

United States Congress Helsinki Commission Hearing  
**“Combating Antisemitism in the OSCE Region: Taking Stock of the Situation Today”**

Friday, December 2, 2011, Room 2203 Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington DC

Testimony of Dr. Shimon Samuels, Director for International Relations, Simon Wiesenthal Centre, Paris, France

Mr. Chairman,

I opened the European office of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in 1988 to focus on three challenges:

- In Western Europe, the second religion demographically was Islam and inter-faith outreach was necessary.
- tremors in Eastern Europe, preceding the fall of the Berlin Wall, signalled a neo-nationalism redolent of past phantoms
- flea markets across Europe sold under the counter floppy disks of neo-Nazi games - hate would advance exponentially with that technology

By the Millennium: the first challenge, now characterized by the Durban process, inspired a Jihadist antisemitism-terrorism nexus, with Middle East satellite television and website recruitment in Europe.

The second was marked by the EU enlargement. April 2004, a Warsaw welcome party focussed on the challenges for the East European countries. I was invited to speak on antisemitism in the West and scapegoating in the East, as a result of painful withdrawal from the Soviet central to the capitalist market economy. The same month, the OSCE Berlin Declaration on Antisemitism set a new threshold of standards for the region.

At that meeting, I addressed the States Parties, noting that "You are the same we meet at Geneva in the UN Human Rights Commission (now Council). Yet, here, at the OSCE, the language is different, perhaps due to the absence of the tyrannies and NGO's whose vested agenda is to perpetuate the Middle East conflict".

I viewed the OSCE as the answer to the stultification of the UN system, exemplified by last week's appointment of Syria to a UNESCO human rights role.

What forms of antisemitism did the Berlin Declaration not foresee?  
That which, at the 2010 Astana OSCE High-level Meeting, I called supercessionism. Just as the early Church viewed itself as "Israel non in carne sed in spiritum", so today, we witness an identity theft of the Jewish narrative among several OSCE parties.

In Eastern Europe, the Baltics and Ukraine - a seemingly innocent conflation of the Holocaust with Stalinist atrocities.

It's instrument, "The Prague Declaration" seeks, through the European Parliament, to replace the 27 January "Holocaust Commemoration Day" with a "Double Genocide Day" on 23 August (which marks the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact which had resulted in the 1939-1941 Soviet occupation of the countries concerned).

- in Western Europe, the ongoing "Durban process" has redefined "Holocaust" as "Naqba" (the 1948 catastrophe of Israel's birth); "antisemitism" is claimed as targeting the other Semite reformatting it as Arabophobia - which by Orwellian doublespeak - turns Zionism into a distorted form of antisemitism. Add into the mix, "apartheid", misappropriated from South African victimology to castigate the State of Israel.

The antisemitic backlash in Europe is to be exacerbated further, via the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO. In that context, supercessionism aims to cut the Jewish link to the Holy Land.

The Cave of the Patriarchs and Rachel's Tomb have been rebaptised as mosques. Now laid out in the volume, "Buraq Wall"- exhibited at the Frankfurt Book Fair - the Wailing or Western Wall is being called "a Jewish heresy of aggression against a Muslim heritage site". (see attached)

Last week, "Travel Palestine" (found on YouTube), funded by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), expunges all Jewish roots in the Holy Land. Jews also have a Trinity: People, Book, Land. Eliminate one, delete all.

- Even more dangerous - defined as "the enemy of the good is indifference" - is a new stage in antisemitism:-

Ahmadinejad stated: "the Holocaust is a lie", and was answered by a wave of international condemnation.

He continued: "Wipe Israel off the Map», passed by with muted indignation.

His repeated: "Jews are vermin, bacilli, a tumour" are met with fatigue.

By a numbing-effect, he tests the limits of Western timidity. Voila, the "antisemitism of indifference".

This week, 5,000 Tahrir Square demonstrators in Cairo, screeching "Death to the Jews", created no global outrage.

The bar has been raised on antisemitism after eight assaults on the Rabbi of Malmo, Sweden - a community of 700 Jews - the Wiesenthal Centre during a visit in January 2011, imposed a "travel advisory" on the city. Our campaign resulted in the Swedish government finally subsidizing community security. Faced with the Mayor's total indifference, the Rabbi was further subject to 15 assaults since our visit. Indeed, the Muslim community has joined us in criticizing Malmo's inattentiveness to hate-crimes.

Next month, we will mark the 70th anniversary of the Wannsee Protocol, drafted at a meeting of fifteen Nazi bureaucrats in Berlin, to coordinate the extermination of 11 million Jews as the final solution of the Jewish question. (see attached)

Six million were murdered - Eleven million were the intent. I have always respected the power of water, 30 miles of British Channel saved my family and the 330,000 Jews of England on that list.

Today, 30 miles are as defensible as 3,000 miles of Atlantic waters i.e. zero. We are all tripwires criss-crossing the OSCE region.

Recently discovered documentation of Nazi Germany's strategic designs on Persia's oil wealth, includes a Wannsee - style memorandum of Eichmann, consigning 100,000 Iranian Jews to extermination. The current President of Iran persists in his intentions to finish the job.

On the Venezuelan coast, Iran is building a Shahab-3 missile base with a range of 2,000 miles facing the United States. As Simon Wiesenthal said, "what starts with the Jews never ends with them". Twice - in two World Wars - the United States invoked the Monroe Doctrine to redress the balance of the Old World.

Through this Commission, which acts as an early-warning system, we call on the US government to maintain that balance in the OSCE region. If antisemitism is indeed a benchmark, then this session must be replayed at a purpose-built High-Level OSCE meeting - "perhaps as Berlin II"

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

**CENTRE SIMON WIESENTHAL – EUROPE**

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