

**Briefing for Commissioner Magnus Brunner  
Meeting with Jewish umbrella organisations**

 Ref. Ares(2025)6884705 - 26/08/2025

**26 June 2025, Brussels**

**CAB team member in charge:** 

**Scene Setter**



You will be meeting with leaders of **Jewish umbrella organisations**, as a response from the Commission to the antisemitic incitement that took place in the heart of Brussels on 13-16 June. The **faces of 9 Jewish individuals** (working for ELNET, EJA and AJC) were **plastered across the city accompanied by the accusation of “lobbying for genocide”**.




The three organisations targeted by the campaign are:

- European Leadership Network (ELNET)
- European Jewish Association (EJA)
- American Jewish Committee (AJC).

We cooperate closely with these organisations to implement the EU Antisemitism Strategy. Your Cabinet and EC Coordinator called representatives of the three organisations on Friday 13 June 2025 to express our support.

This meeting aims at expressing your support to them and then comment on having met them. All Brussels-based Jewish organisations feel that it could have been them targeted in this campaign.

The situation for Jewish communities is dire and it is strongly **impacted by the conflicts in the Middle East and war with Iran.**   


  
  
  
The meeting consists of **your opening statement**, then **statements by the organisations** and finally **closing statements**.

26 June 2025, Brussels

CAB team member in charge:

## Introduction statement

- First, let me thank you for the important work that you do and your incredible bravery, to stand up to messages of hate and antisemitism. I am very honoured as Commissioner to be able to count on you as counterparts on the European level.
- Let me first express my support and solidarity to ELNET, the American Jewish Congress and the European Jewish Association, as your staff has been personally targeted by an outrageous poster campaign on 13 June in the EU quarter.
- But also all other organisations are of course at risk with campaigns like this.
- Antisemitic attacks are unacceptable and we will always condemn them. In this case, the reason for our more restrained public reaction is to not give this evil act further publicity.
- And this is also exactly why I have invited you today to discuss with you the necessary steps forward.
- We have reached out to our Belgian counterparts, who vowed their solidarity and response. We have also urged them to take down the Website. They ensured us that it is now not accessible via most networks, but they have run into a technical issue. I would be very happy to hear your views on this issue on your discussions with the Ministry.
- Let me be clear that the Commission stands firmly against all forms of antisemitism. IN College and in JHA meetings, I have called for heightened security for the Jewish people and have repeatedly explained the situation that the conflict in the middle East has put Jews in Europe in.
- I want to reiterate that we are here to protect you. Will will continue to do this via the EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and also the ProtectEU strategy.
- We condemn in the strongest words those who are importing conflicts into our Union and breach fundamental rights to polarise our societies.
- But today my main concern is to hear you out and take our actions forward from here.

26 June 2025, Brussels

CAB team member in charge: [REDACTED]

## Antisemitic campaign in Brussels 13-16 June

### Background

On Friday **13 June** in the **EU district**, posters have been put up targeting some of the leaders and people working for Brussels-based Jewish organisations: European Jewish Association (EJA/[REDACTED]), the American Jewish Committee (AJC/[REDACTED]) and the European Leadership Network (ELNET/[REDACTED]) which work on combatting antisemitism and on fostering relations between Europe and Israel.

The Commission cooperates closely with all of these three organisations to implement the EU Antisemitism Strategy. In addition, you have sent a video message to ELNET event in Paris on 19 May. VP Schinas had participated to EJA and AJC events in previous years. Those associations are taking part to the EC Roundtable meetings with Jewish associations, the EC Working group on combating antisemitism, are partners to the EC Holocaust remembrance conference.

Most of the people on the posters are Jewish although some are non-Jewish people working for these organisations. [REDACTED]

The posters include a **website**, [www.lobbyagainst.eu.org](http://www.lobbyagainst.eu.org)<<http://www.lobbyagainst.eu.org>> that repeats the information, [REDACTED]

On **Monday 16 June**, posters were plastered on **CHARL Joseph II building** and in front of **BERL** and of the Council of the EU. OIB was instructed to take them off.

The **website lobbyagainst.eu.org** with all the information of the people targeted including address is **still not shut down**, despite EC Coordinator request to the police to make it inaccessible to users.

