives have emerged at

the local level to which Central and/or Local Administration try to extend support. They range from conferences to exhibitions, from teacher-training seminars to students visits to Holocaust sites.

## **29. Romania**

### **Completed pledges**

Our pledges stem from the National Strategy for Preventing and Combatting Antisemitism, Radicalisation and Incitement to Hate Speech. Therefore, they are all work in progress that will be on our agenda in the coming years.

Progress has been made on all of the 11 pledges made by Romania, as we will show in our answer to the subsequent questions.

### **Results so far**

1. Continue to encourage the use of IHRA's non-legally binding working definition of Antisemitism, both in Romania and on the international arena

Romania has continued to advocate for the inclusion of the definition or of a reference to the definition in all relevant documents and in all international fora. Recent example in this sense is the negotiation of the Council Conclusions on the EU Strategy for combatting Antisemitism at the beginning of 2022.

2. Review, update and strengthen Holocaust education for Romanian pupils

Our pledges stem from the Romanian national Strategy on prevention and combatting of Antisemitism, xenophobia, radicalization and incitement to hate speech. The interministerial committee tasked with the monitoring of the implementation of the Strategy constantly works on the reviewing, updating and strengthening Holocaust education for Romanian pupils. All the educational pledges converge towards the achievement of the objective of strengthening Holocaust education for Romanian pupils. This is a permanent pledge.

3. Review, update and strengthen the training programs for professors, teachers and instructors teaching about the Holocaust

In 22 counties, the ministry of education has organized training courses for educators on combatting Antisemitism. A total of 62 such courses were held, and 5040 educators participated in these. From 7 to 14 August, 26 Romanian teachers have participated in the traditional yearly training seminar organized by Yad Vashem Institute in Israel. This is a permanent pledge.

4. Increase the number of Romanian pupils participating at the Marches of the Living

A project is currently being drafted by the Ministry of Education. The pilot project has started with the participation of approximately 150 young Roma and non-Roma in the Dikh He Na Bister-Roma genocide initiative in Krakow Poland and a visit to Auschwitz that took place between 30 July and 3 August 2022. The young people returning from this trip are now included in a working group on creating a mechanism of increased participation of Romanian pupils at the Marches of the Living.

5. Inaugurate the recently established National Museum of Jewish History and of the Holocaust in Romania

The work for the opening the new National Museum of the History of the Romanian Jewry and the Holocaust is currently under way. As recent steps made towards the completion of this project, it is to be mentioned that the acquisitions of services for the design of the museum and of the permanent exhibition were finalized in June 2022. This is one of the memorial projects included in the National Recovery and Resilience Plan of Romania and the most advanced such project included in the Plan. 15 million euro were allotted for the construction and the setting up of the Museum through the plan.

The National Museum of the History of the Jews and the Holocaust in Romania is now in the design phase of the permanent exhibition and related spaces. The National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania Elie Wiesel has also obtained partial funding of 15 million EUR through the National Resilience and Recovery Plan. In the first part of 2023, the Institute will start the tendering procedure for the execution of construction and erection works for the rehabilitation and consolidation of the building in which the future museum will operate.

6. Work diligently with the Romanian universities in order to expand the number of bachelor, Master and PhD degree programs dedicated to the study and research of the Holocaust, as well as to combatting antisemitism, xenophobia, radicalization and hate speech

22 Romanian state and private academic institutions, as well as 4 military academies already either have such programs or are in the process of establishing them.

The Dimitrie Cantemir University in Bucharest and the Vasile Goldis Arad University, both private universities, already have such programs. The Nicolae Titulescu University of Bucharest plans to introduce such a program.

It is to be mentioned that all universities have included Ethics and academic integrity as compulsory subject at all levels of study. This subject includes aspects that are relevant to the combatting of Antisemitism and discrimination in general. Masters programs dedicated to combatting Antisemitism and hate speech will be established in 10 universities (University of Bucharest, Academy for Economic Studies of Bucharest, 1 decembrie 1989 university of Alba Iulia, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University in Iasi, Oradea University, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Stefan cel Mare University of Suceava, Medical University George Emil Palade of Targu Mures). These 10 universities also already

have research projects both at the graduate and PhD level that are relevant for the combatting of antisemitism.

As for the military academic institutions, it is to be mentioned that the Mihai Viteazu National Academy of Bucharest and the Police Academy of Bucharest already have or are going to establish programs relevant for the combatting of Antisemitism.

Private universities, such as the Nicolae Titulescu University of Bucharest, the Dimitrie Cantemir University of Bucharest and the Vasile Goldis University of Arad have done demarches for including relevant subjects in the curricula. The Dragan European University of Lugoj and the Sapientia University of Cluj have mentioned that a master's program containing relevant subjects is already provided.

7. Promote the adoption of Codes of Conduct on Preventing and Combatting Antisemitism by Romanian universities, academic and cultural institutions

30 Romanian state and private universities have already adopted the Code of Conduct on Combatting Antisemitism, drawn up in cooperation with the European Union of Jewish Students in 2019. 3 military academic institutions are going to adopt it. 6 private universities are in the process of adopting it.

8. Develop dedicated training programs for managers of cultural institutions, such as museums and theatres, in order to prevent antisemitism and Holocaust denial and distortion and to encourage the fight against racism throughout the cultural expressions

The pledge is also part of the national strategy for combatting Antisemitism and is currently assumed by the Ministry of Culture. One dedicated training program for managers of cultural institutions has been organised online, on 24–26 November 2021, as part of the National Conference of Cultural Managers, a yearly event organised by the

Ministry of Culture. 200 persons were enrolled for the session and there were 1100 viewers. A new training session is being planned for the autumn of 2022.

9. Support the Federation of the Jewish Communities of Romania, in developing programs for the preservation of Jewish heritage

The Federation of Jewish communities has been supported by the Ministry of Culture to organize the Festival of the Iddish Language from 30 to 31 May 2022. Support will also be given for the Mihail Sebastian International Festival which will take place from 9 to 10 November 2022 in Bucharest. The publishing of an album with renowned Jewish painters will also be supported this year.

10. Improve data collection regarding antisemitic incidents that do not reach the threshold envisaged in the current administrative regulations and criminal code

Improving data collection on antisemitic incidents that are both above and beyond the administrative and criminal threshold is part of a pledge in the Strategy that is coordinated by the Ministry of the Interior. A working group was established under the coordination of the Romanian Police and the National Institute for Statistics. This group is working towards adopting a unified methodology to identify hate crimes and to collect data on them.

11. Establish a national annual award for Romanian and international personalities that will contribute to Holocaust education, research and remembrance, as well as to preventing and combatting antisemitism

This pledge is also part of the national Strategy on combatting Antisemitism and it is coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has promoted a Government Decision on the establishment of the national Ambassador Mihnea Constantinescu award. It is awarded annually to those that contribute to

combatting Antisemitism, xenophobia, radicalization and hate speech in a sum of 10 000 EUR.

Since the pledges all stem from the National Strategy for the Prevention and Combatting of Antisemitism, Xenophobia, Radicalization and Incitement to Hate Speech, they are all subjected to a process of continuous implementation and we would describe them as permanently ongoing/permanent pledges. Even when progress is achieved, most pledges can never be considered as fully implemented.

## **24. Rwanda**

### **Results so far**

The following points highlight the effort made by the Government of Rwanda to prevent the denial of Genocide against Tutsi, Holocaust and other genocides recognized by international community.

1. The Constitution of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015 indicates the commitment of the Government of Rwanda to preventing and punishing the crime of genocide, fighting genocide negationism and revisionism, eradicating genocide ideology and all its manifestations, divisionism and discrimination based on ethnicity, region or any other ground.
2. The Government of Rwanda in collaboration with the Israel and German embassies in Rwanda organize every year the commemoration of the Holocaust on 27<sup>th</sup> January at Kigali Genocide memorial where distinguished officials, scholars, religious, activists and survivors, from inside and outside Rwanda gathered, stood with Israel and shown solidarity in remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust.
3. Referring to the law no 59/2018 of 22/8/2018 on the crime of genocide ideology and related crimes, the above cited law is applicable to genocide recognized by the United Nations or International Courts as stated in its article 3. The punishment of deniers of any internationally recognized

genocide shows the willingness and commitment of the Government of Rwanda to fight against all forms of denial and the impunity of the perpetrators of all genocides recognized by international community. The Ministry of National Unity and Civic Engagement has mandate of preventing genocide, fighting against genocide ideology, denial and revisionism of genocide including the Holocaust. The Ministry also has the following responsibilities:

- To sensitize the international community to put in place laws that criminalize the genocide and genocide ideology including Holocaust;
  - To collaborate with national and foreign partners in the fight against denial and revisionism of the Genocide against the Tutsi. The Ministry of Justice also contributes to the eradication of genocide ideology. Through the Ministry, cases of genocide ideologies are reported, investigated and tried by the prosecution.
4. The Kigali Genocide Memorial continue to play an important role for remembrance and learning about the genocide against the Tutsi with an educational programme on other genocides and other atrocities through permanent and mobile exhibitions. Visitors at Kigali Genocide Memorial specifically youth, students and teachers from various secondaries schools learn about the Holocaust, the genocide against Tutsi and Apartheid through the program called “Change Makers’ Programme (CMP) initiated by Rwanda and South Africa.
  5. Teaching Holocaust in Rwandan schools have started in the aftermath of the genocide against Tutsi. Courses on genocides occurred in twentieth century have been put in the curricula of Rwandan secondary schools specifically in Senior four. Students learn about various genocide recognized by the international community including the Holocaust.
  6. Transmission of memory through the exchange of experience and archives with the Shoah Memorial in Paris is of paramount important for



the Government of Rwanda. In fact, between 17–19th December 2019, the Government of Rwanda through the National Commission for the Fight against Genocide (CNLG) in collaboration with Paris Shoah Memorial have organized a seminar at Kigali for exchanging experience in fighting against Denial of Holocaust and genocide against Tutsi. This year Ministry of National Unity and Civic Engagement in collaboration with Paris Shoah Memorial is organizing a seminar which will be held in Kigali in December 2022 assembling participants from different categories especially scholars and researchers in order to promote research on Holocaust, genocide against Tutsi.

7. Advocating for the adoption of a law by all States to punish on their territory the denial of any genocide recognized by the International Community remain a priority for the Government of Rwanda.

#### Examples of best practices

- Commemoration of the Holocaust, genocide against Tutsi and other genocides recognized by international community.
- Formal Education on Holocaust, the genocide against Tutsi and other genocides recognized by international community.
- Advocating for the adoption of a law by all States to punish on their territory the denial of Holocaust, the genocide against Tutsi and any genocide recognized by the International Community.

#### Examples of challenges

- Some people who committed genocide against Tutsi still free in Europe.
- There is spread of genocide ideology and denial of genocide against Tutsi in Great Lakes region.
- Misuse of social media

### New initiatives

- Fostering the Rwandan Identity (Ndi Umunyarwanda) through informal education.
- Unity of Rwandan and genocide prevention.

## 25. Slovakia

### Completed pledges

Pledge II: The use of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism will be supported as a part of further education of judges, prosecutors, attorneys, police officers and other legal professions. The use of IHRA working definition of antigypsyism/anti-Roma racism will be supported.

Pledge III: The use of the existing educational materials on the history of the Roma and about the Roma genocide during World War II will be intensified with the aim to extend the knowledge of pupils and students. Once the IHRA recommendations for teaching and learning about the Roma genocide, currently under preparation, are adopted, they will be actively used in the preparation of educational processes.

Pledge VI: Events for teachers and drafters of educational materials related to promotion and use of the IHRA Recommendations for teaching and learning about the Holocaust will be organised. Targeted measures to raise awareness of the young generation about the Holocaust and the risk of its distortion will be implemented.

### Results so far

Pledge II: Slovak institutions responsible for further education of judges, prosecutors, attorneys, police officers and other legal professions actively offer courses on human rights, hate speech and hate crimes, hate speech online and in the media, using also the existing IHRA resources. Further education for the above-mentioned professions is also provided by the

Sered' Holocaust Museum – Museum of the Jewish Culture – Slovak National Museum.

The Concept paper on the fight against radicalisation and extremism until the year 2024 approved by the Government includes the IHRA working definition of antisemitism and IHRA working definition of antigypsyism/anti-Roma racism.

The most important piece of information – the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Slovak Parliament) formally adopted the IHRA working definition of antigypsyism/anti-Roma racism on 27 September 2022.

Pledge III: Several official educational institutions created by the Slovak Ministry of Education have been merged and on 1 July 2022 the National Institute for Education and Youth was established. This institute is responsible for providing the leadership, design, and development of curricula, provide the methodological and professional service for schools, initiate and monitor changes via research and innovation, promote innovative practices into the education system. The main mission is to design the school environment to be a place respecting the human rights and principles of democracy, assist in the education process to form pupils' cognitive, interpersonal and social skills for their future life and follow-up education. The National Institute for Education and Youth also supports the implementation of the topic of the Roma Genocide into the educational process. Several concrete programs and educational materials have been prepared and are being used by educators. The mission of the National Institute for Education and Youth is to enhance the continuous curricula development based on the results of pedagogical research and the latest scientific knowledge.

The Sered' Holocaust Museum also deals with the issue of Roma genocide during the World War II in its educational and exhibition activities. In cooperation with foreign partners and on the basis of archival research, the museum has created two separate exhibitions, an outdoor exhibition entitled "The Persecution of the Roma in during the Slovak War State" and an

indoor exhibition entitled “The Persecution of the Roma during the Holocaust”.

Another outcome of the above-mentioned research of the Sereď Holocaust Museum is the preparation of an educational publication, in cooperation with the Office of the Governmental Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities. This publication will serve mainly educators in the teaching process and will be prepared in Slovak, English and Roma language versions.

Pledge VI: The National Institute for Education and Youth provides the education for school pedagogical and expert employees in the form of programs of education and expert events (expert seminars, information seminars, methodical days, workshops etc). Topic of the Holocaust Remembrance and the fight against antisemitism, fight against all forms of discrimination and holocaust denial is involved in the contents of the educational programs in a cross-cutting way.

