



BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

ANTI-SEMITIC  
HATE CRIMES AND  
INCIDENTS REPORT

MAY 2013  
HUNGARY

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Viktor Orbán with Ronald S. Lauder at the Jewish World Congress in Budapest,



and the anti-Zionist demonstration a day before the opening of the Congress (Source: MTI)

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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

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One of the most important requirements for the struggle against anti-Semitism is an exact awareness of the situation, that is, an investigation of the actual prevalence of anti-Semitism. It is one of the aims of Action and Protection Foundation to eliminate the lack of awareness surrounding this issue. Instrumental in achieving this objective is the continuous professional monitoring of public life. The community cannot really be protected unless current information on this is collected and analyzed. Results of the monitoring are published at regular, monthly intervals by the Foundation.

The reports deal with two forms of behavior: anti-Semitic hate crimes, and hate-motivated incidents. The report uses the term hate incidents to cover both. The decisive criterion for identifying either to be the case is anti-Semitic motive. Note however that the first type of behavior counts as criminal according to the penal law, while the latter does not make that category. Nevertheless, a documentation of both types of hate incidents is necessary in order to gain a general overview.

For the monitoring to have the widest possible scope it is required that a variety of sources are used simultaneously. Apart from registering the incidents, it is important that their particular characteristics are also accounted for. Therefore, in the course of documentation, data detailing the incident's location, perpetrator, victim and consequences are recorded on the one hand, and on the other, different types of incidents are differentiated.

Nine hate incidents were identified for May 2013. One of these counts as assault, meaning a form of physical attack that does not pose a threat to life and is not serious. This was the only case of personal bodily harm registered in the course of this month. Three incidents belonged in the category of threats: two instances of verbal threat, and one in which a deceptive postal parcel was sent to a Jewish organization, and was likely to cause alarm. One case of criminal damage to property was registered in the course of the month. Jewish property was vandalized in this case, and no threat to life was involved. Four cases were listed in the hate speech category, three of which were connected to Jobbik. Three of these incidents were committed in the public sphere and one online. Five of the cases were followed by criminal charges being filed. Action and Protection Foundation had an instrumental role in setting the cases on track for legal process.

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# ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION

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The phenomenon of anti-Semitism is by no means new to Hungary. The hate speech encountered earlier has however become increasingly dominant in public life. The situation is further aggravated by the Jobbik Party, which openly declares anti-Semitic and racist views, with forty-three members of parliament making hate speech far more ever-present in both Parliament and other organized events. These circumstances brought Action and Protection Foundation into being. Among the forms of civil association offered by Hungarian law, Action and Protection Foundation chose the form of foundation; it was registered in November 2012. The Foundation seeks to provide an alternative to the ineffectual legal steps taken against deteriorating standards of public discourse, exclusion, and the ignorance in which anti-Semitism is rooted, as well as atrocities and hate crimes.

## UNITY

Action and Protection Foundation is a registered civil organization. Leading figures from Mazsihisz, which represents the Neology and Orthodoxy, the status-quo/Chabad EMIH, the reform oriented Sim Shalom Progressive Jewish Congregation, as well as socially recognized emblematic personalities independent of these movements; all take part in the work of the Foundation. Trustees of the Foundation represent the most important Jewish religious and cultural tendencies in Hungary, thereby symbolically expressing that action on anti-Semitism is a cause shared by all.

## BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

The *Brussels Institute*, founded by **Action and Protection Foundation**, carries out monitoring of anti-Semitic hate crime in accordance with methods worked out and proposed by the *Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe* (OSCE). In monitoring anti-Semitic phenomena the Institute records and analyzes them on the basis of information delivered by various standardized sources. The monitoring process, which categorizes incidents into seven different groups, relies on the following sources: the sources of the Institute's own Research and Incident Monitoring Group, information available in the press and public media, and relevant data to be found in judicial, criminal and other state administrative records in the framework of an agreement with these branches of government. The institute has set up a now operational **HOTLINE** that can be reached by dialing the number (+36 1) **51 00 000** where incidents of anti-Semitic and anti-Jewish behavior can be reported.

Beyond regular publication of the monthly monitoring reports the *Brussels Institute's* research plan incorporates a comprehensive research project related to Jewry—using both quantitative and qualitative methods—, as well as a survey on the current situation concerning anti-Semitism that encompasses society as a whole. Furthermore, the program includes development of a differentiated training program that prepares different levels and participants of state administration for action and appropriate procedure on racist and anti-Semitic phenomena, in the form of teaching materials for the educational system and further training.



## JEWISH ACTION AND PROTECTION

Action and Protection Foundation was established in recognition of the fact that within the framework of the rule of law and democracy, the Jewish community must also act against the spread of exclusionary ideologies and anti-Semitism, while providing support to the victims through its community network. A strong stand will be taken against all intentions to limit the ideals of freedom and equality. We are aware that Hungary has groups more vulnerable than the Jewish community, but the foremost responsibility of the Jewish community—in terms of its everyday actions—lies in handling the situations immediately affecting Jewry.

## FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

The hotbed of prejudice and discrimination is ignorance and lack of knowledge. Education, awareness raising and dissemination of knowledge are among the primary responsibilities of any organization taking action against anti-Semitism. There is no higher objective than to win the younger generations, and the still positively disposed, or perhaps indifferent majority, over to the cause through openness and the preventive tools of education.

### **Legal defense**

As committed supporters of the democratic rule of law it is our conviction that action can only be taken against illegal acts within the framework of the law.

### **Monitoring**

Without the collection, selection and evaluation of actual information a community can not be assured real protection. Action and Protection Foundation considers itself encharged with the continuous, professionally notable, and thorough monitoring of public discourse.

The Brussels Institute, which was established by the Foundation, carries out the monitoring activity.

