

ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES
AND INCIDENTS REPORT
IN HUNGARY

JULY 2021



ACTION AND PROTECTION
LEAGUE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



A significant part of combating antisemitism is monitoring of the prevalence of antisemitic incidents. One of the aims of the Action and Protection League (APL) is to heighten the awareness of antisemitism in the society. The primary tool in achieving this is continuous professional monitoring of hate crimes in public life. Neither Jewish communities nor individual Jews can be protected unless there is data on antisemitic incidents and other hate crimes and that these are collected and analysed. The data collected by the Action and Protection League, cooperated with Action and Protection Foundation (APF), are published in monthly reports, and a summary of the findings is published for the individual countries/regions in a yearly report. The monitoring report is carried out by the APF.

The reports deal with two forms of behaviour: antisemitic hate crimes and hate-motivated incidents. Both types of behaviour are referred to as "hate incidents" in the reports. The main difference between an antisemitic hate crime and other hate crimes is that the former possesses an antisemitic motive. Due to differences in legislation and application of legislation in various countries, there are different interpretations of which antisemitic incidents that are violations of criminal law. In addition are some hate-motivated acts, albeit troubling for Jews, not considered criminal if they, e.g., are considered belonging to the realm of freedom of speech. The APL considers it essential to record both types of hate incidents in order to gain a general overview and to make it possible to analyse changes over time.

In order to have the most extensive scope possible, the APL uses a variety of sources simultaneously. The incidents are not only recorded, but the characteristics of the individual incident are also analysed. The data recorded includes the incident's location, the perpetrator (if known), victim, and consequences (if any). In addition, are the various types of incidents differentiated in the reports.

Based on its sources, APL found four antisemitic hate incidents during its monitoring activities in July. Two of them are classified as Hate Speech, two as Damage to Property.

In the first case, a swastika appeared on a transformer house in Szeged, while in the second case, a swastika was painted on a public area in Miskolc. Furthermore, some people protested against Budapest Pride with a Nazi salute, and a young man greeted András Jámbor and Ferenc Camara-Bereczki with a Nazi salute.

This month we have identified one further hate incident: a picture of Hitler was hung in front of a house in Leányfalu by those who did the same with an SS flag last year.

APL did not initiate any legal proceedings this month, nor did we receive any notifications regarding our previous proceedings.

ACTION AND PROTECTION LEAGUE

In the last decade there has been a rise in antisemitism in Europe. Surveys by e.g. the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)¹ and the ADL Global 100² show a broad spectrum of antisemitism and how it fluctuates over time.

The character of antisemitic incidents is quite different in the monitored countries concerning content, expressions, and perpetrators. Current antisemitism is mainly connected to Islamism, Far-right groups, and Far-left groups. Islamist expressions are most frequent in countries with large Muslim populations in Western Europe and uncommon in Eastern and Central Europe. Far-left expressions of antisemitism can often be found disguised as Anti-Zionism in Western Europe and is often connected to the conflict in the Middle

East. In East and Central Europe, right-wing expressions of prejudice against Jews frequently have old roots, not only among groups related to Fascism and Nazism, but at times also in populist-nationalist settings. In several countries Jews have found themselves under more threat during the last decade. This does not only include physical attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions but is also visible in the growth of conspiracy theories, online hatred, and political campaigns favouring banning of, e.g., brit milah and kashrut.

Countering antisemitism becomes an increasingly urgent issue for Europe. Action and Protection League of Europe (APL) has been established to explore the causes of modern-day antisemitism and to implement effective defense.

¹ EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS: ANTISEMITISM - OVERVIEW OF DATA AVAILABLE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION 2008–2018
² <https://global100.adl.org>

ABOUT THE REPORT

The general opinion on, and treatment of, antisemitism often takes extreme forms. On the one hand, some voices try to belittle the importance of such offenses and manifestations. On the other hand, on occasion, one-off incidents are exaggerated in the public arena to such an extent that they give the impression that they are frequent or a regular part of daily life. Knowledge of the actual situation(s) is an indispensable condition for the treatment of real problems. Monitoring of antisemitic hate crimes and incidents³ is one of the tools used in achieving this objective.

From 2019 the Action and Protection League has decided to monitor seven European countries. In the first stage, data is collected from seven countries: Austria, Czechia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Sweden, and more countries will be added later. All countries have their own particularities and vast differences when it comes to the monitoring of antisemitism – in some cases, there are several organisations with similar goals as the APL and in other countries, few or no similar activities. In no case will APL try to replace existing organisations, but rather seek cooperation and exchange of data.

Apart from the monthly reports, an annual summary review, including more detailed analyses on the incidents, is published. All reports are published in English, and almost all are published in the local language.

The fight against hate crimes is of utmost importance since it differs from many other forms of criminal conduct. On one level can these crimes and incidents can be considered as messages. They are not only about the victim in question but points to a larger group. Antisemitism and other hate crimes are thus not only attacks against individuals, but the social fabric of the society as a whole. This does not, of course, diminish the distress and psychological trauma which individual victims might

suffer. These crimes are often not “only” against property or lead to physical threat of individuals, but it also concerns self-dignity. The offenses indicate that the victim is not an equal member or a member at all of the society. Since hate crimes, in general, target victims due to some unchangeable characteristics (real or imagined), the victim becomes almost defenseless. Victims often fear that they may again be targets of similar incidents or worse atrocities if they identify perpetrators to relevant authorities. Inappropriate handling of such incidents may easily lead to secondary victimization where the victim can be led to believe that it was their fault, e.g., by not being careful enough, etc. This type of criminal act also, as mentioned, has an effect on the group as a whole. The victims of these crimes are often interchangeable, since they are not targeted at individuals and any other member could just as well have been targeted. This means that all members of the targeted group become potential victims and might live in fear of a future when they themselves may be the target of a prejudice-motivated crime. This situation is particularly poignant for groups that have been exposed to prejudice for a long time. There is no need to justify at length why Jews belong among such groups. These crimes undermine the fundamental value that all members of a society are of equal value. Inadequate handling of such incidents can have grave consequences for the society as a whole. Not only may it encourage the perpetrators to commit further crimes, but it significantly diminishes the cohesive power of society as a whole⁴.

It is not an exaggeration to state that fewer hate crimes are reported and documented than are committed. The discrepancy between committed crimes and reported crimes vary significantly between different countries is not necessarily connected to the number of Jews. A contributing factor

³ See detailed definitions in the *Methodology* section.

⁴ Levin & McDevitt 1999, 92-93; OSCE/ODIHR 2009a, 19-21; OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 17-18; Perry 2001, 10).

to the under-reporting is that victims rarely report them to the police or relevant authority. There are several causes for this: many victims are not convinced that the authorities will handle the matter adequately, either because they lack the competence or that they are prejudiced. In addition, many victims are unaware of applicable laws or where to turn for help. Furthermore, some victims are worried that their concealed traits will be exposed and that they might suffer more by reporting incidents. Victims might also fear that authorities will not be able to prove a hate-crime motivation and that reporting is thus useless.

It is civic organizations that can help remedy these problems. These organizations can cooperate with police and relevant authorities, but also an intermediary between victim and authority. Reports by civic organizations can be expedient in alerting official authorities on hate-motivated crimes, and long-term tendencies can be outlined through the use of collected data. Civil organizations can prepare cases for legal process, may provide legal defense for victims, and give other forms of aid and support.

METHODOLOGY

The report deals with two types of offense: hate crimes and hate motivated incidents. These are defined by OSCE as follows⁵ (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 people⁶
- hate-motivated incident: an offense, also based on prejudice against a specific 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. Although there is a widely accepted definition of antisemitism (see IHRA 2017), there is currently no consistent definition of hate crimes in the countries monitored by the APL.

In addition are the legal consequences different in the monitored countries. This means that an incident which a crime in one country could be legal in another. The obvious example concerns the so-called Holocaust denial, which, e.g., is outlawed in Hungary, but legal in several countries monitored by APL. Since the Action and Protection League has a broad scope when it comes to data collection, everything is covered in the reports, but in some instances, similar acts are filed as a crime in one country and "only" an incident in another. In every case, we follow the definitions in the criminal code of the individual countries. We estimate that this problem will diminish over time due to the adaptation of the same definitions and legislation in the European Union.

Our reports contain detailed descriptions of the definition of hate incidents and our approach to solving the problems. The reports are based on sources taken from international, independent monitoring services, local informants as well as data collected by other organizations working with same or similar issues.

The monthly report presents hate crimes and hate incidents motivated by antisemitism in the broadest possible sense: perpetrator, target, means, or message. The target may be a person, a group, an event, a building, a monument, or other property. It is essential, however, that an antisemitic motivation can be established. This means that the perpetrator chose the given target on the basis that he/she was Jewish or perceived as being Jewish. It is thus not relevant whether the assumption is correct or not: 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 also considered hate incidents. These may be crimes identified as such by the Criminal Code in the individual country (e.g. 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 etc.), 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 are recorded during the monitoring period⁷ and are used as the basis for examining whether the given action could have been motivated by antisemitism.

