

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 354

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 9, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. ROSKAM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe.

Whereas anti-Semitic rhetoric and acts, including violent attacks on people and places of faith, have increased in frequency, variety, and severity in many countries in Europe;

Whereas the French Service de Protection de la Communauté Juive (Jewish Community Security Service) reported an increase in anti-Semitic acts in France between 2013 to 2014 (from 423 acts to 851), including an increase in violent ones (from 105 acts to 241); the Community Security Trust reported an increase in anti-Semitic acts in the United Kingdom between 2013 to 2014 (from 535

acts to 1,168), including an increase in violent ones (from 69 to 81); and the Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry reported an increase in anti-Semitic acts between 2013 and 2014 in Germany (from 788 acts to 1076, including 36 violent acts to 76), Belgium (from 64 acts to 109, including 11 violent acts to 30), Austria (from 137 acts to 255, including 4 violent acts to 9), and Italy (from 45 to 90, including 12 violent acts to 23);

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation reported, in its latest available statistics, 870 incidents in 2012 with anti-Jewish bias motivation, including 13 violent incidents, and 625 incidents in 2013 with anti-Jewish bias motivation, including four violent incidents;

Whereas anti-Semitic attacks have been increasingly directed at places of ordinary daily life and places of worship, including—

(1) the violent extremist who pledged his loyalty to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) and attacked a kosher supermarket in Paris, France, January 9, 2015, murdering four Jewish patrons; and

(2) the violent extremist who pledged his loyalty to ISIS and attacked the Great Synagogue in Copenhagen, Denmark, during a bat mitzvah celebration, February 15, 2015, murdering a member of the Jewish community on security duty, and wounding two members of the Danish Police Service;

Whereas anti-Semitic attacks are threats to the fundamental freedoms, rights, security, and diversity of all citizens, societies, and countries in which they occur;

Whereas governments have primary responsibility for the security and safety of all of their citizens and therefore pri-

mary responsibility for monitoring, preventing, and responding to anti-Semitic violence;

Whereas Jewish community groups that focus on strengthening safety awareness, crisis management, and preparedness are essential to keeping members of the Jewish community safe, and complement efforts of government and inter-governmental entities;

Whereas keeping members of Jewish communities safe requires government agencies, intergovernmental institutions and agencies, and law enforcement associations, formally recognizing and partnering with Jewish community groups that focus on safety awareness and crisis management and preparedness;

Whereas in the United States, United Kingdom, and France, there are examples of formal recognition, partnership, training, and information-sharing between government entities and Jewish community security groups that have strengthened these countries and contributed to the safety and security of Jewish communities;

Whereas Jewish community groups, consortia, and initiatives, have formed and are forming to focus on safety awareness, crisis management, and preparedness, and partner with law enforcement entities and thought leaders;

Whereas information-sharing and action-focused campaigns, including the national “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign of the Department of Homeland Security, which rely on members of the public reporting suspicious activity to law enforcement personnel, are critical to preventing violent attacks on individuals and communities;

Whereas relevant information, research, and analysis is vital to strengthening the preparedness, prevention, mitigation, and response of Jewish communities and law enforcement agencies;

Whereas broader efforts to counter violent extremism, and efforts to counter anti-Semitism, should be integrated with each other as appropriate and share best practices;

Whereas in the Berlin Declaration of April 29, 2004, participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) condemned anti-Semitism and committed themselves to specific actions to combat it, including to combat hate crimes and to collect and maintain reliable information and statistics about anti-Semitic crimes;

Whereas, on December 6, 2013, the Ministerial Council of the OSCE, which is composed of the Foreign Ministers of participating States, adopted Decision number 3/13 entitled “Freedom of Thought, Conscience, Religion, or Belief”, emphasizing “the link between security and full respect for the freedom of thought”, and committing member governments to adopt “policies to promote respect and protection for places of worship and religious sites, religious monuments, cemeteries and shrines against vandalism and destruction”, among other specific actions;

Whereas, on December 5, 2014, the Ministerial Council of the OSCE adopted Declaration number 8, the Basel Declaration, on “Enhancing Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism”, in which members of the Council stated, “We express our concern at the disconcerting number of anti-Semitic incidents that continue to take place in the OSCE area and remain a challenge to stability and security”

and “We stress the importance of States collaborating with civil society through effective partnerships and strengthened dialogue and co-operation on combating anti-Semitism”; and

Whereas in 2004, Congress passed the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act, which established an Office to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, headed by a Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) urges the United States Government, in-  
3       cluding the Secretary of State, the Secretary of  
4       Homeland Security, the Attorney General, and the  
5       Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to  
6       work closely with European governments and their  
7       law enforcement agencies, the Organization for Se-  
8       curity and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Euro-  
9       pean Union, Europol, and Interpol, encouraging and  
10      enabling them to—

11               (A) formally recognize, partner with, and  
12      train Jewish community groups focused on  
13      strengthening preparedness, mitigation, and re-  
14      sponse related to anti-Semitic attacks;

