



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

# **ROTTERDAM DECLARATION**

**OF THE**

**OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

**AND**

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**

**DURING THE TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION**

**ROTTERDAM, 5 TO 9 JULY 2003**

## RESOLUTION ON COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

1. Recalling the *Resolution on Anti-Semitic Violence in the OSCE Region* unanimously adopted at the Assembly's 2002 Annual Session in Berlin, which encouraged parliamentarians to "vocally and unconditionally condemn manifestations of anti-Semitic violence in their respective countries and at all regional and international forums",
2. Reaffirming the 2002 Porto Ministerial Decision condemning "anti-Semitic incidents in the OSCE area, recognizing the role that the existence of anti-Semitism has played throughout history as a major threat to freedom",
3. Recalling the 2002 Porto decision No. 6 recognizing the responsibility of participating States for promoting tolerance and non-discrimination,
4. Noting ongoing efforts to create a parliamentary Coalition of the Willing, initiated by the German and American delegations to the Assembly, to gather like-minded parliamentarians willing to denounce anti-Semitism and related violence, be it on the domestic or international level,
5. Recalling the leadership shown by the OSCE in addressing the issue of anti-Semitism, and the fact that it was the first international organization to publicly condemn anti-Semitism through provisions of the 1990 Copenhagen Concluding Document,
6. Acknowledging that incidents of anti-Semitism occur throughout the 55-nation OSCE region and are not unique to any one country, which necessitates unwavering steadfastness by all participating States to erase this black mark on human history,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

7. Recognizes the danger of anti-Semitism to the societies of all OSCE States, as unchecked growth of this phenomenon and related violence will jeopardize peace, pluralism, human rights and democracy;
8. Condemns unequivocally anti-Semitism (including violence against Jews and Jewish cultural sites), racial and ethnic hatred, xenophobia, and discrimination, as well as persecution on religious grounds whenever it occurs;
9. Recommends that parliamentarians of OSCE participating States strongly and publicly condemn anti-Semitic acts when they occur;
10. Supports the promotion of special efforts to train law enforcement officers and military personnel to deal with diverse communities and respond to racism and hate crimes;

11. Urges all OSCE participating States to ensure effective law enforcement by local and national authorities against criminal acts stemming from anti-Semitism, xenophobia, or racial or ethnic hatred, whether directed at individuals, communities, or property, including thorough investigation and prosecution of such acts;
12. Encourages educational efforts throughout the OSCE region to counter anti-Semitic stereotypes and attitudes among younger people, to increase Holocaust awareness programs, and to identify necessary resources to accomplish these goals;
13. Calls on participating States to identify concrete action that may be possible within the OSCE to counter proliferation of neo-Nazi and other racist material over the Internet, while protecting and preserving the rights of freedom of expression;
14. Emphasizes the need to commence and complete the proper and just restitution or compensation of seized properties to the rightful owners, noting that many claimants are elderly survivors of the Holocaust;
15. Calls upon parliamentarians in OSCE participating States to play a leading role in combating anti-Semitism, thereby ensuring concrete actions are implemented at the national level;
16. Urges those participating States that have not already done so to join the Task Force for International Co-operation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, and to implement the provisions of the Declaration of the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust.