

Reply of the Republic of Slovenia to the Questionnaire of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief

I. Judaism within the State: the Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief

1a)

The Republic of Slovenia does not recognise in law specific religions or beliefs. Under the Religious Freedom Act (Official Gazette No. 14/07, 46/10 – Decision of the Constitutional Court, 40/12 – ZUJF, 100/13), religious organisations may establish religious communities which acquire legal personality governed by private law. The Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia stipulates that religious communities in the Republic of Slovenia are separated from the state and equal; their activities are free (Article 7). The Jewish Community of Slovenia based in Ljubljana has been registered with the Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Religious Communities since 1976.

1b)

Since 2002, when Slovenia started carrying out register-based population censuses instead of population censuses on the ground, data on religious affiliation in Slovenia is no longer available. In 1991, 201 inhabitants of the Republic of Slovenia declared themselves Jewish, and in 2002 this figure dropped to 99.

1c)

Under Article 41 of the Slovenian Constitution, the Religious Freedom Act (Official Gazette No. 14/07, 46/10 – Decision of the Constitutional Court, 40/12 – ZUJF, 100/13), and other regulations, the state of Slovenia guarantees Jews and the Jewish community in Slovenia as well as members of other religions and religious communities equal exercise of religious freedom. For historical reasons, including the Holocaust and the implications of this crime against humanity, the Jewish community is exempt by law from the requirement of a minimum number of members of the congregation when applying for state financial support to cover social security contributions for one religious employee. For the same reason, the Jewish community may also be exempt from the above requirement when establishing the entitlement of a religious employee or monk to exceptional naturalisation on religious grounds. The Jewish community in Slovenia has not availed itself of the above possibilities to date. Members of all religions in the Republic of Slovenia are free to change or give up their religion and can freely join or leave a religious community.

1d)

Only one Jewish religious community is registered in the Republic of Slovenia, the Jewish Community of Slovenia based in Ljubljana (see also 1a.). Religious communities are free to appoint their leaders and function openly. The state does not interfere with their autonomy.

1e)

According to the Jewish Community of Slovenia, the only synagogue in use in Slovenia is located at the seat of the Jewish Community in Ljubljana. The synagogues in Maribor and Lendava have been renovated and are now dedicated to preserving Jewish cultural heritage.

1f)

There are many Jewish cemeteries in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, but only the Jewish cemetery in Ljubljana is still functioning. The cemeteries in Rožna Dolina near Nova Gorica and Dolga vas near Lendava are monuments of Jewish cultural heritage.

1g)

In the Republic of Slovenia, there is no private school or university founded or co-founded by the Jewish Community.

1h)

Some public health institutions carry out circumcision of boys for non-medical reasons as a payable service. In other words, this service is not financed from public health funds, which make insured persons entitled to free health services; non-financed services need to be paid to institutions at market price. The representatives of the Jewish Community of Slovenia have not discussed this issue with competent national authorities.

1i)

Animal Protection Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia No. 38/13 – official consolidated text) prohibits the slaughtering of animals without prior stunning or the so-called ritual slaughter. In 2018, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia confirmed the validity of this ban (Decision No.: U-I-140/14-21). The Court decided upon the ban on ritual slaughter on the initiative of the Muslim Community of Slovenia, which is one of the registered religious communities in Slovenia. The representatives of the Jewish Community of Slovenia have not discussed this issue with competent national authorities.

1j)

The Ministry of Culture of Slovenia has no data as to whether Kosher food is produced in Slovenia or not. The state does not restrict the import of Kosher food.

1k)

The state does not restrict the wearing of Jewish religious symbols.

1l)

Religious communities in the Republic of Slovenia may undertake charity and humanitarian work under the same conditions as its citizens.

1m)

Religious communities in the Republic of Slovenia are guaranteed equal exercise of religious freedom, which also manifests itself through publishing religious literature. Religious communities are free to engage in gainful occupation (e.g. sale of books) on equal terms as Slovenian citizens, which mean that they are required to establish a legal entity in order to engage in gainful occupation.

1n)

Religious marriage ceremonies are not recognised by Slovenian law. The Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia stipulates that marriages shall be solemnised before an empowered state authority (Article 53).

1p)

The Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia stipulates that everyone has the right to freedom of movement, to choose his place of residence, to leave the country and to return at any time (Article 32).

1q)

Religious communities in the Republic of Slovenia enjoy religious freedom. Freedom of religion also means that religious communities are free to join or participate in inter-confessional organisations based in the Republic of Slovenia or abroad.

1r)

In 2016, the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia passed the Protection Against Discrimination Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia Nos. 33/16 and 21/18 – ZNOrg). Religion or belief is protected against discrimination as one of the thirteen personal circumstances explicitly stipulated in the above Act.

II. Antisemitism in Law and Policy

2a)

There is no criminal law definition.

The Slovenian Government adopted the legally non-binding IHRA working definition on Antisemitism on the session on 20 December 2018.

2b)

Researchers of the Holocaust and other experts have publicly intervened in the past on cases of Holocaust denial and distortion and of antisemitism, inter alia, by reporting these cases to the State Prosecutor's Office.

In one case of antisemitic speech in 2017, the Slovenian Permanent Delegation to IHRA responded with a public statement which was forwarded to IHRA for information. In addition, the Permanent Delegation discussed the possibility of convening a meeting with the Supreme State Prosecutor.

The state does not gather statistics. Unspecified statistic for criminal offence *Public Incitement to Hatred, Violence or Intolerance* (297 of the criminal Code) is available. The said offence incriminates anti-Semitism also. Article 297 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Slovenia ([Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 50/12 – official consolidated text and 54/15: KZ-1](#))¹ defines the criminal offence of public incitement to hatred, violence and intolerance.

Data on the procedural acts by the Police and the Prosecutor's Office related to Article 297 of the Criminal Code in the period between 2011 and 2017 are presented in the table below.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	TOTAL
POLICE								
Criminal complaint	44	32	21	11	10	18	13	149
Report*	8	9	41	34	19	31	13	175
TOTAL	52	61	62	45	29	49	26	324
PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE								
(data compiled by the number of criminal offences; the data on court decisions relate to decisions of first-instance courts, regardless of whether the decisions were final or not)								
Complaints filed	62	83	34	13	20	37	13	262
Decision of dismissal	28	37	36	13	30	19	19	182
Indictment presented or proposed in proceedings against juveniles	5	26	15	1	2	1	2	52

¹ Article 297 of the Criminal Code stipulates the following:

(1) Whoever publicly provokes or incites hatred based on nationality, race, religion or ethnicity, gender, skin colour, background, pecuniary status, education, social status, political and other conviction, disability, sexual orientation or any other personal circumstance, and commits the offence in a manner that might jeopardise or disturb public law and order, or uses force or threats, verbal abuse or insults, shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than two years.

(2) The same sentence shall be imposed on a person who, in the manner defined in the preceding paragraph, publicly disseminates ideas on the supremacy of one race over another, or provides aid in any manner for racist activity or denies, diminishes the significance of, approves, disregards, ridicules or advocates genocide, the Holocaust, crimes against humanity, war crimes, aggression, or other criminal offences against humanity as defined in the legal order of the Republic of Slovenia.

(3) When the offence under preceding paragraphs has been committed by means of a publication in the mass media or on websites, the editor-in-chief or the person acting as the editor-in-chief shall be sentenced to the penalty referred to in the first or second paragraph of this Article, unless it was a live broadcast that he was not able to prevent or publication on websites allowing users to upload content in real time or without prior control.

(4) When the offence under the first or second paragraph of this Article has been committed by coercion, maltreatment, endangering of security, desecration of ethnic, nationality, national or religious symbols, damaging of the movable property of another, desecration of monuments, memorials or graves, the perpetrator shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than three years.

(5) When the offence referred to in the first or the second paragraph of this Article is committed by an official through the abuse of office or of official authority, he shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years.

(6) Material and objects bearing the messages referred to in the first or second paragraph of this Article, and all devices intended for their manufacture, multiplication and distribution, shall be confiscated or their use disabled in an appropriate manner.

Decision of conviction	5	16	9	6	2	1	1	40
Decision of acquittal						1		1
Decision of rejection			2					2
Staying proceedings				3	1			4
Imposition of educational measure			9					9
TOTAL	100	162	105	36	55	59	35	

*The Police submit a report when, in cooperation with the Prosecutor's Office, they determine that a report of a criminal offence does not contain elements of a criminal offence.