The newest programs for the academic year 2022/2023 that are offered are:

Programs of innovative education:

- Work with historical sources in the educational process
- Projecting of educational unit with focus on critical thinking
- Use of elements of Roma culture in the school praxis
- Roma language and realis

Expert events:

- Elimination of the manifestation of antigypsyism/anti-Roma racism
- Memory of the Holocaust – no fail to remember

Events for teachers and drafters of teaching materials are held also at the Sereď Holocaust Museum. In the period from March to July 2022, this museum carried out 287 educational programmes for 10 548 pupils, students, teachers.

### Examples of best practices

During the Malmo Forum, Slovakia was represented by the Prime Minister Eduard Heger.

Every year Slovakia commemorates 9 September as the National Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust and Racial Violence. In 2022 all three highest state representatives participated in the main remembrance ceremony in Bratislava.

March 2022 marked a tragic anniversary in Slovakia – 80 years since the beginning of deportations of Slovak Jews to the Nazi concentration camps. An official commemoration ceremony at the Poprad train station was held under the auspices and in the presence of the President of the Slovak Republic.

Another tragic anniversary – equally 80 years – we commemorated last year – 9 September 2021 – adoption of the so-called Jewish Code by the government of the then wartime Slovak Republic in 1941. It was one of the cruellest anti-Jewish laws in Europe.

As we witness in these days again the rise of disinformation, hate speech and antisemitism, Slovak Government in 2021 and the Slovak Parliament in 2022 – feeling the historical momentum of these anniversaries and being aware of our moral obligation – adopted strong political declarations with a public apology. Our highest institutions feeling a moral responsibility publicly expressed sorrow and grief over the crimes committed by the former state power.

Also, in this spirit – the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Slovak Parliament) formally adopted the IHRA working definition of antigypsyism/anti-Roma racism on 27 September 2022.

### Examples of challenges

Pledge I: “Holocaust Museum of the Slovak National Museum – Museum of Jewish Culture was opened in the town of Sereď in 2016. The Museum is

located on the grounds of a former labour and concentration camp from the Second World War. The aim is to complete the construction of the entire area of the Holocaust Museum and to create a memorial for Holocaust victims on the grounds of the former appelpplatz, which will be a dignified commemorative place appropriate to remember the Holocaust tragedy and to pay tribute to its victims.”

This pledge is still in the process of the implementation as it is rather a long-lasting project. The reconstruction of two buildings on the grounds of the Sered’ Holocaust Museum is envisaged. One of them is to house the depository and the other is to house the museum’s administration. Complete project documentation, including building permits, has been prepared for both buildings. In addition, park and orchard landscaping of the entire area and the creation of a central memorial are planned. The creation of the central memorial will follow the completion of the renovation of the buildings and the park and orchard landscaping.

### **New initiatives**

Holocaust Remembrance:

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As we witness in these days again the rise of disinformation, hate speech and antisemitism, the National Council of the Slovak Republic (Slovak Parliament) on this occasion – feeling the historical momentum of this anniversary and being aware of its moral obligation – adopted strong political declarations with a public apology. Our highest institution feeling a moral responsibility publicly expressed sorrow and grief over the crimes committed by the former state power.

Antigypsyism and the genocide of the Roma:

The National Council of the Slovak Republic (Slovak Parliament) formally adopted the IHRA working definition of antigypsyism/anti-Roma racism on 27 September 2022.

## **26. Slovenia**

### **Completed pledges**

Slovenia has implemented:

- The Shoah - We Remember Program

Over 70 events in Slovenia, mostly in January 2022.

(<http://www.sinagogamaribor.si/slo/program/2022-2/soa-spominjajmo-se-2022/>)

- Commemoration of the International Holocaust Day

Every year on January 27th Jewish Cultural Center organize set of events dedicated to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. A list of Slovenian victims with full first and last name is read live every year.

- The Festival House of Tolerance, 5.-21.9.2022

Since 2015 Jewish Cultural Center Ljubljana and Mini teater organize festival House of Tolerance.

<https://www.facebook.com/LjubljanaToleranceFestival/>

During the festival selection of international movies, theatre performances, lectures, exhibitions, concerts are presented to the audience. All artistic disciplines are dedicated to the topic of Holocaust and intolerance. The Festival of Tolerance in Ljubljana stands as an important public platform, which year after year, and to an increasing public response, remembers and reminds us of the horror of the Holocaust - So we should never forget!

Under the leadership of Branko Lustig, double Oscar winner and a man who survived the Holocaust, we created cultural manifestation in Ljubljana which connects its partners and friends whose mission is to spread ideas of tolerance, equality, understanding of our differences as a foundation of society which all of us deserve.

- The Stolpersteine project

<https://www.ljubljana.si/sl/aktualno/po-poti-spotikavcev/>

This unique project of remembering the victims of national-socialism and fascism, who have lived in Slovenia, before they were forcefully transported to concentration camps is organized by Jewish Cultural Center Ljubljana. So far, 68 stumbling stones and 1 stolperschwelle have been placed at 24 addresses in Ljubljana, and we have also paid tribute to the victims of the Holocaust in town of Murska Sobota, where we have placed 11 stumbling blocks at 3 addresses. In Lendava, 17 bilingual Slovenian-Hungarian stones were placed at 5 addresses. This year, the first 4 stolpersteine were also placed in Šalovce in Prekmurje. Previously, 13 stolpersteine were laid in 2013 at two addresses in Maribor.

- Cooperation with Yad Yashem and Memorial de la Shoah in training teachers (virtually and physically)
- Exhibition on the Holocaust

On 27 January 2022 National Museum of Contemporary History, Center of Jewish Cultural Heritage Synagogue Maribor and Museum of Recent History Celje opened a joint exhibition Exhibition Photographs from Auschwitz: stories from photographs of Slovenes sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp in 1942 <https://www.muzej-nz.si/si/razstave/arhiv-razstav/1583-Fotografije-iz-Auschwitza>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWw96QZmMk8>  
Additionally, one of the key sections of the Festival House of Tolerance is its Educational morning program. Screening of the movie is followed



by the debate or open discussion with notable personalities from Slovenian society (journalists, local and state policy makers, intellectuals, professors, artists). Besides throughout the year Jewish Cultural Center goes on tour in schools around Slovenia with its theatre plays where the performance is followed by discussion with pupils and teachers.

- Translation of the working definitions of IHRA as well as Educational Guidelines on Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust have been implemented. The translation of the Recommendations for Policy and Decision Makers on Recognizing and Countering Holocaust Distortion has been implemented and is currently under review.
- Symposium Each Year one Name has been implemented in Maribor in May 2020.  
<http://www.sinagogamaribor.si/slo/program/2022-2/vsako-letno-ime-roman-erich-petsche/>

Additional activities related to the preservation of the memory of the Holocaust, education on Holocaust and Holocaust research are available on: <https://www.jewishcenterljubljana.com>, <https://www.mini-teater.si/en/index.php>

### Results so far

The results of the mentioned activities contribute to awareness raising and understanding of processes that can in certain circumstances lead to mass atrocities, including genocide, which of course need to be prevented.

In addition, the following activities, which were not written in the pledges have been also implemented:

- Production of theatre plays

Jewish Cultural Center Ljubljana actively participates in production of theatre plays related to Holocaust and remembrance. In co-productions with Mini Theatre, where we share the stage, we create several post-

drama and puppet shows for adults and children every year. In this way, over the years we have produced a wide variety of plays dealing with the Holocaust or the plays written by Jewish writers, including David Grosman – A horse walks into a bar, Gur Koren – 5 kilos of sugar, Asher Krawitz – The Jewish Dog, Savyon Liebrecht - Strawberry Girl, Ulrich Hub – Nathan’s Children and Noahs Arch, Bernard - Marie Koltès – Song of Songs, Ivan Peternelj’s project Chagall, Wajdi Mouawad – Birds of a kind, Danilo Kiš – A Tomb for Boris Davidovič, Tadeusz Slobodzianek – Our Class.

For 2022 we have 4 theatre projects.

- A joint project collecting data and fates of Slovene inmates from concentration camp Auschwitz is in progress in the National Museum of Contemporary History, Center of Jewish Cultural Heritage Synagogue Maribor, Museum of Recent History Celje and Museum of National Liberation Maribor.
- The National Museum of Contemporary History has been collaborating for more than ten years with Austrian Service Abroad. Young people spend a year at the Museum and within the frame of memorial work help museum curators and take part in Holocaust research. One of our so called Gedenkdiener, Matthias Kralupper, was the Gedenkdiener of the year 2021. Late in 2020 The Austrian Service abroad bestowed the Austrian Holocaust memorial Award to Slovene survivor Mr. Dušan Stefančič. He was in six concentration camps (Dachau, Markirch, Natzweiler, Mauthausen, Gusen 1, Gusen 2).  
<https://www.auslandsdienst.at/en/ahma/>
- Definition on Antigypsyism

Regarding the commitment to improve the situation of the Roma, Slovenia has taken several steps to raise public awareness concerning the IHRA working definition of antigypsyism. The text of the working definition is published in the National Program of Measures for Roma in

the period 2021–2030, as it is important for implementation of measures in all areas (education, employment, housing etc.). Dr. Vera Klopčič, gave a lecture on the content of the working definition in Maribor and Murska Saturday at the event in 2021 in honor of the memory of the victims of the Roma genocide (August 2. Lecture was also published in the Roma newspaper Romano nevijpe.

- Research and publication on Roma genocide

The project entitled “The Roma Holocaust/Roma Genocide in Southeastern Europe: Between oblivion, acknowledgement and distortion” that was led by the Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities and the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights and supported by the IHRA, the Roma and Travellers Team and the Roma Integration Fund has been published. Slovenian researcher cooperated within this project. Study is available: <https://www.auschwitzinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/The-Roma-Holocaust>

- Publication: (to be published in November 2022) ROMA BETWEEN ANTIGYPSYISM, CIVIL INITIATIVES AND ANTI-RACIST STRATEGIES
- Events, Symposiums: Thinking responsibility: Roma in the vortex of antigypsyism and anti-racist strategies (26/05/2022) ( In Slovenian lanugage) Moderated by: Tina PALaić, Speakers: Alenka Janko Spreizer, Sandi Horvat <https://www.etno-muzej.si/sl/novice-taking-care/spomladanski-cikel-pogovorov-mislitiodgovornost>

#### Examples of best practices

Shoah – Let us Remember, Festival of Tolerance, Stoplersteine, trainings of teachers and education in schools, exhibitions.

### Examples of challenges

In general, the challenge is to reach masses of people, but we are progressing every year. Sometimes challenges are also financial, but till now we have addressed them adequately. On the IHRA working definition of antigypsyism, the Roma community in Slovenia was continuously involved through the Government Office for Nationalities in the IHRA drafting process and they agreed every text of the working definition in the process of preparations and negotiations within IHRA. More than a year later, when the working definition was approved by IHRA and the text translated into the Slovene language and put on the internet site of this government body, one of the representatives of the Roma community changed his mind about the title of the working definition in the Slovene translation. The Slovenian delegation to IHRA is open for further talks and has requested this government body which is in contact with this community that they can debate about it further and formally inform us about their preferred translation of the title of the working definition, when they reach consensus. This has not yet happened and we are not aware of any process of discussion among the Roma community. On the positive note, we believe that it is good that the Roma community itself was not only involved in the negotiation process and asked for opinions during the IHRA deliberations, but probably continues to address this topic.

### New initiatives

The new or additional initiatives have been described under answers to no. 5.

## 27. Spain

### Completed pledges

Spain has defined 3 pledges:

1. Disseminate and explain the working definition of anti-Semitism, as defined by the IHRA. Spain endorsed the definition on July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020: Today, we can observe how the IHRA is used more and more in public

discourse, by civil society and in many concrete ways, also by governmental institutions. Several Ministries are using it when defining their policies for the fight against hate crimes and incidents, in our case against antisemitism. These are the Spanish ministries that are involved in the fight against antisemitism and are using the IHRA definition in concrete ways: a) Ministry of the Presidency; b) Ministry of Foreign Affairs; c) Ministry of Interior; d) Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migrations; e) Ministry of Equality.

2. Work with Spanish municipalities in order to encourage tolerance and the understanding of cultural and religious diversity, by implementing public policies focused on dealing with pluralism: “Municipalities for tolerance” is a project sponsored by the public foundation “Pluralismo y Convivencia” and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces. It intends to promote respect and awareness of the diversity present in Spanish society, as well as to prevent any form of hatred. The project includes specific actions aiming to raise awareness of our historical Jewish heritage and its presence in our cities today. Meetings have taken place in order to coordinate a future network of cities that commemorate not only Holocaust remembrance days in January, but if possible also Jewish holidays such as Chanukah, for example.
3. Enlarge the network of teachers who receive training in antisemitism and Remembrance of the Holocaust: Several teacher training seminars have taken place during 2022. Some in cooperation with the regional educational authorities (for example in February/March in Madrid), but also with prestigious partners such as Yad Vashem.

### Results so far

Spain is in many respects a leading country regarding Holocaust remembrance and combating antisemitism. Our efforts over the last few years have been effective in both areas. Nevertheless, we support the Swedish presidency of the IHRA in the idea that new grounds can always be found in order to enhance and improve social sensitivity and public commitment to preventing antisemitism and to fostering remembrance of

the Shoah. Therefore, the Spanish government wishes to present three pledges which have been developed in this year 2022.

PLEDGE 1. Disseminate and explain the working definition of antisemitism, as defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. After Spain endorsed the definition in 2020, we committed to continue our work so that the definition is known and its usefulness is properly understood by all public institutions, as well as by different entities of civil society in the political, social, cultural, educational, and sports fields.

