



BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

ANTI-SEMITIC  
HATE CRIMES AND  
INCIDENTS REPORT

MAY 2014  
HUNGARY

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## EXECUTIVE 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.

Action and Protection Foundation detected no anti-Semitic crimes in the monitoring period May 2014, however there are numerous events and facts related to Holocaust and anti-Semitism in Hungary. Four cases are not listed in this month's statistics due to the fact that the time the act was committed is not known or was committed last October, but they are listed in the paragraph "*Further Acts of Anti-Semitic Hatred*". Our report contains numerous further events related to Shoah and anti-Semitism in Hungary.

In May 2014, Action and Protection Foundation lodged a complaint against unknown culprits for breach of honor and public denial of the genocides committed by the national socialist system. The culprit is the author of an article published at deret.tv site for using the phrases "*holokamu*" and "*holokacsa*" (i.e., Holocaust-lie). In May, the order was issued to proceed with the investigation in the defamation case against Rabbi Slomó Köves. No judgment was passed in K. J.'s case for public denial of the genocide committed by national socialist system, because the investigation for bringing the suspect to trial was ineffectual. It turned out that the regulation in effect from 6th May is applicable in case of the proposal for dissolution of Magyar Hajnal Mozgalom Párt (Hungarian Dawn Movement Party); it is to be applied for parties as well, so the prosecuting attorney may initiate dissolution of the society. Investigation was completed in K. A. Gójj case and documents were sent to the attorney in charge of indictments.

# 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, and has forty-three members of parliament making hate speeches far more frequently in both Parliament and other organized events. These circumstances brought the Action and Protection Foundation into being. Among the forms of civil association offered by Hungarian law, Action and Protection Foundation chose the form of a 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. Participating in the work of the Foundation are 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. Trustees of the Foundation represent the most important Jewish religious and cultural movements in Hungary, a symbolic expression of the fact 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.

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## ABOUT THE REPORT

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Hungarian anti-Semitism, is often unusually extreme. Voices are heard on the one hand, that belittle the importance of such offenses 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 analysis on the offenses 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 self-respect. These offenses question the right of the individual to equality, even of belonging to society itself. It is important to note 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 effect 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 encourage the perpetrators or even others to commit crimes in the same mold. 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.

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. There are several reasons for this. 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 laws. 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 motivation for the hate-crime. It is civil organizations that can help remedy these problems. Cooperation with state authorities—such as the police, or the Public Prosecutor’s office—may be particularly beneficial.<sup>2</sup> Reports prepared by civil organizations can hasten the official authority’s knowledge of 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).

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<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 offense: 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 offense, 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 offenses 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 committed 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 because of 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).

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. This report presents hate crimes and hate incidents motivated by anti-Semitism, whenever a perpetrator, target, means, or message of a case suggest it. The

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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.



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 he or she 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, 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 period<sup>6</sup> are used as the basis for examining whether the given action could have been motivated by anti-Semitism.

For the widest possible scope while 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, an 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 expedite the transfer 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 currently seems 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, while volunteers are involved additionally in the media watch, sending information gained on to the Brussels Institute for processing. It is an aim to continuously monitor an increasingly large segment of the media. 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 social network pages and extreme, hate-inciting websites. The monitoring process is carried through systematically, according to precisely prepared standards.

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<sup>6</sup> These are described in the Methods section.

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

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

- Only hate incidents that occurred in Hungary regardless of whether the victim is a Hungarian citizen
- 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.

A number of 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 during the collection of data. Tabs are kept on whether incidents had any, and if so, sort of—possibly legal—consequences.

Apart from registering incidents, it is also important to capture the qualitative differences 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 mem-

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<sup>7</sup> The following were used to develop these criteria: ADL 2012, CST 2013

bers 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
  - Any attack on a person that potentially causes serious bodily harm
  - Any attack involving weapons, or other tools that can cause bodily harm
  - Any attack on property, where there is a potential for the people occupying the property to be killed
  - Bombs and letter bombs
  - Kidnapping
- Assault
  - Any physical attack against a person or people, which does not pose a threat to their life and is not serious
  - Attempted assault, which fails due to self-defense, or if the victim runs away
  - Throwing objects at a person or people, including where the object misses its target
- Damage to property
  - Any physical attack directed against property, which is not life-threatening
  - Desecration of property
  - Arson attacks on property where there is not threat to life, failed attempts at arson
- Threats
  - Any clear and specific threat, whether verbal or written
  - Any “bomb” which is assessed to be a hoax
  - Stalking
  - Defamation
- Hate speech
  - Public hate speech
  - Hate speech channeled via the internet and social media
  - Abusive behavior
  - Abusive literature sent to more than one person
  - 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).

