

Combating Antisemitism

Core Issue Reports

Contents

- Executive Summary, WJC Leading the Fight Against Antisemitism2**
- Diplomatic Efforts4**
 - Supporting world Jewry in the halls of the United Nations 4
 - WJC and UN Office of Counter-Terrorism sign MoU to bolster security for Jewish communities7
 - Advocating for Hezbollah's designation as a terrorist organization7
 - Special Envoys and Coordinators on Combating Antisemitism (SECCA)9
 - The WJC and International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance11
- Operations and Intelligence 12**
 - Antisemitic conspiracy theories, QAnon movement surge with spread of COVID-19 12
 - Taking direct action against Nazi glorification and antisemitic incitement 13
- WJC and the Fight Against Online Hate 15**
 - Partnering with Facebook to combat Holocaust denial and distortion..... 15
 - Battling conspiracy myths, together with UNESCO, Twitter, and the European Commission..... 16
 - Working with Tik Tok and YouTube to flag antisemitism online..... 17
 - Ridding online retailers, including Amazon, of Holocaust denial literature 18
- Antisemitism in Sports, Education and Culture..... 20**
 - Partnering with athletic clubs to put an end to antisemitism in sports20
 - NOA Project: Coalition of Jewish groups aiding Europe in fight against antisemitism..... 21
- The Extremist Threat on Jewish Communities23**
 - Working together to protect and defend Jewish communities 23
 - Yom Kippur attack in Halle, Germany 26
 - WJC assists Czech Republic in developing methodology for protecting soft targets against terrorists..... 28

Executive Summary

WJC Leading the Fight Against Antisemitism

The first two decades of the 21st century were marked by a deadly onslaught of Islamist radicalism, and in recent years, the flames of extremist terror have been ignited even further by a steady rise in support for far right and neo-Nazi ideology, coupled with an unnerving growth in online activity that promotes incitement to violence and spreads xenophobic rhetoric, specifically against Jews and other religious minorities.

Extremist influencers exploit the power of social media to foment hatred, disseminate conspiracy myths, and distort and obfuscate historical truths about the Holocaust, expanding their base of sympathy at an exponential rate.

The WJC is committed to meeting these challenges proactively and guiding efforts to protect Jewish communities, safeguard Holocaust memory, and subvert any attempt to intimidate Jewish communities or carry out acts of violence in the name of hate.



WJC's targeted mapping of antisemitic activity and Nazi glorification spans across the globe

WJC representatives engage in consistent **dialogue with diplomatic partners** at all levels of governments and in the halls of international bodies, including the United Nations and its agencies. Over the last two years, WJC representatives have met with ambassadors and permanent missions from more than 60 countries to draw attention to antisemitic sentiment and drive sustainable change. The WJC has delivered nearly 100 statements on the floor of the UNHRC, calling out the bias against Israel and demanding protection for Jewish communities. Working together with other faith-based organizations, the WJC strives for coexistence and tolerance. Our forum of special envoys and coordinators on combating antisemitism (SECCA) meets regularly to address concerns and share best practices.

WJC Operations and Intel team, monitor, identify, and target individuals and groups on both public and obscure internet platforms, in effort to intercept plans for events aimed at glorifying Nazis or buoying antisemitic sentiment. The WJC's investigations have enabled early detection of physical threats, led to the cancellation of marches and parades in countries across Europe, halted plans to honor avowed antisemites with street names and plaques, and yielded reviews of media channels and online platforms with antisemitic hatred on their agenda. With the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the WJC has worked tirelessly to [expose](#) the conspiracy myths against Jews perpetuating on these platforms, and the dangerous atmosphere of anti-establishmentarianism that has arisen in its wake.

The WJC has worked closely with **social media** giants including [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [TikTok](#) to flag antisemitic and Holocaust-denying material, prompting a thorough review of these companies' policies and guidelines. These efforts have led companies such as Facebook to issue [firm pledges](#) for improvement in monitoring and removing hateful content, as well as partnerships to assist in proper [Holocaust education](#). The WJC, together with our local and regional affiliate organizations, has also succeeded in guiding popular online retailers, such as the international [Amazon.com](#), Thalia in Europe, and Latin America's [MercadoLibre](#) to remove hateful or distortionist literature from their platforms.

The WJC also works closely with **athletic clubs**, including Chelsea FC, Bayern Munchen, and Borussia Dortmund, among others, to promote an environment of tolerance and provide training and guidelines for sports teams and fan bases to remove antisemitic hatred fields and their lexicon.

Diplomatic Efforts

Supporting world Jewry in the halls of the United Nations

The WJC advocates throughout the halls of the United Nations on issues of concern to Jewish communities, as part of its expansive international diplomatic efforts, and has continued steadily with these endeavors throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

In the last two years alone, WJC representatives have held dozens of meetings with global decision-makers on matters including the rise of antisemitism, Holocaust denial and distortion, Jewish communal security, interfaith relations, and support for the State of Israel.

The WJC has utilized its status as an accredited non-governmental organization to [deliver](#) over 100 statements on the floor of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva since 2016, focusing on a range of issues including opposing [Agenda Item 7](#) and other anti-Israel biases, the [rights of minorities](#), the dangers of [hate speech](#) and [xenophobia](#), and the resurgence of [Nazi glorification](#) worldwide, among other topics. In September 2019, as a [guest of the WJC](#), Spiritual Leader of the Druze Community in Israel Sheikh Moafaq Tarif delivered two statements to the UNHRC, praising [Israel as a vibrant](#)



Spiritual Leader of the Druze Community in Israel Sheikh Moafaq Tarif delivers a statement on behalf of the WJC at the UNHRC

[democracy](#) welcoming of all faiths, and calling for international intervention against the [persecution of the Druze](#) in Syria.