### **Belonging to the Community**

An essential condition of providing assistance is to be aware of each other, which is why the community support work group of Action and Protection Foundation operates a telephone HOTLINE 24 hours a day, allowing victims or eye-witnesses to report anti-Semitic and anti-Jewish incidents.



## PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Action and Protection Foundation had established contact with the most important domestic and international partner organizations, as well as the political and government bodies concerned even before it was officially registered. The Foundation has built up excellent ties with its partner organizations, professional and civil organizations, as well as other Jewish organizations. Among these can be found the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the Community Security Trust (CST), the Athena Institute, the Zahor Foundation, the Haver Foundation, the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (TASZ), the Szochnut Jewish Agency, the American Jewish Committee, and the Lantos Institute.

## VOLUNTEERS—SUPPORTERS

The successful operation of the organization will be determined, beyond the selfless labor and stand taken by the trustees, primarily by the social response in support of its work and the volunteer circle. Action and Protection Foundation welcomes all Jewish and non-Jewish volunteers and supporters who hold the struggle against anti-Semitism close to their heart, and are inclined therefore to support the work of the foundation through active, or even financial means.

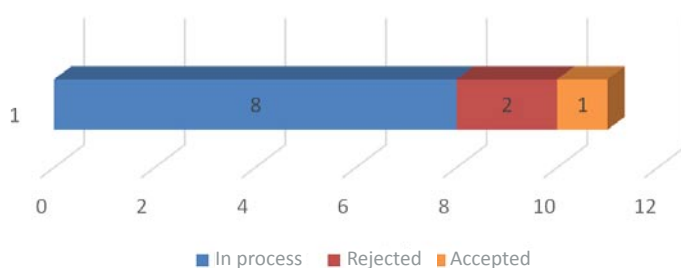
## RESULTS

Action and Protection Foundation has initiated 11 legal procedures in case of seriously damaging manifestations of anti-Jewish sentiment. Charges were filed in 8 of these cases, and in one instance a complaint was lodged with the appropriate authorities, while in another instance a report detailing abusive content aimed at the Jewish community on Facebook was filed with management, and our legal assistance service offered legal council in a criminal case defending the victim of an anti-Semitic attack. Of the 11 charges 9 are currently still in process. The most frequent charge—5 instances—was that of incitement to hatred of a community, but the cases also included denial of crimes committed by autocratic regimes, serious physical harm and the presentation of extremely abusive content in contravention of terms of use of community media. The authorities where procedures were initiated in the above cases were, the Police in 8 instances and the Public Prosecutor's Office in two.

Table 1: Legal proceedings initiated in 2013

Sno.	Name	Action	Authority	Statutory definition	Lodged	Status	Concluded
1	Balázs Lenhart	Charges filed	Pub. Pros.	Incitement against a community	2012.12.20	In process	
2	Sz. M. private individual	Charges filed	Police	Incitement against a community	2013.02.04	Rejected	2013.04.11
3	N. T. private individual	Legal council	Police	Criminal damage-vandalism	2013.03.06	In process	
4	V. G. private individual	Charges filed	Police	Denial of crimes committed by autocratic regimes	2013.03.11	In process	
5	Lóránt Hegedűs	Charges filed	Pub. Pros.	Incitement against a community	2013.04.11	Rejected	2013.05.08
6	Sz. M. private individual	Complaint	Police	Incitement against a community	2013.05.03	In process	
7	L. J. private individual	Charges filed	Police	Incitement against a community	2013.05.08	In process	
8	Jobbik Local Cell of Nagyszénás P. A. private individual	Charges filed	Police	Denial of crimes committed by autocratic regimes	2013.05.20	In process	
9	Jobbik Local Cell of Tápióbicske S. A. private individual	Charges filed	Police	Denial of crimes committed by autocratic regimes	2013.05.20	In process	
10	Jobbik Local Cell of Üllés D. Zs. private individual	Charges filed	Police	Denial of crimes committed by autocratic regimes	2013.05.20	In process	
11	Facebook profile of private individual	Reported	Facebook	Behavior contravening terms of use	2013.05.28.	Accepted	2013.05.30.

Current status of cases



Case categories





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## ABOUT THE REPORT

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General opinion on, and treatment of Hungarian anti-Semitism is often unusually extreme. Voices are heard on the one hand, that belittle the importance of such offences and manifestations. On the other hand, on occasion it may be the case that in relation to one-off incidents the image registered is of a public life deluged by such incidents. Knowledge of the actual situation is an indispensable condition for treatment of the real problems, which is why Action and Protection Foundation considers it its duty to provide as comprehensive an overview of the scale of anti-Semitism in Hungary as possible. Monitoring of anti-Semitic hate crimes and incidents<sup>1</sup> is one of the tools of achieving this objective. The monitoring results are published by the Foundation on a monthly basis. Apart from the monthly report, an annual summary review including more detailed analyses on the offences committed in the course of the year is also prepared.

The fight against hate crimes bears exceptional importance, because they differ from other forms of criminal conduct. These crimes may be considered messages of a kind, and thus point beyond private actions. This additional import becomes manifest in various social realms: on the level of the individual, the group attacked, and of society as a whole. The victims may suffer a greater psychological and emotional trauma. In the case of these crimes not “only” the property, or physical integrity of victims is endangered, but also their self-respect. These offences question the right of the individual to equality, even of belonging to society itself. It is important that in the course of such crimes the victims are the target of attacks because of some unchangeable characteristic, and for this reason may well feel more defenseless. The victims are often afraid that they may again become victims of further atrocities. Inappropriate handling of such incidents can easily lead to a secondary victimization of the targeted person. This type of criminal act also has a strong affect on the group to which the victim belongs. The victims of such crimes are often interchangeable, because in countless cases the attack does not target a certain individual, but anyone who, in the given instance, is a member of the group under attack. In the event, members of the group also become involved emotionally, and might live in fear of the future when they themselves may become the target of such prejudice-motivated crimes. This is especially true of groups, which have been exposed to prejudice for a long time. There is no need to justify at length that Jewry belongs among such groups. These crimes violate the norm that holds the members of society equal. Inadequate handling of such incidents can have grave consequences for the whole of society. It may on the one hand, encourage the perpetrators, or even others to commit further crimes in the same mold. On the other, it significantly diminishes the cohesive power of society (Levin and McDevitt 1999, 92–93; OSCE/ODIHR 2009a, 19–21; OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 17–18; Perry 2001, 10).

