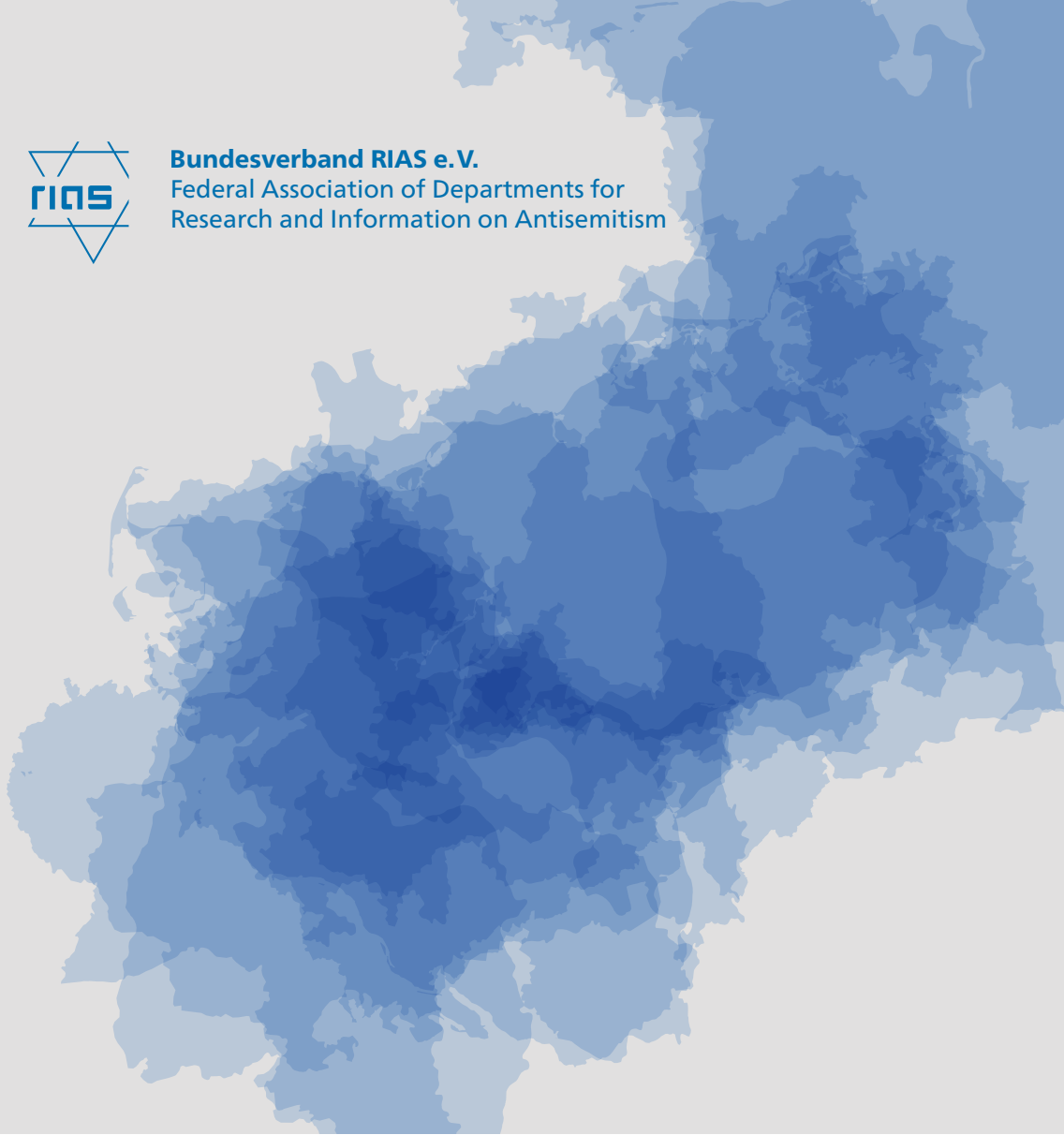




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Federal Association of Departments for
Research and Information on Antisemitism



Annual Report

Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2024

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Introduction

October 7, 2023, began a new era for many Jews. As the RIAS annual report *Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2023* noted, it divided their lives into a before and an after. One year later, the profound impact of the massacres carried out by Hamas and other terrorist groups in Israel on many Jews in Germany is becoming ever more tangible.¹ In a sense, the triggering event is still ongoing as these lines are being written: there are still Israelis hostages of Hamas and other groups. Many Israelis still fear imminent attacks not only by Hamas but also by Iran, Hezbollah, or the Yemeni Houthis. And antisemitic incidents continue to occur around the world on a dramatic scale—including in Germany.

The extent and intensity of antisemitic incidents in Germany in 2024 remained very similar to the situation in the first months following the massacres in October 2023.² There were no signs of the situation easing during the period covered by this report; on the contrary, the overall trend remained unchanged. In 2024, the violence of October 7, 2023 as well as the subsequent war remained an occasion for many people to express antisemitic views, to attack or threaten Jews, to damage memorials to victims of the Shoah or misuse them for antisemitic propaganda. There is little sign of critical reflection on the genocidal violence of October 7 in Germany. This is also evident in numerous antisemitic incidents in which this violence is celebrated or its repetition—whether in Israel or in Germany—is announced and at the same time denied. The denial of sexual violence against Israelis, especially the explicit calls not to believe Israeli women, is particularly painful.

At the same time, the *Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2024* report by Bundesverband RIAS identifies trends. Compared to 2023, there has been a further increase in the number of antisemitic incidents. The significant rise in incidents in explicitly political contexts is particularly noteworthy: week after week of 2024 saw gatherings and demonstrations at which antisemitism was propagated. Antisemitic stickers and graffiti were highly visible in many public places. Participants in vigils for the Israeli hostages were insulted, threatened, and sometimes physically attacked. Political groups whose activities RIAS classifies as anti-Israel activism mobilized for numerous events, where they glorified antisemitic violence and formed alliances, above all with left-wing

1 Marina Chernivsky and Friederike Lorenz-Sinai, "Der 7. Oktober als Zäsur für jüdische Communities in Deutschland." ["October 7 as a watershed moment for Jewish communities in Germany"] *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte* no. 25–26 (2024): 19–24, https://bpb.de/system/files/dokument_pdf/APuZ_2024-25-26_online_Antisemitismus.pdf; Poensgen, Daniel, "Der 7. Oktober als Zäsur? Antisemitismus aus Betroffenenperspektive." ["October 7 as a watershed moment? Antisemitism from the perspective of those affected."] *psychosozial* 178, no. 4 (2024): 53–67, <https://doi.org/10.30820/0171-3434-2024-4-53>.

2 Bundesverband RIAS. 2024. *Annual Report. Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2023* https://report-antisemitism.de/documents/2024-06-2024_Antisemitic_incidents_in_Germany_Annual-Report_Federal_Association_RIAS_2023.pdf.

anti-imperialist and Islamic/Islamist actors. The number of antisemitic incidents at universities also saw a further significant increase compared to previous years, with Jewish individuals often directly affected.

There was also a massive increase in the number of incidents implicitly or explicitly disseminating stereotypes of Israel-related antisemitism. However, this did not come at the expense of incidents involving other manifestations, which remained roughly the same as a proportion of the total number of incidents. Thus, the manifestations of antisemitism observed by RIAS since October 7, 2023, and throughout 2024 do not replace previously dominant forms and patterns of antisemitism but rather complement them. For example, it should not be forgotten that RIAS classified more antisemitic incidents as coming from the right-wing extremist spectrum in 2024 than ever before since nationwide comparison began in 2020, such as series of incidents in which memorials to the victims of the Shoah were damaged. Such events contribute to a situation in which local authorities, civil society, the police, and the judiciary seem unable to counter the antisemitic dynamic in some localities.

As the present report once again demonstrates, antisemitism continues to have a pervasive impact on everyday life for Jews in Germany. This is particularly evident in antisemitic incidents affecting Jewish students at universities and, above all, at schools. The threatening effect of these incidents is reinforced by a lack of discussion of the antisemitic character of the recent Islamist terrorist attacks in Solingen and Munich, by the sometimes insensitive reporting on the events in Germany and Israel, and not least by the events in Israel and the Gaza Strip.

There is a danger of politicians responding to the outlined increase in antisemitic incidents in explicitly political contexts in 2024 by growing more accustomed to antisemitic incidents and normalizing them. Thus, it took over a year for the Bundestag to pass a resolution on antisemitism, which not all democratic factions and groups supported. Even the murder of German hostages by Hamas causes only tentative discussions. The outcry from civil society in response to ever-increasing antisemitic violence remains muted. These developments reinforce the impact of October 7 as a watershed moment for Jews in Germany. The present report brings to light some of these developments, namely the increase in antisemitic incidents in Germany following October 7 and the sheer volume of such incidents today.

The *Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2024* report compiles findings from different RIAS reporting offices. These offices are operated by civil society, universities, or municipalities and brought together in the Federal Working Group (Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft, BAG) of the Bundesverband RIAS. The chapter *Antisemitic incidents in 2024* analyzes the number of incidents in 2024 and their development compared to the previous year, broken down into different categories such as types of incidents, manifestations of antisemitism, and political-ideological backgrounds. Particular emphasis is placed on antisemitic gatherings as well as antisemitism in public spaces and at universities. The *Statistics at a glance* section provides an overview of the key reporting categories for 2024. The *Appendix* contains an explanation of civil society documentation of antisemitic incidents as well as the categories used in this report and by the RIAS reporting offices.

Sources of the data

The following analyses are based on reports of antisemitic incidents by those affected or witnesses as well as on information provided to RIAS by other organizations. The reports were recorded and processed either by the Bundesverband RIAS or by one of the regional RIAS reporting offices. Reports that could be verified were coded in a database and accompanied by descriptions of the incidents. It should be noted that whether an antisemitic incident is actually brought to the attention of a reporting office depends on various factors. Two particularly important ones are how well-known the reporting office is locally and whether the people affected and their communities trust it. Building that trust can take years. The virulence of social debates on antisemitism and the ensuing sensitivity to the problem also influence reporting behavior. Finally, access to systematically analyzable sources as well as the human resources of the individual reporting offices also have an impact on whether they can, for example, proactively monitor gatherings where antisemitic incidents may be expected. In short, the extent to which various RIAS reporting offices are aware of antisemitic incidents in the first place can vary greatly.

In 2024, the RIAS reporting offices continued to collate data with other civil society actors, such as the OFEK e.V. counseling center, members of the Association of Counseling Centers for Victims of Right-wing, Racist, and Antisemitic Violence (VBRG), and Jewish organizations and institutions. In 2024, a systematic comparison of the data with *empower* (a counseling center in Hamburg run by Arbeit und Leben Hamburg e.V.) was carried out for the first time. There was still no systematic nationwide comparison with police statistics on antisemitic crimes in 2024. Such a comparison was only carried out in Brandenburg, Hesse, and Lower Saxony. Antisemitic crimes from other federal states that were only reported to the police are therefore not included in the RIAS statistics. Unfortunately, this also made it impossible to check whether incidents had been recorded by both the police and civil society reporting offices in these other federal states.

As in the two previous years, the present report is based on data from regional reporting offices in eleven federal states, namely RIAS Bavaria, RIAS Berlin, RIAS Hesse, the Documentation and Information Centre for Antisemitism Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (DIA.MV), the Specialist Office Against Antisemitism (FgA) at the Cologne NS Documentation Centre, RIAS Lower Saxony, RIAS North Rhine-Westphalia, RIAS Saarland, RIAS Saxony, RIAS Saxony-Anhalt, the Documentation and Information Office on Antisemitism Schleswig-Holstein (LIDA-SH), and RIAS Thuringia. Incidents from federal states without a regional RIAS reporting office in 2024 (Baden-Württemberg,

Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, and Rhineland-Palatinate) were handled by the Bundesverband RIAS. As a rule, RIAS only publishes incidents if the persons reporting them and witnesses have given their consent. The cases described in this report are only a selective sample and do not cover all documented antisemitic incidents.

It is important to emphasize that the antisemitic incidents documented by RIAS can only capture a fraction of reality. Despite all efforts, we still assume that many antisemitic incidents go unreported or unrecorded.³ In addition, the RIAS reporting offices only evaluate cases that meet the RIAS criteria for an antisemitic incident. For these and other reasons, the number of antisemitic incidents recorded by RIAS is not statistically representative for the population and does not indicate how many people in Germany as a whole think or act in an antisemitic way. The main aim of this report is to highlight the everyday dimension of antisemitism in Germany from the perspective of the people affected.

3 In the latest survey by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), 35 % of Jewish respondents in Germany said they had reported the most recent incident of antisemitic harassment to the police or another organization. European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), *Jewish People's Experiences and Perceptions of Antisemitism—EU Survey of Jewish People* (Vienna, 2024), 84, https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2024-experiences-perceptions-antisemitism-survey_en.pdf.

Summary

- In 2024, RIAS reporting offices documented a total of 8627 antisemitic incidents, representing an increase of almost 77% compared to 2023 (4886 incidents). Statistically, nearly 24 antisemitic incidents occurred every day in 2024, compared to 13 in 2023.
- The reactions to October 7, 2023 and the subsequent war had a decisive influence on the number of antisemitic incidents. RIAS observed a corresponding opportunity structure that contributed to the consistently high level of incidents, with no sign of a decline over the course of the year.
- The continued increase compared to the previous year is principally evident in highly politicized contexts: in 2024, antisemitism was particularly frequent at gatherings, in the form of antisemitic stickers in public spaces, and at universities.
- In 2024, antisemitism in Germany manifested itself in violent form: RIAS learned of 8 cases of extreme violence, 186 assaults, and 300 threats. The latter two categories saw a significant increase compared to the previous year.
- RIAS documented a total of 1802 antisemitic gatherings last year. That amounts to 35 antisemitic gatherings per week, compared to 16 in 2023.
- Among the antisemitic incidents which RIAS was able to clearly attribute to a political-ideological background, anti-Israel activism was the most common category, accounting for 26%.
- RIAS recorded 544 incidents with a right-wing extremist background in 2024, the highest number since nationwide comparison began in 2020.

