European antisemitism has been able to gain a foothold in recent years in nearly all walks of life and political spectra. While traditional forms of Jew-hatred tend to recede, new variations gain ground in worrisome ways. This ranges from intellectual slurs, to attacks against religious rites, to Israel-bashing in mainstream media. And while antisemitic crimes as such are often misunderstood and underestimated, research often lags behind in these recent trends. Perpetrator profiles have remained nebulous, social effects have been underestimated and preventive programs are inadequately funded.

But if the new antisemitism is not tackled seriously and systematically, the European post-Holocaust societies might soon be regarded as failures, as the French Prime Minister Manuel Valls has made that clear for France. Thus the question of perpetrators and victims, unresolved risks and effective counter-strategies is, more than ever, a challenge on a national and European level.