



September 2020

Antisemitism Highlights

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Reports and Surveys

Germany

Rias Berlin Report on Antisemitic Manifestation

In a release published on September 22, 2020, the Department for Research and Information on Anti-Semitism Berlin (RIAS), a civic organization, documented 410 incidents ((2019: 458) — more than two per day — during the first half of 2020. Every sixth incident was related to the Covid 19 pandemic. The group's list of antisemitic acts included six physical attacks, 25 cases of property damage, 20 threats, 58 examples of antisemitic propaganda and 301 examples of malicious behavior such as giving the stiff-armed Nazi salute. The report pointed out that the social-distancing restrictions associated with the coronavirus pandemic had led to a “shift in antisemitic forms of expression.” These included “targeted damage to property, so-called ‘Zoom-bombings,’ and [antisemitic] propaganda on the internet and in public spaces.”

References:

<https://report-antisemitism.de/en/rias-berlin/>

https://report-antisemitism.de/documents/2019-09-26_rias-be_Annual_Antisemitische-Vorfaelle-Halbjahr-2019.pdf

<https://www.hagalil.com/2020/09/rias-berlin/>

South America

Report on Online Antisemitism in Spanish Language

On September 25, 2020 the Web Observatory (initiative created by the Latin-American Jewish Congress, the Delegation of Argentine-Israeli Associations and the Argentinian community center AMIA) published a report on online antisemitism in Spanish. According to the report, in 2016, 30% of results related to “Jew” were antisemitic, while in 2020 it only seems to be a 3%. Unfortunately, they added that Spanish is the second most popular language on Facebook, where 30% of the content related to Jews in 2020 is

antisemitic. On Youtube, on the other hand, 500 videos in Spanish denying the Holocaust were found but quickly removed. According to Ariel Siedler, director of the Web Observatory, “these companies are starting to work against hate speech, but there is still a lot of work to be done”.

References:

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https://www.chvnoticias.cl/nacional/indh-saludo-nazi-antisemitismo-marcha-rechazo_20201011/

<https://www.ynetespanol.com/global/america/article/rJshR5gDD>

European Union

FRA Overview of Antisemitic Incidents Recorded in the European Union 2009-2019

Most incidents of hatred against Jews go unreported. This, coupled with large data gaps, masks the true extent of antisemitism and hampers efforts to formulate effective responses, according to FRA’s (European Union’s Agency for Fundamental Human Rights) latest annual overview, published on September 10th, 2020. The overview of antisemitic incidents recorded in the European Union 2009-2019 is the 16th edition of FRA’s report on the situation of data collection on antisemitism in the EU (including reports published by FRA’s predecessor, the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia

References:

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2020/hate-against-jews-data-gaps-hide-true-picture>

United Kingdom

Antisemitic Ideas on Israel ‘Rise’ among Labour Supporters

A report published by the Journal of Contemporary Antisemitism on September 10, 2020 has shown that belief in “new” antisemitic

ideas about Israel appears to be on the rise among supporters of the UK Labour Party. The study is one of three on the topic published in the Journal's fall edition of 2020 and was conducted by Daniel Allington, senior lecturer at King's College London. It is a statistical analysis using data collected by the Campaign Against Antisemitism (CAA) during six years. The study found that after 2016, belief in "classic" antisemitic tropes rose dramatically among Labour voters and while peaking in 2018 the proportion of voters agreeing with four or more antisemitic statements about Israel and its supporters rose from 11% in 2019 to 16% in the first part of 2020.

References:

<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk/antisemitic-ideas-on-israel-rise-among-labour-voters-1.506396>

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/antisemitism-amongst-british-voters-in-decline-according-to-new-analysis>

Responses to Antisemitism

Germany

German Government Provides 22 Million Euros for Protection of Jewish Institutions

Almost a year after the murderous antisemitic attack on the synagogue in Halle (October 9, 2019), the federal government of Germany is providing an additional 22 million euros to protect Jewish institutions. The money is intended for structural protection measures, as announced by the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the Central Council of Jews in Germany on September 17, 2020. A corresponding agreement had already been signed a day before. "The aim is to raise the security measures to a national level," says the joint press release. Interior Minister Horst Seehofer announced that it was "German reasons of state" that Jews can live safely in Germany. "The Jewish community can rely on the federal government doing everything it can to guarantee the necessary protection. We are aware of our responsibility," said Seehofer.

