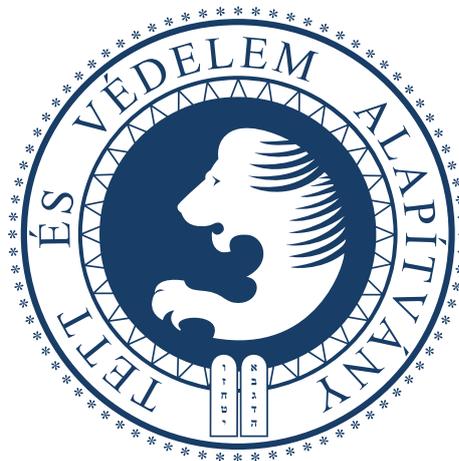


ANTI-SEMITIC
HATE CRIMES AND INCIDENTS
IN HUNGARY

2017. ANNUAL
SHORT REPORT



BRUSSELS INSTITUTE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One

of the most important parts of the fight against anti-Semitism is precise information about the causes and extensiveness of anti-Semitism. For this reason, the main aim of the Action and Protection Foundation is to provide more information about this issue. Monthly, the Foundation observes public events and the press and records any incidents. Analyzing the information gained by

monthly monitoring activity is of great help in protecting the community. We have summed up our 2017 monitoring this annual report.

The report covers two kinds of actions: anti-Semitic hate crimes and incidents motivated by hate, both of which we will now refer to as a “hate crime”. In both cases, anti-Semitic motivation must be proven.

METHODOLOGY¹

The report deals with two types of offence: hate crimes and hate motivated incidents. These are defined by OSCE as follows² (OSCE/ODIHR 2009b, 15–16):

- hate crime: a crime as defined by the criminal code, which has been motivated by prejudice against a certain group of people³
- hate-motivated incident: an offence, also based on prejudice against a certain group of people, but not reaching the level of criminal conduct.

The report presents hate crimes and hate incidents motivated by anti-Semitism, wherever perpetrator, target, means or message of a case suggest it. The target may be a person, a group, an event, a building, a monument or other property. It is important however, that anti-Semitic motivation

can only be spoken of if the perpetrator chose the given target expressly because it was assumed to belong to Jewry. In this context it is not finally relevant whether the assumption is correct: the belief of the target's connection to Jewry is sufficient.

Placing hate incidents in context is also a priority. These actions do not exist in empty space and are by no means independent of the social and cultural environments in which they occur. The dynamics of these incidents is also of importance: often processes, rather than separately occurring events can be spoken of (Perry 2001, 8). Apart from the static data, short descriptions of each event are also published, which aid understanding of the environment surrounding the incident.⁴ In presenting time lines, attention will always be given to showing the dynamics of the events.

¹ Our methodology remains the same since we started our monitoring in May 2013. The methodology was elaborated by Ildikó Barna, her text was integrated in this chapter. Small modifications are marked separately.

² The scientific definition of hate crimes is extremely contradictory and divergent (for more on this, see Chakrabarti and Garland 2009, 4–7).

These definitions can serve as important agenda to an understanding of these crimes, however they are difficult to apply in practice. This is what made the creation of simpler, more practical definitions necessary.

³ For example, on these grounds the OSCE does not consider hate speech a hate crime, since the given behavior would not count as criminal without the motive of prejudice (OSCE/ODIHR 2009a, 24).