Source: Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia, Police.

The Protection Against Discrimination Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia nos. 33/16 and 21/18) established the Advocate of the Principle of Equality, an independent state institution for protection against discrimination. Its mandate includes monitoring the situation in Slovenia concerning protection against discrimination and drafting recommendations on discrimination prevention and elimination.

Since the community of researchers and educators of the Holocaust and antisemitism started to respond to such phenomena in an organised way, the public has increasingly been reacting in a negative way to distortion and denial of the Holocaust, as well as to antisemitic tendencies. In addition, the editorial policies of many newspapers have changed, particularly of the dailies. Furthermore, frequent public appearances of the researchers of the Holocaust, racism and antisemitism, and of the Holocaust survivors on public and private television stations have a positive impact. In our experience, this type of awareness raising can be very successful. Positive results have also been achieved by publishing the books and study results mentioned in this report.

In 2015, the Anti-Hate Speech Council was established, an independent non-governmental body pursuing public interest by promoting an inclusive society based on equality and protection against violence, racism, intolerance, and discrimination. The Council collects reports of cases that people deem contentious and as requiring public response, raises awareness of the issue of hate speech, and responds to instances of intolerant and discriminatory public discourse and hate speech. It also publishes periodic reports about its work.

2c)

Most frequently antisemitic opinions are seen in social media. Anonymous comments in online newspapers allowing anonymous commenting, in various forums and on Twitter and Facebook can be seen too. In social media and online editions of print media, there have been individual attacks against particular researchers and public personalities fighting against Holocaust denial and presenting expert arguments to the above-mentioned adherents of historical revisionism.

With regard to the reasons for the increase in this type of public speech, we believe that they are very similar to the reasons elsewhere in the world, which could be summarised as follows: revision of World War II history and downplaying the importance of collaborators in Nazi and Fascist crimes; increased intolerance and hatred of diversity, particularly following the migrant and refugee crisis in 2015; and unhindered hate speech in the political arena, particularly in connection with political election campaigns.

2d) Discrimination as such is also a criminal offence. See Art. 131 of the Criminal Code². See also above-mentioned Art. 297 of the Criminal Code. See also Art. 20 of the Protection of Public Order Act (agitation for intolerance).

2e)

² Article 131 of the Criminal Code (KZ-1) Violation of Right to Equality

(1) Whoever due to differences in respect of nationality, race, skin colour, religion, ethnic roots, gender, language, political or other beliefs, sexual orientation, financial situation, birth, genetic heritage, education, social position or any other circumstance deprives or restrains another person of any human right or liberty recognised by the international community or laid down by the Constitution or the statute, or grants another person a special privilege or advantage on the basis of such discrimination shall be punished by a fine or sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year.

(2) Whoever prosecutes an individual or an organisation due to his or its advocacy of the equality of people shall be punished under the provision of the preceding paragraph.

(3) In the event of the offence under paragraphs 1 or 2 of this Article being committed by an official through the abuse of office or official authority, such an official shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than three years.

Such incitement is a criminal offence (297. of the Criminal Code) as well as a misdemeanor (Art. 20 of the Protection of Public Order Act).

To prevent antisemitic speech the State and NGOs organize educational activities in the school curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

2g)

The police deals with acts committed with the intention of inciting national, racial, sexual, ethnic, religious, political, or sexual-orientation based intolerance in a uniform manner as minor offences of incitement to intolerance defined in Article 20 of the Protection of Public Order Act, which are subject to a fine.

In 2018, the police dealt with 53 minor offences with elements of incitement to intolerance.

2f)

Art. 297 of the Criminal Code incriminates inter alia antisemitic crimes. As for antisemitic motivation for other crimes (murder) see Art. 116/3 of the Criminal Code³. See also Art. 131 of the Criminal Code above.

2h)

In the Slovenian police there is a standing working group of the General Police Directorate devoted to awareness-raising activities as regards discrimination-related issues. The Police Academy carry out a training programme entitled "Being aware of stereotypes, managing prejudice and preventing discrimination in a multicultural society", which is aimed at providing adequate knowledge for recognising and understanding different forms of discrimination in society. Police officers are trained to react appropriately when in contacts with individuals of different nationalities, religions and ethnic groups.

