



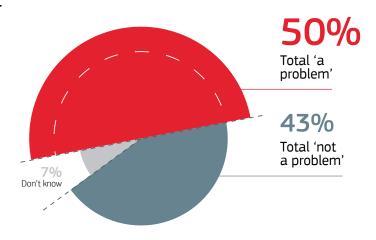
# Perceptions of antisemitism

December 2018



# THE PERCEPTION OF ANTISEMITISM AS A PROBLEM

Every other European
considers antisemitism
as a problem in their country.
4 in 10 Europeans consider it not to be an issue in their country.



This feeling that antisemitism is a problem is **more widespread** for those who...



have Jewish friends or acquaintances 64%



belong to a minority 60%



have Muslim friends or acquaintances 59%

In a few countries, at least two thirds of people see antisemitism as a problem



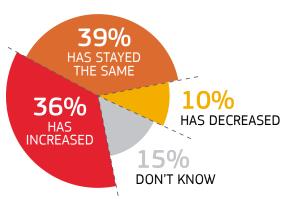




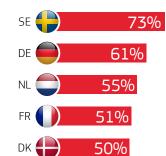
## IS THE PROBLEM **GETTING WORSE?**

Only slightly over a third of Europeans perceive an increase in antisemitism. Close to two thirds do not perceive an increase.

The share of "don't know" answers outweighs the share of "has decreased".



In five countries, at least half of the population think that **antisemitism has increased** 





### Perceptions of antisemitism



### WHAT ARE THE **MOST PROBLEMATIC MANIFESTATIONS** OF ANTISEMITISM?



The following manifestations of antisemitism **are seen as problems in their country** by an important share of Europeans. This is especially true for those who have Jewish friends or acquaintances and those who belong to a minority, in line with the idea that hatred against one group can spill over.

### Physical attacks

against Jewish people



**♦** 61%

**58**%

Expression of hostility & threats

towards Jewish people in the street or other public places



51%

**\$** 63%

**60%** 

Antisemitic graffiti or vandalism

of Jewish buildings or institutions



51%

**\$** 64%

**88** 59%

**Desecration** 

of Jewish cemeteries



50%

**61%** 

**37%** 

Antisemitism **on the Internet**, including online social networks



51% 'a problem'

STUDENTS

YOUNG AGED 15-24 58%

**Antisemitism** 

in schools & universities



43% (a problem)

STUDENTS

47% 'not a problem'

Antisemitism in political life



43% (a problem)

POLITICAL SCALI

48% Left



42% Right

Antisemitism in the media



41%



**350**%



#### Perceptions of antisemitism

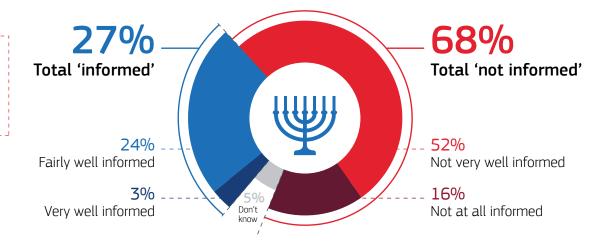


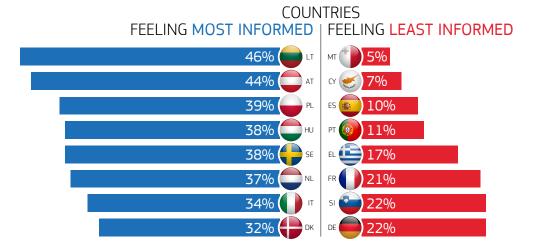


## KNOWLEDGE OF JEWISH HISTORY, CUSTOMS AND PRACTICES

Only 3% of Europeans feel 'very well informed'. 68% say they are 'not informed'

Have Jewish friends or acquaintances
Total 'informed'
31%

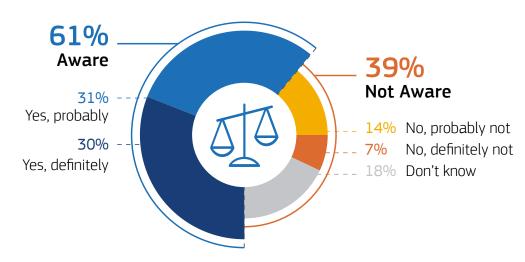






#### AWARENESS OF **LEGISLATION**

The majority of
Europeans (61%) are
aware of national
legislation
criminalising
incitement
to violence or hatred
against Jewish people











EDUCATION ABOUT THE **HOLOCAUST** & HOLOCAUST DENIAL

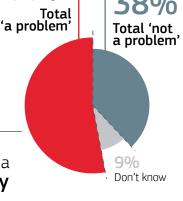
**Holocaust denial** is perceived **as being a problem** in their country by more than half of Europeans (53%)

This is especially the case for those who...



have Jewish friends or acquaintances 65%

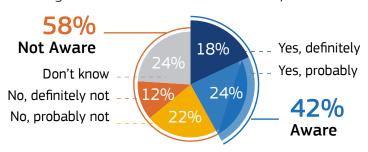




European law criminalises Holocaust denial across the EU



Yet, the majority of Europeans are unaware of legislation criminalising Holocaust denial in their country.





53% say Holocaust denial is a problem in their country

58% are not aware about legislation

This opinion is most widespread in

5E 79%

78%

71%

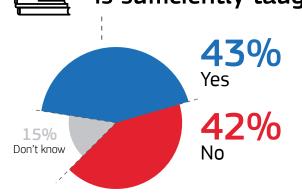
85%

54%

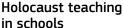
38%

criminalising Holocaust denial

On average, only 4 in 10 Europeans think the Holocaust is sufficiently taught in schools



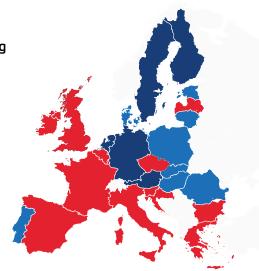
Among people who left school at the age of 15 or under, this is only 29%



Sufficiently taught for at least half of the population

Sufficiently taught for a relative majority

Not sufficiently taught for a majority



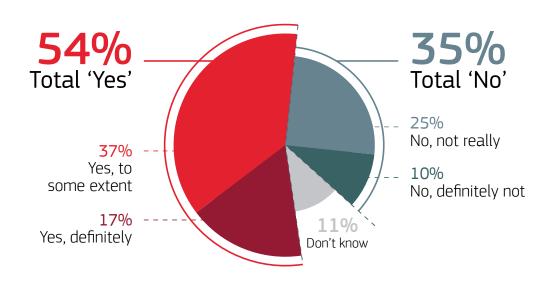






#### THE INFLUENCE OF THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

A majority of Europeans (54%) say the conflicts in the Middle East have an influence on the perception of Jewish people in their country



The longer respondents spend in education, the more likely they are to say it has an influence.

More left wing (62%) than right wing people (53%) say it has an influence.

#### STRONG INFLUENCE

#### **SLIGHT INFLUENCE**

End education 20+





End education 15 or under







There are large differences in perception of the influence of the Middle East conflict across countries

HIGHEST **INFLUENCE** 

**LOWEST INFLUENCE** 



85%





**77**‰



The Netherlands 77%



Cyprus 25%



Germany 69%



Estonia 21%



United Kingdom 66%



Malta 20%



63%



Bulgaria 15%