

# United States Senate

April 24, 2020

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on State,  
Foreign Operations and Related Programs  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Vice Chairman  
Subcommittee on State,  
Foreign Operations and Related Programs  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Graham and Vice Chairman Leahy:

As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you provide increased funding for the U.S. State Department's Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism.

The Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism was established by the *Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004* (22 U.S. Code § 2731). The legislation requires the Secretary of State to appoint a Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism. The Special Envoy develops and implements policies and projects to combat global anti-Semitism, by working closely with foreign governments, intergovernmental organizations, and civil society. Additionally, the Special Envoy coordinates and assists in developing the reports on anti-Semitism within the State Department's annual Human Rights Reports and International Religious Freedom Report.

Tragically, 75 years after the end of the Holocaust, anti-Semitism is on the rise around the world. A 2019 survey commissioned by the Anti-Defamation League found that about one in four Europeans polled harbored pernicious attitudes toward Jews. According to a study by Tel Aviv University's Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry, violent anti-Semitic attacks worldwide rose 18 percent in 2019. The study also showed that the coronavirus pandemic has led to a rise in anti-Semitic incitement blaming Jews for the spread of the disease and the economic crisis it has caused.

Providing additional funds in FY 2021 will ensure the State Department has the resources needed to track and respond to this growing scourge and that the United States remains a leader in combating anti-Semitism internationally. Specifically, these funds would support the Special Envoy's efforts to improve the safety and security of at-risk Jewish communities, combat online radicalization, ensure public officials and faith leaders condemn anti-Semitic discourse, and strengthen judicial systems in their prosecution of anti-Semitic incidents.

Thank you for your consideration and prior funding for the Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism. The undersigned members strongly urge you to appropriate

increased funding for the Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism in the FY 2021 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jacky Rosen

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Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator

/s/ M. Michael Rounds

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M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator

/s/ Kirsten Gillibrand

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Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator

/s/ Kevin Cramer

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Kevin Cramer  
United States Senator

/s/ Dianne Feinstein

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Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

/s/ Ron Wyden

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Ron Wyden  
United States Senator

/s/ Gary C. Peters

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Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator

/s/ Elizabeth Warren

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Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

/s/ Cory A. Booker

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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator

/s/ Christopher A. Coons

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Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator

/s/ Robert P. Casey, Jr.

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Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

/s/ Richard Blumenthal

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Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator

/s/ Edward J. Markey

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Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator

/s/ Catherine Cortez Masto

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Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator

/s/ Maria Cantwell

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Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator

/s/ Kyrsten Sinema

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Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator

/s/ Christopher S. Murphy

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Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator

/s/ Tammy Duckworth

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Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

/s/ Bernard Sanders

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Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator

/s/ Amy Klobuchar

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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator

/s/ Tammy Baldwin

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Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator

/s/ Tina Smith

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Tina Smith  
United States Senator

/s/ Kamala D. Harris

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Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator

/s/ Mark R. Warner

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Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator

/s/ Jack Reed

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Jack Reed  
United States Senator

/s/ Christopher Van Hollen

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Christopher Van Hollen  
United States Senator

/s/ Tim Kaine

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Tim Kaine  
United States Senator

/s/ Sherrod Brown

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Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator