

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4230

To authorize the establishment within the Department of State of an Office to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, to require inclusion in annual Department of State reports of information concerning acts of anti-Semitism around the world, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2004

Mr. LANTOS (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To authorize the establishment within the Department of State of an Office to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, to require inclusion in annual Department of State reports of information concerning acts of anti-Semitism around the world, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Global Anti-Semitism
5 Awareness Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Acts of anti-Semitism in countries through-
2 out the world, including in some of the world's
3 strongest democracies, have increased significantly
4 in frequency and scope over the last several years.

5 (2) During the last three months of 2003 and
6 the first three months of 2004, there were numerous
7 instances of anti-Semitic violence around the world,
8 including the following incidents:

9 (A) In Putrajaya, Malaysia, on October 16,
10 2003, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad of
11 Malaysia told the 57 national leaders assembled
12 for the Organization of the Islamic Conference
13 that Jews "rule the world by proxy", and called
14 for a "final victory" by the world's 1.3 billion
15 Muslims, who, he said, "cannot be defeated by
16 a few million Jews".

17 (B) In Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15,
18 2003, simultaneous car bombs exploded outside
19 two synagogues filled with worshippers, killing
20 24 people and wounding more than 250.

21 (C) In Hobart, Australia, on January 5,
22 2004, poison was used to ignite and burn anti-
23 Semitic slogans into the lawns of the Par-
24 liament House of the state of Tasmania.

1 (D) In St. Petersburg, Russia, on Feb-
2 ruary 15, 2004, vandals desecrated approxi-
3 mately 50 gravestones in a Jewish cemetery,
4 painting the stones with swastikas and anti-Se-
5 mitic graffiti.

6 (E) In Toronto, Canada, from March 19 to
7 March 21, 2004, vandals attacked a Jewish
8 school, a Jewish cemetery, and area syna-
9 gogues, painting swastikas and anti-Semitic slo-
10 gans on the walls of a synagogue and on resi-
11 dential property in a nearby, predominantly
12 Jewish, neighborhood.

13 (F) In Toulon, France, on March 23,
14 2004, a Jewish synagogue and community cen-
15 ter were set on fire.

16 (3) Anti-Semitism has at times taken the form
17 of vilification of Zionism, the Jewish national move-
18 ment, and incitement against Israel.

19 (4) Anti-Semitism is also increasingly ema-
20 nating from the Arab and Muslim world on a sus-
21 tained basis, including through books distributed by
22 government-owned publishing houses in Egypt and
23 other Arab countries.

24 (5) In November 2002, state-run television in
25 Egypt broadcast the anti-Semitic series entitled

1 “Horseman Without a Horse”, which is based upon
2 the fictitious conspiracy theory known as the Proto-
3 cols of the Elders of Zion. The Protocols have been
4 used throughout the last century by despots such as
5 Adolf Hitler to justify violence against Jews.

6 (6) In November 2003, Arab television featured
7 an anti-Semitic series entitled “Ash-Shatat” (“The
8 Diaspora”), which depicts Jewish people conspiring
9 to gain control of the world.

10 (7) The sharp rise in anti-Semitic violence has
11 caused international organizations such as the Orga-
12 nization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
13 (OSCE) to elevate and bring renewed focus to this
14 issue, including the convening by the OSCE in June
15 2003 of a conference in Vienna dedicated solely to
16 the issue of anti-Semitism.

17 (8) On April 28–29, 2004, in Berlin, Germany,
18 the OSCE will again convene a conference dedicated
19 to addressing the problem of anti-Semitism, with the
20 United States delegation to be led by former Mayor
21 of New York City Ed Koch.

22 (9) The United States has vigorously supported
23 efforts to address anti-Semitism through bilateral re-
24 lationships and interaction with international organi-

1 zations such as the OSCE, the European Union, and
2 the United Nations.

3 (10) Congress has consistently supported ef-
4 forts to address the rise in anti-Semitic violence.
5 During the 107th Congress, both the Senate and the
6 House of Representatives passed resolutions express-
7 ing strong concern about the sharp escalation of
8 anti-Semitic violence in Europe and calling on the
9 Department of State to thoroughly document the
10 phenomenon.

11 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

12 It is the sense of Congress that—

13 (1) the United States should continue to vigor-
14 ously support efforts to combat anti-Semitism world-
15 wide through bilateral relationships and interaction
16 with international organizations such as the Organi-
17 zation of Security and Cooperation in Europe
18 (OSCE);

19 (2) the United States delegation to the OSCE
20 conference in Berlin should advocate for the appoint-
21 ment of a High Commissioner on anti-Semitism;

22 (3) the President should direct the United
23 States Ambassador to the United Nations to intro-
24 duce in the most appropriate forum in the United
25 Nations a measure condemning anti-Semitism;

1 (4) the Secretary of State should establish a
2 permanent office in the Department of State to
3 monitor and combat anti-Semitism; and

4 (5) the Department of State should thoroughly
5 document acts of anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic in-
6 citement that occur around the world.

7 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE**
8 **TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM.**

9 The State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956
10 is amended by adding after section 58 (22 U.S.C. 2730)
11 the following new section:

12 **“SEC. 59. MONITORING AND COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM.**

13 “(a) OFFICE TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMI-
14 TISM.—

15 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.—The Sec-
16 retary is authorized and encouraged to establish
17 within the Department of State an Office to Monitor
18 and Combat anti-Semitism (in this section referred
19 to as the ‘Office’).

