

ANTISEMITIC HATE CRIMES  
AND INCIDENTS REPORT  
IN HUNGARY

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FEBRUARY 2020



ACTION AND PROTECTION  
LEAGUE

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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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 are published in monthly reports, and a summary of the findings is published for the individual countries/regions in a yearly report.

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 is 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.

Action and Protection Foundation (APF) identified four incidents of antisemitic hate crime this month. Two of these incidents were classified as vandalism and two as hate speech. In the cases of vandalism, one involved a swastika being painted on a World War II memorial, and the other a young person scribbling a swastika in Kozármisleny. In one case of hate speech a security personnel on duty at Ferenc Liszt Airport threatened and Jew-baited a taxi driver in the heat of argument. In the other case, a German speaker at the Neo-Nazi event held on the Day of Honor in the Városmajor

Park in Budapest quoted Adolf Hitler, while banned symbols of totalitarian regimes were displayed at the following program event, the Break-Out Memorial Hike in the evening.

This month, there were three items in the Further Hate Incidents section. This section includes news items and events that are

hate crimes, however, because their time of occurrence is unknown, or due to insignificance or lack of clear antisemitic intent, they are not part of the statistics.

This month Action and Protection Foundation (APF) initiated no new legal proceedings, and no progress was made in previous cases.

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## ACTION AND PROTECTION LEAGUE

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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)<sup>1</sup> and the ADL Global 100<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>1</sup> EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS: ANTISEMITISM - OVERVIEW OF DATA AVAILABLE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION 2008-2018

<sup>2</sup> <https://global100.adl.org>

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## ABOUT THE REPORT

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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 incidents<sup>3</sup> 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 whole<sup>4</sup>.

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

<sup>3</sup> See detailed definitions in the *Methodology* section.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

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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>5</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>6</sup>
- 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 period<sup>7</sup> 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

<sup>5</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>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup>

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 statistics<sup>9</sup> :

- 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.

<sup>8</sup> The following were used to develop these criteria: ADL 2012, CST 2013

<sup>9</sup> 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 follows<sup>10</sup>:

- 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.<sup>11</sup> In presenting timelines, attention will always be given to showing the dynamics of the events.

<sup>10</sup> CEJL 2012, 10–12

<sup>11</sup> These descriptions, in particular, are held to be the most positive aspect of the Anti-Defamation League reports by Perry (2001, 18).

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## ANTISEMITIC HATE INCIDENTS

### – FEBRUARY 2020

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Action and Protection Foundation (APF) found four antisemitic hate incidents over the course of its monitoring activities in February. The incidents are classified as vandalism and hate speech.

#### VANDALISM

*Swastika painted on memorial of the Volunteer Regiment of Buda*

Source: [nepszava.hu](http://nepszava.hu), [merce.hu](http://merce.hu)

**February 7, 2020** It was first reported by the newspaper Népszava that the anti-Fascist World War II memorial erected on Vérmező in 1967 had been defaced with a swastika. The Nazi symbol had been sprayed onto the marble tablet placed under,



source: [nepszava.hu](http://nepszava.hu)

explaining the sculpture. The largest armed formation of the Hungarian anti-Fascist resistance was formed of Hungarian soldiers ready to fight on the side of the Red Army in February 1945. 2,500 soldiers participated in the battle to liberate the Hungarian capital, and 600 of them perished. The Ministry of Defense organizes a wreath laying ceremony at the memorial every February, a tradition that was continued even after the change of regimes, under both right- and left-wing governments.



source: [nepszava.hu](http://nepszava.hu)

Attila Vajnai discovered the banned symbol of a totalitarian regime and noted that one of the arms of the swastika was missing, so the culprit must have had to escape in haste. Vajnai immediately notified the mayor for District 1, and filed a complaint

with the police, which arrived at the scene immediately. (This was not the first time the memorial had been defaced, e.g. with an inscription in 2008 saying “TRAITORS!”).

The date when the statue was defaced is probably not coincidental, with one of the most important annual events of the Hungarian far right falling on 8 February, the Day of Honor and the attached Break-Out Memorial Hike.

*A young person scratched swastikas in Kozármisleny*

Source: [bama.hu](http://bama.hu), [police.hu](http://police.hu)

**February 23, 2020** Police apprehended a young person vandalizing cars in Baranya County. Reports came in to the police of a number of cars that had been vandalized on the morning of Saturday, 22 February. The police established on site that the rear-view mirror of seven cars had been broken off, while spray paint was used to deface the wall of a bust stop and its bike stand, while swastikas had been sprayed onto the wall of a house and a garage door. The police identified and caught the 18-year-old local youth suspected of the violations the same evening. He was brought to the police station, interrogated as a suspect, and admitted his actions. The Pécs Police Headquarters is investigating him for disorderly behavior, vandalism and the use of banned symbols of totalitarian regimes.