For the broadest possible scope in monitoring antisemitic hate incidents, the simultaneous use of a variety of sources is required. In addition to media monitoring, reports from local informants the Action and Protection League also rely on reports filed by victims. In Hungary, the Action and Protection League has a 24-hours-a-day Hotline that serves to ease the passage of reports. The goal is to supply a similar service for the other countries so reports can be filed in the local languages. It is also possible to file reports anonymously online. Such reports will be of especially great importance to this study. If a victim cannot or does not want to file a report, the APL can use an intermediary to help the victim in the process. Such an intermediary may be a family member, an acquaintance of

5 The scientific definition of hate crimes is extremely contradictory and divergent (for more on this, see Chakrabarti 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.

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

7 These indicators are described in the Methodology section

the victim, a witness of the incident, or another civil organization.

It is a declared objective of the League to be in close contact with the authorities, since in some countries, they are the first to be approached by victims or witnesses.

A variety of media channels also represent relevant 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 online hatred as a phenomenon that is continually growing.

The public discourses are monitored by a team of experts. One of our aims is to cover the 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 comment arenas and extreme, hate inciting websites. The monitoring process is carried out systematically, according to precisely prepared standards.

Among the monitored hate incidents, some are considered a part of the statistics, but some are recorded, though not counted as part of the statistics.⁸

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

- The hate incidents have to have occurred in the countries monitored; no matter whether the victim is a citizen of the country or not
- Any action, incident, atrocity that is aimed at Jewish individuals, organizations or property where an antisemitic 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, antisemitic message was paired with the vandalism [for example, a Jewish synagogue's window is broken with a stone])

- Antisemitic comments that have been reported to Action and Protection League appearing on blogs, forums, community pages and similar.
- Antisemitic and neo-Nazi material delivered to particular Jewish individuals, Jewish organizations, institutions
- Antisemitic and neo-Nazi material deposited at Jewish-owned property, Jewish organizations, institutions or similar
- Criticism related to Israel and Zionism, if they go beyond a political statement and serve to recall traditional anti-Jewish stereotypes
- Moreover, events apt to raise fear among Jews.

Hate incidents that are not accounted for in the statistics⁹ :

- Antisemitic hate incidents that are related to the countries monitored and Jewry in these countries, but for some reason do not belong to the scope of the statistics (e.g., they did not occur in the country in question, antisemitic intent cannot be proven, or the circumstances are unclear)
- Expressions of hate that appear regularly on homepages, in comments and online forums, but have not been reported to Action and Protection League.
- Other news that only indirectly are linked to antisemitism

A number of the aspects of the registered incidents are recorded. The indicators that help decide whether a given incident was motivated by prejudice are mentioned above.

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 — possible legal — consequences.

⁸ The following were used to develop these criteria: ADL 2012, CST 2013

⁹ The criteria for hate incidents that are not accounted for in the statistics were modified, therefore the present description is different from the one we used in 2013.

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 follows¹⁰:

- 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
 - Hate speech 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 environment in which they occur. The dynamics of these incidents is also of importance: often the processes, rather than separately occurring events (Perry 2001, 8). Apart from the static data, short descriptions of each event are also published, which leads to a better understanding of the environment surrounding the incidents.¹¹ In presenting timelines, attention will always be given to showing the dynamics of the events.

¹⁰ CEJI 2012, 10–12

¹¹ These descriptions, in particular, are held to be the most positive aspect of the Anti-Defamation League reports by Perry (2001, 16).

ANTISEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS – JULY 2021

Action and Protection League identified four antisemitic hate incidents over the course of its monitoring activities in the month of July. Two of them are classified as Hate Speech, and two as Damage to Property.

HATE SPEECH

Anti-protesters flash Nazi salute at Budapest Pride

Source: nlc.hu, 444.hu

25 July 2021 According to nlc.hu and 444.hu, some of the protesters against the Budapest Pride parade displayed the Nazi salute against the event and its participants.

András Jámbor and Ferenc Camara-Bereczki were welcomed with a Nazi salute and racist remarks

Source: merce.hu

31 July 2021 "On Friday, in the middle of Józsefváros, the Fidesz hate campaign came to us," writes András Jámbor, the Szikra Mozgalom (Spark Movement) candidate for MP at the opposition primary in Budapest's Sixth Districts, on his Facebook page. The former editor-in-chief of Mércé reports that while talking to Ferenc Camara-Bereczki, municipal councillor of Józsefváros, a young man came up to them, who at first seemed interested but quickly changed his tone, reports merce.hu. According to Jámbor, the young man repeatedly said that as long as the opposition does nothing, Fidesz is good.