In March 2021, the WJC [became](#) the first Jewish organization to participate on a UNHRC panel and it also cosponsored two parallel events, including one with the Government of Canada. As of 2020, the WJC is also the only official Jewish representative organization to hold [membership status in the UN Multi Faith Advisory Council](#).

The WJC routinely initiates high-level diplomatic meetings each year on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly (UNGA). As a side event to UNGA 75 in November 2020, the WJC partnered with dozens of diplomatic missions to convene a [high-level panel discussion](#) reviewing the UN's role in combating antisemitism and capacity for improvement. As part of the event, 26 member states submitted video or written pledges of their support to improve the UN's work in this area.

Of seminal importance to these efforts, the WJC partnered with Sweden's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in October 2019 for a special discussion on the urgent need to combat antisemitism as a global human rights issue. At this discussion, United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief Dr. Ahmed Shaheed [presented](#) an historic report, compiled with significant contribution by the WJC, addressing specific recommendations that can be taken to tackle antisemitic hatred.

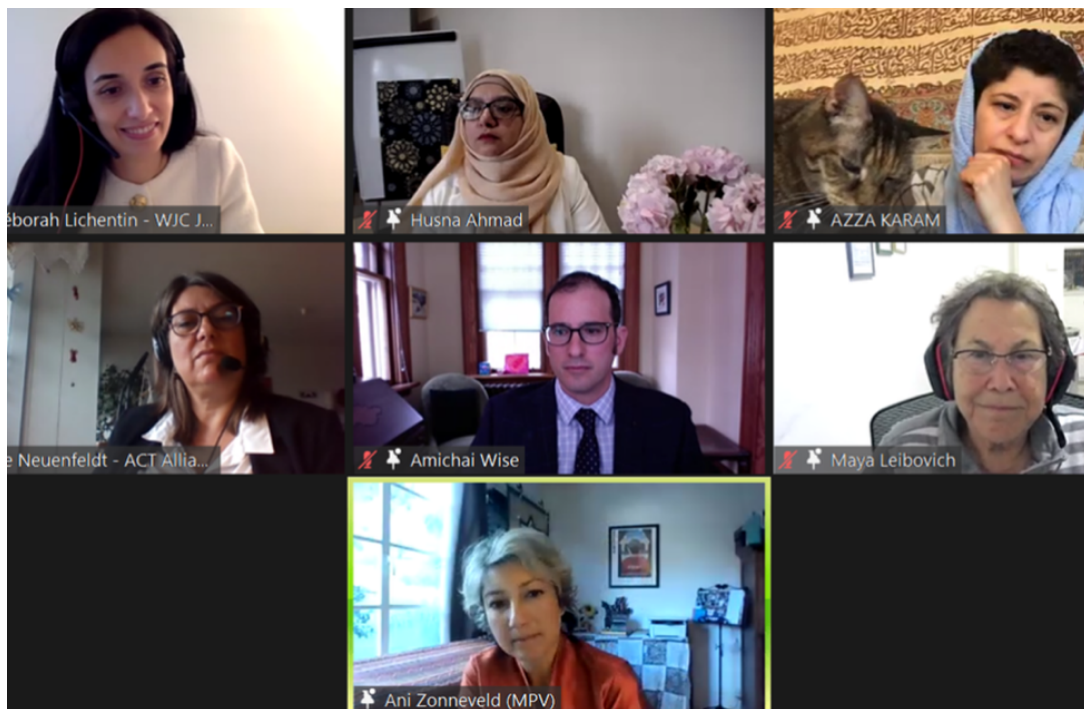
(see below screen capture)

The WJC also maintains close cooperation with the office of Mr. Miguel Moratinos, high representative for the UN Alliance of Civilizations, who also serves as the UN Focal Point to monitor antisemitism and enhance a system-wide-response.

As part of its commitment to gender equality, the WJC also closely follows the activities of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW). In March 2021, the WJC [hosted](#) a parallel event to UNCSW 65 on the role of women in faith-based organizations, in partnership with the ACT Alliance, Global One, Muslims for Progressive Values, Religions for Peace, and the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding.

The WJC maintains a strong working relationship with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in raising awareness about antisemitism, racism, and xenophobia, as well as Holocaust education. In January 2020, the WJC and UNESCO joined forces with partners including the diplomatic missions of Germany and France to [organize](#) intensive training sessions in Paris for diplomats on the [topics](#) of preserving Holocaust memory and understanding the multifaceted phenomenon of

antisemitism. The WJC separately organized a similar workshop for diplomats in Geneva, in partnership with several UN missions.



WJC co-hosts parallel event to UNC6 on The Role of Women in Faith Based Organizations



WJC WebTalks ft. Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, United Nations' Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion

UN on freedom of religion or belief Dr. Ahmed Shaheed speaks to WJC about his groundbreaking work in mainstreaming efforts to fight antisemitism

WJC and UN Office of Counter-Terrorism sign MoU to bolster security for Jewish communities

In November 2019, the WJC [signed](#) a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) to provide a framework for coordinated efforts to counter violent extremism and threats of terrorism.

WJC President Lauder praised the MoU as a “groundbreaking first step in building a strong mutual infrastructure for coordination in monitoring ongoing threats and assessing effective measures for implementation to ensure the security of our Jewish communities and other citizens around the world.”

