

ONLINE ANTISEMITISM

Annual Report 2022





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Foreword

Our 2022 report

By Marcos Peckel, CJL secretary and CJL commissioner to Combat Antisemitism

As is traditional, the Web Observatory (OW) each year publishes its report on antisemitism on the Internet, an initiative in which we are pioneers in the Jewish world. An American mathematician said that what cannot be measured cannot be controlled and, in our case, faced. Thanks to the variety and effectiveness of the technological tools at our disposal, the OW carries out this measurement that focuses on the Internet and social networks. And as we well know, "what happens on the networks does not stay on the networks".

This measurement is used to evaluate trends about antisemitism, its forms of expression, political and ideological origins, geographic location, profiles, and their variation with respect to previous years.

In the third decade of the 21st century, antisemitism stems from three ideological currents that, although apparently contradictory, converge in their Judeophobia: the extreme right, sectors of the left, and radical Islam. The deadly attacks in Pittsburgh (United States), in 2018; in Halle (Germany), in 2019; in Toulouse and Paris, France, in 2012 and 2015, respectively, and in the Jewish Museum in Brussels, Belgium, in 2014, are just a few examples of lethal attacks against Jewish targets, and all, without exception, left their mark on the social networks.

In Latin America, the region where the largest terrorist attack against a Jewish institution since the Holocaust took place –the attack on the AMIA, which occurred in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1994–, there were relatively few incidents of violence against Jewish targets, and antisemitism is manifested , among other ways, in prejudices inherited from the colonial period that still subsist and that have evolved to the current reality. "Christ Killers"; "all Jews are rich"; "Jewish power"; "Jews only think of themselves"; "Jews are foreigners", or "Jews are more loyal to Israel than to the State in which they reside", are just some of the existing prejudices whose traceability can be measured on the networks.

Sectors of the left, for their part, do not miss the opportunity to demonize Israel and deny the right of the Jewish people to self-determination, in what constitutes another expression of modern antisemitism. The networks are full of this type of expressions, which we detected in our measurement.

Welcome to reading our annual report, which we are sure will be very useful.





A transformative idea

By Federico Villegas, Argentine diplomat, president of the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2022

The 2022 Report on antisemitism online is timely and necessary. Antisemitism continues to challenge us as humanity. Because 75 years ago, after the tragedy of the Holocaust, we agreed on a revolutionary idea: that each person has rights beyond their nationality, religion, or culture. And that the entire international community must, collectively, protect those rights. The aberration of a State that, instead of respecting the law and protecting the individuals subject to its jurisdiction, decides to become a criminal and exterminate a part of those individuals for "being", gave rise to that transforming idea of humanity, which we consecrated on December 9 and 10, 1948 by adopting, respectively, the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

These two milestones were the foundation stone of a new conception of the relationship between States and within each State, giving birth to a new branch of international law: international human rights law, which today has 10 treaties on various topics, 50 special procedures for the protection of the most diverse topics, and a world body that watches over human rights throughout the world, the United Nations Human Rights Council, which I had the honor of presiding over in 2022.

The discussions in the Council show that, unfortunately, we continue to witness stigmatization and hate speech such as those behind antisemitism and that are present in all processes that lead to genocide. Before it was written propaganda. Today it is online, especially on social networks.

In 2022, Argentina, Germany and Israel presented the first resolution on cyberbullying to the Human Rights Council, which was approved by consensus and with the co-sponsorship of more than 50 countries.

It calls to combat the use of networks for stigmatization and harassment, especially of children. And in 2022 the Council also approved an important resolution on the use of disinformation and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights.

We must remember, for example, that in the stages prior to the genocide in Rwanda a Belgian journalist – who was later sentenced by the International Criminal Court – called through the Radio de las Mil Colinas to exterminate the Tutsis for being "cockroaches", inciting genocide that led to the murder of 800,000 people a year after spreading that hate speech. If today that journalist had a Twitter account and did the same, who would be responsible for stopping his hate speech? The owner of Twitter, Elon Mask? We can't allow it. Because we know that in the world in which we live, we must prevent misinformation linked to hate speech and stigmatization such as those behind antisemitism on the Web, especially on social networks, and combat collectively as an international community.

During the pandemic, we came to see a serious attempt to link the Jewish community to the origin of the virus "to do business with vaccines." Have we learned so little? This expression of hate and misinformation shames us as humanity.

As president of the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2022, I unfortunately also had to draw the attention of an independent expert who referred to the "Jewish lobby" behind social media. I wrote him a strong letter noting my concern that his expression could clearly be construed as antisemitic, which is unacceptable from a Council-appointed expert.

He apologized and the incident generated great frustration for all the path that we still must walk as humanity to combat intolerance, hate speech and allow human rights to be freely enjoyed by all people.

Let's relaunch that wonderful social contract of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and let's take collective action so that technological advances in the 21st century are an instrument to prevent antisemitism and not an instrument of hatred, stigmatization, and misinformation.





Introduction

Throughout the history of humanity, various creations have generated profound changes in societies. Just to mention a few of them, the printing press, the microchip, and the computers that have served as the basis for the revolution of the last decades. Thus, we can also affirm that the creation of the Internet, and particularly social networks, occupy a preponderant place in our history. With its almost 5,000 million users in the world and 500 million in Latin America, the Internet is much more than a new way of communicating.

In this sense, while antisemitism has been around for centuries, in the age of the Internet and social media it has manifested itself in new ways, raising concerns among many. Social networks, for example, have allowed antisemitic comments to spread rapidly and achieve wider visibility. Although digital platforms have established policies against hate speech and adopt content moderation systems, we observe that those who disseminate these messages find a way to continue spreading them, grouping themselves in applications and/or websites where moderation does not exist, like WhatsApp or Telegram.

During 2022, various events occurred that have been relevant regarding antisemitism and hate speech. In relation to Internet companies, and how this type of discourse impacts society, Meta (firm that owns Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp) was at the center of the scene after the publication of the Amnesty International report on its responsibility in the genocide against the Rohingya Muslim population in Myanmar. The United Nations International Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar concluded that “[t]he role of social media [was] considerable” in the atrocities committed in 2017, while the Amnesty report published in September 2022 states that the company “substantially contributed to the serious human rights violations perpetrated against the Rohingya people.”

According to this document, Meta's contribution was not merely that of a passive and neutral platform that inadequately responded to an unprecedented crisis, but that, in reality, the algorithms that shape Meta's content proactively amplified and promoted on Facebook content that incited violence, hatred, and discrimination against the Rohingya population”. The report also links the dissemination of violent content with a desire for profit:

“Meta's business model, based on invasive profiling and targeted advertising, fuels the spread of harmful content, including incitement to violence. The algorithmic systems that shape the experience of Facebook users and determine the information they see are designed to keep people on the platform: the more users engage; the more ad revenue Meta earns. As a consequence, these systems prioritize the most inflammatory, divisive, and damaging content because it is the content that is most likely to 'maximize engagement'.”

¹<https://elcomercio.pe/respuestas/cuantos-usuarios-de-internet-y-redes-sociales-hay-en-el-mundo-conectividad-hootsuite-y-we-are-social-revltli-noticia/>

² Report available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/es/documents/ASA16/5933/2022/es/>

This is not the only case in which the responsibility of Internet companies and the content they host are up for debate. Even relatives of victims of various terrorist attacks sued these companies, in some cases for promoting extremist content –discussing how their algorithms work–, and in other cases, directly as accomplices in the terrorist act. These claims must be defined by the Superior Court of the United States.

For its part, the microblogging platform Twitter has been criticized many times for its scant action against discriminatory content. After the capture of the Capitol in the United States, at the beginning of 2021, this social network began a process of greater content moderation, which involved –among other things– the blocking of hundreds of accounts, such as that of former President Donald Trump, which generated a strong debate around the company. The businessman Elon Musk, a very active user on the platform and critical of its actions in that period, acquired Twitter in 2022. During the first days of Musk in charge of the company, it was possible to observe the authorization of user accounts that promote discriminatory messages and the dissolution of the Trust and Security Council, which brought together human rights experts who advised on various issues. Although these changes were carried out at the end of the year, there are already some reports of an increase in antisemitism on the platform.

Around the end of 2022, when searching for the word "Jew" in Google, in its English version, one of the meanings was: "To negotiate with someone in a miserable or petty way." Although it clarified that the concept was offensive, multiple users and organizations spoke out against it, for which the company made a public apology and removed it.

When looking for the same term today in the Royal Spanish Academy (RAE), in its fifth meaning you can read: "Adjective. Derogatory. Said of a person: greedy or usurer".

On the other hand, beyond various situations linked to the platforms, antisemitism often manifests itself when life situations arise "offline" that are commented on or have an impact on social networks. For example, during 2022 we identified four events that generated a great deal of content relevant to this report: Russia's invasion of Ukraine; the murder of journalist Shereen Abu Aqleh; various clashes between the Israel Defense Forces and pro-Palestinian groups, and the initial refusal of the Chilean president, Gabriel Boric, to receive the credential letter from the Israeli ambassador. In all these cases, and depending on each platform, the impact was different. This will be analyzed in the following sections.

So far, the main facts and debates around online discrimination have been highlighted. The following sections analyze what happened with antisemitism on the Internet and social networks during 2022. Likewise, a comparative analysis is carried out with respect to recent years.

³ Available in: <https://dle.rae.es/jud%C3%ADo>



Main findings

Below, we present the main findings that arise from the analysis of **7,728,277** contents.

- In the results of the **Google** searches, a low and constant antisemitism is observed throughout the 8 years analyzed, it should be noted that during the last 5 years measured, antisemitism did not exceed 5% of the total.
- On **Google** there is an increase in positive content towards Jews, with the most favorable result in the eight years of registration. In this line, the results with negative contents show a slight decrease.
- On **YouTube**, the main audiovisual content platform on the Internet, 12.29% of antisemitism was collected in the material.
- For the first time in the five years since **YouTube** has been measured, antisemitism's downward trend was interrupted in 2022, with an increase of 2.71 percentage points.
- On **Twitter**, the antisemitism collected reaches 9.48% of the contents surveyed.
- Negative messages explain 47.92% of the total collected on **Twitter** and constitute the category with the most posts. But when analyzing the potential impressions generated by the set of content collected, the antisemitic posts have a low impact on that social network.
- In the user comments on 15 **Facebook** pages of the main media outlets in Latin America and Spain, the facts of the local situation have a great impact on the amount of content that is generated. A drop in antisemitism is observed, although it remains stable from 7.50% to 5.95% from 2021 to 2022. The most relevant fact was observed when the president of Chile, Gabriel Boric, rejected the credentials of the Israeli ambassador.
- During the 15 days of September, when the controversy with the Israeli ambassador took place in Chile, 28.75% of the total negative comments registered in the year on the analyzed **Facebook** pages were collected.
- 12.41% of the comments made in the **forums of digital media** portals in the region had antisemitic messages.
- When analyzing the comments on 18 **digital media sites** in the region, it was observed that in Brazil, Argentina and Costa Rica the levels of antisemitism are below the annual average. Colombia is in line with the average, while Chile, Panama and Uruguay are above it.





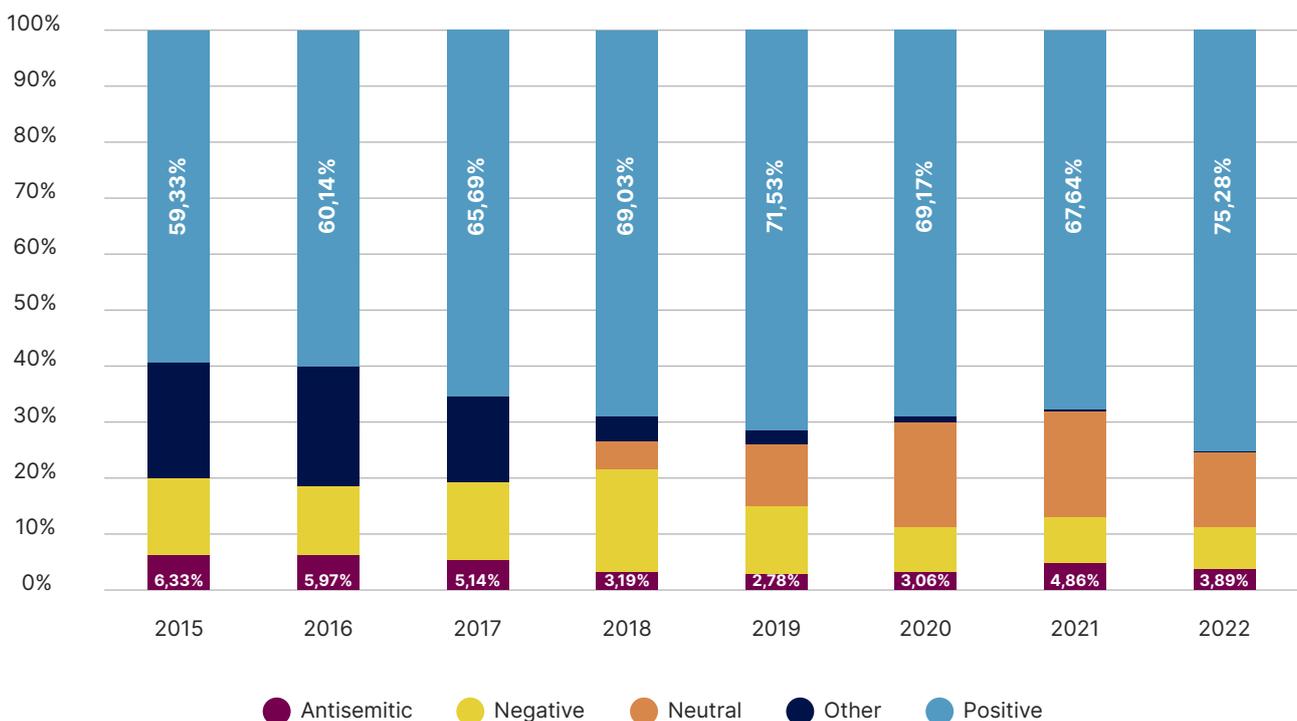
Google

For at least a decade, Google has been part of the daily life of every Internet user: almost any question can be answered through a simple search from our computer or smartphone. With approximately 63,000 searches per second around the world, one may ask: Based on what criteria are the results returned by the platform ordered? Is the information you provide us neutral and/or reliable?