Then he insulted Camara-Bereczki for his skin colour and called for him to "leave the country", followed by other racist remarks. The young man also abused András Jámbor by using antisemitic language because of his

alleged origin and announced that he would call Zsolt Bede, known for his extreme provocations. He then greeted the two politicians with a Nazi salute, Jámbor writes.

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

Swastika painted on a transformer house in Szeged

Source: delmagyar.hu

6 July 2021 A swastika and other inscriptions typical of football hooligans appeared on the Tátra Square transformer in Szeged, reports delmagyar.hu. Journalists asked the electric company if there exists a way to remove the inscriptions. The forbidden totalitarian symbol was discovered in March.

Any person who distributes, uses before the public at large, or publicly exhibits the swastika, the insignia of the SS, the arrow cross, the sickle and hammer, the five-pointed red star or any symbol depicting the above to breach public peace – specifically in a way that offends the dignity of victims of totalitarian regimes and their right to sanctity – is guilty of a misdemeanour or more serious criminal offence.

Another swastika painted on a public area in Szolnok

Source: szoljon.hu

20 July 2021 Another antisemitic provocation took place in Szolnok, where unknown perpetrators painted a red swastika on the pavement of the Tisza Promenade. The Szolnok Urban Management announced on its community page that the forbidden authoritarian symbol was removed immediately, writes szoljon.hu.

FURTHER HATE INCIDENTS

A picture of Hitler was hung in front of a house in Leányfalu by those who did the same with an SS flag last year

Source: 444.hu



24 July 2021 Again this year, police officers had to visit the residents of a house in Leányfalu who had displayed an SS flag on the facade of their house a year ago. This

time a picture of Adolf Hitler was hung with the following German inscription: Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer. In English: One people, one realm, one leader. The story was reported by 444.hu, which recalls that two witnesses immediately called the police during last year's incident, but no proceedings were instituted.

The people in the house claimed that because they work in electricity, one of them decided to represent their 44th birthday with two lightning bolts on a flag. The flag was removed after the police visited. Although the case was investigated, in the absence of any offence, it was dismissed. Months later, the prosecutor's office reexamined the decision and, citing process deficiencies, ordered the police to re-open the case.

In the case of the Hitler portrait, police proceedings were initiated against the landowner for "rowdyism." The Pest County Police told 444.hu that although the Hitler portrait does not constitute a symbol of totalitarianism, it has caused outrage to many pedestrians. As a result, the police received several individual complaints upon which infringement proceedings for rowdyism were initiated.

Police also said the SS flag case is still under investigation as the use in public of a totalitarian symbol.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESPONSES

Remembering the Holocaust victims in Szekszárd and Karcag

Source: boon.hu, teol.hu, szoljon.hu

4 July 2021 About six hundred victims of the Holocaust were remembered at a ceremony jointly organized by the Hungarian-Israeli Friendship Society, the Szekszárd Jewish Community and the Szekszárd Municipality, teol.hu reports. Tamás Friedmann, president of the Hungarian-Israeli Friendship Society, emphasised that they remembered the senseless murder of six hundred local Jewish people and reminded everyone that such an event would not happen again.

János Gyurkovics, Deputy Mayor of Szekszárd, recalled that children and adults, women and men, honest and dishonest people, wealthy citizens and poor people were driven with the same horrible cynicism towards the gas chambers in Auschwitz and the surrounding camp. "When we enter this building, which once served as a synagogue, let us never forget that these walls also guard the memories of so many Jewish people from Szekszárd who died there."

Rabbi Peter Deutsch recalled the flourishing Jewish community life that once existed, the prominent personalities of the Jewish community, and then added that for the next generation, horrors must be remembered so that this never happens again.

The commemoration in Karcag was held in the Jewish cemetery, where the leader of the local Jewish community, Barnabas Csillag, recalled the events of seventy-seven years ago. Mayor Tibor Szepesi emphasised the importance of remembering and reminding people of what happened, szoljon.hu reports.

IDF paratroopers recreated WWII jump in honour of poet-soldier Hannah Senesh

Source: akibic.hu, szabadmagyarszo.com, fuhu.com

11 July 2021 Some 100 Israeli soldiers participated in a parachute jump in Central Europe as part of a weeklong educational trip in honour of the 100th birthday of Hungarian-born soldier and poet Hannah Senesh, captured and killed by the Nazis after she parachuted into Hungary during World War II. Several soldiers from the Hungarian, Slovenian, Croatian and British militaries also took part in the jump at the Cerklje military airbase in Slovenia, not far from where Hanna Senesh and other Jewish paratroopers landed in Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. The Israeli delegation also held a commemoration in the Jewish cemetery on Kozma Street in Budapest, akibic.hu reports.

