

# Elon, Twitter Has an Antisemitism Problem

Since its establishment, Twitter has become one of the world's preeminent social media platforms for online discussions, where citizens, elected officials, and the media exercise their right to free expression and engage in healthy and productive conversations.

To maximize the probability that the future is good, the world needs an online platform where everyone can participate. Unfortunately, this is not the case, as Jewish users are subject to unrelenting harassment on Twitter.

We, the undersigned **180** nonprofit and civil rights organizations, believe that exchanges of ideas on Twitter must not undermine the safety or well-being of users, especially those from vulnerable communities.

Consistent with that principle, Twitter's guidelines should afford protection to Jewish Twitter users from antisemitic content and harassment. This is particularly urgent given the record-breaking spike in antisemitic incidents over the last three years. For example, [between 2020-2021](#), antisemitic incidents surged by 78% in the United Kingdom and 75% in France, while the [United States](#) saw an all-time high with 2,717 recorded antisemitic incidents, a 34% increase from the prior year.

In order to fight antisemitism properly, it must be defined.

**Therefore, we call on you to update Twitter's anti-hate policies by adopting the globally recognized [IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism](#) as a guiding tool to stymie the spread of Jew hatred.**

Nearly 40 countries, including the United States, have already endorsed or adopted the IHRA Working Definition. In addition, an overwhelming majority of civil society groups, at the forefront of the fight against antisemitism, encourage the use and adoption of the IHRA Working Definition.

The IHRA Working Definition covers various types of antisemitism, including justifying the killing of Jews in the name of radical ideology, Holocaust denial, and denying the Jewish right to self-determination in the State of Israel.

We believe the only way to truly grasp how pervasive antisemitism is on Twitter is to witness it. For this purpose, we present you with a data sample of more than 1,000 recent antisemitic tweets, all satisfying the IHRA Working Definition, collected and vetted in an interactive database (**attached in Appendix A**).

Adopting the IHRA Working Definition would provide Twitter with an effective and neutral tool to protect Jewish users from antisemitic content along with the hate and violence it can inspire (**see Appendices B and C for more details**).

We urge you to help Twitter rise to its commitment to be the "modern town square," and facilitate a future that is good, by fully adopting the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism.



## Signed,



**A Wider Bridge**  
United States



**Acción y Comunicación  
sobre Oriente Medio  
(ACOM)**  
Spain



**Act-IL**  
Worldwide



**Aish Global**  
Worldwide



**Aish LA**  
United States



**Alleanza Per Israele**  
Italy



**Alma Center**  
Israel



**Alpha Epsilon Pi  
(AEPi)**  
United States



**Alums for Campus  
Fairness (ACF)**  
United States



**American Israeli  
Collaboration  
Enterprise (AICE)**  
United States



**Americans Against  
Antisemitism (AAA)**  
United States



**American Zionist  
Movement (AZM)**  
United States



**Americans for Peace  
and Tolerance (APT)**  
United States



**Association  
Cooperation and  
Development (ACD)**  
Switzerland



**Association  
Swiss-Israel (ASI)**  
Switzerland



**Australia/Israel &  
Jewish Affairs  
Council (AIJAC)**  
Australia



**Belgian Friends  
of Israel (BFOI)**  
Belgium



**B'nai Brith Canada**  
Canada



**B'nai B'rith  
International**  
Worldwide



**BBYO**  
Worldwide



**Britian Israel  
Communication  
and Research  
Center (BICOM)**  
United Kingdom



**Campaign Against  
Antisemitism (CAA)**  
United Kingdom



**Campaign4Truth  
(C4T)**  
United Kingdom



**Canadian Antisemitism  
Education Foundation  
(CAEF)**  
Canada



**Canadians for Israel's  
Legal Rights**  
Canada



**Center for Information  
and Documentation  
Israel (CIDI)**  
Netherlands



**Centre for Israel and  
Jewish Affairs (CIJA)**  
Canada



**Christians and Jews  
United for Israel (CJUI)**  
United States



**Christians for  
Israel Germany**  
Germany



**Club Z**  
United States



**Coalition for  
Jewish Values**  
United States



**Combat Antisemitism  
Movement (CAM)**  
United States



**Committee for  
Accuracy in Middle East  
Reporting and Analysis  
(CAMERA)**  
Worldwide



**Comunidad  
Chilena De Israel**  
Israel



**Con Israel y  
Por La Paz**  
Argentina



**Creative Community  
for Peace (CCFP)**  
United States



**CyberWell**  
Worldwide



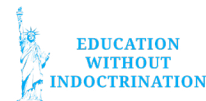
**DEISI  
International**  
United States



