To: Mr. Elon R. Musk, Twitter Management,
and Twitter's Content Moderation Council
795 Folsom St., Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94107

Date: November 16th, 2022

Elon, Twitter Has an Antisemitism Problem

Since its establishment, Twitter has become one of the world's preeminent social media platforms for online discussions, where citizens, elected officials, and the media exercise their right to free expression and engage in healthy and productive conversations.

To maximize the probability that the future is good, the world needs an online platform where everyone can participate. Unfortunately, this is not the case, as Jewish users are subject to unrelenting harassment on Twitter.

We, the undersigned **180** nonprofit and civil rights organizations, believe that exchanges of ideas on Twitter must not undermine the safety or well-being of users, especially those from vulnerable communities.

Consistent with that principle, Twitter's guidelines should afford protection to Jewish Twitter users from antisemitic content and harassment. This is particularly urgent given the record-breaking spike in antisemitic incidents over the last three years. For example, between 2020-2021, antisemitic incidents surged by 78% in the United Kingdom and 75% in France, while the United States saw an all-time high with 2,717 recorded antisemitic incidents, a 34% increase from the prior year.

In order to fight antisemitism properly, it must be defined.

Therefore, we call on you to update Twitter's anti-hate policies by adopting the globally recognized IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism as a guiding tool to stymie the spread of Jew hatred.

Nearly 40 countries, including the United States, have already endorsed or adopted the IHRA Working Definition. In addition, an overwhelming majority of civil society groups, at the forefront of the fight against antisemitism, encourage the use and adoption of the IHRA Working Definition.

The IHRA Working Definition covers various types of antisemitism, including justifying the killing of Jews in the name of radical ideology, Holocaust denial, and denying the Jewish right to self-determination in the State of Israel.

We believe the only way to truly grasp how pervasive antisemitism is on Twitter is to witness it. For this purpose, we present you with a data sample of more than 1,000 recent antisemitic tweets, all satisfying the IHRA Working Definition, collected and vetted in an interactive database **(attached in Appendix A)**.

Adopting the IHRA Working Definition would provide Twitter with an effective and neutral tool to protect Jewish users from antisemitic content along with the hate and violence it can inspire **(see Appendices B and C for more details)**.

We urge you to help Twitter rise to its commitment to be the "modern town square," and facilitate a future that is good, by fully adopting the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism.

Signed,

A Wider Bridge
United States

Acción y Comunicación sobre Oriente Medio (ACOM)
Spain

Act-IL
Worldwide

Aish Global
Worldwide

Aish LA
United States

Alleanza Per Israele
Italy

Alma Center
Israel

Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi)
United States

Alums for Campus Fairness (ACF)
United States

American Israeli Collaboration Enterprise (AICE)
United States

Americans Against Antisemitism (AAA)
United States

American Zionist Movement (AZM)
United States

Americans for Peace and Tolerance (APT)
United States

Association Cooperation and Development (ACD)
Switzerland

Association Swiss-Israel (ASI)
Switzerland

Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC)
Australia

Belgian Friends of Israel (BFOI)
Belgium

B'nai Brith Canada
Canada

B'nai B'rith International
Worldwide

BBYO
Worldwide

Britian Israel Communication and Research Center (BICOM)
United Kingdom

Campaign Against Antisemitism (CAA)
United Kingdom

Campaign4Truth (C4T)
United Kingdom

Canadian Antisemitism Education Foundation (CAEF)
Canada

Canadians for Israel's Legal Rights
Canada

Center for Information and Documentation Israel (CIDI)
Netherlands

Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA)
Canada

Christians and Jews United for Israel (CJUI)
United States

Christians for Israel Germany
Germany

Club Z
United States

Coalition for Jewish Values
United States

Combat Antisemitism Movement (CAM)
United States

Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and Analysis (CAMERA)
Worldwide

Comunidad Chilena De Israel
Israel

Con Israel y Por La Paz
Argentina

CyberWell
Worldwide

DEISI International
United States

Doc Emet Productions
United States

Eagles Wings
United States

Education Without Indoctrination
United States

Emunah of America
United States

#EndJewHatred
United States

Endowment for Middle East Truth (EMET)
United States

Euro-Gulf Information Centre
Europe

Europe Israel Public Affairs (EIPA)
Europe

European Coaliton for Israel
Europe

European Jewish Association (EJA)
Europe

European Lawyers for Israel (ELFI)
Europe

European Leadership Network (ELNET)
Europe

Executive Council of Australian Jewry
Australia

Eye on Antisemitism (EOA)
United Kingdom

Federation of Finland-Israel Associations
Finland

Feldman Foundation California & Texas
United States

Finnish Holocaust Remembrance Association (HUM)
Finland

Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD)
United States

Freedom Center
United States

Fuel for Truth
United States

Fuente Latina
Worldwide

Gemunder Family Foundation
United States

Gesher Hachaim
Belgium

Glasgow Friends of Israel
United Kingdom

Hadassah The Women's Zionist Organization of America
United States

Hasbara Fellowships
United States and Canada

Hatzad Hasheni
Latin America

Henry Jackson Society (HJS)
United Kingdom

HETZ
Worldwide

Hochberg Family Foundation
United States

Holocaust and Antisemitism Foundation
New Zealand

Honest Reporting
Worldwide

Honestly Concerned
Germany

Human Rights Voices
Worldwide

I Like Israel (ILI)
Germany

Impac
Belgium

InfoEquitable
France

Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel (IBSI)
United States

Institute for Monitoring Peace and Cultural Tolerance in School Education (IMPACT-SE)
United States

Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)
Israel

Institute for Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA)
United States

International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ)
United States

International Institute for Education and Research on Antisemitism (iibsa)
Germany

International March of the Living
United States

Ireland Israel Alliance (IIA)
Ireland

Irish Christian Friends of Israel (ICFI)
Ireland

Israel Allies Foundation
Worldwide

Israel Britian Alliance
United Kingdom

Israel Christian Nexus
United States

Israel Defense and Security Forum (IDSF)
Israel

Israel Heritage Foundation
United States

Israel Institue of New Zealand (IINZ)
New Zealand

Israel on Campus Coalition (ICC)
United States

Israeli American Council (IAC)
United States

Israellycool Israel Advocacy
Israel

Istituto Milton Friedman
Italy

Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (JCPA)
Israel

Jerusalem Institute of Justice (JIJ)
Israel

JewBelong
United States

Jewish Forum for Democracy and Against Anti-Semitism (JFDA)
Germany

Jewish Future Pledge
United States

Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)
United States

Jewish Leadership Project
United States

Jewish National Fund - USA (JNF-USA)
United States

Jewish Policy Center
United States

Jewish Student Union Germany (JSUD)
Germany

Jewish War Veterans of the USA
United States

Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa (JIMENA)
United States

Latino Coalition for Israel (LCI)
United States

Licra Paris
France

Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law
United States

Maccabee Task Force (MTF)
United States

Maccabi Europe
Europe

Maccabi World Union
Worldwide

Makkabi Deutschland
Germany

March of Life Finland
Finland

Med Israel for Fred (MIFF)
Norway, Denmark, Sweden & Iceland

Middle East Forum (MEF)
United States

Mideast Freedom Forum Berlin (MFFB)
Germany

My Truth
Israel

Nahost Friends Forum (NAFFO)
Germany

National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference (NHCLC)
United States