References:

<https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/schutz-juedische-einrichtungen-101.html>

<https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/innenministerium-bund-gibt-22-millionen-euro-fuer-schutz-juedischer-einrichtungen-aus-a-41e83f8d-1fe8-4753-bb76-fd5bff0b5a97>

<https://www.zeit.de/politik/deutschland/2020-09/antisemitismus-schutz-juedische-einrichtungen-bundesregierung>

Merkel Calls Rising Antisemitism in Germany a ‘Disgrace’

On September 15, 2020, to mark the 70th anniversary of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel (CDU) honored the Council as a reliable partner in politics and society. At the same time, she criticized rising antisemitism, which causes her "great concern". Antisemitism said Merkel, "is a disgrace and I am deeply ashamed of the expression of racism and antisemitism in our country in these times". "Racism and antisemitism have never disappeared, but for some time now they have been more visible and uninhibited," said Merkel. Insults, threats or conspiracy theories were openly directed against Jewish citizens. Central Council President Josef Schuster expressed similar concerns. "The trust that Jews have placed in Germany has been deeply shaken over the decades and again and again today," he said, referring to antisemitic attacks. "The majority of the population is behind us and so are the established parties," said Schuster. The Central Council of Jews in Germany was founded on July 19, 1950 in Frankfurt am Main. At that time around 15,000 Jews were still living in Germany. Today the Central Council represents 105 Jewish communities in Germany with around 100,000 members; the administration moved from Frankfurt am Main to Berlin in 1999

References:

<https://m.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkinm-de/mediathek/merkel-ruft-zum-kampf-gegen-antisemitismus-auf-1007680>

<https://www.zeit.de/video/2020-09/6190932434001/angela-merkel-antisemitismus-und-rassismus-beschaemt-mich-zutiefst>
<https://www.zeit.de/gesellschaft/zeitgeschehen/2020-09/angela-merkel-zentralrat-der-juden-rassismus-antisemitismus-deutschland-jahrestag>

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/merkel-calls-increasingly-open-anti-semitism-disgrace-on-jewish-groups-70th/>

France

French Court Incarcerates Far-Right Activist and Holocaust Denier for Antisemitic Messages

On September 17, 2020, Paris court sentenced the far-right activist and Holocaust denier Hervé Lalin (a.k.a Hervé Ryssen) to 17 months in prison for inciting hatred against Jews online, for Holocaust denial, antisemitic insults and defamation. He began his prison sentence on 18 September. The court convicted Lalin for a series of antisemitic postings between 2017 and 2020 on Facebook and Twitter, as well as for a video he published on YouTube in 2018 called "The Jews, Incest and Hysteria" — in which he attacked Jews as a "people of incest". He was also convicted for Holocaust denial in passages of a book he published in 2018 titled "Antisemitism without Complexity or Taboo".

References:

<https://www.leparisien.fr/faits-divers/le-negationniste-ryssen-incarcere-apres-plusieurs-condamnations-pour-des-propos-antisemites-20-09-2020-8388189.php>

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/09/21/french-court-jails-neo-nazi-apologist-and-holocaust-denier-for-antisemitic-messages/>

<https://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/un-negationniste-francais-incarcere-apres-plusieurs-condamnations-pour-des-propos-antisemites-20200920>

French Police Arrest Man for Attempted Assault on Jewish TV Presenter over Her Denunciation of Antisemitic Rapper

On September 22, 2020, police in France have arrested a man for an attempted assault and several antisemitic remarks against the Jewish TV presenter Valerie Benaim at the Paris studio where she works. The man allegedly confronted Benaim, over her harsh criticism on the live talk show "TPMP" on September 17 of Freeze Corleone, a French rapper whose hit debut album was slammed by some critics for antisemitism, conspiracy theories, and apologies for Hitler and the Holocaust. According to TPMP producers, Benaim received an "avalanche" of hateful messages on social media in response to her comments, including several posts written by the man arrested.

