

## Why the IHRA doesn't combat anti-Semitism by Pete Gregson, Petitioner of [tinyurl.com/israelihra](https://tinyurl.com/israelihra), of 21/10/18

Anti-Semitism = hostility to or prejudice against Jews, according to the OED

Anti-Semitism as defined by the IHRA is something rather more sinister:

<https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/working-definition-antisemitism> - readers please note that point 7 means that includes saying "claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor."

Let's consider the adoption of the IHRA as a measure of Zionist power. [According to Wikipedia](#), Zionists are generally Jews, but as will become clear, many Jews are not Zionists.

For instance, no country East or South of Gaza (bar Israel and Australia) has joined the IHRA. Amazingly, Russia has not, even though so many Jews died there in WW2 at the hands on the Nazis.

Consider:

Luxembourg has 900 Jews – 1 Jew to each 867 citizens. Joined IHRA

Russia has 500,000 Jews – 1 Jew to each 766 citizens. No IHRA

Neither suffer much from anti-Semitism (this guide [Antisemitism - Overview of data available in the European Union 2006–2016](#), published November 2017 is of interest)

In total, 65 countries where Jews live, with populations ranging from 30 Jews to 500,00 Jews, have not joined the IHRA.

Add up the total and we see that almost 1.4 million Jews live in countries that have not joined the IHRA. That's 7% of the world Jewish population. Do Jews in these countries fare worse than Jews in countries with the IHRA?

Apparently not.

Russia has the largest Jewish population, with 500,000 and no IHRA. Since the early 2000s, levels of antisemitism in Russia have been low, and steadily decreasing.

Britain has 370,00 Jews and the full IHRA. Many bodies have accepted the IHRA definition. Yet the number of "real" anti-Semitic incidents has doubled since 2012. According to this article of 16<sup>th</sup> October [in the Independent](#), "Religious [hate crime](#) has rocketed by 40 per cent in a year across England and Wales, as the number of offences recorded hits a record high. Statistics released by the Home Office showed more than half of religiously-motivated attacks in 2017-18 were directed at [Muslims](#) and the next most commonly targeted group was [Jewish](#) people."

So, does the IHRA confer protection on Jews? Apparently not. Possibly even, the opposite.

Which brings me back to the point. There is anti-Semitism in the UK because, I think, the Jews have so much leverage here<sup>1</sup>. And they clearly do – as the most outspoken ones, those in support of Israel – the Zionists - have shown – as they have exerted considerable leverage on the UK's political parties, the police, the schools and universities, the local authorities – to adopt the IHRA– and has it made Jews safer?

Not at all. But it does indicate the Jews in the UK (that's with 370,00 of them or 0.5% of the population), generally wield significant influence.

Let's compare the UK (IHRA) with Panama (no IHRA). The UK has 1 Jew for every 220 citizens. Panama has 1 Jew for every 361 citizens. Yet Jews wield far, far more influence in the UK than they do in Panama.

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<sup>1</sup> As Norman Finkelstein says in his blog [WHY THE BRITISH LABOUR PARTY SHOULD NOT ADOPT THE IHRA DEFINITION OR ANY OTHER DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM](#) "Even as the revised code of conduct explicitly outlaws antisemitism, representatives of British Jewry have issued an ultimatum to Labour: it must also incorporate the IHRA definition of antisemitism in all its parts—or else! It is, to begin with, unclear why Jews warrant special treatment. Indeed, of all the protected categories in the rule, British Jews are the richest, best organized, most strategically placed, and least subject to "hostility and prejudice." If Jewish communal organizations can so openly, brazenly, and relentlessly press this demand on Labour, it's because of the political muscle they can flex and the political immunity they enjoy. Further, the demand is on the unseemly side, as it implies that Jewish lives are somehow more worthy. It recalls the nauseating ethnic chauvinism at play in the stipulation that *The Holocaust* must be separated out from run-of-the-mill "other genocides.""

My statement “The Holocaust gives Jews so much leverage that they could call for the beautification of Margaret Thatcher and the country would probably jump to their desire.” clearly refers to the UK. And I think it’s true that they have far more influence in the UK because of the Holocaust.<sup>2</sup>

Interestingly, Panama is the only country in the world except for Israel that has had two Jewish presidents in the twentieth century. They were related; the most recent resigned in 1988. There are 20,000 Jews there. Many have been there since the 1850s. Being distant from Germany, their experience of the Holocaust was far more muted. They therefore as a group wield less power in terms of utilising the Holocaust as leverage – for example – in seeking that the state and every political body in the country sign up to the IHRA. Because that has not happened. Panama is gloriously IHRA- free. And seems to be a better place for Jews to live in as a result. Now- why could it be, that it is IHRA-free?

Let’s consider trade.