National Jewish Assembly (NJA)
United Kingdom

North Carolina Coalition for Israel (NCCI)
United States

Newton and Rochelle Becker Charitable Trust
United States

NGO Monitor
Israel

North London Friends of Israel
United Kingdom

Northern Ireland Friends of Israel
United Kingdom

OLAMI
United States

Online Antisemitism Taskforce
Worldwide

Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI)
Australia

Orthodox Jewish Chamber of Commerce (OJC)
United States

Osservatorio Antisemitism of the CDEC Foundation
Italy

Palestinian Media Watch (PMW)
Unites States

Prevention Sécuritaire et Citoyenne
France

Progetto Dreyfus
Italy

Rabbinical Alliance of America (RAA)
United States

Religious Zionist of America (RZA)
United States

RI Coalition for Israel
United States

Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME)
United States

Simon Wiesenthal Center
Worldwide

Solomon-osservatorio sulle discriminazioni
Italy

South African Friends of Israel
South Africa

South African Union of Jewish Students (SAUJS)
South Africa

South African Zionist Federation (SAZF)
South Africa

StandWithUs
Worldwide

StopAntisemitism
United States

Students Supporting Israel (SSI)
United States, Canada and Argentina

Sweden Israel Alliance (SIA)
Sweden

Swedish Zionist Federation
Sweden

The Alan B. Slifka Foundation
United States

The ARISE Foundation
United States

The Board of the Deputies of British Jews
United Kingdom

The Deborah Project
United States

The Florida Holocaust Museum
United States

The Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP)
United States

The International Legal Forum (ILF)
Worldwide

The Lappin Foundation
United States

The Lawfare Project
United States

The Lisa and Michael Leffell Foundation
United States

The Milstein Family Foundation (MFF)
United States

The Mozuud Freedom Foundation
Canada

The Philos Project
United States

The Reut Group
Israel

The Women's Zionist Organization of America (WIZO)
United States

TheJ.ca
United States

Thirty (30) Years After
United States

Together We Vouch for Each Other
Israel

Toronto Foundation
Canada

UK Lawyers for Israel (UKLFI)
United Kingdom

UN Watch
Worldwide

Unidos por Israel
Worldwide

Unione Associazioni Italia-Israele
Italy

Unione Giovani Ebrei d'Italia (UGEI)
Italy

United with Israel
Worldwide

We Believe in Israel
United Kingdom

WerteInitiative. jüdisch-deutsche Positionen
Germany

World Values Network (WVN)
United States

World Zionist Organization (WZO)

Zachor Legal Institue
United States

Zionist Advocacy Center (TZAC)
United States

Zionist Federation of Australia (ZFA)
Australia

Zionist Organization of America (ZOA)
United States

Antisemitic Tweets According to the IHRA Working Definition

Data provided by CyberWell

	Link	Account Name	Retweets	Likes	Account Followers	Upload Date	IHRA Example Satisfied	Languages	Post Status
1	Click Here	Gabriel Boric Font	1,972	6,180	7,686	10/02/2020	11	Spanish	Online
2	Click Here	Sarah Wilkinson	958	799	90,812	3/15/2020	9	English	Online
3	Click Here	swilkinsonbc	825	0	567	1/18/2020	7	English	Online
4	Click Here	SamEdwardd	786	0	435	6/23/2020	1, 7	English	Online
5	Click Here	TheBlackChannel	714	0	480	7/15/2020	2	English	Online
6	Click Here	swilkinsonbc	526	0	127	08/04/2020	9	English	Online
7	Click Here	Marshall_H15	483	0	2,469	09/02/2020	7	English	Online
8	Click Here	Remi Kanazi	480	1,526	2,531	5/20/2021	7	English	Online
9	Click Here	jvplive	407	0	2,401	02/02/2020	7	English	Online
10	Click Here	Addameer	381	370	28,232	4/17/2020	9	English	Online
11	Click Here	Andy Ratto	363	0	2,041	5/22/2021	10	English	Online
12	Click Here	Boycott UAE	330	1,176	788	4/26/2021	9	Arabic	Online
13	Click Here	swilkinsonbc	328	0	1,877	04/02/2020	7	English	Online
14	Click Here	_Haider313	287	0	6	4/29/2020	7	English	Online
15	Click Here	QuranAndHadithh	182	0	1,114	8/29/2020	2	English	Online
16	Click Here	BDSmovement	181	0	1,000	1/20/2020	7	English	Online
17	Click Here	Remi Kanazi	171	474	57,593	7/21/2020	7	English	Online
18	Click Here	Remi Kanazi	168	417	2,531	01/02/2021	9	English	Online
19	Click Here	kashifIqbal	148	159	783	06/07/2020	9	English	Online
20	Click Here	MaxBlumenthal	129	0	228	8/25/2020	9	English	Online
21	Click Here	Bint	126	83	39,766	07/01/2020	9	English	Online
22	Click Here	Sehrish Khan	124	255	7,212	06/07/2020	9	English	Online
23	Click Here	Lamis Deek	124	0	941	04/12/2020	11	English	Online
24	Click Here	C_Rich75	117	0	22	7/16/2020	2	English	Online
25	Click Here	Mondoweiss	106	0	328	05/09/2021	7	English	Online
26	Click Here	abwalbtwl_aa	104	77	2,902	03/01/2022	2	Arabic	Online
27	Click Here	SJP UMASS	104	0	328	2/13/2021	7	English	Online
28	Click Here	swilkinsonbc	103	0	1,406	5/26/2020	7	English	Online
29	Click Here	agha_mohamad1	103	0	114	5/22/2020	7	English	Online
30	Click Here	VviewSsonicMair	100	206	7,362	2/14/2020	7	English	Online
31	Click Here	TorahJews	87	0	560	07/06/2020	7	English	Online
32	Click Here	Ali Abunimah	86	0	201	2/16/2021	11	English	Online
33	Click Here	PARSARAMKHIMSAR	83	293	15,089	07/08/2020	2	English	Online
34	Click Here	21OLhUrBc5WlCC6	82	73	4,480	5/15/2021	1	Arabic	Online
35	Click Here	Olivia Katbi Smith	72	0	1,774	4/27/2021	7	English	Removed
36	Click Here	Ali Abunimah	72	141	142,216	5/18/2020	7	English	Online
37	Click Here	OG144k	67	0	496	7/17/2020	2	English	Online
38	Click Here	Issa Amro	66	0	263	3/30/2021	7	English	Online
39	Click Here	Hamoud Mohammad	66	250	6,402	9/18/2020	9	Arabic	Online
40	Click Here	bad_bec	64	0	870	02/08/2020	7	English	Online
41	Click Here	4noura	63	0	13,192	11/05/2020	7	English	Online
42	Click Here	Joe Catron	55	0	9,704	04/12/2021	7	English	Online
43	Click Here	Anas_A_Aljamal	54	297	1,095	01/02/2022	1	Arabic	Online
44	Click Here	Remi Kanazi	54	138	2,531	01/03/2021	9	English	Online
45	Click Here	elmazlooma	53	23	29,552	06/05/2020	11	Arabic	Online
46	Click Here	Hani Ramadan	50	92	1,828	5/15/2021	2	French	Online
47	Click Here	Nisreen	44	92	33,371	8/21/2020	2, 4, 5	Arabic	Online
48	Click Here	Rayhanics	39	0	235	5/14/2020	7	English	Online
49	Click Here	yemen_sameer	38	187	19,027	07/09/2022	2, 9	Arabic	Online
50	Click Here	Ali Abunimah	35	93	2,683	6/13/2021	7, 10	English	Online

