

**Non-Governmental Organization  
PUBLIC ADVOCACY**  
Ukraine, Kyiv, 04053  
Sichovykh Stril'tsiv Street, 21, Office 501  
Phone: +33 368780311, +38 044 3793068  
[www.publicadvocacynetwork.org](http://www.publicadvocacynetwork.org)



**Неурядова громадська організація  
СУСПІЛЬНИЙ ПРАВОЗАХИСТ**  
вул. Січових Стрільців 21 оф.501  
м. Київ, 04053  
Тел: +33 368780311, +38 044 3793068  
[www.protiktor.com](http://www.protiktor.com)

---

In consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council

21 May 2019

**United Nations  
Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief  
Mr. Ahmed Shaheed**

Dear Mr. SHAHEED

In the capacity of a Civil Society Organisation, Public Organization PUBLIC ADVOCACY (in special consultative status with the UN ECOSOC) is sending you a reply to your call for written submissions as of April 10, 2019 for a Report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief to the General Assembly scheduled for September 2019.

### **MANIFESTATIONS OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN UKRIANE IN 2018 AND EARLY 2019**

The report was prepared using the definition of antisemitism provided by the European Forum on Antisemitism. The evidence set forth in the report is taken from the open data of the Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine (VAAD), the Kantor Centre at Tel Aviv University and other Jewish and Israeli sources, as well as Jewish Telegraphic Agency resources. 107 antisemitic incidents were registered in 2018, 29% of which were registered as reports to the Jewish hotline of Ukraine 910, 44% cases were reported by the Ukrainian media and bloggers, 27% of incidents were publicized by Jewish public figure Edward Dolinsky.

#### **1. CASES OF VANDALISM ON THE GROUNDS OF ANTISEMITISM**

In 2018, experts recorded 12 cases of vandalism on the grounds of antisemitism in Ukraine. The majority of incidents occurred in the United States (more than 100 cases), the UK (68), France and Germany (35 in each country).

In particular, on **January 29, 2018**, an unidentified teenager threw a smoke pellet into the premises of a bookshop during a lecture given by the head of Lviv city public organization *Hillel Elena Andronatyi* entitled "Terrible Story: Holocaust. Memory. Pain. Lessons". Nobody suffered<sup>1</sup>.

**On February 2, 2018**, unknown attackers wrote anti-Semitic insults and threats on the nameplate of the party of Solidarity – Blok Petro Poroshenko: "Jewish filths, you are fucked-up"<sup>2</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup>[https://zaxid.net/pid\\_chas\\_lektsiyi\\_pro\\_golokost\\_u\\_lvivskiy\\_knigarni\\_nevidomiy\\_kinuv\\_dimovu\\_shashku\\_n1447841](https://zaxid.net/pid_chas_lektsiyi_pro_golokost_u_lvivskiy_knigarni_nevidomiy_kinuv_dimovu_shashku_n1447841)

<sup>2</sup>[https://24tv.ua/en/v\\_odesse\\_vandaly\\_oskvernili\\_antisemitskimi\\_nadpisjami\\_priemnuju\\_bloka\\_petra\\_poroshenko](https://24tv.ua/en/v_odesse_vandaly_oskvernili_antisemitskimi_nadpisjami_priemnuju_bloka_petra_poroshenko)



**On March 7, 2018**, according to the reports by the United Jewish Community of Ukraine, in the city of Chernigov, in front of the entrance to a synagogue, appeared inscriptions stating “Fuck you, Jews” and “Away with the Jews!”<sup>3</sup>

**On April 9, 2018**, on Easter day, in the town of Oratov, Vinnytsia region, unknown persons destroyed a memorial plate in the honour of Israeli soldier and social and political activist Levi Eshkol, the third prime minister of Israel<sup>4</sup>. It is reported that law enforcement officers refused to recognize the case as an act of vandalism.

**On April 20, 2018**, unknown vandals in Poltava city desecrated the monuments to the Jewish victims of Nazism and the Monument of the Sorrowful Mather<sup>5</sup>, The inscriptions on the monuments read: “Death to the Jews!” and “Heil Hitler!”<sup>6</sup>.

**On April 26, 2018**, a monument to the victims of the Holocaust in the village of Petrikov in Ternopil region was desecrated<sup>7</sup>. Surveillance video cameras recorded three intruders at night. A criminal case was opened.

**On April 28, 2018**, in Ostrog city of Rivne region, unknown persons desecrated the prayer house at the grave of Rabbi Shmuel Eliezer Edelweiss, who lived in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries<sup>8</sup>. Having penetrated inside the room, vandals damaged windows and furniture, scattered books and prayer accessories. The police opened criminal case, but, according to the head of the Ostrog police office, “during the inspection of the scene, no traces or signs of a religious crime were found.”

**On April 30, 2018**, in the centre of Cherkassy city, unknown persons made an inscription in red paint: “Go away, Jewish Kaganates!”<sup>9</sup>.

**On June 15, 2018**, in Berdichev city of Zhytomyr region vandals looking for valuables, desecrated a mass grave of Jews<sup>10</sup>.

**On July 20, 2018**, the Jewish community of Odessa published the following information: the antisemitic inscriptions on buildings in the Primorsky district of Odessa, which had been painted over by activists of the Jewish community, were restored by antisemites. Also, a new offensive graffiti appeared on the walls of the houses. The Jewish community of Odessa immediately appealed to the prosecutor's office and the Security Service of Ukraine<sup>11</sup>.

**On August 20, 2018**, Olga Gonchar, director of the Terror Territory Museum in Lviv, said that in July, the 12 bulletin boards devoted to the Holocaust were subject to vandalism<sup>12</sup>. The street exposition was dedicated to the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liquidation of the Yanovsky concentration

---

<sup>3</sup> [www.vaadua.org](http://www.vaadua.org)

<sup>4</sup> [www.vaadua.org](http://www.vaadua.org)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.2000.ua/novosti/proisshestvija/vandaly-oskvernili-pamjatnik-zhertvam-nacizma-v-poltave.htm>

<sup>6</sup> <https://ru.tsn.ua/ukrayina/v-poltave-pamyatniki-zhertvam-nacizma-razrisovali-svastikoy-i-nadpisyami-1143963.html> ; <https://jewishnews.com.ua/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://styler.rbc.ua/eng/zhizn/ternopolem-podozhgli-pamyatnik-zhertvam-holokosta-1524848862.html>

<sup>8</sup> <http://jewseurasia.org/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://jewishnews.com.ua/society/v-cherkassax-obnaruzhena-antisemitskaya-nadpis>

<sup>10</sup> [https://baltnews.lt/vilnius\\_news/20190114/1018760092/eu-evrei-kladbischa-spasenie.html](https://baltnews.lt/vilnius_news/20190114/1018760092/eu-evrei-kladbischa-spasenie.html)

<sup>11</sup> <https://112.ua/obshchestvo/policiya-vyyasnyat-obstoyatelstva-poyavleniya-antisemitskih-nadpisey-na-zdaniyah-odessa-455046.html>, [www.facebook.com/gunp.odessa/posts/652354248455318](https://www.facebook.com/gunp.odessa/posts/652354248455318)

<sup>12</sup> [https://zaxid.net/nevidomi\\_vkrali\\_element\\_vulichnoyi\\_vistavki\\_z\\_ploshhi\\_pered\\_lvivskim\\_universitetom\\_n1462881](https://zaxid.net/nevidomi_vkrali_element_vulichnoyi_vistavki_z_ploshhi_pered_lvivskim_universitetom_n1462881)



camp and the liquidation of the ghetto. Reportedly, some of the billetin boards were damaged, some had inscriptions of offensive content, one was dismantled and stolen by unknown persons.

**On October 14, 2018**, a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust was desecrated, which is located in Kamyanets-Podilsky microdistrict, Khmelnytsky region. On a number of monuments, unknown persons drew swastikas and painted over information on the number of victims of the Holocaust<sup>13</sup>.

**On October 22, 2018**, the Israeli Gastromaniya cafe was set on fire in Odessa<sup>14</sup>. Despite the fact that the intent of the arsonists remained unknown, an antisemitic motive is not excluded, since the cafe had a catchy sign "Israeli cuisine".

**On January 9, 2019**, the Choral Synagogue of the city of Drohobych, Lviv region, was attacked by unknown persons as reported by the Director of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee Eduard Dolinsky<sup>15</sup>: "In Drohobych, unknown persons broke the windows of the recently renovated Choral Synagogue. The opening of the restored Choral Synagogue took place last year," wrote Dolinsky.

## **2. According to the monitoring groups of Jewish organizations, in 2017-2018 antisemitic violence in Ukraine has not been recorded**

During 2017-2018, not a single case of antisemitism was recorded in Ukraine, Vice Prime Minister Pavel Rozenko said during the Kiev Jewish Forum in May 2019<sup>16</sup>.

"In Ukraine, during 2018, we can be proud of it, not a single case of antisemitic violence was recorded, as was the case also in the previous year," said Deputy Prime Minister<sup>17</sup>.

Vyacheslav Likhachev, an expert on antisemitism, also agrees with the above, but the Jewish expert Edward Dolinsky has a different opinion<sup>18</sup>.

## **3. PUBLIC MANIFESTATIONS OF ANTISEMITISM**

**January 9, 2019**, Deputy head of the tourism department of the Chernivtsi Regional State Administration Sergey Krupko, on his Facebook account published a poem with the following words: "Let the Muscovites wail like wolves/And let the Jews scream like pigs/Today is a holiday on my land/Kolyada goes across Ukraine." The Chernivtsi Regional Administration reprimanded Sergei Krupko and the publication was deleted<sup>19</sup>.

**On January 9, 2019**, in Kiev activists from the organization S14 organized "a procedure for expelling evil spirits from the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra". In the caves of the Monastery, according to the S14 activists, Moscow agents could be hiding. In order to establish interfaith peace and agreement, the abbot of the Monastery Metropolitan Pavel came out to the participants of the action. During the

<sup>13</sup>[https://baltnews.ee/tallinn\\_news/20190103/1017285116/Ukraine-pamytniki-vandalizm-2018.html](https://baltnews.ee/tallinn_news/20190103/1017285116/Ukraine-pamytniki-vandalizm-2018.html)

<sup>14</sup><https://fakty.ua/284437-snova-podzhog-v-kurortnoj-zone-odessy-sgorelo-kafe-foto>

<sup>15</sup><https://korrespondent.net/ukraine/4051583-v-drohobyche-razbyly-okna-synahohy>

<sup>16</sup><https://www.liga.net/>

<sup>17</sup><https://www.ukrinform.ru/rubric-kyiv/2694185-otkrylsa-pervyj-kievskij-evrejskij-forum.html>

<sup>18</sup><https://www.jta.org/2019/05/13/global/5-years-after-the-ukrainian-revolution-jews-there-say-it-was-a-mixed-blessing>

<sup>19</sup>[https://ipress.ua/ru/news/chynovnyku\\_chnovnytskoy\\_oga\\_obyavyly\\_vigovor\\_za\\_antysemytskoe\\_styhotvorenne\\_244064.html](https://ipress.ua/ru/news/chynovnyku_chnovnytskoy_oga_obyavyly_vigovor_za_antysemytskoe_styhotvorenne_244064.html)



demonstration, an unknown woman began shouting “The Jews hired you!”, and the activists were accusing the present clerics of being “Moscovites”<sup>20</sup>.

**On January 26, 2019**, the head of Vinnitsa Avtomaydan arranged an antisemitic flashmob on the Internet<sup>21</sup>. Taisa Gaida wrote a post in which she accuses Jews of “soldering the Ukrainians, destroying the monument to Taras Shevchenko and dancing on the graves”.

“I will say a terrible thing now. There are Jews, and I have no complaints about them. But there are Vinnitsa Jews. The descendants of Judah. It is the Vinnytsia Jews who shut down the children’s library in order to arrange a bar there. It was the Vinnytsia Jews who, at night, violently demolished the monument to Shevchenko and only the head of the Vinnytsia Jews could get the idea to put music boxes in the place of thousands of people who had been repressed. Only the Jews can come up with the idea of organizing dances and dining on the day of the Requiem for Holodomor victims. Eat, Ukrainians, gnaw what you got as the result of Maidan. Do not bespatter yourselves. Here is your Ukrainian nation. Goys and serfs who are worth nothing.”

**On February 4, 2019**, the spread of antisemitic leaflets was reported at a rally of the movement of Mikhail Saakashvili.

**On February 2, 2019**, an article with antisemitic assaults was published in the newspaper *Chortkovsky Vestnik* signed by the editor of the publication Mariana Polyanskaya. The independent media trade union of Ukraine excluded Polyanskaya from its members. (The newspaper “Chortkivsky Visnyk”, issue of February 2, 2018)<sup>22</sup>. Despite the fact that criminal proceedings were initiated upon the publication of the materials under Part 2 of Art. 161, so far there has been no real progress in this case.

**On February 3, 2019**, in Ternopil, not for the first time, a monument to the victims of the Holocaust was desecrated. A Nazi swastika and SS signs were painted on the monument in red paint<sup>23</sup>.

**On February 9, 2019**, Sergei Sukhanov, a member of the Dnipro City Council from the Opposition Bloc, published on his Facebook page a series of antisemitic posts calling on citizens to unite for illegal actions against Jews. Sukhanov was expelled from the Opposition Bloc, criminal proceedings were initiated under Part 2 of Art. 161 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine<sup>24</sup>. In **February** monitoring groups of Jewish organizations also recorded the distribution of antisemitic leaflets of a similar kind in Kiev and Konotop.

**On February 19, 2019**, residents of one of the central districts of Kiev published photos of antisemitic propaganda. Antisemitic leaflets appeared at a public transport stop on Kontraktovaya Square. Posters contain calls for reprisals against members of Jewish nationality<sup>25</sup>.

**On April 11, 2019**, the *Rush Hour Weekly* issued in Kanev, Cherkasy region, featured a verse as follows: “Let the Muscovites wail like wolves/And let the Jews scream like pigs/today is a holiday

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.religion.in.ua/news/vazhlyvo/42732-namestnik-kievo-pecherskoj-lavry-popal-v-otchet-po-antisemitizmu-obedinennoj-evrejskoj-obshhiny-ukrainy.html>

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.isrageo.com/2018/01/27/automaidan/>

<sup>22</sup> <https://glavred.info/ukraine/488115-ternopolskaya-gazeta-opublikovala-statyu-o-evreyah-zahvativshih-vlast-v-strane-foto.html>

<sup>23</sup> <https://religions.unian.net/judaism/2395039-v-ternopole-oskvernili-pamyatnik-jertvam-holokosta.html>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.obozrevatel.com/society/v-dnepre-voznik-skandal-iz-za-deputata-kotoryij-prizyival-k-evrejskim-pogromam.htm>

<sup>25</sup> Facebook Page: Oleg Vishnyakov.



on my land/Easter goes across Ukraine.” After the appeal of the Cherkasy Jewish community, the Security Service of Ukraine took the newspaper for examination.

**On April 18, 2019**, at a mass rally against the increase in tariffs for housing and communal services, which was held near the building of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in Kiev, stand-alone antisemitic posters were fixed: “The Jews thrive while the people go into debt!” and “Groisman, stop!”.

**On May 2, 2019**, Tatyana Soikina, head of the Right Sector Organisation in Odessa region, stated “We believe, we are confident that we will restore order in Odessa and in Ukraine. Ukraine will belong to the Ukrainians, not the Jews. Not oligarchs”<sup>26</sup>. The speech took place in Odessa during the “March of the Ukrainian Order”, organized by the organizations: the Svoboda Party, Right Sector, Nationalna Druzhina, and Nationalniy Corpus. The Odessa National Police initiated criminal proceedings under Part 2 of Art. 161 of the Criminal Code.

**On May 14, 2019**, the head of the City Administration of Skole, Lviv region, Vladimir Moskal, stated that the power in Ukraine was Moscovite-Jewish; that after the Bolsheviks came to power, there were between 70 and 95% of Jews in the top of power, etc.<sup>27</sup> During the speech Vladimir Moskal appears against the background of the banner of the public organization “Scientific and Ideological Center named after Dmitri Dontsov”, and the symbol of the Right Sector can be seen on Moskal’s shirt. The police of Lviv region began criminal proceedings under Art. 161 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

After the scandal that erupted in **May 2019** around antisemitic statements made by Vasily Marushynets, an employee of the Consulate General of Ukraine in Hamburg, on **May 30**, the diplomat was dismissed from the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry.

**On May 16, 2019**, Ukrainian writer Yuri Vinnichuk made an antisemitic commentary on his Facebook account, in which he questions the level of intelligence and the number of Jews killed in Babi Yar: “More Jews died in the Lviv ghetto than in Babi Yar ... But the German politician said the Holocaust began at Babi Yar. But in the Lviv ghetto hundreds of poets, composers, and artists were perished, but I don’t know an intellectual who died at Babi Yar except for OUN [Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists] members”<sup>28</sup>.

**May 21, 2019**, in the centre of Cherkasy appeared the inscription “Save the country from Zion.” A few days before, on **May 18**, on the same place, measures were taken to paint over the inscriptions “Go away, Jewish Kaganates”, which were scribbled by unknown persons on April 30<sup>29</sup>.

**On July 22, 2019**, police officers in Odessa region reported the presence of antisemitic inscriptions in the Primorsky District of Odessa<sup>30</sup>.

---

<sup>26</sup> <https://glavred.info/ukraine/503468-skandal-v-odesse-na-marshe-nacionalistov-zvuchali-antisemitskie-lozungi-video.html>

<sup>27</sup> <https://rian.com.ua/video/20180514/1035170497/ukraine-razgoraetsya-novy-antisemitskiy-skandal.html>

<sup>28</sup> [http://timer-odessa.net/news/ukrainskiy\\_pisatel\\_v\\_babem\\_yaru\\_pogibli\\_evrei\\_ne\\_otyagoschennie\\_intellektom\\_859.html](http://timer-odessa.net/news/ukrainskiy_pisatel_v_babem_yaru_pogibli_evrei_ne_otyagoschennie_intellektom_859.html)

<sup>29</sup> <http://pravdanews.info/cherkassy-vnov-ukrasili-antisemitskimi-nadpisyami.html>

<sup>30</sup> <http://trassae95.com/all/news/2018/07/22/antisemitskie-nadpisi-poyavilis-na-zdaniyah-v-primorskom-rajone-odessy-47444.html>



**On July 23, 2019**, new antisemitic graffiti and inscriptions with swastika were drawn on buildings along the streets of Chernyakhovsky and Osipov in Primorsky district of Odessa: “All Jews will burn out”, “Kill the Jew”<sup>31</sup>.

**On July 30, 2019**, the Jewish community of Odessa reported that antisemitic inscriptions on buildings in Primorsky district of Odessa, which had been painted over by activists of the Jewish community, were restored by antisemites. Also, new offensive graffiti appeared on the walls of the houses. The Jewish community of Odessa immediately appealed to the Prosecutor's Office and the Security Service of Ukraine<sup>32</sup>.

**On June 25, 2019**, Chief Military Prosecutor, Deputy Prosecutor General of Ukraine Anatoly Matios, made antisemitic remarks in an interview with the “Insider” online publication. In particular, commenting on the attempted assassination of journalist Arkady Babchenko, Anatoly Matios said: “The centre of payment and funding for disparate groups was one of the suspects (Boris German). Every war always has its Parvus, who brought Lenin money for the revolution, which flooded the Slavs with blood streams for decades. He was also of Jewish origin. In this case, they want to do the same with Ukraine.”<sup>33</sup>. In response to the appeals of Jewish organizations on this incident, on **August 29**, the Prosecutor General’s Office of Ukraine responded that there were no grounds for conducting an internal investigation.

**On September 4, 2019**, a message was received at the Jewish hotline service 910 from citizen A., who was incarcerated at the Poltava pretrial detention facility for 9 months. The citizen of Jewish descent claims that the criminal case against him was falsified by antisemitic militiamen. According to him, the police said: “We will put all you, Jews, in jail”<sup>34</sup>.

**On October 10, 2019**, Yury Gorbienko, head of the Fastiv branch of the political party the All-Ukrainian Freedom Association, posted an antisemitic caricature on his Facebook account. It depicts a Cossack, beating three people with a flail, one of whom is wearing yamaka. The text under the caricature read: “They thrashed Jews-tenants together with the lords with strong flails, but not bread.”<sup>35</sup>

During the anti-tariff rally on **October 29, 2019**, in Vinnitsa, antisemitic slogans were voiced. So, Yuri Kisel said: “There is no longer Ukraine — there is one Khazar Kaganate, organized by these Judahs. Nothing else! If we want to save the Cossack Ukraine, we must resist this Judeo gang. But confirmation of the fact that they seized Vinnitsa as their capital of this Khazar Kaganate is the Jewish symbol, which they installed in the central square instead of our prophet Taras”<sup>36</sup>.

**On September 30, 2019**, Dmitry Ustyushin, head of the Department for certification of aviation engines and equipment at the State Aviation Administration, commenting the level of food services

---

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.048.ua/news/2112974/v-odesse-evrei-ne-uspevaut-zakrasivat-antisemitskie-graffiti-foto>

<sup>32</sup> <https://112.ua/obshchestvo/policiya-vyyasnyat-obstoyatelstva-poyavleniya-antisemitskih-nadpisey-na-zdaniyah-odessa-455046.html>

<sup>33</sup> <https://lechaim.ru/news/ukrainskij-general-zayavlyat-cto-evrei-hotyat-krovoprolitiya-v-ego-strane/>

<sup>34</sup> Jewish hotline 910

<sup>35</sup> <https://ru.tsn.ua/ukrayina/iz-gosaviasluzhby-uvolili-chinovnika-kotoryy-pyanym-na-bortu-samoleta-gorlanil-antisemitskuyu-bran-1238016.html>

<sup>36</sup> <https://ukraina.ru/opinion/20181030/1021601194.html>



on board of airplanes, said that “these are downright Jews and partisan Jews who are to be blamed for the discomfort”<sup>37</sup>. **On October 23**, Ustyushin was dismissed from his post.

**On September 16, 2019**, in Kiev at *Akademkniga* bookstore an antisemitism propaganda was noticed. The research work of Darius Svitloye entitled “The World Moskva-Jewish Problem and Liberation Nationalism” contains numerous quotes from Adolf Hitler’s book *Mein Kampf*<sup>38</sup>. The book has a chapter dedicated to the “paranoid factors of Muscovy and Jewry” and “measures to harmonize the world.” The publication consists of 320 pages, where the author tells in detail about Freemasonry and the attempts of Jews to impose their ideology on the world, and also gives recipes to fight against “Jewish expansion”.

**On October 1, 2019**, citizens of Cherkasy received letters with antisemitic content, in which unknown persons published an article by I. Ryazantsev, “The Eternal Jew” from the newspaper *Novoe Slovo*, dated 1943. The letters were received by residents of the house №188 in Khreschatyk Street<sup>39</sup>. The article describes in detail how representatives of the Jewish nation make plans to establish world domination.

**On October 31, 2019**, civil activist Andrei Karpovich from Krivoy Rog published a video in which he tells how Jews destroy Ukrainian culture<sup>40</sup>. According to Andrei Karpovich, during the excavations on Pochtovaya Square in Kiev, artifacts testifying to the ancient Ukrainian culture were found, but Kiev Mayor Vitaly Klitschko and his deputies appointed a supervisor from the Kiev Synagogue. The supervisor allegedly decided to pour concrete over everything and destroy the evidence that Ukrainians have culture. “Dear Jews, I understand everything, but you do not bend your fingers there. I understand that you have here in Ukraine a Habad-Lubavich gang, which you organized ATO here, which is led by local Jews from Dnepropetrovsk. Come down from heaven to earth, you are still not masters in this country,” said the activist<sup>41</sup>.

**On November 18, 2019**, a popular assembly took place in Kiev’s Mikhailovskaya Square<sup>42</sup>. The people condemned “Kikes, Yid gang, Freemasons, Habad”, protested against the Khazar Kaganate and the new Israel on the territory of Ukraine, demanded to “return the nationality graph to passports, return the power to the Ukrainians and stop the genocide carried out by the Jews”<sup>43</sup>.

**In December**, a scandal flared up in the Ukrainian media. Political analyst Alexander Paliy compared the “free” gas from Russia to the gas chamber of the Holocaust. “Free gas is available only in gas chambers,” wrote Paliy on his Facebook account, but later hid this post from public access. However, readers have managed to take screenshots and discuss the statement of the political scientist who is also a lawyer of the current Ukrainian government, and in particular former President Petro Poroshenko.

---

<sup>37</sup> <https://ru.tsn.ua/ukrayina/iz-gosaviasluzhby-uvolili-chinovnika-kotoryy-pyanym-na-bortu-samoleta-gorlanil-antisemitskuyu-bran-1238016.html>

<sup>38</sup> <https://religions.unian.net/judaism/10264248-v-stolichnoy-akademknige-prodayut-antisemitskuyu-literaturu-s-citatami-gitlera.html>

<sup>39</sup> <https://ukraina.ru/news/20181002/1021292622.html>

<sup>40</sup> [http://timer-odessa.net/news/vi\\_ne\\_hozyaeva\\_v\\_etoy\\_strane\\_aktivist\\_iz\\_krivogo\\_roga\\_posovetoval\\_j\\_dam\\_ne\\_gnut\\_paltsi\\_169.html](http://timer-odessa.net/news/vi_ne_hozyaeva_v_etoy_strane_aktivist_iz_krivogo_roga_posovetoval_j_dam_ne_gnut_paltsi_169.html)

<sup>41</sup> YouTube channel: Russian Dnepropetrovsk

<sup>42</sup> <https://ua24ua.net/kiyvlyan-pozvali-na-narodnoe-veche-pri-pomoshchi-antisemitskih-plakatov-s-izobrazheniem-perecherknutogo-poroshenko-foto/>

<sup>43</sup> YouTube channel: GOLDDIMON



Along with the above, different Jewish and Israeli organizations and officials sometimes interpret cases of xenophobia and antisemitism in Ukraine in different ways, sometimes giving them different assessments. In particular, in the Report on Antisemitism in the World in 2017 published on January 27 by the Israeli Ministry of Diaspora, it is argued that in 2017, compared to 2016, the number of antisemitic incidents doubled<sup>44</sup>. “But it is especially worth noting the use of antisemitic propaganda in political rhetoric, vandalism directed against Jewish objects, including cemeteries, memorials to the victims of the Catastrophe and community centers,”<sup>45</sup> This report was criticized by the experts<sup>46</sup>, who believe that in relation to Ukraine, this report is “inadequate.” As noted in the Report of the Kantor Centre at Tel Aviv University, the number of cases of antisemitic incidents in Eastern Europe has remained much lower than in Western Europe for several years and continues to decline. The authors of the report also mention 12 such incidents and a few more in other countries. Along with this, Dr. Dina Porat, Head of the Kantor Center for the Study of Modern European Jewry at the Tel Aviv University, in the annual report noted an increase in violent crimes against Jews. According to Porat, the most significant antisemitism in the year that has passed since the previous report was compiled has grown in states such as the USA, France and Ukraine<sup>47</sup>.

