

**ANTI-SEMITIC  
HATE CRIMES AND  
INCIDENTS REPORT**



*July 2015*



**BRUSSELS INSTITUTE**



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



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.

The monitoring activity of TEV Foundation identified four anti-Semitic hate crimes in July. One case is an attack: a ticket controller for the Budapest Transportation Centre (BKK) called a person travelling without a ticket a “*homeless, Jewish whore*”, and pulled her hair. Three cases are incidents of hate speech: at the Budapest Pride, a man wore a T-shirt with a spread-out Star of David on it; a Facebook profile owner threatened the Jews — among others — with a bullet or a rope; and a man walked into the beach at Balatonlelle with tattoos of an Imperial eagle and a Swastika. One case that happened in the month of July can be categorized as Other anti-Semitic hate crimes, since the anti-Semitic intention cannot be proved. The report also describes several events connected to the Holocaust in Hungary and anti-Semitism.

TEV Foundation filed no complaint in July 2015, but the Constitutional Court accepted the constitutional complaint lodged by the EMIH and the TEV Foundation.

## 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, having forty-three members of parliament making hate speech far more ever-present in both Parliament and other organized events. These circumstances brought Action and

Protection Foundation into being. Among the forms of civil association offered by Hungarian law, Action and Protection Foundation chose the form of foundation; it was registered in November 2012. The Foundation seeks to provide an alternative to the ineffectual legal steps taken against deteriorating standards of public discourse, exclusion, and the ignorance in which anti-Semitism is rooted, as well as atrocities and hate crimes.

### 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.

*Unity*

Action and Protection Foundation is a registered civil organization. Among those actively participating in the work of the Foundation are 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.

## ABOUT THE REPORT



General opinion on, and treatment of Hungarian anti-Semitism is often unusually extreme. Voices are heard on the one hand, that belittle the importance of such offences and manifestations. On the other hand, on occasion it may be the case that in relation to one-off incidents<sup>1</sup> 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 is one of the tools of achieving this objective. The monitoring results are published by the Foundation on a monthly basis. Apart from the monthly report, an annual summary review including more detailed analyses on the offences committed in the course of the year is also prepared.

The fight against hate crimes bears exceptional importance, because they differ from other forms of criminal conduct. These crimes may be considered messages of a kind, and thus point beyond private actions. This additional import becomes manifest in various social realms: on the level of the individual, the group attacked, and of society as a whole. The victims may suffer a greater psychological and emotional trauma. In the case of these crimes not “only” the property, or physical integrity of victims is endangered, but also their self-respect. These offences question the right of

the individual to equality, even of belonging to society itself. It is important that in the course of such crimes the victims are the target of attacks because of some unchangeable characteristic, and for this reason may well feel more defenseless. The victims are often afraid that they may again become victims of further atrocities. Inappropriate handling of such incidents can easily lead to a secondary victimization of the targeted person. This type of criminal act also has a strong 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 on the one hand, encourage the perpetrators, or even others to commit further crimes in the same mold. On the other, it significantly diminishes the cohesive power of society (Levin és McDevitt 1999, 92–93; OSCE/ODIHR 2009a, 19–21; OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 17–18; Perry 2001, 10).

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



It may be stated in general that fewer hate crimes are reported, and in the event documented, than are committed. Victims often do not report them to the police. A number of reasons may cause this implicitly. Firstly, many do not feel assured that the authorities will treat these incidents adequately, either because they are not sufficiently prepared, or due to prejudice. Certainly there are many victims who are not clear about the applicable legal regulations. Victims may feel shame, or fear that one of their concealed traits will be exposed. Lesser categorizations of the crimes are also frequent, where official authorities do not establish the hate-crime motivation. It is civil organizations

that can help remedy these problems. Cooperation with state organs—such as the police, or the Public Prosecutor’s office—may be particularly beneficial<sup>2</sup>. Reports prepared by civil organizations can be expedient in alerting the official authorities to hate motivated crimes in the country. Long-term tendencies can be outlined on the basis of the collected data. Civil organizations can help in setting particular cases on track for legal process, may provide legal defense for the victims, and give various other forms of aid. These organizations may also serve as intermediaries between the victims and the police (OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 34–36).

