1. SUMMARY

In 2020, a total of 585 anti-Semitic incidents were reported to the Anti-Semitism Reporting Office of the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Wien (Jewish Community in Vienna). Compared to the year before (where there were 550 incidents), this represents an increase of 6.4 percent, making it the highest recorded number of anti-Semitic incidents since records began 19 years ago. And yet, this report is not a comprehensive account of anti-Semitism in Austria. This is because it was only anti-Semitic incidents reported and classified as clearly being anti-Semitic in nature according to the IHRA definition that were counted.

From the 585 incidents, there were:

- 11 physical attacks (2019: 6)
- 22 threats (2019: 18)
- 53 cases of property damage (2019: 78)
- 135 cases of Mass dissemination of anti-Semitic content / Literature (2019: 209)
- 364 cases of abusive behaviour (2019: 239)

In order to be able to compare these statistics to other countries internationally, the categorisation of reported anti-Semitic incidents is based, as in the previous year, on those in Germany and the United Kingdom (see <u>"Categorisation"</u> section, from Page 6)



Antisemitic incidents 2008-2020



*no report available for 2018

2. PROGRESSION OF THE NUMBER OF REPORTINGS



2020 Total

Antisemitic incidents 2008-2020

After the remarkable slump in reported cases at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic in the months of March and April, the numbers went back to normal again during the course of the year. The significant increase from November onwards is mainly due to two circumstances:

On the one hand, in the first half of November the Anti-Semitism Reporting Office switched to online reporting and joined the social media platforms Twitter and Facebook, where the accounts are regularly updated; this increased public activity also led to a noticeable increase in people using our other contact options too, including the previous avenues of telephone and email, which are still available.

Of course, the noticeable resurgence of protests against the coronavirus lockdowns around this time has also led to a marked increase in the number of relevant incidents.

The divergence of the respective figures for the months of February and March compared to the semi-annual report is due to a correction resulting from the consolidation of incidents that were originally recorded separately.

The majority of anti-Semitic incidents are due to personal perception (175). Social networks are responsible for 135 incidents. That being said, 124 incidents were discovered in online comments (as a reminder: often, for example, several, sometimes dozens of anti-Semitic comments are found in a discussion forum or social media thread; they are then nevertheless always counted as only one incident). In 112 cases, emails with anti-Semitic content or relevant addressees were registered. Anti-Semitism in letter form occurred 33 times. Anti-Semitic telephone calls and newspaper articles are represented with 3 cases each.



International Data

Austria / Antisemitismus-Meldestelle der IKG Wien