**Doc Emet  
Productions**  
United States



**Eagles Wings**  
United States



**Education Without  
Indoctrination**  
United States



**Emunah of  
America**  
United States



**#EndJewHatred**  
United States



**Endowment for Middle  
East Truth (EMET)**  
United States



**Euro-Gulf  
Information Centre**  
Europe



**Europe Israel Public  
Affairs (EIPA)**  
Europe



**European Coalition  
for Israel**  
Europe



**European Jewish  
Association (EJA)**  
Europe



**European Lawyers  
for Israel (ELFI)**  
Europe



**European Leadership  
Network (ELNET)**  
Europe



**Executive Council of  
Australian Jewry**  
Australia



**Eye on  
Antisemitism (EOA)**  
United Kingdom



**Federation of Finland-  
Israel Associations**  
Finland



**Feldman Foundation  
California & Texas**  
United States



**Finnish Holocaust  
Remembrance  
Association (HUM)**  
Finland



**Foundation for Defense  
of Democracies (FDD)**  
United States



**Freedom Center**  
United States



**Fuel for Truth**  
United States



**Fuente Latina**  
Worldwide



**Gemunder Family Foundation**  
United States



**Gesher Hachaim**  
Belgium



**Glasgow Friends of Israel**  
United Kingdom



**Hadassah The Women's Zionist Organization of America**  
United States



**Hasbara Fellowships**  
United States and Canada



**Hatzad Hasheni**  
Latin America



**Henry Jackson Society (HJS)**  
United Kingdom



**HETZ**  
Worldwide



**Holocaust and Antisemitism Foundation**  
New Zealand



**Honest Reporting**  
Worldwide



**Honestly Concerned**  
Germany



**Human Rights Voices**  
Worldwide



**I Like Israel (ILI)**  
Germany



**Impac**  
Belgium



**InfoEquitable**  
France



**Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel (IBSI)**  
United States



**Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (IMPACT-SE)**  
United States



**Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)**  
Israel



**Institute for Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA)**  
United States



**International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ)**  
United States



**International Institute for Education and Research on Antisemitism (iibsa)**  
Germany



**International March of the Living**  
United States



**Ireland Israel Alliance (IIA)**  
Ireland



**Irish Christian Friends of Israel (ICFI)**  
Ireland



**Israel Allies Foundation**  
Worldwide



**Israel Britain Alliance**  
United Kingdom



**Israel Christian Nexus**  
United States



**Israel Defense and Security Forum (IDSF)**  
Israel



**Israel Heritage Foundation**  
United States



**Israel Institute of New Zealand (IINZ)**  
New Zealand



**Israel on Campus Coalition (ICC)**  
United States



**Israeli American Council (IAC)**  
United States



**Israellycool Israel Advocacy**  
Israel



**Istituto Milton Friedman**  
Italy



**Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (JCPA)**  
Israel



**Jerusalem Institute of Justice (JIJ)**  
Israel



**JewBelong**  
United States



**Jewish Forum for Democracy and Against Anti-Semitism (JFDA)**  
Germany



**Jewish Future Pledge**  
United States



**Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)**  
United States



**Jewish Leadership Project**  
United States



**Jewish National Fund - USA (JNF-USA)**  
United States



**Jewish Policy Center**  
United States



**Jewish Student Union Germany (JSUD)**  
Germany



**Jewish War Veterans of the USA**  
United States



**Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa (JIMENA)**  
United States



**Latino Coalition for Israel (LCI)**  
United States



**Licra Paris**  
France



**Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law**  
United States



**Maccabee Task Force (MTF)**  
United States



**Maccabi Europe**  
Europe



**Maccabi World Union**  
Worldwide



**Makkabi Deutschland**  
Germany



**March of Life Finland**  
Finland



**Med Israel for Fred (MIFF)**  
Norway, Denmark, Sweden & Iceland



**Middle East Forum (MEF)**  
United States














































**Mideast Freedom Forum Berlin (MFFB)**  
Germany



**My Truth**  
Israel



**Nahost Friends Forum (NAFFO)**  
Germany

						
<b>National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference (NHCLC)</b> United States	<b>North Carolina Coalition for Israel (NCCI)</b> United States	<b>Newton and Rochelle Becker Charitable Trust</b> United States	<b>NGO Monitor</b> Israel	<b>North London Friends of Israel</b> United Kingdom	<b>Northern Ireland Friends of Israel</b> United Kingdom	<b>OLAMI</b> United States
						
