“A terrible danger is hovering over our heads. We are about to be sent to the Ukraine on foot… Imagine our situation when one has to walk all this way on foot – the days being so cold – with a small child… If only I could see you one more time…”

(last letter of Ida Goldish, October 1941, Yad Vashem Archive)
What is Anti-Semitism?

The attributing of all or part of one's own misfortunes, and those of one's country, to the presence of Jewish elements in the community, and proposing to remedying this state of affairs by depriving the Jews of certain of their rights; by keeping them out of certain economic or social activities, by expelling them from the country, by exterminating them, etc.

Jean Paul Sartre

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The hatred and persecution of Jews as a group; not the hatred of persons who happen to be Jews, but rather the hatred of persons because they are Jews

Charles Y. Glock & Rodney Stark

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Dedicated to my children, Adam and Kim Ida KATZ, and dedicated to all those children in the world who are still suffering from racism and bigotry instigated by people lacking humanity, morality and personal dignity

In the memory of Isidor KATZ
killed by the Iron Guard (Legionnaires)
In Bucharest, January 1941

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Thanks are due to Mrs. M L CUMMINS (UK) for the support in producing this brochure.
In the 90’s, post communist Romania became a fertile breeding ground for a new type of nationalism based on hatred for everything and everyone that represented and offered a reminder of the communist era and on a blind veneration of anyone that fought the Russians in the 40’s.

Taking advantage of the confusion within the developing and the fragile newly democratic society in post communist Romania and playing on old prejudices and xenophobic tendencies, nationalists and former sympathizers of war criminals, pulled from the shadows the Legionnaires (Green Shirts) and Marshal Ion Antonescu openly transforming them in National Heroes who fought against the Russians and their “allies” in Romania, the Jude-communists.

In order to confront these new trends and in the effort to counter the attempts to rewrite the history, especially the chapter regarding the Holocaust in Romania, MCA Romania, The Center for Combating Anti-Semitism was established, in 2002, as the first and the only NGO to act in this field. In the dynamic and rapidly expanding world we leave in, at a time when anti-Semitism is growing to dimensions and forms unknown in the recent past, the existence of organizations such as MCA Romania has become essential for any civil society that values the principles of democracy based on mutual respect amongst people, regardless their color, sex, religion, ethnicity and political beliefs.
FOR WHOM?

For the survivors of the Holocaust in Romania

For the family members of those who did not survive the horrors committed under the Antonescu Government

For reminding those who are trying to rehabilitate the criminals who took lives of unfortunate people just because they were born Jews that

WE WILL NEVER FORGET

The presence of the Jewish communities on the Romanian soil is dated in the XVI century.

In spite of their long-lasting presence in the area, the Jewish were granted the right to become citizens of Romania only in 1919.

Before the WWII, more than 750,000 Jews (4.2% of the population) were organized in communities spread all over Romania. Lawyers, doctors, bankers, businessmen, writers, politicians, professors but also farmers and land workers were members of the Jewish Communities, actively participating at the emancipation and the development of the Romanian society and economy.

350000 Jews were killed under the Marshal Antonescu regime
Anti-Semitism behind Anti-Israeli statements

In Romania, more than in other countries, the number of those accessing and using the Internet is increasing dramatically. The Internet is becoming an important tool used in almost every part of the daily life.

Free, unlimited and unrestricted access to the Internet is an important element in what, in the post-communist Romania, is perceived to be the right to free opinion and to free speech. In a developing society the benefits offered by the Internet are far greater than the drawbacks of such an open and broad source of information.

Unfortunately, the technology and the legislation needed to monitor the misuse of the information published on the Internet in Romania are almost inexistent, a fact used by those who are using, without any concern, the Internet for promoting racist and xenophobe opinions.

Posing as defenders of causes which they know little or nothing about, the anti-Semites in Romania are using the Palestinian—Israeli conflict to stir up anti-Semitic sentiments.

The articles presented here are published by the “New Right” movement. The “New Right” movement is a Legioanire movement acting freely in Romania.

The adjacent article blames Israel assisted by “American traitors”, is accused for the September 11 terrorist act.

Mal mult, va voi prezenta probe concludente ale faptului ca Sharon si Mossad-ul au ajutat si acoperit oribilul atac terorist de la World Trade Center. Sprijinindu-i pe Sharon si guvernul lui criminal din Israel, tradatorii americani nu numai ca au sustinut crimele lui Sharon impotriva poporului palestinian, ci i-au ajutat direct pe teroristii care au dezvoltat masacrul din America. Tradatorii americani care il sustin pe Sharon ne-au prejudiciat cele mai vitale interese si au facut ca americanii sa fie urati de lumea intreaga.
A bust of Marshal Ion Antonescu, the mastermind behind the crimes committed against the Jews deported in Transnistria, is ostentatiously displayed in the front yard of a church located in the very heart of Bucharest.

In modern-day Romania, Marshal Ion Antonescu is considered, by many, to be the National Hero. Fighting against the Russians and (according to anti-Semites and the Holocaust deniers in Romania) their “allies who happened to be Jews” he became, his image was rehabilitated once the communist era ended.

The solutions adopted following the protests calling for the removal of the bust, are cynical and very indicative.

- Jewish establishments are vandalized
- Elderly Jews are harassed
- Investigations of anti-Semitic incidents remain unconcluded
- Political parties use fascist and nationalistic slogans which were used in the past by the Legionnaires and Nazi sympathizers

**No one is called to order for any of the above**
Implementing another recommendation of the Wiesel Commission, the Romanian Government Romania established **the Institute for the Research of the Holocaust** led by General Mihai Ionescu.

