

BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES AND INCIDENTS REPORT

OCTOBER 2013 HUNGARY

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION	4
Unity	4
Brussels Institute	5
ABOUT THE REPORT	6
METHODOLOGY	7
ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS—OCTOBER 2013	12
Assault	13
Vandalism	13
Hate Speech	14
FURTHER ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS	16
COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESPONSE	17
OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES.	18
NEWS, OPINION ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN HUNGARY	22
OTHER NEWS	24
IMPORTANT STEPS TAKEN BY ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION	25
THE MONTH'S CHRONICLE	28
CONTACT AND SUPPORT	29
REFERENCES	31
CONTRIBUTORS AND PUBLISHER INFORMATION	32

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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 increase awareness surrounding this issue. The continuous professional monitoring of public life is instrumental to achieving this objective. 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. An anti-Semitic motive is the decisive criterion for identifying either to be the case. 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.

Seven hate incidents were identified in October 2013. Two of these do not count as part of the statistics, among the five incidents that do, one was an assault, another vandalism and three were listed in the hate speech category. Three of the hate incidents occurred in the capital, two occurred in county municipal centers.

In October 2013, Action and Protection Foundation received rulings in a number of legal processes it had initiated earlier. All of these concerned the suspension of investigations, or the dismissal of complaints and appeals. Significantly, the Foundation announced on 2 October that it would turn to the Constitutional Court in order to address changes required in the current legal practice related to hate crime. The position of the Foundation is that though the present legal environment supports the penalization of hate crimes, the implementation of regulation is in itself completely unsuitable for the enforcement of any punitive measures at all.

ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION

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.

ABOUT THE REPORT

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 incidents¹ 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 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 selfrespect. 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, that 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).

¹ See detailed definitions in the **Methodology** section.

It may be stated in general that many hate crimes go unreported, and undocumented even if they are reported. 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 one of their concealed traits 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.² Reports prepared by civil organizations can be expedient in alerting the 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).

² 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)

METHODOLOGY

* * *

The report deals with two types of offence: hate crimes and hate motivated incidents. These are defined by EBESZ as follows³ (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 people⁴
- 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. This is also true if the perpetrator behaves provocatively or in a way that alarms a particular community. The crime is only affected if there is a specific 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 sentence⁵ (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).

³ 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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

Detailed descriptions of approaches to, and recent tendencies in the definition of hate incidents can be found in our May Report. The report also cites the findings of literature in this field internationally. The present report presents hate crimes and hate incidents motivated by anti-Semitism, wherever perpetrator, target, means or message of a case suggest it. The target may be a person, a group, an event, a building, a monument or other property. It is important however, that anti-Semitic motivation can only be spoken of if the perpetrator chose the given target expressly because it was assumed to belong to Jewry. In this context it is not finally relevant whether the assumption is correct: the belief of the target's connection to Jewry is sufficient. In the course of monitoring, on 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 can also include other acts mentioned in the Criminal Code, if prejudice can be proven as a motivating factor. When identifying hate incidents, various indicators recorded during the monitoring period⁶ are used as the basis for examining whether the given action could have been motivated by anti-Semitism.

For the widest possible scope in monitoring anti-Semitic hate incidents the simultaneous use of a variety of sources is required. The victims' 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 help 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, since they are the most likely to be first approached by victims or witnesses.

A variety of 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, online hatred, which seems currently to have become an ever-increasing threat.

Monitoring of these media channels is covered in part by a paid team of experts within a professional framework, additionally volunteers are involved in a media watch, sending information 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 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.

⁶These are described in the **Methods** section.

The monitoring process is carried through systematically, according to precisely prepared standards.

