

STATEMENT ON THE RISE OF ANTISEMITISM IN EUROPE AS A RESULT OF THE CURRENT CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

adopted by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
at its 93rd plenary meeting (5-8 December 2023)

ECRI is deeply concerned about the sharp rise in antisemitism that can be observed in many European countries in the wake of the current conflict in the Middle East. As ECRI has repeatedly emphasised, Council of Europe member states need to take strong measures to ensure that renewed violence in the Middle East does not threaten the safety of Jews and Jewish communities in Europe.

ECRI strongly urges governments to make use of its revised [General Policy Recommendation No. 9 on preventing and combating antisemitism](#). In this context, ECRI draws attention to its [Opinion](#) on the non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), in which it also says that this definition should not be used to delegitimise criticism of Israel to the extent that it is held to the same standards as any other state. ECRI reiterates that Jews should not be held collectively responsible for actions of the State of Israel.

ECRI recalls that Council of Europe member states should also take resolute action against anti-Muslim¹ and all other forms of racism.

¹ See, in this connection, revised [General Policy Recommendation No. 5 on preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination](#).