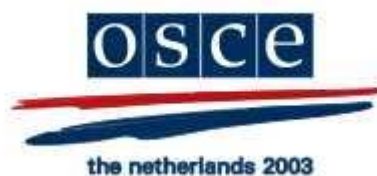


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**Chairmanship 2003**  
**Permanent Representation of the**  
**Netherlands to the OSCE**

Vienna, 16 June 2003

**OSCE CONFERENCE ON ANTI-SEMITISM**

Dear Colleagues,

Please find enclosed the revised annotated agenda with the names of keynote speakers, moderators, and introducers for the Conference on anti-Semitism, which will take place in Vienna on 19 and 20 June 2003. Please find also attached the agenda with the timetable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by several loops and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Justus J. de Visser  
Chairman of the Permanent Council

To: All OSCE Delegations  
All OSCE Institutions  
OSCE Secretariat  
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly  
Partners for Co-operation  
Meditarranean Partners for Co-operation

**Agenda OSCE Conference on anti-Semitism**

**Day 1 19 June 2003**

9:00 – 10:00 OPENING SESSION – SETTING THE CONTEXT

- Why this meeting, why now?
- Define the problem of anti-Semitism and its manifestations throughout the OSCE
- The role of governments in monitoring and responding to incidents

Opening by Representative of the Chairmanship

Keynote addresses:

- H.E. Solomon Passy, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria
- Elie Wiesel, Nobel Laureate
- Władysław Bartoszewski, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland
- H.E. Mircea Geoana, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania, former OSCE CiO

10:00 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 12:15 SESSION 1: LEGISLATIVE, INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS AND GOVERNMENTAL ACTION, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- Appropriate anti-discrimination legislation and national experience with criminal prosecution of violence
- A discussion of hate crime legislation and good police practices
- Law enforcement and the judiciary, including training
- Government policies and practices at national, regional, and local levels, including the examination of the role of independent specialized bodies

Moderator: Dr. Juliane Wetzel, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technische Universität Berlin

Introducer: Nils Muižnieks, Minister for Special Assignments for Society Integration Affairs, Latvia  
Michel Voisin, President of the French Delegation to the OSCE PA  
Judge Rosalia Abella, Ontario Court of Appeals

12:30 – 14:00 LUNCH (HOFBURG DACHFOYER) OFFERED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS, Address by Lord Janner of Braunstone QC, Chairman of the Holocaust Educational Trust and Vice President of the World Jewish Congress

14:00 – 15:45 SESSION 2: THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN PROMOTING TOLERANCE

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- The role of governmental bodies and NGOs in reporting, monitoring and combating anti-Semitism and intolerance

- The effectiveness of dialogue as a mechanism to support understanding and mutual respect
- Inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and development of civic tolerance-building programs

Moderator: Gert Weisskirchen, Member of the Bundestag

Introducer: Naim Güteryüz, Vice President of the Quincentennial Foundation,  
Adviser to the Chief Rabbi in Turkey  
Jean Kahn, President, Union of French Jewish Communities  
Elene Mizulina, Deputy of the State Duma of the Russian Federation

General Discussion

15:45 – 17:30 SESSION 3: EDUCATION

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- Equal access to education
- Teacher training programs
- Teaching of history
- School curricula
- Elimination of discrimination tendencies and prejudices in society

Moderator: Rabbi Andrew Baker, The American Jewish Committee

Introducer: Rolland Jouve, Ministry of Education, France  
Professor David Meghnagi, University of Rome III  
Robert Wistrich, Hebrew University

General Discussion

17:30 CLOSE OF DAY ONE

18:15 RECEPTION (PALAIS PALLAVICINI)

19:30 DINNER (PALAIS PALLAVICINI) OFFERED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS – Address by Mr. Robert Badinter, Former Minister of Justice, Former President of the Constitutional Council, Senator

**Day 2            20 June 2003**

10:00 – 11:45 SESSION 4: INFORMATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING: THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN CONVEYING AND COUNTERING PREJUDICE

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- Public opinion and role of the media, including new technologies (inter alia the internet)
- Reporting and interpretation of developments in the OSCE area
- Problems regarding the dissemination of hate speech and anti-Semitic materials and ways to counteract this
- Addressing Holocaust denial

Moderator: Beata Klimkiewicz, ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion

Introducer: Robert Rifkind, Attorney  
Professor Jacques Picard, University of Basel  
Konstanty Gebert, Journalist

