

# Congressional Testimony

## From Ivory Towers to Dark Corners: Investigating the Nexus Between Antisemitism, Tax-Exempt Universities, and Terror Financing

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*Working to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure Justice and fair treatment to all since 1913*

## **The Anti-Defamation League**

Since 1913, the mission of ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) has been to “stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.” Today, ADL is a global leader in fighting antisemitism, exposing extremism, delivering anti-bias education, and monitoring and fighting the spread of hate in our communities and online.

On October 7th, the terrorist group Hamas committed mass atrocities against thousands of people in Israel, including murder, torture, dismemberment and rape, and kidnapped hundreds of others. In the wake of this massacre – the deadliest day for the Jewish community since the Holocaust – antisemitism has only further surged around the world, on college and university campuses, and even in K-12 schools.

ADL is devoted to countering these trends. The ADL Center on Extremism (COE) is tracking and monitoring the latest trends and reactions from extremist groups and movements – from groups who are [glorifying terrorism](#) as a legitimate form of resistance to the [white supremacists](#) and others who celebrated Hamas’s attack on Israel and threatened further violence. The ADL Center for Technology and Society (CTS) is tracking [surges in online hate](#) and documenting how some [platforms are struggling to respond](#). ADL Education is [publishing resources](#) for students, teachers, parents and families regarding antisemitism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. ADL International Affairs is working with Jewish communities across the globe to document and combat the spike of antisemitism being experienced worldwide. And our National Affairs team is helping to drive [key policy solutions on campus](#) and in the halls of Congress, in close coordination with campus partners, including Hillel International, Chabad on Campus International, and many others. In addition, ADL, alongside Hillel, the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, and the law firm Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, announced a new [Campus Antisemitism Legal Line \(CALL\)](#) – a free legal protection helpline for students who have experienced antisemitism on campus and are in need of legal advice or support.

## **Addressing Antisemitism in the United States**

Antisemitism is more than a form of religious bigotry. Indeed, contemporary manifestations of antisemitism are only occasionally rooted in religious bias. Rather, antisemitism often takes the form of [racialized bigotry](#) (e.g., swastikas, Nazi salutes, Holocaust jokes based on white supremacist ideology), or hatred powered by [conspiracy theories](#) (e.g., conspiracy theories featuring myths about [Jewish power and control](#)). Such antisemitic bigotry and conspiracy theories can also target Zionism and Israel, and lead to anti-Zionist harassment or discrimination of Jewish students (e.g., excluding Jewish students from campus activities or subjecting them to academic bias based on their actual or perceived historic, cultural, religious, and/or ethnic identification with Israel). Hatred of Jews is often intertwined with other forms of hate, such as racism, anti-Muslim bigotry, anti-LGBTQ+ animus, and misogyny, and it is often fueled by dangerous conspiracy theories that threaten our most cherished democratic values. Antisemitism therefore poses a threat not only to the Jewish community, but to all marginalized communities.

While there is no exhaustive definition of antisemitism, ADL embraces the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance ([IHRA Working Definition](#)) as the preeminent definitional and learning tool in understanding how antisemitism manifests today, and it includes useful examples of discriminatory anti-Israel acts that cross the line into antisemitism. The IHRA definition is considered by the U.S. Department of Education when investigating Title VI complaints, and it is also used by over 1,100 other governments, universities, NGOs, and other key institutions, demonstrating a substantial and clear worldwide consensus.

One increasingly troubling manifestation of antisemitism ADL tracks in the United States is anti-Zionism – a clear form of antisemitism. [Zionism](#) is the movement for the self-determination and statehood for the Jewish people in their ancestral homeland, the land of Israel. The vast majority of Jews around the world feel a connection or kinship with Israel, whether or not they explicitly identify as Zionists, and regardless of their opinions on the policies of the Israeli government. A [2021 Pew Research Center Survey of Jewish Americans](#) found that at least 80% of American Jews say that Israel is an essential part of their Jewish identity.

One can disagree with, and even harshly criticize Israel’s leaders and actions without being antisemitic. Anti-Zionism, by contrast, seeks to deny the Jewish people their right to self-determination and can sometimes [invoke the following antisemitic themes](#): Zionists are disloyal; Zionists control the media; Zionists control the government; Zionists are ideologically akin to Nazis; and Zionists are greedy or bloodthirsty. Accusing “Zionists,” or anyone who supports the existence of the State of Israel, of behavior commonly associated with age-old tropes about Jews (such as greed, bloodthirstiness, and power) is antisemitic. Harassing, marginalizing, demonizing, and/or excluding Jewish individuals based on the Zionist component of their Jewish identity is just as harmful as discriminating against Jewish individuals for any other component of their Jewish identity.

### **Antisemitism in the Wake of the Hamas-Israel War**

We have seen time and time again how tensions in the Middle East can lead to an increase in antisemitic incidents here in the United States. As ADL documented in our Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, [during the May 2021 conflict between Israel and Gaza](#), there was a surge of antisemitic incidents in the United States as the crisis unfolded. And in the wake of last month’s terrorist attack against Israeli civilians by the terrorist group Hamas, ADL is once again seeing a sharp spike in antisemitism here in the United States. To date, ADL has tracked 832 antisemitic incidents of assault, vandalism, and harassment across the country – an average of nearly 28 incidents per day. ADL recorded 632 acts of harassment, 170 instances of vandalism and 30 assaults. Reports of antisemitic incidents between October 7th and November 7th were 316% higher than the 200 incidents reported during the same period in 2022. ADL has also tracked 653 anti-Israel rallies during this period, at least 200 of which featured explicit or strong implicit support for Hamas and/or violence against Jews in Israel. These 200 events are included in ADL’s tally of antisemitic incidents.

### **ADL Audit of Antisemitic Incidents**

Since 1979, ADL has been compiling an annual [Audit of Antisemitic Incidents](#) (“the Audit”) that includes both criminal and non-criminal acts of harassment and intimidation, including distribution of hate propaganda, threats, and slurs, as well as acts of vandalism and assault. In 2022, ADL tabulated 3,697 antisemitic incidents throughout the United States, reflecting a 36% increase from the 2,717 incidents tabulated in 2021 and the highest number on record since ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979. Incidents increased in each of the major Audit categories: antisemitic harassment increased 29% to 2,298; antisemitic vandalism increased 51% to 1,288, and antisemitic assaults increased 26% to 111.

The dramatic increase in antisemitic incidents in 2022 in almost all categories cannot be attributed to any one cause or ideology. Significant surges in incidents include high volume increases in organized white supremacist propaganda activity (102% increase to 852 incidents), in K-12 schools (49% increase to 494 incidents) and on college campuses (41% increase to 219 incidents), as well as deeply troubling percentage

increases in attacks on Orthodox Jews (69% increase to 59 Incidents) and bomb threats toward Jewish institutions (an increase from eight to 91 incidents).

In 2022, [241 incidents involved references to Israel or Zionism](#). This is a decline from 345 incidents in 2021, an unusually high year due to antisemitic reactions to the May 2021 military conflict between Israel and Hamas. This number is still 35% higher than the number of Israel/Zionism-related incidents in 2020. Of 2022's 241 anti-Zionist/anti-Israel-related incidents, 70 incidents could be identified as having been perpetrated by individuals associated with hostile anti-Zionist activist groups, most commonly [Witness for Peace](#) and [Students for Justice in Palestine](#) and its affiliates. Forty-six incidents took the form of white supremacist groups' efforts to foment anti-Israel and antisemitic beliefs.

### **Antisemitic Attitudes in America**

In addition to our Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, ADL also [measures the extent to which Americans believe certain antisemitic tropes](#). From September-October 2022, ADL partnered with the One8 Foundation and the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago (NORC) to survey a nationally representative sample of over 4,000 Americans. The results showed widespread belief in anti-Jewish tropes, at rates not seen in decades: over three-quarters of Americans (85%) believe at least one anti-Jewish trope, compared to 61 percent found in 2019. One in five Americans believe six or more tropes, compared to 11 percent that in 2019, the highest level measured in decades.