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# ACTS OF ANTI-SEMITIC HATE – MAY 2014

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Action and Protection Foundation during their monitoring activity in May did not detect any such hate crimes.

# FURTHER ACTS OF ANTI-SEMITIC HATRED

The Action and Protection Foundation, during their monitoring activity in May, detected four cases of Anti-Semitic hate that are excluded from statistical data, because in three cases the approximate time of the crime is unknown and the fourth case was committed last October. In the second case, the Anti-Semitic intention cannot be defined with absolute certainty.

## Graves of Jewish Cemetery in Szikszó were defaced

*Szikszó, Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County*

*Source: MTI*

On 8th May Jenő Freund, chairman, Autonom Orthodox Izraelita Hitközség (Autonomous Orthodox Jewish Community) of Miskolc informed MTI (Hungarian News Agency) that some fifty graves were defaced in the Jewish cemetery of Szikszó.

According to the statement the damage might have been done sometime during the past few months in the closed cemetery. Numerous gravestones were broken, hurled down or displaced from the foundations. The cemetery has been closed shortly after WWII, visited only by mourners during the past decades. Damage has been discovered a few days prior to 8th May. Renovation should be started as soon as possible, the chairman stated.

Attila Janasóczki, spokesman for Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Police Department, informed MTI that investigation for defacement is in process. József Füzesséri, independent mayor of Szikszó informed MTI: HUF 100.000 was offered to informers.



Gravestones in the Jewish cemetery of Szikszó, Source: MTI

### Rotated swastika stickers were posted in Debrecen

*Debrecen, Hajdú-Bihar County*

*Source: dehir.hu*

During the month of May, stickers depicting rotated swastikas were posted on traffic signs in numerous streets of Debrecen. Offenders were not detected. The stickers named Jobbik party marked as Nazi; the visual appearance of the sticker altogether refers to the name of a webpage that contains information about the party.

Dehir.hu news portal asked Police Department of Debrecen about the case and were informed that an investigation is in process since 14th May. Zsombor Gábor, town facility manager informed dehir.hu that the town of Debrecen reported an unknown culprit to the police for placing a symbol of despotic powers on traffic signs. Jobbik also reported an unknown culprit for defamation and asked for investigation by the police.



Rotated swastika stickers in Debrecen. Source: dehir.hu

### Graffiti on the wall of the stadium in Miskolc

*Miskolc, Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

On 16th May Foundation received notice that the script “JEW FREE ZONE”, and a Star of David ringed and strikethrough appeared on the wall of the stadium in Miskolc.

László Balla, director of the facility informed the Foundation that he has no knowledge about this graffiti and he would take measures to have these photos removed from the internet. The photo first appeared at kuruc.info.

### A young boy placed swastika graffiti

*Tatabánya, Komárom-Esztergom County*

*Source: kemma.hu*

In October 2013, a 15-year-old boy spray-painted his nickname, the letters “NS” (referring to National Socialists) and a huge swastika on the decorative cladding of Tata railway station platform. Shortly after this he placed further copies of his graffiti on the cladding of the cycle track between Tata and Baj, the asphalt of a road, near the elementary school and

the decorative cladding of the mayor's office in Baj. At the school he painted an "SS" mark, at the mayor's office it was an "NS" note.

On 16th May, kemma.hu announced that District Attorney of Tatabánya brought a charge against the 15year-old boy for the crime of using symbols of totalitarian regimes. The teen admitted committing the offenses. Kemma.hu was informed by Dr. Ildikó Reszl, attorney general, that the public prosecutor's office suggested suspended imprisonment.



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# COMMUNITY NEWS, REFLECTIONS

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## Monument of the German occupation

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI, Hírhatár Online, Nol.hu, MTI-OS*

On 1st May, an international press conference was held at the monument by the protesters. From among the several embassies invited, delegates of the United States of America and Holland were present.

On 5th May, a human chain was formed in protest against the monument, the building site of which was protected by a police line and row.

