

Unofficial translation

The Federation of Jewish Communities recently published its Annual Report on Anti-Semitism in 2019.

We have noticed that the number of registered cases in our country is still relatively low, however compared to last year it has doubled.

We have expressed our attitudes on the phenomenon of hatred of Jews on several occasions in the past and have rejected it unequivocally and strongly. Our historical experience leads us not only to stand by our "older brothers in the faith," but always to stand up for the values on which our communities were built and on which they stand today.

Current manifestations of anti-Semitism vary, they can use stereotypes that have already been - not only in our opinion - long ago refuted and overcome, and which affect Jews as individuals, but also as communities. Conspiracy theories, but also the blame for various mischief in our current society, should no longer have a place in our minds and hearts.

However, today we see also accusations that target the current "collective Jew," the State of Israel.

Although our communities are apolitical, we do not want to remain silent if the Jewish state is approached in advance with prejudice, with false accusations, and if the very right to its existence is questioned. We also reject any interference in domestic political discourse, just as we would do in the case of interference in our own affairs.

We pray for our brothers and hope that the peace we all desire will soon be achieved.

Cardinal Dominik Duka, OP
Archbishop of Prague, Metropolitan, Czech Primat