Among the monitored hate incidents there are some that are considered a part of the statistics, but there are also some that are recorded, though not counted as part of the statistics.⁷

The criteria for hate incidents that are included in the statistics follow:

- Only hate incidents that occurred in Hungary; no matter whether the victim is a Hungarian citizen or not
- Any action, incident, atrocity that is aimed at Jewish individuals, organizations or property where an anti-Semitic intent or content can be proven, or if the victim was attacked for being Jewish or due to an assumed Jewish identity
- Deliberate and wanton impairment of any Jewish institution or building (even if no further, explicit anti-Semitic message was paired with the vandalism [for example, a Jewish synagogue's window is broken with a stone])
- Anti-Semitic comments that have been reported to Action and Protection Foundation appearing on blogs, fora, community pages
- Anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi material delivered to particular Jewish individuals, Jewish organizations, institutions
- Anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi material deposited at Jewish-owned property, Jewish organizations, institutions
- Criticism related to Israel and Zionism, if they go beyond a political statement and serve to recall traditional anti-Jewish stereotypes
- Events apt to raise fear among Jews

Hate incidents that are not accounted for in the statistics:

- Anti-Semitic hate incidents that are related to Hungary and Hungarian Jewry, but for some reason do not belong to the scope of the statistics (e.g., they did not occur in Hungary)
- Expressions of hate that appear regularly on homepages, in comments and online fora, and have not been personally reported to Action and Protection Foundation

⁷ The following were used to develop these criteria: ADL 2012, CST 2013.

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
- 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.⁸ In presenting time lines, attention will always be given to showing the dynamics of the events.

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

ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS—OCTOBER 2013

In the course of monitoring in October 2013, Action and Protection Foundation identified seven anti-Semitic hate incidents. Among these, one occurred across the border, and in the case of another, an anti-Semitic motive cannot be unequivocally established, so they do not count as part of the statistics. Among the five incidents that can be included in the statistics, one can be categorized as assault, another as vandalism, and three as hate speech.

Table 1: Key aspects of the hate crimes, October 2013 (no. of incidents)

LOCATION PERPETRATED				
Budapest	3			
County municipal center	2			
Other town	0			
Municipality	0			
N/A	0			
LEVEL OF ORGANIZATION				
Spontaneous	2			
Organized	0			
N/A	3			
CRIMINAL TYPE OF INCIDENT				
CRIMINAL TYPE OF INCIDENT				
CRIMINAL TYPE OF INCIDENT Incitement against a community	4			
	4			
Incitement against a community				
Incitement against a community Assault on member of a community	1			
Incitement against a community Assault on member of a community Denial of the Holocaust	1 0			
Incitement against a community Assault on member of a community Denial of the Holocaust Use of symbols of autocratic regimes	1 0 0			
Incitement against a community Assault on member of a community Denial of the Holocaust Use of symbols of autocratic regimes N/A	1 0 0			
Incitement against a community Assault on member of a community Denial of the Holocaust Use of symbols of autocratic regimes N/A TYPE OF INCIDENT	1 0 0 0			

ASSAULT

Among the incidents that occurred in October, one belongs to this category.

Jobbik demonstrator spits on Jewish man in the face

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

On the 23rd, a man returning to his residence from a Jobbik demonstration through Budapest district 7, stepped up to a Jewish man at a pedestrian crossing and addressed a number of offensive remarks to the person on account of his being Jewish. As the victim did not react, the man spat him in the face. The Jewish young man posted a note about the incident on Facebook. Action and Protection Foundation contacted him following this statement, and he gave a detailed account of the events.

VANDALISM

Two of the five incidents belong in this category; both incidents took place in Budapest.

Holocaust memorial in Nehru Strand Park vandalized

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

In the first days of October, unidentified individuals carved "We shit on the holocaust" on the Roma Holocaust memorial situated in the Nehru Strand Park in Budapest. The sculpture has already been the object of attack by vandals on previous occasions. One of Action and Protection Foundation's volunteers drew attention to the incident.



Anti-Semitic stickers on the sign for the Jewish Charity Hospital in Budapest

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

The extreme right-wing news portal, kuruc-info, which has been stripped of its Facebook page on the initiative of Action and Protection Foundation and other organizations, announced a sticker design competition. The winning designs were issued in print. Persons unknown stuck these stickers onto the sign at the entrance to the Jewish charity hospital in Budapest.