Trainees learn about social stereotypes and prejudices that may lead to discrimination. They get to know the existing measures and the importance of dialogue to develop a partnership with members of the community who are potential victims of discrimination.

The Police Academy have been organising these courses for police officers since 2009 and since 2013 they have also been provided to other public employees who come into contact with individuals of different cultures in the course of their work.

In 2018 the Slovenian police established cooperation with representatives of the Jewish community in Slovenia (e.g. Sinagoga Maribor, Mini teater), with a view to cooperating and carrying out project activities in the field of training and awareness-raising on antisemitism, in connection with community policing.

2i) Any spread of antisemitism is incriminated in above mentioned Art. 297 of the Criminal Code. For the constitutive elements of the offence see above the provisions of the said Article.

2j) No.

2k) Any discrimination is unconstitutional.

Jews are allowed to possess property and their own businesses. Jews are not excluded from any jobs anywhere in Slovenia.

³ Article 116 of the Criminal Code (Murder)

Whoever murders another human being by taking his life

- 1) in a cruel or perfidious manner;
- 2) due to taking action in official acts to protect public security, or in a pre-trial criminal procedure, or due to decisions of state prosecutors, or due to the proceeding and decisions of judges, or due to criminal complaint, or testimony in a court proceeding;
- 3) because of violation of equality;
- 4) out of desire to murder, out of greed, in order to commit or to conceal another criminal offence, out of unscrupulous vengeance, or from other base motives;
- 5) with the act committed within a criminal organisation to commit such offences, shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than fifteen years.

2l) Any discrimination is unconstitutional. Jews have equal rights as all other citizens.

2m) Yes, Holocaust education which includes education on antisemitism is in the school curricula.

2n)

In February 2008, following UN General Assembly Resolution 60/7 on the observance of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Slovenian Government declared 27 January National Holocaust Memorial Day. The commemoration of this day is one of the main activities in the Republic of Slovenia aimed at keeping the memory of the Holocaust alive, coordinated by Synagogue Maribor, with the participation of museums, research centres, universities, and other institutions, as well as primary and secondary schools.

Every 27 January, Holocaust Memorial Day is observed in the Slovenian National Assembly and in the Office of the President of the Republic of Slovenia. On this day and during the entire week, the media, both public and private, publish relevant reports, produce special programmes, documentaries and other media content.

2o)

On 27 January every year since 2009, the Slovenian National Assembly and the Office of the President of the Republic of Slovenia commemorate the victims of the Holocaust. On this date, many parliamentary parties publish communiqués calling for the memory of the Holocaust to be kept alive, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs publishes a press statement.

One of the central Holocaust remembrance events in Slovenia is organised by the Ljubljana Jewish Cultural Centre; it involves a public reading of the names of all Jewish Holocaust victims (587) in Slovenia.

As already stated above, Synagogue Maribor annually coordinates a number of events within the project Shoah – Let Us Remember, and holds an international symposium, Each Year One Name. During the year, Synagogue Maribor implements various education programmes for children and adults dedicated to the remembrance of, and teaching about, the Holocaust and genocide of the Roma.

With an annual commemoration on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Coordination Committee for Victims of War Violence of the Union of the Associations for the Values of the National Liberation Movement of Slovenia pays homage to all the Slovenian victims of Nazism and Fascism who perished in concentration camps, and also to Slovenian camp survivors, abducted children⁴ and deportees. These commemorations are attended, among others, by the President of the Republic of Slovenia, the President of the Union of the Associations for the Values of the National Liberation Movement of Slovenia, the Human Rights Ombudsman, the President of the Roma Union of Slovenia and members of the Jewish Community of Slovenia.

2q)

Yes, the public school curricula, both in primary as well as secondary schools include these topics. They are included into WW II. Topic.

In the field of Holocaust education, the main progress has been observed in the growing number of primary and secondary school teachers that participate in professional seminars organised in cooperation with Yad Vashem (in Israel) and other international and national organisations, including non-governmental organizations (like Memorial de la Shoah from France) working in the field of Holocaust commemoration, research and education. In these seminars, teachers have acquired extensive knowledge on the topics and teaching methods, and as a result of this they are able to teach about Holocaust history more confidently, including these topics in their classes more frequently. The minister of education, science and sport signed a memorandum of cooperation with Yad Vashem in 2017 to provide support to follow-up on past activities and events involving teachers from Slovenia to further encourage Holocaust education in Slovenian schools.

