The Antisemitism Measurement Project: Integration through Collaboration

Panel at the 6th Global Forum
For Combating Antisemitism

21 March 2018
Nisan 5778

UNITING
TO STOP
HATE

The 6th Global Forum for
Combating Antisemitism

Charles Asher Small
Executive Director, ISGAP

- **Introduction**

ISGAP| INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY
OF GLOBAL ANTISEMITISM
AND POLICY

Steven Popper

Senior Fellow, Jewish People Policy Institute

Abstract. What is required for an effective approach to understanding and confronting modern antisemitism? This talk presents some of the problems we currently face, particularly the disjointedness between knowledge gathering and policy needs. It outlines a five-task enterprise for achieving better collaboration, more effective use of existing knowledge, wider engagement, closer collaboration in determining and gathering what further data are needed, and placing the knowledge creation effort more firmly in synchrony with the needs of communities and policy makers.

JPPI

The Jewish People Policy Institute

Toward a *Comprehensive* Approach for Assessing Antisemitism:

Roadmap for Action

Steven W. Popper
Jewish People Policy Institute
6th Global Forum for Combatting Antisemitism
Jerusalem
5 Nisan 5778
21 March 2018

"*If antisemitism is now a serious problem, then it deserves to be taken seriously*"

- Despite substantial and valuable measurement effort by many, we lack:
  - Consistent terminology and taxonomy
  - Policy-oriented approach to information gathering
  - Comprehensive participation by communities at risk
  - Sufficient means to aggregate, organize and disseminate work being performed
  - Unifying map to assess what we know and what we don't

# Greater Emphasis on Collaboration Could Address these Shortcomings

Such emphasis would bring more focus on:

- Means for amplifying the results from each effort

- Disseminating findings more widely

- Providing a template for new entry and expansion

- Enhancing the ability to assess and resist modern antisemitism

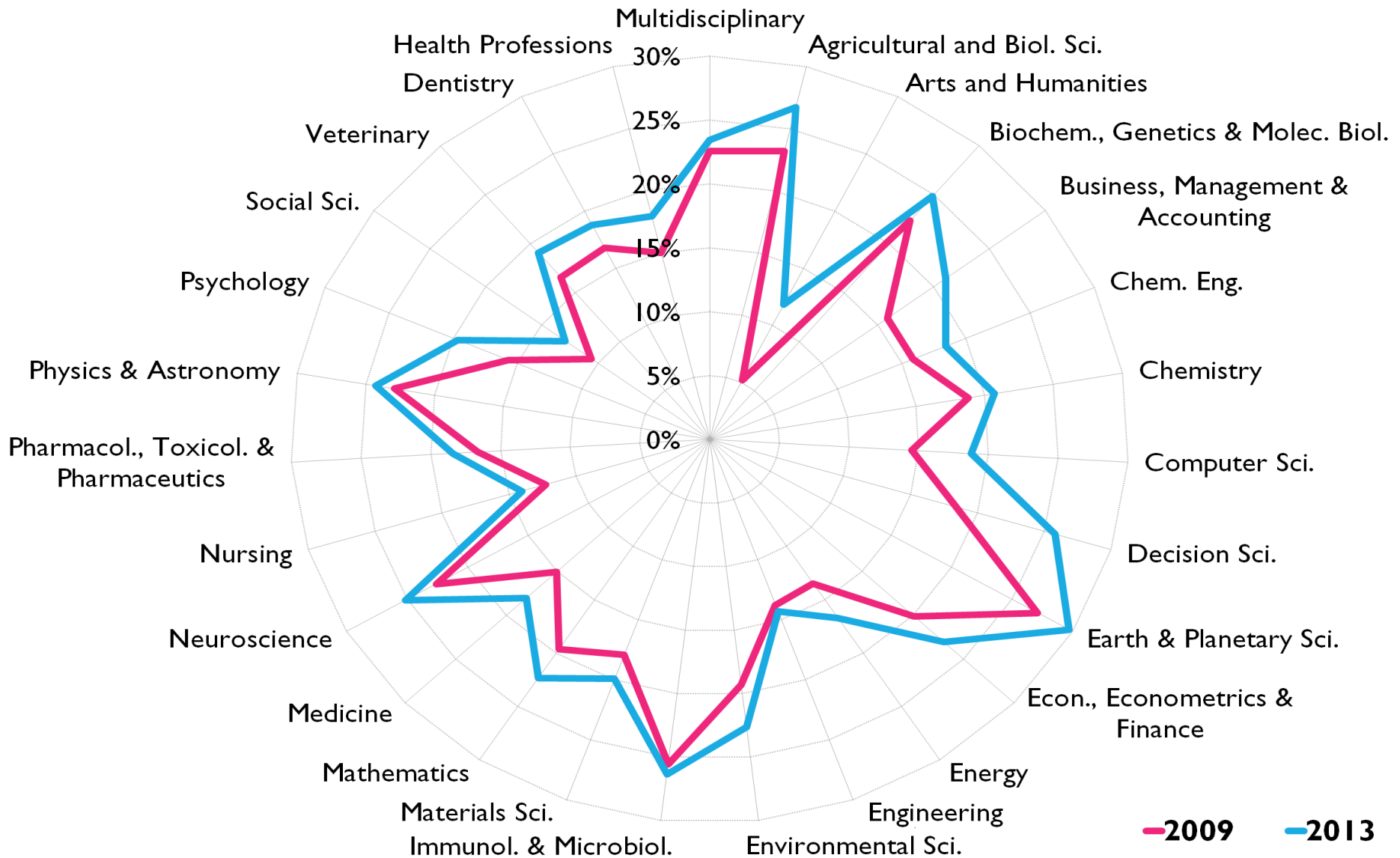This would reflect similar trends in other fields…

International Collaboration is a Hallmark of Modern Research...