References:

https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/09/24/french-jewish-tv-presenter-confronted-by-assailant-angered-by-her-denunciation-of-antisemitic-rapper-freeze-corleone/?fbclid=IwAR21jit-5OhgCtbQsdWXUeAjysNWBkkoK5zkXQl4MsjWzCi_BkkwbAXTQ2s

<https://www.journaldesfemmes.fr/loisirs/tv/2661859-valerie-benaim-rappeur-freeze-corleone-harcele-menacee-un-homme-garde-a-vue/>

<https://www.mouv.fr/nation/societe/valerie-benaim-menacee-de-mort-un-homme-place-en-garde-vue-363506>

Paris Court Sentenced Holocaust Denier Alain Soral to Pay Fine to LICRA for Antisemitic Publication

On September 24, 2020 Paris Court of Appeal sentenced Kontre Kulture publishing house, founded by French Holocaust denier, Alain Soral, to pay 134,400 euros to the LICRA (International League against Racism and Antisemitism), plus 3,000 euros in legal costs, for having put the book "Le Salut par les juifs" ("Salvation by the Jews") by Léon Bloy back on sale, despite a court decision. In a separate case on September 18, the Paris Criminal Court imposed on Alain Soral, 5,400 euros for blaming

the Jews for the Notre-Dame de Paris fire, on April 17 and 18, 2019, in remarks he made on the "Equality and Reconciliation" website. He was convicted for incitement to hatred based on religion.

References:

https://www.lemonde.fr/police-justice/article/2020/09/25/alain-soral-condamne-a-payer-134-400-euros-a-la-ligue-contre-le-racisme-et-l-antisemitisme_6053567_1653578.html

<https://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/alain-soral-condamne-a-payer-134-400-euros-a-la-licra-20200926>

https://www.lepoint.fr/justice/alain-soral-condamne-pour-avoir-impute-aux-juifs-l-incendie-de-notre-dame-18-09-2020-2392567_2386.php

<https://www.rtl.fr/actu/justice-faits-divers/soral-condamne-pour-avoir-affirme-que-l-incendie-de-notre-dame-etait-un-projet-juif-7800816624>

<https://www.lavoixdunord.fr/867211/article/2020-09-18/alain-soral-condamne-pour-avoir-impute-aux-juifs-l-incendie-de-notre-dame>

French Court Sentenced Man to Two-Months Prison for Antisemitic Remark

On September 1, 2020, French court in the city of Brest sentenced a 52-year-old white supremacist male to two-month in prison for antisemitic behavior. The man was convicted for calling a Jewish employee at a local social services office (CDAS), where he collects his welfare payment, "a dirty Jewess" on December 20, 2019 and performing a Nazi salute on his way out of the office. The convicted man told the judge that his actions were to express "pride for belonging to the great race" and that he "has something against the Jews".

References:

<https://www.ouest-france.fr/bretagne/brest-29200/brest-prevenu-pour-insulte-antisemite-il-loue-la-grande-race-face-au-tribunal-6956001>

<https://www.20minutes.fr/justice/2852123-20200902-brest-condamne-avoir-insulte-femme-juive-affiche-antisemitisme-devant-tribunal>

<https://fr.timesofisrael.com/brest-un-homme-condamne-pour-avoir-insulte-une-femme-juive-recidive-au-tribunal/>

United Kingdom

The Board of Deputies of British Jews Calls for Removal of Candidate over Antisemitic Remarks

The Board of Deputies of British Jews (BOD) has called for the Welsh independence party “Plaid Cymru” to drop a candidate who has been repeatedly accused of antisemitic conduct as reported on September 9, 2020. The call was made during a meeting between representatives of the BOD and leader of “Plaid Cymru”, Adam Price. The candidate in question, Sahar Al-Faifi, was suspended from the party in November 2019 for posting antisemitic posts on social media platforms, but was reinstated after having apologized. The BOD claimed the apology was unsatisfying pointing to several cases of antisemitic online statements taking place after being reinstated. Senior vice president of the BOD Sheila Gewolb stated: “This case will be a test of the party’s resolve on anti-racism.”