2r)

⁴ 645 children, abducted in August 1942 by the German occupying forces from Slovenian families in the Štajerska and Gorenjska regions; the children were forcibly taken from their parents and transported to camps in Austria and Germany to be re-educated and Germanised.

In the past few years, Holocaust teaching and education has also been encouraged through various publications and studies which can serve as study or reading material for primary and secondary school students and their teachers. Among them, memoirs of Slovenian Jews who survived (The Land of Shadows⁵, 2012), memoirs of Miriam Steiner Aviezer, a Slovenian Holocaust survivor (A Soldier with Golden Buttons⁶, 2015), booklet entitled [Unknown Traces – Judaism, Antisemitism and the Holocaust in Slovenian History](#)⁷ (2013), book The Slovenian Righteous among Nations⁸ (2016), and Slovenian translation of The Children of Villa Emma by Josef Indig (2018).⁹ Other journals and important monographs on the history of the Holocaust on Slovenian territory have been published both for experts and the general public, such as the series of journals [Jews in Slovenia: History and the Holocaust](#).¹⁰ And we have included the life of Jewish people before and after the Holocaust as well. This is more specific for the North-eastern region where most Slovene Jewish population lived.

2s)

The topics of WWII, the Holocaust, history of genocide and related topics are covered by different subjects within faculties of social sciences and humanities. Slovenia has three public universities and several private university institutions. In Slovenia, there are no special departments or tenures specialised in the Holocaust in either public or in private higher education institutions. According to the online database of BA, MA and PhD final theses, the topics of the Holocaust and genocide of the Roma, as well as racism and antisemitism have sustained continuous interest. In the past two years, two doctorates were written on this topic (in the field of history, a thesis on the Holocaust, and in the field of Slovenian language studies, a thesis on antisemitism).

The main research topics on Holocaust in Slovenia have been geographically delimited, focusing on the history of Jewish communities, families and individuals in places with the highest number of victims (Prekmurje, Maribor, Ljubljana). Some are also linked to the study of the so called post-Holocaust cultural landscape; the stories of survivors, those who stayed in Slovenia and those who were displaced; studies of Jewish cultural heritage; studies of the economic history of Jewish communities, families and individuals; stories of rescuing Jews on Slovenian territory and stories on Slovenian rescuers who lived and worked abroad during the war. Currently, preparations are in place to start an extensive study of the situation of Jews in the Province of Ljubljana during the Italian occupation.

2t) No. Holocaust denial is incriminated in Art. 297/2 of the Criminal Code.

2u) Art. 83 of the Constitution provides for the immunity of the members of the parliament.¹¹

2y) Any discrimination is unconstitutional.

⁵ A book featuring the testimony of Erika Fürst, a Slovenian Holocaust survivor, which was of great help to many Slovenian researchers; Erika Fürst continues to give talks in primary and secondary schools and museums around Slovenia. The book was published by ZRC SAZU.

⁶ Second edition of an autobiography by Miriam Steiner Aviezer, first published in the 1960s; she was a long-standing contributor at Yad Vashem and participated in the publication of The Slovenian Righteous among Nations. The book was published by ZRC SAZU.

⁷ The booklet was written within a Holocaust awareness project carried out in 2013 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the National Education Institute and several renowned academics and researchers in this field. Printed copies of the booklet were distributed to all primary and secondary schools, as well as libraries; the electronic version is accessible free of charge on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

⁸ The book is divided into two parts containing stories by several authors and researchers: stories on the recognised Righteous among the Nations and stories that were still being researched. In 2017, Yad Vashem recognised eight new Slovenian Righteous among the Nations, whose stories were still being researched at the time of the second edition, which is why a new, revised edition of The Slovenian Righteous among Nations will be published in 2019. The book was published by ZRC SAZU.

⁹ The book describes the unsuccessful Aliyah of a group of Polish, Austrian, German and Croatian Jewish children who spent a period during the war in Lesno brdo village near Ljubljana, and have become known to the wider European public as children from Villa Emma. The translation of the German edition of the book by Josef Indig Ithai and the foreword to the book shed light on the situation at the time in the Province of Ljubljana, occupied by the Italians, which offered the fleeing children their first refuge. The book was published in January 2018 by ZRC SAZU.

