

RESOLUTION: 1503ec-3

ANTI-SEMITISM AND TERRORISM

The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Washington, DC on 23 March 2015,

EXPRESSES grave concern that 70 years after the end of World War II, the safety of Jews in many European countries is seriously threatened and the future of Jewish life in many Western countries is once again in doubt;

CONDEMNS the tragic loss of life in the recent Islamist terrorist attacks throughout the world

NOTES with dismay the recent surge in violence against Jews, including the attacks in Brussels, Paris and Copenhagen committed by Islamist terrorists who murdered Jews in cold blood because they were Jews;

NOTES with alarm a continuous growth in anti-Semitic incidents have surged to levels not witnessed since World War II; in many countries the long term trend shows that anti-Semitism is rising significantly;

NOTES with concern that many Jews in Europe are now considering emigration as the only response to this growing anti-Semitism;

REITERATES that the World Jewish Congress will continue to advocate with governments for the right of Jews to live freely and safely in their respective countries without fear of anti-Semitic attacks;

CALLS on the governments of Europe, and the European Union-at their own cost-to take and enforce all necessary legislative, judicial and administrative measures to ensure the protection of their Jewish citizens and Jewish institutions in their respective countries;

CALLS for greater surveillance of radical Islamic preachers who incite hatred and for their expulsion or arrest wherever possible, and for the better monitoring of prisons targeted by Islamist radicals seeking to recruit inmates as jihadists;

CALLS on Muslim countries, institutions and leaders that have yet to do so, to unequivocally declare that no political goal or religious teaching can justify anti-Semitism and terrorism, and to take action against the growing extremism within the Muslim community;

CONSIDERS greater co-operation and sharing of information between countries essential in contending with the threat posed by jihadists returning to their native countries from countries like Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Nigeria, Mali and Somalia;

URGES governments, the churches and civil society organizations to speak out against racism, anti-Semitism and extremism wherever it manifests itself;

NOTES with alarm the world-wide growth of hate speech and incitement on the internet and calls for the proscribing of internet hate speech and incitement;

WELCOMES the commitments to fighting extremism and anti-Semitism made by several European countries, and endorses the action plan put forward by French President François Hollande and his government, in particular the proposed measures to contain the proliferation of hatred and incitement on the internet and in social media;

REITERATES its support for legitimate measures aimed at protecting citizens from the negative effects of racist incitement and hate speech.

Approved by the Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress meeting in Washington DC on 23 March 2015.