

EN
E-000790/2019
Answer given by Ms Jourová
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.4.2019)

The Commission agrees that the resurgence of antisemitism across Europe is deeply worrying. On 6 December 2018 the Council unanimously adopted a Declaration on the fight against antisemitism and the development of a common security approach to better protect Jewish communities and institutions in Europe in which the 28 Member States refer to areas where progress is needed to counter antisemitism.

The Commission is in the process of following up on this declaration in a concrete way. This will take place under the umbrella of the existing High-level Group on combating racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance.

This work comes in addition to Commission initiatives combatting all forms of hatred, such as the Code of Conduct with IT companies to take down illegal hate speech, the funding for security of public spaces, the funding of initiatives concerning Holocaust remembrance and combating antisemitism, etc.

As to the use of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism, the Commission stated in its answer to written question E-005854/2018 that the "working definition on Antisemitism [...] is a useful non-legally binding tool to recognise Antisemitism, whether right-wing, left-wing, coming from within religious communities or from other sections of society."

The Commission also notes that an increasing number of Member States, public institutions, and political bodies endorse the IHRA definition, including most recently France. The Commission refers the Honourable Member to the IHRA website for the list of countries which have endorsed the definition¹.

¹ <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/>