Israeli exports to Panama in 2014 stood at \$25 million and imports from Panama at \$3 million. Between UK and Israel, the annual bilateral trade exceeds US\$3 billion and over 300 known Israeli companies are operating in Britain.

So, the pattern here seems to be – that Panama has 0.6% of the level of trade that the UK has with Israel. A tiny, tiny fraction of what the UK has. There is no need for the IHRA.

On the other hand, the UK has enormously strong links with Israel. And thus it has joined the IHRA.

One might even wonder if the Israeli Government had maybe dreamt up the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism in order to prevent countries that may consider divesting, boycotts or sanctions from ever actually doing one of those things?

And as made clear earlier, by the fact of so many of the UK’s public bodies having adopted the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism – in each case of which, first mooted by Jewish politicians or Jewish activists associated with those bodies – that we can reasonably surmise that Jews generally wield more power in the UK than in other countries. Why should this be?

It is, I believe, because of the Holocaust. The UK has massively greater interest in the Holocaust than Panama ever has. Our collective guilt in Europe over how the Jews suffered at the hands of our forefathers over the past 100 years demands that, and the Jews in the UK are empowered by that. Can my statement be construed as anti-Semitic? No, it cannot. It is a statement of probabilities- and the power the Holocaust confers not just upon Zionists, but upon Jews generally. It is only the Zionists who choose to exert that power in support of Israel.

The Israeli former minister of Education, Shulamit Aloni, said in a US interview that "[anti-Semitism is a trick. We always use it](#)" The interviewer said: “Often when there is dissent expressed in the United States against policies of the Israeli government, people here are called anti-Semitic.<sup>3</sup> What is your response to that as an Israeli Jew?”. Shulamit Aloni replied: “Well, it’s a trick, we always use it. When from Europe somebody is criticizing Israel, then we bring up the Holocaust....”

And when you’re labelled an anti-Semite, you’re suddenly rubbing shoulders with Adolf Hitler. Such is the power of words.

But whilst the IHRA serves the Israeli state and Zionists well, it may well do the opposite for Jews generally. So Jews everywhere pay, whether they like it or not, when the Zionists come to town. On the 27<sup>th</sup> Oct, a gunman murdered 11 innocent Jews at a Pittsburgh synagogue. The CNN report "[Hate crime charges filed in Pittsburgh synagogue shooting that left 11 dead](#)" notes that in 2017 anti-Semitic incidents in the US surged by nearly 60%...

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<sup>2</sup> <sup>2</sup>Note – all Jews have leverage here- on account of how the UK treated them in the run up to WW2 and how they suffered in the war. Our collective guilt is profound... But only Zionists use those levers

<sup>3</sup> The use of the term “anti-Semite” shows little likelihood of being worn out by over-use. The Jewish [Board of Deputies](#) is particularly fond of it. They claim to speak for all Jews in the UK, although it’s now clear they don’t. See the [Neturei Karta](#) and their [Jews for Jeremy](#) flyer

- ends - see below for stats –

## IHRA Member Countries

### Member Countries:

Argentina 2002  
Austria 2001  
Belgium 2005  
Canada 2009  
Croatia 2005  
Czech Republic 2002  
Denmark 2004  
Estonia 2007  
Finland 2010  
France 1999  
Germany 1998  
Greece 2005  
Hungary 2002  
Ireland 2011  
Israel 1998  
Italy 1999  
Latvia 2004  
Lithuania 2002  
Luxembourg 2003  
Netherlands 1999  
Norway 2003  
Poland 1999  
Romania 2004  
Serbia 2011  
Slovakia 2005  
Slovenia 2011  
Spain 2008  
Sweden 1998  
Switzerland 2004  
United Kingdom 1998  
USA 1998

### Observer & Liaison Countries:

Albania	Observer
Australia	Liaison
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Observer
Bulgaria	Liaison
El Salvador	Observer
Macedonia	Observer
Moldova	Observer
Monaco	Observer
Portugal	Observer
Turkey	Observer
Uruguay	Observer