- With 5857 cases, Israel-related antisemitism was the most common manifestation of antisemitism in 2024. This is twice as many as the 2518 incidents reported in 2023. The increase in Israel-related antisemitism was not accompanied by a decline in other manifestations; it therefore does not replace other forms of antisemitism but rather connects to them and complements them.
- The number of antisemitic incidents directed specifically against Jews or Israelis nearly tripled within two years, from 331 cases in 2022 to 966 cases in 2024.
- In another drastic increase, the number of antisemitic incidents at universities tripled compared to the previous year. RIAS documented 450 such incidents in 2024, compared to 151 in 2023. In 2022—before October 7, 2023—there had been only 23 incidents.
- RIAS recorded 284 antisemitic incidents in schools in 2024. These included 19 assaults, 17 of them directed against Jewish or Israeli students.
- RIAS recorded a total of 1978 antisemitic incidents on the internet. This means that 23% of all antisemitic incidents last year took place online.
- 1309 antisemitic incidents took place face-to-face in 2024, an increase of 18% compared to 2023.
- RIAS documented twice as many antisemitic incidents involving sexism as in the previous year. Among the 302 incidents involving this entanglement, there were 19 assaults and 62 threats.

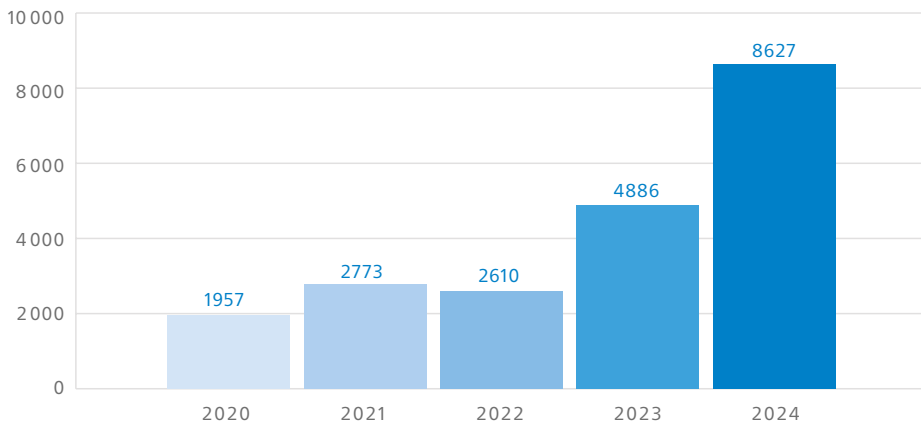
Antisemitic incidents in 2024

In 2024, RIAS reporting offices recorded 8627 antisemitic incidents nationwide, averaging almost 24 incidents per day. October 7, 2023, and the subsequent war continued to have a significant impact on the incidents that occurred last year.

Developments over the year

The total number of recorded antisemitic incidents rose by almost 77% compared to 2023, from 4886 to 8627, corresponding to an increase from an average of 13 incidents per day in 2023 to just under 24 in 2024. The number of incidents thus remains at a much higher level than before October 7, 2023—that is, before the massacres carried out by Hamas and other terrorist groups as well as before the subsequent war between Israel and Hamas and other groups and states in the region. The combined effect of these events in the region, the media coverage, the antisemitic actions of various political actors, and the reactions of politicians, police, and the judiciary have shaped the incident pattern since October 7.⁴ The number of antisemitic incidents rose sharply in the final months of 2023, and has remained at a consistently high level since then. RIAS interprets the combination of factors described above as an opportunity structure⁵ for antisemitic incidents. This term refers to particular conditions that enable antisemitic behavior or make it more likely to occur. More than a year after the genocidal violence in Israel, there has been no noticeable decline in the number of antisemitic incidents in Germany. The further increase compared to the previous year is also attributable to the growing prominence of explicitly political contexts, such as gatherings, activism at universities, and confrontations with political opponents.

Number of antisemitic incidents 2020–2024⁶ (Fig. 1)



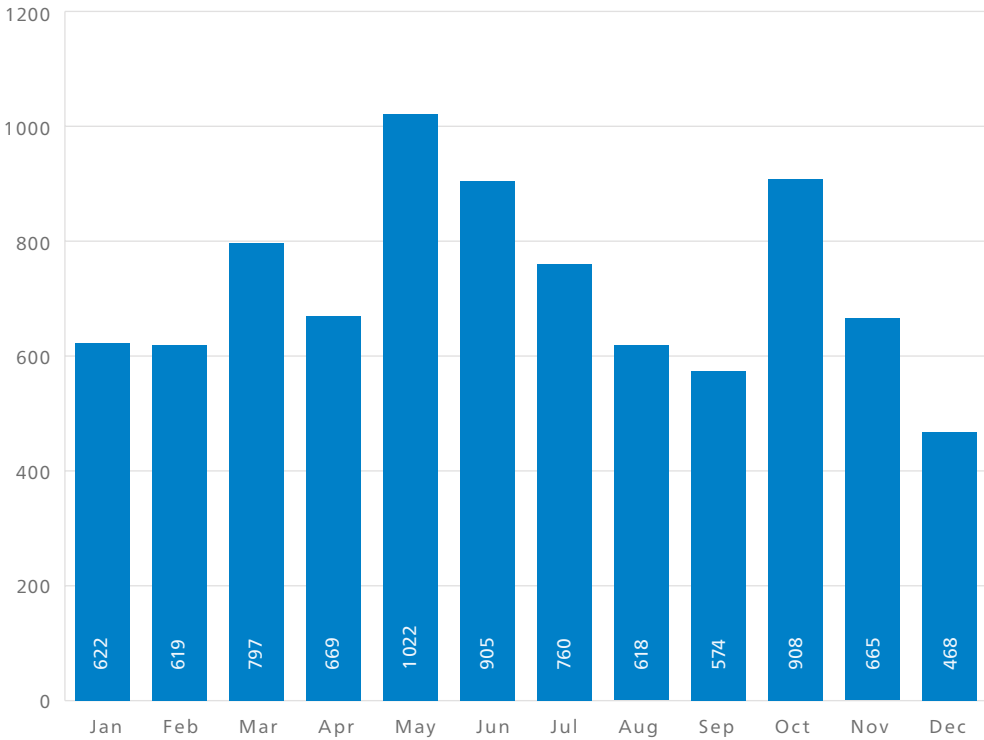
4 Julius Gruber, Bianca Loy, and Daniel Poensgen, "Antisemitische Vorfälle nach den Massakern der Hamas am 7. Oktober. Die Rolle von Gelegenheitsstrukturen für das antisemitische Vorfalleschehen in Deutschland" ["Antisemitic Incidents Following the Hamas Massacres on October 7. The Role of Opportunity Structures in Antisemitic Incidents in Germany"], *RIAS Working Paper* no. 01/23 2023: 17, https://report-antisemitism.de/documents/2024-05-17_Working-Paper-01-23_Antisemitische-Vorfaelle-nach-den-Massakern-der-Hamas-am-7-Oktober.pdf.

5 Gruber, Loy, and Poensgen, "Antisemitische Vorfälle nach den Massakern der Hamas am 7. Oktober," 6.

6 The figures stated in this report for 2021, 2022 and 2023 also include late registrations.

On average, RIAS recorded over 700 antisemitic incidents per month in 2024, compared to approximately 200 in 2022. More than 900 incidents each occurred in May, June, and October 2024. In May, there were more gatherings related to anti-Israel days of action; in October, there were more incidents linked to the first anniversary of October 7, 2023.

Number of antisemitic incidents in the course of 2024 (Fig. 2)



Types of antisemitic incidents

When recording antisemitic incidents, RIAS distinguishes six different types based on their nature and severity (for more information, see the *Conceptual framework and categories* section in the appendix). In 2024, RIAS reporting offices documented a total of 8 incidents of extreme violence, 186 assaults, 443 cases of targeted property damage, 300 threats, 176 mass mailings, and 7514 cases of abusive behavior. The latter cases included 1802 gatherings.

In 2024, RIAS recorded eight cases of extreme violence. This type of incident involves physical assaults or attacks that may result in loss of life or serious bodily injury, including attempted acts. These eight cases affected Jewish communities as well as Jewish and non-Jewish individuals.

The eight cases of extreme violence included two Islamist terrorist attacks: in August, a supporter of the so-called Islamic State (IS) attacked people at a city festival in Solingen, killing three individuals and injuring eight others, some of them severely. Following the terrorist attack, IS claimed responsibility for the act and released a video in which the attacker also referred to the war between Israel and Hamas. Among other things, the attack was stated to be an act of revenge for the Palestinian people who had suffered massacres with the support of "Zionists."⁷ Another terrorist attack took place in Munich in September. On the anniversary of the 1972 Olympic attack, a suspected Islamist shot at the Israeli Consulate General and the Munich Documentation Centre for the History of Nazism. Two people suffered minor injuries from a blast trauma. The perpetrator was fatally wounded in a shootout with the police.

Not all cases of extreme violence were related to Islamist terrorism. At the beginning of the year, a Jewish student was brutally assaulted in Berlin while leaving a bar, sustaining multiple fractures to his face that required immediate surgery. The perpetrator, a fellow student, struck the student several times in the face. After he had fallen to the ground the attacker proceeded to kick him in the face.

In some cases, it is unclear who is responsible for the incidents of extreme violence: in May, unknown perpetrators threw an incendiary device at the synagogue in Oldenburg. The resulting fire was extinguished, and no one was injured.

7 "Solingen: IS veröffentlicht Video vom Täter" ["Solingen: IS Publishes Video of Perpetrator"], *Jüdische Allgemeine*, August 25, 2024, <https://juedische-allgemeine.de/politik/is-veroeffentlicht-video-vom-tater/>.

RIAS documented 186 antisemitic assaults in 2024, or on average 15 assaults per month. This represents a further significant increase compared to 127 assaults in 2023 and 58 assaults in 2022. Around two-thirds of the assaults could not be clearly attributed to a specific political-ideological background (also referred to as just “political background”). Not being able to identify the origins of antisemitic incidents is often particularly unsettling for people affected by them, leading to a perception that such assaults could happen at any time and from any direction. This can potentially severely impair their sense of security. One such antisemitic assault which could not be assigned to a specific political background occurred shortly before the aforementioned arson attack on the synagogue in Oldenburg: two men stopped and held a Jewish schoolgirl on her way to school, threatening her and calling her a “dirty Jew”⁸ before she managed to break free.

In terms of manifestation, RIAS classified almost 60 % of the assaults as antisemitic othering. One of such cases occurred in Leipzig in the summer, when three men were talking about antisemitism in a park. They were then attacked by a group of 10 to 15 right-wing extremists, some of them armed with blunt objects. While the perpetrators restrained and beat one of the people affected, one of them shouted “fucking Jew.”

In many antisemitic assaults, those affected had been picked because of their stance against antisemitism or their solidarity with Israel, as in an incident in August in Saxon Switzerland. A hiker approached a woman after noticing her bag with “Feminist Zionist” written on it. He asked her why she supported “Nazis” and claimed that Gaza was “much worse than Auschwitz.” The woman wanted to withdraw from the conversation and leave with her friends. The man then pushed her and said, “Fuck off, you Nazi.”

Antisemitic assaults also occurred more frequently in explicitly political contexts in 2024: 17 of the 186 recorded incidents were directed against people who were involved in a political dispute with the perpetrators. In 2023, there had been only six such assaults, with four of them occurring in the relatively short period after October 7, 2023.

The RIAS reporting offices recorded a total of 300 threats in 2024. This category includes clear and directly addressed written or verbal statements threatening violence. 78 threats could be attributed to the political background of anti-Israel activism. This includes almost 50 incidents in Kiel, where unknown perpetrators distributed stickers calling on people to “visit Zionists at home” alongside addresses and photos of the homes of specific individuals throughout the city.

8 Quotes from incidents are reproduced here and below in English translation. The original German quotes can be found in the German version of this report.

When affected individuals are labeled as Zionists—that is, as supporters of the Jewish national movement—without having expressed this position themselves, they are effectively being labeled as Jewish and, by extension, as alien. In anti-Zionist discourse, it is exclusively Jews who are denied national political rights. Anti-Zionist stereotypes are often accompanied by explicit support for other forms of nationalism. If the right of Jewish national self-determination is recognizably not denied whether through hostility toward Zionism or through affirmative references to anti-Zionism, RIAS does not classify such incidents as antisemitic. A further 27 antisemitic threats had a right-wing extremist background; 10 had an Islamic/Islamist background. Sometimes, antisemitic threats were made in response to pro-Israel statements. In May, for example, a man in Berlin wore a patch reading “I stand with Israel” on his backpack. A person standing in a group of others threatened him: “If you come back, you bastard, you’ll get the same treatment as your Jewish friends.” This threat affirmed the antisemitic violence of October 7, 2023, and announced its repetition. Besides individuals, institutions were also affected by antisemitic threats in 2024. In June, an institution in Hesse received an antisemitic letter proclaiming that all Jews were pigs. A picture of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was marked with a swastika. In addition to the letter, the envelope contained a powdery substance.

RIAS documented 443 cases of targeted property damage in 2024, significantly more than the 333 incidents in 2023. 58% of such damage in 2024 occurred at memorial sites. In 68% of these cases, forms of post-Shoah antisemitism played a role, such as the rejection of the memory of Nazism. In Weimar alone, 15 cases were reported in which unknown perpetrators poured acid over Stolperstein memorials, damaging them. Later, several more were defaced with the words “Jews are the perpetrators.” This perpetrator-victim reversal denies Jews any empathy and instead stylizes them as evil. RIAS documented another series of incidents involving targeted property damage in Saxony-Anhalt: on October 7, 2024, the first anniversary of the antisemitic massacres in Israel, unknown perpetrators stole several Stolpersteine from five locations in Zeitz.

RIAS documented a total of 50 cases of targeted property damage in the direct living environment of the people affected. In Hamburg, two swastikas were painted next to the front door of a Jewish couple’s home in March. In April, a house in Leipzig where a Jewish person lives was marked with a Star of David. Marking front doors with swastikas or Stars of David is reminiscent of the Nazi practice of marking Jewish businesses in particular with Stars of David, while also threatening the people affected by sending them the message that antisemites know where they live.