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<sup>1</sup> See detailed definitions in the **Methodology** section.



It may be stated in general that fewer hate crimes are reported, and in the event documented, than are committed. Victims often do not report them to the police. A number of reasons may cause this implicitly. Firstly, many do not feel assured that the authorities will treat these incidents adequately, either because they are not sufficiently prepared, or due to prejudice. Certainly there are many victims who are not clear about the applicable legal regulations. Victims may feel shame, or fear that a concealed trait will be exposed. Lesser categorizations of the crimes are also frequent, where official authorities do not establish the hate-crime motivation. It is civil organizations that can help remedy these problems. Cooperation with state organs—such as the police, or the Public Prosecutor’s office—may be particularly beneficial.<sup>2</sup> Reports prepared by civil organizations can be expedient in alerting the official authorities to hate motivated crimes in the country. Long-term tendencies can be outlined on the basis of the collected data. Civil organizations can help in setting particular cases on track for legal process, may provide legal defense for the victims, and give various other forms of aid. These organizations may also serve as intermediaries between the victims and the police (OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 34–36).



<sup>2</sup> A great example of the above can be found in the Community Security Trust (CST) and cooperation between the London and the Manchester police forces (CST 2013).

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# METHODOLOGY

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The report deals with two types of offence: hate crimes and hate motivated incidents. These are defined by EBESZ as follows<sup>3</sup> (OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 15–16):

- hate crime: a crime as defined by the criminal code, which has been motivated by prejudice against a certain group of people<sup>4</sup>
- hate motivated incident: an offence, also based on prejudice against a certain group of people, but not reaching the level of criminal conduct.

The heightened importance of individual hate crimes is indicated by the fact that the criminal code of numerous countries deals with these cases separately. Hungarian criminal legislation identifies two forms of hate crime: violent offences committed against the member of a group, and incitement to hatred of a community. The recently adopted Criminal Code (Act C of 2012) deals with these in Chapter XXI, Paragraph 216, on crimes against human dignity and certain basic rights, as well as Chapter XXXII, Paragraph 332, on crimes against public peace. The crime of violence against a member of a group may be established if the perpetrator assaults or otherwise coerces the victim, because they belong to a protected group. Additionally, this is also the case if the perpetrator demonstrates provocative behavior against a community that is apt to cause alarm. The crime is only affected if there is a concrete victim. Incitement against a community most often means hate speech, and it can only be defined as such on the condition that it is committed in public. Incitement to hate crimes does not target concrete individuals but a group of people. It is important to add that other crimes may also be categorized as having been committed on racist motives. In such cases the courts must pass a heavier sentence<sup>5</sup> (TASZ 2012, 3–4). Apart from these, Paragraph 333 of the Criminal Code also describes the crime of denial of the crimes of the National Socialist regime. Furthermore, Paragraph 335 bans the distribution and use in wide public, or public display of the symbols of various autocratic regimes (among them the swastika, the SS insignia, arrow-cross).

One approach to defining hate incidents emphasizes the intention of the perpetrator exclusively, that is, it only considers an incident where the prejudice of the perpetrator against a group determines the choice of victim.

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<sup>3</sup> The scientific definition of hate crimes is extremely contradictory and divergent (for more on this, see Chakraborti and Garland 2009, 4–7). These definitions can serve as important addenda to an understanding of these crimes, however they are difficult to apply in practice. This is what made the creation of simpler, more practical definitions necessary.

<sup>4</sup> For example, on these grounds the OSCE does not consider hate speech a hate crime, since the given behavior would not count as criminal without the motive of prejudice (OSCE/ODIHR 2009a, 24). For our approach in dealing with this, see below.

<sup>5</sup> The Criminal Code does not include racist motives verbatim, but for example the case of “contemptible motive” is fulfilled, if someone commits a crime out of such a motivation.

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According to another approach, only the perception of the victim or a witness counts, that is, any incident where they, the victim or witness believe that the motivation of the perpetrator was prejudice or hatred will be counted as a hate crime.<sup>6</sup> Still other approaches are of the opinion any definition must be composed of more dimensions. These dimensions are captured with the aid of various indicators, of which, in fact, only two are the motivation of the perpetrator and the perception of the victim or witness. It may be easier to establish the motivation of the perpetrator if the perpetrator gives unequivocal expression to a prejudiced motivation—as is often the case. It may also help if the appearance of the perpetrator raises the likelihood of extreme worldviews, if they are members of some organized extreme political group, or if previous involvement in a similar situation can be attributed to the perpetrator. Objective traits of the victim may also aid categorization: for example, if the appearance of the victim makes it clear that they belong to a given group, or if they are a well-known personality belonging to a given community. The place where the crime is committed can be important, as well as the time, if it can be connected to a particular event (OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 21–16).

It is of fundamental importance in the case of hate crimes that the prejudice, and actions of the perpetrator stand in causal relation to each other. It is however a question, what measure of concordance should be required for the crime to be identified as a hate crime. Jacobs and Potter (1998, 22–27) identified four types on the basis of a two-dimensional space stretched between the perpetrator's prejudice and the strength of the causal relation. The most obvious hate crimes would accordingly be constituted of a strong level of prejudice in the perpetrator along with its having a strong influence on the crime committed. Those crimes are more difficult to handle, where the perpetrator is obviously prejudiced, however this did not have a strong influence upon the given action. Though it is mostly very difficult, yet an effort must be made to distance these actions from the foregoing, as in, for example, it is not certain that every action of a person who is a member of an extreme political group is motivated by prejudice. The third group of crimes is typified by weak prejudice on the part of the perpetrator, but this is exactly the motivation to take action. These incidents—among which many obviously belong to the hate crime category—definitely belong in the field that needs to be investigated. The fourth type shows a perpetrator who is not really prejudiced, and furthermore this has little influence upon the crime committed. More often than not, situational actions belong in this category, which usually cannot be considered hate crimes.