### **Antisemitism and Hate Online**

On an annual basis, ADL conducts a nationally representative survey to find out how many American adults experience hate or harassment online. According to ADL's [most recent survey results](#), among adults, 52% reported being harassed online in their lifetime, the highest number documented in four years, up from 40% in 2022. Both adults and teens also reported being harassed within the past twelve months, up from 23% in 2022 to 33% in 2023 for adults and from 36% to 51% for teens. Overall, reports of each type of hate and harassment increased by nearly every measure and within almost every demographic group.

Since the brutal Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, and as Israel continues its military response in Gaza, ADL has observed the [proliferation](#) of inflammatory language, misinformation about the conflict, and antisemitic content online. To better understand the prevalence of these experiences, the Center for Technology and Society [surveyed](#) 1,484 Americans on October 31st and November 1st on the types of hate and misinformation they are being exposed to relating to the conflict on social media.

In response to this survey, 70% of participants stated that they had been exposed to at least one of several examples of misinformation or hate related to the conflict on social media. For example, 52% of respondents stated that they had viewed or been exposed to distortive content claiming that "Israel or Jews want to commit genocide against all Palestinians," and 41% saw "claims that all Palestinians support Hamas." Additionally, 14% also reported seeing at least one of these pieces of misinformation while playing online multiplayer games.

Participants also reported a significant level of exposure to hateful content directed at key identities associated with the conflict. Sixty-eight percent of respondents said that they had seen or been exposed to at least one example of hateful content directed towards Jews, Israelis, Muslims, Palestinians, or Arabs. Of these options, Anti-Israeli and Anti-Palestinian content were reported as having been viewed the most, by

53% and 48% of participants respectively. More general antisemitic or anti-Jewish and Islamophobic or anti-Muslim content were reported at a slightly lower frequency, at 39% and 34% respectively.

### **Understanding Antisemitism on College Campuses**

Antisemitism has been a problem on college and university campuses for decades, and we are now seeing an alarming new uptick in the number of reported antisemitic incidents. Swastikas, Nazi symbols, and other antisemitic graffiti have been reported on numerous campuses in recent years, and antisemitic slurs hurled at Jewish students have also made headlines. In the aftermath of increased conflict between Israel and Hamas in May 2021, students at college campuses across the United States experienced an even sharper increase in antisemitic activity. And we are once again seeing a significant spike in antisemitic and anti-Zionist sentiment and activity in the wake of the Hamas-Israel war.

### **ADL Data Regarding Campus Antisemitism**

According to ADL's most recent Audit, [ADL documented 219 antisemitic incidents on college and university campuses in 2022](#), representing a 41% increase relative to 2021. Of the 219 campus incidents, 127 were incidents of harassment, 90 were incidents of vandalism and two were assaults. Some 33% of the campus incidents included swastikas. The 90 incidents of vandalism on campus represented a 41% increase from the 64 incidents recorded in 2021. Acts of vandalism on campus included the desecration of mezuzot (small ritual items that many Jews affix to the doorframe of their homes) in residence halls, as well as antisemitic messages such as "Jews did 9/11," "Kanye was right," "Hitler" and "Fuck Israel" in academic and residential halls. Swastikas were used in more than 60% (57) of the 90 incidents of vandalism on campus.

**Anti-Zionism:** References to Israel or Zionism represent 19% of the 219 campus incidents. Many involved the anti-Zionist student group [Students for Justice in Palestine](#) (described in further detail below). [Other deeply-concerning incidents](#) referencing Israel or Zionism incidents included: (1) At SUNY New Paltz, two Jewish students were expelled from a sexual assault survivors support group, New Paltz Accountability, due to their identification with Zionism; (2) In April 2022, at American University, the words "Fuck Israel Free Palestine" were written on a white board hanging on the door of a Jewish student's dorm room at American University; (3) In an online class chat at Baruch College, a student wrote: "death to Israel," "Heil Hitler" and "you will be with God soon"; and (4) at George Washington University, SJP members hung fliers near and on Hillel property with messages that included "Free Palestine" and "Zionists Fuck Off."