On 6th May. MSZP politician Zoltán Szabó replied to the letter by Prime Minister Viktor Orbán to Katalin Dávid<sup>9</sup>. Following the line of logic Szabó makes comparison among the facts that, according to Viktor Orbán's views, Germany – with Nazi government for the period – is responsible for the crimes committed and to what extent Hungary can be made responsible for deeds and acts she committed during various regimes. Zoltán Szabó brings examples of Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and communist dictatorship periods. On the other hand he disagrees with the idea of identifying the Archangel Gibraeel with Hungary as a victim state as Gabriel is “quite alien to the role of a victim: he is the carrier of the Lord's word and executor of His judgments.” Zoltán Szabó brings the Horthy regime and members of his government to Viktor Orbán's memory. He concludes his letter with quite categorical terms: “You lie when trying to conventionalize the concept of the monument meant to be erected at Szabadság (Liberty) square as acceptable with a retrospective effect. You also lie when for this very purpose you deny, embroider or partly omit historical events. [...] Your lie devised for the single reason of political benefits makes Hungarians collectively guilty.”

On 9th May, another human chain was formed around the construction site. Some protesters tried to link themselves to the cordon fence by handcuffs without success due to police intervention and the poor quality of shackles. Then they chained themselves to one another roaring: “Democracy! Democracy!” and “Hungary is a republic. Democratic rule of law!”

On 20th May, Magyar Ellenállók és Antifasiszták Szövetsége (MEASZ, Association of Hungarian Resistance Fighters and Anti-Fascists) and laureates of Radnóti Miklós Antiracist Award asked Viktor Orbán to cease construction of a memorial that “only strengthens distorting historical events of our past”.

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<sup>9</sup> Viktor Orbán replied to the letter titled „Note” (Feljegyzés) by art historian Katalin Dávid on 29th April. The letter by Katalin Dávid did not become public. We dealt with the letter by Viktor Orbán in our April report.

On 22th May, thirty American senators and representatives<sup>10</sup> also asked Viktor Orbán to cease construction of the memorial. The letter by co-signatories was published on the webpage of World Jewish Congress states: as US congress persons and long-standing promoters of partnership between the two countries, they express their concern about the decision by the Hungarian government to continue construction of “debated monument for commemorating tragedies during Nazi occupation”. “Although we understand and appreciate the eagerness to pay obeisance to all and every Hungarian who was treated cruelly during the Nazi occupation, we think that remaining Jewish people of Hungary must be involved in defining the proper way of commemorating the sufferings of Hungarian Jews in the period. They are also part of Hungarian historical narrative and their leaders expressed their opinion that the planned memorial in its present state is about to whitewash the fact that there were Hungarians in cahoots with their families’ systematic murder” – the letter states. According to American legislators all this is made further complicated by the fact that next year it is Hungary’s turn to preside International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and the strengthening of Jobbik Party that “is widely thought” to use elements of “anti-Semitism in its ideology”. “We are convinced there can be and must be a memorial built” in Hungary commemorating the tragedy of Hungary’s occupation by the Nazis that “duly holds sensibility of all Hungarian citizens in respect.” They added: they are ready to assist in finding a solution and “in case you would like to discuss the issue in detail, we welcome the possibility to meet you or your negotiator”.

On 24th May, leaders of opposition parties protested against the memorial for the victims of German occupation in front of Hungarian Academy of Sciences headquarters. The demonstration was held on the occasion of European Parliament elections. Tímea Szabó and Péter Juhász, co-presidents of Együtt – PM Party, Lajos Bokros, president of Modern Magyarországért Mozgalom (MoMa, Modern Hungary Movement), Gábor Popper, administrator of Magyar Liberális Párt (MLP, Hungarian Liberal party), Csaba Horváth, leader of MSZP Budapest group and Ferenc Gyurcsány, president of Demokratikus Koalíció party made speeches. The speakers emphasized that if “democratic parties” take over the power in the capital at local government elections in the autumn, they will immediately have the “history-falsification” removed and sent to Memento Park.

On 28th May Nol.hu article quoted Tibort Pásztor, socialist member of Budapest 5th District Council, who was informed that permission for occupation of public spaces and areas for erecting the monument had been extended to 15th June.

