



CONSEIL EUROPÉEN DES FÉDÉRATIONS WIZO EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF WIZO FEDERATIONS

RIGHT TO FAIR INFORMATION

Copenhagen June 18 2018

At our General Assembly on June 18th in Copenhagen we, European Jewish Women of the European Council of WIZO Federations, expressed our extreme concern about the rise of anti-Semitism which blights our countries, powered by extremists on both sides of the political spectrum, and exacerbated by an often biased or disproportionate media focus on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

As a minority group who has contributed for centuries to European culture and history, we express deep concern for the future well-being and security of ourselves, our children and our grand-children.

We are profoundly attached to our European cultures and their values founded in Western civilization, as well as to the tradition of mutual respect and hospitality which has nurtured our countries.

Further we are conscious of the diverse and complex elements our governments must take into consideration in shaping their national and international policy.

We are aware of the prominent role of the media in influencing opinions and heightening emotions amongst their audiences and consequently, the tremendous responsibility journalists have to transmit and contextualize verifiable information.

We highlight the direct harmful implications that unbalanced dissemination of information can have on the spread of hatred and violence against people on our own soil.

We urge our European Governments to promote a right to fair dissemination of information and coverage of world events, particularly when seeking to address disputed human rights violations.

We urge our media to behave responsibly and to divulge news information based on comprehensive research and reporting of available facts.

We are willing to work in cooperation with information leaders to reduce the dissemination of entrenched narratives and biased information.

It is our greatest hope that doing so will lead to a more nuanced understanding of salient events while serving to reduce political tensions and anti-Semitism.

ECWF Steering Committee:

Dorrit Raiter (Denmark)
Manuèle Amar (France)
Cornelia Eckhoff (Germany)
Ester Silvana Israel (Italy)
Genia Gander (Sweden)
Hanni Seifert (United Kingdom)