

EC Coordinator on combating antisemitism: Romania, first member state to develop national strategy for 2021-2023

European Commission Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life Katharina von Schnurbein said that Romania was the first member state to have developed a national strategy to prevent and combat antisemitism, xenophobia, radicalisation and hate speech for the period 2021-2023.

The announcement was made at the Victoria Governmental Palace, at the start of the fourth meeting of the Working Group for the implementation of the European Union Strategy to combat antisemitism and foster Jewish life. The event is organised by the Romanian Government in cooperation with the European Commission and with the support of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania.

Katharina von Schnurbein said that the presence of Prime Minister Nicolae Ciuca at the event "demonstrates Romania's political commitment" to combating antisemitism. However, she also mentioned that such a commitment is still necessary in a context where "antisemitism is on the rise and Jews are subject to deadly attacks."

"Within this strategy we have over 100 initiatives where we want to make sure that the general public understands the problems and dangers of antisemitism and we want to provide effective ways to ensure that the memory of the Holocaust is preserved and that Jewish life in Europe can continue to flourish. The ultimate goal is for Jews to continue to be able to move around in all EU member states and in the countries in which they live, to manifest themselves in accordance with their religious traditions, without having to worry about their own safety. These elements are harmonised with European and national strategies," she said.