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<sup>10</sup> Names in the order of signing the protest letter: Eliot L. Engel congressman, Henry Waxman congressman, Eric Cantor congressman, Charles E. Schumer senator, Richard Blumenthal senator, Carl Levin senator, Brian Schatz senator, Benjamin Cardin senator, Al Franken senator, Dianne Feinstein senator, Ron Wyden senator, Barbara Boxer senator, Steve Israel congressman, Adam Schiff congressman, Brad Schneider congressman, Sander Levin congressman, Ted Deutch congressman, Jerrold Nadler congressman, John Yarmuth congressman, Jan Schakowsky congressman, Brad Sherman congressman, Debbie Wasserman Schultz congresswoman, Nita Lowey congresswoman, David Cicilline congressman, Jared Polis congressman, Susan Davis congresswoman, Lois Frankel congressman, Alan Grayson congressman, Alan Lowenthal congressman, Steve Cohen congressman.

## Hungarian Academy of Sciences conference

*Budapest*

*Source: Index*

On 13th May, Magyar Tudományos Akadémia (MTA, Hungarian Academy of Sciences) Section of Philosophy and Historical Sciences held a conference »Memory of History and Science of History« where several members of the Academy expressed their opinion about the memorial for the German occupation and declaration by Sándor Szakály, director of a Veritas Institute<sup>11</sup>.

György Hunyadi, director of Section of Philosophy and Historical Sciences stated: “the much debated memorial, contrasting the angelic innocent Hungarian society and Germany as represented by the Reich symbol eagle intends to forget and make forget any responsibility Hungarian society and Horthy-government holds for slandering and murdering the people stigmatized as Jews, for – willing or unwilling – collaboration with the Germans till the very end of the war.”

Mária Ormos historian in her lecture proved that participants of the events in the period did not refer to deporting Hungarian Jews to Kamenyec-Podolsk as administrative procedure for *aliens without lawful permanent resident in Hungary*: Miklós Kozma, government commissioner in Ungvár spoke of resettlement, shifting, population exchange, forced emigration, evacuation. Ormos says it is evident that it was not an act of “alien law enforcement” that it was not performed by respective and competent authorities; it was decided and arranged on the highest level. In November 1941, Prime Minister Bárdossy stated that the government intended to deport more Jews, but “the German Reich amicable to us admonished us to abstain from it” quoted Maria Ormos. She also spoke about the memorial of the occupation: “The symbol might express the multitude of marauders, but it may not explain the presence of Wehrmacht in Hungary” – Ormos stated. German armed forces marching in Hungary on 19th March 1944 – that undoubtedly occupied the country – did not come in the spirit of the imperial eagle, but of the swastika. According to the Historian eager co-operation by Hungarian authorities in deportations, intimidating those opposing it, Horthy’s assent to appoint Ferenc Szálasi to the post of Prime Minister raises moral questions so grave that “it is unfortunately impossible to see Hungary solely as a victim of all that happened”.

Ernő Marosi, Széchenyi Award laureate art historian examined the memorial from the point of art history’s view, noting before disclosing his analysis that in every single political era those on power confirm a common consent by erecting monuments. Present Hungarian government is an exception: “planning monuments in Hungary is secretive because political power intends them to be a kind of surprise, a Christmas present”. He thinks the plan

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<sup>11</sup> On 17th January Sándor Szakály declared deportation of Hungarian Jews to Kamenyec-Podolsk performed as an administrative procedure for *aliens without lawful permanent resident in Hungary*. We have dealt with the statement in detail in our reports of January and February.

disregards with memorial culture of those concerned, is forceful and tactless. There's no other solution than abandoning implementation of the plan.

Tamás Ungvári professor emeritus, author, and political writer emphasized that some excellent scholars made their opinion public but “it is not a cooperative standpoint; those who regard these as such does not know modus operandi of scholarly research communities”.

## OFFICIAL AND CIVILIAN RESPONSES

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### **Attorney General's Office made an article by kuruc.info inaccessible**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI, Index, Action and Protection Foundation*

On 6th May, Budapest attorney general Tibor Iboya informed MTI that Budapest II. and III. District Attorney's Department made the article »Discharge letters, payment accounts, accurate data administration – „unorthodox” documents from Auschwitz« published on 19th July 2013 unavailable. The author of the articles and commentators made public statements denying holocaust as a fact, calling doubts and making light of it.