<b>Online Antisemitism Taskforce</b> Worldwide	<b>Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI)</b> Australia	<b>Orthodox Jewish Chamber of Commerce (OJC)</b> United States	<b>Osservatorio Antisemitism of the CDEC Foundation</b> Italy	<b>Palestinian Media Watch (PMW)</b> United States	<b>Prevention Securitaire et Citoyenne</b> France	<b>Progetto Dreyfus</b> Italy
						
<b>Rabbinical Alliance of America (RAA)</b> United States	<b>Religious Zionist of America (RZA)</b> United States	<b>RI Coalition for Israel</b> United States	<b>Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME)</b> United States	<b>Simon Wiesenthal Center</b> Worldwide	<b>Solomon-osservatorio sulle discriminazioni</b> Italy	<b>South African Friends of Israel</b> South Africa
						
<b>South African Union of Jewish Students (SAUJS)</b> South Africa	<b>South African Zionist Federation (SAZF)</b> South Africa	<b>StandWithUs</b> Worldwide	<b>StopAntisemitism</b> United States	<b>Students Supporting Israel (SSI)</b> United States, Canada and Argentina	<b>Sweden Israel Alliance (SIA)</b> Sweden	<b>Swedish Zionist Federation</b> Sweden
						
<b>The Alan B. Slifka Foundation</b> United States	<b>The ARISE Foundation</b> United States	<b>The Board of the Deputies of British Jews</b> United Kingdom	<b>The Deborah Project</b> United States	<b>The Florida Holocaust Museum</b> United States	<b>The Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP)</b> United States	<b>The International Legal Forum (ILF)</b> Worldwide
						
<b>The Lappin Foundation</b> United States	<b>The Lawfare Project</b> United States	<b>The Lisa and Michael Leffell Foundation</b> United States	<b>The Milstein Family Foundation (MFF)</b> United States	<b>The Mozuud Freedom Foundation</b> Canada	<b>The Philos Project</b> United States	<b>The Reut Group</b> Israel
						
<b>The Women's Zionist Organization of America (WIZO)</b> United States	<b>TheJ.ca</b> United States	<b>Thirty (30) Years After</b> United States	<b>Together We Vouch for Each Other</b> Israel	<b>Toronto Foundation</b> Canada	<b>UK Lawyers for Israel (UKLFI)</b> United Kingdom	<b>UN Watch</b> Worldwide
						
<b>Unidos por Israel</b> Worldwide	<b>Unione Associazioni Italia-Israele</b> Italy	<b>Unione Giovani Ebrei d'Italia (UGEI)</b> Italy	<b>United with Israel</b> Worldwide	<b>We Believe in Israel</b> United Kingdom	<b>WerteInitiative. jüdisch-deutsche Positionen</b> Germany	<b>World Values Network (WVN)</b> United States
						
<b>World Zionist Organization (WZO)</b>	<b>Zachor Legal Institute</b> United States	<b>Zionist Advocacy Center (TZAC)</b> United States	<b>Zionist Federation of Australia (ZFA)</b> Australia	<b>Zionist Organization of America (ZOA)</b> United States		



