



International Council of Jewish Parliamentarians

RESOLUTION

Anti-Semitism in Latin America

December 2013

Whereas, in the past several years there have been expressions of anti-Semitism in Latin America, creating concern for Jews and the general Latin American community;

Whereas, the situation is particularly worrisome in Venezuela, where the government has promoted a hostile atmosphere for the Jewish community by publicly demonizing Israel and by allowing anti-Semitic material to appear in state-sponsored websites and media outlets;

Whereas, the decision by the governments of Venezuela and Bolivia to sever diplomatic relations with the State of Israel has further ignited anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiments in the region;

Whereas, despite these expressions, most Latin American countries, including governments and representatives of civil society, should be commended for promptly denouncing these types of expressions as unacceptable;

Whereas, the task of confronting growing anti-Semitic activity through legal channels is more effective in those countries which have anti-discrimination laws;

Whereas, the presence of Iran and Hezbollah in the region, facilitated by the government of Venezuela, with the acquiescence of the governments of Ecuador, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Cuba, is of serious concern;

Whereas, there is extensive evidence of Iran's involvement in the brutal terrorist attacks committed in Buenos Aires, Argentina against the Israeli Embassy in 1992 and the AMIA and DAIA Jewish community center in 1994;

Whereas, many countries in the region have alarmingly not expressed concern about the presence of Iran and Hezbollah;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

That governments throughout Latin America should strongly commit to fighting anti-Semitism, hate crimes and all forms of discrimination and intolerance, execute long-term strategies for those purposes, and enact anti-discrimination laws and effective implementation mechanisms;

That the efforts of those countries which do have effective anti-discrimination and hate crimes laws, such as Argentina, Colombia, Chile and México, should be acknowledged and emulated;

That the international community should strongly oppose the dangerous presence of the Iranian regime and its proxy Hezbollah in Latin America, and that governments in the region should resist strengthening ties with Iran;

That governments, parliaments, international organizations and civil society around the world should adopt a zero-tolerance approach towards anti-Semitism;

That governments and international organizations should monitor the situation closely, raise awareness among all appropriate officials and the general public about these troublesome developments.