HATE SPEECH

Among the hate-incidents committed in October, three may be considered to involve hate speech. One of the incidents occurred in Budapest, and two occurred in county municipal centers.

Hitler salute at the extreme right-wing concert

Pécs, Baranya County

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

Extreme right music bands, Titkolt Ellenállás [Secret resistance] and Romantikus Erőszak [Romantic rape] gave a concert in Pécs on 4 December, on the invitation of the extreme right militant organization Betyársereg. In the heat of the concert a whole group of participants celebrated with a Hitler salute. The photographs taken at the concert were published by Betyársereg on its website.



Előd Novák makes anti-Semitic statement at the meeting of the Committee on Culture and Media of the Hungarian National Assembly

Budapest

Source: MTI

At the meeting of the Committee on Culture and Media of the Hungarian National Assembly on 14 October, Előd Novák, Member of Parliament for the Jobbik Movement called the September decision of the Government on the renovation of the railway station of Józsefváros as a Holocaust memorial site, and the establishment of the civil fund to finance remembrances throughout 2014 Holocaust-industry, grave robbery and the squandering of public funds.

Anti-Semitic stickers in Veszprém

Veszprém, Veszprém County Source: Action and Protection Foundation

The mayor of Veszprém proposed that a public square be named after Ármin Hoffer, former chief rabbi of Veszprém. Unknown individuals protested against this with anti-Semitic stickers. The stickers, which read "Say no to the Hoffer Ármin Square!" were applied to numerous fixtures in public places (e.g. trash cans, lamp posts). Next to the text a man throwing the Star of David into a trash can is depicted.



FURTHER ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS

In October 2013, Action and Protection Foundation identified two anti-Semitic hate incidents that do not contribute to the statistics. One of the incidents did not occur in Hungary, and in the case of the other, though an anti-Semitic motive may be considered, it cannot be proven excluding all doubt.

Tar spilled on the stolperstein (memorial cobblestone) of Hungarian victims in Slovak Komárno

Komárno (Komárom), Slovakia

Source: Action and Protection Foundation, bumm.sk

On the night of 25 October, an unknown individual spilled tar over the stolperstein (stumbling blocks), memorial cobblestones, placed this summer at the entrance of the primary school in Komenský Street. The stones were placed in remembrance of victims of the Holocaust who were of a Hungarian Jewish family. On Monday, the primary school in the vicinity took steps to remove traces of the act of vandalism: the caretaker of the primary school removed a significant part of the tar. Consternation on part of the family concerned when they heard of the matter was followed by a complaint for vandalism against an unknown individual.





Vandalized memorial cobblestone in Budapest

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

A volunteer reported another damaged memorial cobblestone in Budapest to Action and Protection Foundation. Placed at their former homes, these cobblestones serve as a remembrance to Jews driven away during the Holocaust. Action and Protection Foundation's monitoring group registered the second case of this type now. The first such case was detailed in our August report. The Foundation has once again contacted the German Stolperstein Foundation, which places these memorial stones, and the artist who prepares them, Günter Demnig, in order to have the stones repaired as soon as possible.



COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESPONSES

Action and Protection foundation to turn to the Constitutional Court in the matter of judicial practice in cases of hate crime

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation, MTI

Action and Protection Foundation announced on 2 October that it will turn to the Constitutional Court, as it is believed that changes need to be made in the current judicial practice for hate crime. Dániel Bodnár, Chairman of the Foundation's Board of

Trustees reported that 28 complaints for incitement against a community and hate mongering had been filed over nine months. Every one of these "has gone astray in the apparatus of the [...] current judicial practice". He claimed that the Foundation has come to the understanding that while suitable laws exist to punish hate crime, they are not sufficiently enforced.



Budapest conference of organizations monitoring anti-Semitism

Budapest

Source: MTI

A conference, "Anti-Semitism and Anti-Semitism Monitoring in Hungary and around the World" was held in Budapest on 16 October. Representatives of Action and Protection Foundation participated at the event as invited guests. Bence Rétvári, State Secretary for the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice who spoke at the conference emphasized: the government already had an unequivocal stand when it took office, to put a check on all extremist manifestations.

OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES

Conference on "Jewish Life and Anti-Semitism in Contemporary Europe" held in Budapest

Budapest
Source: MTI

A conference entitled "Jewish Life and Anti-Semitism in Contemporary Europe" was hosted by the Tom Lantos Institute in the Chamber of the Upper House of Parliament in Budapest on 1–2 October. A number of distinguished persons gave speeches at the conference, each addressing the condemnation of anti-Semitism and the importance of the fight to combat it. The report below gives a brief account of the thoughts of the most prominent speakers.

Jair Lapid, Israeli Minister of Finance said at the opening of the conference that one could never give up the fight for justice in the face of hatred. In his opinion, anti-Semitism had once again made an appearance, and this must not be left unnoted, even if in the view of many people the tragedy of the Holocaust could not happen again.

In a video message sent to the participants of the conference, Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council spoke about how anti-Semitism was a crime against Europe, Europeans and humanity. Anti-Semitism means the rejection of Europe, and of European culture.

Zsolt Németh, Secretary of State for the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasized in his speech: seventy years after the Holocaust the struggle against anti-Semitism is still to be continued. He suggested that the Parliament as a venue for the conference bore significance, because the building was a witness to "the dark days", when anti-Semitic laws were adopted in it. The events that befell at the time were not only a horror for the Hungarian Jewish community, but a tragedy for all of Hungary—he declared. In his speech he spoke about how it must be insured that there is no bridge between democratic political forces and those reinforcing anti-Semitism, and that the position of the Hungarian government in this regard is very clear. In replying to a question put to him at a press conference in the conference break, the Secretary of State ruled out the possibility of a coalition with Jobbik.

Ilan Mor, Ambassador of Israel in Budapest stressed: Hungarian society must be made aware that constant efforts against anti-Semitism were required. The strengthening of Hungarian-Israeli contacts was also important, he added, because it was a means to make society react to anti-Semitic manifestations.

András Heisler, President of the Federation of Hungarian Jewish Communities (Mazsihisz) said that though there was no force in Hungarian public life at the moment that could take effective action against the Jewish organizations, the organizations nevertheless must be capable of a united front for the representation of interests.

Ira Forman, the US State Department's Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism emphasized that Jobbik was no equivalent to Hungary, and no equivalent to Fidesz either. It is important to appreciate the positive signs from the country as well, for example Viktor Orbán's hard line against anti-Semitism, and the government's declaration of 2014 as a Holocaust memorial year.

Tibor Navracsics, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary, Minister of Public Administration and Justice said: after 1990, when it "suddenly" became possible to talk about the Holocaust in Hungary, the responsibility the Hungarian state had in it came virtually as a shock to society. Therefore, Hungarian society could confront how the Hungarian state had turned against its own citizens, and had even assisted in their liquidation only in 1990. The Hungarian state was also responsible for the Holocaust—he declared, emphasizing that the responsibility must be confronted. Tibor Navracsics closed his speech by saying, "we do not belong among those" who think that the future of Hungary can be envisioned in the camp of hatred. "Aware of our responsibility for the past," he said, "we can not allow anti-Semitism to grow in Hungary."

János Martonyi, Foreign Minister of Hungary gave voice to the following thoughts at the closing speech of the two-day event: the Hungarian Holocaust had been committed by Hungarians against Hungarians, both perpetrators and victims being equally Hungarian, which is the greatest national trauma to be faced. "We accept responsibility"—János Martonyi added, who noted in regards to the speech given the previous day by Tibor Navracsics that the Deputy Prime Minister had spoken on behalf of the Hungarian government, the country and the nation.