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<sup>6</sup> It is extremely interesting from this point of view, how the recommendations of the police force of the United Kingdom (Association of Chief Police Officers, ASPO) were amended between 2000 and 2005. On the one hand, while they earlier only dealt with hate crimes, later they considered it necessary not only to differentiate between hate crimes and hate incidents, but also to include the latter in records, even though they do not fall within the bounds of criminal behavior as defined by law. On the other hand, while the motivations of the perpetrator were determining in the case of such incidents earlier, later—due to the Macpherson report it is to be assumed—only the way the victim or another person interpreted the incident was given weight (ACPO 2000, 13 and ACPO 2005, 9–10).



It is therefore not an expectation that prejudice be the one and only motivating factor, however it does have to be a decisive factor.

Reports of the Brussels Institute present hate crimes and hate incidents that are motivated by anti-Semitism. Any action whose perpetrator, target, method or message has an implication of this kind counts among such incidents. The target may be an individual, a group, an event, a building, a memorial or other property. It is important that it is only possible to speak of an anti-Semitic motivation if the perpetrator chose the target expressly because a connection to Jewry is in some way assumed. In such a context it is not relevant whether the assumption is correct: the belief of the target's Connection to Jewry is sufficient. In the course of monitoring, on the one hand, all incidents that fall in the category of hate crime are considered hate incidents. These may be crimes identified as such by the Criminal Code (violent assault of a member of a community, incitement to hatred of a community, denial of the crimes of the national socialist regime, use of symbols of autocratic regimes), but also includes other actions that are named in the Criminal Code, if prejudice can be proven as a motivating factor. When identifying hate incidents the indicators earlier described are used as the basis for examining whether the given action could have been motivated by anti-Semitism. Hate crimes are also recognized by the authorities as hate crimes, so the importance of their place in the records is self-evident. Since hate motivated incidents often precede the crimes committed for such motives, and are often coupled with them, their documentation is also indispensable for an overview of the general picture.<sup>7</sup> The report terms these two types of action together as hate incidents.

For the widest possible scope in monitoring anti-Semitic hate incidents the simultaneous use of a variety of sources is required. The victims' filed reports are of especially great importance to this study. If the victim cannot, or does not want to file a report with the Brussels Institute, the involvement of an intermediary may be facilitated to gain information. Such an intermediary may be a family member, acquaintance of the victim, a witness of the incident or another civil organization. The earlier mentioned 24-hours-a-day Hotline operated by the Foundation serves to ease the passage of reports. Additionally there are options for online filing of reports, which allow even greater anonymity for the person placing the report.

It is a declared objective of the Foundation to keep in touch with the authorities, which are the most likely to be first approached by victims of witnesses.

The various media channels also represent important sources: television, radio, as well as the printed and online versions of the press. An essential segment of the report is composed of monitoring the expressions of, so called, hatred online, which currently seems to be an ever-increasing threat.



<sup>7</sup> A directive for the collection of data on hate incidents, in addition to those of hate crimes was set by the police force of the United Kingdom (ACPO 2005, 9).

Monitoring of these media channels is covered in part by a paid team of experts within a professional framework, and additionally volunteers are involved in a media watch to send the information gained on to the Brussels Institute for processing. It is an aim to cover an increasingly large segment of the media with continuous monitoring. Monitoring extends to roughly all the receivable TV and radio stations, all the printed press with high print-runs, as well as online material not only on news portals, but the social networking pages and extreme, hate inciting websites.

A number of the aspects of the registered incidents are recorded. The indicators that help decide whether a given incident was motivated by prejudice have been mentioned earlier. These indicators pertain to various characteristics of the perpetrator, data concerning the victim, the time and location of the incident. These are recorded in the course of collection of data. Tabs are kept on whether incidents had any, and if so, what sort of—possibly legal—consequences.

Apart from registering incidents, it is also important to capture the qualitative differentials between them. The typification of cases is carried out in two ways. According to one of the systems of categorization the following types are differentiated: incitement against members of a community, violence against members of a community, use of symbols of autocratic regimes, and Holocaust denial.

Based on the *Facing Facts! Guidelines*, seven types of incidents are differentiated as follows (CEJI 2012, 10–12):

- Homicide: any attack on a person that causes loss of life
- Extreme physical violence
  - o Any attack on a person that potentially causes serious bodily harm
  - o Any attack involving weapons, or other tools that can cause bodily harm
  - o Any attack on property, where there is a potential for the people occupying the property to be killed
  - o Bombs and letter bombs
  - o Kidnapping
- Assault
  - o Any physical attack against a person or people, which does not pose a threat to their life and is not serious
  - o Attempted assault, which fails due to self-defense, or if the victim runs away
  - o Throwing objects at a person or people, including where the object misses its target

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- Damage to property
    - o Any physical attack directed against property, which is not life-threatening
    - o Desecration of property
    - o Arson attacks on property where there is not threat to life, failed attempts at arson
  - Threats
    - o Any clear and specific threat, whether verbal or written
    - o Any “bomb” which is assessed to be a hoax
    - o Stalking
    - o Defamation
  - Hate speech
    - o Public hate speech
    - o Hate speech channeled via the internet and social media
    - o Abusive behavior
    - o Abusive literature sent to more than one person
    - o In literature and music
  - Discriminatory incidents

Placing hate incidents in context is also a priority. These actions do not exist in empty space and are by no means independent of the social and cultural environs in which they occur. The dynamics of these incidents is also of importance: often processes, rather than separately occurring events can be spoken of (Perry 2001, 8). Apart from the static data, short descriptions of each event are also published, which aid understanding of the environment surrounding the incident.<sup>8</sup> In presenting time lines, attention will always be given to showing the dynamics of the events.