Increase in the proportion of the world's papers produced with more than one international author, 1996–2008.[161]
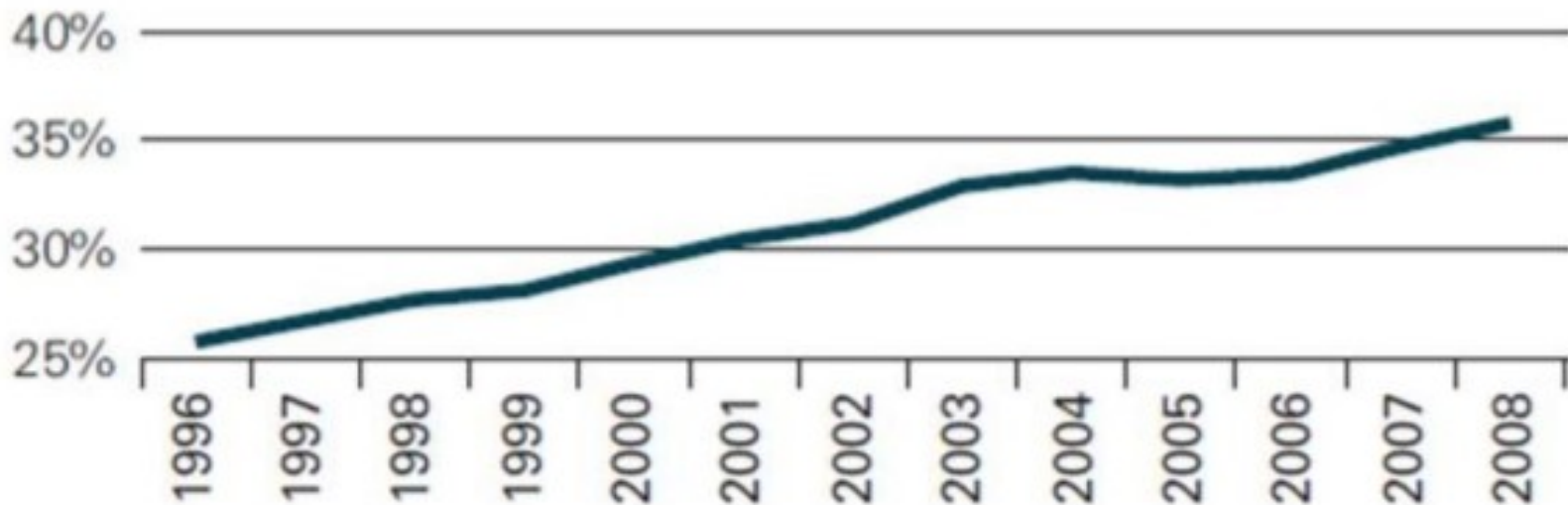
...Across All Fields of Study

Source: Pohl, Warnan & Baas (2014) *Research Trends,* 39, December

Toward this End, We Put Forward Two Initiatives to Stimulate Discussion

1. **Common framework** for comprehensive and integrated knowledge building and sharing
   - Conceptualization
   - Gathering
   - Sharing
   - Assessment

2. Staged efforts toward **greater collaboration**
   - Collaboration may be a goal but it is also a means

Standards are Required Only to the Extent They are Purposeful

- A "unified" approach should
  - Support proliferation and diffusion of effort
  - Not restrict endeavors into a few selected channels
  - Be geared toward inclusion, not exclusion
  - Illuminate for all where more work is required
  - Result from consultation and deliberation

- In each instance, what we recommend is only a first guess at the appropriate approach
  - Many voices need to be heard

We Begin By Starting from the End: What Goals do we Wish to Achieve?

- Physical security of Jews as individuals;
- Physical security of Jewish communities;
- Exercise of individual rights of citizenship (absence of *de jure* or *de facto* restrictions);
- Communicate political beliefs; engage in political activities;
- Establish and maintain Jewish communal institutions;
- Engage freely in legal economic activities;
- Engage in Jewish religious rites and practices.

From These We Derive Four Subjects of Desirable Knowledge

From These We Derive Four Subjects of Desirable Knowledge

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK
1. Antisemitic Attitudes

From These We Derive Four Subjects of Desirable Knowledge

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK
1. Antisemitic Attitudes
2. Antisemitic Acts

From These We Derive Four Subjects of Desirable Knowledge

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK
1. Antisemitic Attitudes
2. Antisemitic Acts
3. Effects on Jewish Communities

From These We Derive Four Subjects of Desirable Knowledge

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK
1. Antisemitic Attitudes
2. Antisemitic Acts
3. Effects on Jewish Communities
4. Jewish Community Attitudes and Affect

We Can Add Categories Within Each Group

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK
1. Antisemitic Attitudes
2. Antisemitic Acts   **Expression**   **Vandalism**   **Physical contact with persons**   **Political**
3. Effects on Jewish Communities
4. Jewish Community Attitudes and Affect

…and Sub-Categories: Each a Potential Heading for Categorizing Information

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK		
1. Antisemitic Attitudes		
2. Antisemitic Acts		
	Expression	
		Local target audience
		Narrow-focused audience
		Broad target audience
	Vandalism	
		Graffiti in a public place
		Graffiti on a Jewish property
		Damage to a Jewish property
		Destruction of Jewish property
	Physical contact with persons	
		Physical harassment
		Physical injury
		Murder
	Political	
		Political demonstrations
		Exclusionary practices and policies
3. Effects on Jewish Communities		
4. Jewish Community Attitudes and Affect		