General Discussion

11:45 – 12:00 BREAK

12:00 – 13:00 CLOSING PLENARY

Conclusions and Recommendations

Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship

Reports by the Working Session Moderators  
Comments from the floor

13:00 CLOSE OF DAY 2



## Conference

### OSCE ANTI-SEMITISM CONFERENCE

Vienna, 19-20 June 2003

#### Annotated Agenda

#### **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE: Keynote Session.**

At the OSCE Ministerial Conference in Porto, OSCE participating States condemned the recent increase in anti-Semitic incidents in the OSCE area, recognized the role that anti-Semitism has played throughout history as a major threat to freedom, and called for a separate OSCE conference to discuss ways to combat this problem. The opening session will address the question of “why this meeting and why now?” The Conference needs to have an understanding of the apparent reasons for the sharp spike in anti-Semitic incidents in recent years and the measures that governments have taken to contain this scourge. The goal of the initial session is to examine anti-Semitism in the OSCE area and the role that governments need to take in monitoring and combating this phenomenon. This session will provide the foundation for the subsequent deliberations of the Conference.

A Representative of the Dutch OSCE Chairman-in-Office will open the Conference, followed by an address by Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Passy.

The conference will then get underway with keynote addresses by Professor Elie Wiesel and Professor Władysław Bartoszewski. Elie Wiesel is a Nobel Laureate and a Holocaust survivor who has written and spoken eloquently about the events of the World War II period and about anti-Semitism. Professor Władysław Bartoszewski, former Foreign Minister of Poland, was an Auschwitz prisoner, and co-founded the underground “Zegota” Council for Aid to Jews, a unique organization in Nazi occupied Europe that helped persecuted Jews. Professors Wiesel’s and Bartoszewski’s remarks will set the tone for a serious examination of the manifestations of anti-Semitism that have increased in recent years. Subsequent sessions of the conference will focus on best practices to prevent anti-Semitism through awareness raising, education, the rule of law and anti-discrimination legislation, law enforcement, cultural preservation, and methodologies for combating anti-Semitism.

Romanian Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana, former Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE, will deliver the fourth keynote address in this session.

Topics also may include, *inter alia*:

- Why this meeting, why now?
- Define the problem of anti-Semitism and its manifestations throughout the OSCE region;
- The role of governments in preventing, monitoring and responding to incidents.

## **SESSION 1: Legislative and Institutional Mechanisms and Governmental Action, including Law Enforcement.**

Moderator: Dr. Juliane Wetzel, University of Berlin

Introducers: Nils Muižnieks, Minister for Special Assignments for Society Integration Affairs, Latvia  
Michel Voisin, French Parliamentarian  
Rosalia Abella, Judge, Ontario Court of Appeals, Canada

Having defined and described the issue in the keynote session, the Conference in this session will examine in more detail how national laws and judicial systems deal with violent anti-Semitic incidents. What laws exist in the OSCE region that deal with violence directed against Jews? How effective have those laws been in deterring violence? Does the criminal prosecution of perpetrators result in fewer incidents? What methods do law enforcement authorities use to anticipate and prevent incidents or to minimize personal injury and property loss when violence does break out? What training do police officers need? Are current laws and police procedures adequate throughout the OSCE region? Do courts provide adequate redress? What more do OSCE participating States need to do? How can the OSCE and its institutions help?

Speakers will also examine the cooperation that exists among national, regional, provincial and municipal law enforcement authorities in an effort to identify best practices for containing violence.

Topics also may include, *inter alia*:

- Appropriate anti-discrimination legislation and national experience with criminal prosecution of violence;
- A discussion of hate crime legislation and good police practices;
- Law enforcement and the judiciary, including training;
- Government policies and practices at national, regional and local levels, including the examination of the role of independent specialized bodies.

### **LUNCH**

SPEAKER: Lord Janner of Braunstone QC, Chairman of the Holocaust Educational Trust and Vice President of the World Jewish Congress

## **SESSION 2: The Role of Governments and Civil Society in Promoting Tolerance.**

Moderator: Mr. Gert Weisskirchen, Member of the German Bundestag

Introducer: Naim Güleriyüz, Vice President of the Quincentennial Foundation, Adviser to the Chief Rabbi in Turkey  
Jean Kahn, President, Union of French Jewish Communities  
Elena Mizulina, Deputy of the State Duma of the Russian Federation

While the containment of violence and punishment of perpetrators plays an important role in the fight against Anti-Semitism, prevention of the type of societal conflict that can lead to these problems takes on an even greater importance. Democratic governments owe it to their citizens to provide a safe and secure environment in which diversity and freedom of speech and thought can flourish. The threat of violence may be a factor as inhibiting as actual violence. Anti-Semitism has subtle manifestations and governments alone cannot create tolerance and understanding. The development of mutual respect among communal groups requires partnership with non-governmental organizations, both religious and secular, as well as with other institutions that comprise civil society. This process takes time and effort. How can NGOs and other members of civil society assist governments in monitoring the trends in manifestations of anti-Semitism and intolerance and make recommendations to governments on ways to prevent future incidents of anti-Semitism?