After the jump, the soldiers set out on the route taken by Senesh and her companions to join the local partisan units. At the end of the march, a monument was unveiled in Csáktornya, in honour of the Jewish paratroopers who took part in the Second World War, where the Hungarian gendarmes captured Szenes.

The Hungarian-born Senesh immigrated to Mandatory Palestine in 1939 and quickly joined the Haganah, the forebear of the IDF. During World War II, she joined a Jewish contingent of the British military and parachuted into then-Yugoslavia, continuing on foot to Hungary to meet up with partisans there. She was captured at the border, interrogated and sentenced to death. Her remains were later moved to Israel and reinterred in the Mount Herzl National Cemetery.

OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES

Charges were brought against two men for celebrating Hitler's birthday with a swastika banner

Source: magyarnarancs.hu, telex.hu, index.hu

9 July 2021 The public prosecutor of Szolnok pressed charges against the 23-year-old and 19-year-old perpetrators for using a totalitarian symbol. According to magyarnarancs.hu, they put up a 200x180 cm swastika banner on April 18 in Szolnok, on the Tiszavirág Bridge, to celebrate the birthday of Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler. On the banner, they wrote: "There is no other way for me: victory or death", and put a swastika on it as well. The banner was removed by an unknown person a couple of hours later.

Two days later, the two men returned and put up another banner on the underpass of Pozsonyi Street. They wrote on the banner: "Life does not not forgive weakness," and put a swastika on this one, too. They made a mistake by using the double negative, writing the word "not" twice, so they went home for spray paint. The police caught them not far from the underpass. One of them even had SS badges on his clothes. The officers removed the banner the same evening. The court of Szolnok will decide on the issue.

According to the former mayor of Újpest, he was snubbed by a rabbi from Mazsihisz for criticising László Bíró

Source: neokohn.hu, magyarhirlap.hu

19 July 2021 According to the former socialist mayor of Újpest, László Bíró, the joint candidate of the opposition who is well-known for his antisemitic and racist manifestations, is unacceptable, as well as László Varju, MP of the opposition Democratic Coalition, who supports him.

In a letter sent to András Heisler, the president of Mazsihisz, Tamás Derce wrote that at last year's martyr commemoration in Újpest, it was shocking to see that no one was pres-

ent from the local authorities. He said that there had been no examples of this in the last thirty years, writes neokohn.hu.

According to Derce, László Varju should not come to the church this year, stand among those who remember the martyrs, light a candle in their memory, and then go to Szerencs to campaign next to the openly anti-Jewish, racist candidate, László Bíró. László Varju wants to bring into parliament a man who is openly antisemitic, ideologically not far from those who voted for Jewish laws or the Arrow Cross Party, he says. However, after his speech, Derce said that Ervin Szerdócz, the rabbi of Mazsihisz, accused him of narrating a text written by Fidesz.

Tamás Derce emphasised: The rabbi of Újpest has a responsibility to raise his voice against those who even tacitly support antisemitic, racist public figures, and he cannot insult those who raise their voices against it.

The president of Fradi speaks out against antisemitism in Jerusalem

Source: nso.hu

22 July 2021 "I have to emphasise that this topic is dear to me", said the president of Ferencvárosi TC, Gábor Kubatov, who gave a speech at The Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism in Jerusalem. This topic has been a priority in the life of Ferencváros for years, and last November, the club joined the initiative of the International Holocaust Remembrance Association (IHRA) and adopted its definition of antisemitism, nso.hu reports.

It is important to know that Fradi has a very big social impact; more than 2 million Hungarians support Ferencváros. As a result, it matters what FTC stands for. "We have stated earlier what we think about exclusion and antisemitism. We've also said that in sports, it doesn't matter what colour your skin is, nor your background, your religion, or whether you're poor or rich. On the field, opponents are equal to each other,

and this is how it should be in life as well. We have rules, which we follow consistently, and actions have consequences. That is why we have a very strict stadium-access system. If someone commits a crime here, I want to know their name and where they live, and then I don't want to let them into the stadium again," said Kubatov.

