

Monitor of Antisemitic Incidents in the Netherlands 2025 (Summary)

In 2025, CIDI recorded a total of 281 antisemitic incidents in the Netherlands. This represents a decrease compared to 2024 (421 incidents) and 2023 (379 incidents). However, the number of incidents remains significantly higher than during the decade preceding 2023. Throughout those ten years, the number of incidents remained at a considerably lower and relatively stable level. As long as the war in Israel continues, it affects Jewish communities in the diaspora. For decades, CIDI has observed that unrest in Israel leads to an increase in antisemitism in the Netherlands.

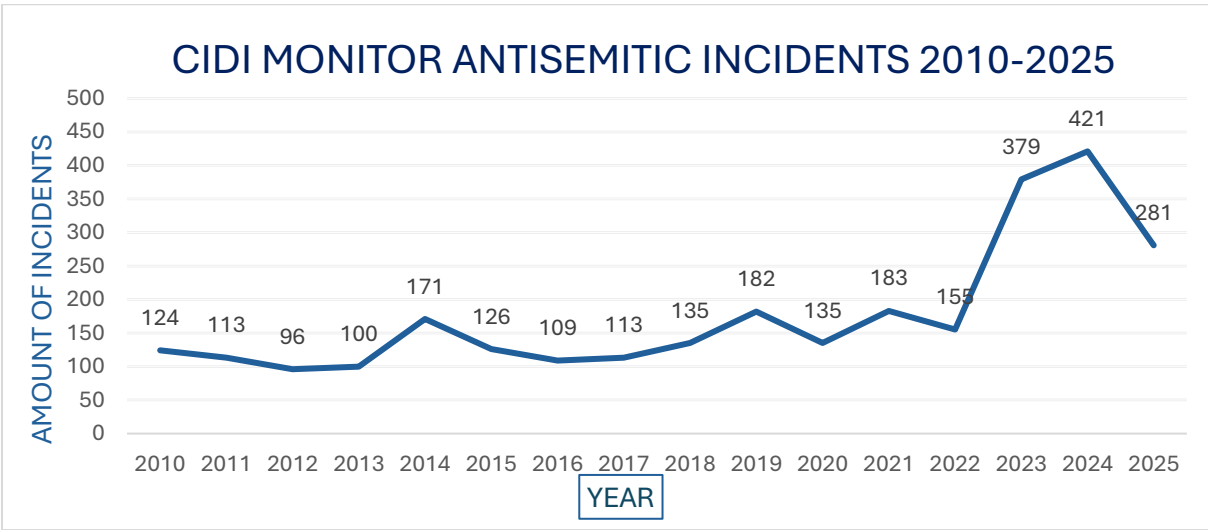


Figure 1

In almost all categories, the number of reports in 2025 has decreased, as shown in the graph below. Does this also mean that fewer incidents are actually occurring? Unfortunately not: CIDI observes an emerging “reporting fatigue.” This means that people are increasingly seeing little point in filing reports, as there is a perception that little to nothing is done with them.