References:

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/board-of-deputies-renews-calls-for-welsh-assembly-candidate-to-step-down-641652>

<https://www.bod.org.uk/board-of-deputies-meets-with-plaid-cymru-leader-to-discuss-antisemitism-case-8-september-2020-senior-vice-president-of-the-board-of-deputied-sheila-gewolb-vice-president-amanda-bowman-and-south-wale/>

UK Liberal Democrats Suspend Candidate for London Mayor Following Accusations of Antisemitism

The Liberal Democrats, UK, decided on September 14, 2020 to suspend Geeta Sidhu-Robb, a candidate running for mayor of London. The reason was a publication of a video clip showing the candidate using antisemitic rhetoric during the 1997 election campaign against former Labour MP Jack Straw in Blackburn. In the clip that was posted on Twitter on September 13, 2020, Sidhu-Robb was seen telling Muslim voters: “Don’t vote for a Jew, Jack Straw is a Jew. If you vote for him you’re voting for a Jew. Jews are the enemy of Muslims”. Sidhu-Robb claimed her actions followed accusations from the Labour party of being against Islam and she therefore wanted to tell Muslim voters that “voting for a Jew” would be worse. After the publication she stated she was “deeply ashamed of the ignorant and abusive language” she used.

References:

<https://www.politicshome.com/news/article/geeta-sidhu-robb-jack-straw-jew>

<https://www.enfieldindependent.co.uk/news/18720284.lib-dem-london-mayoral-hopeful-suspended-antisemitism/>

<https://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/lib-dems-suspend-candidate-after-footage-emerges-of-antisemitic-campaign/>

Norway

Norway Arrests Suspect Linked to 1982 Fatal Attack on a Paris Jewish Restaurant

Norwegian police arrested a man on September 9, 2020 in connection with the attack on a Jewish restaurant in Paris in August 1982. The arrest came after repeated requests from the French police who claimed the man was part of a terrorist cell that attacked the restaurant “Chez Jo Goldenberg”. In the attack, six people were killed and 22 injured and involved the use of hand grenades and machine guns. French police believed it was linked to the Palestinian terrorist organization Abu Nidal. Although the Norwegian police did not name the man arrested, it is believed to

be Walid Abdulrahman Abu Zayed, 60 years old, living in the Norwegian city of Skien where the arrest took place.

References:

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/norway-arrests-suspect-linked-to-1982-paris-jewish-deli-attack/#gs.fuw69k>

<https://www.dagbladet.no/nyheter/tersiktet-tatt-i-skien/72827639>

Finland

Finland's Supreme Court Upholds Ban on "Nordic Resistance" Neo-Nazi Group

The Finnish Supreme Court upheld on appeal a decision to ban the neo-Nazi Nordic Resistance Movement (NRM) in Finland on September 22, 2020. The organization has been active in Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway but was only banned in Finland. The Finnish National Police Board had asked for the organization to be banned several times and the decision of the Supreme Court came after years of appeals by the NRM. In Finland the members of the organization have been convicted of numerous acts of violence, including the death of a man who was assaulted by members of the group in 2016. Hate speech against Jews and other minorities along with use of violence, were key justifications for the decision.

References:

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/09/22/finlands-supreme-court-upholds-ban-on-violent-pan-nordic-neo-nazi-group/>

https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finnish_neo-nazi_groups_appeal_rejected_ban_on_organisation_confirmed/11556969

<https://www.dagensjuridik.se/nyheter/finska-hogsta-domstolen-nmr-ar-olagligt-och-ska-laggas-ner/>

Netherlands

Dutch Parliament Discusses Situation of Antisemitism in Yearly Debate

The situation regarding antisemitism in the Netherlands was discussed during the yearly “general political debate” in the Dutch Parliament on September 17, 2020. Leader of the Reformed Political Party (SGP) van Der Staaj stated that antisemitism in the country remains “very worrying” and that it is a “dangerous monster”. In June 2019 the Dutch parliament voted to earmark 3 million euros for the implementation of initiatives to combat antisemitism. In a response to a question by Der Staaj about which steps have been taken in practice, Prime Minister Mark Rutte stated there was a need for an increased quality of reports of antisemitic incidents. Rutte added that there were several indications of a rise in antisemitism during 2019 and that the Corona crisis during 2020 has led to the spread of various antisemitic conspiracy theories in the country.