RIAS recorded a significant increase in the number of antisemitic mass mailings, defined as mailings addressed to a large group of recipients: 176 such mailings were recorded in 2024, compared with 84 in 2023. A large proportion originated from a small number of senders who sent a large number of emails to several hundred recipients each. RIAS regularly records such spikes in mass mailings containing antisemitic content targeted at representatives of Jewish institutions, civil society, the press, and government agencies. In terms of content, RIAS identified manifestations of post-Shoah antisemitism (69 % of incidents) and modern antisemitism (61 % of incidents) as the most prevalent in the 2024 mass mailings.

As in previous years, the analysis of incidents in 2024 shows that antisemitism is often expressed not violently but in an everyday manner, for instance, in antisemitic remarks and damage to or defacement of non-Jewish property with antisemitic symbols or slogans. These cases of abusive behavior remained by far the most common type in 2024 with 7514 incidents (87 % of all documented cases). 24 % of incidents of abusive behavior were antisemitic gatherings. 23 % of incidents occurred online, about 18 % were antisemitic graffiti, and 15 % were antisemitic stickers. Thus, graffiti reading "JEWS OUT" was discovered in September in Groß Köris (Brandenburg) on a railway platform next to a swastika. In March, "Judaism is criminality" was sprayed in the pedestrian zone in Saarbrücken.

13 % of abusive behavior incidents occurred face-to-face. In November in Schwerin, a taxi driver told his passenger that his daughter's landlord was Jewish and Israeli. Therefore, he went on, it was not surprising that his daughter had to pay so much money for her apartment. This statement perpetuates the stereotype of Jewish greed and usury. On their way to a soccer game in September, a group of about five teenage Hansa Rostock fans sang the so-called subway song, whose lyrics describe building a subway from the city of the opposing team to Auschwitz, throughout the entire train ride from Stralsund to Rostock.



Hamburg, March 2024: a swastika was painted in the hallway of an apartment building next to the front door of a Jewish couple.

Groß Köris (Brandenburg), September 2024: antisemitic graffiti reading "JEWS OUT" next to a swastika.



Antisemitic gatherings

The 7514 incidents of abusive behavior in 2024 included a total of 1802 anti-semitic gatherings. A gathering is recorded as an antisemitic incident if antisemitic statements are documented in the announcement of the gathering, in speeches, on banners, posters, or in shouted slogans. In 2024, there was an average of 35 antisemitic gatherings per week, compared to 16 in 2023.

This means the number of such gatherings more than doubled, increasing even more sharply than the overall number of antisemitic incidents. This shows how significant explicitly political contexts were for the incidents that occurred last year.



Düsseldorf, October 2024: a protester holds up a sign with the antisemitic slogan "Yesterday victims of the Holocaust. Today perpetrators in Gaza."

Image: Antifa Info Portal Düsseldorf

For specific occasions, antisemitic gatherings play a particularly important role, as they can mobilize and bring together people from different political backgrounds. This was particularly evident in 2024 relating to October 7, 2023 and the subsequent war. In addition, antisemitic content receives a great deal of attention at gatherings, where they appear as legitimate expressions of opinion and become normalized through constant repetition. Antisemitic gatherings focusing on October 7, 2023 and the subsequent war took place throughout 2024, with terrorist violence repeatedly being legitimized and glorified at these events. The course of the war and individual events related to it (such as Israel's military offensive in Rafah in the Gaza Strip in May, the deaths of Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah in September and Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar in October, who was largely responsible for planning the terrorist attacks and massacres of October 7, 2023, and the Iranian missile strikes on Israel in October) played a major role in mobilizing people to attend such gatherings.

In October, participants at a gathering in Düsseldorf displayed posters with the slogan "The Zionist 'Jewish Agency' collaborated with Nazis, and now Zionists are organizing their own genocide." Another sign read: "Yesterday victims of the Holocaust. Today perpetrators in Gaza." Other participants carried portraits of Hamas leader Sinwar, glorifying him as a martyr. Following the death of Hezbollah leader Nasrallah, chants such as "Khaibar, Khaibar, ya yahud" (in English: "Khaibar, Khaibar, oh Jews")⁹ and "Labbaik ya Nasrallah" ("I am here, Nasrallah") were heard at a gathering in Hanover.

RIAS classified 75% of the antisemitic gatherings as having a political background of anti-Israel activism. This background was crucial for the gatherings, as the rejection of the Jewish state can mobilize and unite people from very different political backgrounds. As a result, participants from other political backgrounds, such as left-wing anti-imperialists and Islamic/Islamists actors, regularly took part in these gatherings. This was evident, for instance, in Berlin in October, when between 1000 and 1500 people took part in an anti-Israel activism gathering under the slogan "Stop the slaughter in Rafah." Among them were left-wing groups such as the German Communist Party (DKP), Young Struggle, and Zora, but also participants with Islamic/Islamist backgrounds. Among other things, the Shoah was relativized at the event. Signs carried by protesters described the Israeli army's actions in Rafah in the Gaza Strip as a "Holocaust," and carried slogans such as "One Holocaust does not justify another" and "Nothing learned from the Holocaust." One participating child

9 Translated into English, the complete slogan reads: "Khaibar, Khaibar, oh Jews, remember Khaibar, the army of Mohammed will return." The slogan is an affirmative reference to a campaign the Prophet Muhammad led against an oasis populated by Jews in 628, which ended with the conquest of the area and, according to some sources, the massacre of part of the Jewish population. It can be interpreted as a religiously legitimized call for violence against Jews.



Düsseldorf, October 2024: a protester carries a portrait of killed Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar.

Image: Antifa Info Portal Düsseldorf

wore a sweater bearing the words “Stop the Holocaust in Gaza.” A speaker associated with the Generation Islam (GI)¹⁰ group legitimized Hamas’ violence as self-defense. He further claimed that Israel had taken revenge on the civilian population of the Gaza Strip “in a frenzy of bloodlust” because “they are so cowardly, and because they are incapable of doing anything else, they are unable to take revenge on their tormentors who have taught them a lesson.”

RIAS classified around 7 % of all gatherings as having a left-wing anti-imperialist background. On the occasion of the so-called Nakba Day in May—a Palestinian and Islamist campaign day against the founding of the State of Israel—the Marxist-Leninist Party of Germany (MLPD) held a gathering in Erfurt. One speaker said: “Israel is no longer the land of persecuted Jews, but a major power [...]. Israel has become the perpetrator.” In an antisemitic perpetrator-victim reversal, Jews are denied their status as victims of the Shoah and instead are claimed to be perpetrators of comparable crimes. The Shoah was relativized based on the accusation that Israel was committing genocide: “If you take the definition of genocide so narrowly that it means the destruction of an entire people, then there was no genocide against the Jews.” In accordance with the IHRA working definition, RIAS records allegations of genocide against Israel as antisemitic incidents if they deny the Jewish right to self-determination, use symbols or images associated with traditional antisemitism, or compare current Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

Just under 6 % of all gatherings could be attributed to a conspiracist background. In 2022, this share was as high as 43 %; however, at that time, more than half of all gatherings were related to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since the end of the pandemic, the relevance of this background for gatherings has declined significantly. Recurring stereotypes, which continued to be spread at gatherings with a conspiracist background in 2024, portrayed Jews as puppet masters or as particularly powerful.

10 The Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution lists the Generation Islam (GI) group as a “hav[ing] ideological ties to Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HuT).” The activities of Hizb ut-Tahrir (HuT) have been banned in Germany since 2003. Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, Brief summary. 2023 Report on the Protection of the Constitution (2024), https://www.verfassungsschutz.de/SharedDocs/publikationen/EN/reports-on-the-protection-of-the-constitution/2024-06-brief-summary-2023-report-on-the-protection-of-the-constitution.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=4; „Hizb ut-Tahrir (Islamische Befreiungspartei–HuT)“ [“Hizb ut-Tahrir (Islamic Liberation Party–HuT)”], Ministry of the Interior of North Rhine-Westphalia, accessed April 17, 2025, <https://im.nrw/hizb-ut-tahrir-islamische-befreiungspartei-hut>.

Pervasive impact on the lives of those affected

Antisemitism against individuals and institutions

Many antisemitic incidents are targeted directly against the people affected. This was the case in 3963 incidents in 2024, with 1748 incidents—one in five—directed against individuals and 2215—one in four—against institutions. Jewish and/or Israeli individuals were affected in 966 incidents, a significant increase from 730 incidents in 2023 and 331 in 2022. The number of antisemitic incidents directed specifically against Jews or Israelis has thus nearly tripled within two years. In some incidents, several people or whole groups were targeted, insulted, threatened, or attacked in an antisemitic manner. Overall, 1222 Jews and/or Israelis were affected by the 966 incidents mentioned. One such incident occurred in December in Glauchau, Saxony. A woman was reading news in Hebrew on her smartphone at the train station. A man approached her, looked at her cell phone, and, upon noticing the Hebrew writing, turned to his companions and said: "I thought we'd gassed all of them?" The woman affected moved away from the group, whereupon its members repeatedly shouted "Sieg Heil!"

The rising number of antisemitic incidents directly affecting individuals corresponds to the rising number of documented incidents occurring face to face. In 2022, RIAS documented 488 such incidents. In 2023, this number surged to 1106, and in 2024, it increased by another 18% to 1309 incidents. For the people affected, such incidents—among them several assaults—are often particularly threatening.

Where possible, RIAS records the gender of the people affected. In 2024, 41% of incidents involving individuals affected women and 47% affected men. Thus, the proportion of documented incidents targeting women increased compared to 2023, when it stood at 34%.

Antisemitism in public spaces

In 2024, antisemitic incidents occurred above all in public spaces. RIAS includes incidents that occur on the streets, on public transport or at train stations, in public buildings, or in public parks in this category. In 2024, one in two documented antisemitic incidents (a total of 4335) took place in public spaces. This figure has almost doubled compared to 2261 incidents in the previous year. One such incident occurred in Berlin in August: a woman wanted to buy a Coca-Cola at a local train station when a young man suddenly insulted her as a "fucking Jew."

A person accompanying the woman replied that they had no connection to Israel. The man replied that both of them should be ashamed of supporting Israel: anyone who drinks this brand is a friend of Israel, he said.

Incidents in public buildings (such as town halls) are an exception to the sharp rise in antisemitic incidents in public spaces. After October 7, 2023, many town halls and parliaments had raised the Israeli flag in solidarity with the attacked state, and numerous antisemitic incidents had occurred in the context of this visible show of solidarity. Among other things, Israeli flags had been burned in public. In 2024, fewer town halls and parliaments flew the Israeli flag, and RIAS recorded only half as many incidents in and around public buildings as in 2023, suggesting a clear correlation with the number of flags. This shows that for some people, the visibility of Jewish and Israeli symbols in public spaces is an occasion to engage in antisemitic behavior, which is also reflected in the number of documented antisemitic incidents in public buildings.

The sharp rise in the number of antisemitic incidents in public spaces is also reflected in the types of antisemitic statements recorded by RIAS categorized by medium. In the online sphere, RIAS distinguishes i.a. between social media platforms and emails, while offline incidents encompass posters, postal correspondence, and face-to-face situations. In 2024, RIAS documented 1208 antisemitic stickers and 1504 antisemitic graffiti incidents, with these two types accounting for more than 60% of all incidents in public spaces documented by RIAS. Among these incidents was a sticker, discovered in downtown Cologne in May, showing a typical depiction of Uncle Sam pointing his index finger at the viewer. A large Star of David can be seen on his hat, with the words "Do YOU condemn Hamas?" above the figure and "Sponsored by Genocide Joe" handwritten below, both in English. The sticker insinuates that the US, represented by the image of Uncle Sam, is controlled by Jews—a common antisemitic stereotype. The signature also presents the then US President Joe Biden as responsible for an alleged genocide in the Gaza Strip. Overall, the image suggests that there is no legitimate reason to condemn the Islamist terrorist organization Hamas. An antisemitic graffiti was seen on a garbage can in a city park in Hamburg in September, depicting a bloated tick with a Star of David on its back. The portrayal of Jews as parasites is a traditional stereotype of antisemitism. Stickers and graffiti make antisemitic stereotypes visible in public spaces and spread them. Various political actors use stickers in particular to claim control of certain areas such as city districts. RIAS assumes that such expressions contribute significantly to the perception of antisemitism among the people affected and in Jewish communities. Sometimes, antisemitic stickers and graffiti are also used to mark Jewish property, Jewish institutions, or political opponents—and homes, housing projects, or establishments associated with them—in an antisemitic manner.

As in previous years, RIAS also documented numerous incidents at locations that are important to the everyday lives of Jews but are not part of the public sphere in the sense described above, such as at workplaces, shops, and restaurants. For example, RIAS recorded 82 incidents as having occurred at workplaces. In an incident in Hesse in April, a Jewish employee was talking to a colleague about their respective vacations. The colleague said: “We Germans, we gas everyone,” whereupon he and another colleague began to laugh. The woman affected asked him if he thought that was funny. The colleague replied, “Don’t get me wrong, I know it’s your hobby to look for things like that.” It was well known among colleagues that the person affected was Jewish. RIAS recorded 77 incidents that took place in bars and restaurants. In one such incident in Magdeburg in September, a group of people were sitting in the outdoor area of a bar when a woman walking past unexpectedly insulted them in Russian, shouting: “A war is going on over there, and you Jews are drinking and celebrating here.” However, incidents at such locations did not see a rise comparable to that in other areas: in 2023, RIAS had documented 80 incidents in the workplace and 65 incidents in bars and restaurants. This may be because Jews in Germany tried even harder than before to avoid being recognizable as such in public after October 7, 2023, given the sharp rise in antisemitic incidents. At least, that is what surveys among Jews and studies on their perceptions of antisemitism after October 7, 2023 suggest.¹¹ Nevertheless, the number of incidents at these locations is significantly higher than in the months and years prior to October 7, 2023, indicating that there has been no let-up in antisemitic incidents outside public spaces, either.