#### HATE SPEECH

*The Day of Honor in Budapest*

Source: [merce.hu](http://merce.hu), [akibic.hu](http://akibic.hu), [nepszava.hu](http://nepszava.hu), [atv.hu](http://atv.hu), [neokohn.hu](http://neokohn.hu), [168ora.hu](http://168ora.hu), [magyarnarancs.hu](http://magyarnarancs.hu), [azonnali.hu](http://azonnali.hu)

**February 1-3, 5, 7 and 8-10 2020** *Merce.hu* reported that the police had issued prohibitions for two extreme right public events organized for 8 February on Kapisztrán Square in Buda in advance. One of the events would have been a procession from Clark Ádám Square to Kapisztrán Square. (The first of

these Day of Honor processions was organized on 11 February 1997 by the radical nationalist neo-Nazi Hungarian National

Front, under the leadership of István Györkös (who later became a police murderer.) The organizers filing for the public assembly intended to hold a memorial in tribute to the German and Hungarian military

formations breaking out of Buda Castle beginning on the evening of 11 February 1945, while under Soviet siege during World War II. Breakout Day, or the Day of Honor is one of the major annual events of the Hungarian far right.

Among the reasons cited by the Budapest Police Headquarters is an article by Krisztián Ungváry published a year ago on *Kibic.hu*. In this article the historian wrote that the Hungarian soldiers participating in the breakout

were not heroes, because they were not defending Europe, but rather prolonging the death throes of Nazi Germany, since by the time of the breakout the western front stretched along the River Rheine.

The police statement established: the memorials are tied to extremist groups and can be clearly linked to the so-called Day of Honor. The speeches and music that would be heard at the event, and the appearance of the participants were apt to create fear and a sense of threat in onlookers. If the event is held, it may take a significant toll on public order and public peace, which are at the core of democracy, and international treaties offer the state the possibility to restrict or ban such events.

A third event was also registered with the police for the same day, to be held in Városmajor Park, also banned by the police initially. However, after an appeal the Budapest Municipal Court overruled this ban with justification involving complex legal grounds.

Meanwhile, three local governments, those of Districts 1, 2 and 12, protested the “Day of Honor” and together distanced themselves from the event announced by radical groups. The Local Government of Buda Castle reserved Kapisztrán Square to make it impossible for the extreme right Day of Honor memorial hike to begin there. It was announced at the same time that the three municipalities would remember the 1944 siege of Budapest with a shared open-air exhibition.

This was the third time Városmajor Park was the site of the so-called Day of Honor commemoration, after 2017 and 2019. The extreme right, neo-Nazi, radical nationalist event with about five-hundred participants was organized by the Légió Hungária and the Hungarian Hammerskins, but members of the Outlaws’ Army, the Hungarian Self-Defense Movement, and the Sixty-Four Counties Youth Movement also attended. Foreign far right organizations, Czechs, French, Bulgarian, Russian, and German were also represented at the demonstration. A German, Matthias Deyda, representing the neo-Nazi group Die Rechte, even gave a speech at the World War I (and II) memorial. He called attention to how the family name of the enemy is not Müller, but Rotschild, Goldman and Sachs. At the end of his speech he quoted “the greatest Ger-



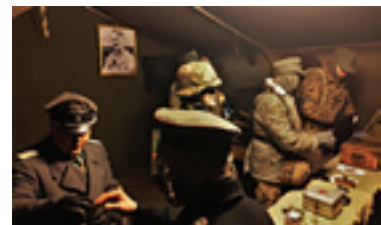
source: 168ora.hu



forrás: neokohn.hu



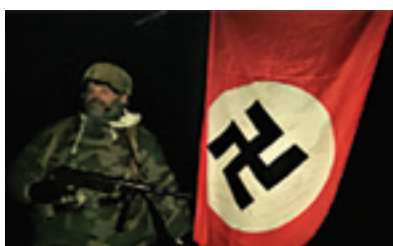
source: magyararancs.hu



source: azonall.hu

man statesman”: “(Es) genügt nicht die blosse Ablegung des Bekenntnisses: Ich glaube, sondern der Schwur: Ich kämpfe!” (Adolf Hitler). “For them, the mere pledge ‘I believe’ is not enough; instead, they will swear to the oath ‘I will fight!’”

To complete the commemoration the participants laid wreathes at the temporary memorial erected in remembrance of those fallen



source: azonnali.hu

in the breakout, composed of a German military helmet placed atop a wooden and iron cross.

Five hundred anti-fascists protested continuously against the neo-Nazi demonstration, the two groups were separated by a metal fence and a line of police.

The Holocaust survivor, rabbi Péter Kardos also came to the “Day of Honor” event. Responding to the question why he came to the event, he replied that after the Arrow Cross had executed her, along with many others in the beginning of 1945, his grandmother’s dead body was found in this park. And now, he said, “these people are marching here. I wanted to see them!”

There was also an endurance hike the same day, the Memorial Breakout Hike, in the same spirit as the “Day of Honor”, and reported from the scene by Azonnali.hu. “The morale and organization are excellent on this hike”, the hiking correspondent wrote. The hike’s thematic checkpoints described as above sported a gentleman dressed in the uniform of the SS Death’s Head Units, a German military march, the “über alles” version of the German national anthem, a mannequin with an SS uniform, a Nazi flag flying over Hárs-Hill and a portrait of the swastika-adorned Adolf Hitler at Virágosnyereg.

