



הארגון הבינלאומי של עורכי-דין ומשפטים יהודים (ע"ר)
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LAWYERS AND JURISTS (R.A.)

September 11, 2014

Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF
United Kingdom

Dear Home Secretary,

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (IAJLJ) was founded in 1969 as a non-profit organization to promote and protect the essential interests of the Jewish people and defend human rights in general. It works to combat racism, xenophobia, antisemitism, Holocaust denial and strives to promote and protect Human Rights for all mankind.

The IAJLJ is a recognized NGO and holds Category 2 status in ECOSOC at the UN and accreditation at the European Parliament. We have representatives in about thirty countries and hundreds of members in Europe, North and South America, Australia and Israel. All seek to participate in accomplishing our goals.

As such, we write with growing concern to you in relation to the number of antisemitic incidents that have occurred in Britain this summer and in particular during Operation Protective Edge. We note that the Community Security Trust declared July 2014 to be the worst month on record for antisemitic incidents in Britain. We are aware that there are many laws on the statute books to deal with the increase in hate crime against the Jewish community. We urge you to send a message that the police and Crown Prosecution Service will, when appropriate, enforce the law to protect the Jewish community in a nation that has always prided itself on protecting its minority groups.

We also write about the increased level of antisemitic hatred we see on online through Facebook, Twitter and other social networks. We again urge the police to enforce the law in this area and prosecute individuals when the level of abuse goes beyond the normal parameters of acceptable speech and freedom of expression in a modern democracy such as when direct physical threats mixed with race hate are made to prominent individuals merely due to the fact they are Jewish. We are fully aware that the threshold in this area is extremely high under both domestic law and Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights but there must be some occasions when perpetrators should be prosecuted.

We ask that the police continue to use their best endeavors to enforce the general criminal law especially in the context of protecting shops. We saw in Manchester how the police were willing to use section 14 of the Public Order Act 1986 to restrict violent anti-Israel protesters from destroying a small Israeli linked business – Kedem – and ask that this is replicated should other incidents occur. It is a very good measure that maintains the balance between the freedom



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to protest and the freedom for Israeli owned shops to go about their lawful business without serious disruption from extremist Islamist and Hard Left agitators.

We finally ask that the police and CPS take the wrecking and trashing of supermarkets that stock Israeli produce by pro-Palestinian groups seriously. These are criminal activities, frightening shoppers and innocent store workers alike. The law in this area must be upheld with charges against demonstrators when appropriate.

Please accept our expression of high esteem.

Adv. Irit Kohn
President