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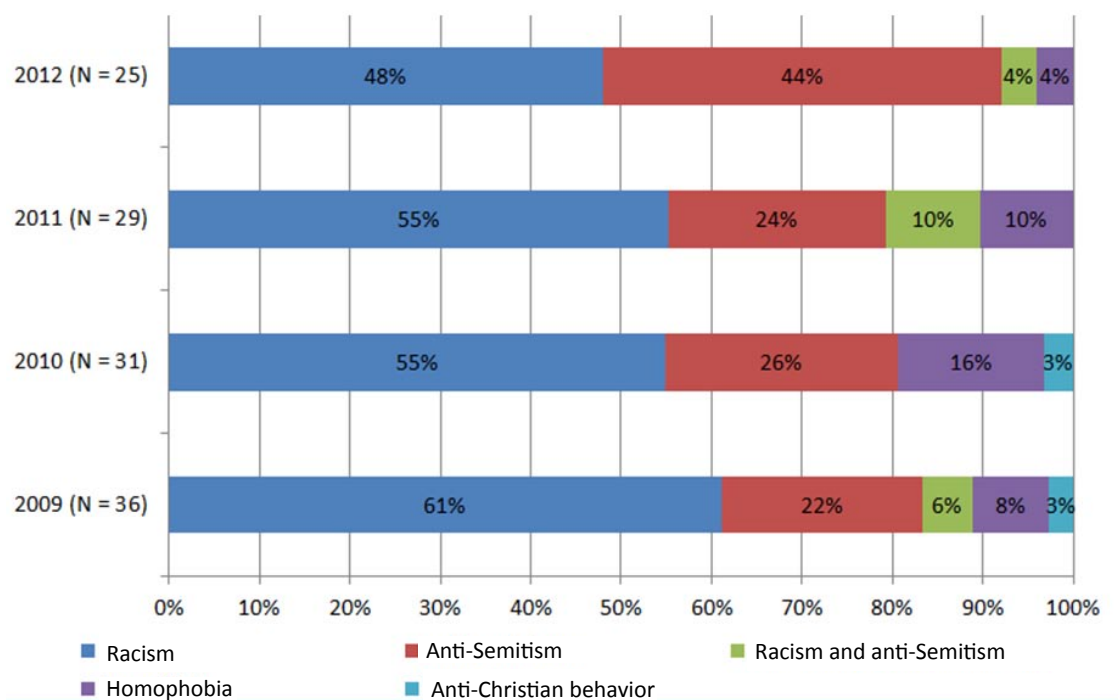
<sup>8</sup> These descriptions in particular are held to be a most positive aspect of the Anti-Defamation League reports by Perry (2001, 18).

## TRENDS IN PREVIOUS YEARS

The Athena Institute<sup>9</sup> registered 121 hate crimes since 2009. The number of hate crimes in the period from 2009–2012 has somewhat decreased: while 36 such incidents were registered in 2009, the same number came to 25 in 2012.

It is extremely important however to examine how the ratio of incidents with different motivations developed. Parallel to decreasing hate crime figures, the number of incidents perpetrated—at least in part—out of anti-Semitic motivation stagnated, or grew incrementally: 10 incidents in 2009, 8 in 2010, 10 in 2011, and 12 in 2012. It follows from these figures that the weight of hate crimes committed out of anti-Semitic motivation grew significantly within the pool of hate crimes as a whole: from 28 per cent in 2009 to 48 per cent.

Figure 1: Motivation factors in hate crime committed from 2009–2012 (in percentage)



Source: Athena Institute

In the following, only those incidents of hate crime are investigated that were at least in part, motivated by anti-Semitism. The Athena Institute registered 40 hate crimes motivated by anti-Semitism from 2009–2012. Forty per cent of these were committed in the capital. A similar percent of locations were towns in the countryside.

<sup>9</sup> It is the aim of the Athena Institute to keep track of these hate groups and inform the wide public on them. The institute has been registering hate crimes committed in Hungary since 2009. The data included in this chapter come from the Institute’s Hate Crime database.



The proportion of county municipal centers was 18 per cent. The distribution of location types differs from year-to-year. While 5 of 10 cases in 2009 occurred in Budapest, only 1–2 incidents in all took place in Budapest in the course of 2010 and 2011. The relative weight of such crimes committed in Budapest grew significantly in 2012: of 12 criminal cases, 8 were located in Budapest.

Table 2: Location of hate crimes, 2009–2012 (no. of cases)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	In total
<b>Budapest</b>	5	1	2	8	<b>16</b>
<b>County municipal center</b>	1	3	1	2	7
<b>Other town</b>	4	3	6	2	<b>15</b>
<b>More than one town</b>	0	0	1	0	1
<b>N/A</b>	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>40</b>

Source: Athena Institute

Close to two-thirds of the crimes committed with anti-Semitic motivation in the period from 2009–2012 were incitement to hatred of a community. Fifteen per cent of cases involved assault on members of the community, and close to the same percent involved use of symbols of autocratic regimes, while denial of the Holocaust came to 8 per cent. The Institute registered no cases involving bodily harm. A majority of the crimes—except for those occurring in 2011—were incitement to hatred of community. Incidents involving the use of symbols of autocratic regimes grew significantly in 2011 (5 out of 10 cases), as the proportion of instances of incitement against a community declined relatively. Crimes of denial of the Holocaust were documented only for 2010 and 2011.