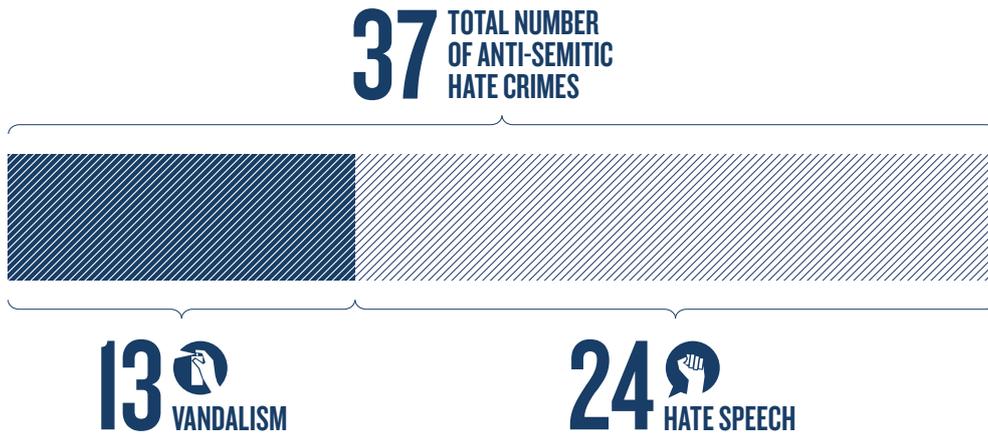
For our approach in dealing with this, see below.

⁴ These descriptions in particular are held to be a most positive aspect of the Anti-Defamation League reports by Perry (2001, 18).

ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES

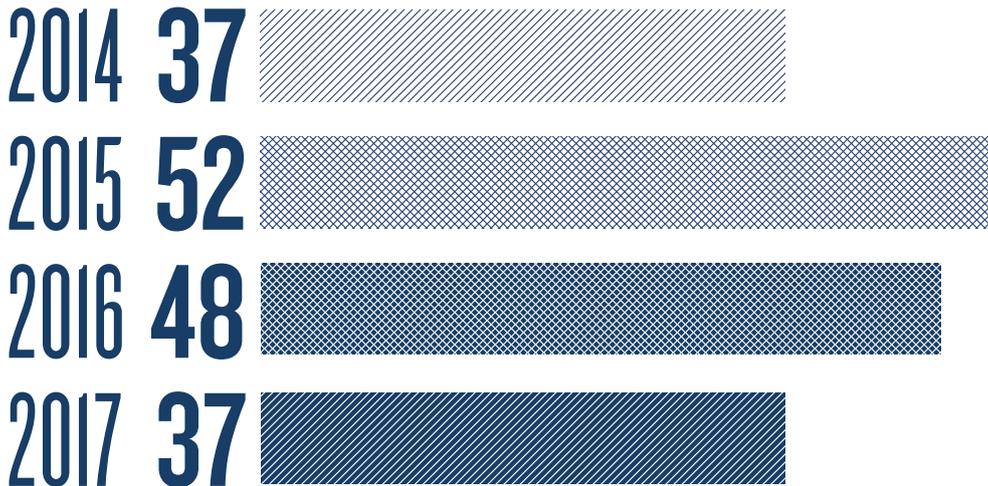
ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES IN 2017

Action and Protection Foundation identified 37 anti-Semitic hate crimes during 2017 monitoring. There were 13 cases of vandalism and 24 cases of hate speech.



NUMBER OF ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES DURING THE LAST YEARS

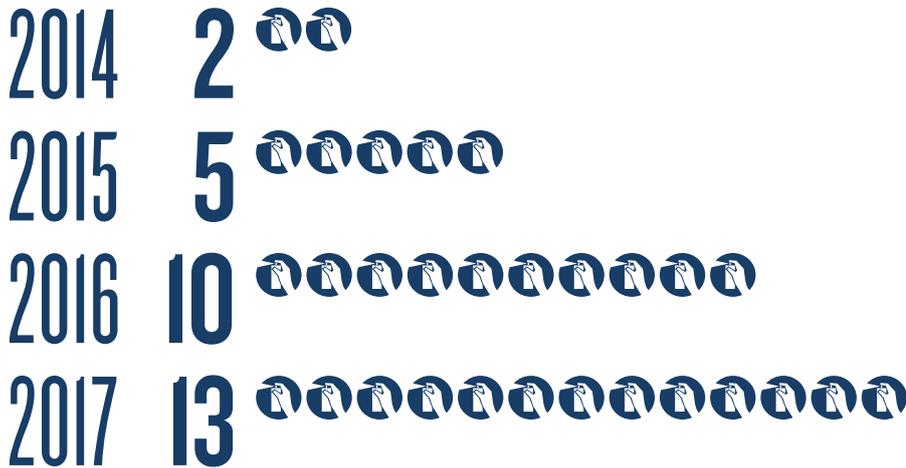
This data, compared to the previous years, shows a slight decrease in hate crimes. APF reported 48 hate crimes in 2016, 52 cases in 2015, and 37 cases in 2014. APF started its monitoring activity in May 2013. Data including the entire year is only available since 2014.



APF did not register any other hate crimes (physical attacks, threats or discrimination) apart from the 13 cases of vandalism and 24 cases of hate speech. These cases were also rare in previous years, with at most one or two cases a year.

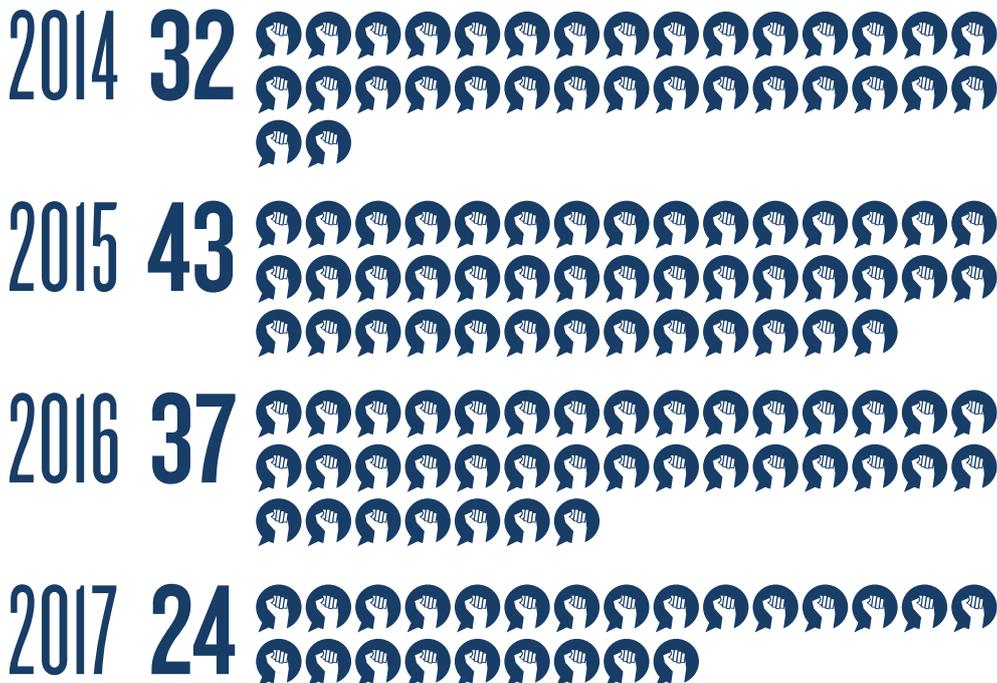
NUMBER OF VANDALISM DURING THE LAST YEARS

There was an increase in cases of vandalism. There were 2 cases in 2014, 5 cases in 2015, 10 cases in 2016 and 13 cases in 2017 targeting either the Jewish community or community buildings. These were mostly discriminatory, anti-Semitic extremist symbols or other slurs.