20 “(2) HEAD OF OFFICE.—If the Secretary estab-
21 lishes the Office pursuant to paragraph (1), the
22 head of the Office shall be the Director for Moni-
23 toring and Combatting anti-Semitism. The Secretary
24 shall appoint the Director of the Office.

1 “(b) PURPOSE OF OFFICE.—Upon establishment, the
2 Office shall assume the primary responsibility for—

3 “(1) monitoring and combatting acts of anti-
4 Semitism and anti-Semitic incitement that occur in
5 foreign countries;

6 “(2) coordinating and assisting in the prepara-
7 tion of that portion of the report required by sec-
8 tions 116(d)(7) and 502B(b) of the Foreign Assist-
9 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151n(d)(7) and
10 2304(b)) relating to a summary of acts of anti-Semi-
11 tism and anti-Semitic incitement around the world
12 for inclusion in the annual country reports on
13 human rights practices; and

14 “(3) coordinating and assisting in the prepara-
15 tion of that portion of the report required by section
16 102(b)(1)(C) of the International Religious Freedom
17 Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6412(b)(1)(C)) relating to
18 an assessment and description of the nature and ex-
19 tent of acts of anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic incite-
20 ment that occur in foreign countries for inclusion in
21 the annual international religious freedom report.

22 “(c) CONSULTATIONS.—The Director of the Office
23 shall consult with domestic and international nongovern-
24 mental organizations and multilateral organizations and

1 institutions as the Director considers appropriate to fulfill
 2 the purposes of this section.

3 “(d) PUBLIC HEARINGS AND EVIDENCE.—The Di-
 4 rector of the Office may hold public hearings take testi-
 5 mony, and receive evidence as the Director considers ap-
 6 propriate.”.

7 **SEC. 5. INCLUSION IN DEPARTMENT OF STATE ANNUAL RE-**
 8 **PORTS OF INFORMATION CONCERNING ACTS**
 9 **OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**

10 (a) INCLUSION IN COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN
 11 RIGHTS PRACTICES.—The Foreign Assistance Act of
 12 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amended—

13 (1) in section 116(d)(7) (22 U.S.C.
 14 2151n(d)(7)), by striking the semicolon and insert-
 15 ing “and a summary of acts of anti-Semitism and
 16 anti-Semitic incitement that occur in foreign coun-
 17 tries, including descriptions of—

18 “(A) acts of physical violence against, or har-
 19 assment of, Jewish people, and acts of violence
 20 against, or vandalism of, Jewish community institu-
 21 tions, including schools, synagogues, and cemeteries
 22 that occurred in foreign countries during the pre-
 23 ceding year;

24 “(B) instances of propaganda in government
 25 and non-government media and other sources in for-

1 foreign countries that attempt to justify or promote ra-
2 cial hatred or incite acts of violence against Jewish
3 people;

4 “(C) the actions, if any, taken by the govern-
5 ments of such countries to respond to such violence
6 and attacks or to eliminate such propaganda or in-
7 citement;

8 “(D) the actions taken by such governments to
9 enact and enforce laws relating to the protection of
10 the right to religious freedom of Jewish people; and

11 “(E) the efforts of such governments to pro-
12 mote anti-bias and tolerance education;”;

13 (2) in the fourth sentence of section 502B(b)
14 (22 U.S.C. 2304(b)), by inserting before the period
15 the following: “and a summary of acts of anti-Semi-
16 tism and anti-Semitic incitement that occur in for-
17 eign countries, including the descriptions of such
18 acts required under section 116(d)(7)”.

19 (b) INCLUSION IN INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS
20 FREEDOM REPORT.—Section 102(b)(1) of the Inter-
21 national Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.
22 6412(b)(1)) is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D),
24 (E), and (F) as subparagraphs (D), (E), (F), and
25 (G), respectively; and

1 (2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the fol-
2 lowing new subparagraph:

3 “(C) ACTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM.—An assess-
4 ment and description of the nature and extent
5 of acts of anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic incite-
6 ment that occur in foreign countries, including
7 descriptions of—

8 “(i) acts of physical violence against,
9 or harassment of, Jewish people, and acts
10 of violence against, or vandalism of, Jewish
11 community institutions, including schools,
12 synagogues, and cemeteries that occurred
13 in foreign countries during the preceding
14 year;

15 “(ii) instances of propaganda in gov-
16 ernment and non-government media and
17 other sources in foreign countries that at-
18 tempt to justify or promote racial hatred
19 or incite acts of violence against Jewish
20 people;

21 “(iii) the actions, if any, taken by the
22 governments of such countries to respond
23 to such violence and attacks or to eliminate
24 such propaganda or incitement;

1 “(iv) the actions taken by such gov-
2 ernments to enact and enforce laws relat-
3 ing to the protection of the right to reli-
4 gious freedom of Jewish people; and

5 “(v) the efforts of such governments
6 to promote anti-bias and tolerance edu-
7 cation.”.

8 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE OF INCLUSIONS.—The amend-
9 ments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall apply begin-
10 ning with the first report under sections 116(d) and
11 502B(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
12 2151n(d) and 2304(b)) and section 102(b) of the Inter-
13 national Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C.
14 6312(b)) submitted more than one year after the date of
15 the enactment of this Act.

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