Centro Sefarad-Israel has been working actively to ensure that the IHRA definition of antisemitism well known in Spain. Centro Sefarad-Israel has organised different seminars on Judaism, Holocaust and antisemitism for teachers, schools and universities, in which the explanation of the sense of the definition has taken a central part.

Centro Sefarad-Israel has defended the IHRA definition of antisemitism in the international fora (especially in the UN meetings), against other recent definitions, such as the 'Declaration of Jerusalem'. The Spanish representative at UN has supported the IHRA definition against the Jerusalem Declaration.

Regarding the dissemination of this IHRA definition and the combat antisemitism, Spain has contributed with the following actions:

- Including the dissemination and teaching of the IHRA definition on the future National Plan for Combating Antisemitism (to be presented in December of this year 2022 or beginning of 2023).
- Reinforcement and support of the Observatory on Antisemitism as a pivotal instrument for the detection of antisemitic behaviours in Spain.
- Reinforcement of the Ministerial Order AEC/4150/2004, of December 15th, which established January 27th as the Official Day of Holocaust Remembrance and the Prevention of Crimes against Humanity, together with the expansion of the network of cities that commemorate this day.

- The Spanish Ministry of Education has accepted to participate in the UNESCO Project “Addressing Anti-Semitism through Education”.
- Collaboration with the OSCE/ODIHR: ”Words into Action to Address Anti-Semitism”.

PLEDGE 2. Work with Spanish municipalities in order to encourage tolerance and the understanding of cultural and religious diversity by implementing public policies focused on dealing with pluralism.

The Foundation Pluralismo y Convivencia Together with the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces and the Human Rights Institute of the University of Deusto, has been implementing the “Municipalities for Tolerance”:

<https://www.pluralismoyconvivencia.es/nuestro-trabajo/mejora-de-la-gestion-publica-de-la-diversidad-religiosa/municipios-por-la-tolerancia/> program aimed at supporting Spanish local governments managing religious diversity, including Judaism, in a democratic, inclusive and plural manner.

PLEDGE 3. Enlarge the network of teachers who receive training on antisemitism and Remembrance of the Holocaust.

“Centro Sefarad-Israel”, as a public diplomacy institution linked to the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, has strengthened its training programmes for teachers, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and with the Autonomous Communities. New Primary and secondary schools and universities teachers have joined its Teachers Network.

- Enlargement of the network of educational institutions that organize commemoration events on the Official Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust and the and the Prevention of Crimes against Humanity.

### Examples of best practices

- Centro Sefarad-Israel has been working in alliance with the Spanish Autonomous Communities and with foreign institutions, such as the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Shoah Memorial in France, the House of the Wannsee Conference, Yahad in Unum and the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial organizing activities such as conferences, exhibitions, training on Judaism, Holocaust and Sephardic Jews.
- Teachers training at Yad Vashem. Centro Sefarad-Israel has continued its yearly project sending a group of teachers to this institution for Holocaust and antisemitism education program.
- Visit of a Yad Vashem educator to Spain for educational workshops at schools and universities.
- Organization of meetings with Holocaust survivors. Centro Sefarad-Israel has invited two survivors from other countries for the Holocaust Memorial Month (January). They have given their testimony in the Holocaust Memorial events and meetings with students. In addition, we have organized talks with the survivor of the Spanish Shoah, Eva Leitman –Bohrer in educational centers and city halls.
- Combat Holocaust denial. Centro Sefarad-Israel works jointly with the Violeta Friedman Foundation in its project of talks in schools on this subject through the testimony of the daughter of the survivor Violeta Friedman, Patricia Weisz.
- Official commemoration events to remember the victims of the Shoah on the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27) in Spanish city halls and schools.
- Participation in the European Crocus Project for schools led by Ireland (Holocaust Education Ireland). More than 80 Spanish schools (with more than 8.000 students) have planted Crocus bulbs in memory of the



one and a half million children murdered in the Holocaust. In January, the Holocaust Remembrance Month, the bulbs will bloom yellow and the students themselves will explain the stories of these Jewish murderer children. During this period, the students will work the Shoah with different activities.

- Exhibition “Seeing Auschwitz”. During six months, more than 120 Spanish schools have seen it this year and have received training on the Holocaust and Judaism through guided tours.
- Edition of the EDUCASHOAH Magazine addressed to teachers in order to share knowledge and good practices on the Shoah teaching.
- Campaigns on social networks about combating antisemitism (distortion and Holocaust denial) and fostering Jewish life.
- Centro Sefarad-Israel YouTube channel, offering conferences and events for a better knowledge of Jewish culture and the teaching of the Holocaust.

#### **New initiatives**

Holocaust Education and International activities:

- Organization of Memorial trips to Auschwitz-Birkenau together with Yad Vashem with the certificate of the Ministry of Education.
- Official seminar training for Spanish teachers organized by Ministry of Education (Holocaust, judaism and antisemitism training)

Antisemitism on social media platforms:

- Dissemination of translated educational material in schools for combating antisemitism.

- Reinforcement of teachers training in contemporary antisemitism on social media.
- Training in fostering Jewish life and culture aimed at municipal staff responsible for culture and tourism.

## **28. Sweden**

### **Completed pledges**

Sweden has decided on, and thereby completed, nearly all the pledges presented. However, implementing the measures presented in connection to the pledges is a long term commitment and results will be presented over the coming years.

- The first pledge from Sweden was to assume the Presidency of the IHRA from March 2022 to the end of February 2023.

In addition to this Sweden has pledged:

...to preserve and pass on the memory of the Holocaust

- According to plan the Swedish Holocaust Museum was formally established on 1 July 2022 within the agency National Historical Museums, to preserve and pass on the memory of the Holocaust.
- The Swedish Government has made a contribution of 6 million SEK to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation.

...to promote education to prevent antisemitism and other forms of racism and to strengthen Holocaust research

- The government has decided that education for active citizenship to prevent antisemitism and other forms of racism will be promoted through a nationwide undertaking conducted by the Swedish National Agency for Education in cooperation with the Living History Forum

2022–2023. It will focus on a wide range of target groups encompassing formal and non-formal education.

- During 2022 the Swedish Research Council issue calls for research grants, based on the recommendations of the Swedish Research Council's survey of Swedish research on the Holocaust and antisemitism, including groups such as the Roma and antigypsyism.

... to combat antisemitism, antigypsyism and other forms of racism – online and offline

- An action programme against antisemitism, along with action programmes targeting afrophobia, antigypsyism, islamophobia, and racism against the Sámi, has been adopted. It includes both measures specifically aimed at combating antisemitism and broader efforts against racism. The IHRA working definitions of antisemitism and antigypsyism/Roma discrimination has been considered in these respective programmes. The programmes include measures in the field of education, continued and enhanced efforts by the police to counter hate crime, as well as an assignment to the Swedish Defence Research Agency to continuously monitor violent extremism and racism in digital environments.
- Organised racism and support for organised racism will be criminalized (not completed).
- The Government has appointed an all-party committee to consider consider clarifying the Swedish legislation regarding acts of publicly condoning, denying or grossly trivialising e.g. the Holocaust and other serious crimes mentioned in the Framework Decision.

...to promote Jewish life, strengthen Roma inclusion and enhance security for civil society

- A government inquiry on a strategy to promote Jewish life in Sweden has been appointed in June 2022. The National strategy for Roma inclusion will continue and permanent resources has been allocated from 2022. Language centres for Yiddish and Romani will be established. The institute for languages and folklore is responsible for language centers for Romani and Yiddish during 2022-2024.
- Funding for security-enhancing measures for civil society, including the Jewish community, will increase significantly from 2022.

#### Results so far

- To follow up on the commitments made by 60 delegations was part of the Swedish presidency of the IHRA. At the plenary meetings in Stockholm, an overview of all the pledges was presented. The overview facilitates the opportunity to exchange between states, international organizations and civil society by enabling dialogue on implementation of the pledges. The Swedish Presidency in cooperation with the IHRA Permanent Office, is organizing a communication initiative where examples of good practices will be displayed and disseminated.
- Under the leadership of the Swedish presidency the IHRA secured long-term sustainability of its work by adopting a new financial model for membership contributions, safeguarding a long-term financial solution for the IHRA.
- The Stockholm plenary meetings resulted in extensive discussions on possible initiatives to address the situation and assist Ukraine within the areas of expertise of the IHRA.
- During 2021 and 2022 the agency Living History Forum assembled a collection for the new Swedish Holocaust Museum. This collection is transferred to the museum. The museum will continue to accept testimonies, donations, artefacts and documents within its collecting area. During the second part of 2022 and the spring 2023 the museum

offers digital activities, lectures and programmes to the public, in collaboration with several different organisations and in various parts of Sweden. The first exhibition is scheduled to open in June 2023 on the museum's temporary premises at Torsgatan 19 in Stockholm where the museum will operate for at least five years while a permanent site for the museum is being sought. See further:

<https://museumforintelsen.se/en/about-the-museum/>

- The Swedish National Agency for Education and the Living History Forum, tasked to develop education for active citizenship to prevent antisemitism and other forms of racism will present a partial report in the fall 2023.
- Visiting researcher grant in research into the Holocaust, victims of the Holocaust and antisemitism as well as Network grant for research into the Holocaust, victims of the Holocaust and antisemitism. will be awarded by The Swedish Research Council no later than December 2022.
- Action programmes which outline concrete measures against antisemitism and other forms of racism during 2022–2024 will be followed up by the Living History Forum in annual reports.
- The Police Authority was given the task Hate crimes and other crimes that threaten democracy in the fall of 2021. A partial report will be given in spring 2023 including a short- and long-term action program. The final report in December 2023, will include the measures taken and a long-term plan for the authority's continued work.
- An all-party committee suggested introducing a ban on racist organizations through criminal legislation. The proposal was referred for consideration to the relevant bodies and their responses are now being analysed.

- The all-party committee tasked to consider clarifying the Swedish legislation regarding acts of publicly condoning, denying or grossly trivializing the Holocaust and other serious crimes mentioned in the Framework Decision continue their work and will submit their report in April 2023.
- The inquiry on a strategy to promote Jewish life in Sweden will report in December 2023.
- In the budget bill for 2022 the government increased the permanent funding for Roma inclusion. The government has also tasked the National Education Agency and the National Board of Health and Welfare to develop suitable mediator training 2022–2024 for future work in schools, adult education, social services and health care.
- The language centres for Romani and Yiddish are now in a start-up phase.
- The funding for security-enhancing measures for civil society, including the Jewish community has been doubled from 2021 to 2022.

### Examples of best practices

It is too early to give examples of best practices that have been experienced through the establishment of the new Holocaust Museum. But there are examples of good experiences to share in the work so far.

- For example, the museum has launched two Swedish-language versions of Dimensions in Testimony, an interactive biography in which we can engage in virtual conversations with survivors of the Holocaust through artificial intelligence (AI), long after the final survivor has passed away. The method is developed by USC Shoah Foundation. During spring 2022 National Historical Museums, USC Shoah Foundation, and Judisk kultur i Sverige have developed this physical installation into a web resource, with several advantages: It includes information about the

project and supports questions and answers in both speech and text. It is available on a mobile phone or a computer, in a classroom or wherever you are. Technological advances also make the production process significantly more cost- and environmentally efficient than before, because of remote filming. This web resource together with other digital activities are offered on the museum's website. The museums' collections will also be digitized and available online. In this way the museum will pass on the memory of the Holocaust in classrooms all over Sweden no matter how far you are from the physical building in Stockholm.

- The new museum's collection will be the first cohesive collection with Holocaust related material in Sweden. However, collaboration with other museums on local and regional level in Sweden will be important for the new museum. Living History Forum assigned the National Historical Museums to do a study which shows that there is Holocaust-related material in about 30 institutions in Sweden. The report is accessible at the Living History Forum website.
- In connection to the pledge to combat antisemitism, antigypsyism and other forms of racism – online and offline a best practice in relation to the assignment to the Police Authority can be reported. On June 14, 2022, a web-based training day was conducted for all the Police Authority's employees with a focus on antisemitism (origin, code words, conspiracy theories) and the Police Authority's work in combating hate crimes and other crimes that threaten democracy. The training was developed by the Forum for Living History, the Swedish committee against antisemitism and the Police Authority. About 200 police employees participated in the training.
- In connection to the pledge to promote Jewish life, strengthen Roma inclusion and enhance security for civil society the following is reported as best practice: Consultations with representatives from the Jewish and Roma minority are important in highlighting needs and guidance on how to promote Jewish life and strengthen Roma inclusion. The language centres have been developed in close cooperation with minority

representatives and a steering group has been appointed for each language centre.

### Examples of challenges

- There have been high expectations from stakeholder groups to be involved in development of the new museum and in its public activities. National Historical Museums is convinced that it is a strength to involve as many external parties as possible and offer opportunities for participation, collaboration and support of civil society organizations that are connected to the Holocaust. The agency has made many contacts with different stakeholders and intends to make many more contacts in the second half of 2022 and forward. One challenge has been to collect Holocaust-related material belonging to individuals with other than Jewish background. There are just a few examples in the collection so far. National Historical Museums intends to deepen its cooperation not least with Roma groups in order to include and increase knowledge of Roma history in the museum.
- A challenge in relation to the pledge to combat antisemitism, antigypsyism and other forms of racism – online and offline – is that hate crimes continue to be statistically underreported, which causes problems for the Police Authority to, for example, detect crime and highlight specific groups that are vulnerable.
- A challenge in relation to the pledge to promote Jewish life, strengthen Roma inclusion and enhance security for civil society is that the knowledge about Sweden's national minorities, among them the Jewish and Roma minorities, remains low amongst the Swedish public. This increases the workload of civil society organizations representing the minorities. While dialogue and consultations are a central part of minority policy, it is also time consuming for small minority organizations. The government has therefore strengthened the funding for these organizations.