For more examples, see the full database:

App.CyberWell.org/twitter.php

Jew Hatred on Twitter

Global antisemitism is at its highest level since the end of World War II.

Since their creation, social media platforms have provided another sphere where Jewish individuals regularly experience Jew-hatred.

Online antisemitism spills over into the physical space and can fuel real-world consequences, including both white supremacists and radical Islamists perpetrating terror attacks on innocent civilians. In the United States, Jews are consistently the most targeted community for hate crimes, according to the FBI.

Twitter is not exempt from this phenomenon. Jews on Twitter have been subjected to unrelenting harassment and hate, both in terms of classic antisemitism and new antisemitism, which is often disguised as opposition to Zionism, the Jewish right to self-determination in the State of Israel.

The situation has deteriorated so markedly that in July 2020, Jewish users staged a mass 48-hour walkout of the platform to encourage Twitter to act more forcefully against anti-Jewish harassment. Yet less than a year later, during the Israeli Operation Guardian of the Walls in May 2021, #HitlerWasRight was Tweeted approximately 17,000 times in one single week.

Despite these concerning facts, there is a readily available tool that can push back against the widespread phenomenon of Jew-hatred on Twitter. The widely accepted International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's Working Definition of Antisemitism (IHRA Working Definition) can help Twitter address these challenges by more effectively flagging antisemitic content while abiding by the fundamental tenets of free expression that have guaranteed Twitter's status as the digital town square.

Khamenei.ir
@khamenei_ir

#Holocaust is an event whose reality is uncertain and if it has happened, it's uncertain how it has happened.

10:37 AM · Mar 21, 2014 · Twitter Web Client

238 Retweets **107** Quote Tweets **102** Likes

Remi Kanazi
@Remroum

Israel spreading covid to Palestinians under their control through violent raids and military occupation only to not give them the vaccines is apartheid at its finest.

