Ms. Robin Sclafani Director CEJI - A Jewish contribution to an inclusive Europe

Recommendations from CEJI resulting from the Roundtable on Antisemitism, March 17, 2009

- 1. There is a need for anti-bias diversity education to be implemented at all levels of society as a mechanism for the prevention of and intervention against antisemitism and hate of all kinds.
 - a. There is an urgent need to mainstream anti-bias education into national curricula across the OSCE region and prepare teachers to have the confidence, competence and resources to confront prejudice and hate in the classroom.
 - b.Media professionals should receive anti-bias education in their professional training as a way to develop sensitivity and skills so to avoid offensive language and biased reporting. This will also help to ensure in the long term that minorities will be equitably represented in the staffs of media organisations.
 - c. Law enforcement officials should receive anti-bias diversity training as a complement to hate crimes training, to ensure they are aware of the hate crimes and other relevant protections that exist, and to prevent their own bias in treatment. This will also help to prevent them from sympathising with the motivations of perpetrators.
- 2. Hate crimes legislation should be put into force across the OSCE region and training for law enforcement officials in the identification of hate in a crime should be institutionalised.
- 3. Appropriate punishment in concertation with diversion educational programs for the perpetrators of hate crimes (including anti-bias training). Such diversion programs can transform the attitudes of the perpetrators and additionally provide a way of collecting more information about the motivations of perpetrators.
- 4. While it is clear that antisemitism and other forms of hate still exist in the OSCE area, there is far too little data to truly combat these scourges in a concerted and strategic manner. There is a tremendous need for clear, disaggregated data that provides information on the target group as well as on the perpetrator.
- 5. Despite the current lack of empirical data, Muslim or Arab antisemitism should not be underestimated. Intercultural dialogue, and in particular Jewish Muslim dialogue and cooperation projects, should be encouraged to support positive relations between the two communities. This strengthening of social cohesion within the OSCE is especially important given the fact that much of the hate spread online and through satellite TV originates outside the OSCE area.
- 6. Cooperation amongst NGOs and with governmental and international organizations should be strengthened to support existing strategies and develop new strategies for combating antisemitism today. For example, we need to develop strategies for counteracting and confronting the impact of hate spread via the internet, online social networks and satellite TV. In particular, it is crucial that the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation are included in such efforts.
- 7. The recent Interparliamentary Declaration on Antisemitism produced at the February 2009 London Conference should be promoted and implemented through tangible policies and programs. It should also be brought to the attention of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.