Investigation into case of racist stickers at ELTE Faculty of Humanities terminated

Budapest

Source: ELTE BTK, hvg.hu

Tamás Dezső, dean of Eötvös Lóránd University Faculty of Humanities announced on 10 October that the investigation into the placing of racist stickers had come to a close. The National Bureau of Investigations conducted an investigation into the case first, and established that the act does not constitute criminal behavior, however the suspicion of infringement of the law through vandalism does arise. Yet the Budapest Police 8th District Headquarters, which took over the investigation terminated it, because the identity of the person against whom the investigation was initiated could not be established. As widely known, an unknown person placed stickers on two name-plates in the corridor of ELTE Faculty of Humanities, Institute of Art Theory and Media Studies, with the following inscribed: "Jews! This is our University, not yours. Greetings, the Hungarian students."

Raoul Wallenberg Association receives the European Citizens' Prize established by the European Parliament

Budapest
Source: MTI

The European Parliament Information Office in Hungary announced on 11 October that the Raoul Wallenberg Association has received the European Citizens' Prize, which was founded by the European Parliament. Karin Olofsdotter, Ambassador of Sweden to Hungary highlighted the Association's activity invested in the protection of human rights, with which it keeps alive the spirit and legacy of Raoul Wallenberg, who saved victims of persecution in the Shoah. András Sipos acknowledged the recognition on behalf of the Association and stated that the efforts of the Association were directed at never allowing the racist and anti-Semitic phenomena to be repeated in any form.

Fidesz officially denounces Előd Novák's anti-Semitic demonstration in public statement

Budapest
Source: MTI

In a statement on 15 October, Fidesz denounced the use of anti-Semitic rhetoric of the sort Előd Novák permitted himself at the meeting of the National Assembly's Media Committee on 14 October, in regards to the planned Holocaust Memorial Year 2014. The incident has been reported in the anti-Semitic hate incidents section of this report. László L. Simon, the Fidesz chair of the Committee responded "the solemn remembrance of the Holocaust does not—as Előd Novák put it—serve to inculcate collective guilt, but to help make sure that no similar tragedies can take place in the future. We consider it unacceptable and outrageous that openly anti-Semitic statements should be voiced in the Parliament or at one of its committee meetings, and we intend in the future, as we have done in the past, to take decisive measures against it."

On the same day, Előd Novák announced that he would file a suite against László L. Simon for defamation, because "he lied when he said I had voiced anti-Semitic statements." In his press release Novák argues: "under the 'Other issues' point of the agenda at the meeting of the Cultural Committee concerned I justifiably called the latest 6.5 billion HUF public fund rip-off by the holocaust industry a grave-robbery, since the professional memory-keepers and scapegoat finders want to profit by a claim upon the victims."

Action and Protection Foundation welcomes the decision not to name a public space after Cécile Tormay in a public announcement

On 3 October the general Assembly of Budapest withdrew its resolution in which it wished to name a public space in the 2nd District after the author, Cécile Tormay. Mayor of Budapest, István Tarlós indicated during the debate, the official position of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences on the Tormay Cécile Alley had been received, and he could do nothing but withdraw the earlier resolution. Action and Protection Foundation calls attention to the fact that Tormay proudly confessed herself an anti-Semite and Fascist, never recanting her views.

Action and Protection Foundation considers the decision of the Assembly the right decision, as there must be a plain and apparent national consensus in the denunciation of Cécile Tormay's political activities, and since in order to find a constructive resolution to such issues it is of fundamental importance that in the future they are again approached on a professional level—and as removed from everyday politics and personality clashes as possible.

Correction to September issue of the Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes and Incidents Report

In the corresponding Official and Civil Responses section, page 17, of the September issue of our Report, there was an error in the news item "First public statement by new Israeli Ambassador to Hungary", where Dr. Andor Nagy should have been correctly identified as newly appointed Hungarian Ambassador to Israel. The rectified title thus reads: First public statement by new Hungarian Ambassador to Israel. Apologies for the mistake to all readers and individuals concerned.

