

RESOLUTION GB 1811 – 1

Recognition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism

The Governing Board of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Paris on 19 November 2018,

NOTES WITH RESPECT that on June 1st, 2017, as part of a resolution on combating antisemitism, the European Parliament adopted the working definition of antisemitism adopted by the plenary of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) on 26 May 2016;

COMMENDS that 6 EU countries, namely Austria, Germany, Lithuania, Romania, the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, together with Israel and Macedonia, have already adopted the IHRA definition of antisemitism;

NOTES that whilst recognizing that "criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic", the IHRA definition of antisemitism recognizes that contemporary examples of antisemitism include: denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor; applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation; drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis; and holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel;

EMPHASIZES that without each of its examples the definition does not accurately define contemporary antisemitism;

CONDEMS IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS an alarming increase in all forms of antisemitism worldwide, especially violent attacks on Jews resulting in injury and/or death;

NOTES WITH GRAVE CONCERN an increase, especially online, in the number of incidents of hate speech and incitement to hate, hate crimes, racism, xenophobia and intolerance worldwide targeting Jews, demonstrating that antisemitism is not a curse of the past, but an immediate and growing present danger;

EMPHASIZES that online companies and social media companies wrongly permit the publication of hateful and antisemitic content and either do not remove or are often slow in removing antisemitic or hateful content online;

UNDERLINES the fact that antisemitism can only properly be addressed if a common understanding of the phenomenon exists, including the contemporary examples of antisemitism in the IHRA definition and those relating to the State of Israel;

CALLS ON all remaining 22 EU countries, to formally adopt the definition of antisemitism at a national level¹.

CALLS ON all executive, legislative, judicial and other official bodies to adopt and implement the IHRA definition of antisemitism, including all examples, to serve as a guide for judicial and law enforcement authorities in their efforts to identify and prosecute antisemitic attacks more efficiently and effectively. The definition should also serve as a guide to educational authorities in the development of curriculums and educational materials;

CALLS ON all international organizations to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism,