

Service de Protection de la Communauté Juive  
*Jewish Community Security Service*



Report on Antisemitism in France

2012



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### **EXCERPTS FROM THE GENERAL CENSUS OF ANTISEMITIC ACTS COMMITTED IN FRANCE IN 2012**

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## SPCJ

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SPCJ, the Jewish Community Security Service, was founded in 1980 after the attack in the Rue Copernic in Paris.

SPCJ emerged from the joint determination of CRIF (the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France), FSJU (the Jewish United Social Fund), and the Rabbinat of the Jewish Community. Members of SPJC's Executive Committee are appointed by these founding institutions. SPCJ's President is Mr. Eric de Rothschild.

SPCJ's existence since the 1980s has been justified by the ongoing terrorist and antisemitic threat in France for the last 32 years. It has become necessary to help the Jewish community flourish, guarantee a free, diverse and satisfying expression of Jewish identity.

SPJC is an apolitical and a not-for-profit. Its sole mission is to protect Jewish life in its pluralistic expressions.





After the increase of antisemitic acts in September 2000, the leaders of the main Jewish organizations tasked the SPCJ to take an official census of antisemitic acts committed on French soil.

### **How is the census conducted?**

For this daunting and rigorous task, SPCJ works closely with the Ministry of Interior's department "Victims Unit". Precise and regular exchanges enable a detailed and reliable monitoring.

### **What kind of antisemitic acts are listed?**

The census lists antisemitic acts that were reported to the police and then to the SPCJ. It is enriched and crosschecked with reports from various police precincts and centralized at the Ministry of Interior.

This methodological rigor excludes a number of acts that were reported to SPCJ but were not reported to the police, and are thus absent from official statistics.

Furthermore, antisemitic content that circulates on the Internet is not systematically listed.

The various statistical elements that are presented in this report thus represent a reliable prism to analysis the main trends, but they do not show the complete picture of antisemitic violence in France in 2012.



Madam, Sir,

This seventh report on Antisemitism in France includes a census of antisemitic acts perpetrated on French soil as well as analyses of the serious situation that France currently faces regarding Antisemitism.

The terrible tragedy in Toulouse last year hit the heart of the community. Nobody could believe that such a barbaric act could be perpetrated in our country. Moreover, the community has had to face a surge of violence and aggressiveness after this attack; this means that there were people within our society that approved and supported this horrendous act committed against the most vulnerable targets.

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This report is especially alarming because it shows that antisemitic acts have steadily increased in the last decade, along with their seriousness and violence: brutal acts, insults, graffiti, and unacceptable images and propaganda on the Internet have grown deeper roots in our society, which may get accustomed to such acts and trivialize them.

This multi-faceted Antisemitism must be considered in all its dimensions so that appropriate means can be developed to fight it. French Jews refuse to face increasing difficulties in order to live their Jewish identity fully in our country.

God helps those who help themselves. The Jewish community mobilized and invested significant effort, including human, material and financial





resources to make Jewish life in France more secure; it has also launched an important prevention and education program for all classes from elementary school to high school, as well as for teacher training. It is sad to observe that despite these efforts, the trend continues to increase.

We have shared our observations with the government and I have officially handed this report to the Prime Minister before the meeting with the inter-ministerial committee for the fight against racism and Antisemitism. We are waiting for ambitious and concrete measures geared towards security, prevention and education, without which Antisemitism cannot be fought efficiently. Given its scope and gravity, this situation mirrors a serious social problem that needs to be addressed publicly.

Our mission is to protect the integrity of Jewish life in France and to foster the best conditions for its development and continuity. The combat against Antisemitism must be the combat of a nation as a whole that rejects the idea that its citizens can be killed on its own soil in the name of extremist ideals. A France without Jews wouldn't be France anymore.

Éric de ROTHSCHILD  
SPCJ President

<sup>(1)</sup> This census of antisemitic acts perpetrated on French soil is conducted in close collaboration with the Interior Ministry. It records specifically acts that led to filing a complaint and that qualified as antisemitic. These numbers have been verified and accepted by our French authorities.

SPCJ also handles other acts that should be added to this already long list, when victims choose not to lodge an official complaint for a variety of reasons. SPCJ nevertheless provides the same psychological, medical, and legal support to these individuals and families.



# IN MEMORY OF



**Gabriel Sandler (zl)**  
4 years old



**Arieh Sandler (zl)**  
5 years old



**Myriam Monsonego (zl)**  
7 years old



**Jonathan Sandler (zl)**  
30 years old





## TESTIMONY : EVA SANDLER

*I decided to share my testimony in SPCJ's annual report on Antisemitism in France to contribute to its work in denouncing and combatting this vicious scourge that took away my boys and my husband on a morning of March 2012.*

*It is hatred fed by a deeply rooted Antisemitism that led to this unbearable and irreparable horror.*

*Unfortunately, we live in a society in which we tend to place ourselves at the centre, and we don't always see those around us. We often find in another person what we can get from this person, rather than what we can contribute to this person.*

*We live in a society with many beautiful slogans; but one of the lessons that Judaism teaches me is that the value of a thought is seen in the ways in which it is actually implemented daily.*

*All people with families understand this perfectly, even if they sometimes forget that small gestures of charity, attention, and tenderness build a household day after day.*

*What applies to a household applies to society.*

*This what I, Eva Sandler, think today, after losing my husband and my two boys so horribly.*

*I often wonder what they expect from me.*

*Certainly not to live as a victim. Maybe to think about all the people I can meet, to live a life centred around moral and ethical values, a life in which, as a Jew, religion is not just a tradition but a way to see the world in all its dimensions.*

*Let's think about the concrete ways we can change things, make them evolve, grow, and not just with nice words. Let's work so that the quest for an ideal doesn't mean the destruction of others, but helping them grow. Let's work on a daily basis to remind ourselves that the word "happy" is not conjugated with the verb "to have" but with the verb "to be." Let's emphasise the importance of ethics and morals in all areas of our lives.*

*Let's re-learn to smile to one another and to pray for everyone's happiness.*

*Thank you to all who have been on our side and who, each in a different way, help us grow stronger out of this terrible ordeal.*







# **REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## **1. | ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012: FACTS**

### 2012: a year of unprecedented violence against Jews in France

- 4 people—including 3 children—were killed and 2 people wounded
- 614 antisemitic acts were recorded in 2012 against 389 in 2011, which constitutes a 58-percent increase of antisemitic acts in France in 2012
- Physical and verbal attacks (violence + verbal threats or threatening gestures and insults) increased by 84% compared to 2011 (315 in 2012 vs. 171 in 2011)
- Physical attacks increased by 69% in 2012 compared to 2011 (96 in 2012 vs. 57 in 2011)
- 25% of physical attacks involve a weapon

### The two main increases in antisemitic acts are not related to the international context

- Instead of raising awareness, the attacks in Toulous and Sarcelles were followed by a significant increase in antisemitic acts
- After the Toulouse attack, numerous antisemitic acts were committed and included support or identification to Merah and his act

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### 55% of racist violence in France in 2012 targeted Jews\*

- According to the Interior Ministry, 175 violent hate crimes have been recorded: 96 antisemitic acts, 70 racist and xenophobic acts, and 9 anti-Muslim acts.
- The increase in antisemitic acts in France in 2012 is more than 8 times higher than the increase of the other racist and xenophobic acts: 58% vs. 6.8%.

\* This number should be put into perspective with the demographic reality of the Jewish community in France

### Where do antisemitic acts against individuals occur?

- A majority of antisemitic acts occur on the street
- Certain cities and certain neighborhoods witness repeated antisemitic attacks



Chart showing antisemitic acts recorded on French soil  
from January 1 to December 31, 2012



TYPE		JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUIN	JUNE	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL BY TYPE	2011 STATS
ACTS	HOMICIDES OR ATTEMPTS	0	0	5 <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	1 <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	6	0
	PHYSICAL VIOLENCE	2	3	16	9	7	5	7	7	10	15	11	4	96	57
	TERROR ATTACKS OR ATTEMPTS	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
	ARSON OR ATTEMPTS	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	7
	DEFACTING & VANDALIZING	5	3	15	6	2	3	8	3	2	12	8	4	71	65
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>129</b>	
2011 STATS		9	9	12	10	11	11	5	14	12	15	10	129		
THREATS	THREATENING WORDS AND GESTURES, INSULTS	11	9	44	22	17	18	16	9	18	24	20	11	219	114
	FLYERS AND HATE MAIL	5	1	20	2	2	1	2	3	0	5	4	1	46	46
	GRAFFITI	7	7	29	18	9	7	19	10	16	16	17	17	172	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>260</b>	
2011 STATS		24	17	35	37	25	26	17	7	17	31	15	9	260	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>389</b>	
2011 STATS		33	26	47	47	36	37	28	12	31	43	30	19	389	

(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)

<sup>1</sup> : This number relates directly to the attack that was committed that same month by Mohamed Merah against a Jewish day school in Toulouse (Haute-Garonne), which left four people dead, including 3 young children, and a teenager severely wounded.

<sup>2</sup> : This number relates directly to the explosion of a hand grenade in a kosher grocery store in Sarcelles (Val d'Oise) that same month that that caused one casualty and material damage.







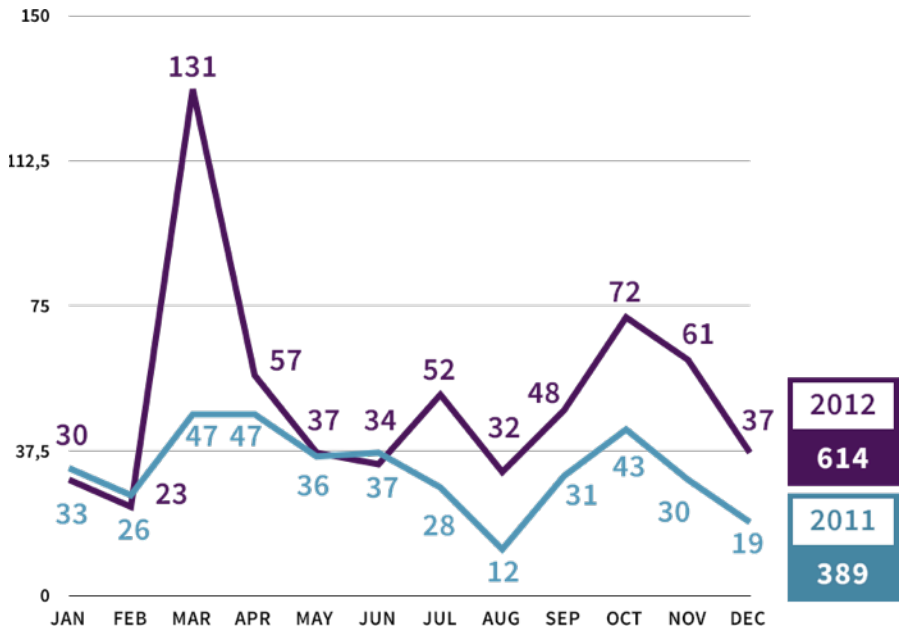
# **REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## **2. | COMPARATIVE STUDY 2011 — 2012**

## COMPARATIVE STUDY 2011 – 2012

- ▶ 614 antisemitic acts were recorded in 2012 against 389 in 2011, which constitutes a 58-percent increase

- ▶ Compared study of the evolution of Antisemitism in France between 2011 and 2012

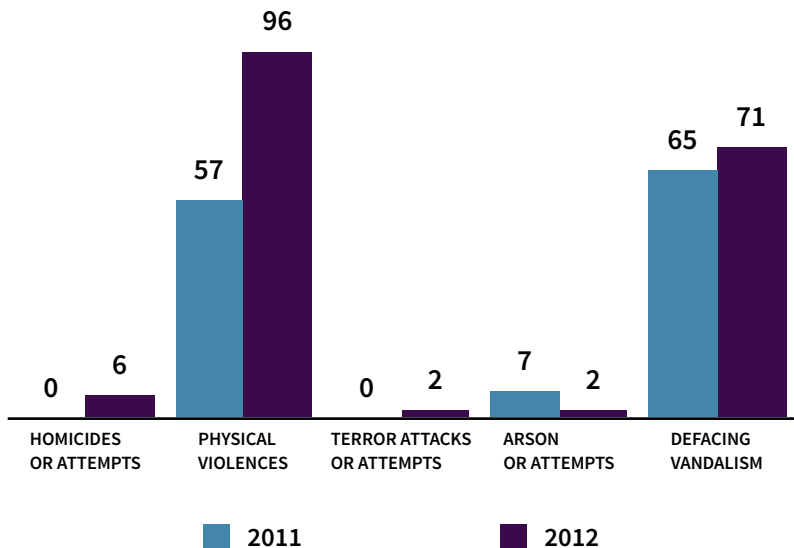


(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)





▶ Compared study of antisemitic acts between 2011 and 2012



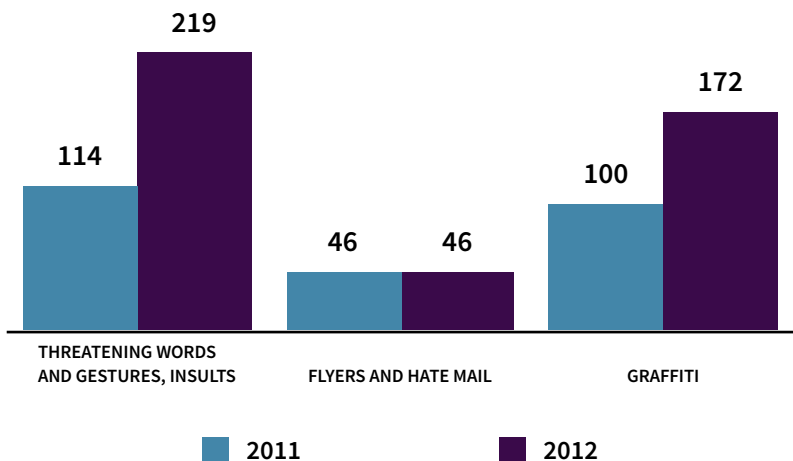
(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)

- ▶ Except for fire arsons and arson attempts, all antisemitic acts have dramatically increased.
- ▶ Physical attacks (violent acts) have increased by 69% in 2012 compared to 2011 (96 vs. 57).
- ▶ The number of homicides or homicidal attempts has jumped from 0 in 2011 to 6 in 2012: 4 people were killed and one seriously wounded in the Toulouse attack and one was wounded in the Sarcelles attack.
- ▶ The number of terror attacks or attempts rose from 0 in 2011 to 2 in 2012.
- ▶ The number of acts of vandalism (defacing, etc.) has increased by 10% in 2012 compared to 2011.



