## **Bundesverband RIAS e. V.**Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism



Press release (embargo: June 4, 2025, 10:00 a.m. CET)

#### Publication of Annual Report Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2024

# No Decline in Antisemitic Incidents in 2024 – 24 Cases Documented per Day

Berlin (June 4, 2025): The annual report published today by the Bundesverband RIAS (Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism) records a total of 8,627 antisemitic incidents in 2024 – an increase of 77% compared to the previous year. For the first time, the report quantifies the long-term consequences of October 7, 2023, providing clear evidence that the situation for Jews in Germany has continued to deteriorate.

#### Antisemitism Affects All Areas of Life – Jewish Life Under Pressure

In Leipzig, a woman speaking Hebrew was subjected to antisemitic insults and threats of sexual assault on the street; in Hamburg, swastikas were smeared on the front door of a Jewish couple's home – antisemitic incidents are omnipresent for many Jews. Antisemitic terrorist attacks such as those on the city festival in Solingen or the Israeli Consulate General in Munich, as well as attacks on Jewish institutions such as the one on the synagogue in Oldenburg, exacerbate the already tenuous situation and reinforce feelings of insecurity. Despite this, the response from civil society has remained muted.

#### 2024 Marked by Israel-Related Antisemitism

Reactions to October 7, 2023, and the war in Gaza strongly shaped the antisemitic climate in 2024. Sixty-eight percent of all documented antisemitic incidents were related to Israel and the ongoing war in the Middle East. There was a noticeable increase in antisemitism in political discourse – for example in the form of graffiti, stickers, and demonstrations. Across Germany, antisemitic incidents were recorded at 1,802 gatherings, where the Shoah was relativized, antisemitic violence glorified, or terrorist organizations such as Hamas and Hezbollah celebrated. Counter-demonstrators were attacked, threatened, and insulted.

#### **More Incidents at Schools and Universities**

In 2024, antisemitic incidents rose significantly at educational institutions. At universities, their number rose from 151 to 450 – a threefold increase compared to the previous year. Antisemitic stereotypes were propagated at protest camps, and students and staff were insulted, threatened, and assaulted. At schools, 284 cases involved Jewish students being ostracized, verbally abused, and blamed for the war in the Middle East. At least 19 cases involved physical attacks.



#### Increase in Right-Wing Extremist Incidents and Widespread Trivialization of the Shoah

Antisemitic incidents linked to right-wing extremism rose by 28% in 2024—reaching a record high. In two-thirds of these cases, the Shoah was either trivialized or glorified. In Thuringia, for example, a municipal politician from the AfD party threatened a woman with the words "You'll end up in Buchenwald" after she criticized an AfD information stand in front of her home. The trivialization of the Shoah is a central component of right-wing extremist antisemitism, but it extends far beyond this milieu: similar incidents have been documented within left-wing anti-imperialist and anti-Israel activist contexts.

The annual report "Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2024" can be accessed at report-antisemitism.de/documents/04-06-25\_Antisemitic\_incidents\_in\_Germany\_Annual-Report\_Federal\_Association\_RIAS\_2024.pdf

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Bundesverband RIAS e. V. (Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism) is the umbrella organization of the RIAS reporting offices. It aims to provide consistent documentation of antisemitic incidents based on the IHRA working definition of antisemitism. RIAS reporting offices record antisemitic incidents nationwide and offer support to those affected. The report includes incidents from across the country and from reporting offices in eleven federal states.



### Voices from the press conference:

Benjamin Steinitz, Managing Director of the Bundesverband RIAS e. V.:

"Antisemitic incidents have risen sharply in Germany since October 7 – a turning point in Jewish life. Now more than ever, Jewish perspectives must not be sidelined and further marginalized by political infighting. There is an urgent need to recognize the IHRA working definition as the lowest common denominator in the fight against antisemitism and to invest sustainably in science and civil society to effectively curb antisemitic attitudes and actions."

Bianca Loy, Co-author and research associate at the Bundesverband RIAS e. V.:

"Antisemitism has changed since October 7 and the war in Gaza, yet it still follows familiar patterns: we are seeing well-known Israel-related antisemitic stereotypes being adapted, updated, and applied to the war between Israel and Hamas. This development does not mean that other forms of antisemitism are on the decline; Israel-related antisemitism is often combined with a trivialization of the Shoah. In Berlin, for example, the Gaza Strip was equated with Auschwitz."

Dr. Felix Klein, Federal Government Commissioner for Jewish Life in Germany and the Fight against Antisemitism:

"The shocking figures in the RIAS annual report 2024 make it clear once again that hatred of Jews is now more widespread in Germany than we would have thought possible just a few years ago. We must therefore broaden the fight against antisemitism so that not only the federal government, politicians, and administrators, but also civil society as a whole takes a constant and fundamental stance against this hatred that threatens our democratic values."

**Ron Dekel**, President of the German Jewish Student Union:

"The figures in the latest RIAS annual report confirm what Jewish students across Germany have long experienced: they cannot feel safe at German universities. 450 antisemitic incidents were documented at educational institutions in 2024 - at 56 different locations. The widespread Israel-related antisemitism, which is at the ideological core of many incidents, is particularly alarming. That is why German universities must stop turning a blind eye. Certified antisemitism officers are needed – experts who are more than just a token gesture and are actually in a position to support those affected. It is unacceptable that Jewish students have to choose their courses based on how safe they feel on campus rather than on their interests."