The MoU recognizes the importance of international, regional, and inter-organizational collaboration in countering threats and ensuring protection for soft targets, particularly places of worship. It also emphasizes the need to foster understanding and tolerance, taking into consideration the interlinked aspects of terrorism and violent xenophobia. The MoU was signed by UN Under-Secretary-General for Counter Terrorism Vladimir Voronkov and WJC Executive Vice President Maram Stern.

Days after the signing of the MoU, WJC representatives attended a high-level [regional conference in Budapest](#) on preventing radicalization to terrorism, the fifth of its kind in a series organized by UNCOT, this time in cooperation with the Hungarian government. In December, the WJC was represented at the high-level [regional conference](#) in Abu Dhabi organized by UNOCT together with the UAE government and the [Hedayah](#) center for countering violent extremism. Under-Secretary General Voronkov was present at both events.

Advocating for Hezbollah's designation as a terrorist organization

The WJC is continuing its ongoing efforts to urge countries around the world, as well as international bodies such as the United Nations, the Organization of American States, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to designate Hezbollah as a terrorist organization.

WJC President Lauder has welcomed the decision in recent years by states including [Argentina](#), [Germany](#), and the [United Kingdom](#), to designate Hezbollah – both political and military wings – as a terrorist organization, and called on others to follow this lead, emphasizing, “the artificial distinction between Hezbollah's political and military wings ignores a dangerous reality.”

The WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (WJC JDCorps) has implemented an extensive outreach campaign to 100 diplomatic missions and published [op-eds](#) in multiple [languages](#) elucidating the threat Hezbollah poses to Israel and local Jewish communities worldwide. The WJC JDCorps also conducted 19 meetings in 15 countries, including several that were members of the UN Security Council at the time.

In addition, WJC JDCorps members [issued](#) statements on the floor of the UNHRC, urging the international community to condemn Hezbollah as promoters of terror and violators of human rights.

The WJC was also successful in its efforts to prevent the display of Hezbollah flags and symbols at anti-Israel parades in Europe, and in bringing attention to Hezbollah's most infamous terror attacks, such as the deadly [truck bombing](#) at the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in 1992 and attack against the [Argentine Israelite Mutual Association \(AMIA\)](#) building in 1994.

Special Envoys and Coordinators on Combating Antisemitism (SECCA)

The international forum of Special Envoys and Coordinators on Combating Antisemitism (SECCA), which operates under the auspices of the WJC, comprises officials from dozens of countries and international organizations tasked with combating antisemitism in their constituencies. Participants hail from countries across the globe, as well as organizations including the European Commission, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO).

SECCA first met in [Bucharest in June 2019](#), under the patronage and with the participation of the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in cooperation with the WJC. At that meeting, the Romanian Presidency issued an official declaration affirming its commitment to contributing and supporting international initiatives directed at tackling the challenges facing Jewish communities.

At its meeting in [Munich](#) on 28 October 2019, the WJC Executive Committee adopted a resolution confirming that the World Jewish Congress would regularly convene international SECCA meetings in order to exchange views, share best practices and policies, and evaluate progress in the united fight against antisemitism.

SECCA continued to meet virtually, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in [June](#) and [November](#) 2020. European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism Katharina von Schnurbein, who co-chairs the forum, called SECCA forum an “invaluable tool” and [highlighted](#) the international community’s growing awareness of the need to combat antisemitism, noting also the increasing endorsement of IHRA’s working definition of antisemitism, as well as [steps](#) taken by social media organizations to combat antisemitism and hatred. Since the SECCA forum began, several countries have appointed official special envoys or coordinators, adopted the IHRA working definition of antisemitism, and passed legislation to curtail online hate. SECCA recently met in May 2021 as part of the 16th WJC Plenary Assembly.



Katharina von Schnurbein, the European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism and Felix Klein, the Federal Commissioner for Jewish Life in Germany and the Fight Against Antisemitism in Munich, October 2019.

Credit: Shahar Azran

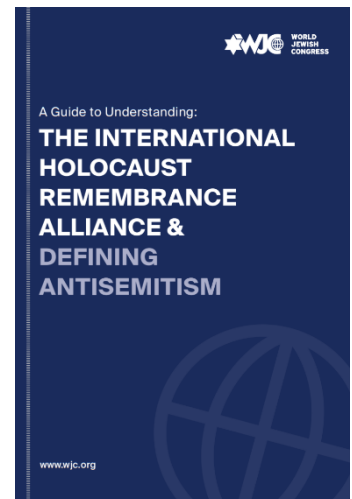
The WJC and International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

The WJC continues to be actively [engaged](#) with the [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance \(IHRA\)](#), a coalition of 34 member countries dedicated to safeguarding the memory of the Holocaust and combating antisemitism.

