

IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM



Antisemitism is the world's most enduring form of hatred, insidiously reinventing itself over the millennia. Recent years have seen a dangerous resurgence of this hatred worldwide, threatening Jewish communities and undermining social cohesion. Local leaders, and mayors in particular, have a crucial role to play in confronting antisemitism where it is most directly felt—on the streets of the communities where Jews live their day-to-day lives.

A key tool in curbing this hatred is the **International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism**, the world's gold standard definition and a key pillar in government strategies to combat all forms of antisemitism.

USAGE

The IHRA definition is being used around the world by municipal officials to develop training and educational programs for city staff and law enforcement personnel, and devise zero-tolerance policies against hatred and discrimination. Its impact has been bolstered by broad-based backing across the religious, political, ideological, and cultural spectrums.



ADOPTIONS

According to a new report authored by the Combat Antisemitism Movement (CAM) and the Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry at Tel Aviv University, a total of **1,216 entities**—including international institutions and organizations, national and local governments, NGOs, universities, athletic clubs, and corporations—have adopted or endorsed the definition through December 2023.

Overall, **45 countries**—including the United States, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, and France—have adopted the definition. **In the U.S., 34 state governments have done so**, either via legislation or executive actions, along with **89 city and county governments**, with Cincinnati, Dallas, and Kansas City among those doing so in the past year.



45
COUNTRIES



34
U.S. STATES



89
U.S. CITIES
AND COUNTIES

The Combat Antisemitism Movement (CAM) is a non-partisan, global Jewish human rights movement uniting over 750 organizations and nearly four million people, across all religions and faiths, to combat the world's oldest hatred.

If you would like assistance from CAM on this important issue, please reach out to Arthur Maserjian at: arthur@combatantisemitism.org



DRAFT PROCLAMATION: IHRA WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

WHEREAS, antisemitism, including harassment on the basis of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, identify, affiliation, or faith, remains a persistent, pervasive, and disturbing problem in American society;

WHEREAS, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) data, Jewish Americans are consistently the most likely of all religious groups to be victimized by incidents of hate in the U.S., and such incidents are increasing at an alarming rate;

WHEREAS, municipal officials and institutions have a responsibility to protect citizens from acts of hate and bigotry, including antisemitism, and must adopt the tools to do so;

WHEREAS, valid monitoring, informed analysis and investigation, and effective policymaking all benefit from accurate and uniform definitions;

WHEREAS, in May 2016, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (“IHRA”) by consensus vote of its member states, adopted the Working Definition of Antisemitism, including eleven (11) contemporary examples, which has become the internationally recognized, authoritative definition for use by governments and international organizations;

WHEREAS, the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism has proven to be an essential tool used to determine contemporary manifestations of antisemitism;

WHEREAS, the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is used by agencies of the United States Government and has been adopted or endorsed by more than 1,216 entities across the world including by 45 countries, over 514 municipalities and regional governments, over 345 educational institutions, and 312 other organizations;

WHEREAS, in the United States, the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is utilized by various government and law enforcement agencies in monitoring, training, and education, including by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education; and has been adopted by 34 U.S. States and more than 89 U.S. counties and cities;

WHEREAS, the city of [INSERT CITY NAME] values religious diversity and interfaith tolerance, and the Jewish community is an inseparable part of our social fabric, culture, and heritage;

WHEREAS, on [INSERT DATE OF INCIDENT], the City/State of [INSERT CITY/STATE NAME] experienced firsthand the real-life consequences of antisemitism, when [INSERT DETAILS OF INCIDENT];

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF [INSERT CITY NAME]:

Section 1. The recitals and findings contained in the Preamble to this Proclamation are hereby adopted by reference and incorporated herein as if fully set forth in this Section.

Section 2. The City of [INSERT CITY NAME] recognizes the growing problem of antisemitism in the U.S. and adopts the non-binding IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, including the eleven (11) contemporary examples stated therein, as an important tool to address it.

Section 3. The Mayor of the City of [INSERT CITY NAME] directs city agencies to ensure that the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is available as an educational resource for the Department of Police and other City departments and agencies responsible for addressing antisemitism and other forms of discrimination.

Section 4. This Proclamation shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Mayor [INSERT NAME]

[INSERT CITY NAME]