- ▶ The total number of antisemitic threats--excluding flyers and hate mail that remain stable--has dramatically increased.
- ▶ Threatening words and gestures, as well as insults of various kinds have increased by 92% between 2011 and 2012.
- ▶ Graffiti have increased by 72% in 2012 compared to 2011.

- ▶ Compared study of antisemitic threats between 2011 and 2012



(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)

- ▶ In 2012 , physical and verbal attacks--violence and insults, threatening gestures and insults--increased by 84% compared to 2011: 315 in 2012 vs. 171 in 2011.



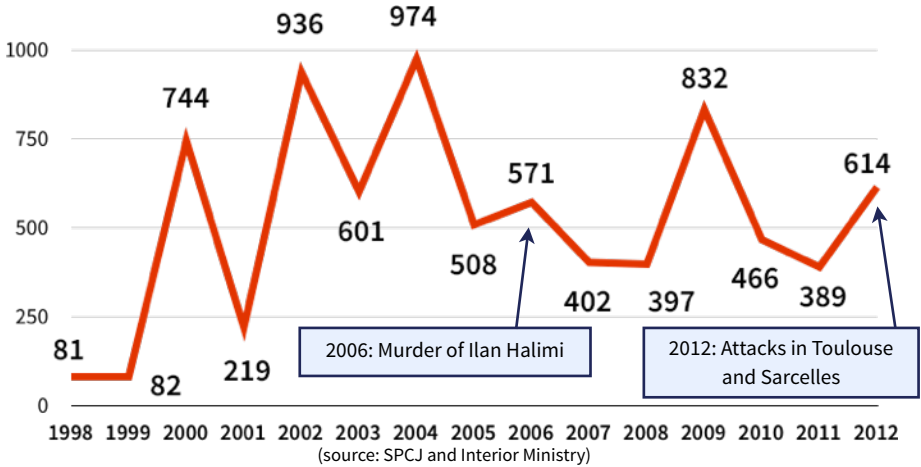
# **REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## **3. | EVOLUTION OF ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE**

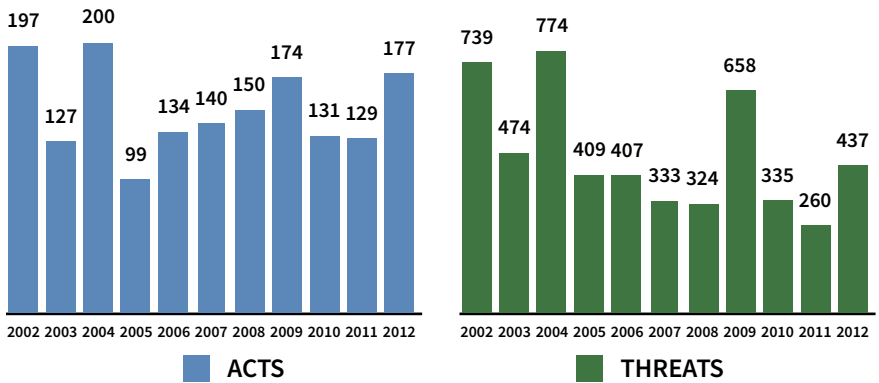
# EVOLUTION OF ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE

► Pre-2012 surges of Antisemitism in France were caused by the conflicts in the Middle East. It is not the case anymore in 2012.