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

## METHODOLOGY



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

**hate crime:** a crime as defined by the criminal code, which has been motivated by prejudice against a certain group of people<sup>4</sup>

**hate-motivated incident:** an offence, also based on prejudice against a certain group of people, but not reaching the level of criminal conduct.

The heightened importance of individual hate crimes is indicated by the fact that the criminal code of numerous countries deals with these cases separately. Hungarian criminal legislation identifies two forms of hate crime: violent offences committed against the member of a group, and incitement to hatred of a community. The recently adopted Criminal Code (Act C of 2012) deals with these in Chapter XXI, Paragraph 216, on crimes against human dignity and certain basic rights, as well as Chapter XXXII, Paragraph 332, on crimes against public peace. The crime of violence against a member of a group may be established if the perpetrator assaults or otherwise coerces the victim, because they belong to a protected

group. Additionally, this is also the case if the perpetrator demonstrates provocative behavior against a community that is apt to cause alarm. The crime is only affected if there is a concrete victim. Incitement against a community most often means hate speech, and it can only be defined as such on the condition that it is committed in public. Incitement to hate crimes does not target concrete individuals but a group of people. It is important to add that other crimes may also be categorized as having been committed on racist motives. In such cases the courts must pass a heavier sentence<sup>5</sup> (TASZ 2012, 3–4). Apart from these, Paragraph 333 of the Criminal Code also describes the crime of denial of the crimes of the National Socialist regime. Furthermore, Paragraph 335 bans the distribution and use in wide public, or public display of the symbols of various autocratic regimes among them the swastika, the SS insignia, arrowcross).

Detailed descriptions of approaches to, and recent tendencies in the definition of hate incidents can be found in our May Report. The report also cites the findings of literature in this field internationally. The present report presents hate crimes and hate incidents motivated by anti-Semitism, wherever perpetrator, target, means or message of a case

<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.

suggest it. The target may be a person, a group, an event, a building, a monument or other property. It is important however, that anti-Semitic motivation can only be spoken of if the perpetrator chose the given target expressly because it was assumed to belong to Jewry. In this context it is not finally relevant whether the assumption is correct: the belief of the target's connection to Jewry is sufficient. In the course of monitoring, on one hand, all incidents that fall in the category of hate crime are considered hate incidents. These may be crimes identified as such by the Criminal Code (violent assault of a member of a community, incitement to hatred of a community, denial of the crimes of the national socialist regime, use of symbols of autocratic regimes), but can also include other acts mentioned in the Criminal Code, if prejudice can be proven as a motivating factor. When identifying hate incidents, various indicators recorded during the monitoring 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 in monitoring anti-Semitic hate incidents the simultaneous use of a variety of sources is required. The victims' filed reports are of especially great importance to this study. If the victim cannot, or does not want to file a report with the Brussels Institute, the involvement of an intermediary may be facilitated to gain information. Such an intermediary may be a family member, acquaintance of the victim, a witness of the incident or another civil organization. The earlier mentioned 24-hours-a-day Hotline operated by the Foundation serves to ease the passage of reports. Additionally there are

options for online filing of reports, which allow even greater anonymity for the person placing the report.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Hate incidents that are not accounted for in the statistics:**

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

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

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

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

- Homicide: any attack on a person that causes loss of life
- Extreme physical violence
  - 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 selfdefense, 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.

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

## ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS

*July 2015*



The monitoring activity of TEV Foundation identified four anti-Semitic hate crimes in July, of which one is an attack, and three cases are instances of hate speech.

### Attack

#### *Offence of Jews on a BKK bus*

Budapest

Source: TEV Foundation

In the beginning of July on a Budapest Transportation Centre (BKK) bus, a person travelled without a valid ticket or season ticket and could not justify that travel to the ticket controller. The ticket control turned into an assault. The controller pulled the person's hair and called the person a "homeless Jewish whore". The verbal insult continued after they got off the bus. The plaintiff, who is the victim of the attack, has requested that no further details be provided.

