

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2292

To require a report on acts of anti-Semitism around the world.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 7, 2004

Mr. VOINOVICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require a report on acts of anti-Semitism around the world.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Global Anti-Semitism
5 Review Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Acts of anti-Semitism in countries through-
9 out the world, including some of the world’s strong-
10 est democracies, have increased significantly in fre-
11 quency and scope over the last several years.

1 (2) During the first 3 months of 2004, there
2 were numerous instances of anti-Semitic violence
3 around the world, including the following incidents:

4 (A) In Australia on January 5, 2004, poi-
5 son was used to ignite, and burn anti-Semitic
6 slogans into, the lawns of the Parliament House
7 in the state of Tasmania.

8 (B) In St. Petersburg, Russia, on Feb-
9 ruary 15, 2004, vandals desecrated approxi-
10 mately 50 gravestones in a Jewish cemetery,
11 painting the stones with swastikas and anti-Se-
12 mitic graffiti.

13 (C) In Toronto, Canada, over the weekend
14 of March 19 through March 21, 2004, vandals
15 attacked a Jewish school, a Jewish cemetery,
16 and area synagogues, painting swastikas and
17 anti-Semitic slogans on the walls of a syna-
18 gogue and on residential property in a nearby,
19 predominantly Jewish, neighborhood.

20 (D) In Toulon, France, on March 23,
21 2004, a Jewish synagogue and community cen-
22 ter were set on fire.

23 (3) Anti-Semitism in old and new forms is also
24 increasingly emanating from the Arab and Muslim
25 world on a sustained basis, including through books

1 published by government-owned publishing houses in
2 Egypt and other Arab countries.

3 (4) In November 2002, state-run television in
4 Egypt broadcast the anti-Semitic series entitled
5 “Horseman Without a Horse,” which is based upon
6 the fictitious conspiracy theory know as the Proto-
7 cols of the Elders of Zion. The Protocols have been
8 used throughout the last century by despots such as
9 Adolf Hitler to justify violence against Jews.

10 (5) In November 2003, Arab television featured
11 an anti-Semitic series, entitled “Ash-Shatat” (or
12 “The Diaspora”), which depicts Jewish people
13 hatching a plot for Jewish control of the world.

14 (6) The sharp rise in anti-Semitic violence has
15 caused international organizations such as the Orga-
16 nization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
17 (OSCE) to elevate, and bring renewed focus to, the
18 issue, including the convening by the OSCE in June
19 2003 of a conference in Vienna dedicated solely to
20 the issue of anti-Semitism.

21 (7) The OSCE will again convene a conference
22 dedicated to addressing the problem of anti-Semi-
23 tism on April 28–29, 2004, in Berlin, with the
24 United States delegation to be led by former Mayor
25 of New York City Ed Koch.

1 (8) The United States Government has strongly
2 supported efforts to address anti-Semitism through
3 bilateral relationships and interaction with inter-
4 national organizations such as the OSCE, the Euro-
5 pean Union, and the United Nations.

6 (9) Congress has consistently supported efforts
7 to address the rise in anti-Semitic violence. During
8 the 107th Congress, both the Senate and the House
9 of Representatives passed resolutions expressing
10 strong concern with the sharp escalation of anti-Se-
11 mitic violence in Europe and calling on the Depart-
12 ment of State to thoroughly document the phe-
13 nomenon.

14 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

15 It is the sense of Congress that—

16 (1) the United States Government should con-
17 tinue to strongly support efforts to combat anti-
18 Semitism worldwide through bilateral relationships
19 and interaction with international organizations such
20 as the OSCE; and

21 (2) the Department of State should thoroughly
22 document acts of anti-Semitism that occur around
23 the world.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

2 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State
4 shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
5 Senate and the Committee on International Relations of
6 the House of Representatives a report on acts of anti-Sem-
7 itism around the world, including a description of—

8 (1) acts of physical violence against, or harass-
9 ment of, Jewish people, and acts of violence against,
10 or vandalism of, Jewish community institutions,
11 such as schools, synagogues, or cemeteries, that oc-
12 curred in each country;

13 (2) the responses of the governments of those
14 countries to such actions;

15 (3) the actions taken by such governments to
16 enact and enforce laws relating to the protection of
17 the right to religious freedom of Jewish people; and

18 (4) the efforts by such governments to promote
19 anti-bias and tolerance education.

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