

**REMARKS OF ELAN S. CARR**  
**UNAOC-EU Joint Event, June 15, 2022**

Hi Representative Moratinos, of course Nihal, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am Elan Carr, and today I am here on behalf of the Combat Antisemitism Movement, a global coalition of hundreds of organizations united under the singular purpose of fighting the scourge of Jew-hatred, regardless of the ideological clothing it wears, as my dear friend Katarina von Schnurbein said, whether it comes from the far-right, the radical left, or militant Islam. I want to thank the Alliance on Civilizations for convening this important meeting at an urgent time, as the powerful words of Rabbi Schneier make clear, an urgent time of rising antisemitism.

When I served as U.S. Special Envoy, a moment of great inspiration for me was reading the remarkable report of my friend, Special Rapporteur Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, on the state of antisemitism, which he published in 2019. I read it and was stunned by how comprehensive, how fair, how thorough, and how smart it was in identifying truly the state of antisemitism in the world, in all its many forms. But as we all know, reports and assessments, while necessary, are not sufficient. That's why we are so fortunate to have a European Commission strategy on combating antisemitism that puts forth real operational benchmarks and programs for combatting Jew-hatred in Europe. In this regard I want to say, Katarina, your excellent work is a gift — a gift to Europe and a gift to the world. I want to thank you for everything you've done and everything you continue to do.

That's why, also, Dr. Shaheed followed up his outstanding report of 2019 with an action plan. That action plan, published only a month ago, addresses most of the manifestations of antisemitism he identified in 2019. In his plan, he puts forth critically important targets for the United Nations. I'll highlight only a few: Solidarity with Jewish communities, ensuring the physical safety of Jewish community assets throughout the world, monitoring antisemitism with disaggregated data reporting, ensuring that Member States build national infrastructures for fighting antisemitism. These are all very important, but I would like to highlight one of those important measures that Dr. Shaheed emphasized in his action plan, and that is the adoption and implementation of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism.

The IHRA Definition is the global standard for defining antisemitism, and as Katarina so powerfully said — and this is an important point, a critical point — the IHRA Definition is not a tool of censorship, but a tool of education, and it is deeply important. As of now it has been adopted by over 35 countries, more than 250 provinces and cities, and over 300 educational institutions and NGOs. It is the global gold standard, it has been transformative, and it can be transformative in the UN as well.

Ladies and gentlemen, in these measures, and in other measures — for example, countering the all-too-frequent and continuing demonization of the State of Israel — please know that the Combat Antisemitism Movement is your partner, and that we will work tirelessly with you, we will collaborate with you, and most importantly, we will support you as we together do God's work of ridding this ancient scourge of Jew-hatred from our midst, and thereby building that better, more just world that our children and grandchildren so deeply deserve.

Thank you so much.