1. The basic "unit" is designed to be one specific measure or piece of data;

2. Every row becomes a header for listing specific data items;

3. Different measures or proxies of the same concept from different working groups would be listed;

4. The design allows for tracking different levels of aggregation;

5. This is just a model or template for a more advanced data structure.

Each Measure Appearing in a Row Under Its Heading May be Further Described

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK	Measures	Publication	Definition	How derived?	Regularity of appearance	Localities covered
1. Antisemitic Attitudes						
2. Antisemitic Acts						
Expression						
Local target audience						
Narrow-focused audience						
Broad target audience						
Vandalism						
Graffiti in a public place						
Graffiti on a Jewish property						
Damage to a Jewish property						
Arson						
Physical contact with persons						
Physical harassment						
Physical injury						
Murder						
Political						
Political demonstrations						
Exclusionary practices and policies						
3. Effects on Jewish Communities						
4. Jewish Community Attitudes and Affect						

…these columns can be added to include all desired characteristics and meta-data for each row (specific data or measure)

We Can Describe What We Know Based upon What We *Need* to Know

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK				Measures	Publication	Definition	How derived?	Regularity of appearance	Localities covered
1. Antisemitic Attitudes									
	General sentiment								
	Specific ideas about Jews								
	Characteristics of respondents:								
2. Antisemitic Acts									
Expression									
	Local target audience								
	Narrow-focused audience								
	Broad target audience								
Vandalism									
		Graffiti in a public place							
		Graffiti on a Jewish property							
		Damage to a Jewish property							
		Arson							
Physical contact with persons									
		Physical harassment							
		Physical injury							
		Murder							
Political									
		Political demonstrations							
		Exclusionary practices and policies							
3. Effects on Jewish Communities									
Direct and indirect	**Behavioral effect of intimidation and exclusions**								
	Property damage								
	Indirect economic effect / loss of opportunity								
	Cost of physical injury								
	Indirect costs of health consequences								
	Deaths								
Reactions	**Reports to civil authorities**								
	Direct countering actions								
	Political and legislative initiatives								
4. Jewish Community Attitudes and Affect									
	Perception of manifestations of anti-Semitism								
	Sense of safety and security								
	Effect on 2nd & 3rd gen. Shoah survivors								
	Experience of violence against Jews								
	Experiences of discrimination								
	Rights awareness								
	Comfort with Jewish identification								
	Happiness and sense of personal efficacy								

As diverse efforts and results are mapped we can see:
- What data are available to us
- Where there may be holes

Greater Collaboration May Be Possible Across Five Areas

1. Framing and conceptualization
   - Taxonomies – especially across countries
   - Perspectives – what views enhance understanding
   - Dynamics – what is the relation between concepts
2. Measurement design
3. Data collection protocols and data base design
4. Acquiring and assessing new data
5. Build a community of practice

Where to Begin? Three Initial Tasks…

1. **Consultative process defines initial measures**
   - Drafts, workshops, briefings, colloquia
   - Collect diverse input and reactions

2. **Test framework against available data**
   - Populate emerging framework to assess value
   - How well does it cover and what may it suggest

3. **Select indicators and recommend applications**
   - Begin to assemble policy-oriented "dashboard" for community use

Our Work Was not Conceived as the Last Word

- On the contrary, we hope only to create a spark, a beginning
- Have worked to be both provocative and constructive
- This can only be the work of many hands
  - We envision a process of true collaboration
  - To a degree that the collaborators feel comfort and receive value added

MAIN ELEMENTS OF MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK	Measures	Publication	Definition	How derived?	Regularity of appearance	Localities covered
1. Antisemitic Attitudes						
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Rights awareness						
Comfort with Jewish identification						
Happiness and sense of personal efficacy						

Dan A. Shalmon

Cline Center for Advanced Social Research
University of Illinois

Abstract. This presentation provides an overview of the motivating logic and conceptual framing of a wide-spread scientific effort to aggregate, innovate and leverage data about antisemitism. It addresses some of practical issues in data gathering, integration, database structure and accessibility.

CLINE CENTER
FOR ADVANCED SOCIAL RESEARCH

TOWARDS EFFECTIVE ANTI-SEMITISM MONITORING:
A Global Data Repository

DAN A. SHALMON
CLINE CENTER FOR ADVANCED SOCIAL RESEARCH

I ILLINOIS

A REPOSITORY FOR ANTI-SEMITISM DATA

Motivation: Make Causal Models, Forecasts and Anti-Semitism-related Policy Analyses **Valid, Rigorous**, and **Accessible**

- Science require requires scientists: build it and they will come
  - How 'normal science' works
  - "Many hands make light work"

- Replicability = credibility
  - Definition: valid analyses are replicable
  - Like third-party audits, addresses claims of bias & demonstrates consensus
  - Required for most high-end social science journals

- Accessibility = innovation for scientists and communities
  - Think: crowd-sourcing

- Comparison enables standard-setting
  - Building good data and measures is hard—everyone needs 'lessons learned'

Payoff: Rigorous Inquiry = Useful Knowledge

- Knowledge is useful when it enables us to:
  - Target interventions more effectively
  - Predict changes in risk
  - Engage public controversies with facts
- To do this we need to:
  - Describe specific causes and effects
  - Identify points of leverage and change
  - Build models seeking:
    - Predictive accuracy
    - Domain agnosticity/portability
    - Interpretability/comprehensibility
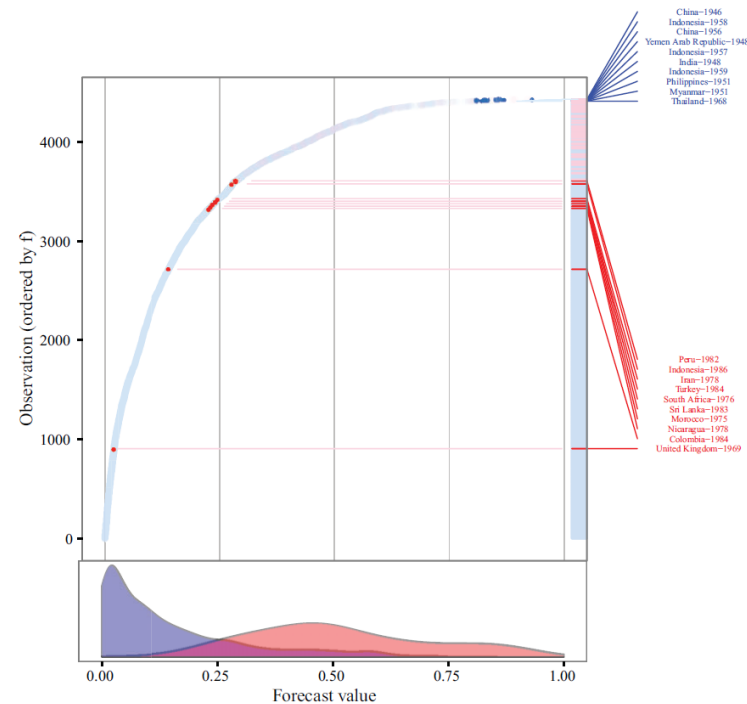
Civil war prediction model criticism plot c/o
Colaresi & Mahmood