The Foundation informed against the author of the article and commentators for public denial of the genocides committed by national socialist system. The denunciation contains a request to make the article temporarily inaccessible. (See the case in detail in our report last July). Budapest Police Department (BRFK) suspended investigation in the case on 17th April, stating that origin of the documents is not provable without doubt so they cannot be taken for forged until stated forgery is proven. Although the author of the article and some commentators did commit public denial of the genocides committed by national socialist system, only László Kincses and Zoltán Szénási could be identified. Anyway, grounded suspicion could not be made regarding their persons. (More information about the case can be found in our report of April.)

Due to the fact that making accessible and publicizing these articles and electronic data on the webpage is an act of crime in itself, Budapest II. and III. District Attorney's Office ordered the investigating authorities to make the article and comments permanently inaccessible. Effectuation of the decision abroad was initiated with the United States as legal assistance request, the attorney general stated.

On 6th May, the Foundation, as a response to the attorney general's announcement, greeted the measures taken by the authorities, at the same time stating it is beyond comprehension why it is the very first case that removal of a malfeasant article is initiated. The Foundation further stated that the attorney general's office is not stalling because Hungarian authorities have tried taking measures against the website with no effect so far because freedom of speech in the United States is a more strongly protected right than it is in Hungary.

## **Court of Justice in Washington dismissed holocaust survivors' lawsuit against Hungarian government**

*Miami, USA and Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

On 9th May, Columbia District Court of Justice dismissed a lawsuit by 14 Holocaust survivors against the Hungarian state due to lack of authority. Claimants required amends from the Hungarian state, Magyar Államvasutak (MÁV, Hungarian Railways), and Rail Cargo Hungaria (legal successor of MÁV Cargo) for having not received restitution for cases of injustice committed by defendants during the war.

Judge Beryl Howell stated: American court of justice has no jurisdiction in the case. Claimants did not declare the exact amount of damages, referred to two federal laws. One of them makes exceptions possible from the immunity act regarding foreign states. The other makes it possible for non-US citizens to initiate lawsuit against non-US private organizations. The judge declared: defendants cannot be sued in the United States. As he wrote: an American judge is not in a position to decide “whether a foreign state tried hard enough to compensate those acts of dread committed (during the Shoah)”.

Another group of Shoah survivors and their descendants instituted proceedings against Hungarian Railways and Hungarian state in Chicago in 2010. As it is noted in our report of March, Ministry of National Development informed Hungarian News Agency that those dismissive decisions in these cases are appealed to the higher court; according to the American court of the second instance schedule the court hearings will be held in the second part of the year by the same judiciary.

# NEWS AND OPINIONS ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN HUNGARY

## **Anti-Defamation League made a report concerning numerous states**

*102 countries and regions of the World<sup>12</sup>*

*Source: [global100.adl.org](http://global100.adl.org)*

From July 2003 to February 2014, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) performed a survey in 102 countries and regions of the world measuring among other things the level and intensity of anti-Semitism and Anti-Jewish feelings. There were 53,100 respondents altogether. The results of the survey were published in the beginning of May. In most of the countries the number of respondents was about 500, but in three countries it was 1,000<sup>13</sup>.

ADL examined anti-Semitic attitudes by 11 statements, asking respondents to state whether they find them true or false; e.g. “Jews have too much power in the business world” or “Jews speak too much about what happened to them during WWII”, or “people hate Jews because of their behavior” or “Jews have too much influence in media” or “Jews are responsible for most of the wars” or “Jews think they are better than other people”.

Hungary is the 30th total on the list with a 41 % index; i.e., 41 % of the respondents think that out of the 11 statements at least 6 are true, so there might be about 3,4 million people in Hungary with anti-Semitic attitudes.

Hungarians agreed in the greatest degree (69 %) with the statement regarding business power of Jews, but 30% of respondents expressed their agreement with 10 out of 11 questions.

55 % of Hungarian men have Anti-Semitic attitudes, while 28 % of women do. Regarding age categories, we can state that young Hungarians are the most anti-Semitic, because 50 % of people between 18 and 34 harbor such sentiments, while among the 35-49 years old generation it is 45 %, and among the 50+ it is 33 %.

The highest anti-Semitic attitude was measured in the Gaza Strip (93 %), followed by Iraq (92 %), Yemen (88 %), Algeria (87 %) and Libya (87 %). In Europe the highest level of anti-Semitism was detected in Greece: 69 %.