## ► General Evolution of Antisemitism in France from 1998 to 2012



## ► Comparative study of the evolution of acts and threats in France from 2002 to 2012

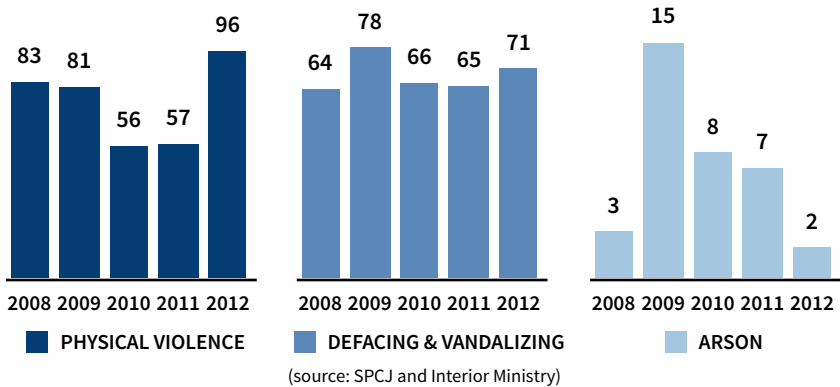




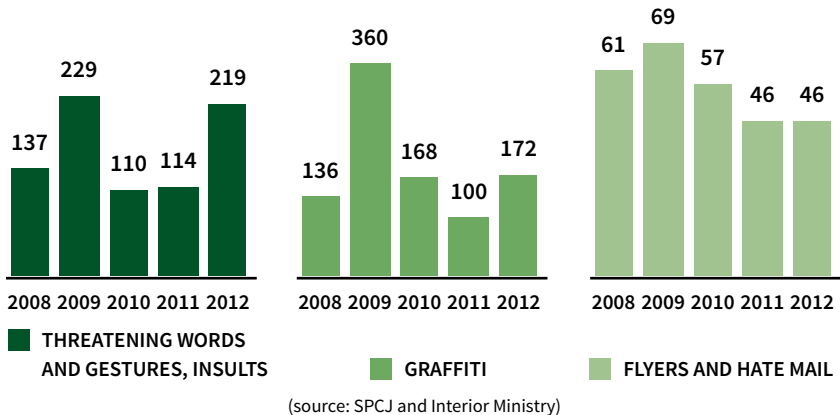
# EVOLUTION OF ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE

▶ 2012: a year of unprecedented violence against Jews in France. In 2012, there were 96 cases of violence, an unprecedented number.

▶ Evolution of Acts in France from 2008 to 2012



▶ Evolution of Threats in France from 2008 to 2012







# **REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## **4. | FOCUS ON VIOLENCE**

- ▶ **The Jewish community was the target of two terror attacks in less than six months**

### **Toulouse (31), Monday, March 19, 2012**

A man known to the police as a member of a jihadi group shoots at and inside a Jewish day school.

A father of 2, his two children aged 4 and 5, and a 7-year-old girl are savagely massacred. A 17-year-old man is severely wounded.

### **Sarcelles (95), Wednesday, September 19, 2012**

At lunchtime, two individuals throw two explosive devices inside a kosher supermarket.

A customer is wounded on the arm and the leg.

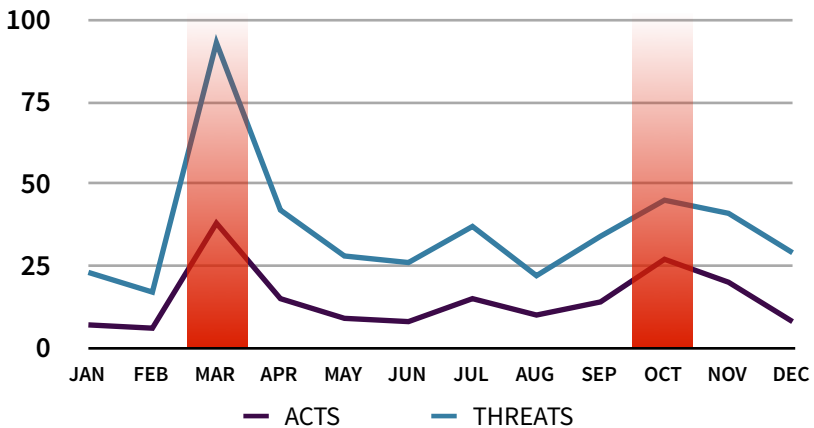
The investigation leads to a wide anti-terror operation against radical Islamist groups in a number of French cities. A list of Jewish organizations in the Paris region as well as a number of wills were discovered.

- ▶ **After the Toulouse attack, numerous antisemitic acts were committed and included support or identification to Merah and his act**
- ▶ **After it was announced that the terror cell linked to the Sarcelles attack was dismantled numerous cases involving pistol shots with lead bullets targeting Jews were noticed**





- ▶ Instead of raising awareness, the attacks in Toulouse and Sarcelles were followed by a significant increase in antisemitic acts



(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)

**90**  
acts  
in  
10  
days

**AFTER**

**TOULOUSE  
ATTACK**

March 19th, 2012

**28**  
acts  
in  
8  
days

**AFTER**

**DISMANTLING OF THE  
TERROR CELL  
FOLLOWING THE  
SARCELLES ATTACK**

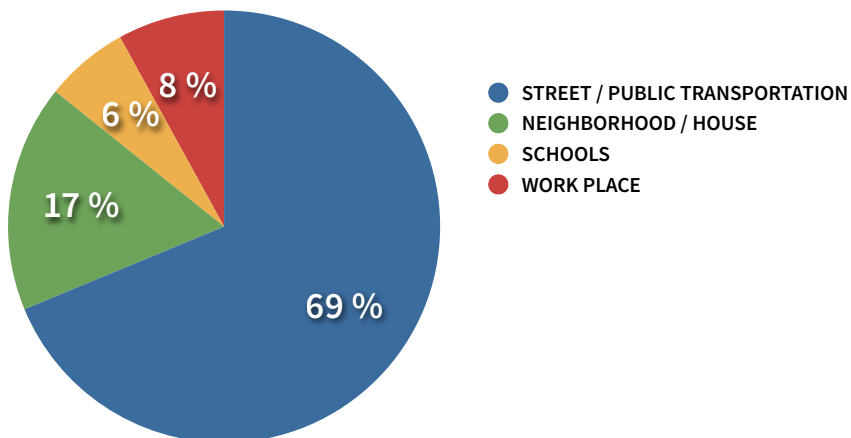
October 6th, 2012



## FOCUS ON VIOLENCE

- ▶ A majority of antisemitic acts occur on the street and public transport
- ▶ 25% of physical attacks involve a weapon