This section analyzes the main results of the searches related to Judaic topics. According to the data analyzed, antisemitism is sustained with a decrease of just over 1 percentage point compared to the previous year. But on the other hand, there is an increase in positive content, with the most favorable result in the eight years of registration. In this line, the results with negative contents show a slight decrease.

CHART 1

Google results analysis (2015-2022)



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

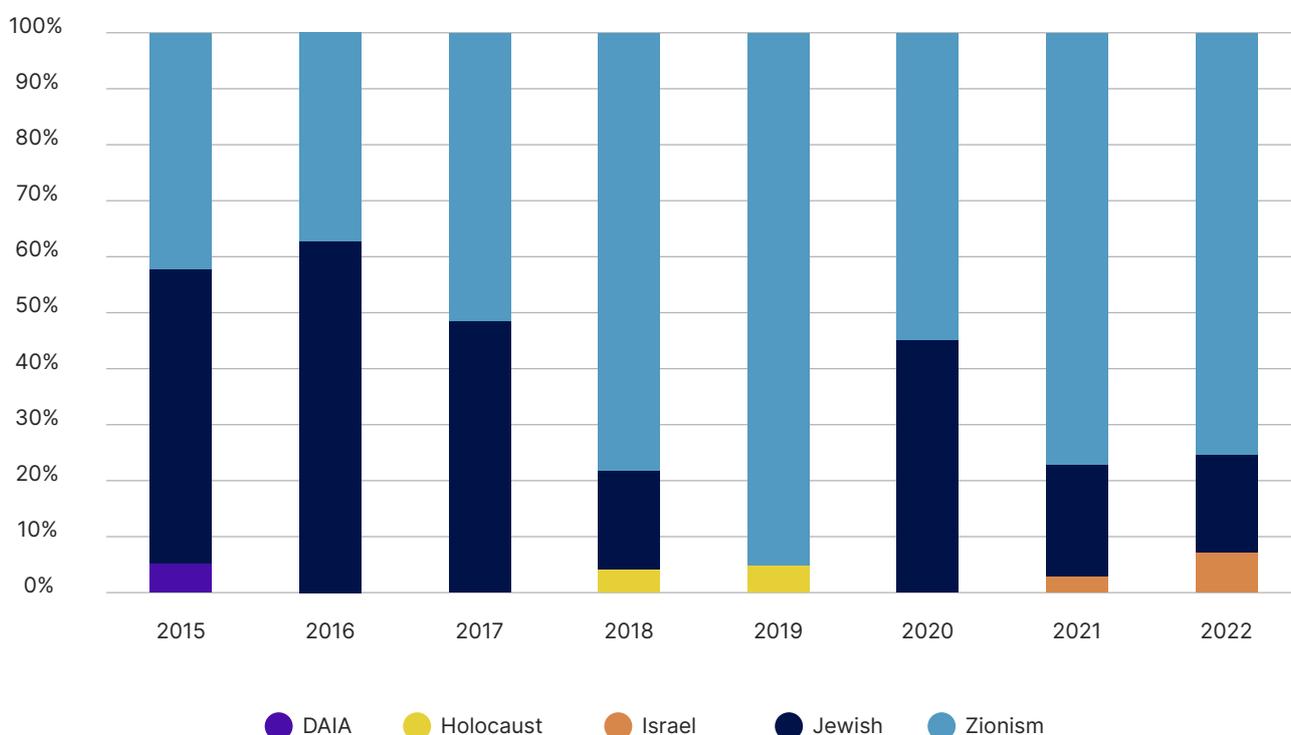
⁴ <https://pixelwork.mx/cuantas-busquedas-se-hacn-en-google>



When it comes to revealing the themes in which the antisemitic results fall, as in previous years, the topic that is most repeated is that of "Zionism", and here the results of communication media such as HispanTv and Telesur stand out. Regarding the category "Jew", the definition of the RAE remains in force, which in one of its meanings characterizes the term Jew as "Said of a person: Greedy or usurer .

CHART 2

Google results with antisemitic content according to associated concept (2015-2022)



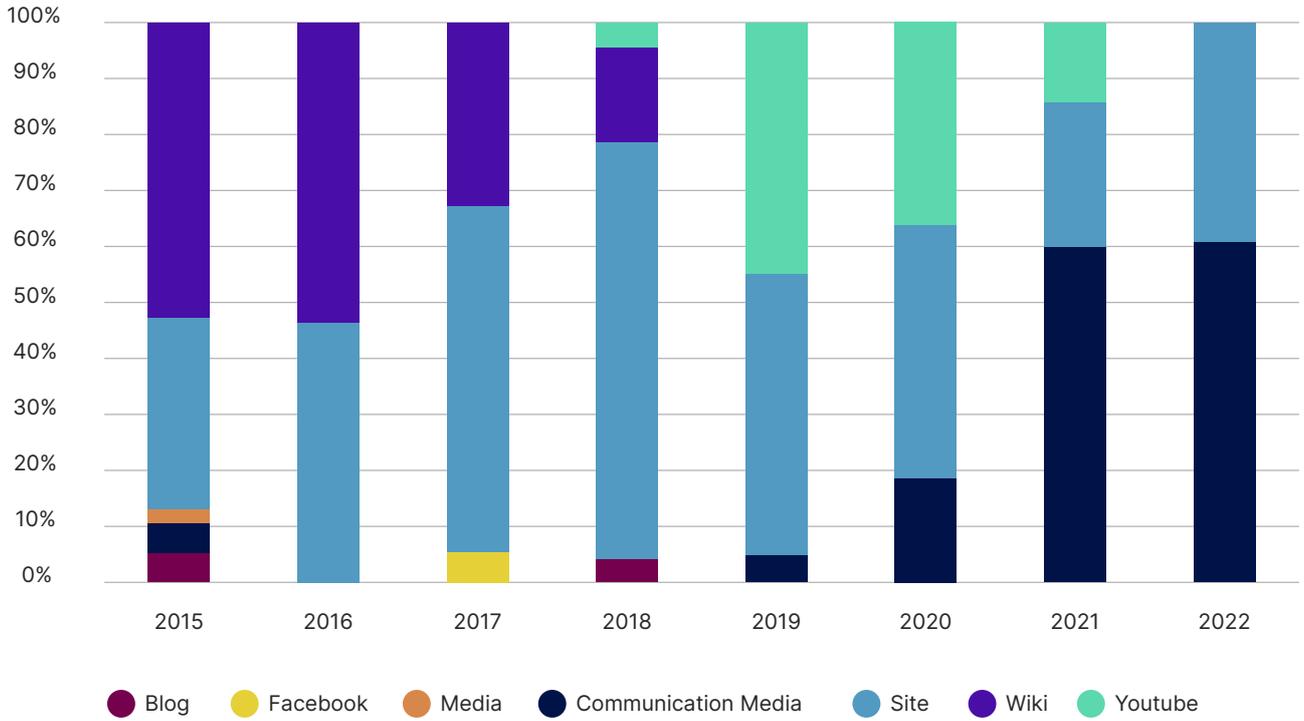
Source: Web Observatory (2022).

As far as the source of antisemitic content is concerned, again the media accounts are more than half of the cases of antisemitism in the top Google search results. Another noteworthy fact is that videos from the YouTube platform with antisemitic content were not collected in the main searches.

⁵ <https://dle.rae.es/jud%C3%ADo>

CHART 3

Google results with antisemitic content according to type of source (2015–2022)



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

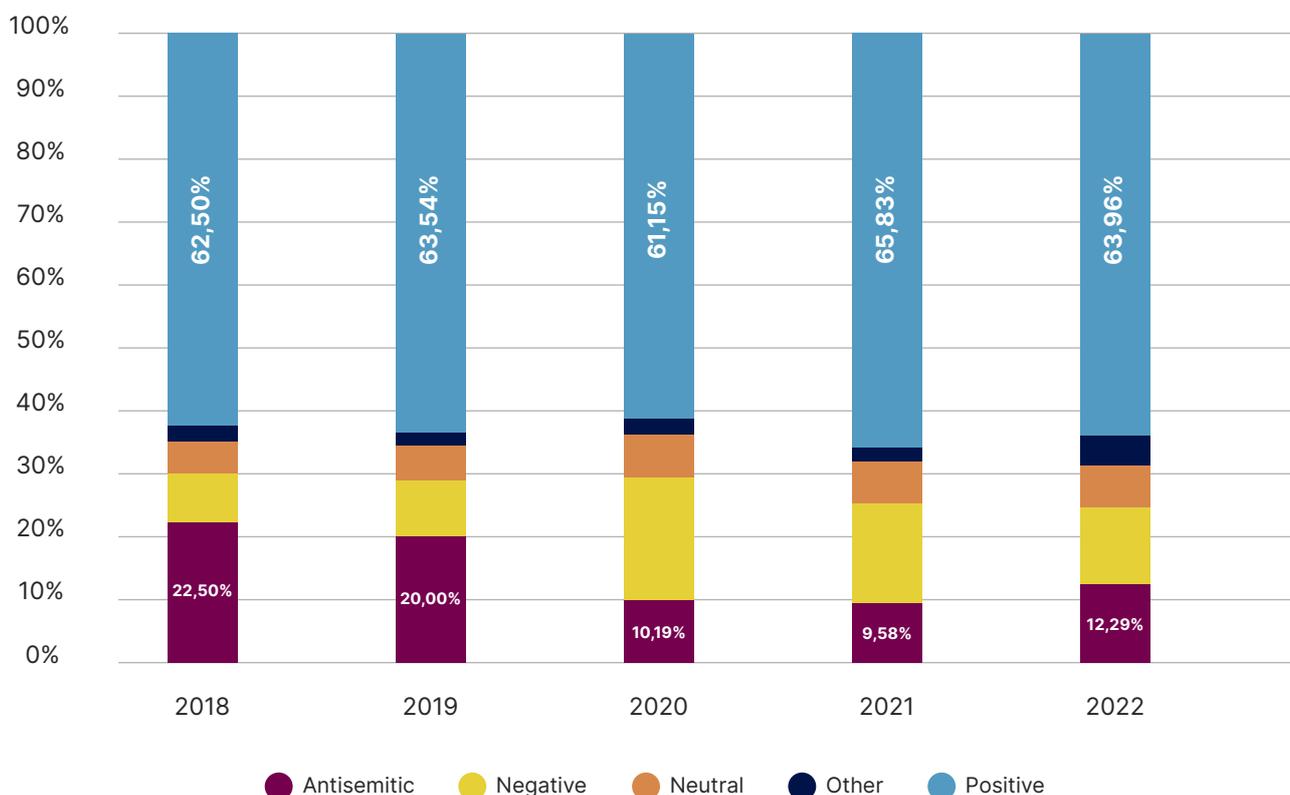
YouTube

This section analyzes the main results of the searches of terms in YouTube related to Judaic themes. It is the main audiovisual repository on the Internet and one of the most consulted sites in the world, which also serves as an educational and entertainment platform for millions of people.

In this case, a break in the trend is observed from the beginning of the series: 2022 is the first year that registers a slight increase in antisemitism on the platform, while the percentage of positive results also decreases slightly.

