

The following is a (non-exhaustive) list of individuals, organizations, and entities that have criticized and rejected the IHRA WDA. Each bullet is tweet-length.

IHRA is not the consensus. Anyone who says otherwise is being dishonest.

The AJC, ADL, and their allies insist that the IHRA WDA is the "gold standard" and the source of uncontested consensus. They are wrong. The IHRA is the source of wide and deep disagreement from leading, credible voices across the world. THREAD:

- Kenneth Stern, who is the lead author of the IHRA definition, has said it was created as a means of classifying antisemitic hate crimes in Europe and not intended as an enforcement or legal tool. He is on record consistently opposing its adoption as such <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/dec/13/antisemitism-executive-order-trump-chilling-effect>
- Over 350 scholars of antisemitism, Jewish history, the Holocaust, and other related areas of study have criticized the IHRA definition – and wrote the Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism instead <https://jerusalemdeclaration.org/>
- A group of over 170 Jewish faculty at Canadian universities signed an open letter against the IHRA definition <https://thecjn.ca/news/a-new-canadian-jewish-faculty-group-opposes-the-ihra-definition-of-antisemitism/>
- A separate group of 54 scholars working on antisemitism and related fields expressed their opposition to the IHRA definition, warning about the “political instrumentalization of the fight against antisemitism” <https://www.svd.se/a/G3waVl/do-not-politicize-the-struggle-against-antisemitism>
- 122 Palestinian and Arab academics, journalists, and intellectuals voiced their disagreement with the IHRA definition, and their opposition to how it has been deployed “to delegitimise the Palestinian cause and silence defenders of Palestinian rights” <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2020/nov/29/palestinian-rights-and-the-ihra-definition-of-antisemitism>
- Former UN Special Rapporteur on racism Dr. E Tendayi Achiume told the UN General Assembly of her concern about the “controversial status, divisive effects and negative human rights impacts” of the IHRA WDA <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-721177>
- 128 scholars of antisemitism, the Holocaust, and modern Jewish history wrote an open letter warning the UN against adopting the IHRA definition <https://media.euobserver.com/9e86df02ddf67c6046d190b65e4380df.pdf>

- The American Association of University Professors condemned efforts to promote the IHRA definition and warned of the threats it poses to free speech and academic freedom
<https://www.aaup.org/report/legislative-threats-academic-freedom-redefinitions-antisemitism-and-racism>
- There is wide dissent from American Jewish orgs against IHRA, including: @jstreetdorg, @NewIsraelFund, @PeaceNowUS, @truahrabbis, @jewishaction, @JFREJNYC, @jvplive, @IfNotNowOrg and more
<https://www.progressiveisraelnetwork.org/progressive-israel-network-groups-oppose-codification-of-ihra-working-definition-of-antisemitism-citing-strong-potential-for-misuse/>
https://www.bendthearc.us/bend_the_arc_opposes_government_use_of_ihra_definition_of_antisemitism
<https://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/2021/02/ihra/>
- Both The Reform Movement, the largest religious movement of Jews in the United States, and the National Council of Jewish Women both oppose the codification of the IHRA definition on free speech grounds, even as they endorse the definition itself
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-reform-movement-ihra-definition-of-anti-semitism-should-not-be-law/>
<https://www.ncjw.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/National-Council-of-Jewish-Women-Position-on-International-Holocaust-Remembrance-Alliance.pdf>
- Independent Jewish Voices, a Canadian grassroots, progressive group that advocates for justice and equality in Israel-Palestine, opposes IHRA and wrote a deeply researched report about how it has been used to suppress pro-Palestine speech in Canada
https://www.ijvcanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Unveiling-the-Chilly-Climate_Final-compressed.pdf
- Over 40 Jewish groups around the world, including in Israel-Palestine, have gone on record together to state their opposition to the IHRA definition
<https://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/2018/07/first-ever-40-jewish-groups-worldwide-oppose-equating-antisemitism-with-criticism-of-israel/>,
<https://en.academia4equality.com/>
- Leading human and civil rights groups have come out against the IHRA definition, including the American Civil Liberties Union and Human Rights Watch
<https://www.aclu.org/letter/anti-semitism-awareness-act-2018>,
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/01/26/human-rights-watch-letter-co-sponsors-proposed-aba-resolution-514-antisemitism>
- The Center for Constitutional Rights and the National Lawyers Guild are also on the record opposing the IHRA definition