- ▶ 69% of violent acts occur on the street



- ▶ 25% of antisemitic violence involve weapons

Knife	8
Tear gas	4
Stone	4
Lead pistol	3
Metal bar / Hammer	2
Firearm	1
Bottle	1
Fire device	1



# **REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## **5. | RACISM AND ANTISEMITISM**

## RACISM AND ANTISEMITISM

- ▶ 55% of acts of racist violence perpetrated in France in 2012 targeted Jews.\*
- ▶ The increase in antisemitic acts in France in 2012 is eight times higher than the increase of all other racist and xenophobic acts: 58% vs. 6.8%.

\* This number should be put into perspective with the demographic reality of the Jewish community in France.

### ▶ Breakdown of violent acts in 2012

	2012 Data	Proportion
Antisemitic violence	96	55 %
Anti-Muslim violence	9	5 %
Other racist and xenophobic violent acts	70	40 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>100 %</b>

(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)

### ▶ Comparative evolution of antisemitic and racist/xenophobic acts in 2012

	2011	2012	Evolution
Antisemitic Acts	389	614	+58%
Other racist and xenophobic acts	867	925	+6,8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>1539</b>	

(source: SPCJ and Interior Ministry)





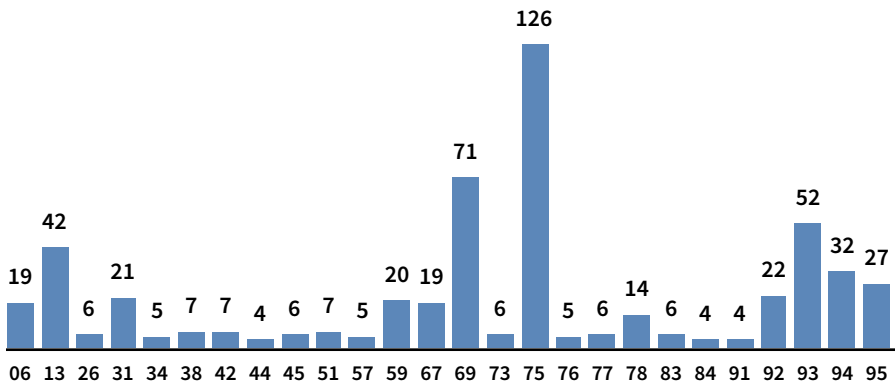
# **REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## **6. | GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF ANTISEMITIC ACTS PERPETRATED IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF ANTISEMITISM IN FRANCE IN 2012

- ▶ Certain cities and certain neighborhoods witness repeated antisemitic attacks

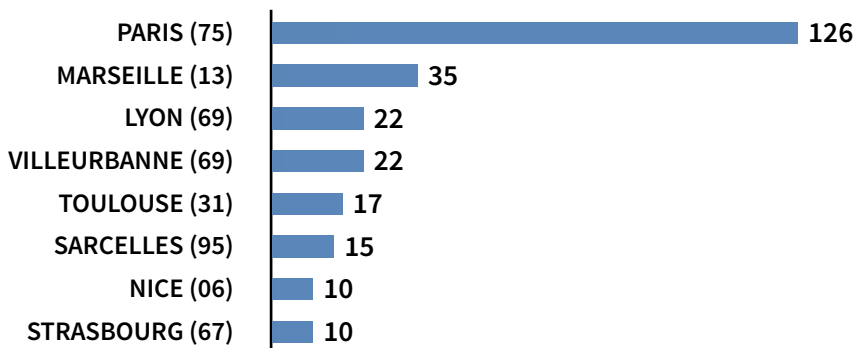
- ▶ Analysis of antisemitic acts in France in 2012 by department\*