So many banned symbols of totalitarian

regimes in the name of preserving heritage? (Heritage is the cultural legacy of our ancestors. Heritages reflect the values and worldview of a given society.)

*Threats and Jew-baiting at Budapest Ferenc Liszt Airport*

Source: 24.hu

**February 2, 2020** The online news portal 24.hu published the video uploaded to YouTube a day earlier, of a heated argument, loud exchange between a security guard in service at the airport and a taxi driver. In the short video recorded by the taxi driver, nothing is revealed about the preceding events, but we do see the security guard first laughing at him, then threatening him for making the video, and finally Jew-baiting the taxi driver.

“Five thousand less! How will you now sleep, you Jew?” he shouts at him, to which the taxi driver takes offence: “Don’t speak with such Jew hatred!” he keeps repeating.

The news portal asked Budapest Airport, the airport operators for comment on the incident. The company said the security agency working for them had relocated the aggressive guard to another workplace as a consequence of the case. According to Budapest Airport, the subject of the altercation was the taxi driver “hunting” for passengers in a part of the airport where it was not allowed.



Zártkörűen megosztott videó

source: 24.hu

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## FURTHER HATE INCIDENTS

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During the February 2020 monitoring, Action and Protection Foundation identified three incidents. They are not included in the hate incident statistics due either to their insignificant nature, the lack of a clear antisemitic motive, or because the time of the incident is unknown.

*Nazi-sympathizing members of Our Homeland once again in top positions*

Source: 24.hu, kuruc.info

**February 4, 2020** Over a year ago, in the winter of 2018-19, a media scandal also reported at the time by our Foundation involved some young Arrow-Cross and neo-Nazi members and sympathizers of the Our Homeland Movement. As a result, the President of Our Homeland,

László Toroczkai announced that two members had been removed from their positions, and the membership application of one of the sympathizers was refused, while the Movement distanced itself from all three individuals. The actions were justified by the lately discovered neo-Arrow Cross past of János Lantos, who was an advisor to the board of the Party, and the exclusion of Pál Péter Walter and Barnabás Ábrahám due to a Nazi salute that they were seen executing on a photograph.

The news portal 24.hu now discovered that these sanction (if they had even been actually imposed) did not last long.

János Lantos is currently the leader of the Our Homeland organization in Esztergom, a highly active participant in public life, both

quoted by public media and appearing as a representative of the party on Hír TV.

Pál Péter Walter has returned to the leadership of the Youth wing of Our Homeland, giving a speech at the party's event for the National Holiday on 23 October 2019:

“Dear companions-in-arms! It is a great honor for me that I can represent our youth organization here, in this symbolic place, the Corvin köz.”

The other person who did the Nazi salute, Barnabás Ábrahám has in the meantime been successfully admitted to the party, and Our

homeland delegated him as an external member to the Cultural and Educational Committee (!) of the Municipal Government of Tatabánya. (On 17 August 2019, Ábrahám published an homage to Rudolf Hess, deputy of Adolf Hitler, on the



Walter Pál Péter beszéde a Mi Hazánk október 23-ai megemlékezésén (2019)

source: youtube.com

32nd anniversary of his death in kuruc.info: “Ich bereue nichts’, that is, ‘I regret nothing’, the words of Rudolf Hess at his trial at Nuremberg, a man often called simply the ‘martyr of peace’. This single sentence is actually enough to explain why I consider Hess one of the most excellent German national socialist politicians.”...

... .. “From the benches of Nuremberg, across the divide of so many years the spirit of Rudolf Hess still speaks to the sons and daughters of Europe, giving us strength for our everyday battles.”) In addition, Ábrahám is the regional leader of the Our Homeland Youth Section for Fejér and Komárom-Esztergom County).

The 24.hu portal asked the party for comment in regards to the rehabilitation of the



Walter, Ábrahám, Lantos;

source: 24.hu

three politicians. Our Homeland responded that Pál Péter Walter had in the meanwhile resigned from the leadership of the Our Homeland Youth Movement, the rest are not officials on a national level, and at any rate the party did not intend to punish the youngsters for the rest of their lives on account of a single (?) earlier mistake, so they have been given another chance following the discipline.

*Swastika sprayed on Our Homeland office window*

Source: 24.hu, 168.ora, facebook.com



source: 168óra.hu

**February 2 and 12, 2020** A woman sprayed swastikas on posters portraying László Toroczkai and Dóra Dúró in the window front of the central office of Our Homeland on József Blvd. The incident took place on February 6.

The Police Headquarters of Budapest 8th District initiated proceedings for the offences of vandalism and 3 counts of suspected use of the symbol of a totalitarian regime. One person was interrogated as a suspect in the case, and after admitting her actions she has been freed to make her defense for the rest of the procedure.

