



BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

ANTI-SEMITIC  
HATE CRIMES AND  
INCIDENTS REPORT

NOVEMBER 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 investigation of the actual prevalence of anti-Semitism. One of the aims of Action and Protection Foundation is to eliminate ignorance of this issue. Instrumental in achieving this objective is the continuous professional monitoring of hate crimes that occur public life. The community cannot really be protected unless current information on anti-Semitic acts and other hate crimes are collected and analyzed. Results of the monitoring are published, monthly by the Foundation.

The reports deal with two forms of behavior: anti-Semitic hate crimes, and hate-motivated incidents. The report refers to both types of behavior as “hate incidents”. An anti-Semitic hate crime is distinguished from other hate crime by possessing an anti-Semitic motive. Anti-Semitic hate crime is a violation of criminal law, not all hate-motivated acts are regarded as criminal. Nevertheless, a record 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 to record their particular characteristics. Date recorded includes the incident’s location, perpetrator, victim, consequences. Also the types of the various incidents are differentiated.

In the course of its November monitoring activities, Action and Protection Foundation identified four anti-Semitic hate incidents. All of these fall in the category of hate speech. In one instance Alajos Chrudinák expressed his opinion at a right-wing book launch. Chrudinák delved into the reasons why his TV show *Panoráma* had been canceled. In another incident, Israel’s influence over the United States was the subject of discussion on a program on Echo TV. In two cases, advertising posters had been scrawled over with anti-Semitic messages. Four other incidents however are not accounted for in the statistics, though reported in the *Further Anti-Semitic Hate Incidents* section, because the date of the offence does not fall in the month under review, or the anti-Semitic intent is not unquestionable. The present report goes on to give an account of numerous events in Hungary connected to the Hungarian Holocaust and anti-Semitism.

Action and Protection Foundation filed a complaint in one case during November 2014, for public denial of the crimes of the National Socialist regime. B. J. posted a montage to his Facebook profile on 12 July, that has the following centered text with an arrow pointing to the profile picture of the user: “Does not recognize Israel as a state, and does not believe in the legend of the Holocaust.” He added the following comment to the montage: “This picture reveals almost everything about my faith, ideology and with whom I belong...”.

# 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 OSCE 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).

# ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS

## – NOVEMBER 2014

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In the course of monitoring in November 2014, Action and Protection Foundation identified four anti-Semitic hate incidents, which belonged in the category of hate speech.

### HATE SPEECH

#### **Opinion voiced at a right-wing book launch qualifies as hate speech**

*Budapest*

*Source: Index*

On 14 November, journalists at the news portal *Index* reported on the launch of the book by Péter Tarics, *Hazugságvizsgálat avagy az igazság ára, Magyarország- és világpolitikai reflexiók 1984–2014* [Lie-detection, or the price of truth, reflections on Hungarianness and global politics 1984–2014]. The speakers invited for the book launch were Katalin Kondor, once president of the Hungarian national radio, and Alajos Chrudinák, ex-editor of the program *Panoráma*. While presenting the book, an analysis of the past 25 years was also discussed.

Alajos Chrudinák delved into why, in his opinion, his program, the *Panoráma* was cut following the change of regimes: “the SZDSZ (liberal democratic party) was formed under the thumbs of Jewish big capital and international Jewry, because some of the economic power was in their hands. These people have another sort of Hungary planned.” “There was a revolution in Hungary, this was the succession of a national Jewry, which had a different image of how Jewry could succeed. The communist Zionist Jew had a different mind-set.” He added: the reason György Aczél (Minister of Culture in the Kádár regime) hated his programs, which served to “strengthen the nation”, was that he was a Zionist communist, but more Zionist than communist, because he was first a Zionist. Furthermore he explained his views on how “Viktor Orbán realized that it was impossible to introduce a neoliberal, anti-Hungarian and philo-Semitic Fidesz regime here in Hungary. It would be difficult, very difficult. It would be anti-Christian, like their whole press.”