Lots of "Testable Propositions" at the GFCA

- "It starts with Jews, but it never ends with them" – Charles (et al.)
  - Hypothesis: discrimination against other groups and international aggression are correlated with anti-Semitic values/behavior/institutions
- "I'm not so concerned about [some faction X], because [some other faction Y] is now greatest risk to Jewish communities" – Many speakers
  - Hypothesis: Faction X has less of an impact on Jewish life than Y
- "Online anti-Semitism is a breeding ground for radicalization that spills into the real world" – Yogev
  - Hypothesis: areas producing, and people producing or exposed to online anti-Semitism will experience more real-life acts of anti-Semitism
- "Anti-Semitism increases during economic crises and austerity, when elites and global/regional systems are blamed" - Sergio
  - Hypothesis: regions exposed to prolonged economic stress and where populist/anti-globalization politics are prominent will feature more anti-Semitism
- "What is born of cats, eats mice." – My mom
  - Areas with long histories of anti-Semitism will continue to be hotspots for anti-Semitism

Accessible Data = Science with Impact: Gender

[Womanstats Project](http://womanstats.org/)

- Open data
- Collaborative structure with many contributors
- Assessments of data quality
- Qualitative and Quantitative data
- 170-plus indicators

Physical Security of Women
Scaled 2014

- Women are physically secure
- Women have fairly high levels of physical security
- Women have moderate levels of physical security
- Women have low levels of physical security
- Women lack physical security
- No Data

WomanSTATS PROJECT
MULTIVAR-SCALE-1
Data © The WomanStats Project
http://womanstats.org/

Mapped by HBLL@BYU
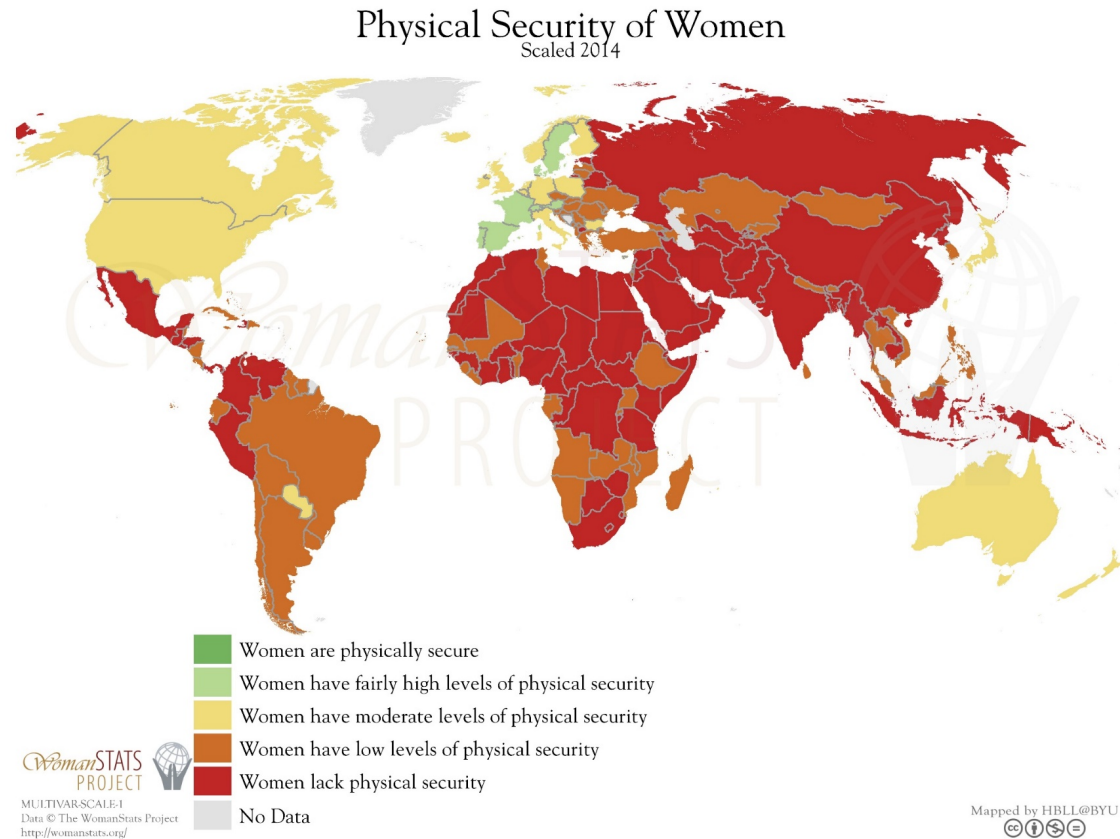
Accessible Data = Science with Impact: Gender

Impact:

- 100 articles on Google Scholar, 120,000 Google hits

- Publications: International Security, International Studies Quarterly, Peace and Conflict, Journal of Peace Research, Political Psychology, Cumberland Law Review, and World Political Review, book from Columbia University Press.