# Antisemitic Tweets According to the IHRA Working Definition

Data provided by CyberWell

	Link	Account Name	Retweets	Likes	Account Followers	Upload Date	IHRA Example Satisfied	Languages	Post Status
1	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Gabriel Boric Font	1,972	6,180	7,686	10/02/2020	11	Spanish	Online
2	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Sarah Wilkinson	958	799	90,812	3/15/2020	9	English	Online
3	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	swilkinsonbc	825	0	567	1/18/2020	7	English	Online
4	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	SamEdwardd	786	0	435	6/23/2020	1, 7	English	Online
5	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	TheBlackChannel	714	0	480	7/15/2020	2	English	Online
6	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	swilkinsonbc	526	0	127	08/04/2020	9	English	Online
7	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Marshall_H15	483	0	2,469	09/02/2020	7	English	Online
8	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Remi Kanazi	480	1,526	2,531	5/20/2021	7	English	Online
9	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	juvlive	407	0	2,401	02/02/2020	7	English	Online
10	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Addameer	381	370	28,232	4/17/2020	9	English	Online
11	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Andy Ratto	363	0	2,041	5/22/2021	10	English	Online
12	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Boycott UAE	330	1,176	788	4/26/2021	9	Arabic	Online
13	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	swilkinsonbc	328	0	1,877	04/02/2020	7	English	Online
14	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	_Haider313	287	0	6	4/29/2020	7	English	Online
15	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	QuranAndHadithh	182	0	1,114	8/29/2020	2	English	Online
16	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	BDSmovement	181	0	1,000	1/20/2020	7	English	Online
17	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Remi Kanazi	171	474	57,593	7/21/2020	7	English	Online
18	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Remi Kanazi	168	417	2,531	01/02/2021	9	English	Online
19	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	kashifqbal	148	159	783	06/07/2020	9	English	Online
20	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	MaxBlumenthal	129	0	228	8/25/2020	9	English	Online
21	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Bint	126	83	39,766	07/01/2020	9	English	Online
22	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Sehrish Khan	124	255	7,212	06/07/2020	9	English	Online
23	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Lamis Deek	124	0	941	04/12/2020	11	English	Online
24	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	C_Rich75	117	0	22	7/16/2020	2	English	Online
25	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Mondoweiss	106	0	328	05/09/2021	7	English	Online
26	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	abwalbtwl_aa	104	77	2,902	03/01/2022	2	Arabic	Online
27	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	SJP UMASS	104	0	328	2/13/2021	7	English	Online
28	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	swilkinsonbc	103	0	1,406	5/26/2020	7	English	Online
29	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	agha_mohamad1	103	0	114	5/22/2020	7	English	Online
30	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	VviewSsonicMair	100	206	7,362	2/14/2020	7	English	Online
31	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	TorahJews	87	0	560	07/06/2020	7	English	Online
32	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Ali Abunimah	86	0	201	2/16/2021	11	English	Online
33	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	PARSARAMKHIMSAR	83	293	15,089	07/08/2020	2	English	Online
34	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	21OLhUrBc5WlCC6	82	73	4,480	5/15/2021	1	Arabic	Online
35	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Olivia Katbi Smith	72	0	1,774	4/27/2021	7	English	Removed
36	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Ali Abunimah	72	141	142,216	5/18/2020	7	English	Online
37	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	OG144k	67	0	496	7/17/2020	2	English	Online
38	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Issa Amro	66	0	263	3/30/2021	7	English	Online
39	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Hamoud Mohammad	66	250	6,402	9/18/2020	9	Arabic	Online
40	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	bad_bec	64	0	870	02/08/2020	7	English	Online
41	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	4noura	63	0	13,192	11/05/2020	7	English	Online
42	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Joe Catron	55	0	9,704	04/12/2021	7	English	Online
43	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Anas_A_Aljamal	54	297	1,095	01/02/2022	1	Arabic	Online
44	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Remi Kanazi	54	138	2,531	01/03/2021	9	English	Online
45	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	elmazlooma	53	23	29,552	06/05/2020	11	Arabic	Online
46	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Hani Ramadan	50	92	1,828	5/15/2021	2	French	Online
47	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Nisreen	44	92	33,371	8/21/2020	2, 4, 5	Arabic	Online
48	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Rayhanics	39	0	235	5/14/2020	7	English	Online
49	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	yemen_sameer	38	187	19,027	07/09/2022	2, 9	Arabic	Online
50	<a href="#">Click Here</a>	Ali Abunimah	35	93	2,683	6/13/2021	7, 10	English	Online

For more examples, see the full database:

[App.CyberWell.org/twitter.php](http://App.CyberWell.org/twitter.php)

## Jew Hatred on Twitter

Global antisemitism is at its [highest level](#) since the end of World War II.

Since their creation, social media platforms have provided another sphere where Jewish individuals regularly experience Jew-hatred.

Online antisemitism spills over into the physical space and can fuel real-world consequences, including both white supremacists and radical Islamists perpetrating terror attacks on innocent civilians. In the United States, Jews are consistently the [most targeted](#) community for hate crimes, according to the FBI.

Twitter is not exempt from this phenomenon. Jews on Twitter have been subjected to unrelenting harassment and hate, both in terms of classic antisemitism and new antisemitism, which is often disguised as opposition to [Zionism](#), the Jewish right to self-determination in the State of Israel.

The situation has deteriorated so markedly that in July 2020, Jewish users staged a mass [48-hour walkout](#) of the platform to encourage Twitter to act more forcefully against anti-Jewish harassment. Yet less than a year later, during the Israeli Operation Guardian of the Walls in May 2021, [#HitlerWasRight](#) was Tweeted approximately 17,000 times in one single week.