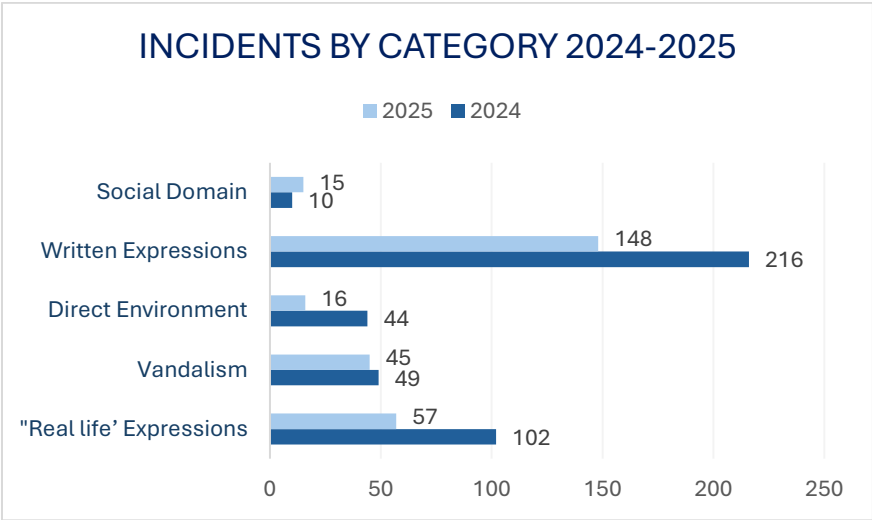


Figure 2

Social domain: Demonstrations

We see a striking increase in the number of antisemitic incidents at demonstrations: from one report in 2024 to eight reports in 2025. These incidents took place during anti-immigration protests and during protests and gatherings against the war between Israel and Hamas. They involved both expressions rooted in classical antisemitic conspiracy theories and situations in which the boundary between anti-Zionism and antisemitism was crossed.

This marked increase shows that antisemitism is increasingly being brought into public spaces. Many of these expressions present themselves as criticism of Israel or anti-Zionism, but in some cases contain clearly antisemitic messages: for example, during the Red Line Demonstration in May 2025 in The Hague, signs were displayed comparing the Gaza war to the Holocaust and equating Israel with the Nazis.

'Real life' Expressions: Verbal abuse in the context of the war

The total number of reported verbal abuse incidents in 2025 decreased to 43 reports (from 75 reports in 2024, a decrease of 43%). One reason for this decline may be that many Jewish people are making themselves less visibly Jewish out of fear - for example by concealing a kippah or a Star of David.

Notably, a large proportion of the verbal abuse explicitly refers to the war in Gaza. In this context, anti-Zionism is often used as a pretext for antisemitic expressions and threats. This development shows how the Gaza war influences public discourse and how antisemitic hate speech adapts to current events in order to intimidate Jewish Dutch citizens and institutions. For example, a group of rabbis in July 2025 in the city of Eindhoven were insulted by a group of youths during a walk, being called "cancer Jews," while chants of "Hamas, Hamas, all Jews to the gas!" were shouted at them, followed by "Free Palestine!"

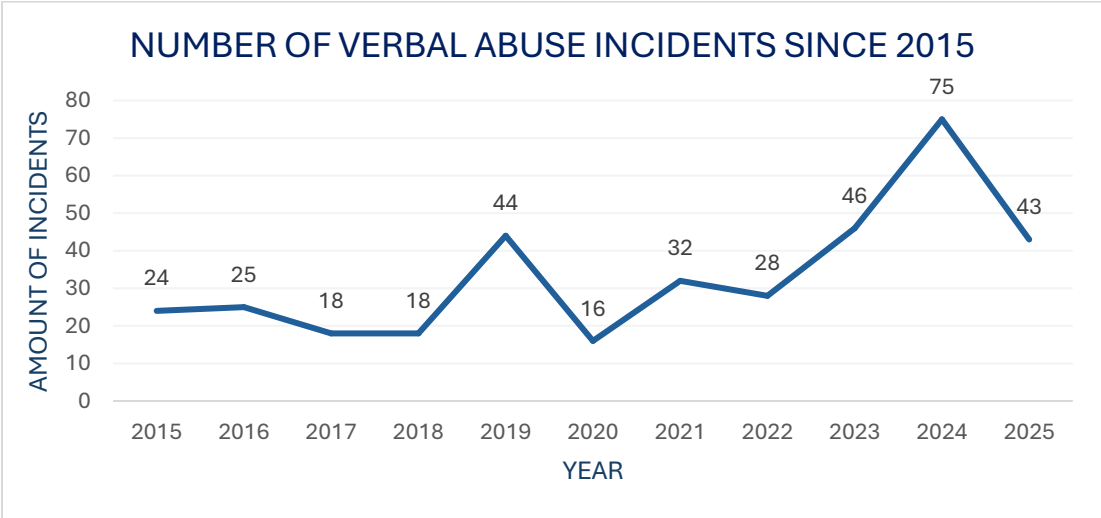


Figure 3

Vandalism: Damage and graffiti in public spaces

In 2025, 45 vandalism incidents took place. The impact of these incidents extends beyond material damage. They do not involve physical or verbal attacks, but rather tangible threats within the spatial living environment of Jewish people. As a result, additional security measures are sometimes taken or daily routes are adjusted to avoid confrontations.