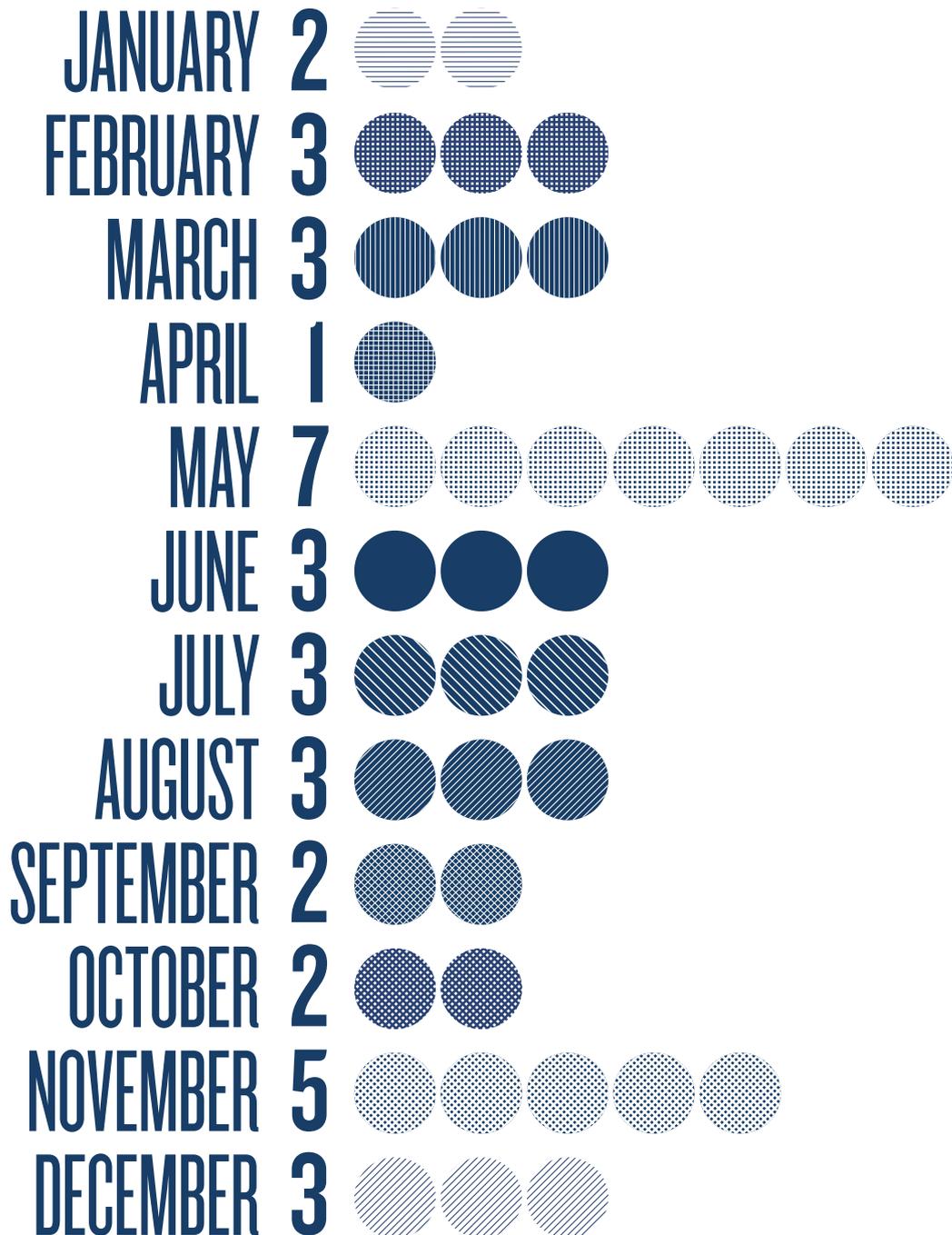
NUMBER OF HATE SPEECH DURING THE LAST YEARS

The 24 cases of hate crime in 2017 show a slight decrease. There were 32 cases in 2014, 43 cases in 2015, 37 cases in 2016. In 2017, we reported the fewest incidents of hate speech.