EJA published a **press release** on 13 June stating that this campaign was not political activism by **incitement to hatred**. It added that the campaign was planned, coordinated and executed with intent. With the “purpose to delegitimize and endanger Jewish community leaders by branding them with one of the most heinous accusations unimaginable”. EJA sees the use of label “genocidal” as an attempt to dehumanize its leaders and echoes the Shoah. EJA called on BE authorities and EU leadership to respond immediately and decisively by:

- removing the posters
- launch a full criminal investigation
- publicly and unequivocally condemn this act of incitement
- ensure safety and protection of individuals targeted and Jewish institutions in European Commission

Brussels Police has been informed. The Jewish organisations are increasing their security (as the addresses are also on the posters) and EJA is checking in which other parts of the cities there might be posters.

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**To this day, not all posters have been removed.** They are placed in different communes and there is a lack of communication and coordination among local authorities.

On 13 June, EJA, ELNET and AJC sent a joint letter to BE authorities (see Annex 1) informing about this campaign and asking for increased police protection for individuals and institutions names or affected by the campaign; immediate investigation; removal of all posters and assessment of CCTV footage; public condemnation from senior government officials; legal proceedings to be initiated under BE hate speech and incitement laws.

It should be noted that it was at an event of the **American Jewish Committee in Washington** that two Israeli staff, of which one also held a German citizenship, were murdered to revenge the situation in Gaza. The murderer yelled “free Palestine”. The incident comes also two days after the European Conference of Rabbis was refused to gather in Sarajevo for “propagating for Israel” according to a Minister of the government.

EJA and EJCC leaders being orthodox Jews are visibly Jewish and have reported being victims of antisemitic incidents (mainly antisemitic insults) in a way that has exploded following 7 of October attacks.

### **Iran threats**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### **Antisemitism in Belgium**

#### **Antisemitism**

Antisemitism is on the rise in Belgium, with 277 alerts in 2024

2024 saw antisemitic violence in Belgium, echoing the conflict between Israel and Hamas. Unia (BE Equality body) refers to “a significant increase in reports compared to previous years”, i.e. 277 reports and 79 open cases (compared to 59 in 2023). Unia had already published in 2024 a report on antisemitism in Belgium, highlighting in particular “the significant increase in the number of reports between October and December 2023”, following 7 October terrorist attacks.

26 June 2025, Brussels

CAB team member in charge:

## Ritual Slaughter

### **Germany Central Council wants to advocate for slaughtering at European level**

In order for Jews to be able to eat kosher, the ritual slaughter of animals, the slaughter, must be possible in Europe – this is what the Central Council of Jews in Germany demands. It is also committed at the European level to "counteract a ban on slaughtering and to maintain the Jewish way of slaughtering and thus the supply of kosher meat," writes the Central Council in its recently presented activity report for 2024. During slaughtering, animals are killed without prior anesthesia, so that they can bleed out. Jews are not allowed to consume blood, nor are Muslims. During slaughtering, a specialist severs an animal's carotid artery and trachea with a sharp knife and a single cut. There is criticism of this method, for example from animal rights activists. Jewish organizations in Europe, on the other hand, insist on the legally enshrined freedom of religion.

<https://www.juedische-allgemeine.de/allgemein/zentralrat-will-sich-fuer-schaechten-auf-europaeischer-ebene-einsetzen/>

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CAB team member in charge: [REDACTED]

List of participants

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] European Jewish Association (EJA)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], American Jewish Committee (AJC)- Transatlantic Institute
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], A Jewish Contribution to an inclusive Europe (CEJI)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] European Jewish Association (EJA)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] European Union for Progressive Judaism (EUPJ)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] European Jewish Congress (EJC)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], HIAS Europe
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], World Jewish Congress (WJC)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] A Jewish Contribution to an inclusive Europe (CEJI)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED], European Jewish Community Centre (EJCC)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] airs, European Jewish Congress (EJC)



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Annex I.