### New initiatives

- In January 2023 the Swedish government presented a new initiative in the work against antisemitism and to strengthen Jewish life in Sweden. A working group with State secretaries from several Ministries will cooperate on preventive measures and efforts against antisemitism and to strengthen the conditions for Jewish life in Sweden. The initiative focuses on three areas: educational efforts, increasing security for Jews in Sweden, and highlighting Jewish culture. The measures will be implemented in close cooperation and dialogue with the Jewish community and responsible authorities. Among the measures are funding of study trips to Holocaust memorial sites, continued cooperation for training of teachers in Holocaust education, and funding for Sweden's museum about the Holocaust.
- The Swedish IHRA Presidency organized an International Conference on the Genocide of the Roma and Combating Antigypsyism, 20–21 October 2022 in Stockholm. One objective of the conference was to take stock of existing research on the genocide of the Roma, and to identify obstacles, gaps, and needs, as well as share IHRA knowledge and recommendations, stimulate cooperation, and proactively work together for impact. The conference also aimed to highlight developments in research on how the genocide of the Roma is linked to the prejudice and discrimination that many Roma face today. Topics for discussion included historical perspectives on antigypsyism and the genocide of the Roma in the Nordic, issues concerning testimonies and recognition, and how education can contribute to combating antigypsyism today.

## 29. Switzerland

### Completed pledges

All the pledges made by Switzerland are being implemented and are partially completed. The progress made and results achieved so far are listed below in answer to question 5.

One of the Swiss pledges pertained to GAAMAC, the global initiative for atrocity prevention that Switzerland co-founded and supports. It was pledged that during GAAMAC's fourth international meeting in November 2021 the IHRA would offer a workshop on strengthening national efforts to address hate speech, discrimination and prevent incitement. This was arranged and the workshop successfully took place with the participation of the Adviser to the IHRA Wichert ten Have. This workshop was part of the overall effort at the GAAMAC IV Conference at raising awareness of the importance of combating hate speech in order to prevent atrocities.

Switzerland has always made a strong connection between dealing with the past and prevention of atrocities. While it is critical to deal with the past and memorialisation, it is also essential to create conditions to prevent violence, end the commission of atrocities and promote conditions for a peaceful world. Beyond the GAAMAC IV Conference, Switzerland thus pledged to continue to take on an active role in making prevention a reality. This is certainly still work in progress, involving Switzerland's multilateral engagement, for instance within the framework of R2P, as well as bilateral efforts to support transitional justice and democracy strengthening in many countries. It also includes the mobilization of broader political and financial support for GAAMAC, and the strengthening of GAAMAC's ties with the IHRA, a development encouraged both by the IHRA Honorary Chair and the Advisor to the IHRA during the Stockholm plenary meeting. In October 2022, the Advisor to the IHRA will meet with the GAAMAC Steering Group precisely to discuss further means of collaboration between the two initiatives.

### **Results so far**

The pledges made by Switzerland are listed below, followed by a short update for each of them:

1. Switzerland will work on the development of a memorial for the victims of National Socialism.

In March 2022, both chambers of Parliament approved similar binding motions for the creation of an official national site of remembrance for the victims of National Socialism. The concept for the memorial originated with a broad group of civil society organizations, academics and concerned citizens who petitioned Parliament in 2021, and their proposal received broad political support. The Parliamentary motions also received the approval of the Federal Council, which is now taking preparatory steps towards the establishment of the memorial. The memorial should serve not only as a site for commemoration and remembrance, but also as a venue for information and education, particularly for the younger generations. Before the end of 2022, an options paper will be presented to the Federal Council with possible locations, financing options and legal implications, before the conceptual development of the memorial can take place.

2. Switzerland will continue the development of educational material about the Holocaust, with a special focus on victims who have not been considered much until now – like the Roma/Sinti.

Every year on the occasion of the Holocaust Remembrance Day, the coordinating body of Swiss secondary and higher education (Swiss Conference of Cantonal Directors of Education) publishes an updated comprehensive list of educational resources for teaching about the Holocaust. 2022 was no exception with several additions being recorded as recent developments have been numerous, particularly in the area of digital applications and websites. Preparations are underway to further develop and make available dedicated educational materials on the genocide of the Roma, and its implications in and for Switzerland. This project will be led by the Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich and it will involve the compilation of existing educational resources, as well as complementary interviews and perspectives, particularly from the affected Roma, Sinti and Jenish communities. An online reader for teachers with comprehensive materials will be available in 2023 and disseminated through the network of teacher training institutions nationwide.

3. Switzerland will be actively involved in the organization of the annual Holocaust commemorations on 27 January and 2 August.

On 27.1.2022, the official national commemoration of the Holocaust took place in Berne, co-organized by Greece (IHRA Chair), Israel and Switzerland. There were speeches by the President of the Swiss Confederation and the President of the National Council, in addition to interventions by Ambassadors, Holocaust survivors and the Jewish community. Events also took place in schools around the country, as per the directive of the Cantonal Directors of Education to commemorate the Holocaust and to organize activities on tolerance, human rights, antiracism, and antisemitism. Preparations are currently underway for the organisation of the 2023 Holocaust Remembrance Day, with a focus on keeping the memory of the genocide alive for younger generations. On the 2nd of August 2022, Ambassador Simon Geissbühler, head of the Peace and Human Rights Division of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, made a public statement disseminated via Twitter on the importance of recognizing and remembering the genocide of the Roma.

4. Switzerland will continue its active engagement within the IHRA.

With an expanded delegation of 4 experts, Switzerland continues to play an active role within IHRA, participating in all working groups and committees. Stéphane Laederich was selected to serve as the Chair of the Committee on the Genocide of the Roma in 2023.

#### **Examples of best practices**

The support group to the IHRA delegation, made up of a wide range of representatives from civil society organizations, academics and activists as well as official institutions such as the Service for Combating Racism, provides a useful platform to exchange information and ideas, and to develop new initiatives. It meets twice a year in person and members also have regular exchanges in between meetings. As noted above, the proposal for a national memorial emerged from the engagement of a wide group of

civil society organizations and it garnered significant political backing thanks to this broad based membership.

### **Examples of challenges**

Switzerland is a federation, and coordination between the federal, cantonal and municipal levels can sometimes be challenging. Education is for instance a cantonal competence, and Switzerland thus does not have a central Ministry of Education. Coordination and consensus building among cantons, with the federal government playing a supportive role, is therefore key. While Switzerland's federal character is essential for the unity of the country, it can make the application of decisions taken at the international or federal level more complex. This is also illustrated in the preparatory work for the national memorial, where the selection of a site for instance requires consultations and ultimately the approval of multiple authorities at the cantonal and municipal levels.

For the pledge concerning the commemoration of the Genocide of the Roma on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, which is a new development, both the date (in the middle of summer, one day after the Swiss National Day) and the involvement of the Roma and Sinti communities has proved challenging. For 2023, the organization of a public exhibition about the Roma genocide during a month outside of the summer holidays is being envisaged to give better recognition and visibility to this underreported genocide and its implications for the country, both at the time and currently. The exhibition would be complemented by roundtable discussions involving participants from the Roma and Sinti communities, media coverage and school visits.

### **New initiatives**

Switzerland's pledges listed above cover many of the thematic areas in the overview report, especially Holocaust remembrance, Holocaust education, Genocide and crimes against humanity, Antigypsyism and Genocide of the Roma and Combating antisemitism.

Thematic area: International activities.

- In January 2022, Switzerland co-sponsored the UN General Assembly Resolution on Holocaust Denial, which condemns Holocaust distortion based on the IHRA definition.
- Switzerland, as the co-host of the Lugano “Ukraine Recovery Conference” in July 2022, welcomed IHRA’s readiness to support Ukraine, based on the country’s own commitments made at the Malmö Forum. The deepening of collaboration between IHRA and Ukraine would fit well within the “Lugano Principles” designed to frame Ukraine’s recovery, which state that the country’s recovery should take place hand in hand with reforms, in line with Ukraine’s European perspective as a democratic state.
- At the “Terezin Declaration Conference” in November 2022, Switzerland added a pledge concerning Nazi confiscated art to the ones it made in Malmö: “Switzerland will continue to work for fair and equitable solutions regarding looted art, including through the parliamentary initiatives supported by the Federal Council to establish an independent commission on this issue and to create a platform for provenance research”.

Thematic area: Archives and research.

Researchers and archivists are holding consultations on the possible creation of a “victims’ database” to record and categorize victims of Nazism with a relation to Switzerland, whose information is currently held in different places, in a central and consolidated location. This database could contribute to the planned national memorial. A conference at the “Archives of Contemporary History” of the ETH Zürich will take place on the topic in January 2023.

## **30. Türkiye**

### **Completed pledges**

We continue our efforts for commemorating and reminding the public of the victims of the Holocaust, in observance of the “never again” motto. With this aim, every year on January 27, we organize ceremonies and public events on 27 January and 24 February -the occasions of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (IHRD) and the Struma Incident. In addition, Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs publishes a press release on IHRD and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Presidency's Director of Communications and other high-ranking Government officials share social media messages to commemorate the victims and raise public awareness.

We continue to encourage extensive scholarly work on the Holocaust and to better educate younger generations.

We shared the Turkish translation of the “UNESCO/OSCE Guidelines on Addressing Antisemitism Through Education” with relevant institutions for distribution.

### **Results so far**

Commemoration ceremonies and other events raised the visibility and public awareness.

There are more publications on Holocaust and Struma incident particularly before and after the ceremonies that are held to commemorate the victims.

Education of younger generations on the subject is also improving. Education institutions started using different materials to teach Holocaust, antisemitism, racism and discrimination.

### **Examples of best practices**

Education: more schools have started using different books and materials to teach about the Holocaust.

Commemoration: More high-rank officials share social media messages and videos on Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January.

Turkish Foreign Missions host Turkish Jewish artists/performers for different events at Yom HaShoah.

#### **Examples of challenges**

Coordination with different ministries and institutions takes time.

#### **New initiatives**

We are planning to organize joint activities with the newly established Institute on Genocide Studies in İstanbul. These activities will focus on remembrance and scholarly work.

### **31. Ukraine**

#### **Completed pledges**

During the Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism, which took place on October 13, 2021 in Malmö, Ukraine made the following pledges:

- Creation of a Memorial museum in memory of the victims of Babyn Yar on the territory of the National Historical and Memorial Reserve "Babyn Yar";
- Ensuring counteraction to anti-Semitism and other forms of racism;
- Implementation of educational projects on the history of the Holocaust for children and youth;
- Appointment of a coordinator for interaction with the Jewish communities of Ukraine.



## Results so far

- The implementation of restoration works, which were started in 2018, on the territory of the National Historical and Memorial Reserve "Babyn Yar" for the placement of the Memorial museum in memory of the victims of Babyn Yar, in the building at Melnikova (Illenka) Street 44, has been continued.

On the territory of the National Historical and Memorial Reserve "Babyn Yar" in 2021, the Memorial object "Place for Reflection" and the sculptural and architectural composition "Memorial object Crystal Wailing Wall" were placed. It was agreed to place the exhibition model "Mound of Memory" on the territory of the reserve. Until February 24, 2022, the exhibition of the National Museum of the History of Ukraine and its branches presented materials on the history of Ukrainian Jews: "Jewish ceremonial silver of the beginning of the 18th century - until the 20s of the 20th century" and "Jewish population in the Ukrainian lands in the second half of the 19th century". In connection with the full-scale invasion of the Russian federation into Ukraine, the exhibition was dismantled.

- The Law of Ukraine "On Amending Article 161 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine to Implement the Provisions of the Law of Ukraine 'On Prevention and Counteraction of Anti-Semitism in Ukraine'" (adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on February 15, 2022) was adopted, the purpose of which to harmonize the articles of the Criminal Code of Ukraine in accordance with The Law of Ukraine "On the Prevention and Counteraction of Anti-Semitism in Ukraine". This Law at the legislative level regulates the issue of countering and preventing anti-Semitism and its manifestations in Ukraine by establishing criminal liability for manifestations of anti-Semitism. This law at the legislative level regulates the issue of combating and preventing anti-Semitism and its manifestations in Ukraine, introducing criminal liability for manifestations of anti-Semitism.

- The implementation of educational projects on the history of the Holocaust for children and youth, as well as in the field of combating anti-Semitism and other forms of racism, has been ensured. The topic "Holocaust" is included as compulsory study in all general educational institutions (incorporated into courses on the history of Ukraine, world history, integrated course "History: Ukraine and the World"). Thus, an entire system of teaching the history of the Holocaust was created. The volume of material devoted to the Holocaust in Ukrainian textbooks is one of the largest among history textbooks in the European countries. A significant number of additional experimental textbooks on the history of the Holocaust have also been published in Ukraine.
- A coordinator for interaction with Jewish communities has been appointed (Deputy Head of the Department of Protection of the Interests of Society and the State of the National Police of Ukraine - Roik Vladyslav Arturovych).

### Examples of best practices

The implementation of educational projects on the history of the Holocaust for children and youth, as well as in the field of combating anti-Semitism and other forms of racism, has been ensured. The topic "Holocaust" is included as compulsory study in all general educational institutions (incorporated into courses on the history of Ukraine, world history, integrated course "History: Ukraine and the World"). Thus, an entire system of teaching the history of the Holocaust was created, which includes:

1. Established compulsory study of the history of the Holocaust based on the approved State program for the study of history, which is the basis for presenting the main issues of the Holocaust in all major history textbooks for certain grades.

The volume of material devoted to the Holocaust in Ukrainian textbooks is one of the largest among history textbooks in European countries. A significant number of additional experimental textbooks on the history of the Holocaust have also been published in Ukraine.

For example, in the textbook “Together on the same Earth. The history of Ukraine is multicultural”, which was published by the All-Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History and Social Sciences “New Era” and the international organization “Euro Clio”, a special chapter is devoted to the Holocaust.

2. Professional training of school history teachers of the Holocaust in cooperation with scientific, educational and public institutions of the country.