NEWS, OPINION ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN HUNGARY

Le Monde publishes article titled: Turning point of Hungarian political right in regards to anti-Semitism

Paris, France Source: MTI

The French left wing, leading liberal daily Le Monde published an analysis headed "Le tournant de la droite hongroise sur l'antisémitisme" [Turning point of the Hungarian political right with regards to anti-Semitism] on 28 October. According to the article, the Hungarian government, which has long been accused of being too lenient with anti-Semitic statements from the extreme right, has shown itself exemplary in its recent pro-active steps in the matter, and is encouraging remembrances for the seventieth anniversary of the Hungarian Holocaust next year. According to the reporter, a turning point has been reached at the conference "Jewish Life and Anti-Semitism in Contemporary Europe"—also presented earlier in the current report—with the Deputy Prime Minister, Tibor Navracsics and Foreign Minister János Martonyi admitting in their speeches the responsibility of the Hungarian state in the Holocaust. In the view of the daily, while anti-Semitic physical assault is rare in Hungary, it is characterized by a verbal aggression that no longer exists in Western Europe. The reporter opines that until now Fidesz has reacted mildly to the vitriolic rhetoric in most cases, and has tolerated anti-Semites in its own ranks. With the approach of the 2014 elections however the governing party has changed its tone: in order to isolate the extreme right by combatting anti-Semitism, as it competes for the votes of those who have lost out on globalization.

The Jerusalem Post on Hungarian government response to anti-Semitism

Jerusalem, Israel

Source: MTI

On 29 October the Israeli daily, *Jerusalem Post* reported that with the help of PR experts from New York and remembrances of the mass deportations of Hungarian Jews, the Hungarian government is attempting to counter—in its opinion unfounded—views that it is not taking as determined measures as would be required against the extreme right. Ferenc Kumin, Deputy State Secretary for International Communications spoke last week, in an interview he gave the Israeli Jewish Telegraphic Agency, about how Hungarian anti-Semitism and racism gets a lot of attention in United States media. "We would like to give a realistic picture of this issue. We are not saying this does not exist, but certain cases are exaggerated," the *Jerusalem Post* quoted the Deputy State Secretary.

At the same time, Ferenc Kumin acknowledged that the fact that Hungary is seen as extremist, is one of the greatest obstacles to the country's being able to strengthen its ties with the United States. Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director of international Jewish affairs for the US organization, American Jewish Committee said in regards to the—earlier reported—statement by Tibor Navracsics, that while this does count as a "powerful statement" in Hungary, "most countries have come to recognize their responsibility" already. According to Andrew Baker, "the question is will they rest as mere words, or do they become operational?" the *Jerusalem Post* wrote.

The New York Times on growing anti-Semitism in Hungary

New York, United States of America

Source: MTI

In the opinion columns of the 30 October issue of the *New York Times*, the Washington based journalist Marianne Szegedy-Maszak wrote about the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Central Europe, particularly Hungary. As evidence of the trend she cites the growing strength of Jobbik, its formation as a Parliamentary party and the call of one of its members of parliament for a list to be made of all members of parliament of Jewish origins. In the opinion of the journalist the resurgence of anti-Semitism is a painful, but familiar phenomenon. She points out that old stereotypes—such as the identification of Jews with communism, or capitalism—are fueling Jobbik's support base.

OTHER NEWS

* * *

Hungary to fill the rotating chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in 2015

Toronto, Budapest

Source: MTI

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) took a unanimous decision at its meeting in Toronto, Canada, to entrust its chairmanship for the year 2015 to Hungary. Keeping memory and furthering as well as supporting education are the main aims of the Alliance, which was established in 2000 and counts 31 countries and international organizations among its members, with another 10 as observers. Action and Protection Foundation was the only Hungarian NGO to participate at the conference.

In relation to Hungary, Gergely Prőhle, Deputy State Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs addressed the fact that Hungary has come to appear in a "strange light" in international media, having been positioned to seem as if anti-Semitism were present in a more significant measure here than in other countries. The chairmanship role is a major acknowledgement of this government's efforts to refute this depiction of Hungary over recent years. He explained that even in preparation for the chairmanship, numerous questions had been settled as consensus was reached with Hungarian Jewish organizations. He also mentioned the work of Action and Protection Foundation in the field of anti-Semitism research, as a result of which "it is now possible to speak of concrete facts, and set out tasks on this basis."

