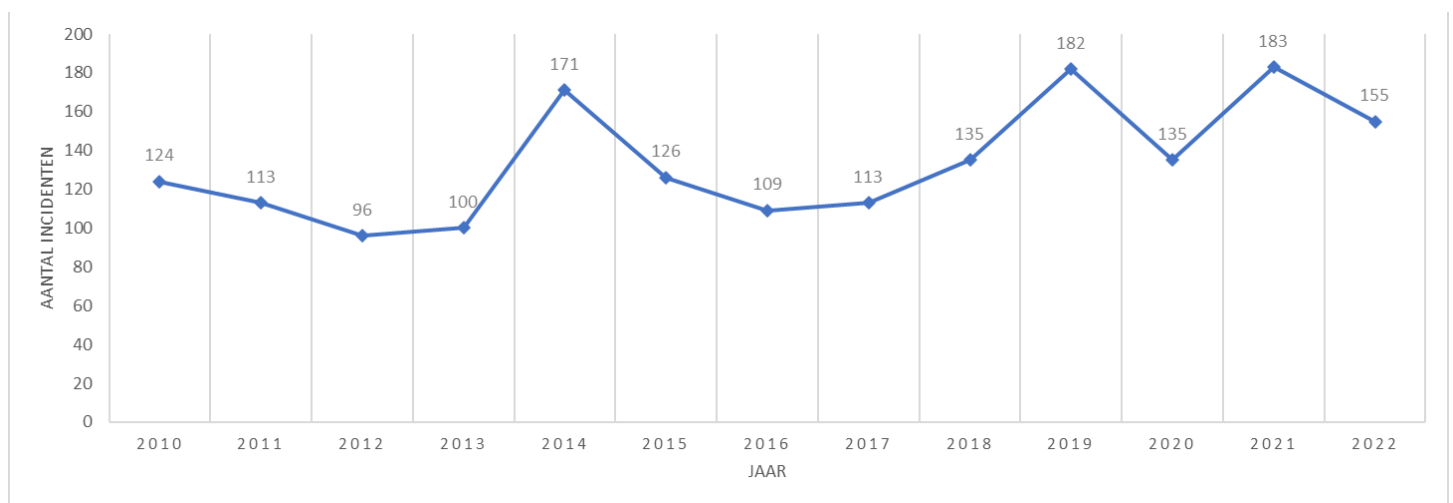


CIDI Anti-Semitism Monitor 2022: summary

In 2022, CIDI recorded a total of 155 anti-Semitic incidents, showing a 15 percent decrease compared to 2021 (183 incidents), but still higher than the number reported in the pandemic year of 2020, which saw a total of 135 anti-Semitic incidents.

More importantly, it is critical to examine the overall trend in recent years, revealing a pattern of fluctuating waves in the number of reported cases of anti-Semitism compared to a decade ago.

Total number of anti-Semitic incidents registered by CIDI, from 2010 onwards



A closer look at incidents in 2022 reveals the following trends:

- CIDI received an elevated number of reports regarding anti-Semitism within the sports world this year, particularly in the realm of soccer. Incidents were noted during the World Cup in Qatar and the Jewish sports club Maccabi in Amstelveen frequently faced anti-Semitic mistreatment from opposing teams.
- This year, there has been a rise in the number of reported incidents involving anti-Semitic graffiti and vandalism targeting Jewish sites, surpassing the figures from 2021. Disturbingly, examples include the desecration of a memorial plaque honoring deported Jewish children during the Shoah and the defacement of a synagogue with drawn swastikas.
- Anti-Semitism has permeated throughout the entire country, persisting consistently throughout the year. There were no significant deviations in terms of specific locations or periods during which the reports were made, indicating its widespread nature.
- The proliferation of anti-Semitism in the online realm is accelerating at an alarming rate. Platforms like Twitter, TikTok, and Telegram witness the rapid dissemination, liking, and sharing of anti-Semitic posts and comments. It is worth noting that, in many instances, reported anti-Semitic posts persist even after being brought to the attention of moderators and web hosts. Additionally, Jewish organizations are increasingly targeted with anti-Semitic messages.

Online anti-Semitism not aimed at specific individuals is not recorded (separately) in this CIDI Anti-Semitism Monitor. The number of online messages is simply too large to keep track of manually. To gain a comprehensive understanding of the prevalence of online anti-Semitism, which is increasingly intertwined with the offline world, CIDI emphasizes the importance of continued research into the extent of online anti-Semitism.

Anti-Semitism is at odds with basic democratic rights. Jews have the right to safely be themselves. The following recommendations and best practices, among others, can help counter anti-Semitism:

1. Enhance the prosecution of criminals and strengthen law enforcement measures

Security and Justice Minister Yesilgöz-Zegerius continues to demonstrate resolute determination in the ongoing fight against anti-Semitism. One notable example of her unwavering commitment was her active role in preventing David Icke, a promoter of anti-Semitic conspiracy theories, from entering the country in November 2022. Additionally, she tirelessly advocates for bolstered security measures to ensure the safety of Jewish communities and their institutions. Minister Yesilgöz-Zegerius consistently emphasizes her dedication to taking stricter measures against perpetrators. This approach is fully supported by CIDI, which recognizes the urgency of expediting the handling of criminal cases related to anti-Semitism that often linger for prolonged periods within the jurisdiction of the Public Prosecutor's Office.

2. Prioritize investment in education

Education plays a pivotal role in combatting anti-Semitism within our society. CIDI strongly recommends that topics as anti-Semitism, racism, and other forms of hatred be explicitly and mandatorily included in public education, social studies, and history curricula. Existing educational materials should be reviewed to ensure that they comprehensively and prominently address anti-Semitism as both a historical and contemporary phenomenon. Moreover, teacher's training programs should incorporate comprehensive instructions on addressing anti-Semitism, enabling future educators to teach about the topic with confidence and clarity.

Furthermore, increased investment is needed in educating students about the significance of Jewish identity. It is essential that pupils understand that Jews are integral members of Dutch society.

3. Improve the hate crime registration system

To ensure more accurate reporting of anti-Semitic incidents, it is crucial for the police to improve their registration system. CIDI recommends implementing user-friendly checkboxes to facilitate the registration process for anti-Semitic reports. This will enable police personnel to record incidents of anti-Semitism more efficiently, resulting in a more comprehensive understanding of the actual number of incidents in the Netherlands. However, for accurate registration, it is vital that police officers possess sufficient knowledge of what constitutes anti-Semitism. Otherwise, there is a risk of incidents going unrecognized and being overlooked. Therefore, CIDI recommends enhancing the training of police officers in collaboration with relevant social organizations. This educational cooperation will equip police officers with the necessary skills to effectively identify and address anti-Semitism.

4. Improve regulations concerning online anti-Semitism

The current focus on combating anti-Semitism primarily targets physical offenses, particularly those occurring in public spaces. As a result, culprits often evade accountability, which is an unacceptable state of affairs. It is imperative to implement swift and effective measures to confront and penalize the online expression of hatred towards Jews. Therefore, CIDI strongly recommends that the government require social media platforms to establish and actively enforce stringent policies that effectively curb the dissemination of online anti-Semitism.

5. Sustain ongoing research on the prevalence of online anti-Semitism

In 2020, a data analysis commissioned by CIDI and CJO revealed the presence of over 200,000 Dutch-language anti-Semitic messages online. Unfortunately, no subsequent research has been conducted in the following years, despite its vital importance in understanding trends and assessing the impact of measures against hate speech. Therefore, we urge policymakers to allocate funds for a similar investigation in the upcoming year, allowing us to gain a deeper understanding of the situation and implement appropriate measures accordingly.