

Under **Erasmus+** (the EU's programme for education, training, youth and sport), €400 million is earmarked for **transnational projects promoting social inclusion, our shared values and intercultural understanding**, and a further €13 million for grassroots initiatives, including education targeting prejudice among specific groups.

In June 2016, the Commission adopted an **action plan to improve the integration of newcomers** in European societies. Integration is a two-way process and newcomers are expected to embrace fundamental EU values, **including zero tolerance of Antisemitism**.

Antisemitism is a common feature of extremist and radical ideologies. Also in 2016, the Commission adopted a strategy and concrete measures to **prevent and counter violent radicalisation**. Among other things, it finances the **Radicalisation Awareness Network**, through which 2 000 practitioners exchange best practices on preventing and fighting radicalisation.

The **EU Working Group on promoting citizenship** and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education started its work in 2016; it will develop a policy framework to support policies on citizenship and inclusive education.

Fighting Antisemitism – a challenge for open societies worldwide

Antisemitism can affect societies at all levels all over the world; it must be fought wherever it is present.

Since 2005, politicians, diplomats, experts and civil society actors have met for an annual **EU-Israel seminar on combating racism, xenophobia and Antisemitism** to exchange best practice and improve cooperation to combat Antisemitism.

The EU co-sponsored the first ever **UN conference on Antisemitism** in September 2016 and is committed to implementing its outcomes.

The Commission works closely with **the European Parliament, the EU Member States and several international organisations and partners** to create synergies and mainstream the fight against Antisemitism in Europe and worldwide.

Representatives of all 28 Member States, international organisations and civil society meet in the **EU High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance** to ensure the effective enforcement of common rules on racism, including Antisemitism, and formulate specific policies on hate crime and hate speech.

Office of the European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism

“Jews are an essential part of Europe. I meet regularly with Jewish communities across Europe so that I can listen to their concerns and bring them to the attention of the EU’s political leaders. We want to promote a more holistic approach to Judaism and the Jewish community’s contribution to European culture and history.”



Katharina von Schnurbein, EC Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism

The first **European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism** was appointed in December 2015 to:

- liaise closely with Jewish communities and organisations;
- take forward the EU’s work on Antisemitism;
- build coalitions with international, national and local institutions, and civil society actors; and
- conduct field visits in the Member States.

A **roundtable involving EU institutions and Brussels-based Jewish organisations** is convened four times a year for an open exchange of views on EU policies. This feeds into EU policy making and the search for synergies.



Preventing and combating Antisemitism

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/fundamental-rights/racism-xenophobia/combating-antisemitism/index_en.htm

[#noplace4hate](https://twitter.com/kschnurbein)

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“There cannot be any complacency regarding Holocaust denial. This applies regardless of the forms in which they are disguised: whether it is the so called ‘hard’ Holocaust denial, denying that the Holocaust ever happened - criminalized by law - but also the insidious alleged ‘soft’ Holocaust denial, which emerges in the downplaying of the scale and depth of the evil embodied by the Shoah, or the questioning of the relevance of the Holocaust for today’s world as well as in the attempts to belittle the Holocaust by pointing to other situations.”



Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission on the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day, 27 January 2017

European legislation against Holocaust denial

Holocaust denial and antisemitic hate speech inciting people to violence and hatred is against the law in the EU. The **EU’s framework decision on combating racism and xenophobia** contains criminal law provisions prohibiting the condoning, denial or gross trivialisation of the Holocaust.

The provisions have been transposed into national legislation **in 15 of the EU’s 28 Member States** and the European Commission is in permanent dialogue with the others to ensure transposition throughout the EU.

Monitoring Antisemitism in the European Union

The **EU’s Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)** collects and analyses Member States’ data on antisemitic hate crime.

- Every year, the FRA publishes a report that compiles records of **antisemitic incidents** submitted by international, governmental and non-governmental sources. Nevertheless, too many such incidents still go unrecorded or unreported.
- In 2013, the FRA conducted the first-ever large-scale survey on **experiences and perceptions of Antisemitism among European Jews**. A second survey will be carried out towards the end of 2017 and the findings will guide the EU’s response to Antisemitism in the coming years.
- The FRA is working with the Member States to develop a common **methodology for recording and collecting data on hate crime**, including manifestations of Antisemitism, to improve comparability across Europe.

Training to understand and recognise different forms of Antisemitism

The Commission:

- supports civil society efforts to ‘teach the teachers’ by addressing their own prejudices and equipping them to teach about Jewish history and the Holocaust in a multicultural classroom;
- develops common standards for **hate crime training** for law enforcement and criminal justice authorities, and supports courses for national police forces, prosecutors and judges, which it sees as essential in training them to discern where people are motivated by Antisemitism;
- co-funds the **creation of e-learning modules** on hate crime and hate speech for police forces, prosecutors and policy-makers; and
- organises regular **training courses for EU officials** on contemporary expressions of Antisemitism, on Holocaust remembrance and on fundamental rights to educate about the lessons from the Holocaust.

“The Commission is determined to prevent and combat Antisemitism in all its forms and to ensure that Jews can continue to enrich European life as they always have. The internet is increasingly misused to spread hatred and Antisemitism, but it is no legal black hole. What is illegal in the real world is illegal online and we must bring perpetrators to justice.”



Věra Jourová, Commissioner for Justice and Consumers

Fighting illegal antisemitic hate speech online

In May 2016, as part of its efforts to stem the tide of racist and antisemitic content online, the Commission agreed a **code of conduct** with Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Microsoft, under which the companies commit to review and if necessary, remove **within 24 hours** illegal hate speech of which they are made aware. Progress is monitored by 30+ specialised non governmental organisations (NGOs) and regularly reported to the EU’s High Level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance.

“Anyone who knows anything about our history knows that Antisemitism is Europe’s most pernicious disease. It is the red-line that we must never, ever cross. Yet we see age-old naked Antisemitism at the far right, we see Antisemitism that often hides behind anti-Zionism on the far left (...) and sometimes, sadly, even among anti-racism movements, and we see the deadly Antisemitism of religious extremism, in particular from Islamist extremists. Fighting Antisemitism is fighting for the very soul of Europe.”



Frans Timmermans, First-Vice President of the European Commission

Supporting civil society and empowering Jewish communities to combat Antisemitism

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance has adopted a **working definition of Antisemitism**. While this is not legally binding, the Commission refers to it on its website as a useful tool enabling civil society actors, law enforcement authorities and educators to recognise and fight all forms of Antisemitism.

Under the **Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme**, the Commission provides NGOs and public authorities with funding of around €7 million a year for awareness raising activities, campaigns and projects aimed at developing counter- and alternative narratives to prevent racism, including Antisemitism, and efforts to form strong coalitions at all levels.

Under the **Europe for Citizens programme**, the Commission is disbursing €35 million for initiatives to raise awareness of the Holocaust, Europe’s common history and EU values, and to commemorate the victims of the Holocaust.

Education – key to preventing Antisemitism

The Holocaust was a defining episode in European history and it has left a lasting legacy. Remembrance of the Shoah is important for preventing Antisemitism in the present.

Jewish life has always been an integral part of European society, history and culture. Educating people about this can help to counter negative stereotypes and prejudice against Jews and make communities more resistant to Antisemitism.