



JULY 2021

# JULY 2021 ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS & TRENDS REPORT



**COMBAT  
ANTISEMITISM  
MOVEMENT**

For the  
Jewish People  
Their Homeland  
And Humanity

**PREPARED BY:**

**The Combat Antisemitism  
Movement (CAM)**

**[combatantisemitism.org](https://combatantisemitism.org)**



# IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM MONTHLY ADOPTION MONITOR

## Introduction

With antisemitism on the rise worldwide across ideological spectrum, close monitoring enables a better understanding of this dangerous threat and how it can be mitigated.

The most effective tool today to combat the ever-changing manifestations of anti-Jewish bigotry is the IHRA working definition of antisemitism. Each month, CAM tracks IHRA definition adoptions and how the definition is being used around the world.

In July 2021, CAM tracked one entity that adopted the IHRA definition and, in doing so, committed to making the world a safer place for Jewish communities. The slow pace of adoptions in July is attributed primarily to summer vacation, during which organizations, institutions, and legislative bodies are largely in recess. In the fall, the pace of adoptions is expected to increase, especially on the heels of elevated antisemitic incidents during and after the latest Israel-Gaza flare up, and a heightened sense of insecurity on college campuses as Jewish students return to in-person learning for the first time in more than a year.

## June 2021 IHRA Adoption:

- **Community of Sant'Egidio**
  - The Community of Sant'Egidio is a lay Catholic association dedicated to social service, with an estimated 50,000 members and network communities in 73 countries. The adoption represents the first time an international Catholic movement endorsed the definition.



Israel's Ambassador to the Holy See Oren David with Garofalo Mauro, Head of International Relations for Sant'Egidio. Photo: @IsraelinHolySee.



SANT'EGIDIO

# MONTHLY REPORT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS JULY 2021

CAM publishes a Global Antisemitism Report, a comprehensive resource updated weekly that tracks media coverage of antisemitic incidents across the globe, and classifies the incidents by ideology.

In aggregate for the month of July 2021, CAM tracked a total of **132 incidents** reported in the media, marking a 25% decrease from June. Of these, **38% (50 incidents)** had far-right motives, while **26% (34 incidents)** had far-left motives, and **18% (24 incidents)** had Islamist motives. The remainder -- 18% (24 incidents) -- had unidentifiable motives.

## Major Incidents in July

- **WASHINGTON, D.C., USA:** Large swastika was found inside the U.S. State Department building, close to the office of the Special Envoy to Monitor & Combat Antisemitism.



A swastika on the wall of Elevator 36 at the State Department. Photo: Obtained by Axios.

- **BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, USA:** A Jewish cemetery was vandalized with Nazi graffiti.



Toronto resident Sam Brody was assaulted by a man who shouted, "Free Palestine." Photo: Screenshot.

- **NEW YORK CITY, USA:** An identifiably Jewish man was physically attacked and robbed by two assailants while on his way to synagogue in Brooklyn.
- **TORONTO, CANADA:** A yarmulke-wearing Jewish man was physically attacked while walking his dog by a man who yelled "*F\*\*\* you, you Jews, you'll never take Israel — free Palestine!*"

# MONTHLY REPORT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

## JULY 2021

### Major Incidents in July

- **NEW YORK CITY, USA:** The head of Human Rights Watch blamed the surge in antisemitic attacks against British Jews on Israel.
- **LONDON, ENGLAND:** Several Jews in London were threatened with violence and verbally harassed in the streets, on separate occasions.



Human Rights Watch (HRW) Executive Director Kenneth Roth.

- **ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS:** A top Dutch soccer player was targeted with a grotesque Nazi mural, depicting him in antisemitic caricature as a concentration camp inmate, after he signed with Club Ajax – known for its Jewish fanbase.
- **GHOR ES-SAFI, JORDAN:** An Islamic State cell was arrested for plotting to kill IDF soldiers and Jewish foreign-nationals in the kingdom.



An antisemitic mural in Rotterdam attacking professional soccer player Steven Berghuis. Photo: Courtesy of CIDI.

These highly public displays of antisemitic intimidation and violence from across the ideological spectrum in July demonstrate the intensity with which Jew-hatred has penetrated the mainstream of society, and reinforces the need to vigorously combat it in its many forms.