- Policy attention: DOD, CIA, United Nations, World Bank, US Senate (crafting legislation)

Discrepant Government Behavior Concerning Women
Scaled 2015
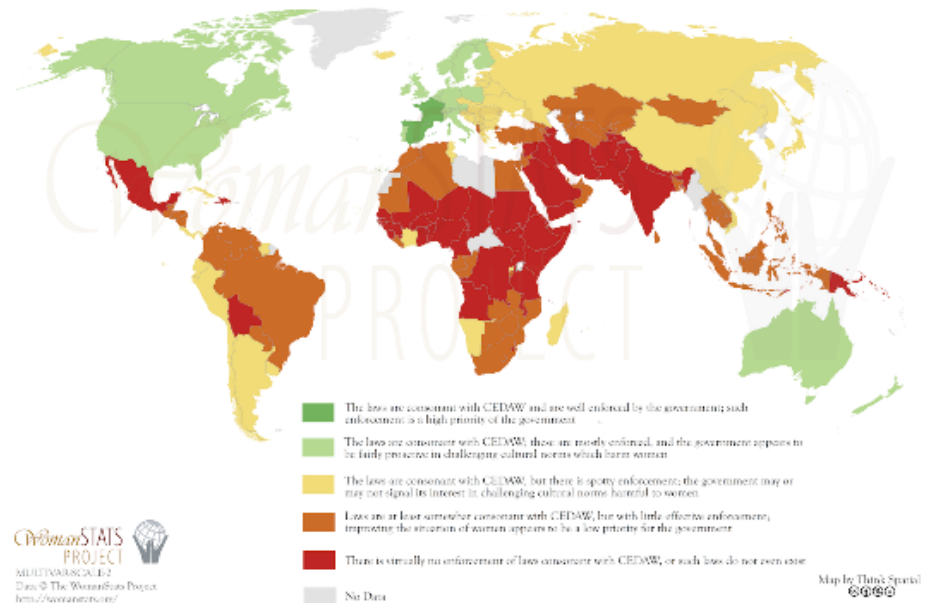
Accessible Data = Science with Impact: Gender

Catalyzes investments by others:

* "one of the most significant challenges of cross-national empirical studies of the prevalence of interpersonal violence is the paucity of available data... Our findings suggest that, in the same way that larger disciplinary resources have invested in interstate and intrastate war, disciplinary resources need to be expended in creating a data set exploring interpersonal violence. Until the rights and the lives of women and children are taken as seriously as the survival of states by more proactively collaborating on projects like WomanStats, we will continue to only have a small lens through which to understand problems like this..."
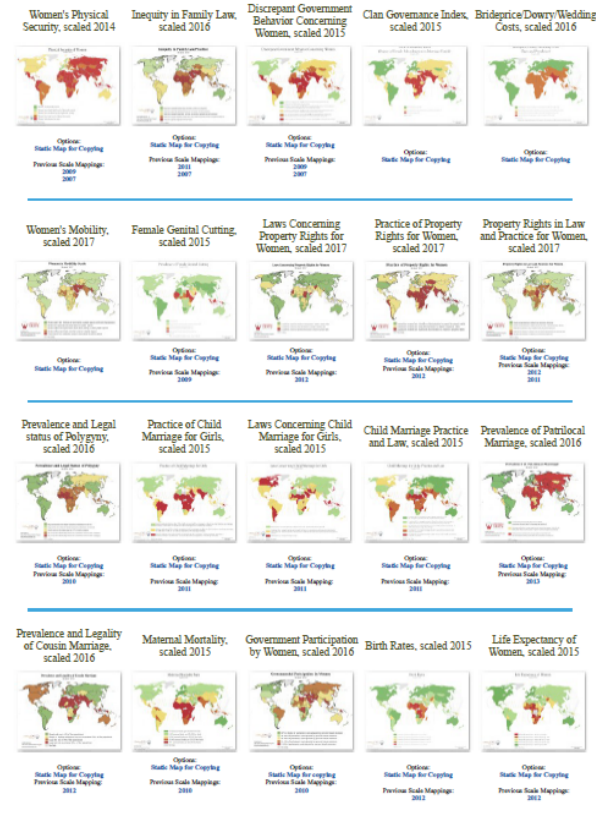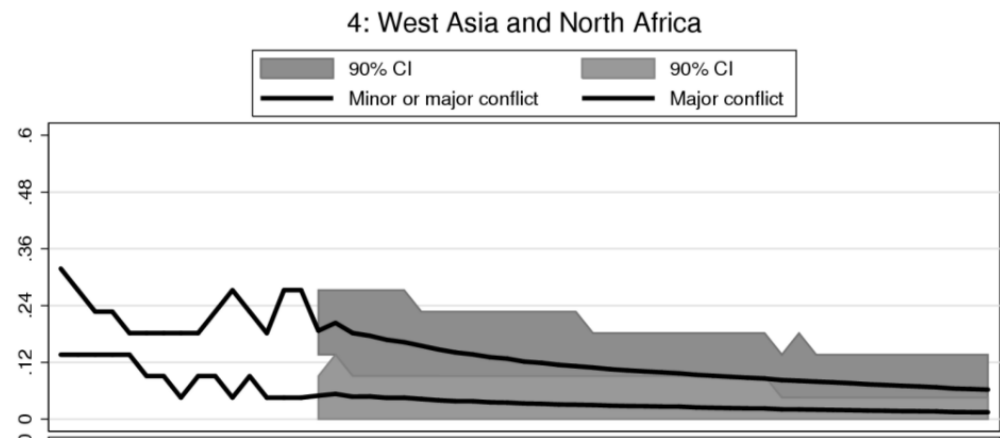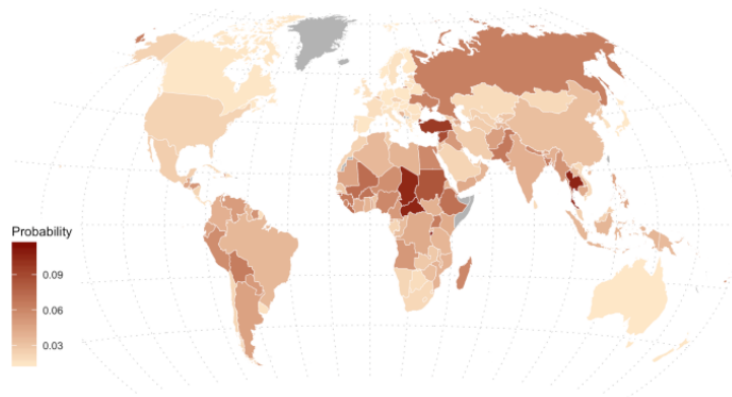
Accessible Data = Science With Impact: Ethnicity and Conflict

