

World Jewish Congress

Resolution EC 1910 – 2

Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism

The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Munich on 28 October 2019,

GRATEFULLY WELCOMES both of the recently published UN reports on antisemitism:

the first of which by Ahmed Shaheed, the UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, which identifies antisemitic-motivated violence as “toxic to democracy and mutual respect” and urges states to adopt a “human rights-based approach” to combating the hatred of Jews; and

the second of which by E. Tendayi Achiume, the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which notes a resurgence in antisemitic violence targeting Jews, including hate crimes, hate speech, harassment, intimidation, Holocaust denial, antisemitic vandalism and the use of antisemitic symbols all around the world and calls on UN member states to take concrete actions to combat and prevent manifestations of antisemitism;

RECALLS previously adopted resolutions entitled “The Need for International Organizations to Prioritize the Fight Against Antisemitism,” “Recognition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism,” and “Condemnation of the Upsurge of Violent Antisemitism Around the World;

APPLAUDS the convening in Bucharest on 18 June 2019 by the Romanian Presidency of the EU, in cooperation with the WJC, of the first International Meeting of Special Envoys & Coordinators Combatting Antisemitism (SECCA);

ENDORSES the Romanian EU Presidency Statement released following that meeting: calling for more action to safeguard the security of Jewish communities worldwide; endorsing Working Definition of Antisemitism adopted by IHRA; calling for the financing of Holocaust research, education and remembrance; and improving the recording and collection of hate crime data;

WELCOMES the second International Meeting of SECCA in Munich in October 2019 and expresses thanks in advance to all the Special Envoys and Coordinators who will attend;

NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the European Union Council Declaration on the fight against Antisemitism that was adopted in December 2018 and the written declaration No. 686 of 28 June 2019 of 44 Members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe stressing the need for “Adopting new tools in the fight against anti-Semitism in Europe”;

CALLS ON all governments to prioritize the fight against antisemitism and to strongly condemn acts of antisemitism wherever and in whatever form they may occur, conduct regular research and opinion polls on antisemitism to gauge the nature and extent of the problem in their country, and celebrate the contributions of their Jewish communities to their respective societies as a way to counter the prejudice, ignorance and misperception;

CALLS ON all EU member states to implement the above-mentioned EU Council declaration and non-EU member states to implement similar measures and to develop comprehensive national strategies to combat antisemitism, with clear goals and plans for implementation, as outlined in the declaration;

CALLS ON all countries that have not yet appointed envoys or coordinators to monitor and combat antisemitism to promptly do so;

STRESSES the need for envoys, coordinators and governments to also address the security of Jewish communities, the improvement of data gathering on hate crimes, Holocaust education and education against antisemitism, online hate, neo-Nazi movements, and Holocaust denial and distortion in their respective countries;

ENCOURAGES envoys and coordinators to address antisemitism both in the domestic and international context and seek consultations on the topic with other competent authorities in their countries;

INVITES envoys and coordinators to facilitate forums with their Jewish communities and relevant government officials in their countries to discuss antisemitism and their security concerns;

CALLS ON all international organizations, governments, academic institutions, online and social media companies to adopt the IHRA definition as detailed in the resolution entitled “Recognition of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism” adopted at the WJC Governing Board in Paris in November 2018;

CONFIRMS THAT the World Jewish Congress will regularly convene International SECCA Meetings in order to exchange views, share best practices and policies, and evaluate progress in the shared fight against antisemitism.