<sup>12</sup> Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrein, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South-Africa, South-Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, New Zealand, Venezuela, Vietnam, West Bank and Gaza, Yemen

<sup>13</sup> United States of America, India, China

### **Ronald Lauder's opinion about the strengthening of anti-Semitism in Europe**

*Jerusalem, Israel*

*Source: MTI*

On 3th May, *The Jerusalem Post* published Ronald Lauder, president of WJC's opinion about strengthening anti-Semitism and extreme rightist parties in Europe including the example of the Hungarian Jobbik party.

According to Lauder despite the fact that Jobbik got 20 % of Hungarian votes most of their supporters are possibly not anti-Semitic hard-liner, but by being exposed to propaganda by the party they might be radicalized. "The problem so far is that not all national leaders are willing to face up to anti-Semitism with the necessary action. Hungarians, for instance, have not taken the requisite action against Jobbik and the dissemination of hate, despite talking a good game."

"Prime Minister Viktor Orban can give a good speech on the topic but it's a speech he gives in English and like Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, or Yasser Arafat before him, it differs from what he may say in his native tongue for internal consumption" opines Lauder.

### **Denying holocaust is a form of anti-Semitism**

*Szeged, Csongrád County*

*Source: MTI*

On 14th May, at the conference »Hungarian Holocaust from 70 years' time – from high politics to everyday life« organized by University of Szeged, Jewish Community of Szeged and *Yad Vashem* International Institute for Holocaust Research ambassador of Israel to Hungary, Ilan Mor said: "six million victims of Shoah were killed twice: the first time they were killed seven decades ago when they were physically annihilated; the second time they were killed by trying to annihilate memories about them." The ambassador also stated that anti-Semitism is a kind of Holocaust denial. He emphasized the need to fight anti-Semitism with education.

László Botka (MSZP) mayor said instead of facing up to all that happened, we did nothing but "tried to leave things unsaid, to cover, to hide facts" during the past seventy years. According to the mayor of Szeged, present political power in Hungary encouraged attempts that intend to "whitewash this incredibly tragic period of our past".

### **Christians and Jews jointly fight grim ideology**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

On 21st May at the event by Ifjúsági Kereszténydemokrata Szövetség (Christian Democratic Youth Association) at a round-table discussion regarding Shoah memorial year, János Székely, bishop of the Catholic Church, stated: Christians and Jews are allies in



fighting against grim, extreme ideologies. The bishop emphasized: anti-Semitism contradicts the very fundamental principles of Christianity despite many self-declared Christians committed anti-Semitic deeds during WWII. He also accentuated the importance of speaking truthfully about the past, as it is a stipulation for sincerely approaching each other.

Rabbi Zoltán Radnóti (Mazsihisz) emphasized, remembering Shoah “is not a Jewish, but a national case”, because “nurturing lies make man sick” and if one is not able to face his own past and responsibility, he “cannot let his own vice go”.

András J. Megyeri, representing Egységes Magyarországi Izraelita Hitközség (EMIH, Unified Hungarian Jewish Congregation), stated: “there is more that joins than that separates us”. We have to seek occasions for ensuring meetings for people of different religions, but the right thing is for every religion to be keeper of its own traditions. According to him “anti-Semitism has undergone an evolution” as for about 1,500 years. It used to have a religious basis; during the 20th century it transformed to be “of genetic base”.

### **The connection between Christian and Jewish communities is theologically valuable**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

“The connection between Jewish and Christian people is a very special, theologically valuable one, with a solid base on Jesus” – said cardinal Péter Erdő at the conference held by *Catholic Bishops’ Conference in Hungary* and *Pázmány Péter Catholic University* on 26th May. The conference was about the document *Nostra Aetate...* issued by the Second Council of Vatican (1962-1965) about the relation of the Catholic Church and other religions.

Ilan Mor, ambassador of Israel in Hungary, emphasized Pope Francis’ visit to Israel – a symbolic act – and stated that *Nostra Aetate...* issued by the Second Council of Vatican “records a unique moment”, because this documents discharges Jewish people from being responsible for the death of Jesus, emphasizing that roots of the Catholic Church are in Judaism and categorically rejected anti-Semitism. The ambassador said the *Nostra Aetate...* opened a new age and “invites all of us to work together for making our world a better place to live”, and education has an unavoidable role in fighting anti-Semitism. He referred back to the document issued by Pope Francis last year stating that God has never withdrawn His alliance with Jewish people and the statement of the ecclesiarch when meeting Jewish community of Rome: “Christianity and anti-Semitism are at variance with each other. A Christian believer cannot be Anti-Semitic.” The ambassador stated: Nazi ideology is not of Christian origin; the Church rejects anti-Semitism.