IMPORTANT STEPS TAKEN BY ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION

Action and Protection Foundation's complaint in the case against Zsolt Tyirityán dismissed

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

Budapest Metropolitan Police Headquarters did not find the accusation of incitement against a community well founded in the case of Zsolt Tyirityán. Tyirityán, said in a speech he gave on 23 October 2012 in Corvin Alley that for once, he would like to see a government leading Hungary, which would "once again throw people of Péter Dániel's kind in cattle freight wagons". The Police justification is that Tyirityán's speech was not incitement, as only people who presumably agreed with him were in his audience. Action and Protection Foundation appealed the dismissal. The Prosecutor's office of Budapest District 8 dismissed the appeal in a ruling on 3 October, excluding all place for further legal remedy.

Action and Protection Foundation complaint against János Lantos dismissed

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

Action and Protection Foundation filed a complaint against János Lantos, who gave a speech on behalf of the Pax Hungarica Movement that claims Ferenc Szálasi's Hungarist ideology as its own, on 23 October 2012 in Corvin Alley. The position of the Foundation is that Lantos acted criminally with the things he said in his speech by inciting against a community.

The Budapest Metropolitan Police Criminal Investigations Department dismissed the complaint in its ruling of 9 October. According to the justification given by the Police Department Lantos's speech was not incitement, since only people who were in agreement with his opinion were listening to the speech. Excerpts from the justification follow: "The speech should only be interpreted as a whole, because sentences extracted with a biased point of view only gain real meaning in a full textual context. [...] With a biased judgment, only the complainant thinks that it is a crime if someone makes a speech with what, the complainant would interpret as coded allusions and an emotional preparation for violence. Behavior shown in speech does not, according to criminal law belong in either the premeditatedly or the negligently committed category of criminal conduct, as the presumed existence of a threat is not sufficient to establish the realization of a crime,

a real, immediate threat must be posed. [...] In regards to the present case, the presumed existence of threat is abstract [...]." The full-length speech is still available online, on the share-portal YouTube.

Investigation in case of denial of crimes of the National Socialist regime based on complaint filed by Dániel Bodnár suspended in lieu of perpetrator's identity

Budapest

Source: Action and Protection Foundation

The Budapest Metropolitan Police 5th District Headquarters, Department of Inspection ruled on 10 October to suspend investigation in the case based on the complaint filed by Dániel Bodnár, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Action and Protection Foundation, on 6 August against the extreme right-wing news portal operating under the domain www.kuruc.info. As described in the August issue of our Report, on 18 July the portal described Dániel Bodnár as a swindler, a common law criminal, and stated that he had robbed others, later calling him a fraud in a piece published on 23 July, then using the term "Jewish criminal" on 24 July. The Board of Trustees Chairman filed a complaint for defamation this basis. In addition, a 23 July article on the portal described a close relative of Dániel Bodnár as having "drowned in the swimming pool at Auschwitz", and called the whole period the "holohoax period". Since these statements were qualified to present the genocide committed by the National Socialist regime in a trivial light, Action and Protection Foundation also filed a separate complaint for Holocaust denial.

The police justified the suspension of the investigation on the grounds that as the server hosting the webpage the complaint identified is located in the United States of America, the identity of the perpetrator could not be established. If the authorities come into possession of new data pertaining to the identity of the perpetrator, the investigation will be recontinued.

Complaint filed by Action and Protection Foundation in Balázs Lenhardt case dismissed

Budapest

Source: Action and protection Foundation

The Central Investigating Chief Prosecutor's Office opened an investigation following the complaint filed by Action and Protection Foundation against parliamentary MP dr. Balázs Lenhardt, for criminal incitement against a community. As described in the June Report, the Member of Parliament for Jobbik, gave a speech at an anti-Zionist demonstration in December 2012, then lit an Israeli flag and burned a hole in its middle.