[https://ccrjustice.org/ccr-joins-rights-organizations-opposing-anti-semitism-awareness-act,](https://ccrjustice.org/ccr-joins-rights-organizations-opposing-anti-semitism-awareness-act)

<https://www.nlg.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NLG-Palestine-Subcommittee-Biden.pdf>

- Major Palestinian rights groups, including Palestine Legal and the European Legal Support Center, have warned of the harms caused to the Palestinian freedom movement by the IHRA definition <https://palestinelegal.org/distorted-definition>, https://res.cloudinary.com/elsc/images/v1649690519/ELSC-IHRA-Handbook-Legal-Analysis/ELSC-IHRA-Handbook-Legal-Analysis.pdf?_i=AA
- The American Bar Association removed the IHRA definition from its February 2023 resolution condemning antisemitism <https://freespeechproject.georgetown.edu/tracker-entries/aba-removes-international-definition-of-antisemitism-from-its-resolution-condemning-the-problem/>
- University College London’s academic board rejected the university’s adoption of the IHRA definition, after an academic working group at the school warned of the definition’s “potentially deleterious effects on free speech” <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2021/feb/12/ucl-board-rejects-ihra-definition-of-antisemitism>
- The Association for Jewish Studies (U.S.) cautioned that universities should “resist campaigns pressuring them to codify one particular definition” of antisemitism, including the IHRA definition <https://diversity.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3257/2022/02/Association-for-Jewish-Studies-Task-Force-on-Antisemitism-and-Academic-Freedom-2021.pdf>
- The British Society for Middle Eastern Studies gave evidence to the U.K. government warning that the IHRA definition “is undermining freedom to teach and research on Israel and Palestine” <https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/22014/pdf/>
- The European International Studies Association declared itself “deeply concerned with the adoption of the [IHRA] working definition of antisemitism at universities worldwide and the current external pressure for [its] acceptance ... at UK universities” <https://eisa-net.org/statement-on-adopting-the-ihra-definition-at-uk-universities-and-worldwide-2/>
- Aberdeen University rejected the IHRA definition, following concerns about academic freedom <https://theferret.scot/antisemitism-definition-aberdeen-university/>
- Australian National University rejected the IHRA definition, concluding that it had already had “sufficient protections and measures in place” <https://www.australianjewishnews.com/australian-national-university-rejects-ihra-definition/>
- The University of Toronto rejected the IHRA definition, with President Meric Gertler deeming it “insufficiently responsive to many of the most troubling instances of

antisemitism in the university” and “in tension with ... [f]reedom of expression”

<https://thevarsity.ca/2023/01/22/opinion-u-of-t-rejects-ihra-definition/>

- Winnipeg City Council declined to adopt the IHRA definition, after about two-thirds of its councilmembers stated their opposition
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/antisemitism-definition-winnipeg-1.6793029>
- The Quebec Federation of University Professors passed a resolution opposing the adoption of the IHRA definition
<https://www.newswire.ca/fr/news-releases/liberte-academique-et-critique-d-israel-la-fqppu-adopte-une-resolution-s-opposant-a-la-definition-de-l-antisemitisme-promue-par-l-ihra-897934096.html>
- UC Berkeley’s student senate voted against adopting the IHRA definition
<https://jewishjournal.com/news/356273/uc-berkeley-student-senate-votes-against-ihra/>
- The City University of New York’s student senate also voted down a resolution to adopt the IHRA definition
<https://jewishjournal.com/news/335425/cuny-student-senate-votes-down-resolution-endorsing-ihra/>
- Strasbourg city council voted against adopting the IHRA definition
<https://fr.timesofisrael.com/strasbourg-rejette-ladoption-de-la-definition-de-lantisemitisme-de-lihra/>