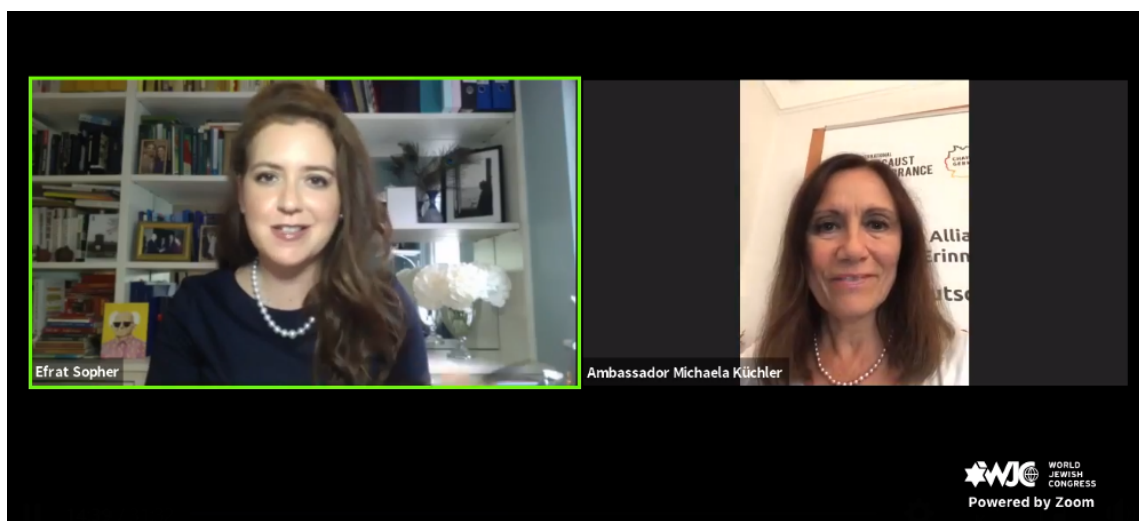
IHRA's [working definition of antisemitism](#), adopted in 2016, is a practical and universal tool that outlines historical and contemporary manifestations of antisemitism, with the intention of setting guidelines to curb its spread.

The WJC's involvement in recent years includes participation in its plenary meetings and collaboration with its leaders to advocate for governments to implement its 'working definition' of antisemitism.

In 2019, the World Jewish Congress sponsored a series of workshops [organized](#) by UNESCO and OSCE/ODIHR for education ministry officials from more than 60 countries, on the issue of countering antisemitism, which included training on the definition. The WJC also recently produced an informal handbook as a [guide to understanding IHRA](#) and its activities.



The WJC strongly [advocated](#) for the Council of the European Union's adoption of a declaration universalizing the fight against antisemitism and called on EU member states to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism. WJC President Ronald S. Lauder welcomed the declaration, which was adopted December 2020, calling it a "significant step forward in making Europe a better place for Jews."



As part of the WJC WebTalks series, former IHRA Chair Michaela Kuchler spoke with WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps Member Efrat Sopher about the importance of the IHRA definition of antisemitism.

Operations and Intelligence

Antisemitic conspiracy theories, QAnon movement surge with spread of COVID-19

In addressing the dangerous spike in antisemitic conspiracy myths against Jews over the course of 2020, WJC President Lauder [warned](#), “COVID-19 is not the only disease that has spread widely across the globe this year.”

These purveyors of these myths, which blame Jews and the State of Israel for the coronavirus pandemic, have threatened to purposefully infect Jewish communities with COVID-19, infiltrated Zoom gatherings of Jewish organizations, and trivialized the Holocaust through a misinformation campaign disseminated widely in protests against coronavirus restrictions and across social media platforms. Simultaneously, the once obscure QAnon movement – which arose online in 2017, with members based mostly in the United States – began gaining momentum internationally.

The WJC has closely monitored both phenomena, and in November 2020 issued two reports detailing the extent to which they have surged in popularity and exposure. The WJC’s [report on antisemitic conspiracy myths](#) unmask the roots and



QAnon supporters in the heart of Berlin

mainstream elements, with specific focus on its use of Holocaust obfuscation and distortion.



1Conspiracy myth caricature indicating Bill Gates and Angela Merkel leading the masses into a concentration camp

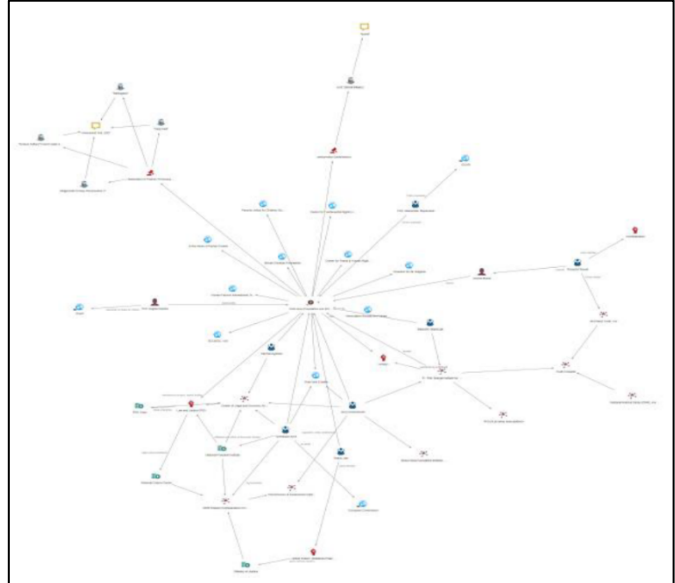
progression of these untruths, and enumerates the struggles faced by communities and high-tech companies in appropriately addressing these threats. [The WJC’s concurrent report on QAnon](#) illustrates the evolution of the movement and its infiltration into some

Taking direct action against Nazi glorification and antisemitic incitement

As part of its commitment to combating antisemitism and preserving Holocaust memory in a comprehensive manner, the WJC routinely monitors and investigates individuals and organizations seeking to obfuscate and distort historical facts, promote Nazi ideology, and incite violence against Jews and the State of Israel.

Through in-depth research and scouring of online platforms, both public and obscure, WJC experts have worked together with local Jewish communities around the world to identify, expose, and halt sinister antisemitic activity and gatherings.