#### **Israeli occupation of the White House**

*Budapest*

*Source: Youtube video sharing portal<sup>9</sup>*

On 5 December, the Foundation received a citizen report on statements deemed offensive as heard on the *Echo TV* program *Törésvonalak* (Fault lines) on 16 November, from host István Lovas and his guest, political scientist László Gy. Tóth.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ia-20oheMY> (Last accessed: 10 December 2014.)

László Gy. Tóth spoke as follows about the position held by US Chargé d’Affaires in Hungary, André Goodfriend: “If we consider the liberal history of ideas: observe how the Jews occupied the various Freemasons’ lodges at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, how they diverted them from their original nationalist orientation. [...] The case is that the current Hungarian leftist, liberal, intellectual political elite and various party organizations along with the NGOs are lackeys in the service of the Anglo-Saxon world empire’s interests.”

András Lovas also voiced his opinion in the conversation: “Two leading American political scientists: Mearsheimer and Walt published this heavy tome [presenting it] in 2006, *Az Izrael lobbi és az amerikai külpolitika (The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy)* demonstrating the incredible power wielded by AIPAC.<sup>10</sup> [...] The great pressure they bring to bear on American foreign policy. We know from conversations with people who work around American senators and congressional representatives that they do not dare do anything against them, because their campaign funds simply evaporate. There is a small country that incidentally, a French diplomat, the Ambassador to London a few years ago, in an unguarded moment called a shitty little country. This country makes its interests prevail a hundred percent through the American legislature and president, in disregard of American national interests. Figure that out! It is actually impossible to explain rationally. How can it manage that? Well, it would be in the national interests of America to be on the good side of the huge Muslim masses of 1.3 billion people and these countries, rather than this tiny little country. ... [Therefore] the American Chargé d’Affaires will never act differently, and will always be a hundred percent in agreement with anything that this small circle here puts forward.” (Quoted word-for-word.)

László Gy. Tóth reflected on András Lovas’s opinion, expounding further though unrelated to the question: “If you raise the question, who is influencing the politics of the United States, we could site a whole array of American sources that essentially say that the White House counts as the occupied territory of Israel, and that current global politics causes a great deal of tension. There is now tension even between Israel and the United States, because Israel is not willing to execute the solution America believes would be right. [...] If Israel would not control the foreign policy of the USA, Israel would count for nothing.”

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<sup>10</sup> The mission of AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee) is to strengthen, protect and promote the U.S.-Israel relationship in ways that enhance the security of Israel and the United States. AIPAC’s staff and citizen activists educate decision makers about the bonds that unite the United States and Israel and how it is in America’s best interest to help ensure that the Jewish state is safe, strong and secure. Cooperation between the two countries is advantageous for both nations. AIPAC urges all members of Congress to support Israel through foreign aid, government partnerships, joint anti-terrorism efforts and the promotion of a negotiated two-state solution—a Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized Palestinian state. (Source: [aipac.org/about/mission](http://aipac.org/about/mission))



**Anti-Semitic messages scribbled on poster of a television program**

*Budapest, Dózsa György tér*

*Source: Fórum az antiszemitizmus ellen (hereon: Forum Against Anti-Semitism)*

The organization Forum Against Anti-Semitism posted a photograph to its Facebook profile on 24 November, in which a highly visible advertising poster on Dózsa György Square in Budapest had been defaced with various offensive comments. The poster was marked with Star of David, the words “csillagos-sávós f\*sszopó” (exact quote, in English: Stars and stripes cocksucker), as well as “jenki k\*rva” (exact quote, Yankee whore) and “trágya USA” (exact quote, crappie USA).



The anti Semitic inscriptions also deriding America.