Country or Territory	Core Jewish Population	Population per Jewish Person	Enlarged Jewish Population
World	14,911,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	805	20,000,000
Israel	6,589,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	1.33	6,956,000
United States	6,790,000 <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	83	7,282,000
France	465,000	139	600,000
Canada	385,000	80	350,000
United Kingdom	289,568	229	370,000
Russia	196,000	766	500,000
Argentina	181,300 - 230,000 <sup>(4)</sup>	258	330,000
Germany	99,696	832	250,000
Australia	112,500	213	135,000
Brazil	99,000 <sup>(5)</sup>	2,139	150,000
South Africa	70,000	691	30,000 - 92,000 <sup>(6)</sup>
Ukraine	63,800	703	480,000
Hungary	47,900	207	150,000
Mexico	40,000 - 67,476 <sup>(7)</sup>	3,697	50,000 - 67,476
Spain	30,000	900	60,000 <sup>(8)(9)(10)</sup>
Belgium	30,000	346	40,000
Netherlands	29,900	363	45,000
Italy	26,000	2,173	45,000 <sup>(11)(12)</sup>
Poland	8,000 <sup>(13)(14)</sup>	4,750	12,000 - 100,000 <sup>(15)</sup>
Switzerland	19,000	474	28,000
China	16,500	939	25,000
Turkey	17,200	4,301	21,000
Sweden	16,000	648	20,000
Ungary	12,000 <sup>(16)</sup> - 17,300	278	25,000
Belarus	11,800	835	28,000
Panama	10,000	361	11,000
Romania	9,400	2,312	20,000
Austria	9,000	914	20,000
Iran	8,750 <sup>(17)</sup>	9,186	12,000
Azerbaijan	8,100 <sup>(18)</sup>	1,113	18,000
Venezuela	8,000	3,608	12,000
New Zealand	6,967 <sup>(19)</sup>	625	10,000 <sup>(20)</sup>
Denmark	6,400	870	6,500
Morocco	6,000 <sup>(21)</sup>	13,742	6,500
Latvia	5,800	387	12,000
Hong Kong	5,000 <sup>(22)</sup>	1,422	5,000
India	5,000	247,369	7,000
Greece	4,500	2,368	6,000
Colombia	4,500	10,277	5,200
Czech Republic	3,900	2,726	15,000
Uzbekistan	3,800	2,613	8,000
Moldova	3,700	950	7,500
Kazakhstan	3,500	6,700	6,000
Ukraine	2,900	1,708	6,500
Georgia	2,800	1,763	6,800
Belarus	2,800	2,063	4,800
Singapore	2,000 <sup>(23)</sup>	18,387	800
Cuba	2,000	1,802	2,000
China	2,000	147,777	3,000
Qatar	2,000	3,402	6,000
Estonia	2,000	629	3,400
Peru	1,900	16,847	3,000
Croatia	1,700	2,609	3,000
Ireland	2,000 <sup>(24)</sup>	3,020	2,400
Guatemala	1,600	2,431	2,800
Vietnam	1,500 <sup>(25)</sup>	33,098	2,000
Japan	300 <sup>(26)</sup>	429,240	60,000
Latvia	1,400	3,149	2,800
Finland	1,300	4,032	1,800
Norway	770 <sup>(27)</sup>	6,309	1,100 <sup>(28)</sup>
Paraguay	800	2,446	1,000
Guatemala	800	16,274	1,000
Turkey	800	12,163	1,100
Ecuador	200	20,080	500
Luxembourg	600	867	800
Portugal	600	16,022	1,000
Gibraltar	600	48	800
Cuba	500	22,084	1,000
United States Virgin Islands	500	205	700
Bolivia	500	21,263	800
Bosnia and Herzegovina	500	7,742	1,000
Kyrgyzstan	500	11,208	1,000
Zimbabwe	400	34,439	600
Armenia	300 - 500 <sup>(29)</sup>	10,200	500 - 900
Bahamas	300	1,070	400
Vietnam	300 <sup>(30)</sup>	311,403	500
Kenya	300	150,035	700
Pakistan	200 <sup>(31)</sup> - 1,500 <sup>(32)</sup>	860,870	1,000
Lebanon	200 <sup>(33)(34)</sup>	29,416	200
Jamaica	200	14,650	400
Netherlands Antilles	200	1,808	400
Suriname	200	2,865	400
Turkmenistan	200	35,860	400
Thailand	200	336,785	300
French Polynesia	120 <sup>(35)</sup>	1,539	120
Macedonia	260	20,819	360
South Korea	190	490,400	200
Philippines	100	1,076,880	200
Dominican Republic	260	103,407	200
El Salvador	100	61,255	200
Cyprus	100	11,724	200
Malta	100	4,126	1000
Slovenia	100	19,882	200
Taiwan	100	233,800	200
Ethiopia	100	866,334	1,000
Bolivia	100	21,568	300
Democratic Republic of the Congo	100	774,357	300
Iran	100	21,968	200
Nigeria	100	1,771,588	300
United Arab Emirates	100	91,578	500
Kenya	100	3,326	250
Yemen	40 <sup>(36)</sup> - 60	289,467	300
Martinique	80 <sup>(37)</sup>	4,289	90
Fiji	60 <sup>(38)</sup>	19,099	80
New Caledonia	50 <sup>(39)</sup>	5,340	50
Albania	40 - 50 <sup>(40)</sup>	75,300	40 - 50
Egypt	30 <sup>(41)</sup>	5,294,277	40 - 50
Bahrain	30 <sup>(42)</sup>	36,700	30
Laos	20 <sup>(43)</sup>	1,467	30