To this regard, the WJC is extensively mapping various manifestations of glorification of Nazis and their collaborators in post-Communist Europe, advocating against individuals, groups, events, memorials, and curricula honoring those who contributed to the massacre of Jews and other minorities.



In Hungary, WJC President Lauder has repeatedly [sounded the alarm](#) against rising support for fascist ideology, urging the Hungarian public to reject far-right fringe promoting xenophobic and antisemitic activity. The WJC supported a widespread media and educational campaign against the Day of Honor events commemorating the German SS, Wehrmacht, and Hungarian soldiers who fell in battle against the Soviets, to set the record straight and present a counter-narrative to the glorification.

President Lauder has also [called on Bulgarians](#) to repudiate extreme ultranationalism, and in February 2020, thanked Bulgarian political and judiciary authorities for putting a stop to the annual torch-lit [Lukov March](#) honoring the WWII-era general whose movement sent more than 11,000 Jews to their



Nordic Resistance Movement Flag, present in the Lukov March, Bulgaria

deaths in Treblinka. The WJC and the local Jewish community had carried out a years-long campaign against the march on both the diplomatic and grassroots levels, pinpointing the antisemitic motives of the organizers and garnering public and political support for its ban.

The WJC has also been at the [forefront of the struggle](#) against the rehabilitation of the [Ustasha](#) movement and other Nazi collaborators in the former Yugoslavia. Among these efforts, the WJC conducted a [media awareness campaign](#) and petitioned the Croatian Constitutional Court to change its legislation to exclude a day of memorial for fallen Ustasha soldiers from its national calendar. In June 2020, the WJC welcomed the “bold move” of the Austrian parliament in banning a special Mass planned at [Bleiburg in Corinthia](#) glorifying [Ustasha](#), under the sponsorship of the Croatian government, and took part in efforts to halt a similar event in Sarajevo.

The WJC has also continued in its active efforts to advocate for a complete [ban](#) on organizations such as the neo-Nazi Nordic Resistance Movement, which remains legal in Sweden despite being outlawed in neighboring Finland.

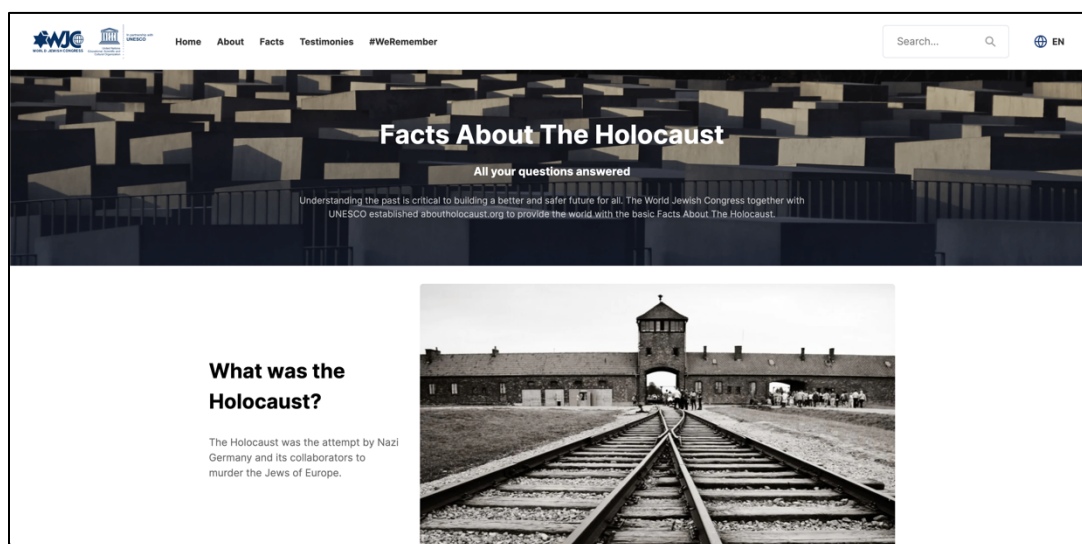
The WJC remains vigilant in its efforts to track all threatening entities, and to work together with the local Jewish community, as well as judicial and governmental authorities, to monitor and halt potential danger.

WJC and the Fight Against Online Hate

Partnering with Facebook to combat Holocaust denial and distortion

The World Jewish Congress and Facebook [announced](#) on International Holocaust Remembrance Day that they were working together to prompt Facebook users searching for Holocaust-related terms to learn more at [AboutHolocaust.org](#), a comprehensive website containing authoritative information about the attempt to exterminate European Jewry.

[AboutHolocaust.org](#) is an educational resource developed jointly by WJC and UNESCO that was made possible thanks to the support of Roman Abramovich and Chelsea Football Club's Say No to Antisemitism campaign.



The new Facebook prompt was initially made available to English-language users in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and will soon be rolled out in additional languages and countries.

In announcing the new feature, Facebook Chief Operating officer Sheryl Sandberg thanked WJC and UNESCO for their efforts to raise awareness about the Holocaust and said, “we are proud to partner with them to help people learn the facts about the Holocaust and hear the stories of those who survived.”

WJC President Ronald S. Lauder said: “Learning the facts of the Holocaust is crucial to combating all those who deliberately desecrate the memory of the millions who were

murdered by Nazi Germany and its multinational accomplices in order to promote their reprehensible agenda.”

UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay underscored that “transmitting the history of the Holocaust is key to combating denial and conspiracy theories today...We must join forces to share factual and reliable information on social media platforms, and this partnership is a clear step in the right direction.”