He pointed out that ten years ago, a swastika flag was brought to the stadium; nine years ago, a fan hung a totenkopf-patterned banner; and eight years ago, a man named László Csatáry, leader of the Košice death camp, was memorialised. After these incidents, they called on the perpetrators to report themselves and take responsibility. "After that, we introduced the most stringent measures, which I think are unprecedented in Europe. We allow access with a club card and a vein scanner, which is extremely secure", underscored the FTC president.

The Jewish community can count on the government

Source: magyarhirlap.hu

22 July 2021 It will never happen again that anyone in Hungary will have their rights infringed upon based on their nationality, ethnicity or religion. The Jewish community can count on the government, said the State Secretary responsible for civil society relations in the Prime Minister's Office, Vince Szalay-Bobrovniczky.

Vince Szalay-Bobrovniczky said at an event in memory of Hannah Senesh, organized by the Jewish Heritage in Hungary Public Endowment, that the state has a great responsibility to ensure that everyone learns about the past to combat all forms of discrimination, writes Magyar Hírlap, based on an MTI report.

"Guaranteeing the security of our Jewish community is a top priority for Hungary,

and Hungarian Jewry can always count on the help and support of the Hungarian government", he said. He added that while the past cannot be changed, remembrance provides an opportunity for dialogue, learning about history, and processing the tragedies suffered.

Praising Hannah, he said, she was one of the Hungarians who had the courage and the presence of mind to take control of her destiny and try to do something for the Jews in Hungary as much as possible.

Although she failed in her task and paid with her life, she set an example during World War II with her actions, morals, and vocation and inspired the later founders of the State of Israel.

Yacov Hadas-Handelsman, the ambassador of the State of Israel in Budapest, quoting Hannah Senesh's diary entries, said she was a simple young girl, full of hope. Yet, she became a hero who sacrificed her life for others.

As a passionate soul coupled with an extraordinary will, Hanna symbolized courage even in the darkest periods of modern history. Hanna has become a true example of idealism and heroism. He stressed that remembering the life of Hannah Senesh is essential not only for Jews but also for the whole of Hungary.

Paul Fox, the UK ambassador to Budapest, called Hannah Senesh an exceptional hero and martyr who joined the British Women's Reserve Air Force in Palestine and the Special Operations Unit.

György Szabó, president of the Jewish Heritage in Hungary Public Endowment, said that preserving the memory of Hanna Senesh is extremely important for Hungarian Jews. "Her courage, her love for both her homeland and Israel, and her self-sacrifice faithfully reflect the feelings and emotions of Hungarian Jewry."

According to Péter Jakab, he is a persecuted Jew
Source: neokohn.hu

28 July 2021 In an interview with Politico, the president of Jobbik believed the government was attacking him with antisemitic messages. Péter Jakab answered the question about the fears of the Roma and Jewish community in Hungary by saying: "If they were afraid of the old Jobbik, they should be afraid of Fidesz today", neokohn.hu cites the conversation.

According to the article, "Jakab, whose grandmother was of Jewish descent, accuses the governing party of using antisemitic messages against him".

Jobbik is nominating a candidate for the position of mayor of Szeged who is publicly demanding racial protection

Source: 24.hu

25 July 2021 Péter Tóth is a leading candidate of Jobbik for Szeged mayor, who has regularly posted extremist content on his social media page. The nomination of Tóth was announced on Thursday. The party emphasised that the consistent representation of Jobbik's program, ideology and ideas were an essential aspect in the nomination, reports 24.hu. Péter Tóth, who also likes to use Nazi terms, has called for racial protection

in numerous public Facebook posts, including the abolition of Slovakia and the glorification of the Greek neo-Nazi Golden Dawn party.

The newspaper also cites one of Tóth's comments to an article by Kurucinfó, which reported that no Jewish education was requested in any school in Csongrád County. "Thank you to all my fellow warriors from Csongrád County for their work!" he stated. "The problem was already seen in 1920", he commented on another article that called Judaism a problem in the world.

He reacted to last year's Budapest Pride by saying he would fight against "liberal scum and genetic waste" to the very end. "I'm starting to feel like the liberal shit is covering us in a beautiful silence." To this, he added a song by the Szálasi-admiring band, Vádló Bitófák, which includes the phrase "hook-nosed unwanted".

Earlier, 444.hu reported that Péter Tóth had published a presentation in which he had an idea about "representing the cause of the Hungarian race", "repressing the Gypsies", and "recovering the territories occupied by the Gypsies". He also mentioned eugenics and Lebensraum in his study, concepts that are characteristic of National Socialism. The study was prepared for Jobbik's lebensraum workgroup in Szeged. Tóth's public posts and comments are no longer available.