Large research communities and national government interest are powerful:

- Open data and tools catalyze research (lots of it)
- Initial findings catalyze support from research funding agencies
- Conventional wisdom shifts

[BOOK] Peoples versus states: **Minorities** at **risk** in the new century
TR Gurr - 2000 - books.google.com
… Political and cultural restrictions on national and **minority** peoples also declined during a shift that was strikingly evident in new democracies … A code book, **Minorities** at **Risk** Users Manual.099, and a data set consisting of 975 variables for each group are …
☆ 🔗 Cited by 1532   Related articles   All 2 versions

Horizontal inequalities and ethnonationalist civil war: A global comparison
LE Cederman, NB Weidmann, KS Gleditsch - American Political Science Review, 2011
Cited by 605   Related articles   All 18 versions

Trends by Armed Conflict Type, 1946-2016
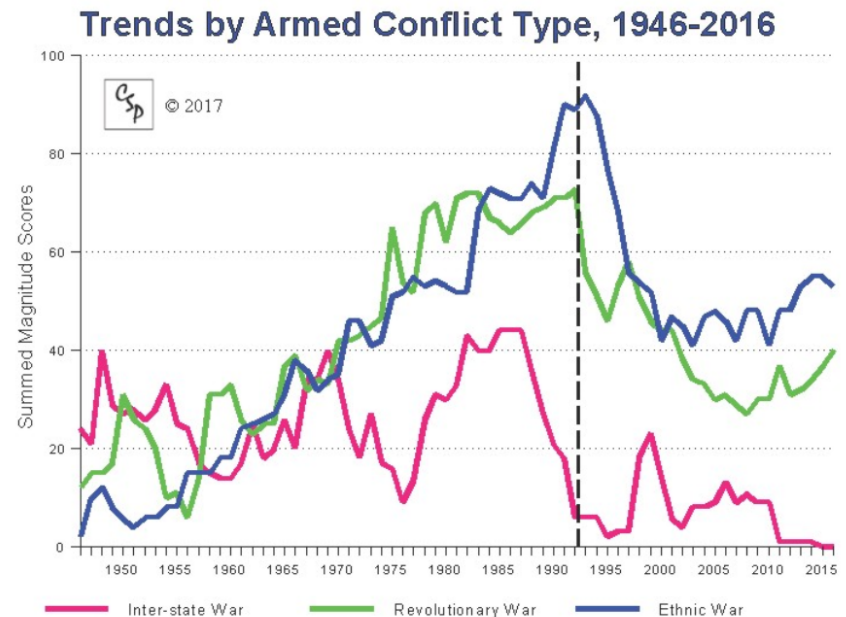
Accessible Data = Science With Impact: Ethnicity, Conflict & Genocide

Large research communities and national government interest are powerful:

- Generates predictive tools and communities.

- Examples:
  - Atrocity prevention c/o Early Warning Project @ Dartmouth
  - Civil war and coup forecasts c/o Duke WardLab
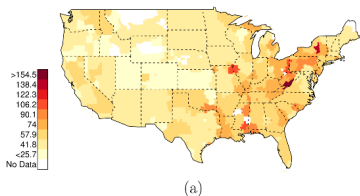 - Conflict forecasts (-2050) c/o Peace Research Institute Oslo

Statistical Risk WorldWide

World ▾

Myanmar	
Syrian Arab Republic	
Sudan	
South Sudan	
Pakistan	
Egypt	

Average — ET — GP — RF
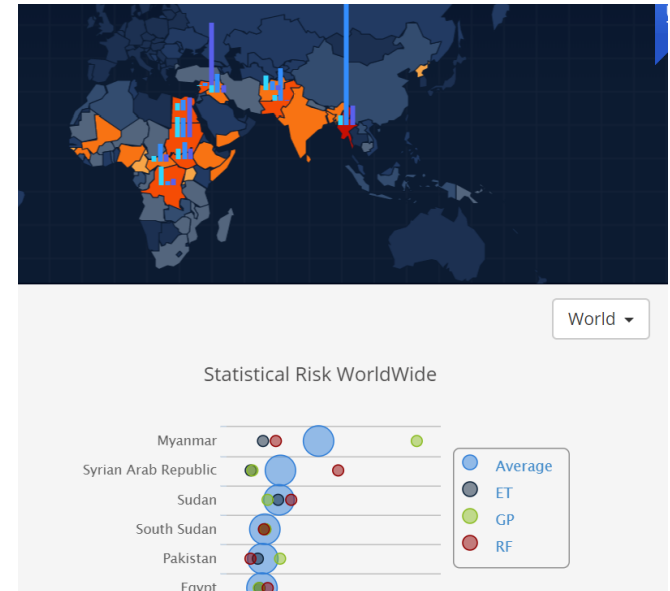
Risk of a coup attempt in 2017