Antisemitic incidents that occur in the immediate living environment—whether in someone’s own home, on the staircase, or in the immediate neighborhood—have a particularly strong impact on those affected, as they can shake their sense of security in a space which had felt safe before and which they cannot avoid without a permanent change of residence. RIAS documented 225 antisemitic incidents in the direct living environment of people affected in 2024—close to the number of such incidents in 2023 (238) and thus again almost twice as many as in 2022 (118). So-called antisemitic markings on houses where Jews or Israelis live played a relevant role in these incidents. For example, a house in Leipzig where a Jewish person lives was marked with a Star of David in April. In October, unknown perpetrators twice wrote the word “Jew” in large letters on a house in Berlin where an Israeli family lives. In November, a Jewish-Afro-German family in Karlsruhe discovered that someone had written the words “Jew” and “Nigger” on the wet windows of their car. This incident is also an example of the entanglements between antisemitic and racist labeling.

11 Simon Arnold, “Eingestürztes Weltvertrauen nach dem 7. Oktober. Antisemitismuserfahrung und Traumatisierung in der Dritten Generation” [“Collapsed trust in the world after October 7. Experiences of antisemitism and trauma transmission in the third generation”], *psychosozial* 178, no. 4 (2024): 68–88, <https://doi.org/10.30820/0171-3434-2024-4-68>.



Hamburg, September 2024: an antisemitic graffiti showing a bloated tick with a Star of David on its body.

Cologne, May 2024: an antisemitic sticker with the words "Do YOU condemn Hamas" and the handwritten addition "Sponsored by Genocide Joe."

Image: Fachstelle gegen Antisemitismus Köln

An analysis of the locations where antisemitic incidents regularly occur shows that antisemitism in Germany continued to have a pervasive impact on the lives of those affected in 2024: Jews have been and continue to be confronted with antisemitism on their way to work, on public transport, while out walking and even in their own direct living environment, and have to adjust their everyday lives accordingly.

Antisemitism at educational institutions

RIAS continues to see a sharp rise in antisemitic incidents at universities across Germany. The number of such incidents nearly tripled from 151 in 2023 to 450 in 2024. In 2022, prior to October 7, 2023, there were only 23 cases documented. This increase is a nationwide phenomenon. In 2024, RIAS documented antisemitic incidents at universities in 56 German cities.¹² Many of these incidents were violent: RIAS recorded 15 assaults, 2 cases of targeted property damage, and 15 threats. According to information from the Free University of Berlin (FU), around 40 people forced their way into the offices of the FU's executive board in October, presumably in order to occupy them. The individuals were "masked and armed with axes, saws, crow-bars, and clubs."¹³ They attempted to force their way into offices and dragged employees from them. Many employees locked themselves in their offices out of fear of the attackers. When the police arrived at the FU after 45 minutes, the perpetrators fled; four people were detained. The attackers left behind antisemitic graffiti, including the slogan "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free," as well as red triangles. The red triangle—a symbol used by Hamas to mark enemies, but now also used by other actors—is part of a violent labeling practice, but it can also be an expression of pro-Palestinian sentiment. RIAS records these triangles as antisemitic incidents if they are part of an antisemitic labeling practice. The police are investigating this case "on suspicion of breach of the peace, assault on law enforcement officers, use of symbols of unconstitutional organizations, trespassing, and damage to property."¹⁴

12 In an anonymous online survey of members of the Network of Jewish University Teachers in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, around 40% of respondents reported having experienced online harassment or cyberbullying since October 7. 14% even reported experiencing physical threats or damage to property. "Pressemitteilung 19.07.2024" ["Press release July 19, 2024"], Netzwerk Jüdischer Hochschullehrender in Deutschland, Österreich und der Schweiz, accessed April 25, 2025, <https://n-j-h.de/pressemitteilung-2/>.

13 Adrian Grasse MP (CDU), *Schriftliche Anfrage Nr. 19/20722: Welche Konsequenzen haben Israelhass und gewaltsame antisemitische Angriffe auf Berliner Hochschulen?* ["Written inquiry no. 19/20722: What are the consequences of hatred toward Israel and violent antisemitic assaults at Berlin universities?"], Document 19/20722, Berlin House of Representatives, October 28, 2024, response from the Senate Department for Science, Health, and Care, November 12, 2024, 4, <https://pardok.parlament-berlin.de/starweb/adis/citat/VT/19/SchrAnfr/S19-20722.pdf>.

14 Martin Ballaschk, Marius Gerards, Lionel Kreglinger and Tilmann Warnecke, „Mitarbeiter ‚krass und brutal‘ angegangen: Vermummte Anti-Israel-Aktivisten randalieren an Freier Universität – eine Person verletzt“ ["Employees 'crassly and brutally' attacked: Masked anti-Israel activists riot at the Free University—one person injured"], *Tagesspiegel*, 18. Oktober 2024, <https://tagesspiegel.de/berlin/besetzung-an-der-freien-universitaet-berlin-beendet-vermummte-anti-israelische-aktivisten-sturmt-en-prasidium--70-polizisten-vor-ort-12550436.html>.

61 of the 450 antisemitic incidents at universities directly targeted Jews or Israelis. A large proportion of the incidents at universities was constituted by the 147 antisemitic gatherings recorded by RIAS in 2024, including so-called protest camps. For example, daily sit-ins took place on the campus of a university in Jena from November 4 to 8. The gathering was organized by a university group that RIAS associates with the political background of anti-Israel activism. During one such sit-in, on November 7, a speaker said: "Those who keep peoples oppressed have the whole world against them." The statement reproduces the antisemitic stereotype that Jews rule the world and oppress people worldwide. Speakers also called for an intifada and described Israel as a colonial state; antisemitic songs were played. At the sit-in the following day, speakers once again denied Israel's right to exist and equated the Jewish state with Nazi Germany: "States do not have a right to exist. The settler-colonial state therefore has no right to exist. Otherwise, the Third Reich would have had one too." The speakers also defended the antisemitic BDS boycott campaign and claimed that, by supporting Israel, Germany was supporting an apartheid state. Chants by participants in the sit-in justified the genocidal violence of October 7, 2023 by calling it *Völkerrecht* ("international law," lit. "peoples' law").

Even beyond such political gatherings, antisemitic incidents were frequent at universities. These included numerous antisemitic graffiti and stickers. For example, in December, the slogan "Fuck your German guilt—Zionism is fascism" was discovered in a restroom at the University of Freiburg im Breisgau. Denying Germany's guilt for the Shoah is a common stereotype of post-Shoah antisemitism. The substantial equation of Zionism (that is, Jewish nationalism) with fascism is a form of antisemitic perpetrator-victim reversal, which fundamentally denies the legitimacy of Jews' national aspirations. In addition, graffiti with the slogan "From the river to the sea—Palestine will be free" was found in the restroom.

Almost 90 % of incidents at universities reproduced stereotypes of Israel-related antisemitism in this or a similar way, making this manifestation prevalent. However, other manifestations also played a role. It should be noted that individual antisemitic incidents can be classified under several manifestations at the same time (more on this in the *Manifestations of antisemitism* section). RIAS classified 83 incidents at universities in 2024 as manifestations of antisemitic othering and 84 incidents as manifestations of post-Shoah antisemitism, each accounting for just under 20 % of the cases. A drastic incident was reported in August in Chemnitz, where someone had written the phrase "The fatter the Jew, the warmer the home" on a table in a lecture hall at the Technical University. In October, the words "Free Jews from Being" were discovered in a toilet at the Berlin University of the Arts.



Chemnitz, August 2024: partially illegible antisemitic graffiti reading "The fatter the Jew, the warmer the home" in a university lecture hall.

Image credit : RIAS Sachsen

The picture is also relatively clear when it comes to the political and ideological spectrum of antisemitic incidents at universities, with almost half (215 incidents, 48 %) classified by RIAS as anti-Israel activism and 9 % as coming from the left-wing anti-imperialist spectrum. Students for Palestine alliances are an example of groups associated with anti-Israel activism that are active at universities. For example, the Students for Palestine group in Münster claimed in an open letter to the rectorate of the city's university that Israel has been an apartheid state since its founding. The rectorate was challenged to demonstrate that it recognized Palestinian resistance against "seven decades of Israeli colonization, apartheid, and ethnic cleansing." Such formulations generally deny Israel's right to exist, regardless of its specific policies. The letter goes on to claim that support for Israel is nothing more than "invoking Germany's historical guilt"—yet another example of antisemitic denial of guilt. Other political groups played little to no role at universities. 180 incidents (40 %) could not be attributed to any political-ideological background.

One reason why antisemitic incidents occur so frequently at universities is that they are places where political actors engage in debate. It cannot be ruled out that a significant proportion of these incidents was not initiated by students or university staff but by political actors who deliberately mobilize at universities in order to reach students. This political mobilization then leads to antisemitic incidents. The incidents at universities are particularly significant for the people affected but also show the extent of antisemitism in a society. First, Jewish people need to attend university if they want to obtain certain educational qualifications. They therefore cannot simply avoid antisemitism by staying away from universities, as they might be able to avoid some other social contexts. Secondly, it is particularly worrying when antisemitic incidents are perpetrated by students or staff at universities, as it can be assumed that they often are or will become part of the social elite.

Less attention is currently being paid to antisemitic incidents at another educational institution—the school. In 2024, RIAS documented 284 antisemitic incidents in schools across Germany, compared to 255 incidents in 2023 and 86 in 2022. The numbers thus increased further compared with the previous year. RIAS also recorded an alarmingly high number of violent incidents in schools, including 19 antisemitic assaults, 17 of which directly targeted Jewish or Israeli students. For reasons of confidentiality, RIAS cannot provide further details about these incidents. At the same time, there were many incidents of abusive behavior, such as antisemitic remarks made by students in class. In March, a student in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania insulted a classmate during a lesson by calling him a "stupid Jew." In Troisdorf (North Rhine-Westphalia), a student gave the Nazi salute in the school hallway on the anniversary of October 7, 2023 and shouted "fucking Jews."

Antisemitism online

In 2024, RIAS recorded a total of 1978 antisemitic incidents on the internet, accounting for 23 % of the total number. In 2023, this proportion was almost the same at 21 %, but the absolute number of online incidents was only about half as high (1027 incidents). RIAS only records antisemitic statements on the internet as antisemitic incidents if they are aimed directly at specific persons or institutions. In addition to emails and direct messages via messenger services, this also includes comments and posts on social media platforms that directly tag individuals.

In February, someone wrote to a Facebook user whose Jewish background was not apparent: “The Holocaust is a walk in the park compared to what’s happening in Gaza! It’s worse than the Holocaust, Auschwitz, and everything the Nazis did, and the Nazis did terrible things!” Such statements on the internet often have a similar effect on the people affected as face-to-face antisemitic incidents. The sheer volume of antisemitic statements on the internet, including those not documented by RIAS, contributes to the Jewish experience of being constantly confronted with antisemitism.

1133 of the online incidents documented by RIAS, or 57 %, took place on social media platforms, including 495 incidents on Instagram, 374 on X (formerly Twitter), 124 on Facebook, and 41 on TikTok. 36 % of all registered online incidents were antisemitic emails. In February, a Jewish institution in Hesse received a long email that ended with explicitly antisemitic statements reading: “Soon you will die.—Israel’s end is near. I hope you will be happy to sacrifice your lives for Lucifer, Rothschild, and his billionaire clique [...] Adios, you megalomaniacal masters of the world!”

A striking feature of online antisemitic incidents is that more than half were classified as antisemitic othering, with the word “Jew” often used as a slur, or Jewish people being blamed for the actions of the State of Israel. There are also other ways in which Jews are labeled as alien (more on this in the *Manifestations of antisemitism* section). For example, in August, a user left the following comment on a post by a Jewish civil society organization: “Why are Jews so popular around the world. Answer: they work hard at it. Not the general population, they just let everything happen (passively).” This comment blames Jews for antisemitism. In response to another post by the same organization, a different user posted a meme showing an Orthodox Jew trying to pay with a credit card in a supermarket. A speech bubble above the cashier reads: “Sorry Sir, your victim card has been declined.” The cartoon insinuates that Jews play the victim in order to gain an advantage—a common stereotype, especially in post-Shoah antisemitism.

Online incidents and other incidents (Fig. 3)

2023



| | | |
|--------|---------|---------|
| online | offline | unknown |
| 1027 | 3827 | 32 |

2024



| | | |
|--------|---------|---------|
| online | offline | unknown |
| 1978 | 6597 | 52 |

Manifestations of antisemitism

Antisemitic incidents can express different antisemitic stereotypes. RIAS classifies these stereotypes into five manifestations of antisemitism (see the *Conceptual framework and categories* section in the appendix for more information). A single incident can also be assigned to several manifestations at the same time. This is the case, for example, when someone equates Israeli policy with Nazism. RIAS interprets this as demonization of Israel—a manifestation of Israel-related antisemitism—and at the same time as trivialization of the Shoah, which is classified as a manifestation of post-Shoah antisemitism. The 8627 antisemitic incidents in 2024 resulted in a total of 13 477 categorizations into manifestations. Each incident was therefore assigned to an average of 1.5 manifestations (2023: 1.4 manifestations). This section describes the different manifestations observed in the 2024 incidents, as well as the increased overlap between them. Both aspects are important for the analysis of antisemitic incidents.

RIAS classified 5857 antisemitic incidents, or 68% of the total, as manifestations of Israel-related antisemitism in 2024. This is the highest proportion of any manifestation since the start of RIAS' nationwide comparison of antisemitic incidents in 2020. These incidents were often directly linked to the Hamas massacres on October 7, 2023, and the subsequent war. However, most of the antisemitic stereotypes leading to this classification are anything but new; they have merely been partially adapted, updated, and applied to October 7. These include denial, trivialization, or justification of the violence. This type of reaction to antisemitic crimes, and in particular to antisemitic violence, is well known, for example, in attitudes toward Nazism.

