

**OSCE CONFERENCE ON COMBATING DISCRIMINATION AND PROMOTING
MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING**

**Follow-up to the Cordoba Conference on Anti-Semitism and
Other Forms of Intolerance**

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Over the years, the Department for Inter-Ethnic Relations has consistently supported actions to combat anti-Semitism. As to actions for the 2005 – 2007 periods, the Department has undertaken the following activities:

In 2005, the Department for Inter-Ethnic Relations financed the editing and printing of a series of books concerning the event surrounding the Holocaust published by the Association of Jews in Romania – Victims of the Holocaust. Also, at the request of this Association requested, our institution gave the financial support necessary for the participation to a seminar for training teachers in issues related to the Holocaust of six history teachers from Romania in November 2005.

Another action financed by the Department for Inter-Ethnic Relations (DIR) in 2005 was the celebration of the National Day of the Holocaust, also organised by the Association of Jews in Romania – Victims of the Holocaust.

2006 saw an array of actions developed by DIR aiming at combating anti-Semitism. The series of books that started to be published by the Association of Jews in Romania – Victims of the Holocaust in 2005 continued to receive DIR funding; notably, the books were freely distributed to public libraries throughout Romania.

Media Monitoring Agency, a media watchdog and human rights advocacy group in Romania, received funding from DIR for carrying out a project aiming to contribute to the research and combating of intolerance on the internet. The project included a monitoring exercise of Romanian websites and brought together public institutions, NGOs, and internet providers in an effort to identify the best ways to combat cyber - hate.

For 2007, the Department for Inter-Ethnic Relations has earmarked appropriate funding for supporting various activities to combat anti-Semitism. One of the major projects to be financed by DIR is the “Euroiudaica”, a festival of the Jewish culture to be organized by the Federation of Jewish Communities in June 2007 in Sibiu, the European Capital of Culture. The project aiming to publish books concerning the Holocaust will continue this year as well; the books to be published this year by the Association of Jews in Romania – Victims of the Holocaust will cover such subjects as the prosecution and condemnation of the ghettos in northern Transylvania and the reveal of the lies of denial worldwide and nationally.

The Department for Inter-Ethnic Relations will continue to support actions to combat anti-Semitism in the following years as well.