OTHER NEWS

Facebook makes it difficult to deny the Holocaust in Hungarian

Source: tev.hu

12 July 2021 From January, users searching for the Holocaust or Holocaust denial on Facebook were directed to the "Facts about Holocaust" informational website created by the World Jewish Congress (WJC) and UNESCO. Directing users to the online educational resource is the most recent example of Facebook's efforts to eliminate Holocaust denial from its platform. In addition to details of the massacre, the website also includes testimonies from survivors. The site was available in 12 languages, and from July 13, it can be read in even more languages, including Hungarian, writes tev.hu.

The website summarises easy-to-understand facts about the extermination of European Jewry and the mass murder of other national, ethnic and political groups during World War II. However, it also contains survivors' testimonies to offset misinformation circulating on social media and other online forums.

The project is the latest tool on the world's largest social media platform in the fight against antisemitism and Holocaust denial. It aims to prevent Facebook users from falling victim to "spreaders of hatred and ignorance", reads the WJC statement.

Edith Bruck does not want to return home to Orbán's Hungary

Source: fuhu.hu, civilhetes.net, 168.hu

12 July 2021 Edith Bruck, born in Tiszakarád and whom Pope Francis recently visited in Italy, does not intend to move back to Hungary. The 90-year-old writer, elected vice president of the Dante Society, was deported to a death camp with her family in 1944, where most of her relatives died, fuhu.hu relates.

Asked by La Repubblica delle Idee, she said she has bad memories of the Hungarian language and the Hungarian people. Nevertheless, she translated the works of Attila József, Miklós Radnóti and Gyula Illyés into Italian.

According to Bruck, many people in Hungary are racists and antisemites, so she fears being hurt because of her Jewish origins. Bruck hopes that Viktor Orbán will soon fall out of power, and after that, real democracy can be built in Hungary. In the interview, she talked about how hard it was to withstand what happened to her, yet since there are very few survivors of the Holocaust, she considers it her moral duty to tell us about her life. Bruck said her story serves as an example so that no one again experiences the cruelty that happened to her and her family. That's why she talks to young people. She remarked that there is no more hatred and anger in her against God, but she can never forgive letting millions of people perish during the Holocaust.

At the meeting with Pope Francis, they discussed, among other things, Edith Bruck's latest book. The discussion focused on her time spent in the concentration camp and the current problems of today.

Anti-Israelism used by the opposition in the Pegasus spyware case

Source: neokohn.hu, tev.hu, mandiner.hu

22 July 2021 In the growing cyber-surveillance case, the opposition is trying to present the Jewish state and its former prime minister in an unfavourable view. "A powerful Israeli cyberweapon was revealed, Hungarian journalists and critics of Orbán were also targeted", read a telex.hu article shared by the two leading politicians of the Dialogue for Hungary party, Gergely Karácsony and Tímea Szabó. Several opposition politicians seem to consider it essential to overemphasise the Israeli thread of the case for some reason, as can be found in the compilation by tev.hu.

Momentum politician Anna Orosz wrote on Facebook, "In connection with the LGBT law, they used Putin's methods, and now Netanyahu's methods are imported by Fidesz", even though Benjamin Netanyahu did not surveil online communication of opposition politicians or independent journalists with spyware.

Bernadett Szél also wrote on her community page that "this is not the first time that the government in Hungary has used Israeli-based intelligence tools against its opponents. Remember: Before the 2018 elections, a private intelligence company with Israeli ex-spies was used to discredit Hungarian civilians".

Péter Márki-Zay, Mayor of Hódmezővásárhely and President of the Everybody's Hungary Movement (MMM), published specifically antisemitic graphics on social media. The picture titled "This is Orbán's Watergate, if he is a Democrat, he has to give up" shows Viktor Orbán with the Star of David and a menorah next to his head, one of the most famous Jewish symbols.

The picture chosen by Magyar Narancs is also strange: It shows Minister of Internal Affairs Sándor Pintér standing in front of an Israeli flag. Meanwhile, 444.hu published an article about Pegasus with a cover photo of Benjamin Netanyahu.

The journalist of mandiner.hu, Bernát László Veszprémy, noted that it is an old line that Israel is intervening in Hungarian internal affairs. In the past, the far-right used this, now it is used by the left.

Historian Attila Novák also criticized Israel in his article in Szombat magazine. "Any element influencing another country's domestic politics should be excluded from the cooperation between the [Israeli and Hungarian] secret services, which should be limited to joint counter-terrorism actions", he emphasised.