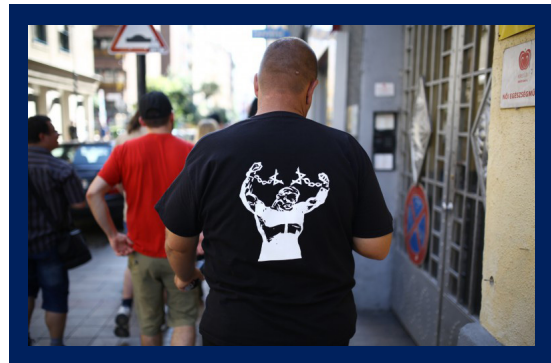
### Hate speech

#### *Anti-Semitic T-shirt at the Pride*

Budapest

Source: !!444!!!

At the 20th Budapest Pride held on 11 July, the photographer of !!444!!! portal took the photo of a man among the counter-protesters wearing a T-shirt with a figure who is breaking the chain with a Star of David that has bound his hands.



The anti-Semitic T-shirt, Source: !444!!!



*Anti-Semitic, racist threat on Facebook*

Hungary

Source: TEV Foundation

The TEV Foundation received a report on 20 July that on 16 July a person with Facebook profile K. K. posted a meme with the following text as a cover photo: *“If you come to Hungary and you are a Jew, a Gypsy or a Nigger, go back to where you came from, for people like you can only get a bullet or a rope around here!”* (literal translation). The image format exactly copies the banners of the campaign »*National consultation about immigration and terrorism*« organized by the Hungarian government.



Cover photo posted by K.K., *Source: Facebook.*



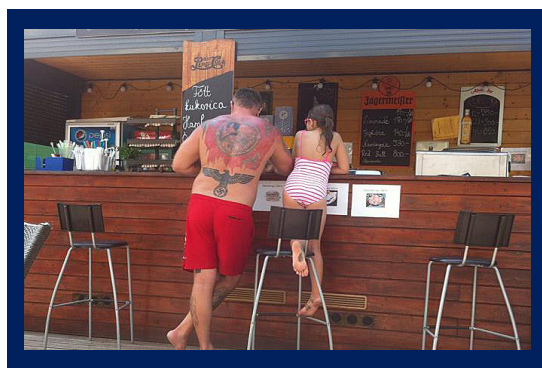
A banner of the campaign organized by the Government: *“If you come to Hungary, you cannot take the work of the Hungarians!”*, *Source: Index*

*Tattooed symbols*

Balatonlelle, Somogy County

Source: Index

In an article dated 21 July, the Index presented a photo picturing a man shopping at the Balatonlelle beach with a tattoo on his back representing the coat of arms of Nazi Germany with the Imperial eagle and a swastika.



The man on the beach at Balatonlelle, *Source: Index*



The coat of arms of Nazi Germany, *Source: Internet*

## FURTHER ANTI-SEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS



The TEV Foundation identified one case in July 2015 which cannot be included in the statistics as the anti-Semitic intention cannot be proven.

*Memorial plaque removed at Kőszeg*

Kőszeg, Vas County

Source: Vas Népe Online

On the night of 22 July, one or more persons removed the memorial plaque placed on the

former Rabbi's house in Kőszeg, reconsecrated on 11 May. The plaque honored the memory of the forced labor comrades tortured and killed between 1943 and 1945. An inhabitant of Kőszeg noticed the missing plaque on 23 July. The person thought that the reason for the removal of the plaque was not profit, because it was not made of metal.

Further information on the case is offered in the part Official and civil responses.



## COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESPONSES



*Interactive educational film against hate speech*  
Hungary, United States  
Source: MTI

The M1 Channel reported on 24 July that János Hasulyó and Gergő Szatmári created an interactive educational film against hatred and hate speech, entitled »*Never again*«. János Hasulyó said that the work started as a historical film on the subject of the Holocaust, but before the final version, they had a test screening for a young audience, and completely transformed the conception based on their feedback. *“Hatred has always existed and will always exist, but what is important is how the growing generation treats this question”*, said Hasulyó. He also said that they wanted this film to transmit a positive example of everyday acts

of tolerance. Gergő Szatmári emphasized that they tried to address people of all social strata, so they interviewed Hungarian Holocaust survivors, British football supporters, Csaba Böjte, and Oscar-winning actor John Voight. Slomó Köves, Executive Rabbi of EMIH Unified Hungarian Jewish Congregation, said in the film that there is something about the Holocaust that makes it different from any other terrors of the 20th century, and perhaps also world history. People were collected into camps on an industrial level to be exterminated, and history does not offer many examples of this. Andrew Friedman, head of Los Angeles County local government, said that anti-Semitism is like cancer: it spreads. It can only be stopped by education and learning about different cultures.

## OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES



### *Debrecen's General Assembly condemned Tibor Ágoston's action*

Debrecen, Hajdú-Bihar County

Source: MTI, Népszabadság

In a 2 July article, Népszabadság reported that the procedural committee of the General Assembly of the city of Debrecen would examine the residential petition that initiated an indignity procedure<sup>9</sup> against local government representative of Jobbik Tibor Ágoston. The private person said that the representative's statements were of a nature to weaken the public trust in him. He continued: Jobbik President Gábor Vona's ambition to remove the "wildlings" from the party in favor of a people's party should be supported, and the representatives should rule out Ágoston from joining the General Assembly for behaving in a way unworthy of a representative.

László Papp, Mayor of Debrecen, said at an improvised press conference following the closed session of Debrecen General Assembly on 24 July, that the General Assembly condemned Tibor Ágoston in a decision for purposefully using the terms "holohoax" and "holocaust" in January 2014, as we recorded in our respective monthly report. László Papp said the statement of indignity did not have its legal conditions, but the General Assembly considered necessary to condemn the behavior of Jobbik representative Tibor Ágoston.

*"It is unacceptable in every respect for someone to make fun of, or relativize or deny the Holocaust, the greatest sin of world history."* He added that members of the Jewish community are respected and appreciated citizens of Debrecen, and it is in the town's interest that nobody breaks the harmony between the different religious faiths. *"Based on its moral and political value system,"* the General Assembly condemned Tibor Ágoston's behavior, and requested that he apologize to the Jewish community and all of Debrecen's citizens said László Papp.

### *Court decision reached in a case of violence against members of a community*

Pécs, Baranya County

Source: bama.hu

The bama.hu Baranya County news portal reported on 3 July that a man from Siklós, aged 26, was fined. The young man with two other accomplices put up two posters downloaded from a far right Hungarian portal in Siklós. On one of the posters, a man in military uniform holds a sword in his right hand, and a man with a Star of David hanging from his earlobes in his left hand, with the caption *"Join the fight!"* underneath. The other poster is a map of Europe with a skull and the message: *"more immigrants, less work, more taxes, worse public safety."*

<sup>9</sup> Law CLXXXIX of 2011 on the local governments of Hungary stipulates that *"the decree of the body of representatives withdraws the mandate of local government representative for reasons of indignity in case that (a) he/she was condemned to prison; [...] (f) he/she impedes the execution of the binding court decision ending the legal procedure taking place against him/her, or fails to execute it by his/her own fault."* Anyone may initiate an indignity procedure at the town's Mayor's Office.



The abovementioned poster also appeared on a BKK vehicle in November 2013, *Source: TEV Foundation*

The Siklós District Court sentenced the perpetrators to probation and a fine for violence against a member of a community in October 2014, but ignored the fact that the crime was committed by three people, and it could have been classified as a group felony. In this case, the sentence should not have been simple probation and a fine, but suspended or mandatory prison. As the prosecution did not make an appeal, the first instance sentence could not be aggravated, although the second instance court changed the classification of the crime to group felony. The Court of Pécs upheld the 90,000 HUF fine for N. Z. No information is known about the punishment of the other two perpetrators. Nicholas Dean, member of the Senior Foreign Service, Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, head of the US delegation for IHRA, in Washington that the Hungarian Government is engaged in an ongoing consultation with the Hungarian Jewish community and would also like to continue talks with the international organisations concerned.