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## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

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### **A Horthy statue may be erected in Hungary**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

On 28th May, at the opening of the exhibition »Oppressed – Holocaust and National Széchenyi Library«, government commissioner László L. Simon stated: a Miklós Horthy statue may not be erected in Hungary due to his role subsequent to German occupation.

Fidesz politician of cultural affairs pointed out: they absolutely dissociate themselves from that historical period. László L. Simon also stated that he regards German occupation a landmark, an enormous tragedy; should it never happen, Hungarian history and the faith of Hungarian Jewish people would be different. He added: deporting Hungarian Jewish people could not have happened without co-operation by Hungarians.

# ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION LEGAL ACTIONS

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## **Criminal case initiated by APF against Tibor Ágoston was relocated to another authority**

*Debrecen, Hajdú-Bihar County*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

In our report of January, we outlined that Tibor Ágoston, prospective Member of Parliament for Jobbik Party, intentionally used the words “*holokamu*” and “*hollokoszt*” (i. e. Holocaust-lie, the latter alliterating to „food for crows”) at a commemoration. In February, the Foundation lodged a complaint against him for breach of honor and public denial of the genocides committed by the national socialist system. In March, the case was transferred to Central Investigating Attorney General’s Office, because the suspect is a prospective Member of Parliament.

On 8th May, the Central Investigating Attorney General’s Office transferred the case to Debrecen District Attorney’s Office, because during the process of investigation it became evident that Tibor Ágoston was not elected MP. Therefore he does not have parliamentary immunity, and his case is to be dealt with by the District Attorney.

## **Investigation has been launched by Slomó Köves’ report**

*Budapest*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

In our report of April, we stated that chief rabbi Slomó Köves of Egységes Magyarországi Izraelita Hitközség (EMIH, *Unified Hungarian Jewish Congregation*) informed against an unknown culprit for defamation, because on 10th April a photo of him was published again on kuruc.info with the caption “*Jewish terrorist living in Hungary, spelling danger for the whole nation!*”

On 8th May, the Jury informed Rabbi Köves, about an investigation ordered and the documents were sent to Budapest 5th District Police Department for an investigation of personal data of the author. A two-month deadline was set.

## **APF reported against public denial of the genocides committed by national socialist system for an article published at deres.tv site**

*Budapest*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

On 13th May, the Foundation reported an unknown culprit at Budapest 5th District Police Department for public denial of the genocides committed by the national socialist system.

On 12th May at *deres.tv* site, an article titled »“Holosurvivors” fell flat on their pan again in the US: their request for reparation against the Hungarian state was dismissed«. The author illustrated the article using a modified photo of infamous entrance of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. He replaced “Arbeit macht frei” lettering with “Hooray! It’s Holiday Time!”. By this he renders the genocide committed by the regime as unimportant. The lead beside the photo and the last paragraph of the article contain the words “*holokamu*” and “*holokacsa*” (i. e. Holocaust-lie). The denunciation contains a request to make the article as electronic data temporarily inaccessible.

**No sentence was passed in the case of K. J.**

*Miskolc*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

On 12th March, at Miskolc District Police Department, the foundation informed against K. J. for public denial of the genocides committed by the national socialist system. On 23rd January, K. J. made the comment on *kuruc.info*: “M... f...s those who apologized as there was no holocaust in HUNGARY, at best it were ‘holló koszt’ (translator’s note: it is alliterating in Hungarian to “food for crows”) that is actually in progress.”

On 14th May District Court of Miskolc – by request of the Foundation – informed us that committal for trial was not successful so no sentence could be passed.

**Progress in proposal by APF for dissolution  
of Hungarian Dawn Movement Party**

*Budapest*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

The Foundation first issued a proposal to Budapest District Attorney’s Office for dissolution of Nemzeti Forradalmi Párt (National Revolutionary Party) on the 7th February. We found that activity by the party propagates racial discrimination and provokes racism. In our reports of February and March, we summarized news about the cases, mostly transfers of the cases due to lack of province and jurisdiction. In the meantime, a decision became effective altering the name of the party to Magyar Hajnal Mozgalom Párt (Hungarian dawn Movement Party) and the new headquarters was registered in Ózd.