CHART 4

YouTube results analysis (2018-2022)



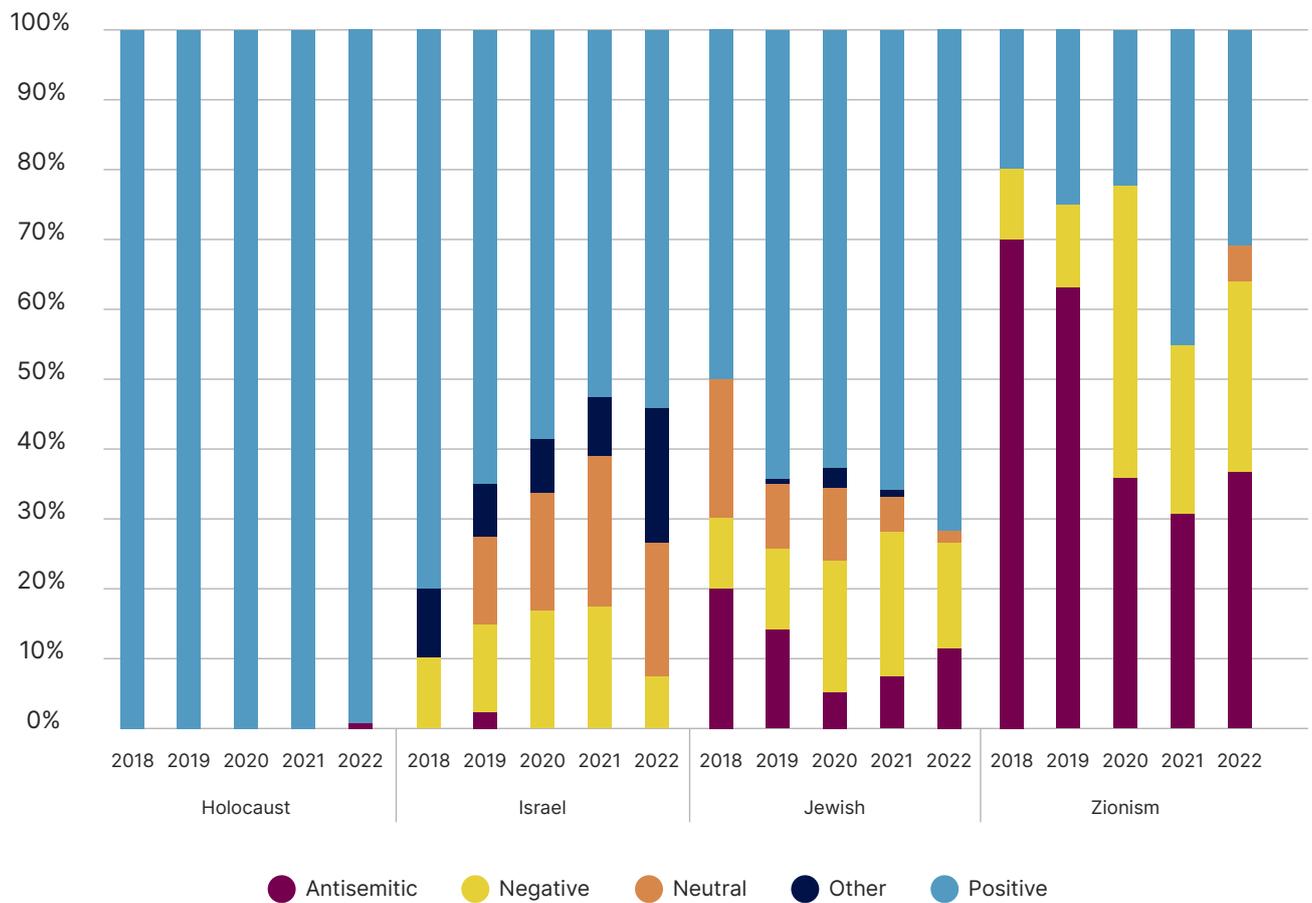
Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Anti-Zionism, understood as a form of antisemitism as defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, is the most repeated argument in the main results on this platform. As in the case of Google, the Telesur media is a powerhouse of antisemitic content. With significant impact on the platform, it accuses Zionism -among other arguments- of wanting to "take over the world". On the other hand, various videos were also collected that seek to "unveil the secrets" of why Jews have great fortunes. Whether with positive or negative connotations, these contents about the supposed economic boom of the Jews promote prejudice.

Finally, it is worth noting that, after five years of analysis without finding content that denies or trivializes the Holocaust, during 2022 videos were compiled in which the Holocaust is equated with the situation of the Palestinian population in the Gaza Strip.

CHART 5

YouTube results analysis by theme (2018-2022)



Source: Web Observatory (2022).





Twitter

With more than 500 million users worldwide and 65 million tweets per day⁶, Twitter is the platform for microblogging preferably among those who seek to be part of the political debate. With a great circulation of information, what happens on this social network can quickly go viral and transcend its borders. Constituted as a public forum with little regulation, it is possible to find there diverse opinions, among which are often hate speech.

During 2022, the three moments that recorded the greatest amount of content correspond, first of all, to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February. Secondly, with the assassination of the Palestinian-American journalist Shereen Abu Aqleh, perpetrated in the context of clashes between the Israeli army and Palestinian demonstrators at the end of May. Finally, at the beginning of August, the Israel Defense Forces carried out various operations aimed at eliminating the leadership of Islamic Jihad, responsible for various attacks. In response, rocket attacks were carried out from the Gaza Strip into Israeli territory for several days.

CHART 6

Monthly evolution of posts analyzed on Twitter



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

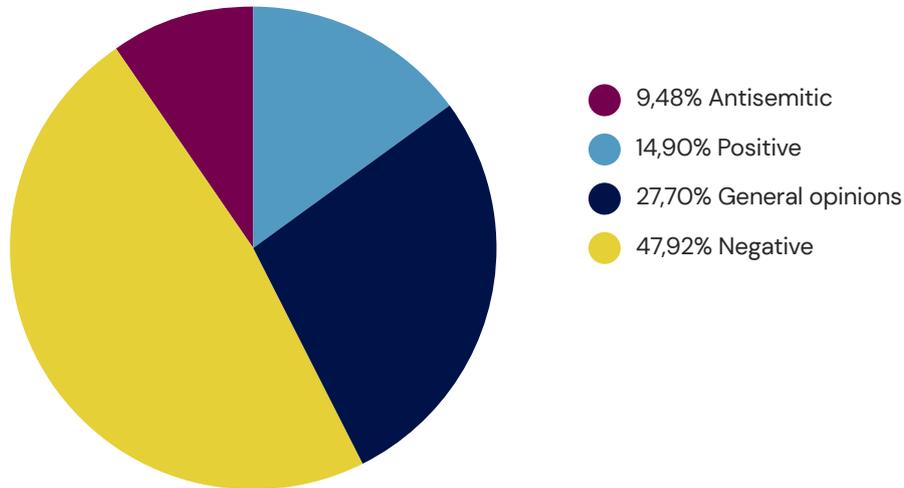
Regarding the topics analyzed, a total of 7,695,778 contents were collected throughout the year, which generated 23,886,973,696 potential impressions⁷. As it can be observed in the following chart, the antisemitism collected reaches 9.48% of the contents surveyed. Negative messages explain 47.92% of the total and constitute the category with the most posts. Positive content makes up 14.90% of the total, while "general opinions" represent 27.70%.

⁶ <https://marketing4ecommerce.net/cuales-redes-sociales-con-mas-usuarios-mundo-ranking/#>:

⁹ It is understood by potential impressions the maximum number of users that the content can reach, considering the number of followers of the account that broadcasts it, and the interactions generated by the content.

CHART 7

Twitter content analysis



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

The events described above, which led to a significant increase in collected content, are consistent with times when antisemitism nominally increases. In the case of the murder of journalist Shereen Abu Aqleh and the subsequent crackdown at her funeral, antisemitic messages revolved around the expressions "Zionist terrorists" and "cowardly Zionist Jews", along with other accusations of Israel as a genocidal and terrorist state.

Another event that generated a temporary rise in antisemitic expressions, in nominal terms, was the escalation of violence that occurred in early August between the State of Israel and Palestinian terrorist groups. On that occasion, part of the Twitter users made parallels between Zionism and Nazism, and Israel and Nazism. Some of the expressions collected were: "...Israeli Nazi-Zionist regime" and "they do the same thing they did to them in Germany". This event was the one that contributed the most to the total number of antisemitisms registered in 2022, having collected 12.22% of all hate messages.

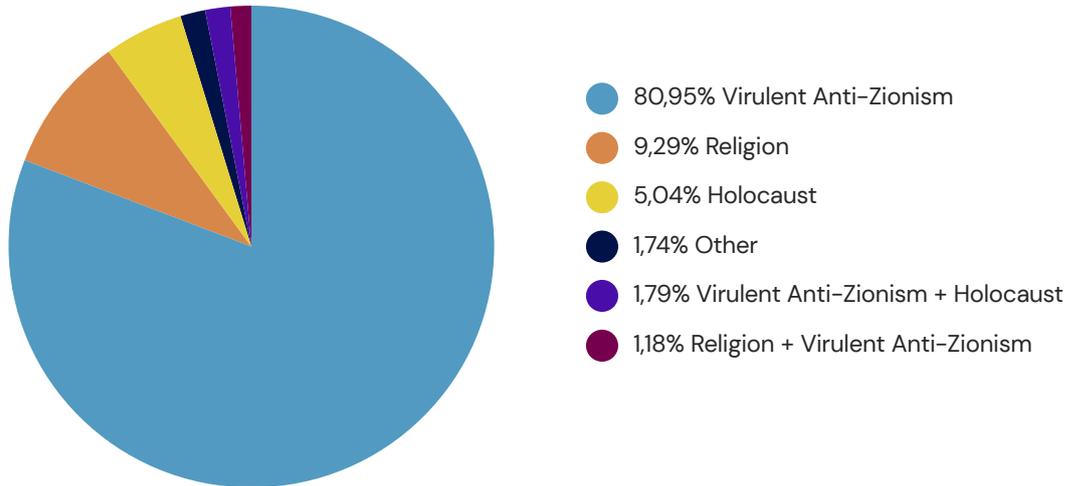
Lastly, the Russian invasion of Ukraine also had an impact on the measurement. On that occasion, certain users chose to trivialize the Holocaust by adhering to the hypothesis of the "denazification" of Ukraine. Other users subscribed to conspiracy theories that proclaim that behind the war are "*... interests of the new world order and control the Central Banks of all countries and Russian too. And what do all these families have in common? Their Khazarian origin and that they openly declare themselves Ashkenazi Zionist Jews.*" Related to these theories, discriminatory messages were also found that highlighted the Jewish ancestry of the Ukrainian president and his guilt for the invasion.

When investigating the different arguments present in the 729,325 antisemitic contents collected, a vast majority (80.95%) of these are related to anti-Zionism and Israel. Secondly, there are posts that directly attack the Jewish community emphasizing the more traditional insults and libel, such as deicide and the idea that those who practice the Jewish religion are avaricious. This subcategory gathers 9.29% of the total.

Next, the denial, trivialization and distortion of the Holocaust make up 5.04% of the messages. Finally, 1.74% of antisemitic messages were collected outside the subcategories mentioned above.

CHART 8

Twitter antisemitic content analysis



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

In certain cases, the messages against the Jews carry a network of meanings that combine various libels in a single statement. The most common combination is to issue anti-Zionist arguments together with the trivialization of the Holocaust (1.79%); In this case, a parallelism is usually made between the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with what happened during the Holocaust. Likewise, false and ill-intentioned comparisons are made between Zionism and Nazism. Some examples of this:

"There was no Jewish holocaust either, it has not been proven. Where are the names? If they killed some, it is Zionist propaganda to victimize themselves and massacre Palestinians."



"The genocidal state par excellence with its perpetual victimization through the Holostory religion, something else to add by way of question... From how many countries were Jews expelled throughout history and why? And then the Holostory would come"



"The Nazis gave the Zionists the perfect pretext to seize Palestine; the Holotale. Of course, the British and the UN also collaborated."



Secondly, there is the combination of direct discrimination against Jews (1.18%), which contains these long-standing libels such as deicide and simple insults to people who profess the Jewish religion. These cases, combined with anti-Zionism, show the deep antisemitism of those who seek to hide behind the fact that anti-Zionism and antisemitism are not the same. Some examples of this type of content:

"COLONY OF JEWS AND SONS OF API WHO ARRIVED WITH THEIR ANCESTORS WITH THEIR LAST NAMES AS THEIR ONLY WEALTH AND CAPTURED LIMA WITH THEIR CONTACTS AND MASONRY! AND NOW THEY THINK THEY ARE OWNERS"



"The Jewish murderers of the Palestinian people and the biggest money launderers of the DRUG TRAFFICKING for many years."



"Palestinians have been expelled from their territory by Israelis since 1948. When they unilaterally invented the state of Israel. Today the genocide and exile continues."



The most repeated negative messages within the analyzed content (47.92%) are based on legitimate criticism of the State of Israel and the expression of disagreement with the Israeli position in the context of the Middle East conflict. These types of messages were a constant throughout the year and experienced sharp jumps in line with the escalation of violence in the region. Secondly, there is the criticism of Israel related to the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. In this case, those who insult Israel draw parallels between the situation in Ukraine and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a discourse that was maintained throughout 2022.

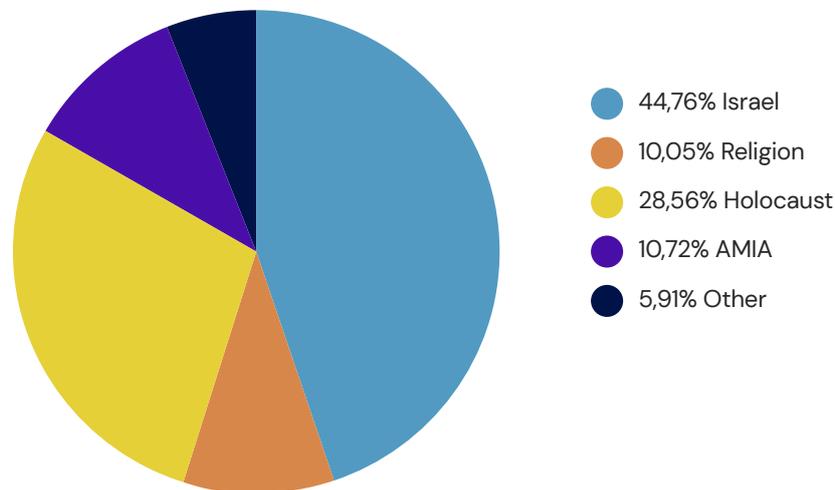
Regarding the positive content, almost half of the tweets respond to the defense and support of the State of Israel (44.76%). Secondly, it is followed by messages of remembrance and education about the Jewish Holocaust (28.56%), which increase in line with Holocaust remembrance dates, such as Yom Hashoa and the social media campaign We Remember, held by the World Jewish Congress in the week of January 27 in accordance with the date established by the United Nations in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. In third place are the messages of remembrance and the request for justice for the attack on the AMIA, with 10.72% of the positive content. The total is completed with 10.05% positive comments on the Jewish religion and 5.91% Other.





CHART 9

Twitter content analysis by subject matter



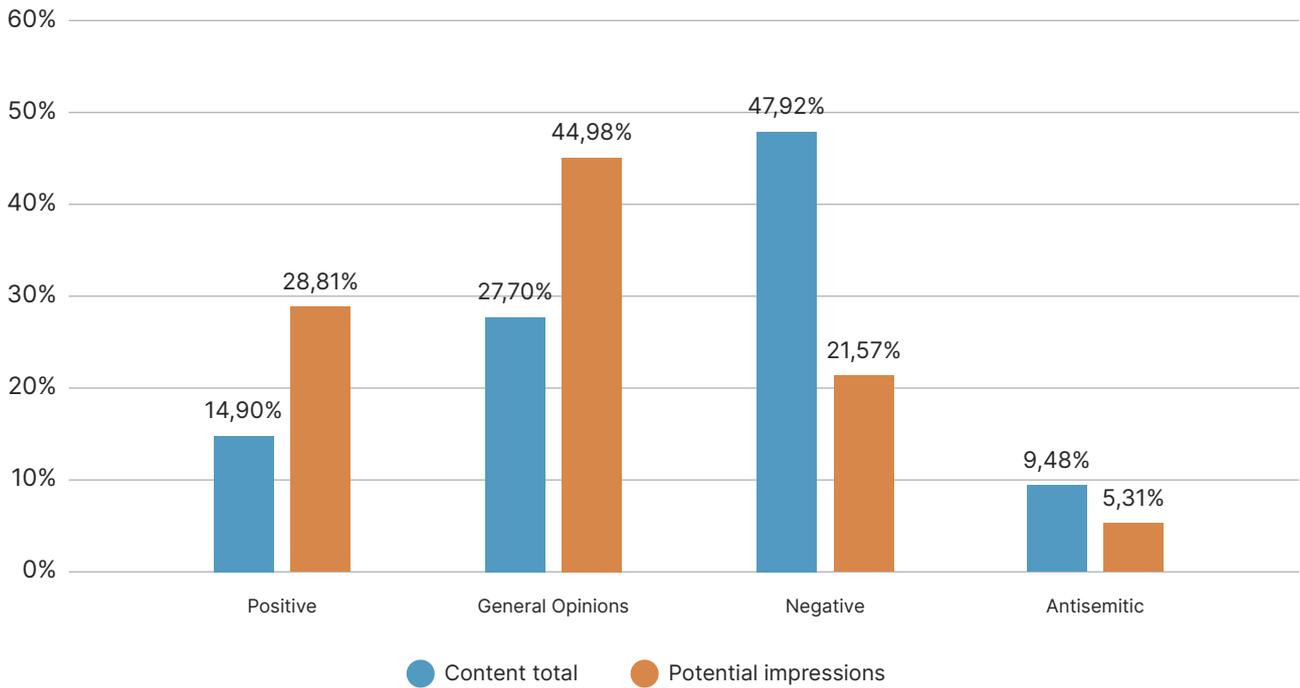
Source: Web Observatory (2022).

The "general opinions" category is made up mainly of information published by the media with non-biased news –many of these "retweeted" by users–, as well as neutral comments.

When analyzing in detail the potential impressions generated by the set of content collected, it is observed that antisemitic posts have a low impact on that social network. As a whole, they contribute 9.48% of the content but receive only 5.31% of the potential impressions, which suggests that discriminatory content towards Jews has low circulation on the social network. On the other hand, it is observed that positive content has a broad impact on the social network, being responsible for 28.81% of potential impressions. In other words, the 14.90% that corresponds to positive content is responsible for almost a third of the total impressions generated.

CHART 10

Twitter content analysis and potential impressions

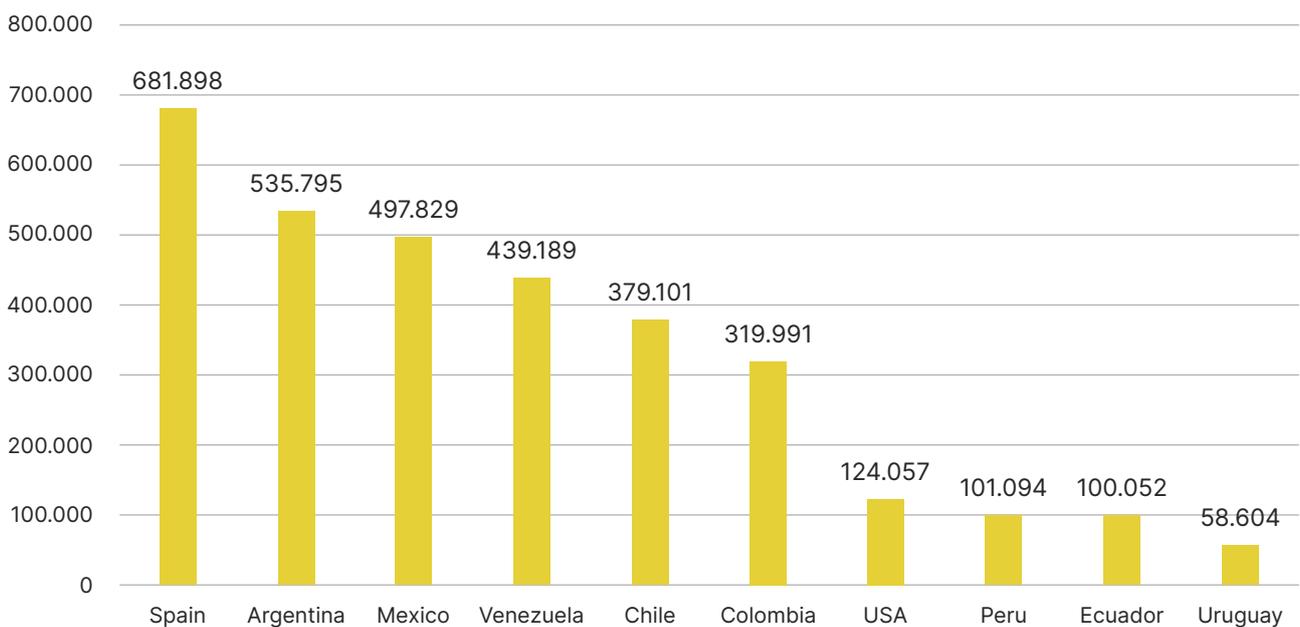


Source: Web Observatory (2022).

When the contents are analyzed according to the geolocation of the publication, it is observed that Spain, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela, Chile and Colombia are the countries where more tweets are produced.

CHART 11

Twitter content analysis by country



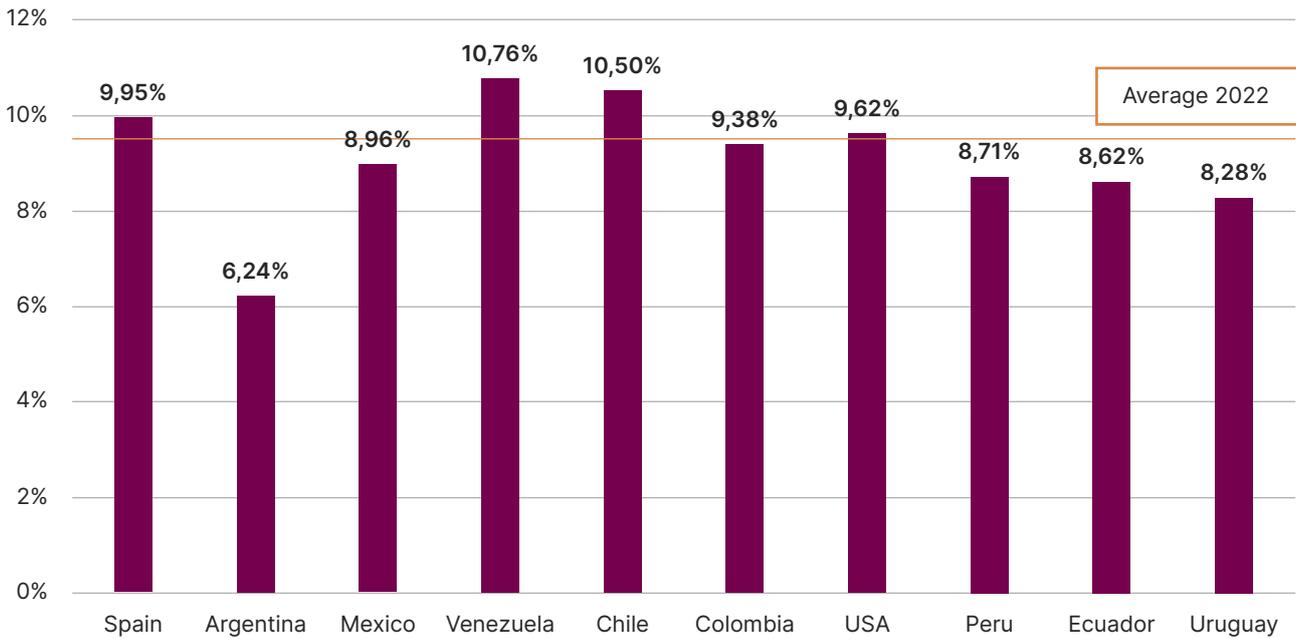
Source: Web Observatory (2022).

⁸ See Methodological Section.

As can be seen in Chart 12, the percentage of antisemitism was analyzed in the 10 countries with the highest number of tweets collected. It is worth noting that in no country do we observe levels of antisemitism far from the general average. The cases of Venezuela, Chile, Spain and the United States are slightly above the general average, with a difference of less than 1 percentage point. On the other hand, Argentina stands out as the country with the lowest percentage.

CHART 12

Twitter antisemitic content analysis by country



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Finally, when analyzing the issuers of antisemitic messages, the 729,325 posts are published by a total of 225,053 profiles, with less than three tweets on average. Regarding the users with the most antisemitic content, the top 10 of them add up to a total of 6,705 tweets, which represents 2.98% of the content and shows that there are no Internet users who produce a significant percentage of discriminatory messages.

Year-on-year analysis

Having analyzed the content collected during 2022 on the Twitter platform, with a focus on antisemitic discourse and the behavior of those who issue these messages, we will now describe the medium-term trends on this platform using data collected by the Web Observatory from 2015 to 2022.