*Charges brought against Mihály Zoltán Orosz*  
Nyíregyháza, Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County  
Source: MTI

Zsolt Zsíros, Head of Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg County Prosecution Office, wrote in his 15 July report sent to MTI that the Nyíregyháza District Prosecution Office pressed charges against Mihály Zoltán Orosz, independent Mayor of Érpatak, for the crime of continuous instigation against a community.

The accusation claimed that Mihály Zoltán Orosz held a speech in front of the local government building as the Mayor of the city at a celebration in the summer of 2014. *“The purpose of the speech was to induce feelings of fear, dislike, and hatred towards certain groups, and incited to action against a falsely presented attack”*, said the prosecutor.

Zsolt Zsíros quoted the accusation that the perpetrator had a person employed by the local government hang puppets representing the leaders of Israel, with humiliating texts hanging from their neck, and treaded on a piece of paper imitating the flag of Israel but containing symbols of freemasonry. At the traditionalist commemoration following the event, the Mayor also held a speech inciting people to hatred. Both events were filmed and uploaded to the Internet.

The Prosecution proposed suspended imprisonment and the permanent inaccessibility of the online data.

*Complaint filed at Kőszeg*

Kőszeg and Szombathely, Vas County

Source: Kőszeg régen és most Facebook page, Vas Népe Online

We reported in the Other anti-Semitic hate crimes part that the memorial plaque on the former Rabbi's house in Kőszeg was removed by unknown persons.

The »Kőszeg régen és most« Facebook page published on 23 July the statement of Europe House Association (Európa Ház Egyesület) of Kőszeg, in which the presidency said that a complaint was filed on that day to the Police Headquarters of Kőszeg.

Sándor Márkus, President of the Jewish Congregation of Szombathely, was astonished by the incident at Kőszeg, because the thieves could not have been motivated by profit. *“This is baffling for me also because anti-Semitism is not characteristic at all of Szombathely or our county”*, said Sándor Márkus in the 27 July article in Vas Népe Online.

*“Holohoax” woman visited the Museum*

Budapest

Source: Népszabadság, TEV Foundation

We reported in April 2015 that the Szeged District Court passed a binding judgment on 16 April 2015 in the case of the woman who wrote the following comment on the occasion of Rudolf Höss's<sup>10</sup> visit to Budapest in December 2014: *“Let's forget this holohoax, and even if it was true, what does this man have to do with his grandfather's actions???”* (literal translation). The woman was sentenced to one and a half year of probation and was ordered

parole supervision. The defendant was also ordered to visit the Holocaust Memorial Centre in Páva Street, Budapest.

The woman visited the Memorial Centre on 29 July, where a special guided tour was organized for her. Tibor Pásztor of TEV Foundation accompanied her. After the tour the woman said that the exhibition was a shocking experience, and that it was inconceivable for her how humanity was ever capable of such a thing. Tibor Pásztor said that the TEV Foundation does not wish to stigmatize as a Nazi anyone who uttered some wrong words out of ignorance or hotheadedness. The aim is also not to increase the number of prisoners. The Foundation wants to fight anti-Semitism primarily with education and by sharing knowledge, while at the same time the denial of the Holocaust cannot be an alternative for reality.

10 Grandson of Reiner Höss, former camp commander in Auschwitz.

## NEWS AND OPINIONS ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN HUNGARY



No event has been identified in July connected to anti-Semitism in Hungary.

## OTHER NEWS



*Several organizations protesting against planned Bálint Hóman-statue in Székesfehérvár*

United States

Source: ATV, Népszabadság

We reported in June that the 15 June General Assembly of Székesfehérvár supported the idea of erecting a statue for Bálint Hóman in the centre of Székesfehérvár.