References:

<https://www.cidi.nl/rutte-antisemitisme-wordt-goed-in-kaart-gebracht-door-cidi/>

Dutch City Withdraws Honor from Rapper Who Called the Holocaust a ‘Cover-up for Dumb Sheep’

The Dutch city of Haarlem decided on September 25, 2020 to withdraw its appointment of rapper Darryl Danchelo Osenga as “official poet” of the city. The reason for the withdrawal was a song from 2012 in which the rapper called the Holocaust a “cover up for dumb sheep” and a “joke compared to slavery”. After the appointment, the Dutch Center for Information and Documentation on Israel, expressed its “shock” at the decision, drawing the attention to the 2012 song. After initially having stated that Osenga “deserved a second chance” the municipally changed its mind and stated that the lyrics were “at odds with values that the municipality of Haarlem stands for”. Osenga responded on Facebook that “every person makes jokes they thought were funny but in the end they weren’t”.

References:

<https://www.ad.nl/binnenland/haarlem-zet-stadsdichter-insayno-na-2-dagen-ophef-over-holocaust-rap-aan-de-kant~abb337c3/>

<https://www.jta.org/2020/09/24/global/dutch-city-names-as-its-resident-poet-a-rapper-who-called-the-holocaust-a-cover-up-for-dumb-sheep>

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/dutch-city-of-haarlem-withdraws-honor-from-rapper-who-downplayed-the-holocaust>

Canada

Antisemitic Polish Priest Banned by Important Canadian Parish

On September 20, 2020, the Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton, Canada had denounced Father Tadeusz Rydzyk, a Polish priest who was repeatedly accused of airing antisemitic content on his Radio Maryja radio station in Poland. Father Rydzyk was barred from visiting or speaking at the Archdiocese of Edmonton. Rydzyk's has spoken in Alberta in previous years, and has often visited Canada to fund-raise his projects in Poland. The decision came following a meeting between B'nai Brith Alberta spokesperson Abe Silverman with Archbishop Richard Smith of the archdiocese of Edmonton. Thomas Lukaszuk, a Polish-born Canadian politician praised the decision saying: commend Archbishop Smith for his leadership in opposing xenophobia and barring Father Rydzyk, and I hope that all other Canadian archdioceses will follow this example".

References:

<https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/anti-semitic-polish-priest-barred-by-edmonton-archdiocese>

https://www.bnaibrith.ca/antisemitic_priest_barred_from_canadian_archdiocese

<https://www.jpost.com/christian-news/antisemitic-polish-priest-banned-by-a-well-known-canadian-parish-642927>

United States

President Trump Campaign Ad Featuring Bernie Sanders as Puppet Master Deemed Antisemitic

On September 16, 2020 two American Jewish groups accused Donald Trump's presidential campaign of antisemitism over an ad on Twitter showing Jewish Senator Bernie Sanders, holding Presidential nominee Joe Biden as a puppet on strings with a caption reading "Joe Biden: The radical left's puppet". The two groups, IfNotNow, and Bend the Arc: Jewish Action said the ad perpetuates the antisemitic stereotype of wicked Jews pulling the world's strings. The accusation that Biden is a puppet of the far left is frequent among Trump supporters, who often use images of Sanders to illustrate the argument. Bend the Arc condemned the ad on Twitter: "There's a long, dangerous history of Jews being scapegoated as all-powerful puppet masters [...] Trump is using this antisemitic lie to spread fear and division".

References:

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/trump-ads-featuring-bernie-sanders-as-puppet-master-for-biden-are-anti-semitic-2-left-wing-jewish-groups-say>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-election/trump-campaign-ad-antisemitism-puppet-master-bernie-sanders-joe-biden-b453357.html>

<https://mobile.twitter.com/IfNotNowOrg/status/1305992217341820928>

Miami Herald Apologizes for Antisemitic and Racist Ads

On September 14, 2020, the Miami Herald newspaper apologized for running antisemitic and racist ads in its Spanish-language publication el Nuevo Herald for months. A column in a paid insert from September 11 by Roberto Luque Escalona, titled "Libre", said Jews support "thieves and arsonists" and compared the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement to the Nazis. Escalona also wrote, "What kind of people are these Jews? [...] They're always talking about the Holocaust, but have they already forgotten Kristallnacht,

when Nazi thugs rampaged through Jewish shops all over Germany? So do the BLM and Antifa, only the Nazis didn't steal; they only destroyed." The Herald's apology statement said the insert had included "multiple instances of antisemitic and racist commentary since January" and that they were "investigating in order to prevent this from ever recurring". The publication of the insert was referenced in an article in Politico magazine saying that Latinos in Florida were being flooded with antisemitic messages, including those affiliated with the QAnon conspiracy theory. Following the controversy, El Nuevo Herald's managing editor, Nancy San Martin, resigned on September 26 and Aminda Marqués González, the executive editor and publisher of The Herald and El Nuevo Herald, ceased to be publisher, but remained executive editor.

References:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/16/business/media/miami-herald-editor-apologizes-for-racist-and-anti-semitic-insert-el-nuevo.html>

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/09/14/florida-latinos-disinformation-413923>

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article245817900.html>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/miami-herald-apologizes-racist-anti-semitic-spanish-language-insert-n1240226>

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/miami-herald-apologizes-for-running-anti-semitic-and-racist-ads-for-months-in-spanish-language-publication>

Russia

Russian Authorities Imprison Members of 'Soviet Citizens' for Alleged Assassination Attempt on Rabbi

On September 23, 2020 two members of the 'Soviet Citizens' organization Russia, were sentenced to two months in prison for allegedly hiring a professional killer to assassinate Rabbi Aryeh Leib Tkatch, chairman of the Jewish Community of Krasnodar. .

Authorities in Russia staged the death of Rabbi Tkatch as part of a sting operation that ended with the arrest of the two alleged terrorists. The 'Soviet Citizens' is a grassroots organization, which refuses to accept the legitimacy of the Russian federation and is not, ideologically, antisemitic. In 2019 however, a group of its supporters arrived to the Krasnodar synagogue aggressively demanding admittance in order to examine the premises. Alexander Boroda, the head of The Federation of Jewish Communities in Russia stated that the assassination attempt is an expression of primitive antisemitism and an attack of the multiethnic and multi-confessional Russian Federation.

References:

<https://www.kavkaz-uzel.eu/articles/354525/>

<https://polit.ru/news/2020/09/23/sssr/>

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/russian-authorities-stage-rabbis-death-to-nab-alleged-terrorists-who-reportedly-wanted-him-dead>

Russia

Russia Ministry Reacts to FRA Report – Criticizing EU

On September 18, 2020 the Russian Foreign Ministry reacted to the findings of the report of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Human Rights (FRA) covering the 2009-2019 period. The Russian Ministry claimed there was an insufficient reaction from the European Union (EU) towards the increase in antisemitic activities within the EU countries. The Ministry criticized the EU's passive approach regarding antisemitism, xenophobia, and glorification of Nazism. It demanded the European Union to get more involved in the international fight against antisemitism.

References:

<https://tass.com/politics/1202473>

https://www.mid.ru/foreign_policy/news/-/asset_publisher/cKNonkJE02Bw/content/id/4341343

<https://www.vesti.ru/article/2460184>

Holocaust Denial and Distortion

France

French Rapper Freeze Corleone Facing Prosecution for Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial on Popular Debut Album

On September 17, 2020, France's interior minister, Gerald Darmanin condemned French rapper Freeze Corleone for his "unspeakable antisemitism and [Holocaust] negationism" and confirmed that his ministry would pursue legal action and called on Twitter and Facebook networks "not to spread this filth". In addition fifty members of the French parliament wrote to the Ministry of Justice demanding the rapper's prosecution, while former cabinet minister Christophe Castaner said that he had referred the case to the Paris public prosecutor. According to LICRA, (League against racism and antisemitism) Freeze Corleone's debut album "The Phantom Menace", was replete with "antisemitism, conspiracy theories, and apologies for Hitler, the Third Reich and [Afghan Taliban commander] Mullah Omar". Corleone's album reached number three in French charts after its release in September and, included the lyrics: "F_k the Shoah (Holocaust)!" and, "I arrive determined like Adolf in the 1930s," and, "Every day I f_k Israel like I live in Gaza." The LICRA urged YouTube, Google, Apple Music and Spotify to remove Corleone's new album from their platforms.