Source: Forum Against Anti-Semitism

### Another poster defaced

*Budapest, Clark Ádám Square*

*Source: Forum Against Anti-Semitism*

Forum Against Anti-Semitism posted a photograph to its Facebook profile on 26 November, with another poster scribbled over with similar phrases on Clark Ádám Square, which is located close to Dózsa György Square. The text “crappy USA” appears once again on this poster, and the words “Stars and Stripes cocksucker” with the word “Jews” (zsidók) added on, and followed below with “rühes biboldók” (scabby kikes), appearing along with a number of Stars of David and a sketch of primary male genitalia.



The more extensively inscribed poster on Clark Ádám Square.

Source: Forum Against Anti-Semitism

# FURTHER ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS

In the course of its Monitoring activities in November 2014, Action and Protection Foundation identified four anti-Semitic hate incidents that were not included in the statistics, because the offenses were either not committed in the month surveyed, or anti-Semitic intent could not be proved.

## Having photographs taken with Hitler

*Hungary*

*Source: HírTV, Hír24*

Dávid Janiczak, freshly elected Mayor of Ózd had photographs taken of himself with a Hitler lookalike in 2011. Janiczak explained to *HírTV* that he did not have himself photographed with the Hitler lookalike, because he agreed with Hitler's ideology, but because he was a character. He would have had a photo made whether it was George Bush or an Elvis Presley lookalike.

The program host asked if Janiczak could sense a difference between Bush and Hitler, to which he replied, it is not for such a TV program to analyze how many persons' death George Bush was responsible for. The photograph must have come to attention as a part of the campaign for the rerun of the elections. Local government elections had to be repeated in Ózd on 9 November, which had been won by the Jobbik candidate by a margin of 66 votes, against the Fidesz-KDNP candidate. Janiczak won the elections for Jobbik with a lead of over 5,000 votes.



Dávid Janiczak with the Hitler lookalike. Source: Hír24

**T-shirt with Hitler portrait sold at a t-shirt store**

*Debrecen, Hajdú-Bihar County*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

A volunteer for the Foundation visited the Dumdumshop in Debrecen on 7 November, where he photographed a t-shirt presenting a cartoon portrait of a smiling Hitler with the text “Welcome to Germany”. The Foundation contacted the owner of the shop via e-mail on 10 December, and requested that the t-shirt be removed, as it may offend people’s human dignity. The owner of the shop replied to the e-mail, letting the Foundation know that he would have the t-shirt removed by his employees, also assuring the Foundation of future cooperation if necessary. The volunteer reported that the t-shirt had indeed been removed from the shelf.



**T-shirt with the “Welcome to Germany” message.**

**Source: Action and Protection Foundation**

**Ball bearings used to break window of Jewish school***Budapest, Budakeszi út**Source: Index*

Between 6 p.m. on 13 November and 7.30 a.m. on 14 November two windows of the Lauder Javne School were damaged by an unknown individual using ball bearings. No personal injuries were caused.

The Principal of the school did not qualify the case as a hate incident. The Police Headquarters of Budapest District 12 did file proceedings against individual unknown under suspicion of the offences of vandalism and willful damage.



**A window broken with ball bearings. Source: Index**

### Jedi sword meme

*Worldwide*

*Source: Index*

The trailers for the next episode of Star Wars came out on 28 November. A figure in the trailer fights with a Jedi sword fitted with a cross bar. This occasioned many guesses on the part of viewers about who is fighting whom with what sort of sword in this scene. The news-portal *Index* published a selection of these in an article of 30 November. One shows a dark figure using a sword shaped like a Hanukkah against Jesus, who stands with a sword shaped like a cross in his hands.



**The sword shaped like a Hanukkah. Source: Index**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESPONSES

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In the course of November no community news or responses related to the subject matter of the report was registered.