15               (B) support initiatives to research, analyze,  
16      and strengthen the preparedness, mitigation,  
17      and response of Jewish community groups and

1 law enforcement agencies to anti-Semitic at-  
2 tacks;

3 (C) share essential, relevant information  
4 with, and have clear, open channels to receive  
5 and respond to information from, Jewish com-  
6 munity groups focused on strengthening pre-  
7 paredness, mitigation, and response related to  
8 anti-Semitic attacks;

9 (D) consider formal partnerships in the  
10 United States, United Kingdom, and France,  
11 between government entities and Jewish com-  
12 munity security groups as examples of govern-  
13 ment recognition of partnership, training, and  
14 information-sharing, with Jewish community se-  
15 curity groups;

16 (E) support assessments of the—

17 (i) general environment of hate  
18 crimes, the broader context for under-  
19 standing the environment for anti-Semitic  
20 attacks;

21 (ii) anti-Semitism environment that  
22 includes gathering and analyzing data on  
23 crimes committed, response from law en-  
24 forcement, types of attacks or incidents  
25 that are most prevalent, types of targets

1 that are most at-risk, and that draw infor-  
2 mation from sources that include Jewish  
3 groups, law enforcement agencies, and  
4 independent human rights nongovern-  
5 mental organizations (NGOs), and other  
6 civil society groups and leaders;

7 (iii) capabilities, resources, and rela-  
8 tionships of Jewish community groups with  
9 local law enforcement agencies;

10 (iv) preparedness, including emer-  
11 gency response plans and extent to which  
12 decisionmaking is based on the best avail-  
13 able information, analysis, and practices,  
14 of Jewish community groups that focus on  
15 the safety of members of the Jewish com-  
16 munity;

17 (v) response of local law enforcement  
18 systems to anti-Semitic incidents, including  
19 hate-crime reporting, how law enforcement  
20 agencies usually receive reports of anti-Se-  
21 mitic crimes, the initial course of action  
22 when a report is filed, the extent to which  
23 anti-Semitic crimes are prioritized and  
24 prosecuted, the processes of investigating  
25 and gaining information about the crime,

1 and ways in which law enforcement agen-  
2 cies work with prosecutors; and

3 (vi) communication and cooperation  
4 between European governments, intergov-  
5 ernmental, and interorganizational entities  
6 on combating anti-Semitism, especially  
7 anti-Semitic violence;

8 (F) make necessary adjustments to their  
9 strategies and efforts to combat anti-Semitism,  
10 particularly violent attacks on Jewish commu-  
11 nities, based on these assessments;

12 (G) help Jewish communities develop com-  
13 mon, baseline safety standards, especially for  
14 community service organizations that focus on  
15 preparedness, mitigation, and response, includ-  
16 ing for training, controlling access to physical  
17 facilities, physical security measures, crisis com-  
18 munications, emergency exercises and simula-  
19 tions, mapping access to facilities, and sharing  
20 of information with law enforcement agencies  
21 and other partners;

22 (H) develop and implement a standardized  
23 pan-European information-sharing, communica-  
24 tion, and alerting system between governments,  
25 inter-governmental agencies, and Jewish com-



1 communities, that functions day-round and year-  
2 round and includes training for personnel im-  
3 plementing such a system;

4 (I) develop and implement safety-aware-  
5 ness and suspicious activity reporting cam-  
6 paigns;

7 (J) integrate, as appropriate, efforts to  
8 combat violent extremism and efforts to combat  
9 anti-Semitism with each other and share best  
10 practices related to both;

11 (K) ensure law enforcement personnel are  
12 effectively trained to monitor, prevent, and re-  
13 spond to anti-Semitic violence, and partner with  
14 Jewish communities;

15 (L) reaffirm and work for the implementa-  
16 tion of the OSCE declarations, decisions, and  
17 other commitments, particularly those focusing  
18 on anti-Semitism;

19 (M) ensure senior officials, with commen-  
20 surate authority and resources, have been ap-  
21 pointed or designated to combat anti-Semitism  
22 and collaborate with governmental and inter-  
23 governmental agencies, law enforcement agen-  
24 cies, Jewish community groups, and other civil  
25 society groups; and

1 (N) work closely with associations of law  
2 enforcement professionals, and other relevant  
3 professional entities, to combat anti-Semitism  
4 and particularly to actualize the goals of this  
5 resolution;

6 (2) reaffirms its support for the mandate of the  
7 United States Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat  
8 Anti-Semitism as part of the broader policy priority  
9 of fostering international religious freedom;

10 (3) urges the Secretary of State to continue ro-  
11 bust United States reporting on anti-Semitism by  
12 the Department of State and the Special Envoy to  
13 Combat and Monitor Anti-Semitism; and

14 (4) calls on the President to report to Congress,  
15 not later than one year after this resolution is  
16 passed, on the United States Government's imple-  
17 mentation of this resolution.

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