References:

<https://www.leparisien.fr/faits-divers/darmanin-veut-poursuivre-le-rappeur-freeze-corleone-pour-apologie-du-nazisme-et-antisemitisme-17-09-2020-8386404.php>

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<https://www.ladepeche.fr/2020/09/17/ces-propos-sont-inqualifiables-le-rappeur-freeze-corleone-accuse-dapologie-du-nazisme-par-darmanin-9077382.php>

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/09/17/french-rapper-freeze-corleone-facing-criminal-prosecution-for-antisemitism-holocaust-denial-on-hit-debut-album/>

French Court Fines Controversial Comedian Dieudonné 10,000 Euros for Holocaust Remarks

On September 10, 2020, the controversial French comedian and convicted Holocaust denier, Dieudonné (M'bala M'bala) was sentenced to a fine of 10,000 euros for having made racist remarks in June 2017 as part of his show the “Ball of the Quenelles”. Following the requisitions of the prosecution, the court ruled that the term “Krakow pajamas gag”, which Dieudonné used in his show in reference to the outfit worn by the Jewish deportees in Auschwitz Nazi death camp, was “offensive to Jewish victims of the Holocaust”. The court also ordered him to pay 8,000 euros to each of the two associations that had become civil parties, the association of the National Office for Vigilance against Antisemitism (BNVCA) and the Ben-Gurion association.

References:

https://www.huffingtonpost.fr/entry/dieudonne-condamne-a-10000-euros-damende-pour-des-propos-racistes_fr_5f5a4265c5b6b48507fd0d73

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United Kingdom

Holocaust References by Leading Activist against UK COVID-19 Regulations

Leading activist against the UK Covid-19 regulations, Kate Shemirani, has repeatedly used Nazi references when criticizing the NHS (UK National Health Service). She has also openly supported conspiracy theories describing “prominent Jews” such

as George Soros as being at the center of a “corrupt group” who have exploited the pandemic for their own benefits. On September 1, 2020, Shemirani described the NHS as the “new Auschwitz” and stated that the government was acting like “Nazis”. She has repeatedly shared images of Adolf Hitler, the swastika symbol, and made references to the gas chambers. She has also stated that “the nurses of the Third Reich are here today.” She called allegations of antisemitism against her “ridiculous” and responded that she “has Jewish friends”.

References:

<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk/anti-mask-nurse-defended-nazi-references-saying-i-don-t-care-if-they-find-it-offensive-1.506880>

<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk/suspended-nurse-at-the-centre-of-anti-lockdown-protests-called-nhs-the-new-auschwitz-1.506453>

United States

Google Search for ‘Jewish Baby Strollers’ Yields Allusions to Holocaust

On September 26, 2020 outrage erupted on various Jewish social media groups following the revelation that a search on Google U.S platform for images of a “Jewish baby stroller” turns up small portable ovens, an offensive allusion to the Holocaust referring to the cremation of Jews in Nazi gas chambers. Google said it’s investigating the search results and wants to improve them: “These results do not reflect our opinions, [...] we’ll look at this situation to see how we can return more helpful results”. But according to researchers, the results may not be an accident and it’s possible that Google’s search algorithm was manipulated by a coordinated extremist campaign on a fringe website to yield those specific images.

References:

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/09/27/google-pledges-to-return-more-helpful-results-after-search-for-jewish-baby-strollers-is-found-to-produce-antisemitic-images/>

<https://www.jta.org/2020/09/25/united-states/a-google-search-leads-to-anti-semitic-images-it-may-be-an-extremist-campaign>

Ukraine

Kiev Court Rules the Symbols of Galicia Waffen SS Division Are Not Considered Nazi Symbols

On September 23, 2020 the Sixth Administrative Appeals Court in Kyiv, following the appeal of the Institute for National Memory, reversed the lower court's decision from May to forbid usage of the Ukrainian Waffen SS 'Galicia' division symbols and to recognize them as Nazi symbols. Before the decision, two of the three judges and the advocate supporting the lower court's decision, complained to police about being threatened with violence, in case they did not overturn the decision.

