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On the resurgence of antisemitism. A statement by Danish pastors and theologians

Wherever hatred against Jews shows its hideous face, it is our duty to protest against it, whether the hatred manifests itself in cruel acts of terrorism, harassing actions or demonizing statements. In October 1943, 80 years ago, the Danish Jews were rescued, but now we see a terrible resurgence of hatred against Jews in the wake of the terrorist attack on Israel on October 7th. The hatred of Israel again turns into the hatred of Jews. It is a national scandal that Jewish institutions in Denmark must be constantly guarded, and that Jewish citizens are exposed to attacks and contempt. In 1943, many Danes stood up for the Danish Jews. Today, there is a need to stand up and secure the safety of our fellow Jewish citizens, not by bringing them to Sweden, but by offering them security in our fellow homeland.

1. Because hatred of Jews is hatred against the Jewish roots and foundation of the Christian church. If you hate Jews, you also hate Jesus, who was a Jewish man. We owe our Saviour to the Jewish people, and we share the same sacred root. We cannot profess the Christian faith without acknowledging our heritage and debt to the Jewish people. He, who spits on the Star of David, spits on the cross.
2. Because hatred of Jews, also when it comes in the form of uncontrollable hatred of the state of Israel, is an expression of unchristian contempt for humanity, and in glaring contrast to the right that is otherwise granted to other states. Like all other countries and states, Israel is not above criticism, but unlike any other country and state, Israel is denied the right to exist at all.
3. Because hatred of Jews is contrary to all human decency and rights. A targeted massacre of people by virtue of their religious and national origin, as occurred during the terrorist attack in Israel on October 7th, is a shameful act. Any defense of such an act is disgraceful and calls for the strongest rejection, just as terrorist acts and threats call for the authorities to resolutely fight them, in Israel as well as here in Denmark. Hatred against Jews cannot be stopped by silence, it must be contradicted at any time, and now is the time - in Denmark and all around the world.

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Ole Andersen, Secretary General of The Bible and Israel