



Ressort: Politik

OSCE/ODIHR Director condemned attack on Pittsburgh

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OSCE/ODIHR Director condemned attack on Pittsburgh synagogue and called on leaders to speak against anti-Semitism, all forms of intolerance, discrimination. Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), joined United States and international leaders in condemning Saturday's attack on a Pittsburgh synagogue and offering condolences to the families

of 11 people killed in the shooting.

Gísladóttir openly attacked all manifestations of anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance, while calling for greater efforts to ensure inclusion and security for members of all communities.

"Saturday's deadly attack is a tragic reminder that the scourge of anti-Semitism persists in the OSCE region, sometimes with deadly consequences," the ODIHR Director declares. All OSCE participating States have committed to taking firm action to address anti-Semitism and hate crime, and ODIHR Director appreciated the fact that the authorities in the United States have brought hate crime charges against the suspect.

She stressed that political leaders in the United States and across the OSCE region have to deliver the clear message that hate crimes and racism are unacceptable.

"This terrible crime underlines that all leaders have a responsibility not just to refrain from, but to actively counter racist and nationalistic rhetoric that appears to have played a role in this case," Gísladóttir said.

"They have a responsibility to counter anti-Semitic, racist and xenophobic discourse with messages of respect, tolerance and inclusion."

Media reports describe the suspect in the attack, which also left six others wounded, as having a history of anti-Semitic and racist social media posts.

The attack comes three days after the brutal murder of and suspected hate crime against two black shoppers in a supermarket in Kentucky by a white man who had attempted to enter a predominately black church before entering the supermarket.

The ODIHR Director also reminded governments across the OSCE region of their responsibility to take all appropriate measures to meet the security needs of all communities targeted by hate crime and discrimination.

"Governments have to assess the security needs of targeted communities and take all necessary steps to prevent such horrible crimes from happening," she said.

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