The Ukrainian state and public organizations have created a developed system of professional training of school history teachers to study the history of the Holocaust. These issues are given constant attention at seminars organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Council of Europe, the All-Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History, Social Science and Civic Education, the All-Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History and Social Sciences “Nova doba”. The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, together with the Ukrainian Institute for the Study of the Holocaust “Tkuma” (Dnipro), annually holds the International Competition of creative works of students, students and teachers “Lessons of War and the Holocaust - Lessons of Tolerance”, which involved thousands of teachers.

Institute of Jewish Studies, Center for the Study of Jewish Studies at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukrainian Center for Holocaust Studies (Kyiv), Ukrainian Institute for the Study of the Holocaust “Tkuma”, Museum “Jewish Memory and the Holocaust in Ukraine” (Dnipro), Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv) and other scientific and educational institutions and public organizations hold numerous seminars for teachers on the history of the Holocaust, organize thematic traveling exhibitions, implement scientific and methodological projects dedicated to the history of the Holocaust.

“Tkuma”, with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, conducts a series of seminars with the general theme “Study of

the history of the Second World War and the Holocaust under the conditions of the modern war against Ukraine” for Ukrainian schools and post-graduate pedagogical education institutions. Traditionally, such seminars take place in January (before the International Holocaust Remembrance Day) and in September-October (before the anniversary of the Babyn Yar tragedy).

3. Establishment by the Ministry of Education and Science in cooperation with scientific, educational and public institutions of special, optional courses for studying the history of the Holocaust and providing them with appropriate educational and methodological developments, in particular, multimedia.
4. Implementation of educational, cultural and educational projects regarding certain aspects of the Holocaust, in particular the feat of the Righteous Among the Nations. In addition to lessons in educational institutions, Ukrainian teachers conduct appropriate out-of-school thematic events.

#### **Examples of challenges**

In connection with the full-scale invasion of the Russian federation against Ukraine, Ukraine had to suspend the Creation of a Memorial museum in memory of the victims of Babyn Yar on the territory of the National Historical and Memorial Reserve ”Babyn Yar”. And we cannot fully realize all the declared plans in the conditions of a full-scale war.

#### **New initiatives**

No new initiatives.

### **32. United Kingdom**

#### **Completed pledges**

We have completed UK Holocaust Sites Map which was jointly funded with the Association of Jewish Refugees. This new digital resource shows sites

and documents relevant to the Holocaust and Nazism in Britain. The rest of the UK pledges are ongoing.

#### UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre

- build and open a new national Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre to honour the six million Jewish men, women and children who were murdered during the Holocaust and all other victims of Nazi persecution by January 2025.
- ensure that the learning centre focuses on subsequent genocides, and provides a balanced narrative, addressing the complexities of Britain's responses to the Holocaust, avoiding simplistic judgements and encouraging visitors to critically reflect on this pivotal period of history.

#### Holocaust Remembrance

- continue supporting the annual Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony on 27 January, alongside local ceremonies across the length and breadth of the United Kingdom Holocaust Education.
- continue to encourage higher education providers to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism.
- continue to ensure that teacher training supports teachers to understand equality issues and subject knowledge, including through the Initial Teacher Training Teachers' Standards and providers' own legal duties on equality.

#### Online Harms

- bring forward the government's proposals for a new regulatory framework that will usher in a new age of accountability for technology companies. The draft Online Safety Bill, published in May 2021, will give rise to the regulatory framework which will place a duty of care on platforms, requiring them to tackle illegal and legal but harmful abuse online, including antisemitic abuse. The regime will be overseen by an

independent regulator who will have powers to issue large fines of up to 10% of annual turnover or £18 million, whichever is higher.

## Results so far

### UK Holocaust Sites Map

Following the launch of the UK Holocaust Map in December 2021, organisations in the UK continue to add to its content and to develop programmes which make practical use of it. In 2022, the Holocaust Educational Trust piloted its first four ‘Sites and Sources’ training events for teachers which consisted of daylong study tours in UK cities – London, Glasgow, Cardiff and Manchester. These courses were designed to encourage teachers to research and visit local sites of memory with their students, and to consider local connections and British responses to Nazism and the Holocaust.

### Holocaust Memorial Day

Tens of thousands of people watched the UK Ceremony and over 3 200 organisations held more than 4 200 local HMD commemorations.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (now King Charles) commissioned seven leading artists to paint portraits of seven Holocaust survivors. The portraits were displayed in the Queen’s Gallery, Buckingham Palace for HMD 2022 and are now part of the Royal Collection. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust which is funded by government in partnership with the Imperial War Museum, Royal Photographic Society, Jewish News and Dangoor Education created the Generations project, an exhibition of over 50 portraits of Holocaust survivors and their families. The Generations exhibition was shown at IWM London, RPS Bristol and UNESCO Paris.

Over 200 iconic landmarks across the country – including the Houses of Parliament, Tate Britain, the London Eye, Gateshead Millennium Bridge, Edinburgh Castle and more – were lit in purple as part of the “Light the Darkness” national moment. The famous screens at Piccadilly Circus

showed portraits of Holocaust survivors before lighting up purple for the national moment at 8pm on 27 January.

Over 1 600 schools marked HMD, a 28 percent increase on the previous year. For the first time 25% of secondary schools marked HMD.

#### Holocaust Education

UCL's Centre for Holocaust Education CPD programmes and educational research continues to have a major impact on Holocaust education in England. At the same time, through various international projects the Centre has had a significant influence on teaching and learning about the Holocaust around the world. The Centre trains over 1 000 teachers a year and has raised the standard of Holocaust Education.

The Holocaust Educational Trust (HET) trains over 1 500 teachers a year, and since 1999 41 000 students and teachers have taken part in their Lessons from Auschwitz Programme which is funded by Government.

Vision Schools Scotland is an excellent programme taught across primary and secondary schools in Scotland. This expertly researched Holocaust education teaches young people about antiracism, citizenship and religious equality, in addition to looking at the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust. Vision Schools Scotland launched in 2017 with three schools, but the programme has now grown to include 23 Vision Schools and a network of more than 40 schools that are involved in varying stages of the programme.

#### Holocaust Memorials

The new Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre in London is an ongoing project, but two Holocaust memorials were unveiled in 2022. The first was a new Kindertransport Memorial in Harwich which was unveiled on September 1. The vast majority of children fleeing the Nazis' Examples of best practices arrived at the port of Harwich and despite the journeys of the children being commemorated all across Europe there was not until now a memorial at this spot. In addition, a statue of an unsung British hero who

saved hundreds of Jewish children destined to die in Nazi concentration camps was unveiled in Swanage, Dorset. Trevor Chadwick, nicknamed the “Purbeck Schindler”, helped Sir Nicholas Winton rescue 669 Jewish children from Czechoslovakia before the Second World War. At great personal risk, the Dorset schoolteacher helped forge exit passes to fool the Nazis and help get children to the safety of Britain.

### Examples of best practices

#### UK Holocaust Map

The UK Holocaust Map is an excellent way for individual countries to identify places of significance to the Holocaust and Jewish community. The map has been used as an excellent tool for teachers exploring their local areas to use in lesson plans. [WWW.UKHOLOCAUSTMAP.ORG.UK](http://WWW.UKHOLOCAUSTMAP.ORG.UK)

#### Holocaust Memorial Day

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust which is funded by the UK government is an excellent example of how commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day at the national and local level. [www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk) [https://www.hmd.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/HMD-2022-in-Review\\_FINAL\\_digital.pdf](https://www.hmd.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/HMD-2022-in-Review_FINAL_digital.pdf)

The unveiling of the Kindertransport Memorial is a good example of a local people coming together to build a memorial. <http://www.kindertransport-memorial.org>

#### Holocaust Education.

The UK has a number of shining examples of Holocaust Education and teacher training. Since 2009, UCL’s Centre for Holocaust Education’s CPD programmes and educational research have had a major impact on Holocaust education in England. At the same time, through various international projects we have had a significant influence on teaching and learning about the Holocaust around the world. They have also initiated the Beacon School Project which is funded by the Pears Foundation and government.



Every year, the UCL Centre for Holocaust Education looks to recruit up to 15 secondary schools in England committed to enhancing teaching and learning about the Holocaust. UCL Beacon Schools in Holocaust Education become dynamic hubs serving a network of local schools and partner with the Centre to improve teaching standard and raise pupil achievement and strengthen SMSC provision. [www.holocausteducation.org.uk](http://www.holocausteducation.org.uk)

The Holocaust Educational Trust also offer an excellent ongoing programme of teacher training and their world leading Lessons from Auschwitz Project. [www.het.org.uk](http://www.het.org.uk)

The government supported Vision Schools in Scotland with a grant to enable them to reach more schools with their excellent programme aimed at improving teaching about the Holocaust and its contemporary relevance. <https://www.uws.ac.uk/research/research-impact/vision-schools-scotland/>

### **Examples of challenges**

The biggest challenge has been the pledge that relates to Online Harms - as much of this pledge relates to enacting legislation. The Bill has been delayed while further discussions go on about its content. We are not sure when it will be brought before Parliament.

The pledge relating to the new Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre is subject to the retaking of planning consent and this could delay the delivery date.

### **New initiatives**

Two new initiatives regarding Holocaust Memorials have emerged since the Malmö Forum, - the new Kindertransport Memorial in Harwich where the children fleeing the Nazi's in Europe first arrived. The statue of Trevor Chadwick nicknamed the 'Purbeck Schindler', helped Sir Nicholas Winton rescue 669 Jewish children from Czechoslovakia before the Second World War.

Since the Malmö Forum - the Government has agreed to set a task force to look at levels of antisemitism at Higher Education Institutions and to make recommendations.

A new project using 2nd and 3rd generation in Holocaust education. entitled the #The Holocaust, their family, me and us is an initiative supported by the Pears Foundation and UCL's Centre for Holocaust Education . The programme was devised by Nicola Wetherall MBE, the project which was initially launched at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy with 4 schools but from January 2023 it will expanded to over 140 secondary schools across the country, reaching over 4 000 students.

Conceived as an immersive, enrichment project – perhaps an after-school club, but also suitable to include within the curriculum – #HtFMeUs supports and guides students to explore one of the stories from the documentary: series where 2nd and 3rd generation family members explored their family journey. Stories – we know – have the power to change the way we think, feel and act. Each story, provides a learning hook, making humanising the history possible. Students begin the project by following either Bernie Graham, Noemie Lopian, Robert and his mother Angela Cohen, or sisters Louisa and Natalie Clein’s journey - (all 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation). In doing so they deepen their knowledge of the Holocaust and its history, develop critical thinking skills and are then invited to reflect upon the meaning of these events for them as individuals.

### **33. United States of America**

#### **Completed pledges**

We have completed two out of four International Visitor Leadership Programs to confront Holocaust distortion and antisemitism in North Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America. These are programs to engage in innovative problem-solving and to share expertise and strategies for foreign government officials, teachers, community educators, journalists, law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and civil society representatives.

### Results so far

In addition to the series of International Visitor Leadership Programs, we are funding efforts to empower civil society organizations in the Middle East to use a range of online media platforms to counter intolerance, hate speech and discrimination targeting religious minorities. We are also supporting a program to raise awareness of the importance of recognizing and countering Holocaust denial and distortion in Central Europe.

### Examples of best practices

Bringing together people from similar disciplines in different countries on International Visitor Leadership Programs has been very productive in creating new connections and contacts with each other as well as with the U.S.-based experts they have met – thus far, the programs have been virtual, but have still been successful.

### Examples of challenges

The process for soliciting and funding proposals for programs is challenging due to the time-consuming nature of the process, including meeting legal and other requirements for government funds.

### New initiatives

The U.S. Department of State's Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues continues to initiate and host programs for Holocaust remembrance. On July 13, the State Department and U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum co-hosted an event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum and honouring its director, Piotr Cywinski. It garnered extensive Polish and U.S. Jewish press attention.

## Follow-up reports – International organizations

### **34. European Commission**

#### **Completed pledges**

The European Commission pledged its first-ever EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life (2021–2030) adopted on 5 October 2021. The Strategy sets out a series of measures articulated around three pillars: to prevent all forms of antisemitism; to protect and foster Jewish life; and to promote research, education and Holocaust remembrance. The EU also pledged to lead the global fight against antisemitism and use all available tools to call on partner countries to actively combat antisemitism, including in political and human rights dialogues and in its broader cooperation with partner countries.

#### **Results so far**

The EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life foresees almost 100 actions for the period 2021–2030, over half of the actions have been already started or some are completed.

All EU Member States welcomed the EU Strategy in the Council Conclusions of 22 October 2021 and in the Council Conclusions on combating racism and antisemitism of 4 March 2022, in which they also committed to develop national strategies against antisemitism or insert specific actions on combating antisemitism into their general anti-racism action plans by end 2022.

#### **Examples of best practices**

On civil society engagement, the Commission is inviting over 200 Jewish civil society representatives to discuss the implementation of the Strategy, funding opportunities and exchange best practices at the Civil Society Forum on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life, taking place in November 2022.

The European Commission is supporting civil society and research institutions through the CERV programme and Horizon Europe programme to commemorate the Holocaust also through the digitalization of archives and testimonies of Holocaust survivors. The European Commission is supporting civil society to ensure Holocaust education, through the CERV programme, Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps. The Commission is supporting civil society associations and institutions to combat antisemitism through the CERV program and Erasmus+.

The Commission is organizing a conference on Freedom of Religion with regard to Religious Slaughter, to facilitate the exchange of practices between public authorities from EU countries and Jewish and Muslim communities, in partnership with the Council of Europe, the OSCE and UN.

To take action at local level, the Commission will publish a guidance manual on addressing antisemitism locally by end 2022, followed by training for local authorities and civil servants, in cooperation with the European Coalition of Cities Against Racism (ECCAR) and with a Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe (CEJI).

The Commission takes action regarding recording antisemitic incidents. Initiated by Austria, in cooperation with the Commission and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), 11 EU Member States signed the Vienna Declaration in May 2022 committing to develop a common methodology on recording antisemitic incidents.