¹⁰ The journals are published by Synagogue Maribor. Thus far, five volumes have been published.

¹¹ Article 83 of the Constitution (Immunity of Deputies)

No deputy of the National Assembly shall be criminally liable for any opinion expressed or vote cast at sessions of the National Assembly or its working bodies.

No deputy may be detained nor, where such deputy claims immunity, may criminal proceedings be initiated against him without the permission of the National Assembly, except where such deputy has been apprehended committing a criminal offence for which a prison sentence of over five years is prescribed.

The National Assembly may also grant immunity to a deputy who has not claimed such immunity or who has been apprehended committing such criminal offence as referred to in the preceding paragraph.

2z)

The government and non-governmental organizations have numerous projects of awareness raising against discrimination of any kind. Human rights education is part of the public regular school curricula, which serves as a prevention tool against negative stereotypes against any group.

3.k) Slovene schools don't monitor education materials of all kinds. All the materials (textbooks) are monitored before they enter to the school by the Expert Council. We didn't have materials with negative attitude towards Jewish people in schools.

3.l. The state doesn't monitor public libraries (freedom of expression), but in public libraries the editors take care and have responsibility in that case.

IV Information on states to promote tolerance and understanding including public – private initiatives?

4f)

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia has established the Council for Dialogue on Freedom of Religion, where representatives of the Government and religious communities, institutions for the protection of human rights and independent expert bodies discuss issues of religious freedom. The Jewish Community of Slovenia is represented in the Council by an elected member, and to date has not expressed any opinion or proposed any initiative for discussion at the Council sessions.

The Ministry of Culture (Office for Religious Communities) organizes consultations and receptions for representatives of registered religious communities.

4h)

See answer to question 4f.

4l)

In 2018, one of the consultations for representatives of registered religious communities organised by the Ministry of Culture was dedicated to the implementation of the UN Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that Could Lead to Atrocity Crimes. However, none of the religious communities exhibited any particular interest. In Slovenia, no training is provided to local religious actors.

4m)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other parts of Government actively engage with the civil society in awareness raising activities on tolerance and non-discrimination. It includes also the Jewish Cultural Center in Ljubljana and the Synagogue Maribor.

Slovenia's biggest achievement in the last five years has been the continuity of public discussions, research, education and museum activities related to the Holocaust, the genocide of the Roma¹², and a more contextualised approach to the history of WWII. Some of the public events across Slovenia have become regular annual events, such as the science seminar 'Each Year One Name', which sheds light on the brave acts of the Slovenian Righteous Among the Nations, 'Festival House of Tolerance' and the broadly designed programme 'Shoah – Let Us Remember' that encompasses numerous events all around Slovenia held on International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Slovenia has also been a staunch supporter of the UN principle of the "responsibility to protect" (R2P), which focuses on activities related to preventing risks and identifying indicators and triggers of processes which could lead to mass atrocities, including genocide. In 2016, the MFA provided for the translation of the UN publication "Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes: A Tool for Prevention" and presented

¹² In the Slovene language, the term 'porajmos' is also used, but there is an ongoing debate in the Roma community about whether it is adequate.

the charter in a series of public events aimed at raising awareness of the importance of actively preventing risks, indicators and triggers that could lead to processes conducive to atrocities.

Through media reporting and public events, as well as expert publications, knowledge about the Holocaust among the wider public has increased significantly. During the decades of the socialist regime, awareness of the fate of Slovenian Jews and Roma was pushed to the margins of collective memory, which is why many living generations have expressed a keen interest in learning about these topics. This is also attested by the fact that such publications very often quickly run out. The Slovenian public radio and television broadcaster allocates more air-time to Holocaust topics than in the past, and the number of optional activities in primary and secondary schools related to these topics has increased (e.g. exhibitions, events, school trips to visit memorial sites, talks with Holocaust survivors). Many university teachers of history, sociology, anthropology and other humanities and social sciences include the topic of the Holocaust in their lectures to both Slovenian and foreign students in Slovenia. Furthermore, Slovenia has witnessed a rise in public sensitivity to hate speech, Holocaust denial and distortion, antisemitism and racism.