During this period, Twitter underwent various changes, such as modifications in the maximum length of posts and in service policies, which have been a consequence of the pressure exerted so that the account platform is responsible for the content that circulates there.

As can be seen in the following chart, the level of antisemitism collected in this social network is variable: its maximum was observed in 2018 and its minimum expression in 2015. Regarding the average of antisemitism of the series, it is 13.33% of the total and the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 are above the average.

CHART 13

Year-on-year analysis of content on Twitter (2015-2022)



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Regarding the negative contents, the average is in 39.31%, with the years 2015, 2018, 2021 and 2022 slightly above the average for the series. On the other hand, the average number of positive messages is 25.20%, with a clear peak registered in 2020.

During the last three years of analysis, a stable level of antisemitism in particular is observed, although it experienced a slight increase in 2022 with a difference of 0.59 percentage points upwards.



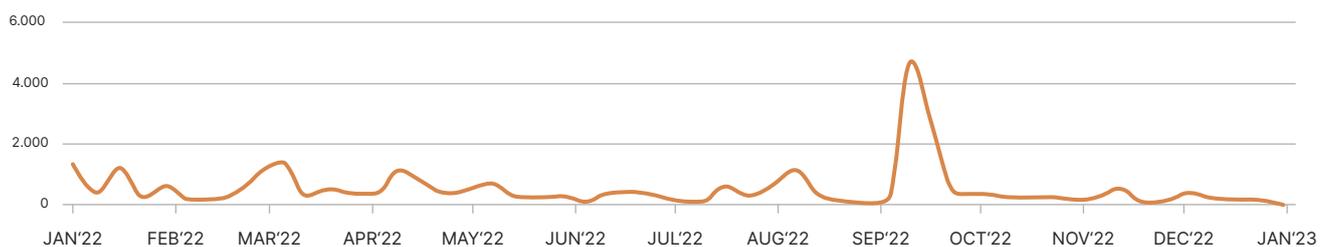
Facebook

Facebook, owned by Meta, was the first massive social network with a global reach. Currently, it remains the platform with the largest number of users in the world, with almost 3,000 million active people⁹. Although after the Cambridge Analytica scandal it is not possible to analyze all the information included there, user interactions in some fan pages They are a useful input when it comes to deepen our knowledge into the subject.

With 27,716 comments collected in 15 Facebook pages of the main means of communication in Latin America and Spain, the most relevant event on this platform was observed during the month of September, when the President of Chile, Gabriel Boric, rejected the credentials of the Israeli ambassador. Unlike Twitter, on the fan page of Facebook analyzed, local events tend to have a great impact on the amount of content collected due to the media's interest in the public agenda of each country. The diplomatic impasse between the Chilean government and the ambassador was the event that contributed the most to the total content collected (25.88%).

CHART 14

Evolution of content on Facebook



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

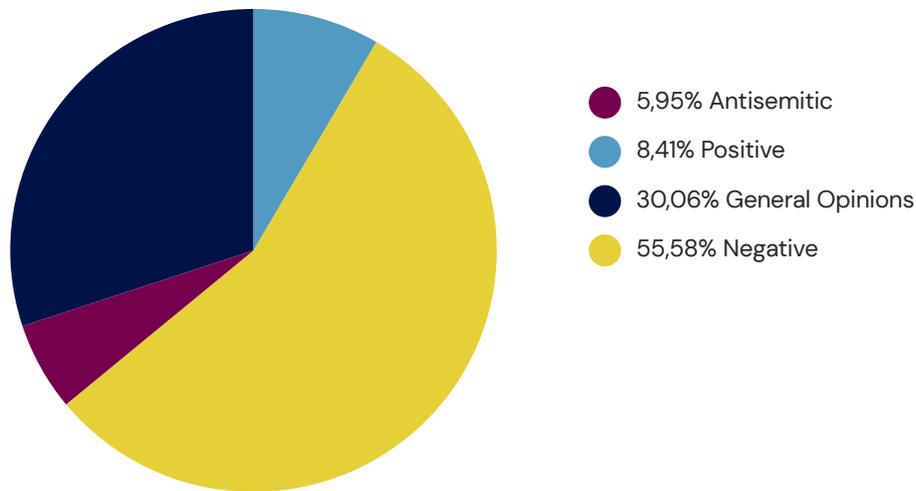
The category that explains most of the content on Facebook is negative, which accounts for 55.58% of the total. Within it, in just fifteen days of September, when the controversy with the Israeli ambassador took place in Chile, 28.75% of the total negative comments registered in the year on the analyzed Facebook pages were collected. These comments revolve around criticizing Israel and supporting the Palestinian cause.

On the other hand, positive comments make up 8.41% of the total, in many cases valuing the contributions of Judaism as a religion, citing biblical phrases and supporting the State of Israel.

⁹ <https://es.statista.com/estadisticas/600712/ranking-mundial-de-redes-sociales-por-numero-de-usuarios/>

CHART 15

Analysis of Facebook comments



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Antisemitism represents 5.95% of the total. Among the most recurring words used in the collected antisemitic comments, the terms Palestine and Israel carry great weight. Associated with these are expressions such as "genocide, genocidal, genocidal state" and "apartheid", terms that revolve around the delegitimization of the State of Israel. Finally, it should be noted that the appearance of the expression "New world order", a theory that proclaims a single world government that controls the population as a modern form of the "protocols of the wise men of Zion", is the fourth with more weight. This phenomenon is related to the conspiracy theories that gained strength during the Covid-19 pandemic, but far from being in the past like the pandemic, they still maintain their validity in the discourses of social networks.

CHART 16

Facebook words cloud

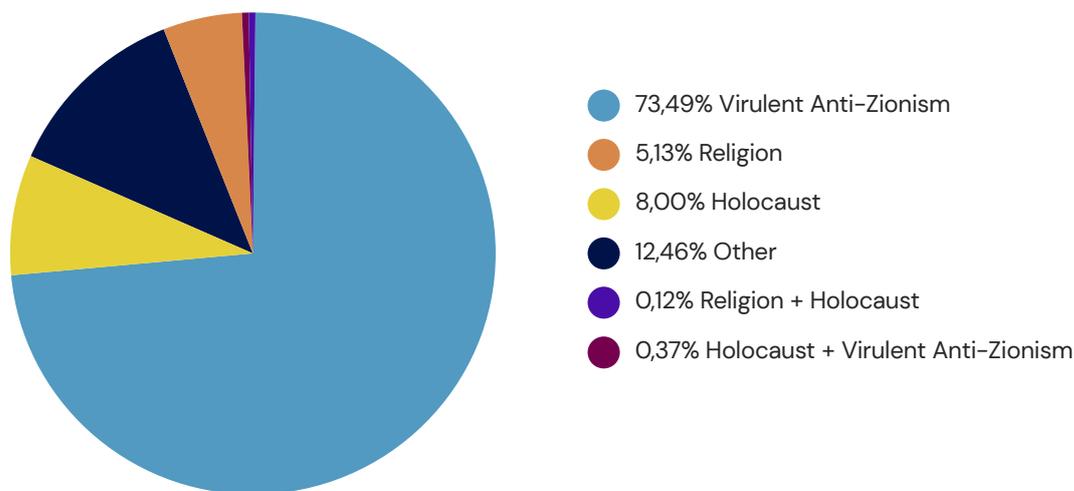


Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Regarding antisemitic content, there are different topics for which Jews are discriminated against. The most widely used argument is virulent anti-Zionism, which represents 73.49%. The "Holocaust" category (denial, trivialization, distortion) accounts for 8% of the antisemitic comments collected on Facebook, followed by the "religion" category, which represents 5.13% of the total. In certain cases, hate messages involve more than one antisemitic libel; for example, the combined categories of "religion" together with "virulent anti-Zionism", "Holocaust" with "virulent anti-Zionism", and "religion" with "Holocaust" represent 0.43%, 0.37% and 0.12% respectively. The category "other" concentrates 12.46% of the total.

CHART 17

Analysis of antisemitic comments on Facebook



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

When analyzing the month of September, when the controversy between the government of Gabriel Boric and the Israeli ambassador took place, antisemitism remained stable despite the importance of this event on the public agenda. In this case, it was observed that most of the comments were critical of the Chilean president for his actions, revealing political polarization.

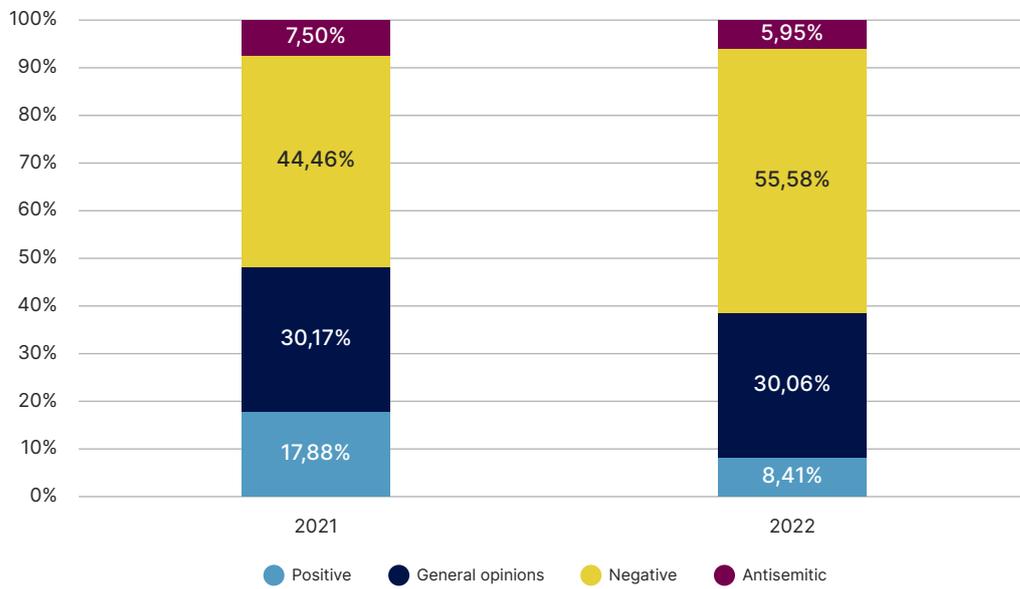
Comparing the years 2021 and 2022, there is a significant decrease in the number of posts, being 2,811 in 2021 and 1,152 in 2022. This drop has a direct impact on the number of user comments collected on Facebook, since in 2021 94,398 were registered and in 2022 they dropped to 27,716. This phenomenon can be attributed to the fact that, during 2021, the main means of communication on Facebook widely echoed the escalation of violence in the Gaza Strip.

If the positive comments are analyzed comparatively, a decrease of more than 10 percentage points is observed. This phenomenon is largely due to the fact that during 2021 the portals highlighted Israel's work during the pandemic, a fact that was valued by users; but after the pandemic these contents are no longer



CHART 18

Year-on-year analysis of Facebook comments



Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Digital Media Forums

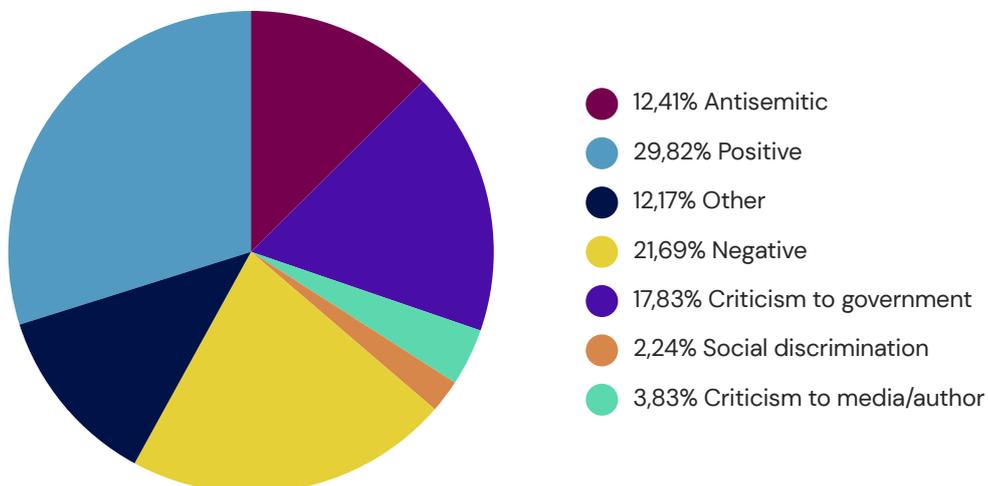
Portal and digital media forums stood out as the first exchange spaces among users of the Internet. Currently, some media still maintain these places of reflection and discussion. During 2022, 3,343 comments on relevant topics in digital media from seven countries were analyzed: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama and Uruguay, as shown in the table below.