NUMBER OF HATE INCIDENTS IN 2017, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHS OF THE YEAR

Based on the monthly breakdown, APF reported an outstanding number in May, seven cases. We reported five cases in November, which is slightly above average. The average number of cases each month was two or three. In total, we reported two cases in January, three cases in February and March respectively, one case in April, seven cases in May, three cases from June until August each month, two cases in September and October, five cases in November and three cases in December.



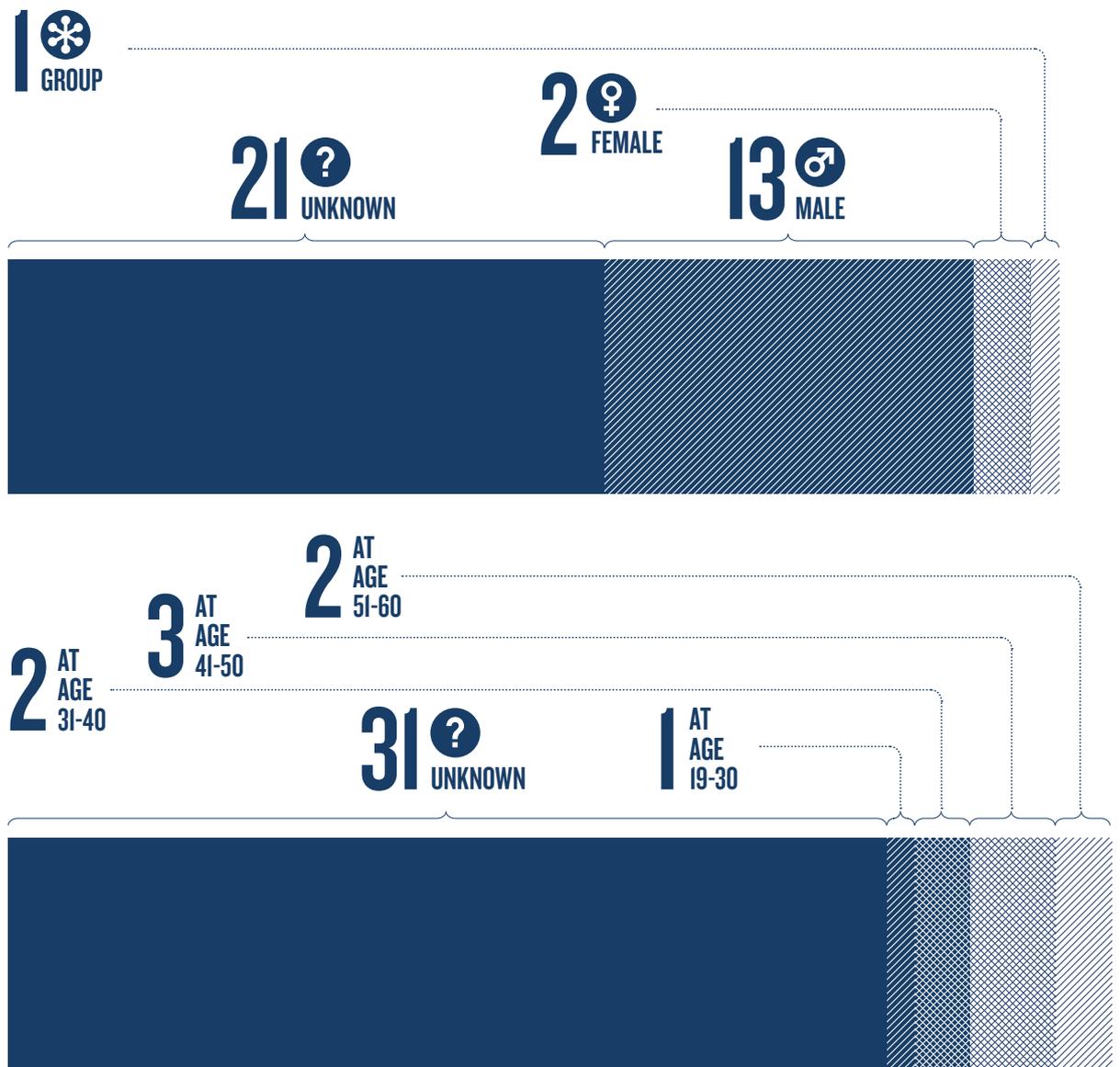
HATE CRIMES IN 2017, ACCORDING TO THE GENDER AND AGE OF THE OFFENDERS