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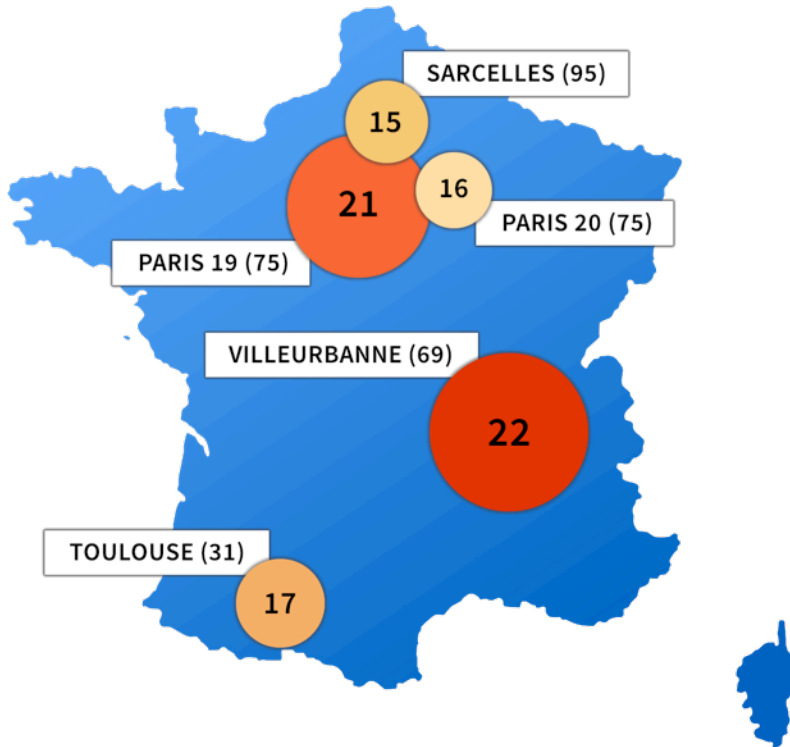
\* A department must have witnessed at least 4 acts to be mentioned here

- ▶ The eight cities that have witnessed the highest number of antisemitic acts



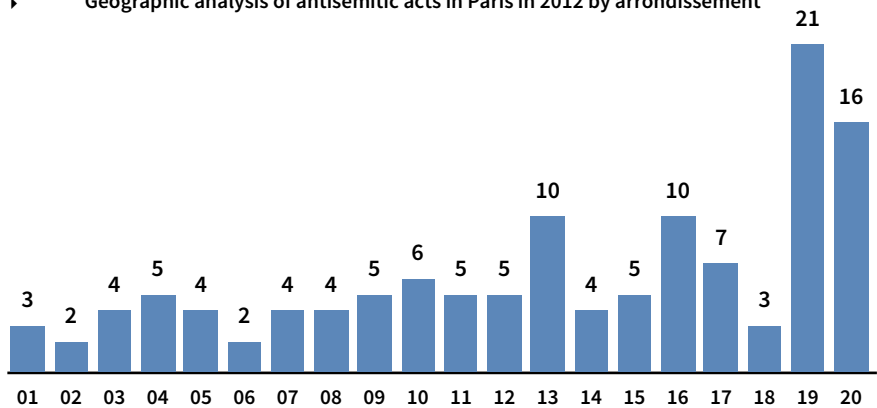


- ▶ The five areas that witnessed the highest number of antisemitic acts in France in 2012



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- ▶ Geographic analysis of antisemitic acts in Paris in 2012 by arrondissement









**REPORT ON ANTISEMITISM  
IN FRANCE IN 2012**

**EXCERPTS FROM THE GENERAL  
CENSUS OF ANTISEMITIC ACTS  
COMMITTED IN FRANCE IN 2012**

## EXCERPTS FROM THE GENERAL CENSUS OF ANTISEMITIC ACTS COMMITTED IN FRANCE IN 2012

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### **Sunday, January 22, 2012 - MONTREUIL (93)**

A 16-year-old Jewish girl is approached by people at the subway exit. They see that she is carrying books in Hebrew; they beat her in the face, tear her clothes with a knife and yell antisemitic slurs at her. The victim is in deep shock.

### **Thursday, February 16, 2012 - PARIS (75019)**

A young man is the victim of 4 individuals that steal his cell phone, money, and coat. When the attackers learn that he is Jewish, one of them says: "See what Israelis do to Palestinians?"

They beat him up and ran away.

### **Sunday, February 26, 2012 - MARSEILLE (13009)**

A Jewish woman is insulted by a neighbor who says: "You Jews, you are the masters of the world, you think you can do whatever you want, you are taking over the neighborhood!" She then seizes her arm and pushes her.

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### **Thursday March 8, 2012 - MONTREUIL (93)**

Three individuals aged about 14 approach a minor and tell him they don't like his yarmulke, and then add that they don't like Jews. One of them pulls a tear gas can and sprays the victim.

### **Tuesday, March 13, 2012 - PARIS (75019)**

A 12-year-old girl is beaten in the face and called "dirty Jew" on the platform of the Ourq station by a teenage girl who wrongfully accuses her of having pushed her and not having apologized because she's Jewish.

### **Thursday, March 22, 2012 - PARIS (75020)**

A victim is approached by a man who is asking for a cigarette; she answers negatively. The man then says to her: "We're gonna put France on fire, we're going to screw the French Republic. F\*\*\* the Jews! I'm going to screw the French, I'm going to screw the French women!" He then beats him on the knee and in the face.





### **Saturday, March 24 2012 - MELUN (77)**

As a severely disabled man returns home, he is violently attacked by a number of individuals who force him into his house. They yell “dirty Jew” and then steal the keys, credit card and 30 euros in cash from the victim who is disabled and suffers from mental problems.

### **Monday, March 26, 2012 - PARIS (75013)**

An 11-year-old schoolboy wearing ritual fringes (tzitzit) is punched in the face and called “dirty Jew” just a few feet away from his school.

### **Wednesday, March 28 2012 - GRENOBLE (38)**

A non-Jewish security guard parks his car near the Jewish cultural center and walks home. Two individuals riding a scooter get close to him and say, “F\*\*\*ing Jew!” before punching him in the face.

### **Saturday, March 31, 2012 - AIX EN PROVENCE (13)**

A man and his son are attacked physically and hear antisemitic slurs on their way out of synagogue. Individuals standing on the roof of a school throw stones at them three times, while yelling: “Hey, Jews! Shabbat Shalom!”

### **Sunday, April 1, 2012 - MARSEILLE (13)**

A Jewish man who wears a yarmulke is walking with his wife and two children, when they are approached by a man who yells: “Dirty Jews, we don’t want you here. Go home, get lost, free Palestine.” And he punches the man.

### **Monday April 2, 2012 - SARCELLES (95)**

A group of individuals approach a Jewish teenager and ask him to give them his cell phone. Upon his refusal, they say: “It’s ok, you’re Jewish, you can have as many as you want.” And they spray him with tear gas.

### **Tuesday April 17, 2012 - PARIS (75016)**

The victim is giving a lecture when she is disturbed by an individual who hits her and yells: “Dirty North African, the Jews hurt the country, the North African hurt the country. We should beat you up and kick you out. If I catch you I rape you.”



### **Monday, April 30, 2012 - MARSEILLE (13)**

A Jewish young man and his friend is yelled at by a group of individuals: “We are for Palestine; we don’t like Jews; we’re gonna kill you. We’re gonna exterminate you all.” The two men keep walking when about 10 individuals storm onto them. The victim is hit on the head, which makes him fall. He is then kicked all over the body while on the ground. They steal his gold Star of David. He suffers from a sprain neck, an internal hemorrhage and needs stitches near the eye.

### **Saturday, May 26, 2012 - MARSEILLE (13)**

A 17-year-old man is walking with his sister and her fiancé as four individuals address them and identify his yarmulke: “It’s Shabbat for you. Long life Merah! F\*\*\* the Jews! Palestine will win, we’re going to win the war.” One of them grabs the yarmulke, jumps at him and punches him in the shoulder. The young man reacts and is kicked in the leg by a second attacker. He suffers from a knee wound and has cut ligaments.

### **Friday, June 1, 2012 - PARIS (75017)**

A bearded man wearing a hat is yelled at man in a car: “Cross fast, dirty Yud.” At the next red light, the man asks for an explanation. The driver answers: “Go pray your god, dirty kike.” And sprays tear gas at him.

### **Saturday, June 2, 2012 - VILLEURBANNE (69)**

Three young Jewish boys wearing yarmulkes are called “dirty Jews” by three individuals. One of the youngsters is then punched and kicked. A fight ensues. As they move on, the same individuals and some of their friends holding metal bars and hammers catch up the three youngsters. One of the youngsters is hit on the head by a hammer and another boy with a metal bar on the neck.

### **Wednesday, July 4, 2012 - CRETEIL (94)**

The perpetrator complains that he can’t access the back of the bus because strollers are blocking the way. He yells at the victim’s wife, a rabbi wearing a traditional garb. The rabbi is slapped, kicked with the elbow, and punched on the head and on the back. The attacker calls him “dirty Jew”. A bus employee tries to end the attack; the perpetrator runs away.





### **Friday, October 5, 2012 - NOISY LE SEC (93)**

During a Shabbat dinner in a sukkah, a family of 10 receives large rocks and pieces of concrete violently thrown against the canvas sheet. They hear “Dirty Jews, we’re going to get you.” One of the women is wounded in the back. Children and a nine-month-old baby are witnesses to the scene. The attackers run away.

### **Saturday, October 6, 2012 - ARGENTEUIL (95)**

A rabbi, his wife and congregants are gathered in front of the synagogue. A car slows down, the window is lowered, and lightning comes out of a gun; a hail of bullets is heard. There are no casualties. The police found 9 cases of blank bullets.

### **Sunday, October 7, 2012 - PARIS (75010)**

A Jewish man wearing traditional garb is shot at with a bb gun while standing at his window. He is not wounded.

### **Tuesday, October 9, 2012 - PARIS (75013)**

A young Jewish man is shot at with lead bullets in front of the synagogue. He is lightly wounded.

### **Monday, November 19, 2012 - MONTREUIL (93)**

A group of young schoolkids is playing ball in front of their school. A group approaches them, circles one kid and accuses him of having insulted them earlier. He receives two head kicks. Another student intervenes asking the attacker to calm down. He is then punched so hard that he falls against a parking meter. While on the ground, he is kicked. Firefighters bring him to the hospital with a broken nose and tooth.

**Are you a witness or a victim of an antisemitic act?**

**In case of threat or danger, call**

**0 800 18 26 26**

Free call 24/7





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