

Support for the Worldwide Jewish Student Movement

The Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in New York on April 23-25 2017,

RECOGNIZES that anti-Semitism has increasingly become a significant characteristic of university life on certain campuses around the world, both in the form of the traditional tropes such as Holocaust denial and historical inversion and revisionism and the new anti-Semitism, through statements and acts (including by the Boycotts Divestment and Sanctions [BDS] movement) denying the Zionist ideal of the right of the Jewish people to national self-determination in the State of Israel, and/or alleging that Israel is a racist endeavour and similar canards;

CONDEMNS perpetrators of these anti-Semitic acts and **DENOUNCES** those who act as apologists for them;

ACKNOWLEDGES that Jewish student unions and Hillels are currently on the front line of defense against the rise of anti-Semitism in institutions of higher education in more than 30 countries, and that these Jewish student-led organizations have led the way in tackling many of the major challenges to the Jewish people in the past century;

RECOGNIZES that communities that do not have an organized, democratically elected structure to represent their Jewish youth and university students are ill equipped to deal with the widespread anti-Semitism affecting students on campus;

FURTHER RECOGNIZES that many of the most effective Jewish student organizations are those that are extensively supported by the wider Jewish communities within which they reside, by universities, and by Hillel and the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS);

COMMENDS the many years of consistent support offered by the WJC to WUJS and existing Jewish student organizations;

APPLAUDS the courage and tenacity of Jewish student leaders who volunteer their time (often with limited resources) to ensure that the Jewish standpoint is advanced, robustly if necessary, and that their peers can study in safe environments free from anti-Jewish activity;

RESOLVES to encourage WJC-affiliated communities to support the formation of democratically elected Jewish student organizations where they do not currently exist and wherever there are enough Jewish students to do so;

FURTHER RESOLVES to commit the WJC to continue its support for WUJS, the largest umbrella organization uniting Jewish student organizations around the world, and to continue to actively support initiatives aimed at students, the objective of which is to broaden the positive Israel conversation on campus, such as the Campus Pitch Competition;

ENCOURAGES the WJC to include breakout sessions and/or panel discussions on Jewish campus activism and the fight against on-campus anti-Semitism at all future WJC Plenary Assemblies and meetings of the WJC Executive.