The US-based, Jewish NGO Anti-Defamation League (ADL) requested on 8 July that the Hungarian Government reject the idea of the planned statue of the anti-Semite Bálint Hóman. *“Bálint Hóman sponsored anti-Jewish laws, was a Nazi supporter, and a minister under the anti-Semitic Horthy regime”,* said Abraham H. Foxman, American director of the ADL. *“Honoring him would send a terrible message to Hungarian society.”* *“Prime Minister Viktor Orbán committed to a zero tolerance policy for anti-Semitism and this is a perfectly fitting case to apply it.”*, said Foxman, President of the League since 1987. *“Erecting a statue to honor someone who has such a vivid and horrific past should never have risen to consideration in Hungary.”*

ATV reported on the same day that the World Jewish Congress in a letter to the Mayor of Székesfehérvár requested that he give up his plan of erecting a statue to Bálint Hóman. Ronald S. Lauder, President of WJC, asked Prime Minister Viktor Orbán to stop the erection of the statue. *“It is quite outrageous that the Hungarian taxpayer should fund a monument for a man who was not only an anti-Semite, a key figure in the persecution of Hungarian Jews before and during World War II”,* wrote the President of WJC. András Heisler, Vice-President of WJC, said, *“Bálint Hóman was an emblematic figure of the humiliation and deportation of Hungarian Jews. He was an anti-Semite who deserves no respect.”*

On 10 July János Lázár, Minister heading the Prime Minister’s Office, said to ATV that although the government does not deal with historical matters, they would reply to the letter of WJC, and added: it is not he who wants the statue for Hóman, and Székesfehérvár’s choice is a matter of the local voters and government.

## ACTION AND PROTECTION FOUNDATION LEGAL ACTIONS



### *Case accepted by the Constitutional Court*

Budapest

Source: TEV Foundation

Former Jobbik Parliament representative Balázs Lenhardt held a speech and burnt the flag of Israel at a public celebration. The EMIH Unified Hungarian Jewish Congregation and TEV Foundation filed a complaint against instigation against a community (term then in effect: *“incitement against a community”*).

The developments of the case were summarized in the chapter on *»Anti-Semitic hate crimes and incidents in Hungary«* of the 2014 yearly report. In the end, the negative decisions in the case permitted the EMIH and TEV to lodge a constitutional appeal on 29 May 2014 to annul the previous decisions.

The Constitutional Court informed the parties on 8 July 2015 that the complaint was accepted and will be discussed.





## 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.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Incident</i>	<i>Category</i>
1	2, 24 July	Debrecen's General Assembly condemned Tibor Ágoston's action	Official and civil responses
2	3 July	Court decision reached in a case of violence against members of a community	Official and civil responses
3	8 July	Case accepted by the Constitutional Court	Action and Protection Foundation legal actions
4	8, 10 July	Several organizations protesting against planned Bálint Hóman-statue in Székesfehérvár	Other News
5	11 July	Anti-Semitic T-shirt at the Pride	Anti-Semitic hate crime: hate speech
6	15 July	Charges brought against Mihály Zoltán Orosz	Official and civil responses
7	16 July	Anti-Semitic, racist threat on Facebook	Anti-Semitic hate crime: hate speech
8	21 July	Tattooed symbols	Anti-Semitic hate crime: hate speech
9	22 July	Memorial plaque removed at Kőszeg	Further anti-Semitic hate incidents
10	23. 27 July	Complaint filed at Kőszeg	Official and civil responses
11	24 July	Interactive educational film against hate speech	Community news and responses
12	29 July	"Holohoax" woman visited the Museum	Official and civil responses
13	–	Offence of Jews on a BKK bus	Anti-Semitic hate crime: attack



## CONTACT AND SUPPORT



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

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

Notifications of such incidents are received by the Foundation through any of the following means:

### **HOTLINE**

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

The website of Action and Protection Foundation:

[www.tev.hu/forrodrot](http://www.tev.hu/forrodrot)

The Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-](https://www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-vedelem-alapitvany)

[vedelem-alapitvany](https://www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-vedelem-alapitvany)

Action and Protection Foundation's undertaking can only be successful if great numbers share in our commitment to prepare the grounds for the right to fair process for all those who have suffered 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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