



Understanding Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes and Addressing the Security Needs of Jewish Communities

A Practical Guide

ODIHR's new Guide lays out practical steps that governments are recommended to take to address the security needs of Jewish communities in co-operation and partnership with these same communities. The Guide is designed to help governments take stock of security risks and needs, with the goal of improving the capacity of law-enforcement officials and institutions to address the security needs of Jewish communities. In addition, this Guide deals with related issues, such as the problem of underreporting and recording of anti-Semitic hate crimes.

More specifically, the publication:

- Provides an overview of the contexts of criminal acts motivated by anti-Semitism in the OSCE region, as well as key features of these hate crimes. It also lays out the impact of anti-Semitic hate crimes and security

challenges on the everyday lives of Jewish individuals, communities and institutions;

- Explains that governments should respond to anti-Semitic hate crimes and address the security challenges Jewish communities face, and how they can do so effectively.

Drawing on OSCE commitments and other international human rights standards, it lists key government obligations and presents principles that should underpin governmental policies and initiatives in this area;

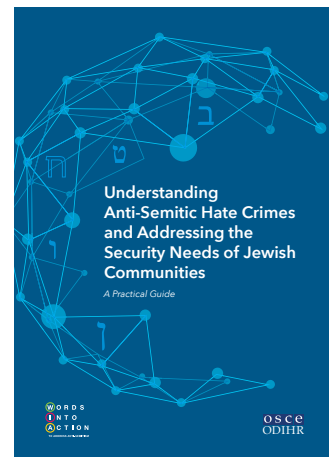
- Gives an overview of bias indicators that can help

officials determine when a crime should be viewed and dealt with as an anti-Semitic hate crime;

- Sets out case studies that can be used to build the capacity of government officials and others to recognize anti-Semitic hate crimes, to build partnerships with Jewish communities on security issues, and to develop responses based on respect for human rights standards and commitments; and
- Suggests ten practical steps that governments can take to respond to anti-Semitic hate crimes and the security needs of Jewish communities.

The ten practical steps include:

- 1. Acknowledging** that anti-Semitism is a problem that poses a threat to security and stability and needs to be addressed consistently by governments;
capacity-building and awareness-raising measures;
- 2. Assessing risk and preventing attacks** by enhancing co-operation between law-enforcement agencies and the Jewish community through formal lines of communication, transparency and joint planning and action;
- 3. Raising awareness** by helping political leaders, criminal justice officials, civil society and the wider public understand anti-Semitism, its adverse impact and how to challenge it through
- 4. Building trust** by developing and institutionalizing working partnerships with Jewish community institutions and individuals;
- 5. Improving protection** for Jewish communities and sites, including through enhanced police patrols and providing financial assistance;
- 6. Taking into account the Jewish community's expertise when setting up crisis management systems** to ensure the best possible joint planning and response to emergency situations;
- 7. Recognizing and recording** any anti-Semitic bias motivation when investigating and prosecuting criminal acts, sensitizing law-enforcement agencies to the specific features of anti-Semitic hate crimes;
- 8. Providing evidence** of the security needs of Jewish communities by working with those communities to collect disaggregated data, including by gender, and sharing information on anti-Semitic crimes and threats;
- 9. Reassuring** the Jewish community by demonstrating solidarity in case of an attack and/or a threat. This can be done, for example, through special police patrols and by publicly condemning all anti-Semitic hate crimes and setting a tone for a societal response that discredits, rejects and marginalizes anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance or discrimination; and
- 10. Providing support to victims** and assistance to communities in returning to their daily lives after an attack.



Tel.: +48 22 520 0600
Fax: +48 22 520 0605
E-mail: WordsintoAction@odihr.pl
<http://www.osce.org/project/wia>

More information:

For detailed information about ODIHR's hate crime initiatives and to view its full range of resources and publications, please visit:
www.osce.org/odihr/tolerance

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

ul. Miodowa 10
00-251 Warsaw, Poland
wordsintoaction@odihr.pl