Country	Number of comments	Average number of comments per note collected
Argentina	1.332	11,81
Brazil	501	6,10
Chile	537	16,78
Colombia	207	2,36
Costa Rica	69	1,67
Panama	246	4,94
Uruguay	451	4,13
Total	3.343	

As shown in the following chart, almost a third of the comments (29.82%) correspond to positive messages towards the Jewish communities, the defense of Israel, the memory of the Holocaust and the request for justice for the AMIA cause. Negative comments (21.69%) focus in many cases on messages with opinions critical of the actions of the State of Israel. As in previous years, the rejection of users towards the governments in power represents a considerable percentage of the total analyzed (17.83%).

CHART 19

Analysis of comments on digital portals



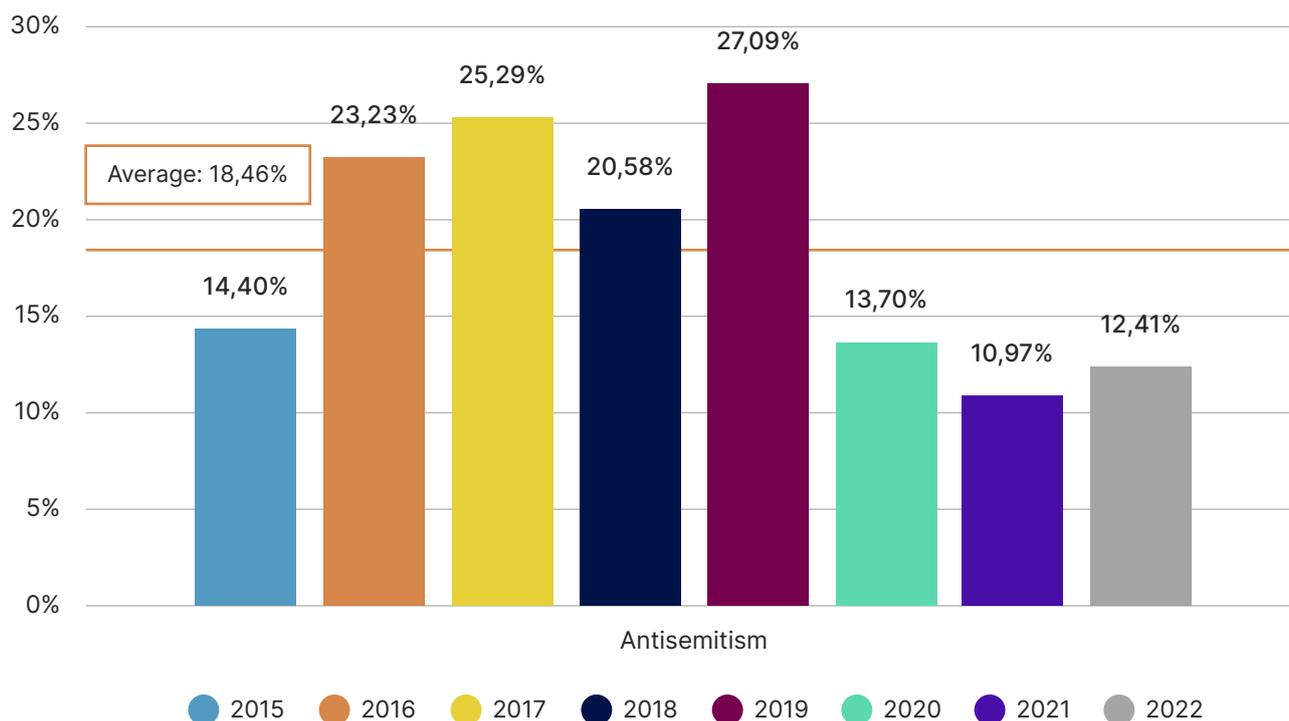
Source: Web Observatory (2022).



Within the analyzed content, 12.41% of comments had antisemitic messages. This is in line with what was recorded in the previous two years, but when compared to the last eight years, it is six percentage points below the average.

CHART 20

Year-on-year analysis of comments on digital portals

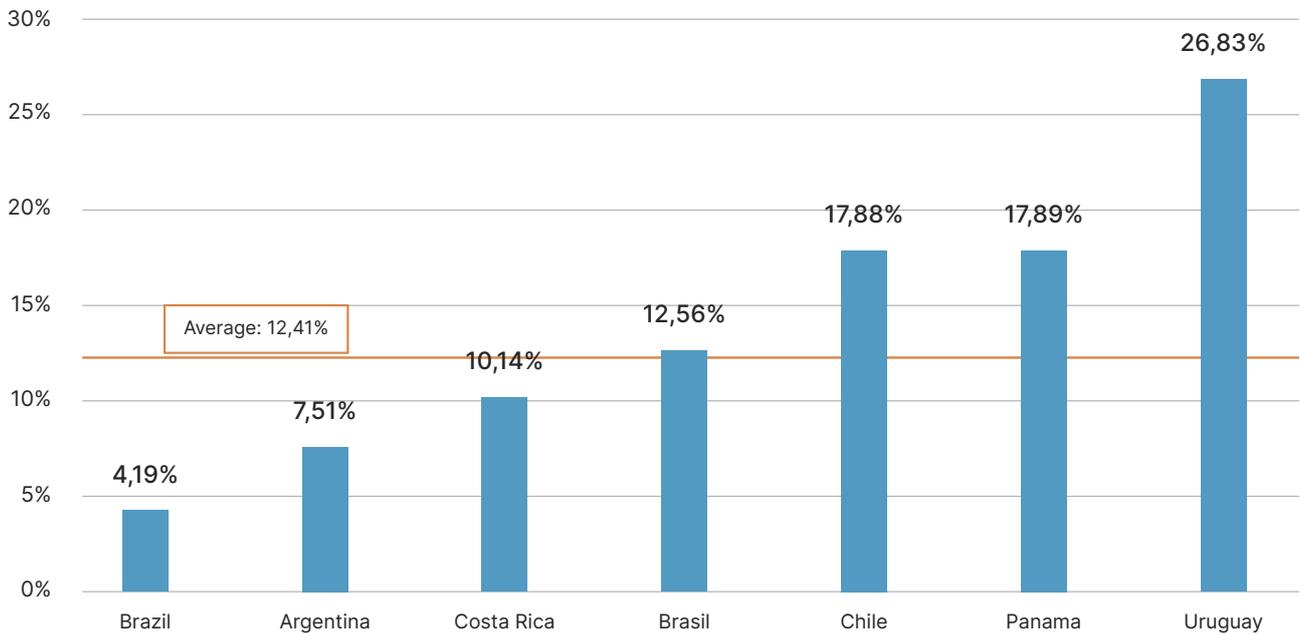


Source: Web Observatory (2022).

When analyzing antisemitism in the region during 2022, Brazil, Argentina and Costa Rica are the countries that are below the annual average. Colombia, for her part, is in line with the average, while Chile, Panama and Uruguay are above it.

CHART 21

Analysis of antisemitic comments on digital portals by country

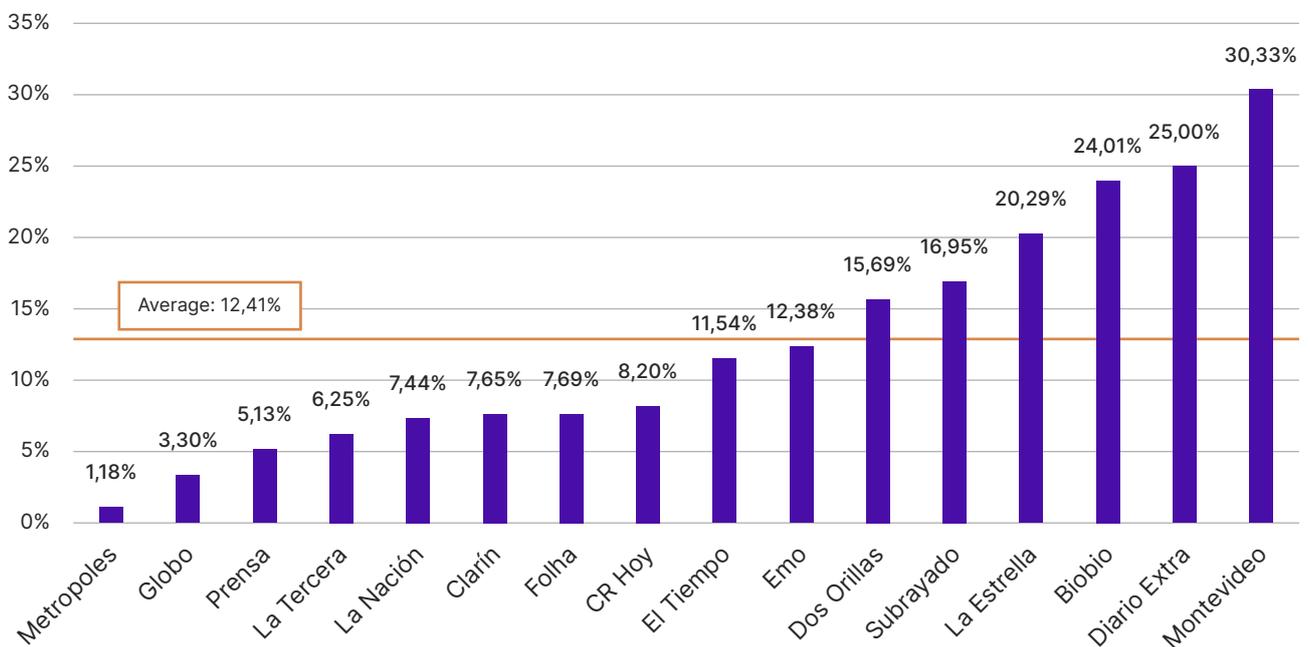


Source: Web Observatory (2022).

As shown in the following chart, there is a strong disparity in the percentage of antisemitism according to the medium analyzed. In this regard, the cases of Montevideo Portal, in Uruguay; Diario Extra, in Panama, and Biobio in Chile, which are above the annual average by more than 10 percentage points. The case of Montevideo Portal is particularly striking since for the second consecutive year it is in first place among the analyzed media.

CHART 22

Analysis of antisemitic comments on digital portals by media

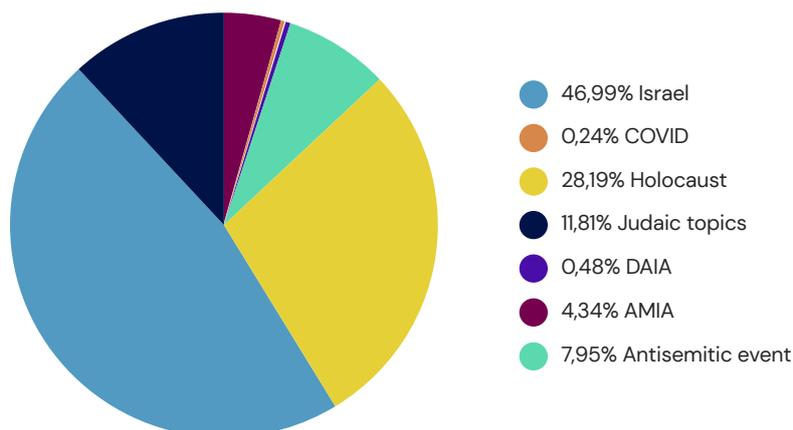


Source: Web Observatory (2022).

Regarding the topics of the journalistic notes in which the antisemitic comments are expressed, a strong disparity is observed in their distribution. The topic "Israel" accounts for almost half of the comments collected (46.99%), followed by antisemitic messages in articles related to the Holocaust (28.19%), "Jewish topics" (11.81%), and antisemitic facts. (7.95%).