# ANTISEMITISM ENTERS MAINSTREAM OF POLITICAL DISCOURSE AROUND WORLD

## Ben & Jerry's Boycott

July 2021 saw a troubling trend of high-impact events in which Jew-hatred was mainstreamed across civil society. Most notably, the Vermont-based Ben & Jerry's ice cream company, owned by British conglomerate Unilever, caved to pressure from the antisemitic BDS movement and announced it would end sales of its products in the "Occupied Palestinian Territory" - including the Old City of Jerusalem.

There are many disputed territories in the world, yet Ben & Jerry's chose to single out Israel over its presence in Judea and Samaria, the biblical homeland of the Jewish people, marking a clear violation of the "double standards" criteria of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism.

The decision was driven by the chair of Ben & Jerry's board of directors, who has a long history of anti-Israel activism and demonization, including retweeting support for a jailed leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) - a U.S. and E.U. designated foreign terrorist organization - multiple times.



The Ben & Jerry's ice cream factory in the Be'er Tuvia Industrial Park, southern Israel. PHOTO: TSAFRIR ABAYOV / ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Officials in the U.S. states of Florida, Texas, New York, New Jersey, and Illinois are examining whether the discriminatory move against Israel requires their states to divest from Ben & Jerry's and Unilever in accordance with anti-boycott laws passed in recent years.

# ANTISEMITISM ENTERS MAINSTREAM OF POLITICAL DISCOURSE AROUND WORLD

## Rising Holocaust Distortion

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues, with the Delta variant spreading widely, more and more occurrences of Holocaust distortion, a growing antisemitic phenomenon, have taken place. Increasingly, disturbing Holocaust imagery and rhetoric are being used to protest government health measures and regulations.



A star that reads "Not vaccinated" is seen attached to the back of an anti-vaccine protester at a rally in Paris, France, Saturday, July 17, 2021. (AP Photo/Michel Euler, File)

In France and Italy, for example, anti-vaccine demonstrators have appropriated the “Judenstern,” or yellow Star of David the Nazis forced Jews to wear during the Holocaust. In the U.S., a Georgia Congresswoman described vaccine advocates as “medical brown shirts,” a reference to the paramilitary group that helped Adolf Hitler rise to power. These are just a few examples, out of dozens of similar incidents in countries around the world.

Elements within the growing anti-vaccine movement in Europe are showing alarming signs of moving beyond Holocaust distortion, to wholesale blaming Jews for the pandemic, and accursing Jews of profiting off of the vaccine.



# ANTISEMITISM ENTERS MAINSTREAM OF POLITICAL DISCOURSE AROUND WORLD

## Durban Anniversary Commemoration

At the United Nations, preparations continued for September's upcoming celebration of the 20th anniversary of the 2001 World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, which infamously turned into an antisemitic hatefest with harmful consequences that still reverberate today. For further information, read CAM's [analysis of Durban here](#).



Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Then-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, gives an address at the High Level Segment of the Durban Review Conference in 2009, during which he engaged in Holocaust denial. (UN Photo)

Due to this problematic history, ten countries -- the US, UK, Czech Republic, Netherlands, Canada, Australia, Hungary, Austria, Germany, and Israel – have announced they will not attend the anniversary event, and more are expected to follow suit.

Nine of the ten countries that have pulled out, have adopted the IHRA working definition of antisemitism - which was partly established in response to the contemporary forms of antisemitism propagated at the Durban conference, and around the world ever since. Recently, CAM [convened top leaders](#) to discuss why the upcoming Durban commemoration should be condemned.



# LATEST IHRA DEFINITION & POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

As highly public displays of antisemitism were manifested through violent acts, and were celebrated through movements that disproportionately target the existence of the State of Israel this summer -- the latter of which increasingly fuels the former -- *implementation* of the IHRA definition of antisemitism is of paramount importance for countries and institutions that have adopted it. As the growth of Jew-hatred tests the resiliency of democratic rules of law, states and officials must adhere to the IHRA definition through deed, as well as word.



**Sant'Egidio Becomes First Catholic Movement to Endorse IHRA definition**

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*Report an IHRA definition of antisemitism adoption to the Combat Antisemitism Movement. If your organization would like assistance with adopting the IHRA definition of antisemitism, or you would like assistance having the IHRA definition adopted in your community, please contact us at [info@combatantisemitism.org](mailto:info@combatantisemitism.org).*