The Chief prosecutor's Office terminated the investigation in the absence of a crime in its ruling of 24 August. Dr. Slomó Köves, Executive Rabbi of the Unified Hungarian Jewish Congregation and Dániel Bodnár, Chairman of Action and Protection Foundation's Board of Trustees jointly submitted two appeals—with identical contents—against the ruling. In a ruling of the Office of the General Prosecutor Department for Special and Military Affairs brought on 16 October the appeal was dismissed. According to the justification, "incitement against a community is perpetrated by an individual who incites hatred against a national, ethnic, racial or religious or social group in wide public. [...] Threat is meant to signify a real possibility of harm being afflicted [...]." According to the Prosecutor's Office: "the contents of the speech by dr. Balázs Lenhardt, and the burning of the national flag of the State of Israel—in spite of the shouts registered from participants of the event as cited in the complaint—are not sufficient to establish the criminal act of inciting hatred, that is—in lieu of offending conduct—criminal behavior of incitement against a community."

THE MONTH'S CHRONICLE

All the incidents to be found in the report are presented chronologically in the table below. The Category column shows which part of the report dealt with the given case in greater detail.

No.	Date	Incident	Category
1	1–2 October	Conference on "Jewish Life and Anti-Semitism in Contemporary Europe" held in Budapest	Official and Civil Responses
2	2 October	Action and Protection foundation to turn to the Constitutional Court in the matter of judicial practice on cases of hate crime	Community News and Responses
3	3 October	Action and Protection Foundation complaint in Zsolt Tyirityán case dismissed	Action and Protection Foundation steps taken
4	4 October	Hitler salute at concert of extreme right-wing, radical bands	Hate incident: hate speech
5	9 October	Action and Protection Foundation complaint against János Lantos dismissed	Action and Protection Foundation steps taken
6	10 October	Investigation into racist stickers at ELTE Faculty of Humanities terminated	Official and Civil Responses
7	10 October	Investigation in case of denial of crimes of the National Socialist regime based on complaint filed by Dániel Bodnár suspended in lieu of perpetrator's identity	Action and Protection Foundation steps taken
8	11 October	Raoul Wallenberg Association receives the European Citizens' Prize	Official and Civil Responses
9	14 October	Hungary to fill rotating chairmanship of IHRA in 2015	Other News
10	14 October	Előd Novák makes anti-Semitic statement at the meeting of the Committee on Culture and Media of the Hungarian National Assembly	Hate incident: hate speech

No.	Date	Incident	Category
11	15 October	Fidesz denounces Előd Novák's anti-Semitic demonstration in public statement	Official and Civil Responses
12	16 October	Budapest conference of organizations monitoring anti- Semitism	Community News and Responses
13	16 October	Complaint filed by Action and Protection Foundation in Balázs Lenhardt case dismissed	Action and Protection Foundation steps taken
14	23 October	Jobbik demonstrator spits Jewish man in the face	Hate incident: assault
15	25 October	Vandalized stolperstein (memorial cobblestone) in Komárno, Slovakia	Hate incident (not included in statistics)
16	28 October	Le Monde article on Hungarian anti-Semitism	On anti-Semitism in Hungary
17	28 October	The Jerusalem Post on Hungarian government respons to anti-Semitism	On anti-Semitism in Hungary
18	30 October	The New York Times on growing anti-Semitism in Hungary	On anti-Semitism in Hungary
19	_	"We shit on the Holocaust" written on Roma Holocaust memorial in Nehru Strand Park	Hate incident: vandalism
20	_	Anti-Semitic stickers in Veszprém	Hate incident: hate speech
21	_	Vandalized memorial cobblestone in Budapest	Hate incident (not included in (not included in statistics)
22	_	Anti-Semitic stickers on the sign for the Jewish Charity Hospital in Budapest	Hate incident: vandalism

CONTACT AND SUPPORT

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!

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 The Facebook page: www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-vedelem-alapitvany

Action and Protection Foundation's undertaking can only be successful if great numbers share in our commitment to prepare 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

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