The WJC’s partnership with Facebook is the product of a long period of cooperation and a testament to the social media company’s receptiveness to ensuring that its users do not fall victim to the purveyors of hate and ignorance. It came just a few months after Facebook credited WJC with helping the company [expanded its hate speech policy](#) to remove content related to Holocaust denial and antisemitism.

Battling conspiracy myths, together with UNESCO, Twitter, and the European Commission

The World Jewish Congress [joined](#) forces with UNESCO, Twitter, and the European Commission to launch a series of comprehensive visual learning resources to raise awareness of the existence and consequences of conspiracy myths against Jews and the State of Israel that have arisen during the COVID-19 pandemic. The resources address how to recognize conspiracy myths, understand what drives them, refute them with facts, and respond effectively to those who spread them.

“UNESCO has demonstrated great leadership in countering dangerous misinformation about the COVID-19 public health crisis, and I commend Twitter and the European Commission for using their powerful platforms to help amplify strategies to share facts about this disease and its roots,” said WJC President Lauder. “We have seen a troubling rise in antisemitic and xenophobic conspiracy theories since the start of the pandemic, which pose great threat to those they attack. People need to know how to identify conspiracies and shut down the spread in order to disseminate the truth.”

The infographics, which were made available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, and Russian, were deployed across social media via the hashtag , as well as through the websites of the European Commission and UNESCO.

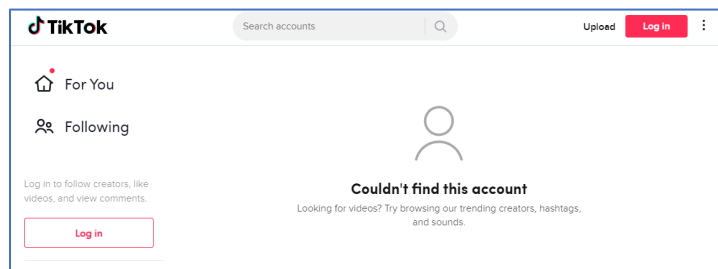
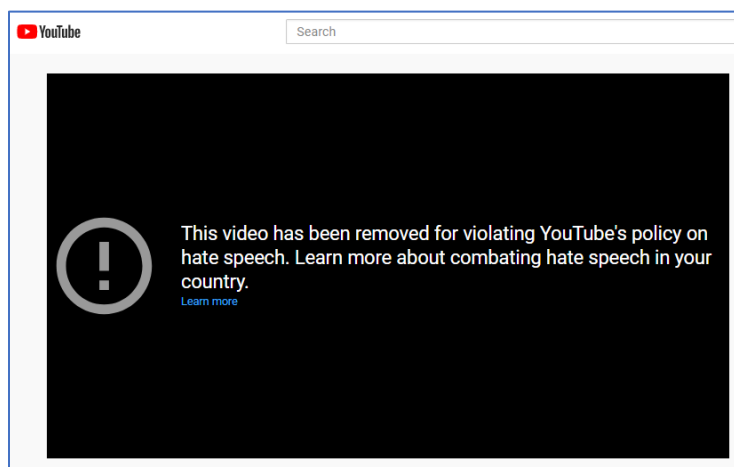
Working with Tik Tok and YouTube to flag antisemitism online

The WJC has taken a broad approach to working with leading tech companies in its efforts to rid the internet of Holocaust denial and hate speech targeting Jewish communities and other minorities.

WJC has also [worked](#) closely with TikTok to remove antisemitic material and posts containing Holocaust denial, distortion, and trivialization from the platform, and to promote educational initiatives about Holocaust remembrance during WJC's [#WeRemember Campaign](#). In a series of pledges to the WJC, TikTok has laid out the steps it is undertaking to tackle antisemitism.

In January 2020, TikTok announced that it would remove content that denies well-documented events, such as the Holocaust. Further, in October, it [announced](#) that it would increase measures to take down misinformation and hurtful ideologies about Jewish, Muslim, and other communities—including conspiracy myths about notable Jewish individuals and families commonly used as proxies to spread antisemitism.

Another major platform of interest for the WJC is YouTube: WJC has for a number of years been a member of the company's Trusted Flagger program, which provides a preferred avenue for reporting harmful content. Reports by the organization are now recognized as having the second highest rate of removal among members of the program.

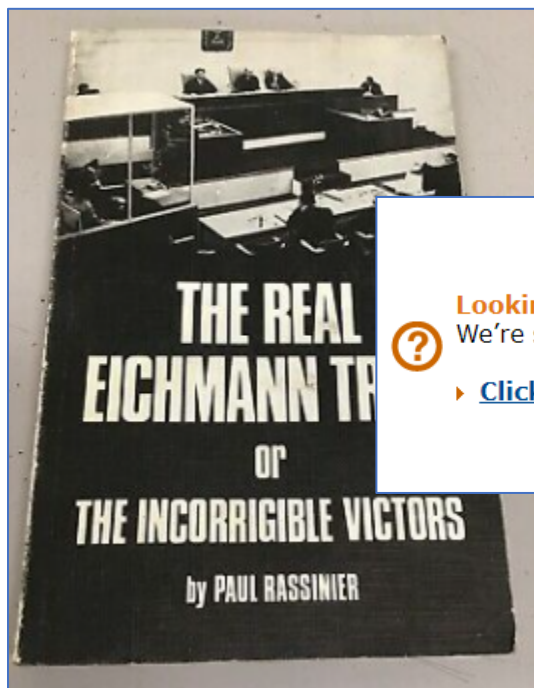


Ridding online retailers, including Amazon, of Holocaust denial literature

In line with ridding online hate efforts, WJC has also worked to ensure that content and literature denying the Holocaust is neither featured nor sold by online retailers, such as Amazon.