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## OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES

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### Two-year sentence for assault on a reporter

*Budapest*

*Source: Index*

Two *Index* reporters, Gergő Plankó and the cameraman working with him, Barna Szász, were assaulted on 23 October 2012. An anti-government protest was organized for the Szabad sajtó (Freedom of the press) Street by the NGO Milla, however simultaneously a spontaneous, violent, extreme-right protest also evolved in front of the nearby confectionery, Jégbüfé. Participants in this protest attacked the *Index* staff, and one of the participants struck the one with the video camera, Barna Szász, so hard that his nose broke. The *Index* reporters did not see the perpetrator, but someone else did. After turning to the police for help, who did not react, this person asked a photographer to take a shot of the offender, who was identified only with the help of this photograph.

The Pest Central District Court of Justice brought a ruling of first instance in the case of assault on 4 November. The accused denied that he had been the one to strike the man throughout the investigation, however he admitted his guilt in a last minute confession at court, and even apologized. This was finally taken into account as an extenuating circumstance, as well as the fact that he has an child. The offence was however exacerbated by the fact that he acted as part of a crowd that was very offensively Jew-baiting, aggressive in both expression and action: for this reason the court considered the count of assault against a member of a community as proven—though dropping the charge of crime committed as a group. According to the court, the target of the assault having been a journalist meant a significant damage to interests, i.e., journalists feeling threatened.

The accused was given the lowest possible sentence of two years, suspended for a period of five years. The prosecution appealed for a more severe sentence, while the defense appealed for a lighter one.



# NEWS AND OPINION ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN HUNGARY

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## **Anti-Semitism not yet rampant**

*New York, Egyesült Államok*

*Source: MTI, Népszabadság*

The *New York Times* published an article by the TV journalist Kati Marton online, on 3 November, after her visit to Budapest as delegate of the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). Marton believes that the occupation memorial on Szabadság Square (“a disturbingly nationalistic rewriting of history”) is evidence of a “dangerous new direction”, in which Orbán is leading the country. In her opinion there is no cause for self-exoneration because of the Hungarian gendarmes who led their fellow Jewish citizens to the trains bound for Auschwitz. In her opinion, a once promising democracy is now quickly sliding towards xenophobia and authoritarianism. Additionally, “[t]o the outside world, Mr. Orban portrays himself as the bulwark against Jobbik, the anti-Semitic, anti-Roma party. But far from crushing Jobbik, he has in fact institutionalized much of its rhetoric. Anti-Semitism is not yet rampant, but with rabid nationalism and intolerance for civil liberties both growing, many Hungarian Jews fear that it can’t be far behind.”

## **The government supports anti-Semitism**

*Washington, United States of America*

*Source: MTI*

The *International New York Times* editorial of 5 November writes, “The government of Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary is sliding toward authoritarianism and defying the fundamental values of the European Union—and getting away with it.” The newspaper refers to the fact that Orbán said in the summer that he wants to make Hungary an “illiberal” state, mentioning Russia, Turkey and China as models. In the opinion of the newspaper Viktor Orbán’s government supports Hungarian ethnic nationalism, which feeds into anti-Semitism and anti-Roma prejudices.

## **Zero tolerance in Hungary**

*Munich, Germany*

*Source: MTI*

A closed-door meeting about the Hungarian state purchase of MKB Bank Zrt. was held on 6 November, attended by Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and Bavarian Minister-President Horst Seehofer. At the press conference following the meeting, Viktor Orbán replied to a journalist’s question regarding reports of growing anti-Semitism, alleged curtailment of freedom rights and persecution of the Roma people. He said Hungary applies a principle of “zero tolerance” towards politics that go against European values, and does everything in

its power to stop such phenomena. We have a “beautiful constitution” that deals thoroughly with all such matters—he emphasized. Meanwhile, a threat to freedom and growing anti-Semitism is currently experienced to a greater degree in Western Europe, which is an “unexpected development”, and shows that the measures to be taken are a “common task for all of Europe”—Viktor Orbán noted.