Hungarian-Israeli Media Center Organization (MIMC): Hamas's narrative represented by the left-wing press during Gaza conflict

Source: hetek.hu

28 July 2021 The MIMC has analyzed the Israel-related news of three major left-wing news portals (Mérce, 444, Telex) and one minor news portal (Azonnali) and have concluded that all four of them have shown obvious anti-Israel bias, clearly preferring the narrative of Hamas over that of Israel — the very same Hamas labelled a terrorist group by the EU and Hungary. All four of these news portals have included distorted facts, one-sided reports and outright lies or mistakes in their reporting, reads the research report cited by hetek.hu.

The report mainly examined articles dating from 6 May 2021 to 6 June 2021. All articles on the Gaza conflict had in common that neither Hamas, which rules Gaza, nor Islamic Jihad was referred to as terrorist organizations and that they said that the Jewish state was set up as an aggressor.

Journalists at Mérce referred to Hamas and Islamic Jihad as "militants" but refrained from calling them terrorists. They emphasized that Hamas did not have technology comparable to the Iron Dome and underlined that the fighting was not between armies of equal power. They wrote that, according to Israel, "they have killed four high-ranking (Hamas) officers in Gaza, which does not help the de-escalation of the conflict, just like it does not help that prime minister Netanyahu has announced more murders to come". The violent riots in Lod and Akko were simply described as demonstrations, and it was stated without any evidence that Israel maintained an apartheid system. Netanyahu, prime minister at the time of the articles reviewed, was, however, identified as a murderer in his response to the terrorist attacks.

444.hu also attacked Netanyahu, and there was a clear indication that the prime minister would use the situation to maintain his position of power. In its reports published during the conflict, Telex wrote, without any evidence or support, that Israel deported hundreds of thousands of Arabs from the country in 1948, carrying out ethnic cleansing.

Azonnali articles suggested that Israel had committed genocide against the Palestinians; the journalists also identified the Jewish state as a colonizer, responsible for the situation in Gaza, collectively punishing the Palestinians, treating children as terrorists, and maintaining a "classic apartheid system".

**ACTION AND PROTECTION
FOUNDATION
LEGAL ACTIONS**

APF did not initiate any legal proceedings this month, nor were we notified of any ongoing cases.

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.	4th of July	Remembering the Holocaust victims in Szekszárd and Karcag	Community News and Responses
2.	6th of July	Swastika painted on a transformer house in Szeged	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Damage to Property
3.	9th of July	Charges were brought against two men for celebrating Hitler's birthday with a swastika banner	Official and Civil Responses
4.	11th of July	IDF paratroopers recreated WWII jump in honour of poet-soldier Hannah Senesh	Community News and Responses
5.	12th of July	Facebook makes difficult the Holocaust denial in Hungarian	Other News
6.	12th of July	Edith Bruck does not want to return home to Orbán's Hungary	Other News
7.	19th of July	According to the former mayor of Újpest, he was snubbed by a rabbi from Mazsihisz for criticizing László Bíró	Official and Civil Responses
8.	20th of July	Another swastika painted on a public area in Szolnok	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Damage to Property
9.	22nd of July	The president of Fradi speaks out against antisemitism in Jerusalem	Official and Civil Responses
10.	22nd of July	Anti-Israelism used by the opposition in the Pegasus spyware case	Other News
11.	22nd of July	The Jewish community can count on the government	Official and Civil Responses
12.	24th of July	A picture of Hitler was hanged in front of a house in Leányfalu by those who did the same with an SS flag last year	Further Hate Incidents
13.	25th of July	Jobbik is nominating a candidate for the position of mayor of Szeged who is publicly demanding racial protection	Official and Civil Responses
14.	25th of July	Anti-protesters flash Nazi salute at Budapest Pride	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Hate Speech
15.	28th of July	Hungarian-Israeli Media Center Organization (MIMC): Hamas's narrative represented by the left-wing press during Gaza conflict	Other News

No.	Date	Incident	Category
16.	28th of July	According to Péter Jakab, he is a persecuted Jew	Official and Civil Responses
17.	31st of July	András Jámbor and Ferenc Camara-Bereczki were welcomed with a Nazi salute and racist remarks	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Hate Speech

CONTACT AND SUPPORT

Action and Protection League is the civil initiative of a number of Jewish organizations that is ready to take resolute steps to curb increasing widespread antisemitic manifestations.

The Action and Protection Foundation is the partner of the Action and Protection League in Hungary.

In case anyone faces insults or antisemitic 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) 5 1 00 000

The website of Action and Protection League: www.apleeu.org

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

Action and Protection League'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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2021 Budapest

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