Despite these concerning facts, there is a readily available tool that can push back against the widespread phenomenon of Jew-hatred on Twitter. The widely accepted International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's Working Definition of Antisemitism (IHRA Working Definition) can help Twitter address these challenges by more effectively flagging antisemitic content while abiding by the fundamental tenets of free expression that have guaranteed Twitter's status as the digital town square.



Khamenei.ir  
@khamenei\_ir

[#Holocaust](#) is an event whose reality is uncertain and if it has happened, it's uncertain how it has happened.

10:37 AM · Mar 21, 2014 · Twitter Web Client

238 Retweets 107 Quote Tweets 102 Likes



Remi Kanazi  
@Remroum

Israel spreading covid to Palestinians under their control through violent raids and military occupation only to not give them the vaccines is apartheid at its finest.

10:59 PM · Jan 2, 2021 · Twitter for Android

168 Retweets 30 Quote Tweets 416 Likes



سارة الغامدي  
@sarah\_alghamidi

معاً لـ [#مقاطعة\\_الإمارات](#)  الصهيونية.

Translated from Arabic

Together for [#Boycott\\_TheEmirate](#)  Zionism.



2:36 AM · Apr 6, 2021 · Twitter for Android

330 Retweets 16 Quote Tweets 1,177 Likes

### IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism

The IHRA is an intergovernmental organization mandated to focus on threats facing the Jewish people. It correctly determined that the first step in combatting antisemitism is properly defining it. The IHRA definition succinctly states:

*“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”*

Importantly, the definition is accompanied by 11 examples of antisemitism to help showcase how it can manifest in many different forms. These examples are an integral part of the definition itself.

The IHRA definition has been officially adopted by the US and 37 other national governments, as well as numerous local governments, universities, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, and international bodies around the world, including the UN and EU.



**38**

COUNTRIES  
WORLDWIDE



**320**

NON-FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT  
ENTITIES



**314**

EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS



**194**

INTERNATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS AND  
ORGANIZATIONS

To better illustrate the ways that the IHRA Working Definition can be applied as a digital discourse analysis tool, this letter cites [CyberWell's](#) open-source database, which has tracked more than 1,000 examples of antisemitic tweets posted over the last 2 years that satisfy the IHRA's definition of antisemitism and violate Twitter's hate speech policy (attached in Appendix A). These examples are a **mere sample** of the hostile environment Jews are regularly subject to while using Twitter.

### Twitter's Antisemitism Problem

Multiple organizations that research "the world's oldest hatred" have expressed concern over the troubling amount of antisemitism on Twitter and criticized the platform's handling of it.

As far back as 2018, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) [identified](#) at least 4.2 million antisemitic tweets over a 12-month period. In a follow-up sample analysis by the ADL from [August 2021](#), Twitter was found to have 25% more antisemitism on the platform than Reddit — with an initial removal rate of only 21% by Twitter of reported antisemitic content. Furthermore, the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA) at Indiana University [found](#) that between January – August 2020, 11% of conversations about Jews and 13% of conversations about Israel on Twitter were antisemitic in nature. Most recently, in July 2022, the ADL reported a negligible [5% removal rate](#) of a data-sample reported directly to Twitter.

This means that even when antisemitic tweets are flagged by users for violating Twitter's terms of service, little action is taken. While Twitter has [vowed](#) to intensify its efforts to clamp down on Holocaust denial, the findings in Appendix A show that these attempts have been far from successful. Indeed, a 2021 study by the Center to Counter Digital Hate (CCDH) found that [only 11%](#) of tweets reported as antisemitic were removed during a six-week period.

The dataset in Appendix A, available for interactive viewing at <https://app.cyberwell.org/twitter>, showcases over 1,000 examples of antisemitic tweets that violate its policy guidelines – whether it be harassing individual users for supporting the right to Jewish self-determination, blaming Jews for the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center, or blaming the Jewish people as a collective for orchestrating the COVID-19 pandemic.

The dataset provided is yet another clear example of how the IHRA Working Definition, empowered by the appropriate technological implementation, can help rid Twitter of antisemitism.