The antisemitic incidents classified by RIAS as Israel-related antisemitism vary greatly in terms of how they are expressed. This also includes antisemitic statements made on the internet. For example, in May, a Jewish man living in Cologne received a direct message on Instagram that said, in English: "I hope you know, the entire world **** hates you and we will laugh as we try your leaders for war crimes. You're a child murderer I hope you burn in hell." This message blames a Jew living in Germany for Israel's behavior and at the same time insults him in an antisemitic manner as a "child murderer." This stereotype is an update of anti-Judaic ritual murder legends.

Israel-related antisemitism was particularly visible in graffiti in public spaces. In December, a man in Berlin-Wedding smeared several utility boxes with antisemitic slogans. One of them read: "Gaza, the military rabbis are instigating: let us do as in Josua 10:12-34: kill women + children!" Not only did the statement imply that Israel deliberately and intentionally kills women and children, it also claimed in an antisemitic manner that this was the result of a religious commandment.

Israel-related antisemitism was also expressed face to face in 2024. In June, two coworkers in Hesse were discussing a particular brand of chocolate. One of them said that it was still okay to buy it, unlike Coca-Cola or McDonald's food. When asked, he explained his boycott decision as follows: "I won't buy anything from them anymore, I won't support the Jews." He stated that the companies mentioned were run by Jews and supported Israel in the war. Such statements relating to Israel sometimes also contain direct threats. In February, a Jewish-owned shop in Munich displayed copies of the Jewish weekly newspaper *Jüdische Allgemeine* in its front window. Noticing this, three men began filming themselves, entered the shop, and immediately started shouting in a very aggressive tone: "I'll slaughter your dead mother, and then you too!" A man observed the incident, followed the three men into the shop, and told them to refrain from such behavior. At this, one of the men shouted at him, "Are you for Israel? Are you for the Jews?" All the while, the men continued filming, focusing particularly on the owner, who was in the store.

Israel-related antisemitism also played a role in targeted property damage. The damage does not have to be severe for RIAS to classify an incident accordingly. In June, passers-by in Leipzig noticed stickers with the inscription "one holocaust does not justify another" next to a memorial for a destroyed synagogue. The antisemitic slogan, which was also seen at demonstrations in 2024, implies that Israel is committing a genocide, that is equivalent to the extermination of six million European Jews, and that the Shoah is being misused to legitimize these crimes. Further slogans could be seen in the immediate vicinity of the memorial, namely, "Intifada revolution" and a pile of feces drawn with a permanent marker, accompanied by the words "Down with Israel." When such slogans are used to address the memory of the victims of the Shoah, it is an antisemitic form of guilt denial.

Last year, RIAS also classified some antisemitic assaults as Israel-related antisemitism, for example, in the context of vigils for the victims of terrorist attacks and Israeli hostages taken by Hamas. In December, a vigil was held in Bonn with banners displaying slogans such as "Against all forms of antisemitism. For the protection of Jewish life. Solidarity with Israel" and "Free Gaza from Hamas." A woman wearing a keffiyeh approached the vigil and asked those gathered why they were standing there. One person pointed to the first banner. The woman read it and then said, "Israel doesn't exist." One of the vigil's participants simply replied, "I see, have a nice day." The woman shouted "Free Palestine from Israel!" and attacked a participant of the vigil who was carrying an Israeli flag. She injured the woman affected, snatched the flag from her, and ran away. Another participant of the vigil ran after her. An acquaintance of the attacking woman attacked him, knocked him to the ground, and struck him in the face with his knee. At this point, the police intervened and recorded the identities of the two attackers.

The examples show the range of incidents that RIAS classified as manifestations of Israel-related antisemitism. They also demonstrate that this form of antisemitism is often linked to other manifestations. Israel-related antisemitism particularly often connects to post-Shoah antisemitism and antisemitic othering. The first link can be often observed in variants of antisemitic perpetrator-victim reversal, for example, when actions by Israeli politicians or the Israeli military are equated with the mass murder of Jews by the Nazis. In January, a German-speaking representative of the Israeli army posted a video of an army spokeswoman explaining how the Israeli army was attempting to protect civilians in the Gaza Strip. One person commented: "Of course a big nose would come out of the woodwork and try to sell lies as truth, history is repeating itself and the furnaces are being fired up!!! But this time there will be a proper clean-up! The trains are already waiting." First, the comment contains an allusion to antisemitic stereotypes of supposed Jewish physiognomy ("big nose"), which RIAS classifies as a form of antisemitic othering. Secondly, the antisemitic stereotype of Jews as liars is reproduced, which is also a form of antisemitic othering. Thirdly, the commentary claims that Israel is repeating and optimizing the deportation and extermination practices of the Nazis ("But this time there will be a proper clean-up"); this is documented by RIAS as post-Shoah antisemitism.

RIAS frequently observed the linking of Israel-related antisemitism and antisemitic othering in statements that blamed German Jews for events or political actions in Israel. This manifestation centers on the antisemitic idea that Jews do not truly belong in Germany and feel a stronger obligation to Israel than to their respective countries of residence. This idea can be expressed by holding Jews collectively responsible for Israel's actions. This can go hand in hand with antisemitic perceptions of Israel. In June, a supervisor in Dresden asked a Jewish employee how things were going at the synagogue. When the person affected told him about the police presence outside the synagogue and the feeling of being under threat, the boss replied: "That's hardly surprising, given what Israel is doing."

The following table shows how common the various manifestations of antisemitism are, both individually and in combination with others.

Overlaps in the manifestations of antisemitic incidents in 2024 (Fig. 4)

Absolute number of antisemitic incidents classified according to their various manifestations. The numbers of incidents that have been assigned to only one manifestation are highlighted in color.

| | Israel-related antisemitism | post-Shoah antisemitism | antisemitic othering | modern antisemitism | anti-Judaic antisemitism |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Israel-related antisemitism | 2815 | 1458 | 1391 | 439 | 799 |
| post-Shoah antisemitism | 1458 | 729 | 747 | 328 | 313 |
| antisemitic othering | 1391 | 747 | 1070 | 341 | 263 |
| modern antisemitism | 439 | 328 | 341 | 165 | 156 |
| anti-Judaic antisemitism | 799 | 313 | 263 | 156 | 81 |

Compared to the previous year, the number of antisemitic incidents classified as Israel-related antisemitism (in some cases alongside other manifestations) more than doubled, rising from 2518 to 5857. The difference is even more striking when compared to 2022, the year before October 7, 2023 when RIAS documented 634 incidents in this category nationwide.

Obviously, Israel-related antisemitism plays a prominent role in incidents with a political background of anti-Israel activism; after all, this spectrum is characterized precisely by its single-issue focus on Israel. Nevertheless, it is important to note that Israel-related antisemitism is articulated by actors from all political backgrounds covered by RIAS. Nearly 100 incidents of Israel-related antisemitism were classified as having a right-wing extremist background. This form of antisemitism plays a role in almost one in five of the more than 544 incidents from the right-wing extremist spectrum. Antisemitic references to Israel are just as important to this spectrum as antisemitic conspiracy myths, which RIAS classifies as a manifestation of modern antisemitism. Conspiracy myths were documented in 103 cases, 19% of all incidents with a right-wing extremist background. On December 24, a user who could be identified as having a right-wing extremist background based on his profile commented on a holiday greeting posted on social media by a Jewish organization. The user's comment stated: "The Israelis,

basically the Jews, the biggest warmongers behind the Yanks, wish you a Merry Christmas... Spot the flaw..." The Jewish institution affected has no connection whatsoever with Israel. In July, a person observed two workers from a landscaping company in Leipzig. One of them could be identified as having a right-wing extremist background based on his T-shirt. The two were working in front of an apartment building with an Israeli flag hanging from one of the windows. One of the workers pointed to the flag and said to the other: "They always call us Nazis, but they are actually much better at it." In 2024, antisemitic stickers from the right-wing extremist party III. Weg, which demonize Israel, also played a significant role in terms of numbers. RIAS documented these throughout Germany.

The other manifestations of antisemitism can also be documented across all political backgrounds identified by RIAS, albeit to varying degrees, as the following table illustrates.

Selected political-ideological backgrounds and manifestations of antisemitic incidents in 2024 (Fig. 5)

| | anti-Israel activism | right-wing extremist | left-wing anti-imperialist | conspiracist milieu | Islamic/Islamist | unknown |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------|
| antisemitic othering | 258 | 234 | 62 | 62 | 48 | 2274 |
| modern antisemitism | 142 | 103 | 23 | 194 | 25 | 351 |
| Israel-related antisemitism | 2216 | 97 | 323 | 61 | 114 | 2917 |
| post-Shoah antisemitism | 509 | 363 | 82 | 112 | 45 | 1536 |
| anti-Judaic antisemitism | 385 | 19 | 27 | 35 | 39 | 400 |

The large proportion of incidents (68 % of all incidents) involving manifestations of Israel-related antisemitism in 2024 should not obscure the other manifestations. These include modern antisemitism, which RIAS associates with antisemitic ideas about Jewish power, including antisemitic conspiracy myths. In 2024, modern antisemitism occurred in 10 % of all incidents. One example of this is a conversation between four young men on a suburban train in Hesse, which was



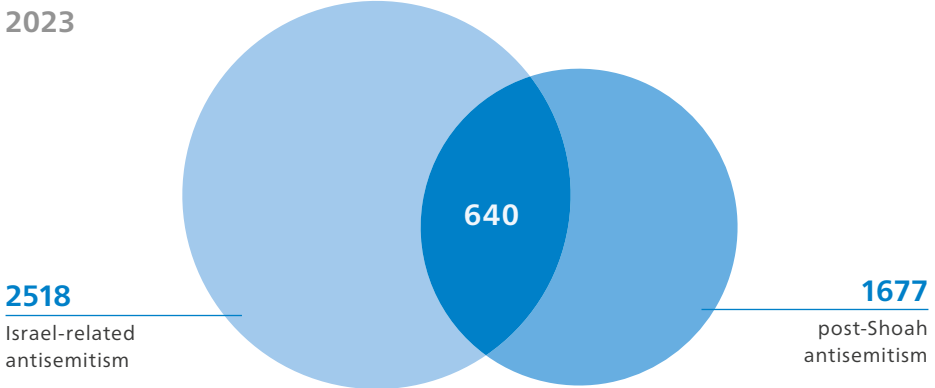
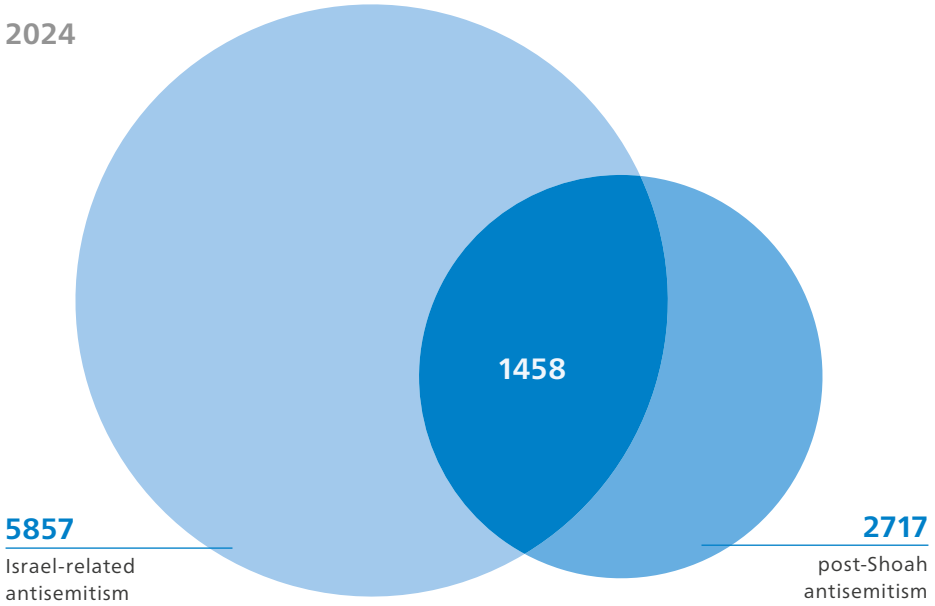
Kiel, January 2024: an antisemitic sticker depicting a rat with a human face and a club, hanging from a gallows with the word "Judas" written on its forehead.

Image: Clemens Schipper

reported by witnesses. One of the men said to another, "You still owe me money, bro," to which the other replied, "You're a fucking yid, right?" All four laughed, and one of them added, "Do you want interest, too?" The manifestation of anti-Judaic antisemitism includes references to Judaism as a religion or the use of religion-based stereotypes. Last year, RIAS classified 12 % of antisemitic incidents as manifestations of this type. A sticker discovered in Kiel in January shows a rat with a human face hanging from a gallows, with the word "Judas" written on its forehead. The rat has large incisors and is holding a bag of money in its hand. Many incidents involving this manifestation were accompanied by stereotypes of Israel-related antisemitism, such as in the aforementioned speech about Israel as a "child murderer" a phrase which RIAS documented numerous times at gatherings in 2024. 32 % of incidents were classified as manifestations of post-Shoah antisemitism, often involving threats announcing the repetition of Nazi crimes. In October, a man on a regional train near Gotha (Thuringia) first shouted "Heil Hitler" and then "Syrians and Jews to the gas chambers!" According to the person who reported the incident, the man shouted this at a group of passengers with a migration background. In Rudolstadt (Thuringia), the local branch of the AfD party set up a booth in front of a residential building in May. A resident of that building went up to the booth and expressed her unhappiness about it; in response, one of the municipal politicians at the booth threatened that she would end up in Buchenwald with a behavior like that. The incident was reported to the police. Antisemitic othering is a manifestation of antisemitism that includes incidents in which the term "Jew" is used in a derogatory sense. It usually implies the exclusion of Jews from the imagined in-group. In 2024, antisemitic othering played a role in a total of 35 % of antisemitic incidents. Such exclusions and derogations can also be intertwined with racist attributions. In June, a woman entered an Asian delicacies shop in Würzburg. She suddenly started insulting the staff and said: "Fucking Chinese, your days here are numbered. Jewish pigs, the child murderers and child fuckers."