In our report of April, we reviewed the letter of 28th April by the Borsod-Abaúj District Attorney’s Office stating that the text of the law does not define who may initiate dissolution of a party and what are the legal conditions for such act, and that the District Attorney is not entitled to initiate an action for dissolution of a party.

On 15th May, the Foundation filed a request of revision to the Office of the Prosecutor General against via the Borsod-Abaúj District Attorney’s Office, during which reasons for judgment were not debated. In the meantime, on 6th May, a new regulation became effective stating that in the case of civil associations, the Attorney General is entitled to initi-



## 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 deals with the given case in greater detail.

No.	Date	Incident	Category
1.	3 May	Ronald Lauder's opinion about the strengthening of anti-Semitism in Europe	News and opinions about anti-Semitism in Hungary
2.	6 May	Attorney General's Office made an article by kuruc.info inaccessible	Official and civilian responses
3.	8 May	Criminal case initiated by APF against Tibor Ágoston was relocated to another authority	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions
4.	8 May	Investigation has been launched by Slomó Köves' report	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions
5.	9 May	Court of Justice in Washington dismissed holocaust survivors' lawsuit against Hungarian government	Official and civilian responses
6.	13 May	Hungarian Academy of Sciences conference	Community news, reflections
7.	13 May	APF reported against public denial of the genocides committed by national socialist system for an article published at deres.tv site	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions
8.	14 May	Denying holocaust is a form of anti-Semitism	News and opinions about anti-Semitism in Hungary
9.	14 May	No sentence was passed in the case of K. J.	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions
10.	15 May	Investigation was completed in K. A.'s case, the documents were sent to the District Attorney's Office	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions
11.	21 May	Christians and Jews jointly fight grim ideology	News and opinions about anti-Semitism in Hungary
12.	26 May	The connection between Christian and Jewish communities is theologically valuable	News and opinions about anti-Semitism in Hungary
13.	28 May	A Horthy statue may be erected in Hungary	Miscellaneous news
14.	–	Graves of Jewish Cemetery in Szikszó were defaced	Further acts of anti-semitic hatred
15.	–	Rotated swastika stickers were posted in Debrecen	Further acts of anti-semitic hatred

No.	Date	Incident	Category
16.	–	Graffiti on the wall of the stadium in Miskolc	Further acts of anti-semitic hatred
17.	–	A young boy placed swastika graffitis	Further acts of anti-semitic hatred
18.	–	Monument of the German occupation	Community news, reflections
19.	–	Anti-Defamation League made a report concerning numerous states	News and opinions about anti-Semitism in Hungary
20.	–	Progress in proposal by APF for dissolution of Hungarian Dawn Movement Party	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions

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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 manifestations of anti-Semitism.

If 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 authorities who can take appropriate 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 prepare the grounds for the right to fair process for all those who have suffered offenses. 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

Phone: +36 1 267 57 54

+36 30 207 5130

<http://www.tev.hu>

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



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## CONTRIBUTORS AND PUBLISHER INFORMATION

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

**Author:** Dr. Ildikó Barna, sociologist, *associate professor (Habil.) at ELTE TÁTK, Department of Social Research Methodology*

**Editors:** Borbála Palotai, sociologist  
Dr. István Fekete, legal advocate, *legal representative of Action and Protection Foundation*  
Dr. Kristóf Bodó, legal advocate, *legal representative of the Brussels Institute*  
Melinda Minkó, research scholar, *head of the Incident Monitoring Group of the Brussels Institute*  
Kata Majoros, communications consultant  
Dr. Krisztina Szegő, lawyer  
Ágota Bozai, translator

**Contributors:** Dániel Bodnár, philosopher, *Chairman of the Action and Protection Foundation Board of Trustees*  
Andrew Srulewitch, Director, Anti Defamation League

The publisher wishes to thank Dr. András Kovács, sociologist, Professor at CEU, for all the encouragement and helpful advice.

The publisher expresses its gratitude for the selfsacrificing work of the volunteers who, under expert guidance, have put their continuous efforts into the preparation of this report over the past months.

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2014 Budapest



# BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

Brussels Institute Nonprofit Kft.

Address: 1052 Budapest, Semmelweis utca 19.

Landline: +36 1 267 57 54

<http://www.tev.hu>

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