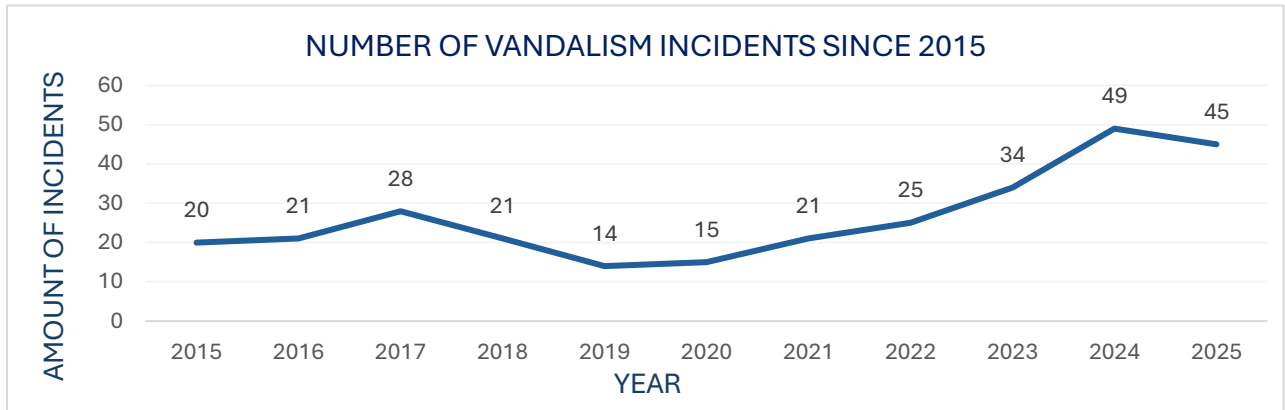


Figure 4

Reporting fatigue

Not all incidents that are punishable are actually reported. As the central reporting point for antisemitic incidents, CIDI has observed a so-called “reporting fatigue” within the Jewish community since 7 October 2023. People increasingly see little point in reporting incidents, as there is a perception that little to nothing is done with them. There is also often fear that, in the current polarised society, filing a complaint or report may lead to escalation rather than a solution. Others have lost their trust in the police and the justice system. This loss of trust is also visible at a micro level: there appears to be less confidence in leadership at schools, universities, and workplaces, as adequate responses to antisemitic incidents are often lacking. Incidents are increasingly downplayed or brushed aside.

Trends 2025

In 2025, Jews in the Netherlands and Judaism were once again regularly linked to Israel’s political actions, particularly in connection with the war with Hamas. This resulted in antisemitic incidents, such as attacks on Jewish individuals and institutions. Online, we see that classical antisemitic stereotypes and conspiracy theories are increasingly being attributed to “Zionists” rather than Jews. In many cases, these kinds of dog whistles are used to circumvent criminal liability. The war between Israel and Hamas was frequently compared to the Holocaust, and, by extension, the Holocaust itself was increasingly trivialized.

1. Anti-Zionism

Since 7 October 2023, Jews in the Netherlands have been directly affected by events in the Middle East: they are equated with Israel and held responsible for the policies of the Israeli government, despite having no influence over its decisions. This does not remain limited to words. In some cases, the conflict in the Middle East is also used as a sheer pretext to physically attack Jewish individuals and institutions in the Netherlands.