The proportion of manifestations of post-Shoah antisemitism and antisemitic othering remained roughly the same in 2024 as in 2023, accounting for around one-third of incidents each. However, the absolute number of incidents in these categories has risen sharply compared with the previous year as well. Overall, the proportion of incidents involving Israel-related antisemitism was much higher in 2024 than in 2023, while the proportion of other manifestations remained largely stable. Thus, the increased Israel-related antisemitism does not replace other forms of antisemitism but rather combines more strongly with them and, as the data suggests, complements them in terms of content. For example, the proportion of incidents of post-Shoah antisemitism and antisemitic othering that were not classified as involving other manifestations fell, in some cases significantly. The following comparison shows the overlap between post-Shoah antisemitism and Israel-related antisemitism for the years 2023 and 2024.

**Overlaps of post-Shoah antisemitism and Israel-related antisemitism
2023 and 2024** (Fig. 6)



Entanglements with other ideologies of inequality

Antisemitic statements or actions are often accompanied by other stereotypes or ideologies of inequality. RIAS defines these as ways of thinking that reject the equal rights of all people. Corresponding stereotypes or ideologies are often not only expressed in the same situation as antisemitic statements but are also directly linked to them in terms of language. Some incidents feature multiple such entanglements.

Last year, RIAS recorded a total of 731 entanglements with other ideologies in 658 incidents. These figures show the continuation of a trend that has been observed since October 7, 2023: the increase in the entanglements of antisemitic incidents with sexism or misogyny. In 2024, this entanglement was the most common with 302 cases. Analytically, three types of this entanglement can be distinguished: insults, threats of (sexual) violence, and mockery, denial, or legitimization of misogynistic violence of October 7, 2023.¹⁵

The 302 cases of entanglements between antisemitic incidents and sexism included 19 assaults and 62 threats. In March, a scuffle broke out in Saarbrücken on the fringes of a demonstration marking International Women's Day. Young people accosted a woman carrying an Israeli flag and tried to take it from her, while other women attempted to stop them. In the scuffle, one of the youths said about the Israeli hostages: " Hamas really fucked them." The statement legitimizes the (sexual) violence to which the Israeli hostages of Hamas have been or are being subjected and mocks the hostages. During another incident in summer, teenagers spat at a woman wearing a necklace with a Hebrew word on it and insulted her in Arabic, calling her a Jewish whore ("Yahudi sharmuta"). In Leipzig in September, a woman was recording a voice message in Hebrew on her smartphone. Several Arabic-speaking men approached her, insulted her as a "Jewish slut" and threatened to rape her. At antisemitic gatherings, too, there were statements that referred to the misogynistic violence of October 7, 2023. In November, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, a speaker in Munich said the following with regard to the situation in the Gaza Strip: "That is why we resolutely oppose all those who actively support systems of oppression. This includes female soldiers in the Israeli occupation army, such as Agam Berger, Daniela Gilboa, Liri Albag, and Naama Levy." All four women named were still being held captive by Hamas at the time of the

15 Bianca Loy, "Die Verschränkung von Antisemitismus und Sexismus nach dem 7. Oktober 2023" ["The Entanglements of Antisemitism and Sexism after October 7, 2023"] *RIAS Working Paper* no. 02/24 (2024), https://report-antisemitism.de/documents/2024-12-18__RIAS_Working-Paper-3.pdf.

speech; their images had been seen around the world because their blood-stained clothes hinted at the sexual violence to which women had been subjected on October 7, 2023. The statement was a mockery of that experience of violence.

The number of antisemitic incidents entangled with racism in 2024 was similar to the previous year. In October, shouts could be heard in a hallway in a building in Magdeburg that “all Jews and foreigners should be gassed.” In June, graffiti with the slogans “Jews out” and “Free racism” was discovered at an outdoor swimming pool in Saxony. Many of the entanglements between antisemitism and racism were directed against refugees, for example through the spread of the right-wing extremist, antisemitic, and racist conspiracy myth of the so-called Great Replacement. This myth imagines a secret power, often Jews, that allegedly directs global migration movements in order to replace the native population of Europe with a foreign one. This conspiracy myth was featured, for example, on a sticker in Güstrow (Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania) in November.

Number of entanglements of antisemitic incidents with other ideologies of inequality (Fig. 7)

| | 2023 | 2024 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|
| sexism | 138 | 302 |
| racism | 220 | 212 |
| hostility towards the LGBTQ community | 81 | 84 |
| antigypsyism | 28 | 7 |
| other ideologies ¹⁶ | 75 | 126 |

16 The “other ideologies” category covers incidents involving ideologies other than those listed, for example incidents that are both antisemitic and ableist.



Güstrow (Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania):
sticker with the barely legible antisemitic slogan
"You will not replace us!"

Image: DIA.MV

Political-ideological background of antisemitic incidents

Where possible, RIAS classifies antisemitic incidents according to their political background. This classification is not applied automatically based on the manifestation of an incident, but only when it is clearly evident: either from the incident itself (e. g. through the perpetrators' self-identification), from the antisemitic stereotypes used (e. g. if these include specific religious beliefs), or from the context of the situation (e. g. incidents at particular gatherings). RIAS is frequently unable to clearly attribute a significant proportion of antisemitic incidents to a political background because it lacks the necessary information.

For 57 % of all incidents in 2024, the political background was categorized as "unknown."¹⁷ This high number is partly explained by numerous incidents where the perpetrators remained unknown, for example in cases of damage, theft, or graffiti. On the internet, where isolated and sometimes anonymous interaction is common, particularly on social media, it is also often impossible to attribute incidents to a political background. Furthermore, people affected and witnesses are often unable to identify the perpetrators' political background. For example, in February in Bremen, a passerby insulted a gathering showing solidarity with Israel, shouting "You fucking Jews." In another case in February, two men and a woman were talking on a local train in Cologne, and one of them said: "Everything is peaceful between Muslims and Christians, but as soon as there is a Jew around, there is nothing but trouble and everything blows up." In Hesse, a man who was recognizable as Jewish due to his kippah and tzitzit was visiting a café with friends when he heard an older man say "not good." When asked what was "not good," the man replied, "Talmud no good, I know it all. It's the devil." In all three cases, no political background was apparent from the statements or the broader context, and therefore none could be documented. The fact that antisemitic incidents are not only perpetrated by people with an identifiable political background can create a feeling of intense insecurity among Jews. Thereby they not only find themselves confronted with antisemitism from all sides, but also have little opportunity to avoid it.

Among incidents that could be clearly attributed to a political background, anti-Israel activism was the most common category, accounting for 26 %. Overall, this background was attributed to one in five assaults and one in four threats. RIAS considers incidents to have an anti-Israel background if they originate from

17 The "unknown" category differs from the "no information" category. In the latter case, there is no information whatsoever to link the incident to a political background. In cases marked as "unknown," some information is available, but it is not sufficient to clearly identify a specific political background.

actors whose anti-Israel convictions clearly predominate over any other political-ideological background, such as a left-wing anti-imperialist or Islamic/Islamist. These include secular Palestinian groups and supporters of antisemitic boycott campaigns against the Jewish state of Israel. The number of incidents with this background (2282) increased significantly compared to 2023 (598). This increase began to emerge on October 7, 2023 and is primarily attributable to incidents related to the Hamas attack and the subsequent war. For years, RIAS has observed that anti-Israel activism has a high potential for mobilization on specific occasions, such as anti-Israel or Islamist days of action. The geographical distribution of incidents with an anti-Israeli background shows regional differences, with a much higher proportion occurring in western German states than in those in the east. In Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, for example, incidents with this background were documented for the first time ever in 2024.

Two trends are particularly evident with regard to public gatherings.¹⁸ The first is that anti-Israel activists regularly co-opt events organized by other political groups. Thus, at the beginning of the year in Weimar, during demonstrations against the AfD that were supported by broadly based societal alliances, participants equated Zionism with fascism on signs. As part of the second trend, participants from different political backgrounds often take part in anti-Israel activism gatherings, which means that slogans and symbols associated by RIAS with left-wing anti-imperialist or Islamic/Islamist backgrounds are also present there. In September, for example, religious elements were evident at a gathering with an anti-Israel activism background in Hanover, including chants of "Allahu akbar." One speaker glorified terrorism as resistance and said that the "whole world" was standing with Palestine and that people would not stop until their children could pray at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Despite these religious references, the political background of anti-Israel activism prevailed at the gathering. In Bielefeld in August, a speaker opened an antisemitic demonstration linked to anti-Israel activism with an Islamic prayer before making antisemitic remarks in her speech. In Munich, materials from left-wing groups were displayed on an information stand at an anti-Israel protest camp in October. Banners belonging to left-wing groups were on display at an anti-Israel activism protest camp on the grounds of a Berlin university in the summer.

RIAS also received reports of a number of assaults in connection with anti-Israel activism gatherings. In November in Hesse, a man spat at a couple who were leaving a rally against an antisemitic demonstration. He shouted "fucking Jewish scum" after them. In Berlin in October, participants in an anti-Israel gathering

18 If antisemitic content is found in appeals, speeches, slogans, banners, or posters, RIAS will document the entire gathering as an antisemitic incident of abusive behavior. If antisemitic assaults or threats occur during or on the fringes of such gatherings, these are documented as additional antisemitic incidents.

threw bottles and stones at two counter-demonstrations. In Cologne in March, counter-protesters were pelted with eggs and pebbles coming from an anti-Israel gathering. Many incidents with an anti-Israel activism background involved the glorification or affirmation of terrorism, such as positive references to Hamas or to the red triangle symbol (see page 28). RIAS does not record these as antisemitic incidents per se; they are only included if accompanied by antisemitic statements or specifically target Jews or Jewish institutions.

The second most common background in 2024 was right-wing extremism, accounting for around 6 % of incidents. Compared to 2023, the absolute number of antisemitic incidents with this background rose, although their share of the total number of incidents fell. At 544 incidents, the absolute number in 2024 was the highest documented in this category since RIAS began comparing nationwide data in 2020.¹⁹ This represents an increase of 28 % compared to 424 incidents in 2023. The right-wing extremist background therefore remains a significant factor in antisemitic incidents. At the same time, the political constellations in which these incidents take place are changing. The reasons for this include the growing importance of mixed political scenes in recent years and the fact that actors with different political positions are working together on specific issues. This was particularly evident at gatherings against CoVid-19 measures, which were attended by right-wing extremists, actors from the conspiracist milieu but also by people from the politically centrist spectrum. Incidents with a right-wing extremist background are often particularly violent. In 2024, incidents from this background involved one case of extreme violence, along with 5 assaults, 40 cases of targeted property damage, and 27 threats. One such incident occurred in September in Rendsburg (Schleswig-Holstein). A guest at a bar was recognizable as Jewish because he was wearing a kippah. Another guest called out from a group, shouting first "Björn, Björn, Björn Höcke" and then "Victory, victory." The person affected sat down with the group from which the shouts had come and invited them to the open day at the local Jewish museum. In response, the person who had shouted tried to pull the kippah off his head. Also in September, participants in a right-wing extremist counter-demonstration in Wismar threatened participants of a Christopher Street Day event with the words "Off to the gas chamber with you." This case illustrates the connection between the manifestation of post-Shoah antisemitism and incidents with a right-wing extremist background. More than two-thirds of incidents with this background involved stereotypes of post-Shoah antisemitism, including condoning or trivializing the Shoah and rejecting the remembrance of Nazi crimes.

19 Daniel Poensgen, "Terrorismus, Polit-Aktivismus und Alltagskultur: Rechtsextreme antisemitische Vorfälle in Deutschland 2019–2023" ["Terrorism, Political Activism, and Everyday Culture: Right-wing Extremist Antisemitic Incidents in Germany 2019–2023"], in *Rechtsextremismus und Antisemitismus. Historische Entwicklung und aktuelle Ausdrucksformen*, Bundesverband RIAS (Berlin, 2024), 32, https://report-antisemitism.de/documents/24-12-11_BVRIAS_Rechtsextremismus_Antisemitismus.pdf.

RIAS attributed a total of 4% of all antisemitic incidents in 2024 to a left-wing anti-imperialist background. With 347 incidents, the number was higher than in 2023, when there were 141 incidents. In July, a sticker was discovered in Freiburg im Breisgau, which showed the Antifa logo in combination with a Palestinian flag and the words “Fuck your German guilt. Zionism is fascism.” The desire to draw a line under the Nazi past as a form of guilt denial can have an exonerating function, similar to a perpetrator-victim reversal. For a long time, such positions were almost exclusively held by the extreme right, but they are now also finding resonance among actors with other political backgrounds—as here among left-wing anti-imperialists. They are often based on the assumption that Germany supports Israel because of historical guilt.

3% of all antisemitic incidents were attributed to a conspiracist ideological background. In 2023, its share had been 7%—a steep drop compared to 2022 when it had been the most frequently assigned political background, accounting for 20% of all incidents. This marked the second consecutive year-on-year decline following the end of the Covid-19 pandemic; however, this background continues to play a role. For example, in Ilmenau, Thuringia, so-called Monday walks took place again in 2024. At these gatherings, antisemitic conspiracy myths were spread; at one of them in August, for example, a man spoke of the Morgenthau Plan, which he compared to the plans of the then Minister of Economic Affairs, Robert Habeck. This conspiracy myth refers to the never-implemented plan of former US Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, who envisioned the deindustrialization of Germany after the end of World War II, which would see it become a purely agricultural country in order to neutralize its military potential in the long term.

RIAS classified a further 143 incidents, or just under 2%, as having an Islamic/Islamist background. This attribution is applied when individuals refer positively to Islamic beliefs or symbols, and no other political background dominates. Developments in recent years show that violent incidents are particularly likely to occur in this context. This was the case in 2024 as well, with RIAS classifying two incidents of extreme violence—the Islamist terrorist attacks in Solingen and Munich—as falling within this spectrum. Even though the number of antisemitic incidents in this category is low, they pose a particular threat, as demonstrated by the planned and foiled terrorist attacks from the Islamic/Islamist spectrum.²⁰ RIAS only records planned but foiled acts of violence such as terrorist attacks as antisemitic incidents if the planning and preparations were highly specific.

20 In research on Islamist terror, the focus is currently primarily on three movements that pose a threat to Europe: Jihadist networks, specifically the Islamic State in the province of Khorosan, young people radicalized online and jihadist groups supported by or in conjunction with the Iranian regime. Peter R. Neumann, *Die Rückkehr des Terrors. Wie uns der Dschihadismus herausfordert* [The return of terror. How jihadism is challenging us] (Rowohlt, 2024), 51ff.

Besides cases of extreme violence and assaults, an Islamic/Islamist background was also documented for cases in all other types of incidents distinguished by RIAS. For instance, in August, a user commented on a video posted by a Jewish institution, writing: "Zionists are child murderers and inhabitants of hell; you will have the worst place in hell." Reference was made to a sura in the Koran that deals with the treatment of infidels.

RIAS classified less than 1 % of all antisemitic incidents in 2024 as having a Christian/Christian fundamentalist or a politically centrist background.

Statistics at a glance

Antisemitic incidents in 2024 by federal state²¹ (Fig. 8)



21 The sum of the incidents from each federal state is higher than the total number of antisemitic incidents, as mass mailings addressed to recipients in several federal states are counted as separate incidents in each federal state affected, but only once in the nationwide analysis.

Antisemitic incidents from 2020 to 2024 by type (Fig. 9)

| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| extreme violence | 1 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 8 |
| assaults | 39 | 64 | 58 | 127 | 186 |
| targeted property damage | 170 | 205 | 203 | 333 | 443 |
| threats | 104 | 107 | 87 | 189 | 300 |
| mass mailings | 160 | 187 | 246 | 84 | 176 |
| abusive behavior | 1483 | 2204 | 2007 | 4146 | 7514 |
| total | 1957 | 2773 | 2610 | 4886 | 8627 |

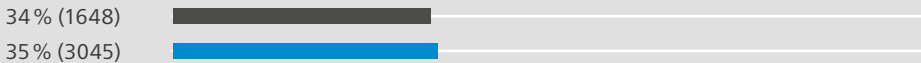
Manifestations of antisemitic incidents in 2023 and 2024 (Fig. 10)

Percentage of incidents assigned to the respective manifestation and absolute number. Antisemitic incidents are often attributed to several manifestations, so that the total sum of the percentages is greater than 100 %.

Israel-related antisemitism



antisemitic othering



post-Shoah antisemitism



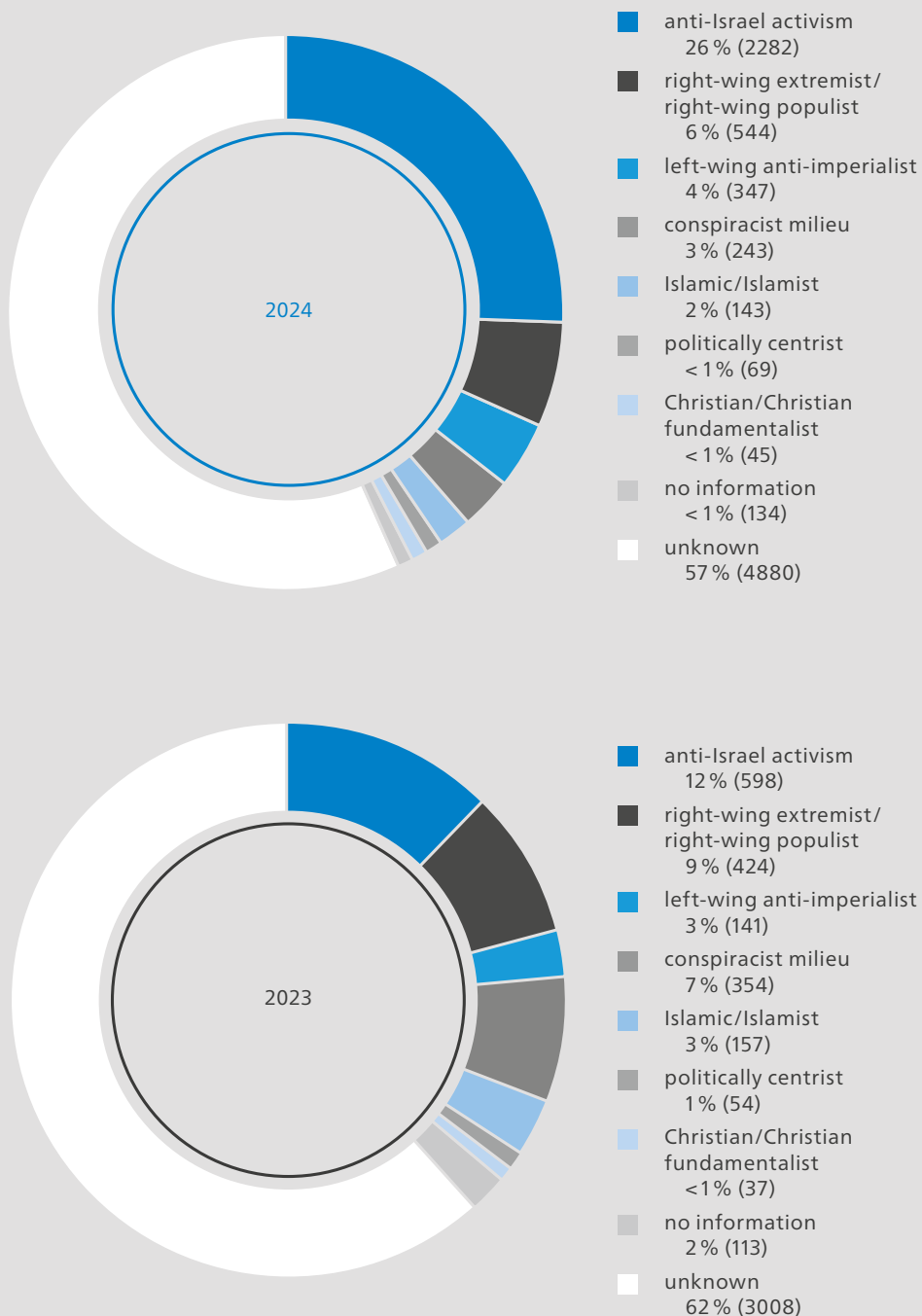
anti-Judaic antisemitism



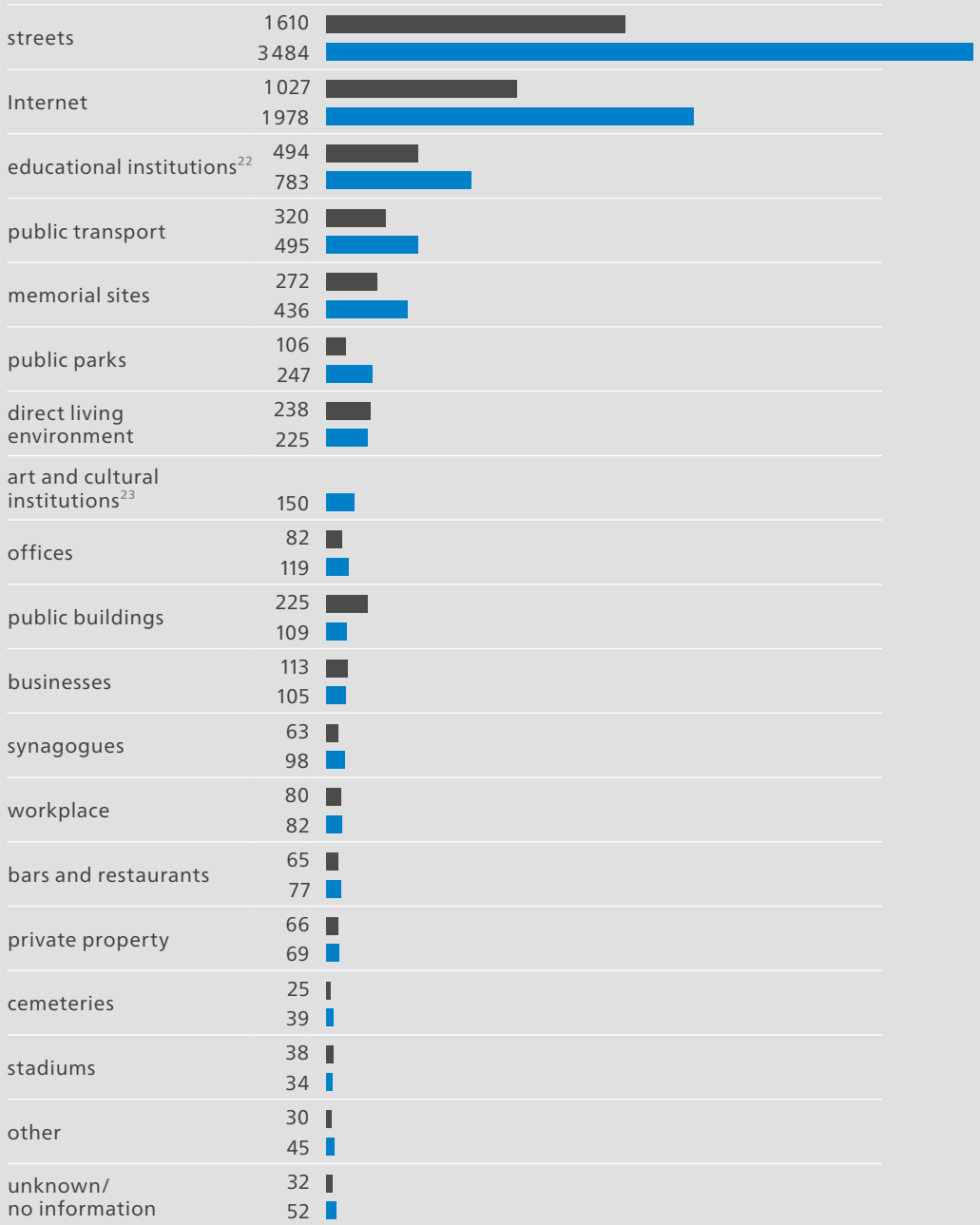
modern antisemitism



Political-ideological background of antisemitic incidents in 2023 and 2024 (Fig. 11)



Locations of antisemitic incidents in 2023 and 2024 (Fig. 12)



22 Until 2023, educational institutions also included incidents that occurred in arts and cultural institutions. Since 2024, art and cultural institutions have been listed as a separate category.

23 Separate category since 2024; see previous footnote.

People affected by antisemitic incidents

Number of antisemitic incidents affecting individuals in 2023 and 2024²⁴ (Fig. 13)

| | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Jewish or Israeli individuals | 730 | 966 |
| individuals addressed as Jewish or Israeli | 131 | 263 |
| individuals addressed as political opponents | 14 | 67 |
| representatives of civil-society organizations | 24 | 26 |
| politicians | 25 | 17 |
| representatives of memorial initiatives (such as memorials to victims of the Nazis) | 3 | 15 |
| police officers | 9 | 8 |
| members of the press | 11 | 4 |
| other non-Jewish individuals | 252 | 368 |
| unknown individuals | 117 | 14 |
| total | 1 316 | 1 748 |

Number of antisemitic incidents affecting institutions in 2023 and 2024 (Fig. 14)

| | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Jewish or Israeli institutions | 575 | 1 348 |
| memorials or memorial initiatives | 263 | 440 |
| civil society | 85 | 176 |
| institutions addressed as Jewish or Israeli | 24 | 27 |
| political parties | 37 | 68 |
| police | 4 | 9 |
| press | 3 | 8 |
| other non-Jewish institutions | 276 | 120 |
| unknown institutions | 3 | 19 |
| total | 1 270 | 2 215 |

24 For the method of counting the people affected, see the explanations in the Conceptual Framework and Categories section in the appendix.

Appendix

Civil-society documentation of antisemitic incidents in Germany in 2024

In order to document antisemitism from the perspective of those affected by it and to make it understandable for the non-Jewish public, it is necessary to have regionally anchored, low-threshold reporting and support networks that work closely with Jewish communities. These must function in an advocating, confidential manner and in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (DSGVO). Since February 2019²⁵, the Bundesverband RIAS has been supporting the development of regional reporting offices in the individual federal states and training their employees. The working methods of RIAS Berlin, developed since 2015 at the Society for a Democratic Culture in Berlin e. V. (VDK), provide the model for the regional reporting offices.

The individual RIAS reporting offices are connected with one another in the Federal Working Group (BAG), which is coordinated by the Bundesverband RIAS. In 2024, reporting offices from 11 federal states were organized there. The “requirements for working as a member of the Federal Working Group (BAG) of the Bundesverband RIAS e. V.” (see the chapter of the same name in this appendix) include collecting and documenting antisemitic incidents on the basis of uniformly defined criteria and categories. This takes place with the help of Bundesverband RIAS’s reporting and database technology. The Bundesverband RIAS continuously reviews the criteria and categories, also in exchanges with both the BAG and scientific advisors,²⁶ and, if necessary, develops them further.

The compilation of the *Antisemitic Incidents in Germany* report has been funded by the Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI) since 2022, following a decision of the Bundestag. Every year, the annual reports of the regional reporting offices in eleven federal states and the nationwide report contribute to the first field of action of the German government’s “National Strategy against Antisemitism and for Jewish Life.”

25 The nationwide coordination project (RIAS—BK), sponsored by Bundesverband RIAS, was funded by the Federal Ministry of Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) between 2020 and 2024 as part of the federal programme „Demokratie leben!“ [„Live Democracy!“].

26 The Bundesverband RIAS has regular scientific exchanges with the Community Security Trust (CST) in Great Britain. In addition, it receives scientific advice from the International Institute for Education and Research on Antisemitism (IIBSA) in Berlin as well as from the Emil Julius Gumpel Research Department of the Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies (MMZ) in Potsdam.

