

## BM75 - Budva

### Resolution: Combating anti-Semitism: student unions to take responsibility

Anti-Semitism and its manifestations contradict fundamental values as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>1</sup>, the European Convention on Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union<sup>3</sup>, Anti-Semitism reflects deep-rooted prejudice in society against Jews, which will only be overcome by increased awareness-raising efforts among the population and strong political condemnation. Historically, manifestations of anti-Semitism have shown how prejudice and intolerance can lead to systematic harassment, discrimination and ultimately mass killings and genocide. Still today, persisting stereotypes, insults and physical violence are experienced on a daily basis by members of the Jewish community across Europe.

These worrying trends are mirrored in the Jewish community's perception of anti-Semitism, as shown by the 2013 Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) Survey: Discrimination and hate crime against Jews in EU Member States: experiences and perceptions of anti-Semitism<sup>4</sup>. At the same time, these same incidents have thus far failed to appropriately raise the concerns of civil society at large. Awareness-raising, in-depth understanding by policy makers, and commitment to act are key elements in bridging this gap.

#### **The European Students' Union acknowledges:**

- That anti-Semitism is a form of racism that is under no circumstances acceptable; ☐
- That fighting racism is a core mission and responsibility for European Student's Union; ☐
- The Council of Europe Resolution 2106 (2016) on "Renewed commitment in the fight against anti-Semitism in Europe"<sup>5</sup> as a starting point for action; ☐

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<sup>1</sup> The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> The European Convention on Human Rights, [https://www.echr.coe.int/Documents/Convention\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.echr.coe.int/Documents/Convention_ENG.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/pdf/text\\_en.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/pdf/text_en.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Discrimination and hate crime against Jews in EU Member States: experiences and perceptions of anti-Semitism, <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2013/technical-report-fra-survey-discrimination-and-hate-crime-against-jews-eu-member>

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 2106 (2016), Renewed commitment in the fight against anti-Semitism in Europe: <http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-en.asp?fileid=22716&lang=en>

- The European Parliament resolution on combating anti-Semitism (2017/2692(RSP))<sup>6</sup> as a starting point for action;
- The European Youth Forum has already adopted the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism in 2018
- The European Students' Union adopted the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism in the anti-Discrimination statement during the 75<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting
- That the number of anti-Semitic incidents in Council of Europe Member States has risen significantly in recent years as reported by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe<sup>7</sup> (OSCE) and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights<sup>8</sup> (FRA), among other bodies

### **The European Students' Union resolves**

- To reaffirm its commitment to tackling anti-Semitism in all of its forms;
- To adopt and apply the legally non-binding working definition of anti-Semitism adopted by the 31 States of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), including all the examples included therein. (Annex 1)
- To encourage Member Organisations to adopt and apply the IHRA working definition of anti-Semitism with its examples;
- To take appropriate action when instances of anti-Semitic speech or action occur among its lay leadership, Secretariat, volunteers and Member Organisations;
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- To publicly denounce actions that are anti-Semitic based on the aforementioned definition;
- To advocate with *Council of Europe Member States* to take appropriate action against anti-Semitism;
- To advocate with *Council of Europe Member States* to protect and valorise the Jewish cultural heritage as well as the Jewish languages in Europe, such as the Yiddish and the Judaeo-Spanish.

**Proposed by:** fzs, NUIS

**Seconded by:** ÖH, VSS UNES USU, KSU, CREUP, PSRP, SPUM

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<sup>6</sup> The European Parliament resolution on combating anti-Semitism (2017/2692(RSP))  
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=MOTION&reference=B8-2017-0383&language=EN>

<sup>7</sup> <http://hatecrime.osce.org/what-hate-crime/anti-semitism?year=2016>

<sup>8</sup> <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2017/antisemitism-overview-2006-2016>