*Árpád Szakács began his lecture with a Jewish joke*

Source: magyarnarancs.hu, neokohn.hu, 444.hu, varosikurir.hu, facebook.hu

**February 9, 13, 14, 16, and 17 2020** *Magyar Narancs* noticed that the former chief editor of the central editorial board of Mediaworks, Árpád Szakács was to give a lecture on 13 February at the István Fekete Free University under the title: *The enemies of Hungarian culture*. The lecture was organized by the far right Our Homeland Movement (host: Előd

Novák). Later, the chief editor of *Neokohn.hu*, László Seres reacted to this news when towards the end of his long opinion piece on double speak, he asked: *What does Árpád Szakács, Fidesz culture hawk, get out of speaking at the free university of a neo-Nazi party?*

And this was the question with which Árpád Szakács himself began his lecture – *444.hu* wrote – reading it out loud to the audience, though not (!) word for word: *What does Árpád Szakács get for speaking at a neo-Nazi party's event?* The audience laughed. Szakács followed this up: Kohn is dying, and his son asks him if money makes a man happy? Kohn replies that it does not. His Jewish kid, upset, asks Kohn, what makes us happy then? “The interest on the money, my son, Kohn replies.” Laughter and applause again, so Szakács notes, “That’s got the mood in a swing, hasn’t it?” He then proceeded with the lecture, on the enemies of Hungarian culture.

Philosopher György Gábor writes about this event on Facebook: “The joke shared about the ‘Jewish kid’ and interest by Árpád Szakács in the opening of his lecture at the Free University or Our Homeland is problematic simply because it presents one of the most traditional and cheapest antisemitic tropes. Namely that charging interest, and usury are typical Jewish customs, which gives joy to the money-grubbing speculators, and causes the Christian world vulner-



source: 444.hu

ability and suffering. The literature on this is huge... ..If Árpád Szakács is not aware of it, and therefore stupid and ill informed, why would he be able to reform Hungarian cultural life? If on the other hand he is clear about the above, why is he offended when some people call him antisemitic, and the circle that plays host to him neo-Nazi?”

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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND RESPONSES

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*Action and Protection Foundation enters the European scene*

Source: 168ora.hu

**February 4, 2020** Action and Protection Foundation Secretary Kálmán Szalai gave the *168ora.hu* a statement. He explained that there are three pillars for how APF combats antisemitism: the legal protection of Jewry, the monitoring and analysis of antisemitic phenomena, and education. The Foundation was established in 2012 by Slomó Köves, the Executive Rabbi of the United Hungarian Jewish Congregation (EMIH). The goal was for the new organization to combat antisemitic phenomena with new tools, new methods. It was necessary first, to define what can be considered antisemitism, and then a monitoring methodology of our own had to be developed, based on OSCE recommendations. “*We seek to take action against hate incidents purely on a legal footing*”, the Action and Protection Foundation Secretary stressed.

Real and lasting change with the available tools can however only be achieved through education. The Foundation developed its own education materials on hate incidents for high-school students, and also developed a program presenting Jewry. “*Rabbi Köves gave lessons in high-school classes as a part of the program, usually the first time these students had met a rabbi*” said Kálmán Szalai. The high-school program was followed by the program for primary schools, and then another was developed for the universities and vocational colleges under the title, *On the Nature of Hate Incidents*.

No Jewish organization can be found abroad – says Kálmán Szalai – that is equally active in education, legal protection and monitoring-research in a similarly complex fashion as Action and Protection Foundation. Therefore the preparation of reports

monitoring antisemitic incidents on a standardized methodological basis has begun in seven European countries: in the Visegrád countries, Austria, Romania, Norway and Sweden. “*We do not want to stop at these seven countries, and we plan to publish such a monthly report for every EU country*”, the Secretary of APF announced.

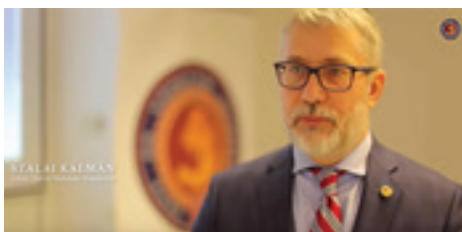
In addition to a record of antisemitic incidents, an interpretation of the underlying processes is also aimed for. This research has been extended after its development in Hungary to another 13 countries. The survey is to be completed in cooperation with the international organization IPSOS.

In order to present the results and facilitate these activities an office is to be opened in Brussels. Kálmán Szalai emphasized: Action and Protection League aims to operate in this range of countries in cooperation with the local Jewish communities.

*Scandalous reporting on the Breakout Day events on Hír TV – APF protests*

Source: hirtv.hu, merce.hu, 168ora.hu, neokohn.hu, zsido.com

**February 8-11, 2020** On 8 February the national television channel *Hír TV* gave a report on the Breakout Day events of the same day in its evening news program. The heading of the report was: *Anti-fascist protesters disturb the Breakout Day memorials*. The news report deliberately mixed together three separate events, the Day of Honor organized by extreme-right organizations for the Városmajor Park, the opening of the photo exhibition



source: hirtv.hu

organized by three municipal governments of Budapest in Buda Castle titled Siege 75, and the neo-Nazi themed hike called Breakout. According to the chaotic report, the groups in Városmajor Park were not far-right and neo-Nazi, but “radical organizations at a celebration”, while “demonstrators dressed in pink” (mocking the anti-demonstrators) “attempted to cause a disturbance”. It was also strange about the report that among those interviewed as “peaceful participants” of the commemoration was Béla Incze, one of the leaders of the neo-Nazi and radical nationalist Légió Hungária.