APF revises its monthly monitoring activity at the end of each year. There were some modifications during 2017, which changed the statistical results. Examples of these cases include the discriminatory slurs that mention the gas chambers as a final solution or swastikas that show anti-Semitic motivation and lead to negative emotions in the community, regardless of identification of these offenders or the timing.

The offenders remained unidentified in 21 cases. In those cases when the police

identified the offenders, there were two women, thirteen men and one group.

In most cases (31 times), the offender's age remained unidentified. In other cases, the Police identified one person at age 19-30, two people at age 31-40, three people at age 41-50 and two people at age 51-60. There was one special case, the anti-Semitic radio interview of Jobbik's politicians when there were several offenders in one reported case so their age was identified too.



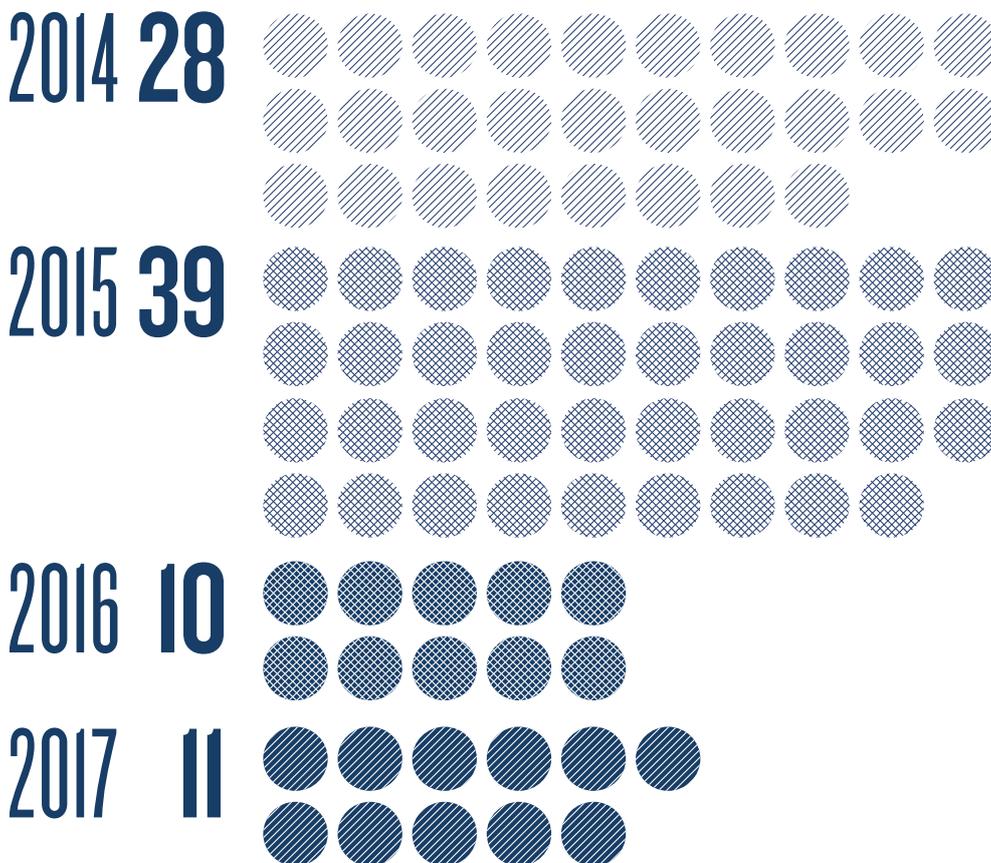
NUMBERS OF ADDITIONAL HATE INCIDENTS, DURING THE LAST YEARS

Most cases were spontaneous. Some hate crimes, such as the graffiti as case of vandalism required some preparation.