### **Examples of challenges**

One of the challenges is to have all EU Member States adopting a national strategy on combating antisemitism or inserting specific actions on combating antisemitism into their general antiracism actions plans by end 2022. About 20 EU Member States are drafting or have adopted their national strategies. The Commission will assess the EU Member States national strategies by end 2023.

## New initiatives

The Commission has started to implement its EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life (2021–2030). Among the 100 actions included in the Strategy, over half have been put in motion. Actions include:

### Thematic area 2.1. Holocaust remembrance

The European Commission is supporting civil society and research institutions through the CERV programme and Horizon Europe programme to commemorate the Holocaust also through the digitalization of archives and testimonies of Holocaust survivors. The European Commission is supporting civil society to ensure Holocaust education, through the CERV programme, Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

An exhibition #FakeImages will be displayed in the EU headquarter building on the occasion of the Kristallnacht commemoration.

The Commission has illuminated its headquarter as part of the #WeRemember campaign for the first time, on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

### Thematic area 2.2. Safeguarding sites

The Commission has launched a preparatory action on protecting the Jewish cemeteries of Europe, capitalising on the results of two previous European Parliament pilot projects on this topic and fostering links between groups interested in the preservation of Jewish burial sites.

### Thematic area 2.3. Archives and research

The European Commission is supporting civil society and research institutions through the CERV programme and Horizon Europe programme to commemorate the Holocaust also through the digitalization of archives and testimonies of Holocaust survivors.

The Commission is studying the research landscape on contemporary antisemitism and Jewish life to assess the need for the creation of a European research hub on contemporary antisemitism and Jewish life.

#### Thematic area 2.4. Holocaust education

The European Commission is supporting civil society to ensure Holocaust education, through the CERV programme, Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

The Commission will support as from early 2023 educational professionals' training in cooperation with UNESCO and OSCE-ODIHR, based on their guidance on "Addressing antisemitism through education", respectively for policymakers and teacher-training institutions.

#### Thematic area 2.6. Antigypsyism and the genocide of the Roma

Fighting and preventing antigypsyism is not only among the novelties of the new EU Roma Framework and Council Recommendation, but also placed centrally in the effort to ensure equality for Roma. Many National Roma Strategic Frameworks submitted by the Member States acknowledge the importance of addressing its various forms of expressions and manifestations, among which anti-Roma racism, discrimination, prejudice, stereotypes and stigmatisation, and hate speech and hate crimes.

Some examples of promising practices include France, through its mobilisation of legal tools to fight discrimination and tackle hate speech, and Romania, through the adoption of an Antigypsyism Law. Law 2/2021 regarding measures to prevent and combat antigypsyism  
[http://cdep.ro/pls/proiecte/docs/2019/pr648\\_19.pdf](http://cdep.ro/pls/proiecte/docs/2019/pr648_19.pdf)

National Roma Contact Points and National Roma Platforms will receive support through the Commission's dedicated calls under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV). The CERV programme also supports projects fighting against racism, antigypsyism and discrimination, and projects commemorating the Holocaust through its

European Remembrance calls.

<https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/items/727198>

Following up on its commitment to promote positive narratives and Roma role models, and to combat negative antigypsyism, stereotyping, anti-Roma rhetoric and hate speech, the Commission will continue its cooperation and joint work with the Council of Europe through the forthcoming project EQUIROM.

#### Thematic area 2.7. Combating antisemitism and all forms of racism

As part of the measures provided by the EU Anti-Racism action plan, on 21 March 2022, the Commission organised the second EU Anti-racism Summit 2022 with the involvement of EU Institutions, Member States, civil society, equality bodies and grassroots organisations. This second summit was an opportune time to highlight some of the accomplishments achieved up to that point, in particular the Commission Common Guiding Principles to support the preparation and implementation of national action plans. It was also a timely opportunity to revisit the importance of the need to continue our concerted efforts in the fight against racism in the European Union.

The European Commission strongly encourages Member States to develop and adopt national action plans against racism and racial discrimination in 2022 with close involvement of civil society and equality bodies. To support Member States in their efforts, on March 2021 the Commission established a Subgroup of member States experts which elaborated common guiding principles required to produce effective national action plans against racism and racial discrimination. The guidelines were officially published in March 2022. The next task of the subgroup includes further facilitating Member States in their efforts by drafting a monitoring checklist for the implementation of the common guiding principles and a reporting tool for the implementation of national action plans against racism, as well as the creation of an online compendium of effective practices against racism in Members States.



The use of equality data is a key element in building non-discrimination policies with an intersectional approach. To further assist MSs in making evidence-based policy choices, in 2021 the Commission published the Guidance note on the collection and use of equality data based on racial or ethnic origin produced by the Subgroup on Equality Data in order to capture both subjective experiences of discrimination and victimisation and structural aspects of racism and racial discrimination in a harmonised way. The Subgroup on Equality Data, established in 2018, is made up of experts from EU and EU Agencies dealing with non-discrimination policies, national statistical institutes and equality bodies and aims to help Member States improving the collection and use of equality data.

#### Thematic area 2.8. Antisemitism on social media platforms

The Commission adopted its Better Internet for Kids Strategy, which makes clear reference to combating antisemitism on the internet.

#### Thematic area 2.9. Action plans and strategies

The Commission adopted its first-ever EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life.

#### Thematic area 2.10. International activities

The Commission is strengthening the global cooperation of special envoys and coordinators on combating antisemitism.

### **35. European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights**

#### Completed pledges

FRA fulfils its pledges through its ongoing activities pertaining to the fights against antisemitism.

Pledge 1: Periodic surveys on the lived experience of antisemitism: FRA launched its third survey on antisemitism in the EU, with first results expected towards the end of 2023. The survey covers Jewish people's

experiences with hate crime, discrimination, and antisemitism in 13 EU Member States, and it is the biggest survey of its kind conducted worldwide.

Pledge 2: Assistance in monitoring the implementation of strategies on combating antisemitism: On 3 November 2022, FRA released the 18th edition of its annual overview of antisemitic incidents recorded in the EU (<https://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2022/antisemitism-online-far-outweighs-official-records>). This overview provides information on the state of play of a) data collection on antisemitism, b) national strategies and action plans on combating antisemitism and c) on the adoption and use of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism. FRA's annual overview compiles data from international, governmental and non-governmental sources across all EU countries, as well as Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia.

Pledge 3: Assistance in improving recording and encouraging reporting of antisemitic incidents: FRA fulfils this pledge by working closely with the European Commission and EU Member States in the context of both the EU High Level Group on combating hate speech and hate crime, and of the Working Group on the implementation of EU Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life. FRA provides its expertise and assistance in improving recording and encouraging reporting of hate crime to the European Commission, EU Member States and Jewish community organisations in the framework of the activities of these expert groups. See: <https://fra.europa.eu/en/themes/hate-crim>

### Results so far

FRA's third survey on antisemitism is currently being implemented, the Agency published its 18th annual overview of data available on antisemitism in the EU, and the Agency has continued supporting the EU and its Member States in improving the recording and encouraging the reporting of antisemitic incidents.

### Examples of best practices

FRA's periodic surveys on antisemitism and its annual overview of antisemitic incidents in the EU are unique sources of data and evidence that are relevant to a broad range of institutional stakeholders as well as to Jewish community organisations.

### New initiatives

In 2023, FRA will publish findings of its project on online harassment, hate speech and incitement to violence against women and ethnic minorities. This includes antisemitic online content.

## **36. International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)**

### Completed pledges

1. Holocaust distortion attacks the very heart of our democratic and open societies. It paves the way for Holocaust denial, conspiracy thinking, violent antisemitism and extreme forms of nationalism. Holocaust distortion does not stop at national borders, and countering it requires international cooperation. Therefore, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and UNESCO pledge to jointly address rising Holocaust denial and distortion as a virulent form of contemporary antisemitism. We will develop resources and trainings to support policymakers, civil servants, journalists, and stakeholders from the field of education, to address Holocaust distortion in their respective professional environments.
2. Discrimination against Roma has existed for centuries. The neglect of the genocide of the Roma, carried out by Nazi Germany and its collaborators, has contributed to the prejudice and discrimination that many Roma communities still experience today. Anti-Roma discrimination, like any other form of discrimination, undermines the core values of our democratic societies. Therefore, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance pledges to develop recommendations for teaching and learning about the genocide of the Roma. These

recommendations will provide policymakers and stakeholders from the field of education with an educationally sound framework for teaching about the genocide of the Roma, and help to increase awareness of this history as well as existing forms of anti-Roma discrimination in our societies. Six million Jewish men, women and children were murdered in the Holocaust. More than one million are yet to be identified by name. Holocaust-related documents, that can help to identify victims as well as perpetrators, are scattered across the world, often not recognized as such in financial, business, and academic archives. Therefore, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance pledges to develop recommendations on identifying Holocaust-related materials, so that victims, survivors, and their descendants can reclaim their histories and their identities. The recommendations aim to empower archivists, researchers, and civil society to identify, preserve, and make available archival material that will help us to better understand the history of the Holocaust.

### **Results so far**

Pledge 1: The IHRA has secured funding for the project which will start in autumn 2022.

Pledge 2: The IHRA has secured funding for the project which will develop recommendations for teaching and learning about the genocide of the Roma. This project group officially began in September 2022.

Pledge 3: In March 2022, the IHRA publicly launched the IHRA Guidelines for Identifying Relevant Documentation for Holocaust Research, Education and Remembrance. These Guidelines have been translated into Latvian and Portuguese, and IHRA Member Countries continue to support translation efforts, with translations soon available in Hebrew, Italian, Romanian, and Spanish. More information about the Guidelines and promotional tools can be found on the IHRA's website:

<https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/reports/guidelines-archival-documentation>

## **37. OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)**

### Completed pledges

- In the area of security, ODIHR pledges to build effective communication between law enforcement officials and Jewish communities to better address the security needs of Jewish communities and further improve governmental responses to antisemitic hate crimes.
- In the area of education, ODIHR pledges to address antisemitism by developing a new course and building on its existing tools and programmes.
- In the area of online antisemitism, ODIHR pledges to build the capacity of Jewish communities and civil society to engage with technology companies on matters of policy and regulation.

### Results so far

In the area of security, together with the European Commission and the World Jewish Congress, ODIHR organized events in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, North Macedonia and Germany, yielding specific action points and tangible results. For example in Serbia, as a result of our event, every Jewish community now has direct contact with the nearest police station, and every decision pertaining to security outside the synagogue must undergo consultation with the Jewish community.

In the area of education, together with UNESCO and UCL, ODIHR is progressing on the development of the e-learning course on addressing antisemitism, as well as organizing regional and country-specific capacity building initiatives to address antisemitism in and through education.

In the area of addressing antisemitism online, together with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief and the World Jewish Congress, ODIHR brought together 17 Jewish communities and three major social media platforms, namely Facebook (Meta), Twitter and

TikTok. As a result, ODIHR produced a report with recommendations disseminated to these platforms, highlighting the need for effective content moderation to deal with reports pertaining to antisemitic content and counteracting its algorithmic amplification. In addition, ODIHR held one training for 17 Jewish communities on how to report antisemitic incidents and build campaigns to counteract negative trends on social media.

#### **Examples of best practices**

Frequent and structured communication between policymakers and Jewish communities facilitates working partnerships with Jewish community institutions and individuals and, ultimately, builds mutual confidence and trust.

#### **Examples of challenges**

Implementation of recommendations requires persistence and frequent follow-up.

#### **New initiatives**

In the area of addressing antisemitism online, ODIHR spearheaded periodic consultations between Jewish communities and social media platforms in countries where no such dialogue has taken place before. This process allowed to map out the experience of Jewish communities in relation to addressing antisemitism online in these States, assess the efficacy of existing tools to address the harm caused on these platforms and identify gaps and opportunities for future improvement.

### **38. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

#### **Completed pledges**

Firstly, UNESCO pledged to advance the institutionalization of Holocaust education globally by developing programmes that resonate with local audiences and histories. This project cycle started 2022.

Secondly, UNESCO pledged to advance education to counter the rise of antisemitism through education. This programme is ongoing.

Thirdly, in partnership with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), UNESCO jointly pledged to counter rising Holocaust denial and distortion as virulent forms of contemporary antisemitism. This project started in Autumn 2022.

### **Results so far**

1. In partnership with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and with the support of the Government of Canada, UNESCO is currently supporting Holocaust and genocide education initiatives worldwide in ten new participating countries.

UNESCO are further developing policy guidelines and an online on addressing violent pasts, taking into consideration the history of the Holocaust as a possible entry point to dealing with local legacies of genocide and other violent histories.

2. Since October 2021, UNESCO and OSCE/ODIHR have implemented a series of regional and national workshops on addressing antisemitism through education. Workshops have been organised for Central Asia, the Southern Caucasus and the Russian Federation (3-4 November 2021), India (10 February 2022), Latin America and the Caribbean (24-25 March 2022), Canada (21 & 27 October 2022) as well as for the United Kingdom (17 November 2022), and the United States (forthcoming).

Starting in January 2023, UNESCO is partnering with the European Commission to strengthen the educational dimension of the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life. This 2-year project includes capacity building in cooperation with 12 Ministries of Education will provide guidance and resources for Member States to develop sustainable and long-term initiatives that first target the level of teacher training and expand into other domains of the education system.

Stakeholders from the EU-27 will also profit from a series of 6 thematic webinars for teacher trainers and educators.

UNESCO will further produce research reports for policy makers, teacher trainers and educators in Europe to inform teaching materials and practice about (1) the status of textbooks to address antisemitism in Europe, as well as teach about Jewish life, history and culture, with age-appropriate and learner-centred curricula entry points to address antisemitism; (2) teacher preparedness to address antisemitism in Europe, including recommendations for policymakers and teacher trainers at national and regional levels; and (3) effective pedagogies and teaching and learning activities to address antisemitism.

Furthermore, building on our guidance for policymakers and set of training curricula, UNESCO and the OSCE/ODIHR continue to develop a free e-learning course for educators and other professionals, with UCL Centre for Holocaust education.