Following this, Action and Protection Foundation wrote an open letter to the editorial offices of Hír TV, requesting the removal of the employee who prepared the scandalous report. This news material gave the impression that everything about the commemorative hike decorated with symbols of totalitarian regimes was in agreement with social norms. Video material used in the Hír TV report shows the clearly identifiable Imperial Eagle with the swastika under it on the uniform worn by one of the participants. APF filed a complaint about the use of banned symbols of totalitarian regimes at the event.

The open letter concludes: “The events organized by the extremists however, emphasized as established fact that the German and Hungarian soldiers “heroically defending” Budapest and Europe “bravely stood their ground”, requiring annual commemoration. The report by Hír TV presents the use of extreme totalitarian symbols and extreme prejudiced views represented by the organizers as acceptable. Thereby, willingly or not, they may contribute to the ideologies tied to these symbols spreading more widely and taking root, violating the Paris Peace Treaty of 1947.”

*Shameful article about the 1945 Buda Castle Breakout on 888.hu - protests*

Source: 888.hu, neokohn.hu, tev.hu

**February 10 and 13, 2020** An article that appeared on 888.hu on the morning of 10 February was titled, “Glory to the Heroes: The breakout began 75 years ago today.” The article presents all sorts of German military reports and radio dispatches without any historical coherence and praises the breakout of German military formations and Hungarian and Arrow-Cross troops from the castle as a heroic act. The approach of the whole article suggests that Nazi Germany was fighting a just war against the Soviet Union and its Western Allies.

The article was denounced by Slomó Köves, Executive Rabbi of EMIH, in a writing published on *Neokohn.hu*, and Action and Protection Foundation also published a statement on the matter.

The title of Slomó Köves’s article is: “Let’s keep fecal matter at a distance!” Subtitled: “A quarantine on open anti-Semitic propaganda stands in the interest of all, not just the Jewish community.” The author of the 888 article gives a lengthy quote of the Army Group South commander Ottó Wöhler’s “stirring reply” to those preparing for the breakout. “The letter concludes as follows: ‘Greetings and loyalty to the Führer! Greetings to the national leader of Hungary!’ There is no commentary, and no context” Slomó Köves writes. “According to Horváth Tamás, the author of the article ending with the exclamation ‘glory to the heroes’, ‘the Hungarian and German soldiers defending Budapest gave evidence of their idealism and heroic outlook on life – they sacrificed their lives on the altar of European culture (sic!) taking a stand with weapon in hand’” the Rabbi continues. “According to Horváth ‘the Hungarian cultural and memory policy of the past years, and the approach of the Hungarian Defense Forces have initiated a positive process allowing people to remember the defenders of Budapest with due respect...’”. “In Horváth’s interpretation therefore the Nazi troops occupying Hungary and the Hungarian army by then under the Ar-



row-Cross was defending ‘European civilization’, and the possibility of ‘remembering this with due respect’ has been created by the national politics of the Hungarian government over recent years!” argues Slomó Köves.

Our Foundation also protested against the article on 888.hu, demanding that its author is called to account: “The news portal crossed the red line here, which apart from a complete misunderstanding of history goes completely contrary to Hungary’s commitments in international treaties, the principle of zero tolerance for antisemitism declared by the government, and the fact, that no form of antisemitism should become acceptable in Hungary and Europe due to political interests.”

The article was shortly thereafter removed from the news portal.

*Miklós Soltész: Hungary is working to preserve the Jewish heritage*

Source: Arutz7, neokohn.hu

**February 24, 2020** Miklós Soltész, Secretary of State for Churches, Minorities and Civil Affairs met Slomó Köves, Executive Rabbi of EMIH – United Hungarian Jewish Congregation. *“Hungary is working hard to preserve its national character, in which Jewish values and heritage also has an important role”* the State Secretary declared, then to continue: *“this is why the government supports the renovation of synagogues, the preservation of cemeteries around the country, Jewish education, and this is how EMIH – Hungarian Jewish Congregation came to receive its official church status. The House of Fates will also be operated by EMIH.”*

Executive Rabbi Slomó Köves thanked the State Secretary for the one and a half million euro annual support with which Hungary is funding the European battle against antisemitism. The support covers numerous fields, the monitoring of anti-Semitic incidents and various legal and educational programs amongst others. In regards to the House of Fates the Executive Rabbi said *“as the grandson of Holocaust survivors, whose family history is*

*bound to Hungary for now over seven generations, as historian and Orthodox Rabbi it is equally an honor”*, to work on the creation of a museum that *“will preserve the memory of the Jews murdered in the Holocaust”*.

