

Human Rights Council 52nd Session (March 2023)

Agenda Item 3 – General Debate

NGO: IJL - The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists

Representative delivering the statement: Brenda Nanyunja

Mr. President,

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists expresses its alarm over the rise of Antisemitic incidents in recent years.

According to a report by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, there were over 3,000 politically motivated crimes with a presumed antisemitic motive in Germany in 2021. The report shows an increase of almost 250 percent of such crimes between 2011 and 2021.

The manifestation of Antisemitism is expressed in different ways, including physical violence, graffiti and vandalism, workplace harassments, as well as hate-speech.

Mr. President, antisemitism and racism against Jews cannot be considered only a “Jewish Problem,” but also a universal concern. Fighting Antisemitism must prevent such hideous actions, and not just investigate them ex-post facto.

We welcome the statements of this Council and member States against Antisemitism, and call upon the Council and the international community to take a more proactive approach against racism, xenophobia and antisemitism through a joint effort by UN bodies and other international organizations, governments, parliaments, and civil society.

Mr. President, fighting antisemitism must be at the forefront of any human rights struggle.

Thank you, Mr. President.