Probability
0.09
0.06
0.03

4: West Asia and North Africa

90% CI   90% CI
Minor or major conflict   Major conflict

Accessible Data = "Reese's Peanut Butter Cups"

Diplomatic parking tickets index corruption ([NBER](#))

Terrorism is distributed along ancient communication and travel networks (80% of variance) [Guo et al.](#)
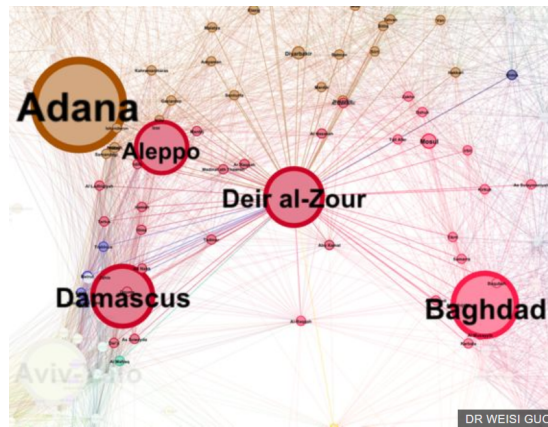
Black death pogroms predict (1349) predict Der Sturmer letters, votes for Nazis and Holocaust deportations. [Voigtländer & Voth](#)
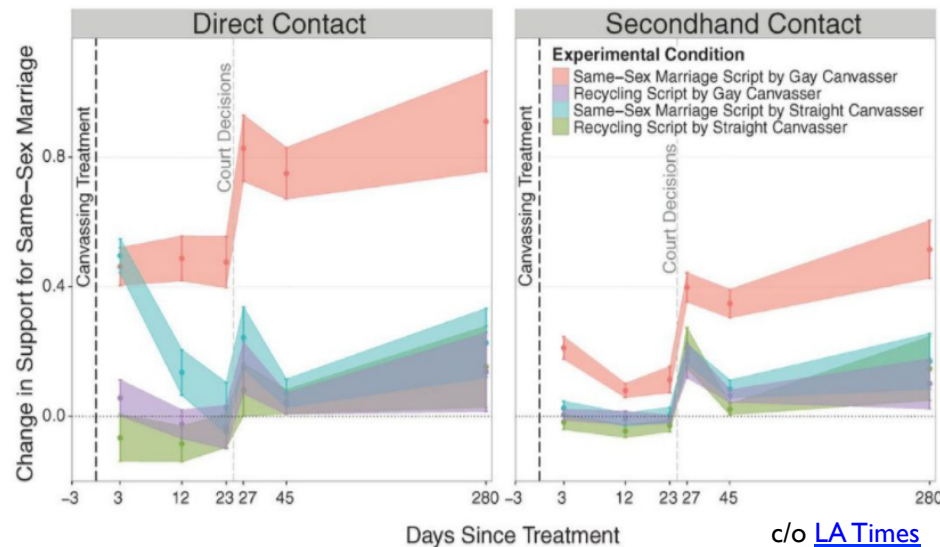
Racist google searches predict opposition to Obama and inequitable police use of force

([Stephens-Davidowitz](#), [Ross](#))
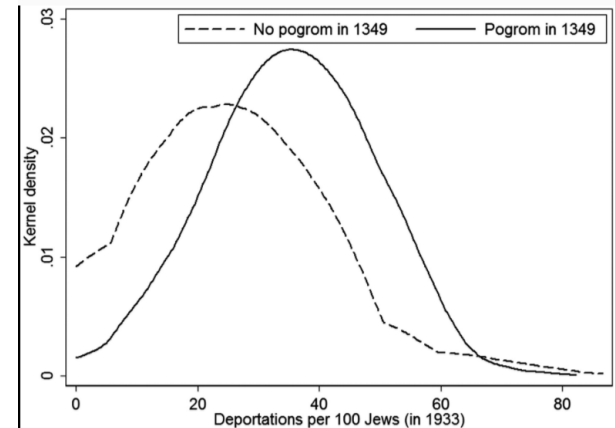
And... "present-day financial development is lower in German counties where historical antisemitism was higher..." [D'Acunto et al.](#)

Accessible Data = Experiments/ Replications

- Requirements for open data enable assessment of experimental interventions
  - See: the "nudge unit" in the UK and US (RIP)
  - And… to root out fakes and mistakes…

Fig. 1 Direct and secondhand effects on support for same-sex marriage, by assigned message and messenger, and time since treatment.

c/o LA Times

'A new way of thinking' Telegraph

INSIDE THE NUDGE UNIT

HOW SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

DAVID HALPERN

Foreword by Richard H Thaler co-author of Nudge
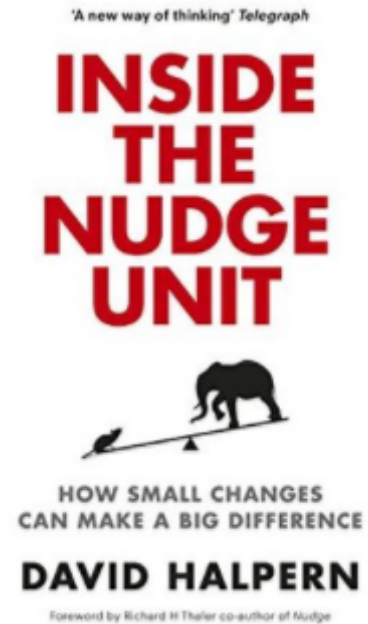
Some Takeaways:

- Existing data sometimes include information about anti-Semitism
- Accessibility is a prerequisite for innovation
- Prediction requires:
  - Many kinds of data
    - 'Slow' and 'fast'
    - Granular and global
    - Behavioral, cognitive, demographic
  - Many attempts, failures and expert reviews
  - Reasonable understanding of causal mechanisms
- Open data is **not optional** in many cases