### **Does Hungary actually show zero tolerance?**

*Brussels, Belgium*

*Source: MTI*

The left leaning liberal, French language Brussels newspaper *Le Soir* reported in a full-page article in its 8 November issue on the situation in Hungary that a delegation of the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) had recently visited Budapest, led by Kati Marton, who is resident in the United States. The report by Jean-Paul Marthoz entitled, “Viktor Orban éloigne la Hongrie du modèle européen” [Viktor Orbán leading Hungary away from the European model], writes mainly about the situation of the media in a critical tone, but also touches upon anti-Semitism. According to this newspaper Fidesz is using double-speak. It brings up examples in evidence, such as “Fidesz considers itself democratic, but rehabilitates Miklós Horthy”. The period under the one-time Regent of Hungary is called the “chairmanship” of Horthy by the *Le Soir*, and labels Horthy “the Hungarian Pétain”, so a reader at home in the French medium would also understand what sort of historical figure is under discussion. The other example raised by *Le Soir*, is that though the governing party of Hungary declares zero tolerance for anti-Semitism, it nevertheless builds a patriotic memorial in the center of Budapest, which depicts Hungary’s responsibility in the deportation of Jews during the Second World War as insignificant.

### **Samantha Power’s speech at the Berlin OSCE Conference**

*Berlin, Germany*

*Source: Népszava, Youtube video sharing portal<sup>11</sup>*

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Anti-Semitism Conference of the OSCE was held in Berlin on 12–13 November, also attended by a delegate of Action and Protection Foundation who presented its activities.

On 13 November, Samantha Power,<sup>12</sup> UN Ambassador for the United States gave a speech at the office of the German Foreign Ministry. In her speech she also spoke about Hungary as she analyzed the European extreme right, mentioning the Greek Golden Dawn and Hungarian Jobbik parties: “In Hungary – where the extreme ethnic nationalist Jobbik party finished second in May elections, and where public opinion polling has shown a high level of anti-Semitic attitudes, the government has cracked down as well on the independ-

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Op\\_ohGqvqoU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Op_ohGqvqoU) (date accessed, 11 December 2014).

<sup>12</sup> One of the closest advisors to US President Barack Obama. Diplomat, and Pulitzer-winning journalist. She has reported for the *U.S. News and World Report*, *The Economist*, as well as the *The New Republic*.

ent press and civil society groups. [...] authorities have pressured the media to tone down or abandon sensitive, critical stories [...] All this at the same time a new government-commissioned monument to the Second World War depicts Hungarian “victims of German occupation” – but makes no mention of the major role the Hungarian government and citizens played in the mass extermination of Jews.”

### **Fighting anti-Semitism an important goal**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

The Kézdy György Prize of the Élet Menete (March of the Living) Foundation was awarded on 21 November.<sup>13</sup> The Prize was awarded to János Székely, Auxiliary Bishop of the Esztergom-Budapest diocese, and secondary school teacher Ferenc Mátraházi. At the function Israeli ambassador to Hungary, Ilan Mor emphasized that “the greatest benefit of the Holocaust Memorial Year was that it happened” and that the racism and anti-Semitism, which still pose a threat, as well as the “need” for these to be fought, became a matter commonly discussed, a hot topic in the media.

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<sup>13</sup> The prize is awarded to two persons annually, who in the course of their professional lives or otherwise are outstanding in the service of the following goals: to remember and help remember authentically the decisive moments in history that have become a part of our national, historical identities.

György Kézdy was an actor who had been awarded the Jászai Mari Prize, and the Magyarország Érdemes művésze (Outstanding Hungarian Actor’s Prize). He had performed the major roles of classical tragedies and modern works, applying the tools of grotesque portrayal among others.

(Source: [hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kézdy\\_György](http://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kézdy_György))

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## OTHER NEWS

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### **Series of film shorts against prejudice**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

The Unified Hungarian Jewish Congregation (EMIH) reported to MTI on 13 November that it had had a series of fifty film shorts made by director Péter Gárdos. Fifty artists, public figures and scientists speak in these shorts about their memories, or personal experiences they have with Jewry. The aim of the series is to demolish stereotypes with regard to Jewry and to show how even non-Jewish public figures come face-to-face with such prejudices.