In 2004, MCA Romania initiated and presented to Professor Elie Wiesel the project **“The Memorial of the Holocaust in Romania”**.

Adopting MCA Romania initiative, the Ministry of Culture and Cults announced, in January 2006, that “The Memorial of the Holocaust in Romania” will become a reality.
Following the denial by Government of the Holocaust denial in 2003, the Romanian President established the International Commission for the Research of the Holocaust in Romania. Professor Elie Wiesel was named the President of the Commission. The Commission’s recommendations were adopted by the Romanian Government in 2004. The Commission established that the Holocaust did in fact take place in Romania, where between 280,000 and 350,000 Jews were exterminated under安东内斯库 regime.

65 YEARS LATER

Implementing the Commission's recommendations, a high school manual and a study program of the Holocaust in Romania were introduced in schools in September 2005.

Although the manual and the study program are only optional, this is a step forward in fighting the ignorance still prevailing over one of the darkest chapters of modern Romanian history. However it will take much more than just editing, printing and distributing the manual to ensure that students read, understand and accept the facts as they happened.

Manual printed by Lauder Foundation
The Lauder-Reut Educational complex Romania is the only formal Jewish school in the country, and is accredited by the Ministry of Education and Research. The complex has a kindergarten, a lower and middle school with a total of 260 students, and this year it will open the high school college. The modern educational complex, opened in 1997, is operated with the continuous and vigorous support of the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, under the management of the dynamic Tova Ben Nun (president of the Lauder Foundation Romania and one of the founders). This is a much appreciated educational establishment, one of the elite private schools in Romania, that are recognized by the relevant authorities as a part of the national educational system. Lauder-Reut teaches and promotes Jewish Education and Judaism, in a multi-cultural and multinational environment, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and with other national and international organizations. Besides Hebrew, Jewish history and traditions, the young students attending the school are also familiarized with notions characterizing both worlds and nations: Romania and Israel. The school effectively is educating the young students to share respect to all people, regardless of their religion and ethnic backgrounds.

Also, thanks the dedication of Mrs. Tova Ben Nun, in the last 10 years, the Jewish Community filed, with the Romanian authorities, restitution claims for over 1800 communitarian properties.

The restitution process is suffering from the effects caused by the dragging policy applied by those responsible for the implementation of the laws issued for a smoother and faster transfer of the properties back to their owners. Up to this date less than 100 properties were returned. Over 1700 communitarian properties are still to be restituted.
The only state Jewish Theater in East Europe has now an website doniated by MCA Romania

The Center for Monitoring and Combating Anti-Semitism in Romania

MCA Romania offers financial support to writers, students and institutions which publish books, publications and other media products which have as subject issues concerning both, the Jewish community and the Romanian civil society.

MCA Romania is aspiring to develop, jointly with the authorities, future educative programs suitable for the Military and the Police Academies, as well as for the Romanian Orthodox Church, important institutions in the formation of the future generations of those whom have an important role in combating racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism.
In Romania, Jews and Israel are, mostly, identified in relation with:

- The very beginnings of the history of the Christianity
- The conflict with the Arab nations
- The ongoing war against the Palestinian terrorism
- Control of the International Finances and Politics

Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, embracing the same basic principles of life as the developed nations

Israel enjoys a fast growing economy based on leading IT technologies developed in Israel

The Israeli agriculture is highly developed and based on most advanced technologies

Israel develops top medical technologies providing them to the entire world

Most of the modern anti-Semites are posing as legit critics of the Israeli defense policies. We, at MCA, believe that a better exposure of the Israeli achievements have a positive influence on the relations between the local Jewish communities and the society we live in.
We at MCA Romania believe that the best method to effectively combat the preconceived beliefs that feed the anti-Semitism is to provide as much relevant information as possible to as many people we can:

As the internet offers the perfect platform for the exposure of the digital material produced, in Romanian, will be soon available online. Until then they are available, without any charge, upon request.

In 2004, MCA Romania organized and conducted a humanitarian operation to save the life of a newborn suffering from a deadly malformation of the heart. In joint effort between business people from Romania and Israel, under MCA’s coordination, the newborn was flown to Israel.

The baby’s life was saved by a senior medical team from Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem who provided their services free of charge.
In 2002, honoring the memory of Izidor Katz, one of the 122 victims of the 1941 pogrom in Bucharest, Marco Maximillian Katz founded The Center for Monitoring and Combating Anti-Semitism in Romania (MCA Romania). Since its establishment as a non-governmental and non-profit organization (NGO), MCA Romania became a point of reference for those within the local and the International community interested in the progresses made by the civil society and by the authorities in adopting and applying measures and methods of combating racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in Romania.

In the effort to remain independent, MCA Romania is choosing its members, its financing sources and its projects with much attention and care. MCA Romania depends on your support for remaining an independent NGO.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT
MCA Romania ** HVB Romania Bank ** Bucharest—Casa Stega
USD Account no: RO98BACX000000030671020
RON Account no: RO28BACX000000030671310

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing
65 Years after the Legionnaire Movement in Romania murdered Jews in Bucharest, Iasi and Dorohoi, its members and other anti-Semites, invoking the right to free speech, are freely publishing and spreading racial hatred. Publications preaching anti-Semitism and racism are sold, without restrictions, in libraries, on street stands and even in the Courts of Justice.

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**All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing**

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