Old antisemitic stereotypes and conspiracy theories - such as Jews controlling banks and media, or being involved in global conspiracies against humanity - are being repeated in new forms. Recognising these requires greater contextual knowledge. Where previously the terms “Jew” and “Judaism” were used, the words “Zionist” and “Zionism” are increasingly used instead. Traditional antisemitic accusations are no longer attributed to “Jews” but to “Zionists.” This appears in many cases to be a rhetorical device to circumvent criminal liability for antisemitism. We received a very large number of such reports this year, which were not included in this monitor. Had they been included, there would have been hundreds of additional

reports. The incidents therefore do not appear to have decreased, but rather to have shifted. It is important to keep this in mind.

2. Holocaust comparisons

The war between Israel and Hamas is often compared to the Holocaust. For example, images circulate in which Anne Frank is depicted as a Palestinian victim or Gaza is referred to as the “new Warsaw Ghetto.” The war is also compared to other traumatic events in Jewish history. For instance, in December 2025 the collection *J'accuse – forty writers on Palestine* was published. Its title refers to the infamous Dreyfus Affair of 1894, in which a French Jewish army officer was falsely accused of treason, an event that led to a major rise in antisemitism at the time. This trend shifts the narrative from Jewish victimhood to (alleged) Jewish perpetration. It distorts history and again portrays Dutch Jews as a collective responsible for the decisions of Israeli government leaders.

3. “De-Judaization” of the Holocaust

In many expressions, there is a process of generalisation or “de-Judaization” of the Holocaust. In media coverage and public statements surrounding Holocaust commemorations, there is an increasing tendency to refer to “millions of victims” or “millions of people” without explicitly stating that these were Jews who were deliberately murdered solely because they were Jewish. This effectively denies the nature of the Holocaust. This trend also fits within the previously described shift towards framing Jews as perpetrators, by subtly omitting that Jews were the victims.

4. Everything related to Jews is sensitive

Everything related to Jewish life, Jewish history, or Jewish symbolism has become sensitive. Wearing Jewish symbols such as a kippah or a Star of David often provokes negative reactions, as does a mezuzah on a doorpost. The non-Jewish outside world is hesitant to associate with the Jewish community: Jewish organisations wishing to organise a celebration or event often cannot find a venue or can only do so with great difficulty. At the unveiling of Stolpersteine or projects such as Open Jewish Houses, organisers have concerns about safety. Fear of riots or vandalism often leads non-Jewish institutions or fellow citizens to avoid cooperation altogether. All of this contributes to visible Jewish life becoming less self-evident, with Jews becoming increasingly isolated.

Recommendations

It is of the utmost importance to prevent the sharply increased antisemitism since October 2023 from becoming the “new normal.” Jew-hatred poses a threat to fundamental democratic values and is not only a problem for the Jewish community, but for Dutch society as a whole. In order to effectively combat antisemitism, we make the following recommendations:

- Adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism as the guiding framework for policy and enforcement.
- Increase transparency of online platforms through mandatory identification, compulsory moderation of comments by major platforms and high-reach influencers, strengthen reporting capacity, and expand recognition of specialised reporters (“trusted flaggers”).
- Increase the likelihood of detection and the severity of punishment for antisemitism by freeing up additional police and Public Prosecution Service capacity and aiming for more prosecutions. Provide police officers and justice system professionals with opportunities to expand and

deepen their knowledge of antisemitism, as incidents are still too often dismissed because reporting officers fail to recognise them as antisemitic.

- Make structural education on Judaism and Jewish identity mandatory within the curriculum and equip schools with tools to address antisemitic incidents.
- Develop a broad approach to combating antisemitism in which Holocaust education is an important but not exclusive instrument.
- Guarantee safety at higher education institutions by enforcing existing rules and taking firm action against intimidation, disruptions, and violence.
- Include attention to Jewish life in integration programmes and reject asylum or residence applications in cases of demonstrable antisemitism.
- Criminalise discrimination based on nationality in order to address exclusion of, among others, Israelis.
- Develop a legal framework to address antisemitic anti-Zionism and commission research into further criminalisation.
- Take consistent action against violations during demonstrations and explicitly criminalise the glorification of terrorism.
- Link subsidies to inclusivity by excluding institutions and companies that discriminate from government funding.