COMEM 0394-02



Emergency resolution to condemn the tragic Europe wide trend of anti-Semitic attacks in the past weeks

Adopted by the Council of Members

Brussels; 26-27 April 2002

Resolution to condemn the tragic Europe wide trend of anti-Semitic attacks in the past weeks

Stressing the European Youth Forum's key role in promoting human rights and believing that the fight against anti-Semitism, xenophobia and all other forms of racism is an integral part of the promotion and protection of human rights,

Witnessing a major misuse of the Middle East crisis to create open displays of anti-Semitism all over Europe,

Profoundly shocked by the rise of anti-Semitism over the past weeks in which hundreds of incidents against Jews and Jewish institutions were committed such as:

- Setting fire to a Jewish bookstore in Brussels
- Firebombing and vandalism of synagogues and cemeteries in France, Belgium, Germany and other countries
- Verbal abuses and anti-Jewish graffiti in front of Jewish schools and to Jewish students on campuses
- Molotov cocktails thrown at Jewish institutions including one of the European Union of Jewish Students (member of the European Youth Forum) member organisations, UEJF - Union of Jewish Students in France
- Explosion at the Ghirba Synagogue in Tunisia killing at least 15 people

Greatly worried that the Middle East conflict is serving as an excuse to encourage violence against Jews and Jewish property by extremist elements,

Greatly worried that the wave of anti-Semitism may also be a result of the atmosphere created by some of the media coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,

Profoundly convinced that combating anti-Semitism is integral and intrinsic to opposing all forms of racism,

The European Youth Forum:

- 1. Condemns any kind of anti-Semitic attack
- 2. Calls for an immediate halt to the political misuse of the Middle East conflict in the European continent, which results in such intolerant and violent attacks against Jews
- 3. Acknowledges the phenomenon that the hundreds of recent attacks are not mere outbursts of "hooliganism", but acts of anti-Semitism

- Urges youth organisations and all public authorities to act in the areas of family, education and public discussion to contain the scourge of anti-Semitism in civil society
 Urges civil society and governments to take measures in order to maintain civil peace and ensure every citizen's religious rights