



Canada

Concept Note

High Level Forum on Global Antisemitism

Wednesday, September 7 2016

UN Headquarters

The Permanent Missions of Canada, Israel, the United States of America, and the Delegation of the European Union are pleased to invite you to a full day high level forum on global Antisemitism.

Summary:

On September 7, 2016, the Missions of Canada, Israel, the United States, and Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, will jointly host a full day forum on global Antisemitism. Four separate interactive panels will consider different factors related to Antisemitism around the world, including: government responses to counter Antisemitism, social media and the Internet, civil society coalitions, and youth and education. Panelists will include government, civil society, and private sector representatives, who will assess the scope of rising Antisemitism worldwide, compare government and private sector responses, share best practices, and provide concrete recommendations for combatting Antisemitism globally in these four areas. This forum will build on the January 2015 UN General Assembly meeting on Antisemitism by examining specific elements of the rise of global Antisemitism from the perspective of governmental, nongovernmental and private sector representatives, and provide clear recommendations to governments and civil society for effective response addressing this challenge in the future.

Schedule:

Introductions: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

- **H.E Mr. Ban Ki-Moon**, *Secretary General of the United Nations*
- Statements from the Ambassadors of Canada, Israel, the United States of America, and the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.
- **H.E Mogens Lykketoft**, *President of the United Nations General Assembly*

Panel I: Government Responses to Global Antisemitism, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Official representatives from the United States, Canada, the European Union, Israel and Germany will summarize action their governments and regional organizations have taken to respond to the rise of Antisemitism domestically and globally, and share best practices for addressing Antisemitism and ensuring Jewish communities and individuals are secure.

Moderator: Ms. Jane Eisner, *Editor-in-Chief, the Forward*

Panelists:

- **Mr. Ira Forman**, *U.S. Special Envoy to Combat and Monitor Antisemitism*
- **Ms. Katharina von Schnurbein**, *EU Coordinator on Combatting Antisemitism*
- **Ambassador Felix Klein**, *Federal Foreign Office Special Representative for Relations with Jewish Organizations and Issues relating to Antisemitism, Germany*
- **Mr. Akiva Tor**, *Head of Bureau for World Jewish Affairs and World Religions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Israel*
- **Mr. Richard Arbeiter**, *Director General, Office of Human Rights, Freedom and Inclusion, Canada*

Panel II: Antisemitism and Hate Speech on the Internet and in Social Media: Solutions for the Digital Age: 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

The information superhighway is an unprecedented tool for the spread of knowledge, free expression and global interconnectedness, but it also presents unique challenges to human dignity and public safety due to the ubiquity of Antisemitism and severe cyberhate in social media and internet platforms. Often these occur within a radicalized context posing a serious security threat to Jewish communities and the wider public. How can we increase the decency and safety of the web without harming its essential freedom? What are the responsibilities of government, civil society and industry in providing solutions for the digital age.

Moderator: Mr. Akiva Tor, *Head of Bureau for World Jewish Affairs and World Religions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Israel*

Panelists:

- **Mr. Chris Wolf**, *International Network Against Cyber-hate, Anti-Defamation League, Author of *Viral Hate: Containing its Spread on the Internet**
- **Mr. Roger Cukierman**, *President, Conseil Représentatif des Institutions juives de France (CRIF) and Vice President, World Jewish Congress*
- **Ms. Jacqueline F. Beauchere**, *Chief Online Safety Officer, Microsoft*
- **Mr. Raviv Tal**, *Chief Executive Officer, Vigo Social Intelligence*
- **Mr. Michael Salberg**, *Director, International Affairs Policy & Planning, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations*

Lunch Break: 1:15 PM – 2:45 PM

Keynote Address: 3:00 PM – 3:45 PM

Professor Deborah Lipstadt, renowned Holocaust historian, professor, author, and the person upon whom the soon-to-be-released film *Denial* is based, will serve as the keynote speaker. Professor Lipstadt served as a member of the presidential delegation led by Ambassador Samantha Power to the OSCE Conference on Antisemitism in Berlin in 2014 and will speak about her efforts to combat Antisemitism and Holocaust denial, with a focus on the challenges of defining and identifying both Antisemitism and the Antisemitism in the current geopolitical context.

Panel III: Civil Society Coalitions: 3:45 PM – 5:00 PM

Civil society participation is an essential component in properly combatting Antisemitism. Coalitions between Jews, non-Jewish individuals, and NGOs have proven extremely effective in raising awareness of this issue in the United States and elsewhere. In November 2014, the OSCE hosted the Berlin+10 Conference on addressing Antisemitism which highlighted the need for broad, inclusive, and diverse civil society coalitions that support governments in their efforts to prevent and address hate crimes and discrimination. This panel will explore best practices for strengthening cooperation and dialogue between a range of civil society groups in Europe, the United States and elsewhere, including inter-religious groups and Muslim-Jewish dialogue, in order to strengthen efforts to monitor and combat Antisemitism.

Moderator: Ms. Stacy Burdett, *Director, Government and National Affairs, Anti-Defamation League (ADL)*

Panelists:

- **Mr. Robert Silverman**, *Director of Muslim-Jewish Relations, American Jewish Committee*
- **Mr. Mark Weitzman**, *Director of Government Affairs, Simon Wiesenthal Center and Chair, The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial*
- **Ms. Susan Corke**, *Director of Countering Antisemitism and Extremism, Human Rights First*
- **Mr. Kenneth Jacobson**, *Deputy National Director, Anti-Defamation League (ADL)*
- **Mr. Ilan Scialom**, *Vice President, Coexister*
- **Mr. Ilja Sichrovsky**, *Founder and Secretary-General, Muslim-Jewish Conference*

Panel IV: Youth and Education: 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Following the January 2015 UN General Assembly meeting on Antisemitism, the joint statement issued by more than 50 countries encouraged opportunities for educational initiatives and teacher-training programs that provide young people with a greater understanding of Antisemitism. This panel will examine existing programs on Antisemitism and Holocaust education, including those supported by international organizations such as the OSCE and

UNESCO. It will also provide recommendations for how such programs could be expanded, strengthened and made more effective in the future in order to address this issue among younger generations.

Moderator: Mr. Tad Stahnke, *Director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Initiative on Holocaust Denial and Antisemitism*

Panelists:

- **Mr. Benjamin Fischer**, *President, European Union of Jewish Students*
- **Mr. Karel Fracapane**, *UNESCO representative, Holocaust Issues in the Division of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development*
- **Ambassador Dr. Mario Silva**, *Board of Directors, CIJA, Jewish Federations of Canada (TBD)*
- **Dr. Janice Weinman**, *CEO/Executive Director, Hadassah*

Closing remarks:

- **Ambassador David Roet**, *Deputy Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations*

Please RSVP by Monday September 5th:

<https://goo.gl/forms/5IUJp6N5qthBNLZI2>