10:59 PM · Jan 2, 2021 · Twitter for Android

168 Retweets **30** Quote Tweets **416** Likes

سـارة الغـامـدي
@sarah_alghamidi

معا لـ #مقاطعه_الإمارات 🚫 الصهيـونية.

Translated from Arabic

Together for #Boycott_TheEmirate 🚫 Zionism.

2:36 AM · Apr 6, 2021 · Twitter for Android

330 Retweets **16** Quote Tweets **1,177** Likes

IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism

The IHRA is an intergovernmental organization mandated to focus on threats facing the Jewish people. It correctly determined that the first step in combatting antisemitism is properly defining it. The IHRA definition succinctly states:

> *"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."*

Importantly, the definition is accompanied by 11 examples of antisemitism to help showcase how it can manifest in many different forms. These examples are an integral part of the definition itself.

The IHRA definition has been officially adopted by the US and 37 other national governments, as well as numerous local governments, universities, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, and international bodies around the world, including the UN and EU.

IHRA
IS WIDELY ACCEPTED

■ COUNTRIES THAT FORMALLY ADOPTED IHRA

CANADA
UNITED STATES
GUATEMALA
URUGUAY
ARGENTINA

SWEDEN
UNITED KINGDOM
FRANCE
SPAIN
ITALY
SWITZERLAND
BELGIUM
NETHERLANDS
GERMANY
AUSTRIA
CZECH REPUBLIC
SLOVAKIA
SLOVENIA
HUNGARY
SERBIA
ALBANIA
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
LUXEMBOURG
KOSOVO
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

ESTONIA
LITHUANIA
POLAND
ROMANIA
BULGARIA
CYPRUS
GREECE
ISRAEL
BAHRAIN

SOUTH KOREA
PHILIPPINES
AUSTRALIA

38
COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE

320
NON-FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

314
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

194
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

To better illustrate the ways that the IHRA Working Definition can be applied as a digital discourse analysis tool, this letter cites CyberWell's open-source database, which has tracked more than 1,000 examples of antisemitic tweets posted over the last 2 years that satisfy the IHRA's definition of antisemitism and violate Twitter's hate speech policy (attached in Appendix A). These examples are a **mere sample** of the hostile environment Jews are regularly subject to while using Twitter.

Twitter's Antisemitism Problem

Multiple organizations that research "the world's oldest hatred" have expressed concern over the troubling amount of antisemitism on Twitter and criticized the platform's handling of it.

As far back as 2018, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) identified at least 4.2 million antisemitic tweets over a 12-month period. In a follow-up sample analysis by the ADL from August 2021, Twitter was found to have 25% more antisemitism on the platform than Reddit — with an initial removal rate of only 21% by Twitter of reported antisemitic content. Furthermore, the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (ISCA) at Indiana University found that between January – August 2020, 11% of conversations about Jews and 13% of conversations about Israel on Twitter were antisemitic in nature. Most recently, in July 2022, the ADL reported a negligible 5% removal rate of a data-sample reported directly to Twitter.

This means that even when antisemitic tweets are flagged by users for violating Twitter's terms of service, little action is taken. While Twitter has vowed to intensify its efforts to clamp down on Holocaust denial, the findings in Appendix A show that these attempts have been far from successful. Indeed, a 2021 study by the Center to Counter Digital Hate (CCDH) found that only 11% of tweets reported as antisemitic were removed during a six-week period.

The dataset in Appendix A, available for interactive viewing at https://app.cyberwell.org/twitter, showcases over 1,000 examples of antisemitic tweets that violate its policy guidelines – whether it be harassing individual users for supporting the right to Jewish self-determination, blaming Jews for the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center, or blaming the Jewish people as a collective for orchestrating the COVID-19 pandemic.