References:

<https://strana.ua/news/291414-kak-natsionalisty-zastavili-sud-otmenit-zapret-na-simvoliku-ss-halichiny.html>

<https://buzina.org/golos-naroda/3786-ss-galicia.html>

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<https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/70-jahre-zentralrat-juden-festakt-100.html>

<http://eu.eot.su/2020/09/24/kiiv-court-declares-the-symbols-of-the-1st-galicia-ss-division-galicia-as-not-to-be-nazi-symbols/>

Examples of Antisemitic Manifestations

Sweden

Antisemitic Campaign by Neo-Nazi Nordic Resistance Movement during Jewish Holidays

The neo-Nazi Nordic Resistance Movement (NRM) orchestrated a synchronized antisemitic campaign across the Nordic countries during the Jewish holidays of Yom Kippur, September 27-28, 2020. NRM activists campaigned outside Jewish facilities,

confronted Jewish worshipers, spread pamphlets, and hanged posters and stickers with antisemitic content in dozens of cities and towns in Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Iceland. According to the NRM the purpose was to “make the Nordic people aware of foreign Jewish customs and Zionist ruling plans throughout the Nordic region.” Despite complaints no arrests took place. The Official Council of Swedish Jewish Communities (OCSJC) published an announcement in which it expressed its disgust from the deeds and called on Swedish politicians to follow Finland where the High Court ruled to uphold a ban against the NRM on September 22, 2020. According to OCSJC chairman Aron Verstandig, the NRM is “one of the absolutely greatest threats to Nordic Jews”. Simon Wiesenthal Centre expressed outrage of the campaign in a letter to the Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfvén. Swedish Justice Minister Morgan Johansson stated Sweden might consider banning the organization.

References:

<https://www.varldenidag.se/nyheter/nmr-spred-hatpropaganda-utanfor-synagoga/reptiC!3CNxS9RfQMdijS1DwqDJOW/>

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/sweden-may-ban-racist-organizations-after-neo-nazi-yom-kippur-campaign-644589>

<https://www.judiskacentralradet.se/single-post/judiska-central%C3%A5det-uttrycker-avsky-mot-aktioner-under-jom-kippur>

<http://www.wiesenthal.com/about/news/wiesenthal-centre-outraged-at-1.html>

United Kingdom

Anti-Israel and Antisemitic Manifestations in Scotland around Football Match with Israel

Several anti-Israeli protests, some with alleged antisemitic expressions, took place surrounding a football game between Scotland and Israel in the UEFA National League in Glasgow, Scotland on September 4, 2020. Present among the anti-Israel activists were members of The Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign (SPSC) and Revolutionary Communist Group (RCG / FRFI) who have been accused of antisemitism in the past. They were joined by members of football support clubs such as the

“Green brigade”. At the entrance to the stadium, unknown activists had smeared red paint across the floor and written the words ‘Palestinian blood’ on the walls. Declarations of Israel as an apartheid state were also heard. Glasgow Friends of Israel chair Sammy Stein stated he believes the use of blood showed the antisemitic motives among some of the protesters as the “use of blood is well known as an antisemitic sign which is all to do with the Blood Libel”.

References:

<https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/sport/football/6007554/scotland-israel-protesters-free-palestine/>

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/green-brigade-members-join-pro-22631347>

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/09/07/anti-israel-hatred-in-scotland/>

Netherlands

Antisemitic Message Found on Parcel

An antisemitic message was found as part of the mailing information provided by the Dutch postal service according to reports on September 4, 2020. The message was discovered when a woman wanted to obtain information about a parcel sent by her weeks earlier to her grandchildren in Israel. In trying to track the parcel using the tracking system of the postal service she noticed an antisemitic message had been added to the postal code of the destination. The Dutch postal service stated they were “conducting an internal probe in connection with this complaint”.

References:

<https://www.joods.nl/2020/09/postnl-fuck-jews/>

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/dutch-postal-service-investigating-anti-jewish-expletive-added-to-parcel-address/#gs.fuh8to>

Poland

Three Jewish Cemeteries Desecrated in Poland

In September 2020 tombstones at three cemeteries in Poland were vandalized. On September 11, 2020 at the Zabrze Jewish cemetery about twenty tombstones were damaged. The police is searching for the perpetrators. Earlier in September a 19 century tombstone at the Jewish cemetery in Tarnowskie Gory, near Krakow, was defaced with red spray paint. In addition, ten tombstones were knocked down at the Jewish cemetery of Dobrodzien, some 80 miles northwest of Krakow. Some of them were broken.

References:

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/tombstones-vandalized-at-3-jewish-cemeteries-in-poland>

<https://tvn24.pl/wroclaw/dobrodzien-zniszczone-macewy-na-zydowskim-cmentarzu-4687355>