3. UNESCO and the United Nations published a report "History under attack: Holocaust denial and distortion on social media", with the World Jewish Congress. It finds alarming levels of Holocaust denial and distortion on online platforms, and provides recommendations for governments, online platforms, civil society and researchers, and for education.

UNESCO and IHRA have started to develop resources and training to support educators, policymakers, civil servants and journalists in addressing Holocaust distortion in their respective professional environments. UNESCO will further support teachers in strengthening the resilience of learners against Holocaust denial and distortion through a teachers guide.

To counter the growth of denial and distortion online, in partnership with Facebook (since 27 January 2021) and TikTok (since 27 January 2022), people searching for terms relating to the Holocaust are redirected to the joint UNESCO and World Jewish Congress website [AboutHolocaust.Org](https://www.AboutHolocaust.Org), available in 19 languages. The site welcomes about 15 000 daily users.



### Examples of best practices

It is too early to provide examples of best practice.

### Examples of challenges

It is too early to report on challenges experienced through the pledge implementation.

### New initiatives

With online antisemitism and hate speech on the rise, ISD and B'nai B'rith International, in partnership with UNESCO, developed a civil society toolkit to facilitate and consolidate the voice of Jewish organizations and allies in the face of this growing manifestation of hate. The guide provides an overview of the online antisemitism threat landscape, a summary of existing policy responses on an international and national level across a range of European contexts, and abroad set of recommendations for civil society engagement with governments, platforms and wider communities to address this challenge.

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381856>

## Follow-up reports – Civil Society Organisations

### **39. Anti-Defamation League**

#### Completed pledges

ADL's pledge was to share ADL's digital education program about antisemitism education for students with partners in Europe and around the world. The program addresses the number one concern we hear from Jewish communities – that the general public doesn't know enough about Jews and Jewish identity, and that knowledge vacuum is often filled by antisemitic stereotypes. The digital education program about antisemitism will be adapted for each Jewish community to reflect their history and the antisemitism challenges they face. Through the program's relatable stories, students build knowledge, empathy, perspective and allyship.

#### Results so far

ADL is working with the Board of Deputies of British Jews to adapt the program and distribute it in British schools. We are in advanced negotiations with three other major Jewish community organizations for similar partnerships and with one major international organization.

#### Examples of best practices

We are combining ADL's proven pedagogical approaches to educating against antisemitism with the local expertise of each community regarding the specific challenges they face.

#### Examples of challenges

The differing education bureaucracies require distinct approaches.

### **40. World Jewish Congress**

#### Completed pledges

The World Jewish Congress has been encouraging governments to appoint National Coordinators to Combat Antisemitism, provide feedback for the

development of national strategies against antisemitism, in consultation with Jewish communities, and adopt and implement the IHRA definition on Antisemitism, as a way to inform and alert policymakers on the issue. The WJC is working together with many governments in the bilateral level to help them implement these commitments.

The WJC organized the two meetings of the Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism (SECCA) format in 2022. In June, special envoys & coordinators gathered in Jerusalem for a unique meeting coinciding with the official Holocaust Remembrance Day in Israel. The meeting, held in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel and the European Commission, brought together dozens of global officials tasked with fighting Jew hatred. In November, the SECCA meeting took place in Prague with representatives of more than twenty-five governments and international organizations. The meeting was held in cooperation with the Czech Republic's EU Presidency and the European Commission, focusing on the necessity to increase the efforts to rein in hate speech on social media platforms and develop resources to foster Jewish life in their respective countries.

The World Jewish Congress has kept in touch with its member communities throughout the year and alerted them and the respective governments of possible threats to their security. WJC also continuously made efforts towards impeding gatherings and events of far-right extremist and antisemitic groups from happening, while monitoring such events. These measures allow to reduce the level of exposure of such groups and their potential recruitment. Last but not least, the WJC provided valuable information for local Jewish communities on individuals and groups involved in antisemitic activities, which could be used for potential legal action against them.

The WJC has also been represented at the Words into Actions programming, in order to speak on the effective responses to antisemitism and intolerance and identifying prejudice as a base for criminal acts. Further, WJC representatives participated at local police enforcement trainings,

reporting on the rise of antisemitic attacks and best practices developed by the WJC in combatting antisemitism on all fronts, including at the UN and other international agencies, in sports, and in cyberspace. The WJC also provided resources regarding information on increased safety measures and security training for different member communities.

The WJC engages continuously with human rights mechanisms of the UN, such as the Human Rights Council, delivering statements and raising awareness within the UN system and beyond on the fight against antisemitism, combatting Holocaust denial and distortion, and more. At every session of the Human Rights Council, the WJC takes the floor to address the topics of antisemitism, Holocaust denial and distortion, discrimination, and more.

Bringing forward the issues of antisemitism and Holocaust denial and distortion to UN Member States, the WJC has hosted two side events to the Human Rights Council in 2022, one focusing on the fight against antisemitism within the UN System and among Member States, supported by 16 UN Member States; and one focusing on the spread of Holocaust denial and distortion on social media. The WJC regularly provides contributions to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and requests for input by the UN Special Procedures.

The WJC continues to monitor social media for antisemitic and hateful posts and alert the police and the relevant authorities. Through its Trusted Flaggers status, WJC has reported several instances of antisemitic content on YouTube that were subsequently removed. In addition, WJC efforts help ensure the removal of antisemitic and Holocaust-denying literature from various platforms

### **Results so far**

WJC co-organized an event together with the Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations and the country's Consulate General in New York, entitled "How to develop and implement a national strategy on combating antisemitism", where the WJC outlined its priorities in the

fight against antisemitism and brought together a panel of experts on creating viable, efficient national strategies that can be implemented in education, law enforcement, etc.

Beyond the SECCA gatherings, the WJC continues regular outreach and cooperation with national coordinators. For example, the World Jewish Congress, alongside the Conseil Représentatif des Institutions juives de France (Crif), hosted Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt, the United States Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism for a discussion on antisemitism, the growth of far-right movements, and Holocaust denial. In Brussels, WJC hosted a lunch in honor of Amb. Deborah Lipstadt, with European Union officials and Ambassadors accredited in Brussels. The event was co-hosted by European Commission Vice President Margaritis Schinas, in cooperation with European Commission Coordinator on Combatting Antisemitism Katharina von Schnurbein.

Furthermore, WJC participated at the UN event “Briefing on Efforts on Combating Antisemitism” organized by the United Nations Alliance for Civilizations and the EU Delegation to the UN in NY, delivering remarks and ensuring the representation of the global Jewry as the voice of the victims of this hatred.

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The WJC has partnered with the UN Missions in Geneva of France, Germany, Israel and the EU to organize an annual trip to Maison d’Izieu, a French memorial institution dedicated to the memory of children who were deported and murdered during the Holocaust. These educational trips are

attended by UN Ambassadors, diplomats and UN staff and are organized around the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Similar events are organized for diplomats at UNESCO, organized by the Delegations of France and Germany, in partnership with UNESCO, the Memorial de la Shoah and the Crif.

### **Examples of best practices**

The WJC has partnered with the UN Missions in Geneva of France, Germany, Israel and the EU to organize an annual trip to Maison d'Izieu, a French memorial institution dedicated to the memory of children who were deported and murdered during the Holocaust. These educational trips are attended by UN Ambassadors, diplomats and UN staff and are organized around the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Similar events are organized for diplomats at UNESCO, organized by the Delegations of France and Germany, in partnership with UNESCO, the Memorial de la Shoah and the Crif.

The WJC cosponsored the exhibition 'Generations: Portraits of Holocaust Survivors' on the fences of UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, which showcased over 50 contemporary photos of Holocaust survivors and their families, organized by UNESCO and the Royal Photographic Society in partnership with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, the Imperial War Museum, Jewish News, and the Association of Jewish Refugees, with the support of Permanent Delegations of the UK and of Monaco to UNESCO.

The Latin American Jewish Congress, a WJC affiliate, together with the Argentine Catholic University, developed a training program focused on the links between Jews and Catholics in order to imbue leaders with knowledge and quality standards for interfaith work.

The WJC participated in the 14th Doha International Conference for Interfaith Dialogue in Qatar, which brought together more than 300 religious' leaders, scholars, academics, and policymakers from some 70 countries, who represented the three monotheistic religions. The event focused on hate speech and its impact on radicalization processes. WJC also

participated in a meeting in Malaga, Spain, outlining the “Plan of Action on intercultural and interfaith engagement as a catalyst to prevent conflicts and promote peace.” The meeting was organized by the University for Peace (UPEACE) and the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

The WJC has issued, together with the Muslim World league issued a joint statement committing themselves to the continuous protection of human rights and the fight against discrimination before the UN Human Rights Council. On the occasion of the European Day of Jewish Culture, the World Jewish Congress hosted a delegation of around 40 UN ambassadors and diplomats at the Great Synagogue of Geneva, where visitors learned about the Jewish religion and the history of the Jewish Community in Geneva.

Together with OSCE/ODIHR, WJC organized a training session for Jewish community representatives with Meta’s public policy and content policy teams on hate speech and antisemitism on Meta platforms, including training on what constitutes hate speech, how to report it, and how to use the platforms for educational purposes. A similar training session with Meta was conducted for Russian-speaking Jewish communities to discuss the company’s policies on online hate. The WJC assists local Jewish communities with this issue and facilitates their interaction and exchange of information with internet companies and social media networks.

The WJC also participated in the meeting of the Interparliamentary Task Force on Combatting Online Antisemitism in Washington, DC, which included a roundtable discussion with members of civil society; a reception for lawmakers, members of civil society, and special envoys on combating antisemitism; and a hearing for Meta, TikTok, Google/YouTube, and Twitter on their policies and practices on combating online antisemitism.

The World Jewish Congress gave the opportunity to the leadership of its affiliated communities to take the floor during the UPR process of the UN Human Rights Council, which reviews the human rights progress of all UN member states. Community representatives from Greece, Hungary, Ireland,

Lithuania and Moldova took the floor and provided feedback about the governments efforts to combat antisemitism and foster Jewish life.

### **Examples of challenges**

The World Jewish Congress continues to work on its mission to advocate and support Jewish communities around the world. The WJC works closely with Jewish communities at the local and regional level to help address their concerns and issues that may emerge.

The WJC worked together with our affiliate communities and governments to disrupt events organized by Neo-Nazi and antisemitic groups. The WJC also took action to safeguard the true facts about the Holocaust and counter dangerous narratives that glorify Nazi collaborators, and obfuscate history.

The WJC participated in meetings of the Working Group on the implementation of the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life in Brussels. The Working Group aims to further support the development of national strategies against antisemitism and focuses on relevant topics that member states are encouraged to cover in these strategies. The WJC also participated in a meeting at the European Commission to share good practices of ritual slaughter with representatives from different religious groups.

### **New initiatives**

As a symbol of the close cooperation with the European Commission on organizing such important meetings, the WJC was awarded European funding to continue and expand SECCA activities during 2023.

### **Follow-up reports – Private Sector**

#### **41. Google & YouTube**

##### **Completed pledges**

Work in progress.



## Results so far

### Research

Our grant to Expo foundation enabled them to carry out research together with HOPE not Hate and Amadeu Antonio Foundation to understand the growth and spread of antisemitism online in Europe. As part of our funding, these organisations have educated other civil society actors about the results and learnings of the report as well as actionable insights and recommendations.

Monitoring and tackling antisemitism in Europe: We gave a second grant to Fighting Online Antisemitism in Israel to expand their work monitoring, reporting and ensuring the removal of antisemitic and hateful content online. Through our funding they have grown their volunteer network in multiple countries and languages, including UK, DE, FR, as well as developing online tools to increase the scale and efficiency of monitoring and reporting content, leading to an increase in reporting to social media platforms and local authorities and takedowns of hateful content. They are also educating and collaborating with other organisations tackling antisemitism and hate and making data available for research.

### Holocaust remembrance

Foundation Stones Map: Complementary to our work through Google Arts & Culture, where we have partnered with Jewish institutions, museums and memorials to preserve the memory of the Holocaust by digitising archives and material, we supported “Big Ideas” by matching funding from the UK government, as well as providing volunteers, to support their digital foundation stones project for the UK Government’s Holocaust Memorial. Stories from among the over 10 000 Foundation Stones painted for the UK Holocaust Memorial in London by members of the public are now featured on an immersive map. Big Ideas interacted with schools across the UK to build awareness and engage children in this project.

### Ad Grants

To promote authoritative content with non-profits and governments: as part of our \$5M Ad Grants commitment, we are working with 5 government agencies and non-profits focused on education and on combating hate and antisemitism. We are supporting their digital marketing efforts on Ad Grants with extra resources, dedicated account management, or both. Our goal is to help them grow their online presence, so that we can reach more people with trusted and authoritative information on Google Search. We have selected one Google Ads product specialist to oversee this project end-to-end and to provide the organisations with guidance and product best practices. We are also offering agency or Google Ad Grants advisor support to select organisations, so that they can optimize their campaigns and learn the tools and best practices to carry on the grant in the long term.

### Examples of best practices

Capacity building: A few of the main takeaways from the Expo research was the need for NGO's to deepen their understanding of how antisemitism spreads, its impact, the need for more comparable data and the need for more and larger researcher and NGO coalitions. Through the grant, Expo brought together a group of NGOs working on antisemitism for two workshops. Out of this came a new research partnership where the organisations will share more data and research insights between each other. Based on the discussions during the round table, and the experiences from this project, they also came up with an idea of how the organisations can strengthen the work against antisemitism online and deepen data sharing and international cooperation between the non-profits in the sector.

### Examples of challenges

There is a lack of collaboration and network infrastructure among organisations in Europe and globally to share best practices and evidence based solutions, as well as building capacity.

There is a lack of common data sets regarding online antisemitism and a lack of structure and incentives for non-profits working in this space to share

data among themselves. This leads to campaigns and initiatives often being based on limited evidence and hence less effective than they could be.

