

## UN Human Rights Council 41st Session, Item 9 – July 8, 2019

## **General Debate**

Mr. President,

On June 26, the General Assembly convened a Special Session on combating Antisemitism and other forms of Racism and Hate.

The Secretary General emphasized the troubling rise of violent anti-Semitic incidents and the growing number of Jews who feel insecure. 9 out of 10 Jewish Europeans experience Anti-Semitism as their number one problem in day-to-day life. And every second Europeans of the general public regards it as a problem in their country.

Contemporary Anti-Semitism, said the European Commission Coordinator, comes in many forms, in its traditional racist form with roots in Christian theology, or as part of Islamist extremism. It hides behind anti-Zionism or appears unmasked as conspiracy theories, Holocaust denial or Holocaust distortion.

## One thing is clear:

All forms of Anti-Semitism are equally pernicious. We are today at a point, where AS has become disturbingly normalized again.

It is the responsibility of all countries to fight Antisemitism and racism. There is an urgent necessity for governments, civil society and the International Organizations to attack it on multiple fronts— through multiple means. On the digital front, by education in schools, by funding full and robust training of all law enforcement personnel to identify anti-Semites. It must bring them to justice.

We therefore welcome the initiative by the SR on Freedom of Religion and Believe, to issue a UN report on Anti-Semitism, to be presented to the General Assembly.

The struggle against antisemitism is intertwined with the history, founding, and purposes of the United Nations.

Thank you Mr. President.