Table 3: Types of hate crime, 2009–2012 (no. of cases)

	2009	2010	2011 <sup>10</sup>	2012	In total
<b>Incitement against a community</b>	7	5	4	9	<b>16</b>
<b>Assault on members of a community</b>	1	2	0	3	7
<b>Use of symbols of autocratic regimes</b>	2	0	5	0	<b>15</b>
<b>Denial of the Holocaust</b>	0	1	2	0	1
<b>N/A</b>	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>40</b>

Source: Athena Institute

<sup>10</sup> The total number of crimes of different nature comes to 11, as one of the crimes was both incitement against a community and Holocaust denial at the same time.



Official process was adopted by the authorities in close to four-fifths of the hate crimes recorded in the database. The proportion of such cases was highest in 2009: 9 out of 10 cases were taken up in official processes. In cases occurring in the rest of the years in question this was typical of three-quarters of the cases.

Aspects of the Brussels Institute reports differ from those of the database run by the Athena Institute in a number of ways. The most important differences are listed below:

- These reports include not only hate crimes, but also hate incidents.
- More aspects are recorded in the collation of these databases.
- A more detailed presentation of some of the cases, beyond the publication of more data, is considered important for these reports.
- Distinctions between the types of incidents are more refined.

The purpose of preparing these reports is not only to take account of the incidents, but also to give initiative for further measures to be taken.

# ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES – MAY 2013

Nine anti-Semitic hate crimes were identified by Action and Protection Foundation in the course of its monitoring in May 2013. Of these, one counts as assault, three count as threats, one damage to property, and four have been categorized as hate speech. It may therefore be observed that physical acts were involved in a number of cases. The hate crimes are presented by type. Incidents belonging to one category are also typified by other aspects.

Table 4: The most important aspects of hate crimes, May 2013 (no. of incidents)

PLACE OF CRIME PERPETRATED	
Buapest	6
County municipal center	0
Other town	1
Municipality	1
N/A	0
No specific location	1
LEVEL OF ORGANIZATION	
Individual perpetrator	1
Group of perpetrators	3
Organized event, political party	3
N/A	2
CRIMINAL TYPE OF THE INCIDENT	
Incitement against a community	7
Assault on members of a community	1
Denial of the Holocaust	1
Use of symbols of autocratic regimes	0
N/A	0
TYPE OF INCIDENT	
Assault	1
Threat	3
Damage to property	1
Hate speech	4
N/A	0

## ASSAULT

One incident was categorized as assault. This is the only incident where a case of personal bodily harm was established. According to available information, no charge was filed.

### **Channel 4 reporter struck at the May 1 Jobbik event**

*Budapest*

British television Channel 4 was seeking to explain the rise of the far right in Hungary in a 10-minute report. The channel prepared a program titled *On the streets with Hungary's far right* in Hungary, that deals with the growing strength of the Hungarian extreme right. The crew was shooting material at Jobbik's May 1 event, where a number of interviewees gave expression to racist, anti-Semitic views in reply to questions, and one even struck the reporter, Brian Whelan, from behind.



## THREATS

Three incidents belong in this category, two of them having occurred in Budapest, and one in a small town in the countryside. Criminal charges were filed in all three cases listed here. In two cases the investigations are still in progress, but in one of the cases a sentence has already been passed at first instance with an accelerated procedure.

### **Jewish guests harassed with Nazi slogans and Hitler salute**

*Budapest – Deák tér*

A group of 10–20 young individuals harassed delegates of the World Jewish Congress leaving the Synagogue of Dohány Street shouting Nazi slogans and the Hitler salute, in Deák Square in the 5th District. Only the intervention of plain-clothed staff of the National Bureau of Investigation prevented a physical assault of the foreign guests.

### **Jewish man threatened by a guardist motorbiker**

*Bács-Kiskun County – Mélykút*

“Good morning to you, parliamentary Jews! Hungary still belongs, and will always belong to the Hungarians!” read the caption under an image of the hangman's gallows shared by a Facebook user. A Jewish acquaintance from Mélykút asked the person to take the image down, as it offends them. The argument unfolding on the Facebook portal was joined by a third person, who took the side of the user sharing the image and added even harsher statements. The guardist biker endorsed each of these statements with a like. The guardist biker later taunted the Jewish acquaintance about their origins in the course of personal encounters, and even made threats to their family. Action and Protection Foundation gave legal council, helping to initiate legal process in the matter.

### **Envelope containing white powder sent to MAZSIHISZ**

*Budapest – Mazsihisz – Budapest Jewish Community (BZSH) headquarters*

An envelope containing white powder was sent to the headquarters of the Federation of Hungarian Jewish Communities (Mazsihisz) in Síp Street. Police and the staff of the National Directorate General for Disaster Management removed the parcel dispatched by an unknown sender. The investigation launched in the matter has revealed that the powder was not anthrax.



### **DAMAGES TO PROPERTY**

A single case in this category was registered in the month of May.

#### **Hooligans visit the Jewish cemetery in Vác**

*Pest County – Vác*

Anti-Semitic hooligans climbed into the precincts of the Synagogue in Vác, sprayed in black paint the street side of the Synagogue with anti-Semitic, racist slogans, and toppled and damaged tombstones. Damages came to nearly 3 million HUF. The municipal police have opened an investigation against a person or persons unknown on the basis of the charges filed by the congregation. The investigation has been suspended for lack of outcome.

### **HATE SPEECH**

Among the hate incidents committed in May, four can be said to involve hate speech. In two instances the cases are directly, and in one case indirectly connected to Jobbik. Three of the incidents occurred in Budapest.<sup>11</sup> Three of the incidents were incitement against a community, and one denial of the Holocaust.

#### **The credibility of what happened in Auschwitz was questioned by Tamás Gaudi-Nagy (Jobbik) in Parliament**

*Budapest – Parliament*

“Many critiques have been heard of the way in which the Auschwitz memorial has been set up, whether the presentation of events is wholly in accord with historical fact”—Gaudi-Nagy came to say in parliament. In the assessment of legal advisors to Action and Protection Foundation, Gaudi-Nagy did not cross the line that would have made him punishable by law—as established by legal precedent to date.

<sup>11</sup>One incident was online hate speech, and therefore its location is irrelevant.

## Hungarist propaganda, anti-Semitic incitement on the community portals of Jobbik's local organizations

### *Hungary*

Jobbik's party cells in Zalakaros and Hőgyész posted arrow-crosses, quotes from Szálasi, calls for the eradication of Jews, tasteless gipsy jokes and similar content on their Facebook pages. The Party spokesperson, Ádám Mirkóczki "does not accept responsibility for the content published there," but it is plainly apparent from other posts that they also edit these pages. Action and Protection Foundation filed charges against these political cells for online hate speech.



## Anti-Zionist demonstration scheduled for the time of the Jewish World Congress

### *Budapest*

Calvinist minister, Lóránt Hegedűs junior, ex-member of parliament representing MIÉP, registered an anti-Zionist, anti-Bolshevist demonstration for the time of the World Jewish Congress, on Szabadság Square. Since neither the police, nor the leaders of the Calvinist Church granted Hegedűs permission, his wife, currently Member of Parliament for Jobbik, took upon herself the organization of the demonstration. The official theme of the demonstration was remembrance of the victims of Zionism and Bolshevism, but it was clear that it was a protest aimed at the World Jewish Congress holding its plenary meeting in Budapest.

## Anti-Semitic chanting at the Ferencváros-MTK match—without repercussions

### *Budapest – NB I. Sopron League*

The anti-Semitic chants that poured in waves from the stands of Ferencváros's (FTC) supporters at the FTC-MTK game on 18 May were clearly audible even in the television broadcast. FTC organizers tendered in explanation that it was precisely to stop such incidents that they had set up their "Show an example!" campaign, where players ask their supporters in a to do away with anti-Semitic chants. Action and Protection Foundation requested further information on the incident from the Hungarian Football Federation (MLSZ), but has not received a reply.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS, RESPONSES

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## **THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS HELD ITS SESSIONS IN HUNGARY**

The World Jewish Congress held its 14th Plenary Session in Budapest, from 5–7 May. Jewish communities of over a hundred countries sent delegates to the Congress. The change of location was symbolic: the aim was to protest against the anti-Semitism that is, in their opinion, overpowering Hungary. Ronald S. Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress expressed himself in rather cutting terms at the press conferences preceding the Plenary Session in Budapest. He was of the opinion that since the change of government in 2010, the number of anti-Semitic and anti-Roma manifestations has risen dramatically, and thus Hungary is “seen abroad as a xenophobic and increasingly anti-Semitic country.”

Along with others, Dr. Slomó Köves, leading rabbi of EMIH took a critical stand in regards to the Congress, saying that they have taken a position on the Jewish situation in Hungary having only liaised with a small segment of the representatives of Jews living in Hungary. It came up as criticism, that they call the situation with anti-Semitism in Hungary intolerable without real local knowledge or awareness of the situation, and no concrete proposals or constructive criticism offered with regard to the real problems.

In his opening speech at the Congress, Viktor Orbán, prime minister of Hungary, called anti-Semitism unacceptable, and declared zero tolerance in dealing with it, enumerating the measures taken by his government to restrain anti-Semitism. He brought up the ban on the extreme right biker demonstration with the slogan “Rev up the gas!” planned for the day of the March of the Living, and the committee that had been set up for the Holocaust Memorial Year—2014 as examples.

## **DIALOGUE BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL GROUPS IMPORTANT FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM**

The Global Forum Combating Anti-Semitism was organized by the Foreign Ministry of Israel for the fourth time on 28–30 May. Action and Protection Foundation was represented by András Heisler and Kálmán Szalai; while executive director, Gusztáv Zoltai and chief rabbi Dr Róbert Frölich of the Dohány Street Synagogue represented the Federation of Hungarian Jewish Communities (Mazsihisz) at the international conference. Among others representing Hungary, György Szabó, Jewish Heritage of Hungary Public Endowment (MAZSÖK) president also participated at the event. All Hungarian participants distanced themselves from the report that presented the Hungarian situation at the conference.

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## OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES

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### VIKTOR ORBÁN: ANTI-SEMITISM IS UNACCEPTABLE AND INTOLERABLE

#### *Budapest*

The Hungarian government considers it its moral duty to declare zero tolerance towards anti-Semitism, since it is unacceptable and intolerable—Prime Minister Viktor Orbán asserted in his opening speech at the Plenary Session of the World Jewish Congress. Viktor Orbán emphasized that the Hungarian Basic Law offers true protection, security, as well as human and communal dignity to Jewry and every other minority.

### THREE-YEAR SENTENCE TO BE SERVED FOR JEW-BAITING AT FIRST INSTANCE

#### *Budapest*

The three youths loudly harangued guests returning from the World Jewish Congress to their hotels, and then the intervention of plain clothed staff of the National Bureau of Investigation was required to defend the foreign visitors from physical harm from the assault of the group of 10–20 persons they were with. A sentence for anti-Semitic display has already been passed over the three accused in an accelerated legal process. The first accused was sentenced to three years in goal to be served. The two other accused were given sentences of 2 years each, suspended for a period of three years.

### SOME PEOPLE WOULD HAVE HAD A STREET NAMED AFTER CÉCILE TORMAY

#### *Budapest*

A number of Jewish organizations protested against the Municipal Government of Budapest having named a street after the writer Tormai Cécile, who openly avowed anti-Semitic views, whereupon the Mayor finally initiated a re-hearing of the process, and asked for the opinion of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences on the matter. Action and Protection Foundation welcomed the decision of the Mayor in an announcement and at the same time gave voice to its hope that the Hungarian Academy of Sciences will not recommend that a public place be named after Tormay.

### HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT, JÁNOS ÁDER, GAVE A SPEECH IN MAUTHAUSEN

#### *Austria – Mauthausen*

János Áder gave a speech at an exhibition organized at the Mauthausen concentration camp. János Áder called Nazi ideology and genocide unacceptable in his speech. “No quarter should ever again be given in Europe, to the abject ideologies that called the inhuman dictatorships of the twentieth century into being,” the President stressed. The Hungarian, Polish and Austrian presidents together opened the exhibition.



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# NEWS AND OPINION ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN HUNGARY

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## THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS' RESOLUTION AND ITS AFTERMATH

### *Budapest*

A few minutes after the speech given by Viktor Orbán at the opening of the Plenary Session of the World Jewish Congress, the Congress published a Resolution denouncing him for the increasing spread of the Horthy cult, the award presented by the Hungarian government to Ferenc Szaniszló, and his not distancing himself clearly from the far right. They also stated firmly that there was a need for action, rather than words.

The Resolution was criticized by a number of Hungarian Jewish leaders, in as much as it contained factual inaccuracies. Part of the criticism was also directed at the fact that the Resolution had been born of a process involving preconceptions, in that it was already published a few minutes after the speech.

On the one hand, Viktor Orbán had characterized Jobbik as a real, and increasing threat in his statement given on 4 May, a day before the Congress, to the Israeli newspaper *Jediot Achronot*. "If we want to defend democracy, we have to be unflinching in our opposition to Jobbik," he declared. Critics also called the attack on account of Ferenc Szaniszló irrelevant, because the government had invited Szaniszló to return the award, and he had complied. Under the duress of criticism, President of the World Congress, Ronald S. Lauder was compelled to tender his apologies.

Shortly following the Congress a number of American Jewish organizations, the World Jewish Congress among them, turned to Secretary of State, John F. Kerry in a letter, asking him to keep the issue of intolerance and discrimination on the agenda in Hungarian-US relations, in light of the high level of anti-Semitism in Hungary. Action and Protection Foundation also addressed a letter to John Kerry in answer, requesting the organizations ratifying the first letter, as well as the Secretary of State, to involve the representatives of Hungarian Jewish communities more actively in their strong-on-initiative, well intentioned, and effective work, so that uncertain situations and misinterpretations are more easily cleared up. According to the statement, only direct professional lines of communication and attention to local information can ensure resolute and balanced actions in the face of growing anti-Semitism.



## *DER STANDARD*: ORBÁN UNABASHEDLY COUNTENANCES THE HATRED OF JEWS

*Germany*

According to the review of *Der Standard*, the Austrian foreign minister underestimated the situation when he recently stated that Hungary is close to becoming unbearable with its amendment of the law, for indeed it is already past that point, as it goes perfectly in contradiction of EU values. Nevertheless—the analysis follows up—finally an important member of the Austrian government and conservative politician at that has given unequivocal voice to the fact that Orbán is shifting slyly, but unmistakably for an authoritarian state.

## SCHULZ: IT IS NOT THE HUNGARIANS WHO WANT TO LIST THE JEWS

*Germany*

Martin Schulz gave his reflections on Márton Gyöngyösi's speech for interview with a newspaper, where the newspaper mistakenly appropriated the infamous sentences pronounced by Gyöngyösi to Hungarians in general.

Martin Schulz requested a correction, after he had been quoted in a German newspaper as having said that “the Hungarians would wish to list the Jews”. According to the president of the European Parliament he had spoken about how the vice-chairman of the Jobbik faction urged for a listing of people of Jewish origin.

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## CONTACT AND SUPPORT

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Action and Protection Foundation is the civil initiative of a number of Jewish organizations, that is ready to take resolute steps to curb increasing widespread anti-Semitic manifestations.

In case anyone faces insults or anti-Semitic abuse due to a supposed or real Jewish background, do not remain silent, let us know, so that we can forward the case through the appropriate channels to the official organs required to take measures!

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NOTIFICATIONS OF SUCH INCIDENTS ARE RECEIVED BY THE FOUNDATION THROUGH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MEANS:

HOTLINE  
 (+36 1) **51 00 000**

**The website of Action and Protection Foundation: [www.tev.hu/forrodrot](http://www.tev.hu/forrodrot)**  
**The Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-vedelem-alapitvany](http://www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-vedelem-alapitvany)**

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Action and Protection Foundation's undertaking can only be successful if great numbers share in our commitment to preparing the grounds for the right to fair process for all those who have suffered offences. In aid of this cause please support the work of the Foundation with your contribution!

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO THE FOUNDATION ON THE FOLLOWING BANK ACCOUNT:

**13597539-12302010-00057157**

CONTACT DETAILS FOR ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION

Address: Semmelweis utca 19, 1052 Budapest, HUNGARY

Landline: +36 1 267 57 54

Mobile: +36 30 207 5130

<http://www.tev.hu>

[info@tev.hu](mailto:info@tev.hu)

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Publisher: Brussels Institute Nonprofit Ltd.  
Kálmán Szalai, executive director

Editors: Dr. Ildikó Barna, sociologist, *assistant professor at ELTE TÁTK, Department of Social Research Methodology*  
Borbála Palotai, sociologist  
Dr. István László Fekete, legal advocate, *legal representative of the Brussels Institute*  
Dr. Kristóf Bodó, legal advocate, *legal representative of Action and Protection Foundation*  
Dávid Csillik, research scholar, *head of the Incident Monitoring Group of the Brussels Institute*  
Luca Gulyás, communications consultant  
Dr. Krisztina Szegő, lawyer  
Benjamin Lajkó, media analyst  
Bálint Bethlenfalvy, translator

Contributors: Dániel Bodnár, philosopher, *Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Action and Protection Foundation Budapest*

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# BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

Brussels Institute Nonprofit Kft.  
Address: 1052 Budapest. Semmelweis utca 19.  
Landline: +36 1 267 57 54  
<http://www.tev.hu>  
[info@tev.hu](mailto:info@tev.hu)