### **Jobbik procession mounted on white horses**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

Jobbik remembered Miklós Horthy's ceremonial entrance into Budapest on November 16. The remembrance, held on the occasion of the 95th anniversary of the event, began on Kosztolányi Dezső Square, where Előd Novák, Vice-President of Jobbik urged that by the latest, on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary an equestrian statue of Miklós Horthy should stand on Saint Gellért Square. Gergely Dobay, Vice-President of the Hatvannégyszéki Ifjúsági Mozgalom (Sixty-Four Counties Youth Movement) called upon those participating, to look upon their lives from an objective point of view, because they were not doing enough for their homeland.

The participants numbering approximately two-hundred, walked to Saint Gellért Square after the speeches, with horsemen leading the procession. People in the procession held Hungarian flags, flags with the stripes of the Árpád dynasty, and Jobbik flags, with the rear brought up by members of the Hungarian National Guard and the Hungarian Self-Defense Movement. A small truck in the middle carried speakers from which period songs could also be heard, and the procession chanted slogans such as “Down with Trianon!” (the treaty marking out Hungary's present borders) and Horthy's name.

On the podium erected on Kelenhegyi Street, Marcell Tokody, the Jobbik representative for the Budapest General Assembly set the goal of making the “rainbow colored and red rags” drop from the city, so it could be a capital of the Hungarians. Loránt Hegedűs, Calvinist pastor described Miklós Horthy as a symbolic figure, emphasizing: until he can be abused with impunity, the same can be done with the whole of the Hungarian nation.

The party Együtt-PM protested against the procession in a public statement: “Miklós Horthy is one of those responsible for one of the greatest fateful tragedies of the Hungarian nation, the Holocaust, and is thereby responsible not only for the deaths of Hungarian soldiers, but indirectly responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Hungarians of Jewish and Roma origin.”

### **Controversial date proposed for celebration of Hungarian flag**

*Budapest*

*Source: MTI*

According to a proposal submitted by Fidesz, 23 March would be declared the day of celebrating the Hungarian flag and coat of arms.

On 26 November the Chairman and faction leader of MSZP, József Tóbiás qualified the date of 23 March as inappropriate for such a celebration, as it could be tied to both Mussolini and Hitler. Benito Mussolini announced the formation of his Fascist party on this day in 1919, while Hitler announced the Enabling Act giving him absolute powers on the same day in 1933.

# IMPORTANT STEPS TAKEN BY ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION (TEV)

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## **TEV files complaint against individual unknown for public denial of the crimes of the national socialist regime—Investigation ordered**

*Budapest*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

On 10 November, the Foundation filed a complaint at the Police Station in Hajdúböszörmény, against an unknown individual for the public denial of the crimes of the national socialist regime.<sup>14</sup>

B. J. shared a montage on his Facebook user profile on 12 July 2014. In the comments under the montage he wrote: “This picture reveals almost everything about my faith, ideology and with whom I belong...” The index finger of a hand seen on the photo points towards the photo of the user profile with the inscription below it reads: “Does not recognize Israel as a state and does not believe in the Holocaust legend.” According to the justification in the complaint, by positioning the Holocaust as a legend the offender distances the concept from its objective, real existence, draws its ever having happened into question, and thereby realizes the acts regulated by the above provisions. The montage also carries the following message: “Collective guilt: The things this race is doing in Palestine, all the Jews of the world must be held responsible for! This ‘invasive race’, which is as pestilential as all other such races of the Earth, but where science stands at this stage, it cannot be exterminated! Yet the progress of science is unstoppable! Let us wait and hope!”

In a letter dated 18 November the Police Headquarters of Hajdúböszörmény informed the Foundation that it had ordered an investigation.