**White Supremacy:** Over the past few years, ADL has also been keeping a close eye on white supremacist groups who have been actively distributing their bigoted propaganda on college and university campuses. In 2022 and 2023, there were 250 incidents of white supremacist propaganda distribution on campuses around the country. While a few of these incidents occurred on the grounds of K-12 schools, the overwhelming majority occurred on college campuses. White supremacists targeted a variety of racial, religious, and other minorities with their hate propaganda, including Jews. At least 35 of these propaganda incidents involved explicit antisemitism. For instance, the antisemitic [Goyim Defense League](#) distributed propaganda at the University of Vermont on multiple occasions in 2022-23, with bigoted slogans such as "every single aspect of the slave trade was Jewish," while the white supremacist group [Patriot Front](#) distributed propaganda at The Ohio State University in 2023 that read, in part, "No Zionists in government, we serve one nation."

In light of this data, antisemitism has been an increasingly looming and present threat for Jewish college students within the past few years. A [2021 survey](#) conducted for Hillel International and ADL found that, at

the time, one in three students experienced antisemitic hate directed at them in the last academic year. Fifteen percent of Jewish college students reported that they felt the need to hide their Jewish identity from others on campus, and 12 percent said they had been blamed for the actions of the Israel government because they are Jewish. Among those students who had experienced antisemitism, only 51 percent agreed that they felt safe. In a separate survey conducted by ADL and Hillel earlier this year, in partnership with the polling firm College Pulse, 70% of Jewish students surveyed reported at least one antisemitic incident on their campus, and 44% of Jewish students indicated that they had been personally targeted by antisemitism. In contrast, only a third, 33%, of non-Jewish students were even aware that an antisemitic event had occurred on their campus.

### **Anti-Zionism and Extreme Anti-Israel Sentiment on Campus**

For decades, a vocal segment of U.S. student groups and faculty have espoused anti-Israel and anti-Zionist views and engaged in related activism on campus. ADL has been tracking this effort closely, as well as the targeting of Jewish students and faculty who publicly express support for Israel's existence as a Jewish state. During the 2022-2023 academic year, ADL's [Anti-Israel Activism on U.S. Campuses Report](#) tallied 665 such incidents, nearly double the total number of incidents documented the year prior. These incidents included nine instances of vandalism; 24 instances of harassment; 303 events; 326 protests/actions; and three BDS resolutions. Many but not all incidents may be characterized as antisemitic.

In reviewing these incidents, ADL identified a concerning uptick in explicit promotion of violence against Israel, as well as a coarsening of rhetoric attempting to vilify and ostracize Zionism and Zionists. Activist groups like [Students for Justice in Palestine](#) (SJP) were more emboldened in calling for Zionists, Zionist institutions and organizations that associate with Zionists to be excluded from communal life and/or dismantled. Often, these messages were delivered as a call for "anti-normalization," or the complete rejection of any cooperation or association with individuals or organizations who accept or support Israel's existence (whom they pejoratively label "Zionists"). For example, in August 2022 at University of California at Berkeley, [Law Students for Justice in Palestine announced](#) that they and nine allied student groups had adopted a bylaw stating they "will not invite speakers that have expressed and continue to hold views or host/sponsor/promote events in support of Zionism."

Several anti-Israel organizations are currently active on campus, but the most visible and organized is [Students for Justice in Palestine](#) (SJP). [Jewish Voice for Peace](#) (JVP) and the [Palestinian Youth Movement](#) (PYM) also play a role, though much more minor. During the 2022-2023 academic year, 423 anti-Israel incidents originated from SJP, by far surpassing JVP's 23 and PYM's 19.