WJC and its affiliate, the Board of Deputies of British Jews, worked directly with Amazon to remove 92 works of Holocaust denial content from its platform, including the 'Leuchter Report', a pseudoscientific document which falsely claims to prove that the gas chambers did not exist.

Marie van der Zyl, President of the Board of Deputies and WJC Vice-President, [welcomed Amazon's decision](#), saying, "Holocaust denial is unequivocally antisemitic; it claims that the Holocaust was fabricated and that therefore, Jews are lying to advance some nefarious agenda. We are grateful to have been able to work together with our colleagues at the WJC to help ensure the removal of these works."



amazon.co.uk



Looking for something?

We're sorry. The Web address you entered is not a functioning page on our site.

► [Click here to go back to the Amazon home page](#)

In addition, WJC also worked closely with Israel's Ministry of the Diaspora to provide Amazon with an extensive list of nearly 700 pieces of online content denying the Holocaust.

Working with a number of prominent book retailers across the globe, WJC attained the removal of Holocaust denial content. WJC also actively [campaigns against the inclusion of Holocaust denying material](#) in a major Iceland book catalogue. After extensive engagement with the WJC, one of the biggest book retailers operating in Germany and Austria, Thalia, removed over 300 books denying the Holocaust. In Latin America, after extensive engagement with the WJC, the largest online retailer in Latin America, Mercado Libre, also agreed to remove online listings of literature that promote hateful and antisemitic content. The WJC had similar successes with online retailers in Australia and Sweden.

Antisemitism in Sports, Education and Culture

Partnering with athletic clubs to put an end to antisemitism in sports

In recent years, the global sporting community has begun to recognize the prevalence of antisemitism and other forms of xenophobia both within its ranks and among fan bases.

The WJC has taken a key role in some major initiatives undertaken by athletic clubs designed to halt this hatred before it can metastasize. Partnering with sports clubs enables the WJC to reach pockets of the world otherwise unexposed or even insensitive to issues facing Jewish communities.

The WJC has proudly partnered with Chelsea F.C. and its owner Roman Abramovich to support their Say No to Antisemitism campaign, aiding in the development of its projects around the world, with a focus on Holocaust education. Through this initiative, the functionality and reach of aboutholocaust.org –, a project of the WJC and UNESCO – has expanded to include 19 languages.



In addition to Chelsea, clubs including Bayern Munich, Boca Juniors, Borussia Dortmund, Borussia Monchengladbach, Corinthians, Sao Paulo, and more, have avidly supported WJC's #WeRemember Campaign for Holocaust remembrance, helping facilitate its success.

Harnessing the power of sport to create lasting change in confronting antisemitism cannot be done without a roadmap. As such, the WJC has partnered with the Bergen-Belsen Memorial, the Government of Lower Saxony in Germany, and other key players to devise recommendations for guidelines to aid sporting bodies in building sustainable projects and promoting tolerance. These guidelines will set the pace for future joint projects with the hope that antisemitism in sports will one day be just a relic of the past.

NOA Project: Coalition of Jewish groups aiding Europe in fight against antisemitism

The WJC [has joined](#) major Jewish organizations across Europe in forming the [Networks Overcoming Antisemitism \(NOA\)](#) coalition, a project aimed at helping EU Council Member States follow through on their commitment to tackling antisemitism in various arenas, including education, culture, and security.

Among its roles, the WJC participated in developing National Report Cards to hold governments accountable for policies included in the EU Council's Declaration against antisemitism and indicating progress accordingly.

The methodology is to be tested in five countries, engaging 150 policymakers and policy-influencers in each country, culminating in a final conference to nourish their efforts and persuade other EU Member States to systematically implement a holistic strategy to address and prevent antisemitism.

The WJC has also developed a training guide for athletic organizations to garner their commitment and adherence to ensuring an inclusive and respectful environment wherein



any expression of antisemitism or other forms of hatred will not be tolerated. Five national workshops will be held to aid in this endeavor.

The NOA project also includes a major social media campaign produced by WJC profiling Jewish [initiatives](#) and individuals helping build a more inclusive Europe.

The Extremist Threat on Jewish Communities

Working together to protect and defend Jewish communities

The WJC is committed to the well-being of our local Jewish communities and to assist in their preparedness in the face of threats or intimidation.

The Yom Kippur attack against the synagogue in Halle, Germany in October 2019, following similar attacks in Poway and Pittsburgh, underscored the reality that far-right extremism is a clear and present danger for Jewish communities. Global Islamist terror, as manifested by the long arm of Iran, and its proxy, Hezbollah, remains a dangerous threat, as well. Incitement to violence abounds on the internet, turning from hateful rhetoric into physical danger.