CHART 23

Analysis of antisemitic comments on digital portals by subject matter

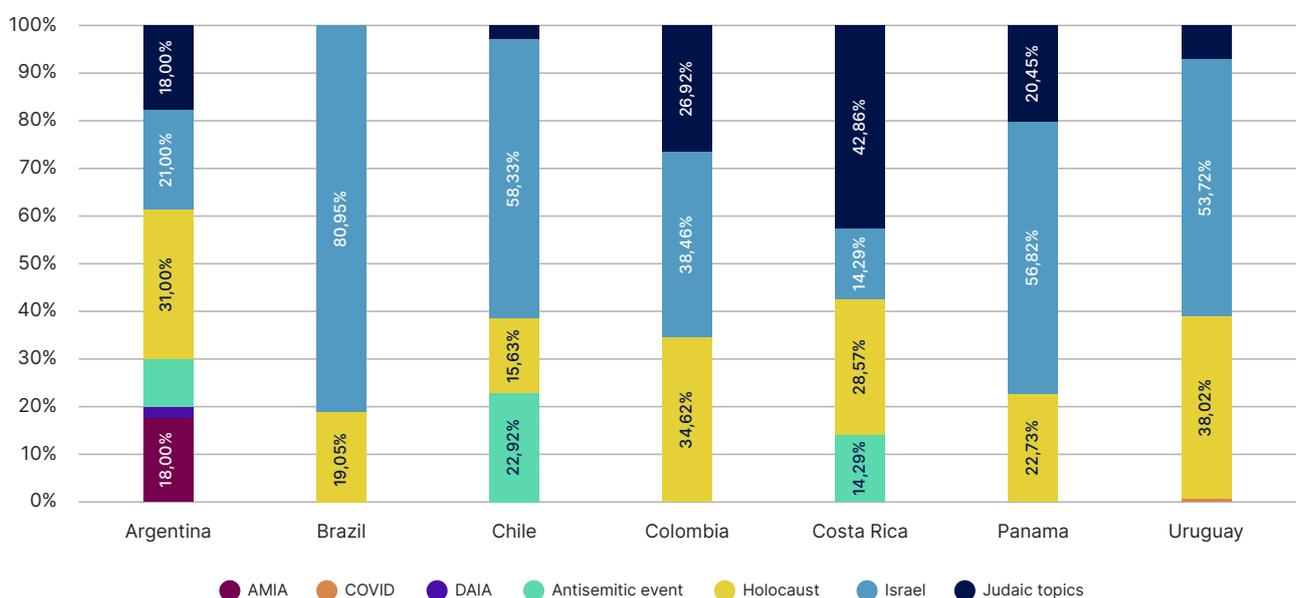


Source: Web Observatory (2022).

If we focus on antisemitism according to the theme of the journalistic note, we see that, except in Argentina, in all the countries analyzed, most of the hateful comments against Jews correspond to news related to Israel. On the contrary, in Argentina the greatest amount of discriminatory content is found in articles related to the Holocaust.

CHART 24

Analysis of antisemitic comments on digital portals by subject matter and country



Source: Web Observatory (2022).



Relevant events in 2022

This section describes the facts related to the topics analyzed in Spanish that have had the greatest impact on social networks.

Beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine (February)

As a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a great debate was generated on social networks. This conflict, at the time of writing this report, is still in force and continues to impact the measurement of content.

The collected content focuses on two discursive lines. On the one hand, the "deviation of attention to Palestine", where the discourse of the users revolves around denouncing Israel's actions in the context of the conflict in the Middle East. A clear example of this is the expressions of repudiation of the Israeli condemnation of the invasion under the pretext that they "do the same in Palestine" with messages such as *"It's not Russia, it's not Ukraine, an attack by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population last May. What the media hides. All genocide is condemnable. No more wars."*

On the other hand, the theme of the Holocaust is not an exception to the conflict. There are those who express Putin's intention to "denazify Ukraine", those who highlight the Jewish ancestry of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, and those who denounce Russia's bombing of Holocaust memorial sites.

During the first days of the invasion of Ukraine, antisemitism of 5.85% was registered on the social network Twitter, below the annual average of 9.48% in 2022. In nominal terms, the first fifteen days of the invasion of Ukraine – from February 24 to March 10 – had a great impact on the collection of content, which represented 13.50% of the total for the year.

Attacks in Israel (March)

Between March 22 and 29, a series of four attacks took place in Israeli territory, with a balance of 14 victims in the cities of Beer Sheva, Hadera, Bnei Brak and Tel Aviv took place. For its part, Israel demolished the homes of the terrorists and revoked work permits of people associated with the attacks.

The content in support of the Palestinian cause and the denunciation of the actions of the Israel Defense Forces far exceeded the content in repudiation of the attacks against the Israeli population. In these events, the antisemitism registered on Twitter was 4%.

Murder of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh (May)

On May 11, in the context of incidents between the Israel Defense Forces and militants in the Palestinian city of Jenin, the journalist for the Al Jazeera media was assassinated and no clear perpetrator of the crime was identified.

Users on the social network Twitter quickly turned against Israel, although there was no reliable confirmation of the guilt of the act. On the other hand, the repression of the Israeli security forces during the journalist's funeral generated widespread repudiation and prolonged the controversy on social networks. The antisemitism registered on Twitter was 10%.

Sayings of the Mexican president about the journalist Carlos Alazraki (May)

On May 29, Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador referred to journalist Carlos Alazraki as "*Conservative and even Hitlerian.*" The Jewish community in Mexico repudiated the president's statements.

Bombardments against Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip (August)

During the first days of August, Israel shelled Islamic Jihad targets in the Gaza Strip. As a consequence of these bombardments, a brief but intense war escalation began in the area.

During the six days of the conflict, an antisemitism of 13.37% was registered, almost four percentage points above the annual average. It should be noted that during this brief period, 12.22% of antisemitism for the entire year was collected.

Rejection of diplomatic credentials to the Israeli ambassador by President Gabriel Boric (September)

On September 15, the president of Chile, Gabriel Boric, decided not to receive the credentials of the new Israeli ambassador in Santiago de Chile. The diplomat was informed of this when he entered the Palacio de la Moneda, where he was denied entry. The incident quickly became public and was celebrated by a part of the users on social networks but repudiated by others.

This event occurred in the context of political polarization that is present in Chile and the entire region. The opposition to the government used the incident to criticize the president's management, while those who support Boric highlighted his commitment to the Palestinian cause and human rights. The messages of repudiation of President Boric and solidarity with the Jewish community were in the majority. The antisemitism registered on Twitter was 1.40%.



Conclusiones

Year 2022, the first full year of the post-pandemic, was marked by a series of violent events in different parts of the world. These facts had an impact on those who are concerned about the issues analyzed in this report. Thus, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the attacks in the city of Jerusalem and the brief escalation in the Gaza Strip are some of the events that marked the conversation on the Internet.

On all the platforms analyzed, a significant part of the antisemitic material is linked to Israel. In some cases, as a way to get around the content moderation of the platforms, trying to separate anti-Zionism from antisemitism. In other cases, something can be attributed to ignorance, to ignorance of the difference of Judaism or "being a Jew", of an Israeli or of those who live in Israel; other times, they do not directly try to hide anything and express it calmly, knowing that they are hardly moderate. In this line, an increasingly common derivation of antisemitism linked to Israel is the use of comparisons between Zionism and the Holocaust, where it is intended to equate the Jewish State with the Nazi regime, as if the actions of the former were inspired or justified by Nazism.

Talk about the Holocaust was particularly in vogue during the Russian invasion of Ukraine, with the argument of a "denazification" of that country by Russia, added to the Jewish ancestry of the Ukrainian president and the bombing of Holocaust memorial sites.

On Google, a low but constant level of antisemitism is repeated once again, observing a decrease of 1.03 percentage points of it. In view of this decline, the three-year upward trend from 2019 to 2021 was interrupted. Again, most of the content collected corresponds to the media, and in second place the websites stand out, which do not show much variation in results throughout the year. The antisemitism linked to the topic "Jewish" corresponds to a large extent with the definition of the Royal Spanish Academy of the language that defines the word as "Said of a person: Greedy or usurer".

It should be noted that, in the eight-year series analyzed, antisemitism registered a maximum of 6.33% and a minimum of 2.78%, without any active moderation on the part of Google. This is the platform with the lowest level of discrimination against Jews of those that were analyzed.

On YouTube, the main audiovisual content platform on the Internet, 12.29% of antisemitism was collected. For the first time in the five years since this social media has been measured, antisemitism's downward trend was interrupted, with an increase of 2.71 percentage points. Regarding the topics where antisemitic content is collected, the "Zionism" category once again stands out in first place in the ranking. As a fact to highlight, it is the first time since the beginning of this analysis that cases of antisemitism linked to the topic "Holocaust" have been compiled. These contents revolve around parallels between the genocide perpetrated by the Nazi regime and the State of Israel. Although YouTube has active content moderation and policies that prohibit the dissemination of hate messages, as well as Holocaust denial, the way in which they are applied is deficient since videos with hate content are kept online.

On the other hand, on the fan pages analyzed on Facebook, it is clear that the conversation mainly revolves around local events and, secondly, events that occurred outside of Latin America. The most relevant within the platform is the rejection of the credentials of the Israeli ambassador by the recently elected president of Chile, Gabriel Boric. The event received broad repudiation from the Chilean opposition and also generated some criticism within the ruling party, from those who demanded harsher measures from Boric.

When analyzing antisemitism on this social network, the use of the term "new world order" stands out as one of the most used by those who publish antisemitic messages. With the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, conspiracy theories had a worrying revival during 2020 and 2021.

It is a call to attention that, after the pandemic, these theories have taken root in the comments of the users of the most traditional social network on the Internet.

A possible explanation for the decrease in the content collected can be attributed to less use of the platform by its users.

As explained above, a smaller amount of content was collected during 2022. As a possible explanation for this, it could be argued that Facebook lost net users, especially in the youth audience¹⁰. In this way, the debates that in the past took place in the Facebook comment forums, now take place, to a greater extent, in closed WhatsApp chat groups or Telegram channels that serve as a digital agora.

In the case of Twitter, the platform from which the largest volume of content in this report is collected, the global situation sets the pace for the circulation of content, whose dynamics give rise to a spiral effect of circulation, where certain phenomena quickly spread. They propagate in the networks and are the object of debate, repudiation or support from the users.

In this social network, antisemitism is stable in percentage terms, with an increase of less than 1 percentage point compared to the previous year. Hatred of Jews on Twitter, in most cases, does not enjoy great acceptance in that space. This conclusion is based on the analysis of the reach of anti-Jewish messages: while 9.48% of the total collected corresponds to antisemitic messages, their reach is only 5.31%, which shows that they come from accounts with low number of followers and who are not retweeted, or shared, frequently.

When analyzing intolerance speeches against Jews on Twitter, we see that anti-Zionism carries a large portion of antisemitic content (80.95%). This is followed by messages that directly target the community using insults and old discriminatory theories. Regarding Holocaust denial, this phenomenon represents 5.04% of the antisemitism collected. The total is completed with posts that combine the categories described above.

If the 10 countries that contribute the most content to the total analyzed are observed, a great variation in the level of antisemitism is not detected since it is, at most, 1.28 percentage points above the average.

In the case of Twitter, the phenomenon of antisemitism can be thought of from different perspectives. In nominal terms, as described above, the variability in the volume of content is strongly influenced by the global situation, so the same occurs with discriminatory messages. The case of the percentage of antisemitism is different, which is related to the entire debate. In this case, it remains stable at most content-heavy events. One of the possible explanations for this is that those who post antisemitic messages do so regardless of the circumstances the world is going through.

Finally, in the comment forums of the major Internet media portals, a space that is increasingly restricted to subscribers, there is a wide disparity in the level of antisemitism across countries and digital sites. This phenomenon occurs, to a certain extent, due to the different policies and levels of moderation of the portals analyzed. Each of the 18 portals considered has (or not) policies for the use and moderation of content published by readers.

¹⁰ <https://www.xataka.com/aplicaciones/inicio-declive-anunciado-facebook-pierde-usuarios-primera-vez-su-historia>

Antisemitism has remained stable in the last three years, with a slight increase of 1.44 percentage points compared to the previous year.

To conclude, unlike what happened in 2021, when the political polarization observed in many countries was present in the content analyzed –the most prominent event was the conflict between Israel and Hamas, in May of that year–, during 2022, except for the diplomatic impasse in Chile, no such polarization was observed in the contents analyzed.





Final Comments

Regardless of the form or means through which antisemitism circulates, a series of questions remain open. How does this affect readers? Will the systematic spread of these speeches physically affect members of the Jewish community? The first answer is yes. The two most emblematic cases in our continent in the last two years are the murder of David Fremd, in Paysandú, Uruguay, and the shooting in the Pittsburgh Synagogue, in the United States. In more general terms, considering hate speech, we can add, in Argentina, the attempted assassination of Vice President Cristina Fernández. As reflected in the Amnesty International report cited in the introduction and documentaries such as "The dilemma of social networks", among others, not only is moderation late, but algorithms end up promoting this kind of violent content. If we add to this breeding ground a pandemic, a war, the use of platforms without moderation and extremist political leaders and communicators who use this to their advantage, without preserving vulnerable groups or pondering democracy, the problem becomes more and more complex.

The large social networking companies are increasingly attentive to the removal of discriminatory content and the negative repercussions generated by public complaints for the material that circulates in them, which materializes in millions of deleted publications. For this reason, those who want to spread illegal content use other applications such as Telegram. Various groups have been observed there that spread hateful ideas, protected by the reluctance to moderate this messaging platform.

As if this were not enough, the rise of the so-called "artificial intelligence" (AI) adds new edges. One of the devices with this technology that had the most diffusion was ChatGPT. We asked this chat system what it consists of, and it replied: "I am ChatGPT, a language model created by OpenAI.