### **Students for Justice in Palestine**

#### *Overview*

[Students for Justice in Palestine](#) (SJP) is the most prominent and active anti-Israel and anti-Zionist student group, consisting of more than 200 chapters across the country, mostly concentrated in the Northeast, Midwest, and California (some chapters are based in Canada). SJP organizers frequently disseminate anti-Israel propaganda that is often laced with inflammatory rhetoric, including the use of derisive language like "Zionist entity" rather than referring directly to Israel. They are also a leading campus organizer of [Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions](#) (BDS) campaigns against Israel, and specialize in using confrontational tactics such as disrupting student-run pro-Israel events, constructing mock "apartheid walls" and distributing fake "eviction notices" to dramatize what they consider Israeli abuses of Palestinians.

Although many SJP chapters state that they reject antisemitism, they also regularly demonize Jewish students who identify as Zionists, despite that a connection to the state of Israel is an important part of many Jews' religious or cultural identities. SJP's insistence that one cannot be a good Jew while still being a Zionist is a blatant effort to constrain the Jewish identities of their fellow students and can turn campuses into hostile places for Jewish students.

Today, SJP chapters are affiliated with National SJP but are autonomous entities. While they are united by three "[points of unity](#)", individual SJP chapters have adopted [far more radical principles](#), including calling for the dissolution of the state of Israel, countenancing violent "resistance" to Israel, and calling for "anti-normalization" – an insistence that no dialogue can be held with individuals or groups who/which identify with Zionism.

### *SJP Day of Resistance*

In the days following Hamas's October 7, 2023, invasion of Israel, the national leadership of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) and many of the organization's campus chapters endorsed and celebrated the actions of Hamas and their armed attacks on Israeli civilians and voiced an increasingly radical call for confronting and "dismantling" Zionism on U.S. college campuses.

One of SJP's most prominent actions was calling for a "[Day of Resistance](#)" on October 12. The tone of the call to action was taken from a previous SJP statement that encouraged "not just slogans and rallies, but armed confrontation with oppressors" in Israel. The group also prepared a "[Day of Resistance Toolkit](#)," in which SJP made clear that it advocates for Hamas or other Palestinian forces to conquer all of Israel, and for the "complete liberation" of Israel and the full influx of Palestinians to Israeli land. The toolkit also called for chapters to bring this resistance to the U.S. by "dismantling Zionism" on its campuses and "challenging Zionist hegemony."

In addition to participating in the "Day of Resistance," numerous SJP chapters released inflammatory statements in support of Palestinians seizing control of Israeli territory, including some which explicitly endorse violence and attacks on civilians. "We reject the distinction between 'civilian' and 'militant.' We reject the distinction between 'settler' and 'soldier,'" [The George Washington University SJP](#) wrote. "A settler is an aggressor, a soldier, and an occupier even if they are lounging on our occupied beaches." The [SJP chapter at Tufts University](#) said the attack made by "liberation fighters" exhibited "creativity." Some SJP chapters went further. The [University of Illinois chapter](#) shared a video showing what appears to be a Hamas terrorist filming himself inside the home of an Israeli family during the attack. At least three chapters referred readers to Resistance News Network (RNN) – part of an encrypted messaging application that shares violent content of attacks on Israelis and disseminates Hamas propaganda – since the Hamas attack; five others routinely shared RNN content even before October 7, 2023. SJP has also been one of the [primary organizers](#) of anti-Israel rallies across the U.S.

### *ADL Response*

In the lead up to the Day of Resistance, ADL sent an [open letter to campus leadership](#) expressing deep concern regarding the group's repackaging of terrorism as justified acts of "resistance." We called on university presidents to call out the event for what it was – a glorification of violence targeting civilians in Israel – and to develop clear safety plans for students, staff and faculty. ADL warned that SJP activism could

create or contribute to hostile environments for Jewish and Israeli students, and [called on universities to take concrete action](#) to protect these students.