WC President Lauder visiting the site of the carnage in Halle, October 2019



Enhanced doors and cameras in Trondheim Jewish Museum, Norway

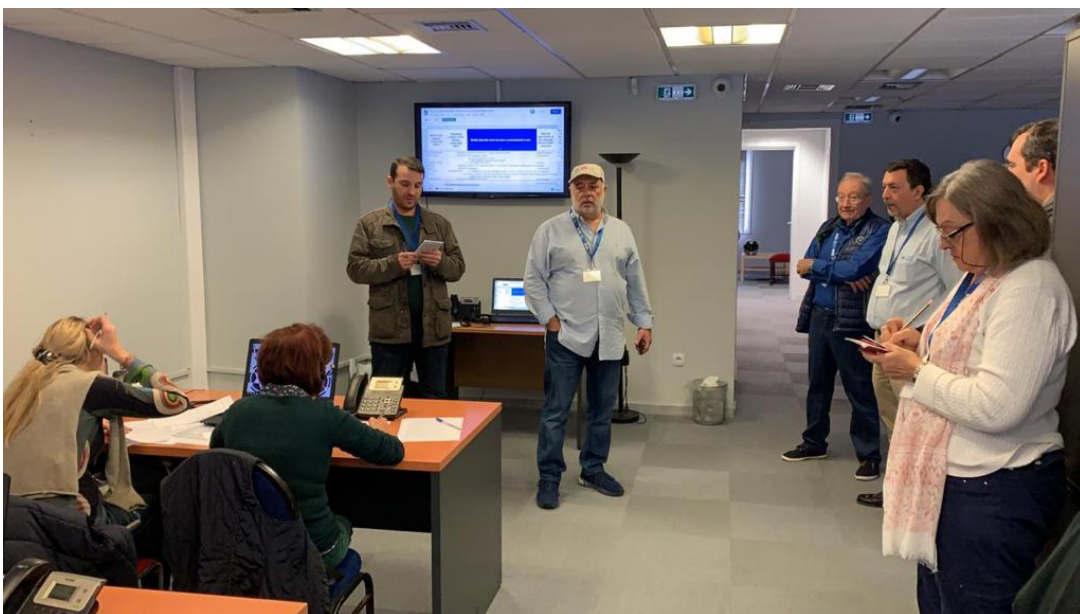


Safe room erected, Harare Jewish community, Zimbabwe

With the onset of the coronavirus came a decrease in physical attacks against Jewish communities, but a rise in online activity promoting conspiracy myths, Holocaust denial and distortion, and other forms of hate. Together with our communities, the WJC is closely monitoring these growing streams of antisemitism, prepared to contend with threats both online and in the physical sphere.

The WJC has expanded its online research capabilities to collect concrete information about antisemitic individuals, organizations, events, hubs, and platforms, to report to local authorities and halt threatening activity. The WJC has also focused its efforts on helping communities advocate for stronger governmental policies and legislation against antisemitism and improving education about the dangers of xenophobia both in schools and in the public arena. The WJC has also taken an active role in ensuring that European Union states follow through on their pledge to support Jewish communal security and continues to campaign for similar policies in other regions of the world.

In recent years, the WJC has assisted our communities around the world in strengthening their physical security infrastructures, and guided crisis management trainings and seminars, with an emphasis on ensuring efficiency in contending directly with threats. With this expertise, the WJC recently assisted the Czech Republic in developing a methodology for protecting soft targets, and taking these efforts to the international arena, signed a memorandum of understanding with the UN's Office of Counterterrorism on combating global threats.



Communal preparedness drill, Athens Greece

Yom Kippur attack in Halle, Germany

On 9 October 2019 the lives of the 52 worshippers gathered for Yom Kippur services at the synagogue in Halle, were spared as they stacked pieces of furniture against the synagogue gate to block the breach of the assailant. Local bystander Jana Lange was shot and killed as she passed by the synagogue, and a second victim, Kevin Schwarze, was killed when the shooter entered a kebab shop after failing to break into the synagogue.

Shortly after the horrific attack, President Lauder [met](#) with members of the local Jewish community to condemn the antisemitic incident and offer the WJC's assistance. While in Halle, President Lauder visited the site of the onslaught and spoke with dozens of media outlets, underscoring that at this critical moment in history, "we need action, not words" to eliminate the surge of antisemitism around the world.

One year following the attack, WJC representatives traveled to Halle and convened Jewish leaders for a virtual event to commemorate the events at the synagogue, mourn the deaths of the victims, and push for concrete action to fight antisemitism. [The full commemoration can be watched here](#)

In his reflection on the 2019 attack, WJC President Lauder [wrote](#): "While the Jewish community of Halle is a small one, the terror that the attacker created reverberated throughout the Jewish world. From online antisemitism to violent, targeted attacks on synagogues, governments and international institutions must demonstrate leadership and accountability in preventing and prosecuting such heinous actions, and the best prevention tactic is education."



WJC President Lauder meeting with members of the Jewish community at the Halle Synagogue



President Lauder speaking to the press in Halle October 2019

WJC assists Czech Republic in developing methodology for protecting soft targets against terrorists

The WJC assisted the government of the Czech Republic in 2019 in developing [guidelines of methodology](#) for protecting ‘soft’ targets in the country, including malls, stadiums, concert halls, and other crowd-drawing locations.

The guidelines include recommendations for actions in the immediate aftermath of an incident, as well as for returning to routine quickly and with minimal damages. The WJC was able to provide such guidelines due to its experience in contending with crisis management and protection amid the backdrop of violent incidents facing Jewish communities worldwide in recent years.

The Czech Interior Ministry welcomed the “excellent security cooperation with the Jewish community” that enabled the development of these guidelines. Czech Interior Minister Jan Hamáček underscored following a meeting with the WJC that, “we have above-standard security relations with the Jewish community and we also use the experience of our partners to protect our soft targets.”

In addition to cooperation with the Jewish community in the field of security, the Czech Interior Ministry also assured the WJC representatives that any manifestations of antisemitism are unacceptable to the Czech government. As early as January 2019, both chambers of the Czech Parliament adopted a working definition of antisemitism, which it hopes will help to further streamline detection of antisemitic crimes.