*The first results of the European antisemitism research presented in Paris*

Source: tev.hu, neokohn.hu

**February 26, 2020** The European Jewish Association (EJA) held its 2020 annual conference in Paris, France. The EJA organized the event in cooperation with the French Jewish congregation, the Consistoire Central Israélite de France, and the European Action and Protection League (APL). The two-day event was attended by representatives of the French, Belgian, Hungarian, Polish, Ukrainian, Italian, Spanish, and Romanian congregations and Jewish organizations among others, and also present were Nicole Belloubet, the French Minister of Justice, Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, and Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the former Chairman of NATO, former prime-minister of Denmark, as well as other European political leaders. The Hungarian government was represented by Vince Szalay-Bobrovniczky, Deputy State Secretary for Civil Society Relations at the Prime Minister’s Office.

The event was opened by Rabbi Menachem Margolin, the President of EJA, who says there is a need for concrete measures, operative solutions now, whether the matter at hand is the building of Jewish communities or combatting antisemitism.

As Slomó Köves, founder of APL put it, hereon *“religious Jewry will also have to do its part in the fight against antisemitism, and*



source: neokohn.hu

moreover in the most professional manner.” According to the Rabbi, the easily recognizable religious Jews first will be the first target of the hatred, which is increasingly manifested in physical attacks. In his lecture, Köves presented the first results of the European anti-semitism opinion survey done at the end of 2019 by

IPSOS, and commissioned by APL. The survey lead by Professor András Kovács is one of its kind, a collection of 500 thousand items of data from 15 thousand responders in 16 countries, giving a comprehensive and country-specific overview of the prevalence and patterns of European anti-semitism. Austria,

Belgium, Czechia, France, Germany, England and Poland were among the countries participating in the survey completed in January. *“The survey makes it clear that Holocaust revisionism and classic antisemitic stereotypes are stronger in the East-European countries, while anti-Israel feelings dominate in the West”*

Rabbi Slomó Köves, the leader of Action and Protection League said in his lecture. Of all the European responders, 17 percent

believe that Jews will never be able to integrate in society. A too high level of influence on their country is attributed to Jews by 15 percent, and 21 percent think that Jews talk too much about the Holocaust.



Köves Slomó és Joel Margui,  
source:tevh.hu

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## OFFICIAL AND CIVIL RESPONSES

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*Protests against the new National Core Curriculum*

Source: [hvg.hu](http://hvg.hu), [akibic.hu](http://akibic.hu), [nepszava.hu](http://nepszava.hu), [index.hu](http://index.hu), [atv.hu](http://atv.hu), [szeged.hu](http://szeged.hu)

**February 1-6 and 12, 2020** The national core curriculum (NAT) was published on the night of 30 January, for introduction in a number of school years this September.

Teachers of history and Hungarian brought up a number of objections in regard to parts of the new NAT. According to László Arató, the president of the Association of Teachers of Hungarian Literature:

this National Core Curriculum is neither national, nor core curriculum, “*the views of Mihály Takaró are plainly perceptible in its form and preferences.*”

(Our Foundation described in a report last August how the Ministry had entrusted literary historian Mihály Takaró, known for occasionally making antisemitic comments as well as his far-right views,

with the revision of the NAT’s humanities areas to give it a patriotic approach. Numerous organizations protested this decision at the time.)

This is why one of the iconic figures for the current far-right, the enthusiastic supremacist Cécile Tormay was now included in the new national curriculum, though she proudly declared that she had been a fascist, when Mussolini had not even appeared on the scene. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences published its position on Tormay’s antisemitism in 2013, when the naming of a street after her was in question: “...it is beyond debate that as an ideologist and propagator she played a role in building the intellectual background and in socially embedding the later totalitarian regime”, they wrote. This was how the “amended” Nat

could come to include, among compulsory subjects two Transylvanian writers, József Nyír , who was an anti-Jewish avid fan of Goebbels, follower of Szálasi and sympathizer with the Arrow Cross, and the far right, antisemitic and radical nationalist Albert Wass. While Albert Wass became one of the authors to be studied and discussed most thoroughly, it will no longer be compulsory, and not even possible for teachers to electively make compulsory the study of novel *Fatelessness*, by the Nobel Prize winner (and Holocaust survivor) Imre Kertész. The curriculum does not even mention the novel. (It will appear later, it is promised, in the framework curriculum.)

“Typically, in the context of the Holocaust antecedents it does not introduce the concept of deportations”, László Miklósi, President of the Association of History Teachers stated.

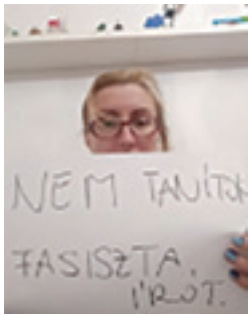
Teachers protested against the new National Core Curriculum individually and through their organizations for numerous reasons additional to those above.

*David Cornstein: “The Jews living here are happy and satisfied”*

Source: [24.hu](http://24.hu)

**February 20, 2020** According to the United States Ambassador to Hungary the Hungarian government stands up against antisemitism – David Cornstein spoke to the news portal [24.hu](http://24.hu) in an interview.

He said that whenever he returns to New York, someone always says how sorry they are that he must live in Hungary, because of the antisemitism. “What just happened is sad. (He referred to the Day of Honor event the interviewer asked about.) But in general, I can say that the Jews living in Hungary are happy and satisfied. Violence against Jews almost never occurs, whereas atrocities are common in New York. The



source: [index.hu](http://index.hu)

difference is that if the police saw something like that in Hungary, they would take action and the perpetrators would go to jail. That is the most that can be expected of the authorities” he said.