**On April 25, 2019**, the famous US Congressman Ro Khanna published a letter<sup>48</sup>, devoted to the analysis of antisemitism in Ukraine and Poland<sup>49</sup>, which had been signed by 57 members of the US Congress. The letter expresses concern about “state distortion and denial of the Holocaust” and “honoring Nazi collaborators”. “The laws of Ukraine from 2015 go further into the glorification of the Nazi collaborators and introduce criminal liability for denying their heroism.” From this letter it follows that the authors consider the Ukrainian Insurgent Army to be “Nazi collaborators”. The letter’s authors expressed confidence that the United States should demand the abolition of the relevant laws – in Poland on national memory, and in Ukraine – on recognizing the OUN-UPA, UNR and ZUNR armies as fighters for independence.

In their address, the congressmen also noted that the festival in memory of the “Hetman Shukhevych” took place from June 30 to July 2, 2018, the days when a Jewish pogrom took place in Lviv in 1941, which is of particular concern to them.

According to the American congressmen, “the laundering of Ukrainian” heroes “is accompanied by other manifestations of antisemitism”, in particular, “the growth of antisemitic incidents throughout Ukraine.”

They also draw attention to a number of events of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory in support of the UPA.

Along with this, the statement of the Jewish organization – VAAD of Ukraine – under the leadership of Joseph Zisels, it is noted that “the letter contains a number of statements that are inappropriate to the facts, or at least incorrect formulations”<sup>50</sup>.

---

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.kantorcenter.tau.ac.il/general-analysis-2018>

<sup>45</sup> <https://detaly.co.il/>

<sup>46</sup> <http://www.hadashot.kiev.ua>

<sup>47</sup> <http://www.newsru.co.il/israel/01may2019/antisemitism.html?rss>

<sup>48</sup> <https://khanna.house.gov/>

<sup>49</sup> <https://khanna.house.gov/media/press-releases/release-rep-khanna-leads-bipartisan-members-condemning-anti-semitism-europe>

<sup>50</sup> <http://www.vaadua.org/>



Meanwhile, on December 13, 2018, the Israeli Ambassador to Ukraine published a letter in which he wrote that he had been “shocked” by the decision of the Lviv region to declare 2019 the year of Bandera, who “directly participated in terrible antisemitic crimes”<sup>51</sup>.

The report presented by the United Jewish Community of Ukraine for 2018 speaks about the increase in the level of antisemitism in the country, domestic antisemitism and vandalism in particular, and also points out the reasons for this, i.e. – the lack of continuous monitoring and recording of such incidents in previous years.

**February 20, 2019**, an old Jewish cemetery in Cherkassy was featured in social media, showcasing destroyed trees, and a number damaged monuments<sup>52</sup>. Local resident Dmitry Shakin posted the photos on his Facebook account.

In Vinnytsia region in **April 2019**, two citizens from Zhytomyr were convicted of unearthing the burial place of Jews in the city of Nemirov in April 2018. The vandals hoped to find valuable things in the burial<sup>53</sup>. According to Article 3 of Art. 297 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, abuse of the burial place of victims of Nazi persecution, committed by a group of persons for mercenary motives, they were sentenced to 5 years in prison with a maximum probation period of 3 years<sup>54</sup>.

The concern of the Jewish Confederation of Ukraine in January 2019 over possible provocations in the city of Uman confirms the fact that already on January 20, 2019 a rally was held in Uman, whose participants used not only dirty antisemitic speeches, but also expressed “frank threats against the Jews of Ukraine”<sup>55</sup>.

Until now, the leader of the post-Maidan Ukrainian VIP antisemitism was the Consul of Ukraine in Hamburg Vasily Marushchynets and an actress from the Odessa “Right Sector” Organization Tanya Soikina, who said a year ago that “Ukraine will belong to Ukrainians, not Jews.”

Ukrainian political analyst Alexander Paliy on his Facebook account on **March 18, 2019** wrote: “I respect the Jews, they are a very wise people. Also, Russians who are not infected with the imperial virus, they are living in a difficult time. But, I am convinced that the president of Ukraine should be a Ukrainian and a Christian, like the absolute majority of Ukrainians.”<sup>56</sup> Based on this conclusion, Paliy notes that he will not vote for presidential candidates Yulia Tymoshenko and Vladimir Zelensky, nor for “other appointees of foreign oligarchs.”