### A Tool to Fight Antisemitism on Twitter

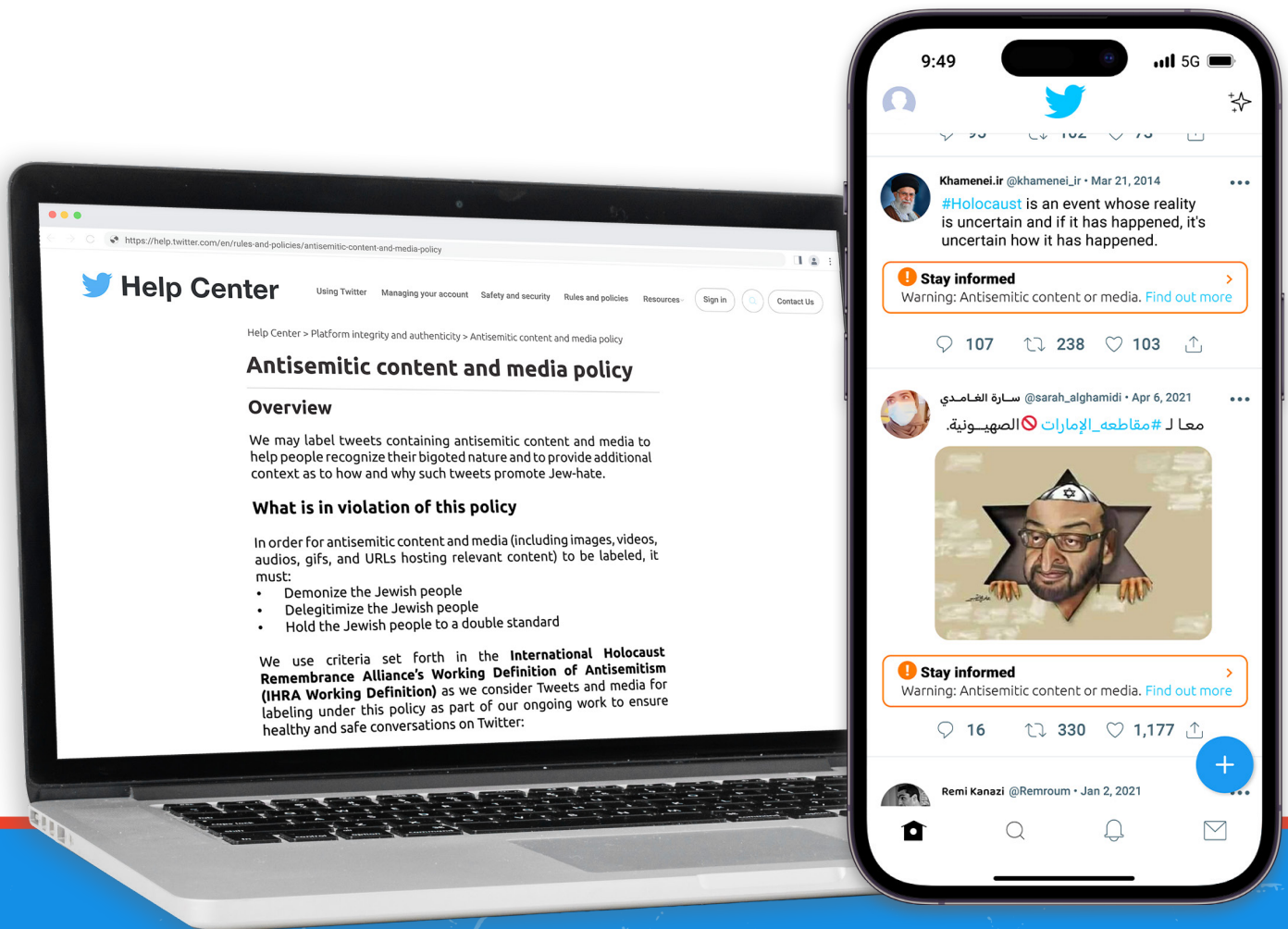
The IHRA Working Definition is used as a tool to detect and classify hateful rhetoric and tropes targeting Jews, identify hate crimes, and educate about antisemitism. Currently, Twitter is not nearly transparent enough in how it addresses antisemitism on its platform.

Twitter can ensure the safety of its Jewish users and the integrity of its platform by adopting the IHRA Working Definition and integrating it into its technological flagging system to moderate incitement and hateful content. Adopting the definition will also facilitate a better user experience and more productive discussions for and about the Jewish people and Israel across the digital town square.

Discourse, debate, and exchange of ideas – these are the reasons Twitter was established in the first place – not for hate.



# Potential Warnings and Informational Graphics Twitter Should Present to Users Regarding Antisemitic Tweets



Scan to read  
the letter online



[AdoptIHRA.org](https://adoptihra.org)