He added: he has good personal relations with the Prime Minister and the Minister of the Interior and he can say that they oppose any anti-Semitic rhetoric. If something like that were to happen, they would act and make sure that the perpetrators go to jail.

In regards to the earlier anti-Soros campaign he said, his personal opinion is that “this was an anti-liberal campaign in a conservative-friendly environment. The point



source: 24.hu

is not that Soros is Jewish, but that he is very liberal and the Hungarian government is very conservative.” He also noted that this is Hungarian domestic politics, in which the American ambassador has no part.

Positive change has been successfully achieved in the cooperation between the two countries, and he valued this. When “*issues that are important for us have come up in the UN and the European Union, Hungary stood up for the US and Israel. Moreover Hungary was one of the very few countries to open a diplomatic mission in Jerusalem, after the United States moved its embassy there.*”

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## NEWS AND OPINIONS ABOUT ANTISEMITISM IN HUNGARY

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*Jewish pilgrims in Bodrogkeresztúr do not find acceptance by all locals*

Source: csmmonitor.com, thetimes.co.uk, huppa.hu, neokohn.hu, mandiner.hu

**February 3, 4 and 11, 2020** In recent weeks two foreign newspapers have delved into the rather troubled relationship between the village in Tokaj-Hegyalja and Chasid Jews on pilgrimage to the grave of the wonder rabbi Reb Yeshayah Steiner (1851-1925) from all over the world.

The American *Christian Science Monitor/CSM* was first to publish an article on the subject from a Hungarian correspondent, writes *Neokohn.hu*. The Galician Jewish families emigrating to Bodrogkeresztúr continuously from 1726 onwards played an important role in the history of the region. They later excelled in growing grapes, making wine, and distributing the kosher wine they made. They built the first Israelite temple in 1767 and lived in the village for over 200 years. In 1944, during the Holocaust, 700 Jews were deported from here. The Jewish pilgrimages began in 2015, and the large number of pilgrims stirred up the life of the village.

*“They should go back to where they came from. I don’t care if they lived here in the past”* – says Tímea, a woman in her thirties. *“They come back and buy up the whole village. They have bought at least 25 family houses and are not planning to stop.”* Some are afraid that this influx will impact real-estate prices and the demographic composition of the community.

The other article, which appeared in the British *The Times*, was reported by huppa.hu. The title of the original article was: *Anti-semitism: Hungarian villagers resent flow of Jewish pilgrims*. The reporter wrote that on a recent visit to Bodrogkeresztúr, some locals *“complained about the growing crowd while others voiced opinions that would have gained the sympathy of the Nazis in 1944.”* He quoted a young woman who thought that

the newly arrived Jews who bought houses were driving real-estate prices up, and the whole thing is actually a conspiracy to build an alternative homeland, due to the scarcity of water in Israel. The reporter added that the ideologies of the far-right political party Jobbik have a strong following in this poorer, rural environment.

A week later, László Bernát Veszprémy wrote in *Mandiner.hu* about the case of Bodrogkeresztúr and the way it had been presented in the Western press. The title was: *Could antisemitism in Bodrogkeresztúr have international significance?* To begin with, he expressed his doubts about the impartiality and sincerity of the Hungarian correspondent of CSM, and goes on to answer the question framed in the title. The answer is a no, because the level of antisemitism seen in Bodrogkeresztúr is negligible compared to the numbers and seriousness of antisemitic atrocities (pogroms in Ukrainian pogroms, American murders) elsewhere, abroad (e.g. Ukraine, USA, UK). The antipathy of villagers towards the Jewish tourists is only verbal, their Jew-Baiting has never turned into action. *“...while in the village depicted as the center of East-European antisemitism, not a finger was laid on anyone, to make the village front-page material of international newspapers is a serious loss of sense of proportion. ... The goal is of course, in part, to malign Hungary”*, Veszprémy writes.

*Imre Kertész and the NAT*

Source: tabletmag.com, klubradio.hu, mti.hu, prae.hu

**February 19-24, 2020** *“Jewish Nobel Laureate Imre Kertész Is Dumped From the Hungarian Curriculum”* ran the title of an article on the online American *Tablet Magazine*. The New-York based journal on Jewish life published the piece authored by Susan Rubin Suleiman, a Harvard University professor.

According to the author, the populist go-

vernment is doing this, because it wants to make Hungary great again by digging up musty antisemitic nationalists from the past and adding them to the list of compulsory readings. *Fatelessness*, the ironic masterpiece by Imre Kertész, who survived the Holocaust in his youth, became a part of the compulsory curriculum after the author received the Nobel Prize in 2002. But now it has been removed and only a promise has been given that it will be on the list of recommended volumes. Hungarian antisemitic and far right circles already attacked Kertész having received the Nobel Prize in 2002, saying that it should have gone to a “real” (i.e. non-Jewish) Hungarian. He is replaced on the National core curriculum by authors such as Ferenc Herczeg, Albert Wass and József Nyírő, whose common trait is that they were all antisemitic. Wass and Nyírő were even Arrow-Cross sympathizers. With these nationalist and irredentist authors the Orbán Government seeks to strengthen the government’s current xenophobic rhetoric and self-pity about “Hungarians across the border”, the author writes.