In the course of its monitoring activity for 2017, APF identified 11 additional anti-Semitic hate incidents. These incidents are not included in the statistics because some circumstances in the cases are unclear and the offenders remained unidentified. APF

include those cases in this category too when the anti-Semitic intention is not justified.

APF identified 28 cases in this category in 2014, 39 in 2015 and only 10 in 2016. The number of cases remained almost the same compared to the previous year and it shows a decrease compared to the years before. This value is stagnating.



APF LEGAL ACTIONS

APF launched two legal actions in 2017. The Court suspended one of our actions launched in 2017. Another one, launched in 2013 and suspended in 2015, continued. One of our legal actions launched in 2013 was closed. None of APF's legal actions made it to the prosecution phase in 2017. The Court or the Prosecutor's Office pronounced a judgment in three cases because of the denial of the

Holocaust or the open denial of the crimes committed by the national socialist or communist regimes. The Court decided to suspend one of our cases launched in 2014 and the offender received an official reprimand.

The prosecutor's office postponed the prosecution in 2015 and ordered a supervisory proceeding in a case of Holocaust-denial, which brought results. We filed a

charge against an individual in February; the offender was fined. The Court rejected our complaint related to the suspension of a proceeding that started in 2017.

ANTI-SEMITIC HATE CRIMES DURING THE LAST YEARS, ACCORDING TO THE INCIDENTS IN THE USA, UNITED KINGDOM, BELGIUM, FRANCE AND HUNGARY

The table below shows some comparative data from countries that compile statistics on the number of hate crimes from year to year.

On the one part of the table shows the number of hate incidents, the other part shows the number of hate incidents per one million inhabitants. APF registered 37 anti-Semitic hate crimes in 2017 resulting in 3.7 per one million inhabitants. This number is significantly lower than the numbers in the Western European countries. During the past few years, the Jews especially in France and in the United Kingdom have been at risk.



	USA		UNITED KINGDOM		BELGIUM		FRANCE		HUNGARY	
	NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	/MILLION CITIZENS								
2013	751	2,3	535	8,1	64	5,8	423	6,3	n.a.	n.a.
2014	912	2,8	1182	17,9	109	9,9	851	12,7	37	3,7
2015	942	2,9	960	14,5	71	6,5	808	12,1	52	5,2
2016	1266	3,9	1346	20,4	64	5,8	462	6,9	48	4,8
2017	1986	6,1	1382	20,9	n.a.	n.a.	331	4,9	37	3,7

CONTACT AND SUPPORT

Action and Protection Foundation is the civil initiative of a number of Jewish organizations that is ready to take resolute steps to curb increasing widespread anti-Semitic manifestations.

In case anyone faces insults or anti-Semitic abuse due to a supposed or real Jewish background, do not remain silent, let us know, so that we can forward the case through the appropriate channels to the official organs required to take measures!

Notifications of such incidents are received by the Foundation through any of the following means:

HOTLINE (+36 1) 5 1 00 000

The website of Action and Protection Foundation: www.tev.hu/forrodrot
The Facebook page: www.facebook.com/tev-tett-es-vedelem-alapitvany

Action and Protection Foundation's undertaking can only be successful if great numbers share in our commitment to prepare the grounds for the right to fair process for all those who have suffered offenses. In aid of this cause please support the work of the Foundation with your contribution! Donations can be made to the Foundation on the following bank account:

13597539-12302010-00057157

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Phone: +36 1 267 57 54, +36 30 207 5130
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