## **Order for the continuation of the investigation in the case dealing with Jobbik’s Nagyszénás organization**

*Orosháza, Békés County*

*Source: Action and Protection Foundation*

The Foundation filed a complaint with the Budapest Police Headquarters—Department of Criminal Investigations against an individual unknown on 27 May 2013 for questioning the fact of the genocide committed by the National Socialist regime. On 1 December 2011, Jobbik’s ground organization in Nagyszénás published an article among its national news items that questioned the fact of the Holocaust having occurred. The title of the article was ‘Olvasói levél – Ismét izzik a holokauszt...’ [Reader’s letter—The Holocaust smolders

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<sup>14</sup> On the basis of data that can be found on online community portals, and freely available to the public, it can be safely assumed that the user is permanently resident in the town of Hajdúböszörmény (Hungary).

again], and the author was given as Attila Pónya. The author of the article questioned on the one hand, the gas chambers ever having existed, and on the other, whether the genocide ever occurred. In his opinion the reason people were transported to the concentration camps was not to exterminate them, but to harness their labor force. The author of the article engages in calculations from which he concludes that it is questionable whether the concentration camps had any Hungarian victims at all. The case was transferred to the Police Headquarters in Orosháza with a decision of 10 June 2013, due to lack of competence and jurisdiction.

With a decision on 6 June 2014, the County Prosecutor's of Orosháza suspended the ongoing criminal procedure in the case. According to the Prosecutor's Office the offender had indeed denied the fact of the genocide committed by the National Socialist regime in wide public. However to investigate the place the article was uploaded and identify the perpetrator of the crime it had become necessary to contact Slovakian criminal justice authorities for a legal-aid cooperation, under the framework of which witnesses would have to be questioned, and data secured.

On 24 November 2014, a continuation of the investigation was ordered by the Orosháza County Prosecutor's Office, as the Slovakian criminal justice authorities had completed the tasks requested in the legal-aid request of the Orosháza County Prosecutor's Office, whereby the reason for the suspended investigation had been cleared, and the investigation is to be continued.

## 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 November	Anti-Semitism not yet rampant	On Anti-Semitism in Hungary
2.	4 November	Two-year sentence for assault on a reporter	Official and Civil Responses
3.	5 November	Government supports anti-Semitism	On Anti-Semitism in Hungary
4.	6 November	Zero tolerance in Hungary	On Anti-Semitism in Hungary
5.	7, 10 November	T-shirt with Hitler portrait sold at a t-shirt store	Anti-Semitic Hate Incident (not included in statistics)
6.	8 November	Does Hungary actually show zero tolerance?	On Anti-Semitism in Hungary
7.	10 November	TEV files complaint against individual unknown for public denial of the crimes of the national socialist regime—Investigation ordered	Action and Protection Foundation steps taken
8.	13 November	Ball bearings used to break window of Jewish school	Anti-Semitic Hate Incident (not included in statistics)
9.	13 November	Samantha Power's speech at the Berlin OSCE Conference	On Anti-Semitism in Hungary
10.	13 November	Series of film shorts against prejudice	Other News
11.	14 November	Opinion voiced at a right-wing book launch qualifies as hate speech	Hate Incident: Hate Speech
12.	16 November	Israeli occupation of the White House	Hate Incident: Hate Speech
13.	16 November	Jobbik procession mounted on white horses	Other News
14.	21 November	Fighting anti-Semitism an important goal	On Anti-Semitism in Hungary
15.	24 November	Anti-Semitic messages scribbled on poster of a television program	Hate Incident: Hate Speech
16.	24 November	Order for the continuation of the investigation in the case pertaining to Jobbik's Nagyszénás organization	Action and Protection Foundation steps taken
17.	26 November	Another poster defaced	Hate Incident: Hate Speech
18.	26 November	Controversial date proposed for celebration of Hungarian flag	Other News
19.	30 November	Jedi sword meme	Anti-Semitic Hate Incident (not included in statistics)
20.	–	Having photographs taken with Hitler	Anti-Semitic Hate Incident (not included in statistics)



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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**

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