The session will examine the role of dialogue among adherents of different religious organizations and various ethnic groups in developing tolerance and mutual respect. Are such programs effective? How long does it take to develop a level of understanding that reduces anti-Semitism? What resources are necessary for these programs? What more can NGOs and governmental bodies do in reporting and monitoring anti-Semitism? What can the OSCE and its institutions do to monitor anti-Semitism and strengthen tolerance?

Topics also may include, *inter alia*:

- The role of governmental bodies and NGOs in reporting, monitoring and combating anti-Semitism and intolerance;
- The effectiveness of dialogue as a mechanism to support understanding and mutual respect;
- Inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and development of civic tolerance-building programmes.

### **SESSION 3: The Importance of Education.**

Moderator: Rabbi Andrew Baker, The American Jewish Committee

Introducers: Mr. Rolland Jouve, Ministry of Education, France  
Professor David Meghnagi, University of Rome III  
Robert Wistrich, Hebrew University

Education is a vital factor in developing tolerance and understanding, including understanding of new forms of anti-Semitism. Qualified, capable teachers are a pre-requisite for successful education programs. The complex history of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust also require the availability of high quality teaching materials. Education programs involve a long-term commitment requiring resources. Integrating such programs into the primary and secondary school systems, as well as in higher and university education, depends on the support of education officials at the national, regional and local levels. The International Task Force for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research has done pioneering work in this field, including by co-organizing on 18 October 2002, with the Council of Europe, a Ministerial Seminar, which announced the launch of a remembrance and crimes against humanity prevention day.

Speakers will address these issues in broad terms in an effort to identify practices that have proven to be successful. The development of school curricula and teacher-training programs will be major focal points. Participants should also provide recommendations on what further steps OSCE participating States should take and how the OSCE and its institutions can assist.

Topics also may include, *inter alia*:

- The role of education in promoting tolerance;
- Teacher-training programmes;
- Teaching of history;
- School curricula;
- Elimination of discrimination tendencies and prejudices in society.

#### **DINNER:**

SPEAKER: Robert Badinter, Former Minister of Justice, France.

#### **SESSION 4: Information and Awareness Raising: The Role of the Media in Conveying and Countering Prejudice.**

Moderator: Beata Klimkiewicz, ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion

Introducers: Robert Rifkind, Attorney  
Prof. Jacques Picard, University of Basel  
Konstanty Gebert, Polish Journalist

In addition to education, the media is another major factor in shaping public attitudes. The rapidly increasing importance of electronic media, particularly the Internet requires that additional attention be paid to information now available on innumerable websites, some of which spread anti-Semitic material. Holocaust denial also arises on these websites. How can such negative examples of hate speech be balanced with the need to ensure freedom of speech and media? The OSCE participating States, for the most part, have a developed media sector that makes a great deal of factual information and interpretative material available to residents of the region. Participants will examine ways such factual information can be more broadly distributed and used to counter anti-Semitic material and denials of the Holocaust. The participants should also discuss how the OSCE can support such efforts.

This session should also discuss the role of the media in disseminating information and in raising awareness of anti-Semitic incidents. In addition, the media could be used to provide information on the steps governments are taking in combating anti-Semitism.

Topics also may include, *inter alia*:

- Public opinion and role of the media, including new technologies (*inter alia*, the internet);
- Reporting and interpretation of developments in the OSCE area;
- Problems regarding the dissemination of hate speech and anti-Semitic materials and ways to counteract this;
- Addressing Holocaust denial.

## **CLOSING: Development of Conclusions and Recommendations.**

In this session the four moderators will summarize discussions and key recommendations made in the sessions on how the OSCE participating States and OSCE structures can strengthen their efforts to combat anti-Semitism. The results of the conference will be brought forward to the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw in October 2003, where a day will be dedicated to discussing prevention of discrimination, racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism.

In order to more accurately reflect the results of the meeting, participants are encouraged to submit in writing to the Chairman-in-Office any recommendations they wish to make. It would be helpful if participants could specify for whom the recommendations are intended, for example, individual OSCE participating States, the OSCE as a whole, OSCE structures and institutions, such as the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, and the Representative on Freedom of the Media, or OSCE field operations.