Use of the reporting and database technology of the Bundesverband RIAS (as of June 2025):

| Start of use | project name | responsible body |
|---------------------|--|---|
| 2015 | RIAS Berlin | Society for a Democratic Culture in Berlin e. V. (VDK) |
| 2019 | RIAS Bavaria | Association for Enlightenment and Democracy e. V. (VAD) |
| 2019–2021 | RIAS Brandenburg | Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies (MMZ) |
| 2021 | Specialist Office Against Antisemitism (FgA) | NS-Documentation Center of the City of Cologne |
| 2021 | Documentation and Information Office on Antisemitism Schleswig-Holstein (LIDA-SH) | Center for Victims of Right-Wing Attacks e. V. (ZEBRA) |
| 2021 | RIAS Lower Saxony | Amadeu Antonio Foundation (AAS) |
| 2021 | RIAS Thuringia | Amadeu Antonio Foundation (AAS) |
| 2022 | Documentation and Information Centre for Antisemitism Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (DIA.MV) | State-wide Victim Counselling Support and Information for Victims of Right-Wing Violence in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania e. V. (LOBBI) |
| 2022 | RIAS North Rhine-Westphalia | Association for Enlightenment and Democratic Education e. V. (VAdB) |
| 2022 | RIAS Saarland | Adolf Bender Center e. V. |
| 2022 | RIAS Hesse | Democracy Center Hesse at the Philipps University in Marburg |
| 2022 | RIAS Saxony | OFEK e. V. |
| 2022 | RIAS Saxony-Anhalt | OFEK e. V. |
| 2025 | RIAS Baden-Württemberg | Bundesverband RIAS e. V. |

Conceptual framework and categories

Antisemitic incidents that become known to the Bundesverband RIAS or the RIAS reporting offices are verified by employees of the respective projects in consultation with the reporting parties and then systematically documented. RIAS's classification of the antisemitic incidents is based on the working definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), which is also recommended by the federal government. It was specified and made operational by Berlin civil-society initiatives for a German-language context. In addition, RIAS is guided by the IHRA working definition of Holocaust denial and distortion.²⁷ To distinguish between Israel-related antisemitism and legitimate criticism of Israeli policies, RIAS is also guided by the triad of demonization, delegitimization and double standards proposed by Natan Sharansky.²⁸ When recording antisemitic incidents, RIAS analyses various categories: types of incidents, people affected, manifestations of antisemitism and political-ideological backgrounds.

Types of incidents

RIAS distinguishes between six different kinds of incidents, depending on the type and the seriousness of the case. This was originally developed by the Community Security Trust (CST) in Great Britain. RIAS Berlin later adapted it to a German context.

Extreme violence refers to (also attempted) physical attacks, including those that (can) result in the loss of human life or serious bodily harm. Cases of kidnapping, stabbing or shootings also belong to this category. Incidents in which people are physically attacked, but without causing life-threatening or serious injuries are classified as **assaults**. This category also includes attempted physical attacks. RIAS understands **targeted property damage** as the damaging or defacing of Jewish property with antisemitic symbols, posters or stickers. This includes the damaging or defacing of commemorative signs and locations, such as memorials, memorial plaques and memorial stones, as well as the offices of corresponding institutions. **Threats** refer to any direct and clear written or verbal threats of violence directed at individuals or institutions. The incident type **abusive behavior** covers all antisemitic statements. This also applies to remarks that are made or spread online, provided that they are addressed directly to a specific person or

27 For definitions and working methods, see: „Arbeitsweisen“, Bundesverband RIAS, <https://report-antisemitism.de/bundesverband-rias/#operatingPrinciple>.

28 Natan Sharansky, „3D Test of Anti-Semitism: Demonization, Double Standards, Delegitimization“, *Jewish Political Studies Review* 16: 3–4 (2004), <http://jcpa.org/article/3d-test-of-anti-semitism-demonization-double-standards-delegitimization/>.

institution. The damaging or defacing of non-Jewish property with antisemitic symbols, posters, stickers, etc. is also considered abusive behavior. The category of **mass mailings** covers antisemitic messages that are addressed to a larger circle of people—usually online. Regional RIAS reporting offices also proactively monitor **gatherings** with potentially antisemitic content. If they detect any antisemitic content in calls, speeches or slogans or on banners or posters, they record the entire gathering as an antisemitic incident of the abusive-behavior type. If antisemitic assaults or threats occur on the sidelines of such a gathering, these will be documented as additional antisemitic incidents.

People affected

Regarding those affected by antisemitic incidents, RIAS distinguishes between individuals and institutions. Along with Jews and Israelis, antisemitism can also affect **individuals** who are taken to be Jewish or addressed as such, as well as all other people, such as journalists or politicians. Several individuals can also be affected simultaneously by a single antisemitic incident. Affected **institutions** refer, on the one hand, to religious or secular Jewish bodies and associations or Israeli institutions. On the other hand, non-Jewish civil society organizations, political parties, media or educational institutions as well as other institutions that are perceived or addressed as Jewish can also be affected by antisemitic incidents. An institution that is the subject of an antisemitic incident is counted as a single affected party. Last but not least, there are also incidents to which **no directly affected person or institution** is assigned. This is the case, for example, with antisemitic graffiti, stickers or posters in public spaces as well as with gatherings containing antisemitic content.

Manifestations of antisemitism

RIAS distinguishes between five different manifestation types when recording antisemitic incidents. In cases of **antisemitic othering**, those affected are confronted with antisemitic statements because of their (assumed or actual) affiliation with Judaism or are addressed as not belonging to the respective imagined “we” group. **Anti-Judaic antisemitism** describes the spreading of religiously based antisemitic stereotypes—for example, the accusation that Jews are responsible for the death of Jesus. If Jews are said to have a particular political or economic power—for example, in connection with conspiracy myths—RIAS classifies it as **modern antisemitism**. **Post-Shoah antisemitism** refers to trivializing or relativizing references to National Socialist crimes, or the rejection of their memory. **Israel-related antisemitism** occurs when antisemitic statements are directed against the Jewish state, such as when its existence is denied legitimacy. In practice, RIAS often assigns an antisemitic incident to several types of manifestation. Because of these multiple assignments, the number of assigned manifestations is usually higher than the number of antisemitic incidents.

Political-ideological backgrounds

RIAS assigns antisemitic incidents to a political-ideological background. However, it only does so if the background is clear, either from the case itself (for example, when the perpetrator says something about it), from the antisemitic stereotypes that are used (if these, for example, include certain religious beliefs) or from the context of the situation (for example, incidents that take place in the context of a specific demonstration). Because such a clear assignation is not always possible, many antisemitic incidents cannot be attributed to a particular background. RIAS distinguishes between seven different political-ideological backgrounds, of which each incident can only be assigned to one. Antisemitic incidents that are categorized as **right-wing extremist/right-wing populist** are connected to such a spectrum. Right-wing extremism is a collective term for anti-modern, anti-democratic, anti-pluralistic and anti-human rights attitudes, behavior and trends. Common characteristics of various right-wing extremist ideologies are ideas about the fundamental inequality of different population groups, the desire to live in ethnically homogeneous communities (*Völkern*) and the subordination of the individual to the community. Right-wing populism is a collective term for toned-down and modernized versions of right-wing extremism. In contrast to right-wing extremism, it does not demand an end to parliamentary democracy

but instead aims to reshape and undermine it in an authoritarian manner.²⁹ RIAS classifies antisemitic incidents as **left-wing anti-imperialist** when they are associated with left-wing positions or when it is possible to ascertain a connection to left-wing traditions, such as (liberation nationalist) anti-imperialism. Antisemitic incidents that are linked to a positive reference to Christian beliefs or symbols are put into the **Christian/Christian fundamentalism** category. This includes fundamentalist forms of Christianity, when no other political-ideological background predominates. RIAS classifies antisemitic cases as **Islamic/Islamist** if they refer positively to Islamic beliefs or symbols and have no other political-ideological background predominating. This category encompasses references to different understandings of Islam, including Islamist ones. Antisemitic incidents are assigned to a **conspiracist background** if their focus is on the spreading of antisemitic conspiracy myths and no other political-ideological background predominates. Similarly, the **anti-Israel activism** background is only assigned to antisemitic incidents that cannot clearly be connected to any other political-ideological background and where hostility to Israel clearly dominates over another political position, such as a left-wing, right-wing or Islamist one. Anti-Israel activism includes, for example, secular Palestinian groups as well as supporters of antisemitic boycott campaigns against the Jewish state. Antisemitic incidents that cannot be clearly assigned to any of the afore-mentioned political-ideological backgrounds and where the people responsible claim to represent democratic positions are assigned to a **politically centrist background**.

29 For a more detailed definition of the term “right-wing extremism,” based on that of the political scientist Hans-Gerd Jaschke, see: Bundesverband Mobile Beratung e. V., *Mobile Beratung gegen Rechtsextremismus – Inhaltliche und methodische Grundsätze. Aktualisierte Fassung* [Mobile counseling against right-wing extremism—content and methodological principles. Updated version], adopted November, 19 2017, published 2021, https://bundesverband-mobile-beratung.de/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/BMB_Grundsatzpapier_2021.pdf.

Requirements for working as a member of the Federal Working Group (BAG) of the Bundesverband RIAS e. V.

At a meeting that took place on March 2-4, 2022, the Federal Working Group (BAG) of the Bundesverband RIAS agreed to the following mandatory and desirable requirements for the work as a civil-society contact point for antisemitic incidents. These requirements serve as a guide for existing, new and future projects of this kind and are continually reviewed and further developed at BAG meetings.

- The definition of an antisemitic incident as such is based on the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)'s *Working definition of antisemitism*, adapted by the Society for a Democratic Culture in Berlin e. V. (VDK) and the Department for Research and Information on Antisemitism Berlin (RIAS Berlin), on the IHRA's *Working definition of holocaust denial and distortion*, and on the triad of demonization, delegitimization, and double standards in Israel-related antisemitism.
- In the course of its work, all manifestations of antisemitism (post-Shoah antisemitism, Israel-related antisemitism, modern antisemitism, anti-Judaic antisemitism and antisemitic othering) are documented, regardless of the political-ideological background of the perpetrators.
- The recording and categorization of verified cases in a database provided by the Bundesverband RIAS is mandatory. The categorization system used in the database was developed and scientifically reviewed with the help of the Emil Julius Gumpel Research Department of the Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies (MMZ) and the International Institute for Education and Research on Antisemitism (IIBSA).
- Within the framework of the Federal Working Group (BAG) and with the approval of Bundesverband RIAS's scientific advisors, the categories used can be further developed and the database updated accordingly.
- The central reporting portal www.report-antisemitism.de offers multilingual, Internet-based, open-source and device-based accessibility for all Jews and non-Jews affected and witnesses of antisemitism in Germany. In addition, projects ensure that people have access as needed, via telephone, e-mail or in person.
- Contact is made with people reporting incidents in the geographical area of responsibility within 72 hours and, when incidents involve violence or threats of violence, on the first workday after the report is received.

- In order to use the incident database and the Bundesverband RIAS's reporting portal www.report-antisemitism.de, the relevant qualification modules must be completed. The requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (DSGVO) and the data-security guidelines developed by the project RIAS—Bundesweite Koordination (RIAS—BK) must be taken into account and applied.
- A close cooperation is sought with the Jewish communities, and the reporting option is presented to as many Jewish and non-Jewish organizations as possible. In addition, agreements are made to permanently promote the reporting service.
- Referral advice and a case comparison with other civil-society documentation projects are sought. For this purpose, agreements are made with the appropriate local structures. The projects refer those who are seeking advice regarding antisemitic incidents only to responsible bodies and projects that can ensure that they will be treated with sensitivity. In this regard, both a shared understanding of antisemitism based on IHRA's working definition and knowledge about the dangers of secondary victimization are crucial.
- A civil-society based reporting office for antisemitic incidents should have at least two full-time positions that have participated in the qualification measures provided by the Bundesverband (part-time equivalents are also possible). The project must be able to function and be perceived as an independent project both within the responsible body and in public.
- Projects and employees must act in a discreet and confidential manner, so that the project continues to be accessible to all those affected by antisemitism. This includes remaining cautious in the event of conflicts within the Jewish community and between Jewish communities and other Jewish actors.
- The projects undertake that all employees who accept, verify and record reports in the database take part in RIAS—BK's qualifying courses and send at least one employee to the federal working groups.
- The public is continuously informed about the results of the civil-society recording in the respective federal states on the basis of the press code. In doing so, the projects are guided by the Bundesverband RIAS's professional standards. Participation in the yearly reports of the Bundesverband RIAS is mandatory.
- The way that the projects and employees express themselves in their roles is based on the results of their work and always in relation to their own expertise. However, the projects are cautious when it comes to political activism (for example, in supporting appeals, petitions and speeches at demonstrations or rallies).

In addition, the BAG agreed to aim for the following desirable requirements:

- The projects participate in BAG work groups.
- In consultation with other civil-society actors and using journalistic means, the projects carry out a systematic monitoring of gatherings that take place in their geographical area of responsibility and at which, because of past events or the contents of a call, explicit or implicit antisemitic statements are to be feared.
- In consultation with other civil-society actors, the projects conduct a systematic monitoring of Internet or social-media sites that are particularly important for one of the documented political-ideological backgrounds in their geographical area of responsibility.
- In order to achieve a comprehensive picture, the reported cases are compared anonymously with the respective state office of criminal investigation or the police headquarters of the respective state police district.

Report antisemitic incidents by phone:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Baden-Württemberg | 0711 2283621 |
| Bavaria | 089 122234060 |
| Berlin | 0152 13362198 |
| Hesse | 0151 18522741 |
| Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania | 0381 12878528 0151 16922111 |
| Lower Saxony | 0159 06432144 |
| North Rhine-Westphalia | 0211 822660333 |
| Saarland | 06851 8082791 0151 27164226 |
| Saxony | 0155 66215818 |
| Saxony-Anhalt | 0345 13183031 0345 13183036 |
| Schleswig-Holstein | 0431 301403799 |
| Thuringia | 03641 2717573 0176 71213004 |
| In other states | 0800 0323263 (free of charge) |

Information on the telephone availability of the individual reporting offices can be found at <https://www.report-antisemitism.de/about/>



Bundesverband RIAS e.V.
Federal Association of Departments for
Research and Information on Antisemitism

You can report your experiences and
observations of antisemitic incidents at any
time via **report-antisemitism.de**

Bundesverband RIAS on the Internet:

report-antisemitism.de

x.com/Report_Antisem

facebook.com/BundesverbandRIAS

youtube.com/@riasbundesverband

instagram.com/riasbundesverband

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