The dataset provided is yet another clear example of how the IHRA Working Definition, empowered by the appropriate technological implementation, can help rid Twitter of antisemitism.
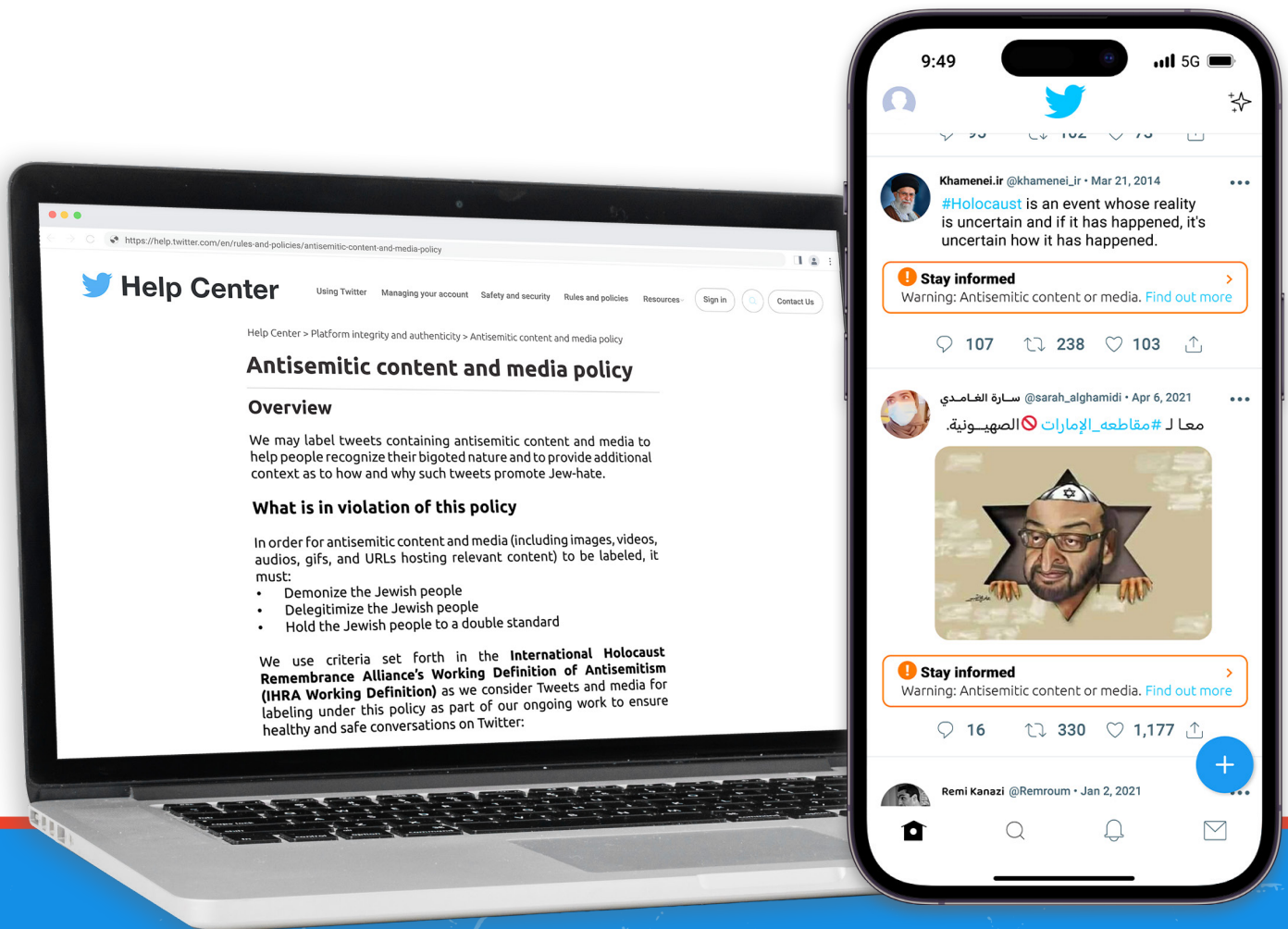
A Tool to Fight Antisemitism on Twitter

The IHRA Working Definition is used as a tool to detect and classify hateful rhetoric and tropes targeting Jews, identify hate crimes, and educate about antisemitism. Currently, Twitter is not nearly transparent enough in how it addresses antisemitism on its platform.

Twitter can ensure the safety of its Jewish users and the integrity of its platform by adopting the IHRA Working Definition and integrating it into its technological flagging system to moderate incitement and hateful content. Adopting the definition will also facilitate a better user experience and more productive discussions for and about the Jewish people and Israel across the digital town square.

Discourse, debate, and exchange of ideas – these are the reasons Twitter was established in the first place – not for hate.

Potential Warnings and Informational Graphics Twitter Should Present to Users Regarding Antisemitic Tweets

Scan to read the letter online

AdoptIHRA.org