H.E. MR BART DE WEVER PRIME  
MINISTER KINGDOM OF  
BELGIUM

CC: Minister of Security and Interior, H.E. Mr Bernard Quintin

CC: Mayor of Brussels, H.E. Mr Philippe Close

CC: Mayor of Etterbeek, H.E. Mr Vincent De Wolf

CC: Federal Police, General Commissioner Dr. Eric Snoeck

Brussels, 13 June 2025

Your Excellency Prime Minister De Wever,

On behalf of the European Jewish Association (EJA), the American Jewish Committee Transatlantic Institute (TAI), and the European Leadership Network (ELNET EU & NATO), we write to you with urgency and profound concern following a targeted and coordinated campaign of public incitement that unfolded across the streets of Brussels overnight and this morning.

Dozens of posters were plastered across walls, light posts, and public panels throughout central Brussels and the municipality of Etterbeek, explicitly naming and picturing individuals from our three organisations —accusing them of “lobbying for genocide” and other grotesque fabrications. These flyers, along with a coordinated website (<https://lobbyagainst.eu.org>), constitute a direct threat not only to the individuals and colleagues named, but to the Jewish community at large and to democratic civil discourse in Belgium.

THE POSTERS ARE DESIGNED AS “WANTED POSTERS”, WHICH SUGGESTS THAT THE PEOPLE PORTRAYED ARE IMMINENT DANGEROUS. THE POSTERS:

- Use full names, photographs, and the professional affiliations of the Jewish colleagues.
- Brand them with language including “Zionist genocidal agenda,” “abuses antisemitism,” and “manipulates MEPs.”
- Are explicitly designed to shame, dehumanize, and endanger.
- Have already circulated across social media and international networks.

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**This campaign is not protest—it is public defamation, incitement to hatred, and targeted antisemitic harassment** under the pretext of political critique. It is no coincidence that every single person named is Jewish or affiliated with Jewish organisations. These tactics—doxxing, street-level targeting, weaponized propaganda—are chilling echoes of Europe’s darkest chapters.

We demand the following urgent actions:

1. Increased police protection for individuals and institutions named or affected by this campaign.
2. Immediate investigation by federal and local police into the organizers behind this campaign, including the origin and registration of the linked website.
3. Removal of all posters from public space and assessment of CCTV footage in the affected areas.
4. Public condemnation from senior government officials to reaffirm that such intimidation and hate speech have no place in democratic Belgium.
5. Legal proceedings to be initiated where appropriate under Belgian hate speech and incitement laws.

Your Excellency Prime Minister, Belgium has rightly taken steps to address rising antisemitism in recent years. But such efforts cannot remain rhetorical. What occurred last night in Brussels is not a fringe act—it is a public assault on democratic values, on Jewish civic engagement, and on the dignity of individuals who have done nothing more than stand up for their communities.

We urge you to act decisively. The eyes of Europe’s Jewish communities—and the world—are watching.

With most  
respectful regards  
Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
European Jewish  
Association

[REDACTED]  
AJC  
Transatlantic Institute

[REDACTED]  
ELNET EU & NATO



**Annex 2**

**Letter sent by EJA calling the Commission to action, on 16 June at 13.12.**

Dear [REDACTED], dear [REDACTED], dear colleagues,

**A targeted campaign of dangerous public incitement against Jewish individuals and organisations around the EU** Institutions and Schuman area, took place on Friday, as you are aware. Additionally copies of the public posters circulated online, which carry the full names, photographs, professional affiliations of colleagues from our organisations, and the physical addresses of the headquarters of the Jewish organisations, *ie*, the addresses of where we work.

**The Police have advised us to close our offices for the next couple of days while they are conducting an investigation.** We attach for your information also the letter that we sent to Prime Minister H.E. Mr Bart De Wever, Mayor of Brussels, H.E. Mr Philippe Close and the Federal Police General Commissioner, Dr. Eric Snoeck. The letter was sent on behalf of the European Jewish Association (EJA), the American Jewish Committee Transatlantic Institute (TAI), and the European Leadership Network (ELNET EU & NATO), which were the 3 organisations targeted.

***We ask from your office and other EU leaders a clear, public, and unequivocal condemnation of this incitement, which constitutes a direct threat and puts in physical danger not only the individuals and colleagues named, but the Jewish community and our friends at large also.***

We thank you for your kind consideration and remain available for a meeting or any further information your office may need.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

With most respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**European Jewish Association**

**Annex 3 – Images of posters in Brussels, Schuman area on 13 June 2025.**