Along with the above, Elan Carr, US Special Envoy to control and combat antisemitism, said at a forum in Kiev, that it’s “amazing and unprecedented” that the Jewish origin of the newly elected President of Ukraine Vladimir Zelensky did not play the slightest role in the last presidential election, and antisemitism in the country is low.

---

<sup>51</sup> <https://ukranews.com/news/602362-posol-yzraylya-shokyrovan-reshenyem-lvova-obyavyt-2019-godom-bandery>

<sup>52</sup> <https://fakty.ua/296684-povaleny-derevya-razbity-nadgrobiya-v-cherkassah-ustroili-zhutkij-razgrom-na-evrejskom-kladbicshe-foto-video>

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.vinnitsa.info/>

<sup>54</sup> <https://112.ua/obshchestvo/v-vinnickoy-obl-osudili-vandalov-kotorye-raskopali-mogily-zhertv-nacistov-v-poiskah-cennyh-veshhey-489278.html>

<sup>55</sup> <https://politcentr.ru/32633-antisemitskiy-skandal-razgoraetsya-na-ukraine-video.html>

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/shcherbinas/posts/2072474679457088>

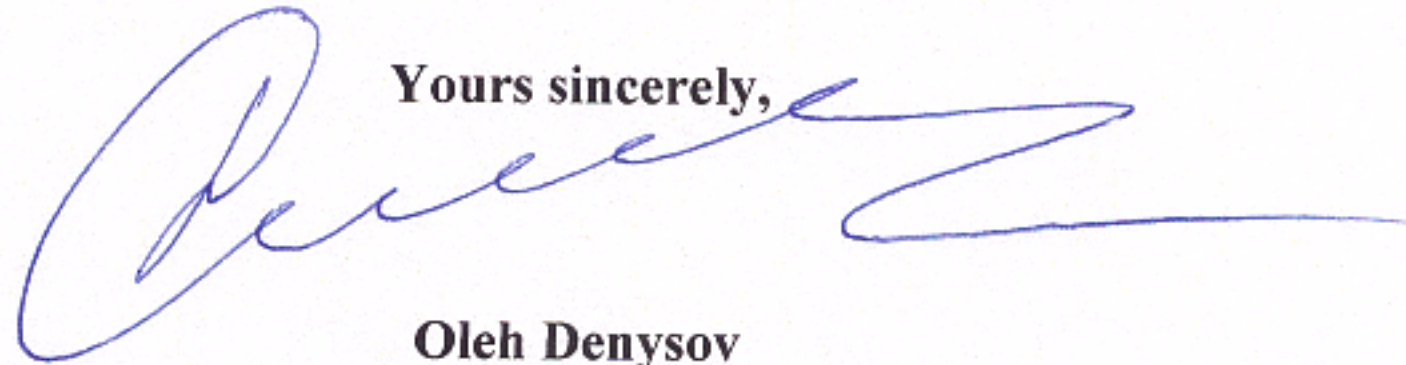


Carr delivered his speech **on May 7** at a panel conference “Combating Antisemitism” at the Kiev Jewish Forum, organized by the President of the Jewish Confederation of Ukraine Boris Lozhkin<sup>57</sup>.

Ukraine is a Jewish-friendly country, Special Envoy of the US State Department on monitoring and combating antisemitism Elan Carr declared **on May 7** at a meeting with Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov in Kiev, the press service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine reported<sup>58</sup>.

“Ukraine is a Jewish-friendly place. The fact that you do not have violence on the basis of antisemitism amazes me,” Carr said<sup>59</sup>, noting also the separation of leaders of various Jewish organizations in Ukraine on the issue of glorification of controversial figures of the Second World War and their assessments and concerns about the level of antisemitism in the country, where both the president and the prime minister are Jews<sup>60</sup>.

Yours sincerely,



**Oleh Denysov**  
**Head of NGO PUBLIC ADVOCACY**

---

<sup>57</sup> <https://stmegi.com/posts/69745/spetsposlannik-ssha-priyatno-udivlen-otsutstviem-antisemitizma-na-vyborakh-prezidenta-ukrainy/>

<sup>58</sup> <https://mvs.gov.ua/ua/news/20483-Arsen-Avakov-Bud-yaki-proyavi-neterpimosti-ta-antisemitizmu-slid-rozglyadati-yak-svidomu-provokaciyu-proti-dnosti-nashoi-derzhavi.htm>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.jta.org/2019/05/13/global/5-years-after-the-ukrainian-revolution-jews-there-say-it-was-a-mixed-blessing>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/poll-of-ukrainian-jews-shows-deep-divisions-on-the-issue-of-anti-semitism>