Secretary of State for International Communication and Relations, Zoltán Kovács responded to the article in Tablet Magazine.

According to him, Susan Rubin Suleiman states in her article that the changes brought in the prescribed school material in Hungary are rooted in antisemitism; which is not true. As an example he cites: “Holocaust education is a mandatory part of Hungary’s national curriculum because the Orbán government made it so”. It institutionalized the Holocaust Memorial Day and established an Institute in the honor of Imre Kertész – he continued, and then mentioned “how much the governments of Prime Minister Orbán have done to counter anti-Semitism and to support Hungary’s Jewish community.” He notes that since 2010 Hungary has been one of the strongest supporters of Israel. He then followed this by noting that the Orbán government has established a Holocaust Museum in Budapest and made the laws against hate speech stricter. Zoltán Kovács said that in addition the Hungarian government has not only “helped to restore synagogues and Jewish cemeteries but have also committed funding to the construction of new synagogues.” Finally, he also pointed out that the inclusion in the curriculum of the authors and their works regarded as “musty” by the Tablet article is not irredentism but seeking to understand our national heritage.

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## OTHER NEWS

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Miklós Horthy exhibition at Hungarian National Museum

Source: *magyarnarancs.hu*

**February 14, 2020** The Hungarian weekly magazine *Magyar Narancs* reported that the exhibition at the Hungarian National Museum, *The World of Hungary 1938-1940*, dealing with the Horthy era continues to white wash the white washing of the Regent. As recounted, much less space was dedicated to the chapter on the “anti-Jewish laws” than the Horthy-type rail-carriage. They also quoted the texts. The following could be found in regards to the “anti-Jewish laws”: the “anti-Jewish laws” of 1938 and 1939 were brought “to take the wind out of the sails of the far-right, and to temper German pressure”, and it is thought to be sufficient justifica-

tion for them that “many people thought the Jews did not (...) think in terms of the nation, and so they should either be re-educated or restrained.”

The magazine notes that the exhibition *World of Hungary 1938–1940* was not a project of the Hungarian National Museum, but that of the Institute for Hungarian Studies (*Magyarságkutató Intézet*), which has a budget in billions of forints, and aims to present those ideologies that emerged earlier in the television appearances of Hungarian Human Resources Minister Miklós Kásler. The curator of the exhibition was Gábor Nyári, who formerly worked at the House of Terror Museum, and gained national renown when it came out in 2018, that he is one of Miklós Kásler’s speech writers.

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**ACTION AND PROTECTION  
FOUNDATION  
LEGAL ACTIONS**

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This month no new legal proceedings were initiated by the Action and Protection Foundation (APF), and no progress was made in previous cases.



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## THE MONTH'S CHRONICLE

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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.	1-3rd, 5th, 7th and 8-10th of February	The Day of Honor in Budapest	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Hate Speech
2.	1-6th and 12th of February	Protests against the new National Core Curriculum	Official and Civil Responses
3.	2nd of February	Threats and Jew-baiting at Budapest Ferenc Liszt Airport	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Hate Speech
4.	2nd and 12th of February	Swastika sprayed on Our Homeland office window	Further Hate Incidents
5.	3-4th, and 11th of February	Jewish pilgrims in Bodrogkeresztúr do not find acceptance by all locals	News and Opinions about Antisemitism in Hungary
6.	4th of February	Nazi-sympathizing members of Our Homeland once again in top positions	Further Hate Incidents
7.	4th of February	Action and Protection Foundation enters the European scene	Community News And Responses
8.	7th of February	Swastika painted on memorial of the Volunteer Regiment of Buda	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Vandalism
9.	8-11th of February	Scandalous reporting on the Breakout Day events on Hír TV – APF protests	Community News And Responses
10.	9th,13-14th,16-17th of February	Árpád Szakács began his lecture with a Jewish joke	Further Hate Incidents
11.	10th and 13th of February	Shameful article about the 1945 Buda Castle Breakout on 888.hu – protests	Community News And Responses
12.	14th of February	Miklós Horthy exhibition at Hungarian National Museum	Other News
13.	19-24th of February	Imre Kertész and the NAT	News and Opinions about Antisemitism in Hungary
14.	20th of February	David Cornstein: “The Jews living here are happy and satisfied”	Official and Civil Responses in Hungary
15.	23rd of February	A young person scratched swastikas in Kozármisleny	Antisemitic Hate Incidents – Vandalism

No.	Date	Incident	Category
16.	24th of February	Miklós Soltesz: Hungary is working to preserve the Jewish heritage	Community News And Responses
17.	26th of February	The first results of the European antisemitism research presented in Paris	Community News And Responses

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## 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.

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:

The Facebook page:

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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Address: 1040 Brussels, Rue de Froissart 109, Belgium

Phone:

web:

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## CONTRIBUTORS AND PUBLISHER INFORMATION

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