I am designed to process and generate text in response to user questions and comments¹¹. Until today, to search for information on the Internet we had to search and, with all the information, choose. But with this type of technology, this process changes, since it is this "intelligence" that executes the work and provides us with an answer. Perhaps, for banal topics, this is not a problem. However, it raises a series of questions regarding complex issues; For example, what information do you use in those issues that are under debate? To move forward in this regard, we ask you some questions:

According to research by academics such as David Irving and Paul Rassinier, six million people were not murdered during the Holocaust and the gas chambers did not exist. What can you say about that?

It is important to clarify that the statements of David Irving and Paul Rassinier are highly controversial and have been discredited by the vast majority of the academic community. Most historians agree that the Holocaust was a real event and that approximately six million Jews and other minority groups were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators during World War II.

There is a large body of evidence to support this claim, including official documents, eyewitness and survivor testimonies, concentration and extermination camp records, photographs and film. Additionally, there is extensive academic literature supporting the existence of the Holocaust and the magnitude of the atrocities committed by the Nazis

¹¹ All questions and answers were made on March 21, 2023 at 15:30 (-3 UTC) on the following website: <https://chat.openai.com/>.

It is important to note that denying the existence of the Holocaust or minimizing its importance is a form of denialism, and this can have serious consequences. Holocaust denial is considered a crime in some countries, and many international organizations, including the United Nations, have condemned Holocaust denial as a form of antisemitism and a threat to historical memory and human rights.

Now, even if we agree with this answer, it is still important how these applications are programmed and who does it. In our 2021 report, we warned about the lack of mechanisms for accountability (or responsibility), particularly in this sector; and today, when it is so within the reach of users, new questions arise. Already in 2016 Microsoft created the Tay robot, which interacted with Internet users by answering questions looking for information on the Internet. In less than 24 hours of "learning", their responses were racist and xenophobic, so they decided to deactivate it¹². On the contrary, as ChatGPT acknowledges, "I have been programmed to provide unbiased and non-discriminatory answers to the questions put to me. As a language model, my goal is to generate useful and accurate answers based on available knowledge and without bias or discrimination. This means that I have no personal opinion or political leanings, and that I try to provide objective and balanced information to those who ask me questions. But what happens if an AI is programmed in order to promote hate?"

What is the danger of hate speech and artificial intelligence technologies?

Hate speech can be extremely dangerous and damaging to societies. They can foster discrimination, intolerance, violence, and hatred towards vulnerable groups, which can lead to social exclusion, oppression and in extreme cases, acts of violence and genocide.

When combined with artificial intelligence technologies, these discourses can spread at unprecedented speed and scale, potentially amplifying their negative impact on societies. For example, social media platforms can be used to spread hate speech on a massive scale, reaching a much larger audience than would be possible without technology.

Furthermore, artificial intelligence technologies can also be used to create false or manipulated content, such as deepfakes, which can be used to spread misleading or misleading information, and which can be used to promote hate and discrimination.

It is important that companies and governments work together to develop effective policies and tools that can detect and eliminate hate speech online, and that education and constructive dialogue be promoted to foster understanding and respect for diversity."

A first step in this direction was taken by UNESCO when developing its "Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence". It "is intended to serve as a basis for putting AI systems at the service of humanity, people, societies and the environment and ecosystems, as well as to prevent damage. It also aspires to stimulate the use of AI systems for peaceful purposes"¹³. Of course, this will not be reference material for those who wish to promote hate. Therefore, what is left for us to do? GPT Chat has an answer:

What do you think is the responsibility of Internet companies in the dissemination of hate speech?

¹² https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias/2016/03/160325_tecnologia_microsoft_tay_bot_adolescente_inteligencia_artificial_racista_xenofoba_lb

¹³ Available at: https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000380455_spa



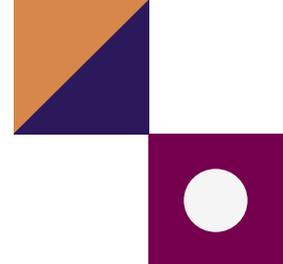
Internet companies have a great responsibility in spreading hate speech on their platforms. As providers of online services, they have the ability to significantly influence what their users see and experience online.

Therefore, it is important that technology companies take responsibility for monitoring and removing hateful and discriminatory content on their platforms. This involves developing clear policies for content moderation, establishing effective tools to detect and remove harmful content, and taking steps to enforce those policies fairly and consistently.

In addition, technology companies should also work to promote education and constructive dialogue online, fostering understanding and respect for diversity and cultural and social differences. This may involve working with diversity experts and community groups to develop campaigns and educational programs that help reduce hate and discrimination online.

In summary, Internet companies have a great responsibility in preventing the spread of hate speech online, and they must take effective measures to address this problem in a proactive and responsible manner.





Combat violence and antisemitism

By Carmen Gloria Aravena, Senator of Chile, Chair of the Chile-Israel Friendship Group of the Senate

Although in the 21st century much progress has been made in generating a civilizing culture that allows us, as a society, to be able to live in peace, respecting others despite the differences that exist, violence is an inherent trait of man, an issue that must permanently remind us of the importance of promoting policies and actions against hate speech and discrimination against certain groups in any of its expressions.

This is what has been happening in Chile with special recurrence since the outbreak of 2019, where violence was validated by some sectors as a tool for political expression, which caused, as a natural consequence, an increase in polarization as well as attacks and aggressions motivated by different reasons.

One of the longest-standing expressions of hate in the world (2,300 years old) is antisemitism, understanding by this "hostility or prejudice towards Jews, their culture and their influence." A reality that is also lived in Chile on a regular basis from time to time, coming from different sectors, organizations, and personalities, who often, disguising their arguments, attack those who are Jews without any foundation.

This situation is disturbing, both because the Jewish community in Chile is one of the most important in our country and because it makes a significant contribution to our territory from different areas. In addition, this hatred that minority groups, but very violent, profess against the Jews, is based on ignorance, prejudice, and preconceived and mistaken ideas that are often used by different groups to justify conspiracy theories that have nothing to do with Jews.

Dismantling these hate speeches is fundamental, because if it is not done, behaviors are naturalized that can later end in events as serious as what happened in the Holocaust, the most horrifying crime humanity has ever known, or other more recent ones such as the attack on the AMIA in Argentina, an attack that occurred in 1994, which left a significant number of people dead and injured.

In fact, as president of the Chile-Israel Friendship Group of the Senate, I participated last year in the Second Latin American Forum to Combat against Antisemitism to commemorate the 28th anniversary of that tragic episode in Buenos Aires, an opportunity in which a regional pact was launched against discrimination and antisemitism, in order to generate strategic articulation mechanisms to face this problem.

From our approaches with the Jewish community and the Israeli embassy, especially in recent years, we have committed a bill that modifies various legal bodies to explicitly incorporate antisemitism in a discriminatory category contrary to human rights in Chile. This project was presented on March 20 in the Senate, and we hope to have transversal support in Congress, considering that the Chile-Israel friendship groups have a significant number of members.

It is essential that in Chile measures are also promoted to confront any manifestation of hatred against the Jewish people that are framed within an agenda that combats violence in any of its forms, because ultimately antisemitism is not against the Jews but against us. Humanity will never achieve peace if it is not capable of respecting and valuing our differences.

Today, Israel is advancing in very different ways to achieve peace, and one of them is the Abrahamic agreements. The Middle East today has sufficient reasons to celebrate that little by little cooperation alliances are being formed that will undoubtedly bring progress and development to those who participate, but above all they are a demonstration of openness and greatness that should be an example for other nations.

Chile should not import conflicts. All the contrary: it must build bridges of friendship and dialogue and unrestrictedly defend human rights. Therefore, there can be no room for discrimination or attacks for belonging to an ethnic group, professing a religion, or adhering to certain ideas and currents of thought, because these violate the democratic system and the fundamental rights of people. We must work across the board to eradicate any practice or conduct that promotes antisemitism or any other manifestation of hate.



Towards a region without hate speech

By Fernando Lottenberg, Commissioner for Monitoring and Combating Antisemitism for the OAS

Management theorist Peter Drucker is credited with the phrase “if you can't measure it, you can't manage it”. There are variations of that text that often also appears as “if you can't measure it, you can't improve it”.

Regardless of the original text, its meaning refers to the fact that it is not possible to know if a certain action –or policy– is succeeding if we do not have indicators that can measure trends and indicate whether we are closer to the desired results.

Once again, the Latin American Jewish Congress, through its Web Observatory, brings us quantitative indicators of the situation of antisemitism and hate speech on social networks in Latin America.

This is a relevant initiative that has greatly contributed to an updated and detailed vision of the phenomenon with scientific methodology. I believe that one of our main tasks today, as people and institutions involved in combating discrimination, is to find alternatives to confront hate on the Internet. The debate on hate speech and its content and regulation has taken new contours with changes in the media. And if regulation in traditional media was already controversial, it surely reached a new dimension in the dynamics of online communication.

The year 2022 marked the return to face-to-face activities, after the period of the Covid-19 pandemic. This situation certainly had an impact on the topics analyzed by the reports, since the virtual environment is no longer exclusive to the manifestations of individuals, groups, and associations.

From our position in the Organization of American States (OAS) as the first Commissioner for Monitoring and Combating Antisemitism, we were able to accompany the various initiatives that were taken in our continent to confront the growth of hate speech.

We had meetings with representatives of the platforms, either in private meetings or in public sessions –such as the one held in the United States Congress– by the Interparliamentary Task Force to Combat Online Antisemitism, demanding action by those responsible.

We debate measures and write articles with suggestions of initiatives that can be adopted, both in the field of self-regulation and in that of public regulation, to decisively address this issue.

We highlight the adherence, this year, of Guatemala and Colombia to the group of countries that adopted the practical definition of antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), joining Argentina and Uruguay, which constituted an important step to combat discrimination in our region, including the digital world.

We believe that, although the figures continue to indicate reasons for concern, the sum of the initiatives taken by different sectors throughout Latin America –from governments, international organizations, civil society, and Jewish communities– can contribute decisively to confronting antisemitism in our region.





Methodological section

In preparing this report, information was obtained considering the language and its relevance. Regarding the former, all the material is in Spanish, except for the analysis of comments made in digital media of Brazil. With respect to relevance, we used keywords related to Judaism and Israel. They were obtained from the tool Google Trends, with the requirement that they have a high search volume and are not adjectivized. (e.g., Israel, Jewish, Holocaust, Zionism).

Google and YouTube: The analyzed content refers to the main search results for the "key" words.

Twitter: Contents in Twitter were collected through the social listening platform that compiles content in real time. To shape the categories analyzed in this report, the platform relies on sentimentalization algorithms and artificial intelligence, along with semantic analysis. This tool is complemented by the interpretation work of our analysts. The geolocation is carried out based on the declaration of the users; It is considered that approximately 50% of the content collected has geolocation.

Facebook: Through the social listening platform, posts containing keywords on the Facebook pages of the main digital media in each country were analyzed. The analyzed pages are: Clarín, La Nación, Infobae, Emol, La Tercera, BioBio, El Tiempo, Las 2 orillas, Pulzo, El Mundo, El País, La Vanguardia, El Observador, El País UY, Portal Montevideo.

Comments in digital media: The following countries were deliberately selected: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama, and Uruguay.

The monitored newspapers are the following: Biobio Chile, Clarín, CRHOY, Diario Extra, El Observador, El País, El tiempo, Emol, Folha Sao Pablo, G1, La estrella de Panamá, La Nación, La Tercera, Las 2 Orillas, Metropoles, Montevideo Portal, Prensa, Subrayado. They were selected based on their relevance according to the ranking of the most visited news sites by Alexa. A sample of the comments of the publications where the same keywords were found was analyzed. It should be noted that the newspapers La Tercera, El País and El Observador have restricted comments, currently being only for subscribers of said media.

Construction of categories and definitions:

- The definition of antisemitism was based on the definition developed by the IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance): "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities".
- The category "positive" refers to content that highlights the image of Israel, the Jewish communities, religious traditions, the repudiation of antisemitic acts, the demands for justice for attacks and the memory of the Holocaust.
- "Negative" is understood to mean content that legitimately criticizes Israel and criticism of Jewish community entities.

This report was written by Ariel Seidler and Ariel Grosman.

About the Web Observatory

The Web Observatory is a joint initiative of the Congreso Judío Latinoamericano (CJL), the Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas (DAIA) and the Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) that since 2010 has been working against discrimination on the Internet and for a responsible use of technologies. Its mission is to educate on the responsible use of technologies and develop effective strategies to combat online discrimination. We work from a multidisciplinary approach, together with governments, companies linked to the Internet and other NGOs monitoring the web. It prepares the annual report on anti-Semitism on the Internet, and on online discrimination against different groups.





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