ADL also partnered with the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law on a letter [urging more than 200 campus presidents](#) to investigate whether their campus SJP chapters have improper funding sources, have violated relevant codes of conduct, have violated state or federal laws, and/or are providing material support to Hamas, a Foreign Terrorist Organization designated as such by the Secretary of State of the United States. ADL also called on universities to update their codes of conduct to ensure that harassment and support for terrorism have no place on campus.

### *Government Response*

The State of Florida and the Commonwealth of Virginia have both acted in response to SJP's glorification of terrorism by Hamas. In Florida, State University System Chancellor Ray Rodrigues [directed state colleges and universities to disband chapters of SJP](#) on their campuses, pointing to language in the SJP "Day of Resistance" toolkit that referred to Operation Al-Aqsa Flood as "the resistance" and unequivocally states: "Palestinian students in exile are PART of this movement, not in solidarity with this movement". In Virginia, Attorney General Jason Miyares announced that his Office's Consumer Protection Section had [opened an investigation](#) into AJP Educational Foundation, Inc., also known as American Muslims for Palestine (AMP), for potential violations of Virginia's charitable solicitation laws. The Attorney General's Office noted that it had "reason to believe that the organization may be soliciting contributions in the Commonwealth without first having registered with the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services." In addition, the Attorney General promised to "investigate [allegations](#) that the organization may have used funds raised for impermissible purposes under [state law](#), including benefitting or providing support to terrorist organizations."

### *Campus Response*

Last week, [Brandeis University](#) became the first private university to no longer formally recognize its own SJP chapter, rendering the group unable to receive school funding, to conduct activities on campus, or use the Brandeis name and logo. [Columbia University](#) has since taken similar action, suspending both SJP and JVP on the basis of repeated violations of university policies.

### **Funding and Capacity Building of Campus Anti-Israel Groups**

As official student clubs, SJP and JVP receive much of their funding from student government resources, which generally are funded by student activity fees. They also are supported by outside donors, including foundations. More information can be found in ADL's [Anti-Israel Activism on U.S. Campuses, 2022-2023 Report](#).

### **Additional Incidents of Campus Antisemitism in the Wake of the Hamas-Israel War**

Following the October 7th terrorist attack against Israeli civilians by the terrorist group Hamas, one could imagine a world in which Jewish students found comfort on their campuses, with peers providing supportive words, attending candlelight vigils, and otherwise mobilizing to support their needs. Instead, many Jewish and Israeli students have faced an increasingly hostile education environment, in the form of targeted harassment, protesters calling for the dismantling of the Jewish state, and even threats of



violence. Antisemitism has been allowed to simmer on campus for years, and in the wake of October 7th, it is now approaching a boiling point.

Between October 7th and November 7th, ADL recorded a startling 124 antisemitic incidents on campuses – a significant increase compared to the 12 incidents documented during the same period last year. The majority of these incidents can be directly linked to the ongoing conflict between Hamas and Israel. Hillel International’s [recent survey](#) of Jewish college students in the wake of the war shows that more than half polled (56 percent) say they feel scared on campus. In addition, one-in-four Jewish students (25 percent) say there has been violence or acts of hate on their campus since the war began; and only half of those who say there has been hate or violence say they are satisfied with their university’s response.

In addition to the glorification of terrorism by student groups like SJP, ADL has also been tracking several serious incidents of antisemitic harassment and intimidation, including reported violations of student codes of conduct. At [Cooper Union](#), as protesters moved through a building on campus, some began banging on the windows and doors of the library while shouting, “Free Palestine” – leaving Jewish students who were clearly visible inside intimidated and afraid. The following day, during a demonstration near [Tulane University](#), protesters clashed in a physical altercation that appeared to have stemmed from an attempt to light an Israeli flag on fire. At the [University of Massachusetts, Amherst](#), a student was arrested for punching a Jewish student and spitting on an Israeli flag during a vigil seeking the safe return of Israeli hostages. At [Cornell University](#), law enforcement and the FBI were called in response to violent online threats targeting Jewish students and the Center for Jewish Living on campus. At [George Washington University](#), students projected messages onto the campus library that included “glory to the martyrs” and called for the dissolution of Israel as a Jewish state. A similar incident took place at the [University of Pennsylvania](#). At the [Massachusetts Institute for Technology](#), some protesters are now facing possible disciplinary action.

ADL has also been tracking college and university professors and teaching assistants glorifying Hamas’s atrocities and potentially engaging in discriminatory conduct in the classroom. At Cornell University, a [professor](#) publicly declared during a rally that Hamas’s attack was “exhilarating” and “energizing.” At [Stanford University](#), an instructor reportedly asked Jewish and Israeli students to identify themselves during class and told those students to stand in the corner, while telling other students that “This is what Israel does to the Palestinians...Israel is a colonizer.” And an Assistant Professor at University of California, Davis [tweeted](#) that, “[O]ne group of ppl we have easy access to in the US is all these zionist journalists who spread propaganda & misinformation,” and that, “[T]hey have houses w addresses, kids in school...they can fear their bosses, but they should fear us more” alongside a knife, hatchet, and three blood drop emojis.

### **ADL CALL Hotline**

In response to the escalation in antisemitism on college and university campuses, and reports that Jewish students are feeling unsafe, unwelcome, and in some cases, afraid to be visibly Jewish at school, ADL, in partnership with Hillel International, the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, and Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP announced a new [Campus Antisemitism Legal Line \(CALL\)](#) — a free legal protection helpline for students who have experienced antisemitism. Any student, family, faculty, or staff member can go to the [CALL website](#) or text “CALLhelp” to 51555 to report incidents of antisemitic discrimination, intimidation, harassment, vandalism, or violence that may necessitate legal action. Lawyers will assess reports of antisemitic discrimination and hate, conduct in-depth information-gathering interviews, and provide pro bono representation for victims who choose to move forward with specific cases. CALL will also provide referrals to social services, mental health counseling services, and other relevant support services

in their area. In just the days since it launched last week, we have had over 100 people contact us for assistance.

### **Policy Recommendations**

In response to the escalating antisemitism on college and university campuses, ADL is urging Congress to take the following critical steps, consistent with the U.S. National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism, as well as [ADL's COMBAT Plan](#) – a comprehensive, six-part framework for elected officials and policymakers to take meaningful action to fight antisemitism.

1. Speak out against antisemitism on campuses across the country. Jewish and pro-Israel students have been intimidated, targeted, and even assaulted at their schools. They need to know they are supported by leaders at the highest levels of government.
2. Support implementation of the U.S. National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism by passing comprehensive legislation appropriating funding to implement the plan, holding the White House accountable to its commitments, and ensuring that the fight against antisemitism lasts beyond any one administration.
3. Fund the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) in the national security supplemental appropriations package. Nonprofits and Jewish student organizations must have access to these resources to protect themselves from the rising threats.
4. Urge the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to conduct a thorough review of the tax-exempt status of any extremist organization. The IRS should also release guidance to colleges and universities so that they can ensure compliance.
5. Ensure the enforcement of Title VI by the U.S. Department of Education by sufficiently funding the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), so that it has full capacity to investigate complaints alleging antisemitic harassment and discrimination.
6. Urge the Department of Education to issue regulations pursuant to Executive Order 13899 on Combating Anti-Semitism to provide the strongest level of protections for Jewish students.

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We are at a moment where long simmering tensions on campus are starting to boil over; our students are feeling threatened and intimidated; and parents are questioning whether it's safe to send their kids to certain schools. ADL and our campus partners are working hard to improve campus climate and ensure that students are safe, but we cannot do it alone. This moment calls for direct action by university leadership and by those in a position to influence university leadership – including elected officials and members of Congress – who must also take immediate action to send an unequivocal message that antisemitism and hate in all forms will be rejected.