### **New initiatives**

We're currently in discussion about a few new initiatives with non-profit organisations in both in tackling antisemitism and promoting Holocaust remembrance.

## **42. TikTok**

### **Completed pledges**

#### **Eliminate antisemitism on TikTok:**

TikTok has provided an escalation channel for our partners to allow them to flag content they believe should not be on our platform. We worked with our existing partners to deliver a refresh training session on this channel and invited an additional 12 organisations working within the Jewish community to join.

#### **Elevate voices representing the Jewish community:**

As part of our commitment to elevating voices of the community, TikTok invited Jewish organisations from EMEA to attend training on developing content for their TikTok channel, and a deep dive into how organisations can apply our safety centres to their account. Over November and December 2021, we educated 30 organisations, empowering them to create counter speech and educational content in time for Holocaust Memorial Day in January. On October 11th, this work of TikTok and of our partners on creating Holocaust awareness among German and Israeli Youth on TikTok, received the Shimon-Peres-Prize 2022. Selected by a jury of the German-Israel Future Forum, lauded by the daughter of Shimon Peres and in the presence of the Ambassador of Israel to Germany, Germany's Foreign Minister, Annalena Baerbock, awarded this project with the prestigious prize. In her festive speech honouring our project, the Foreign Minister praised the project, saying the participants helped "bring the memories of the darkest

chapters of our history where they belong: Into the centre of our lives, into the centre of our society.” <https://www.dizf.de/english/shimon-peres-prize/prizewinners/current-prizewinners.html>

**Educate our community:**

Providing our community to access accurate, credible information when they search for content related to the Holocaust was an important set towards educating our community. TikTok partnered with the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and UNESCO to provide our global community with easy access to educational resources.

- Search intervention: On Holocaust Memorial Day 2022, we launched a search intervention whereby if people search for a term related to the Holocaust – such as “Holocaust victims” or “Holocaust survivor” – they will see a banner at the top of the search results page that prompts them to visit [aboutholocaust.org](http://aboutholocaust.org) to learn more. For community members who search for terms related to the Holocaust that violate our Community Guidelines, we’ll continue to block search results and additionally display this banner to direct them to the WJC and UNESCO educational resources.
- Public service announcement: We also added a permanent public service announcement directing our community to the <http://www.aboutholocaust.org> website to a collection of hashtags. These hashtags are currently widely used by our community to share educational content related to the Holocaust and Jewish people, including #HolocaustSurvivor and #HolocaustRemembrance.
- In-content banner: We also introduced a permanent banner at the bottom of videos discussing the Holocaust which redirects people to [aboutholocaust.org](http://aboutholocaust.org). The banner is displayed when a community member posts a video with hashtags related to the Holocaust in the video description. This gives our community another easy access point for authoritative information, for example in the event that they come across Holocaust-related content on their For You feed.

- Participating in multi-lateral roundtables and events. We have spoken at two UN and World Jewish Congress roundtables, including most recently and in September 2022, a session titled “Combating Online Hate: A 21st Century Challenge for UN Member States” with the Permanent Representative of Germany to the UN and representatives from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. We also gave evidence before the Inter-Parliamentary Task force on Anti-Semitism in September 2022.

### Results so far

The search banners were triggered by neutral or banned searched terms and will remain permanently on the platform.

An educational H5 page was created featuring popular (global & local) creators and which featured on the Discover page. The creators featured in the H5 covered topics such as the Holocaust, antisemitic conspiracies and false comparisons.

<https://m.tiktok.com/magic/eco/runtime/release/61e99ef5462796034426a88e?appType=muse>

The H5 featured on TikTok from 27 January–31 January 2022.

Over November and December 2021, we educated 30 organisations, empowering them to create counter speech and educational content in time for Holocaust Memorial Day in January.

### New initiatives

#### TikTok Shoah Education and Commemoration Initiative

To actively support content creation and institutions in the area of Shoah commemoration and to counter antisemitism and misinformation on the platform, starting from October 2021, TikTok Germany sponsored an initiative:

- Onboarding 11 memorial sites (listed here) as creators producing Shoah educational material onto TikTok
- Delivering seminars on commemoration and content production with several partners, incl. agencies from IL and DE, as well as the American Jewish Committee and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Some accounts by several participants of the initiative have since built successful accounts with a high number of views and followers on their accounts and videos, most notably the accounts of Memorial Neuengamme, Memorial Bergen-Belsen and Memorial Mauthausen
- Due to the positive feedback from participating institutions, we are running another round of the programme with a new cohort starting from October 2022 and including memorial sites beyond Germany and Austria

#### In-content banner

We introduced a permanent banner at the bottom of videos discussing the Holocaust which redirects people to [aboutholocaust.org](https://aboutholocaust.org). The banner is displayed when a community member posts a video with hashtags related to the Holocaust in the video description. This gives our community another easy access point for authoritative information, for example in the event that they come across Holocaust-related content on their For You feed.

## Follow-up reports – Others

### **43. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**

#### Completed pledges

Pledge 1: Expand the translated resources of the Museum’s online content into critical languages, especially those for which authoritative information about the Holocaust may be limited (for example, Spanish, Arabic, Polish and Ukrainian, among others).

Pledge 2: Through the Never Again Education Act, enhance the ability of the Museum to support all 50 US states by providing educational resources and professional development opportunities for communities that have local Holocaust centers and experts as well as underserved areas in order to strengthen the field of Holocaust education nationwide.

Pledge 3: Encourage the development of Holocaust-focused institutions in other countries, particularly in the lands where the Holocaust occurred and where engagement with the subject remains uncertain or under threat.

#### Results so far

As it concerns the first pledge, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s team continues to expand its translation efforts. Currently, Encyclopedia entries appear in 19 languages, and there is a drive to focus on select priority languages to reach new and critical audiences. In Ukrainian, for example, the number of articles, photographs, maps, ID cards, and other narratives has doubled to nearly 200. Topics covered include basic information about the Holocaust, information on WWII and the Holocaust in Ukraine, and personal stories from Ukraine. A new landing page featuring this content was published in late September 2022.

The Encyclopedia team has also begun the translation of core sections of the online encyclopedia into Hindi. At the same time, other key articles have been added and updated in multiple languages (including an extensively revised “Introduction to the Holocaust”). The Museum is also focusing on

other languages. By way of example, the following articles were recently made available in Russian The Gestapo: Overview, The Order Police, Invasion of Poland, Fall 1939, Invasion of the Soviet Union, June 1941, World War II Timeline, and the following in Arabic Nazi Territorial Aggression: The Anschluss, Mass Shootings at Babyn Yar (Babi Yar), Dawid Sierakowiak, Elie Wiesel, German-Soviet Pact, Invasion of Poland, Fall 1939, Invasion of the Soviet Union, June 1941, The Order Police, The Gestapo: Overview, World War II Timeline.

For our second pledge, the Museum hosted several educator conferences and events during 2022, both virtually and in-person. Our largest educator event, the Arthur and Rochelle Belfer National Conference for Educators, occurred in late June 2022. During this program, attendees learned from Museum educators, historians, and experts about how to incorporate the Museum's educational resources and pedagogy for teaching about the Holocaust into their classrooms. Nearly 3 000 educators registered for the event. The flexible format of a virtual conference allowed registrants to participate in the conference both in real time or on their own. The conference had participation from all 50 states and 41 countries.

The Museum's regular *Conference for Holocaust Education Centers* (CHEC) brings together educators from over 60 Holocaust Centers across the country to learn about Museum resources and educational approaches, and to share common challenges and strategies for expanding quality Holocaust education. The 2022 cohort brought together 18 new CHEC partners for an onsite conference. An additional 15 virtual workshops took place last year. Nearly 800 teachers attended these workshops.

In October 2021, in partnership with the American Library Association, the Museum began touring four, 1 100 square foot versions of its *Americans and the Holocaust* exhibition to libraries across the USA. As of August 2022, the exhibition has been in 20 communities, and it has a goal of appearing in 50 sites by the end of 2023.



From January 1, 2021 to the present, over 1,6 million people have visited the *Teach* section of the Museum's website, which is our resource for educational materials. This represents 127% growth over the prior year. Additionally, more than 80 000 people downloaded over 226 000 lessons and resources.

Additionally, as part of the Museum's partnership with First Book, 50 000 copies of Eli Wiesel's *Night* and Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* were distributed to 1 300 educators in Title 1 schools, reaching 40,000 students across 48 states. Another pivotal Museum educational resource is the film *The Path to Nazi Genocide*. Although the film is available online, many educators prefer to use a DVD to bypass any streaming restrictions. The Museum distributed over 2 000 copies of the DVD to educators in 2022.

Concerning the third pledge, the Museum has had a longstanding commitment, and remains deeply committed, to strengthening the international infrastructure of national and multinational institutions that focus their work on Holocaust memorialization, education, and research. Through our lead role on the 2003-4 International Commission on the Holocaust in Romania, which was chaired by our founding chairman Elie Wiesel, we played an instrumental role in the creation of the Elie Wiesel National Institute for Study of the Holocaust in Romania, and we continue today to serve on the advisory committee of that Institute and on the advisory committee guiding creation of a new National Museum of the History of Romanian Jewry and the Holocaust. The Museum also worked closely with German partners on the initiative that resulted in 2010 in the creation of the Center for Holocaust Studies affiliated with the Institut für Zeitgeschichte in Munich, Germany, and we continue to engage in joint publication, fellowship, and conference activity together with that Center. There are additional examples, not all of which need be mentioned here, but these past examples are indicative of our goal, which is to foster the existence of Holocaust-focused institutions, in particular in the countries where the Holocaust occurred or where interface with the effort to destroy European Jewry was greatest, as partners—parts of the international infrastructure—for the long term in memorial, educational, and scholarly work dedicated to ensuring Holocaust memory and relevance.

The Museum continues this work today. Before the pandemic, in recognition of the many challenges that confront efforts to establish new Holocaust institutions appear to occur repeatedly, regardless of country, the Museum brought together in Milan the leadership teams of four “in-planning” memorials to share experiences, discuss challenges and solutions, and otherwise begin the process of networking with one another, and to better understand how the USHMM could serve as a resource. Three of the new memorial projects—The United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial, The Shoah Memorial of Milan, and the National Museum of the History of Romanian Jewry and the Holocaust—continue to advance toward completion today, and the USHMM is serving on the content advisory committees of both the United Kingdom and Romanian projects. The fourth leadership team at the Milan meeting represented the recently announced Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center (BYHMC) initiative. The USHMM worked closely with the leadership team, including in the formation of the academic advisory committee that wrote the historical narrative that was to underpin creation of the new institution’s permanent exhibition. A team from the BYHMC spent a full week at the USHMM meeting with staff to better understand the potential benefits of functioning as a “public-private” institution dedicated to the Holocaust. Changes in the conceptualization of the BYHMC, and now the disruption caused by the Russian aggression in Ukraine, have reduced the level of involvement that is possible today. Nevertheless, the Museum remains in contact with the leadership of the BYHMC project, and remains committed to the idea that it is essential to have a Holocaust-focused memorial institution emerge in Ukraine once the current military conflict ends.

In addition to the projects mentioned above, the Museum continues to engage individuals, NGOs, and governmental representatives involved in seeking to resolve the longstanding problems associated with the memorial institution proposed for the Jozsefvaros rail station site in Budapest, while at the same time supporting the continued operation of the Holocaust Memorial and Documentation Center at Pava Street in the same city. We are also engaged in discussions relating to the establishment of an appropriate memorial and exhibition at the Staro Sajmiste camp site in Serbia.

Recognizing the importance of all such institutions, the Museum has also exercised its voice at international fora, such as the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE, the Council of Europe, and the United Nations, to advocate for governmental engagement in establishing new Holocaust institutions in the countries where the Holocaust occurred where no such institution exists today, and for governmental support to strengthen the Holocaust institutions in the countries where they already exist.

### Examples of best practices

Concerning the first pledge, the Holocaust Encyclopedia adheres to best practices for digital content, and these have continued throughout the pledge period. For example, the Encyclopedia aims to be accessible and findable. This involves applying best practices in technical and accessibility, and search engine optimization, so that users can find content of interest in their preferred language. Recent work has included the multilingual captioning of videos, focusing on Russian, Polish, and Ukrainian films and oral histories. See, for example, oral histories with Russian captioning: <https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/ru/a-z/oral-history>.

The Encyclopedia team has continued to expand the implementation of multilingual search engine optimization, by adding article meta descriptions in various languages, including Spanish, Arabic, Russian, and Ukrainian.

As it concerns the second pledge, the Museum is now applying best practices in hybrid programming that have increased accessibility to our professional development programs. We have modified more than 25 of our foundational lessons so that they are to be accessible to students with a range of learning abilities. We are in direct connection with educators through our website's Ask an Educator function, and have provided introductory materials on our website for teachers who have less time to learn or little background on the subject. Our Guidelines for Teaching about the Holocaust have been adopted by Holocaust centers across the country, and they provide guidance for teachers on best practices in classrooms. Reaching teachers where they

are (marketing, social media) have allowed us to reach more educators with resources and professional development.

### **Examples of challenges**

Currently in the U.S., one of the more difficult challenges facing the success of pledge number two concerns the nature of those challenges faced by today's educators and educational institutions in the United States. There are many teachers who are leaving the profession and there is a severe teacher shortage. In some states, the requirements for teaching about the Holocaust have changed before there are resources sufficient to implement these changes. Teachers have increasingly less time in the curriculum to address the Holocaust, and many are not given time to leave school for professional development in many states. Teachers have little background themselves in the Holocaust and may rely on ready-to-use lessons to address a complex topic. Some schools have few resources and are closing school libraries, making it hard for students to get books on the topic. Large percentages of students in some areas do not have access to the internet at home.

### **New initiatives**

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum has a number of initiatives emerging, some of which continue the work outlined above.

The Holocaust Encyclopedia has continued its work to expand and update materials in English and in all the other languages currently offered online. Hindi has been added to the set of Encyclopedia languages, and will be available online in late 2022 or early 2023.