Status Quo Ante of Anti-Semitism Data

- Lots of collection, little uptake outside of producers' own reports
- Many examples of hypotheses and 'folk wisdom, on etiology, less science
- Little uniformity or cross-national validation/collaboration
- No access—arbitrary examples:
  - EU Fundamental Rights Agency: collects data from all 28 member states, OSCE, UN, etc. Doesn't publish it, but report has charts.
  - Kantor Center: publishes reports, and has a search tool—but no datasets for statistical analysis

Kantor Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry
Home > Antisemitism and Racism > Moshe Kantor Antisemitism Database

▣ Moshe Kantor Database on Antisemitism and Racism

Tel-Aviv University
Moshe Kantor Database on Antisemitism and Racism

Search

Accessibility and Data Quality

- Building good data is hard
- Key criteria for 'good data'
  - Valid—does it measure what [someone] thinks it does
  - Reliable—test by replication/ repetition
  - Accurate and complete—error and bias are understood
  - Effectively documented— codebooks, collection details, etc.
- 'Peer review'/wisdom of the crowd: many hands make light work

Weekly count of protest events in Venezuela
Event data from GDELT, Global Data on Events Language and Tone; ICEWS, International Crisis Early Warning System; and GSR, Gold Standard Report (see suppl. materials).
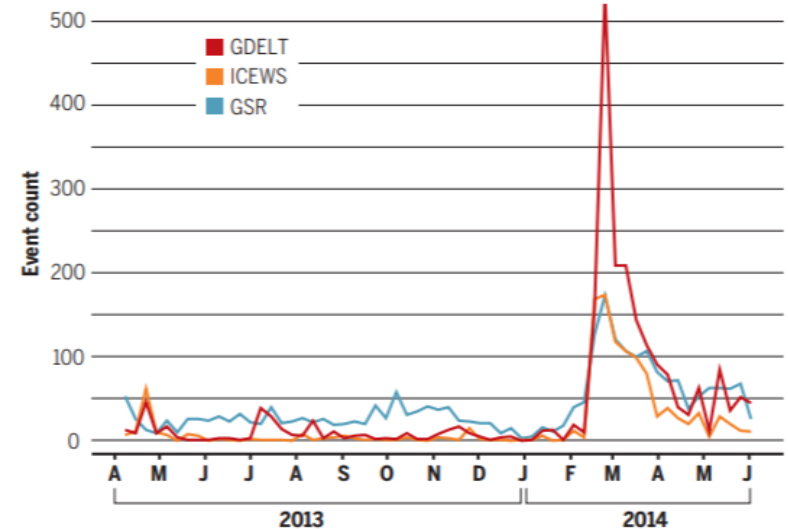
Example c/o Lazer et. al. (*Science*)

All the Cool Kids are Doing It

- ## Data.World & ADL
  - See: if you publish data, people will work with it

Anti-Defamation League
@adl

🌐 http://www.adl.org

Library   Details   **Followers**

1–25 of 716

PROJECTS USING THIS DATASET (2)

Countering Hate
@bobpearson1845 · 2 months ago

Insights from the USA
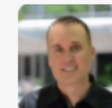@stoltzmaniac · 3 months ago

CONTRIBUTORS (36)

Anti-Defamation League
@adl
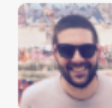
Ian Greenleigh
@ian

Brett Hurt
@databrett

All the Cool Kids are Doing It

- Dataverses: if you publish a lot of data, a lot of people will use it

- Harvard's is big

  ☑ 👤 **Dataverses (2,555)**
  ☑ 📄 **Datasets (75,879)**
  ☐ 📄 Files (373,866)

- It already has some data about Jews…

  jewish

  ☑ 👤 **Dataverses (1)**   1 to 10
  ☑ 📄 **Datasets (391)**
  ☑ 📄 **Files (214)**   Jewis

Sergio DellaPergola

Professor Emeritus, Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Abstract. Are the structure and process being proposed sufficient for the purpose? How can it be better framed to take into account existing effort, present obstacles and future needs?

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

PERCEPTIONS AND EXPERIENCES

Antisemitism in the EU, 2012: Jewish Perceptions and Experiences

Type of event	Percent
Perceives increase in antisemitism, 5 years	76
Identifies given statement as antisemitic	17-80
Often heard given antisemitic statement	3-15
Feels Israeli-Arab conflict impacts own security	40
Considered emigrating from country	29
Witnessed verbal insult/physical attack, 12 months	21
Suffered physical violence attack, 5 years	7
Suffered physical violence, 12 months	4
Feels discriminated in public services	2-8

JEWS, ANTISEMITES, AND OTHERS

World Jewish Population by Civilization Areas - 2013

Civilization area	Jewish population	Total population	Jews %	Total %	Jews per 1000
Total world	13,854,800	7,056,691,800	100.0	100.0	1.963
English speaking	6,216,200	443,248,000	44.9	6.3	14.04
Israel	6,014,300	11,909,800	43.4	0.2	504.99
Catholic Europe	563,600	213,871,000	4.1	3.0	2.645
Protestant Europe	189,300	132,470,000	1.4	1.9	1.43
Latin America	384,900	599,003,000	2.8	8.5	0.64
Ex-Communist	374,600	408,300,000	2.7	5.8	0.92
Sub-Sahara Africa	71,300	858,900,000	0.5	12.2	0.08
Muslim	31,150	1,080,100,000	0.2	15.3	0.03
Confucian Asia	9,450	3,308,890,000	0.1	46.9	0.00

% of Jews in World Countries by Index of Antisemitism 2016

Jews per 1000 population

ADL 2014 percent of antisemitism

Legend:
- Anglos
- Lat Am
- Europe
- FSU
- As-Af

$R^2 = 0.05$
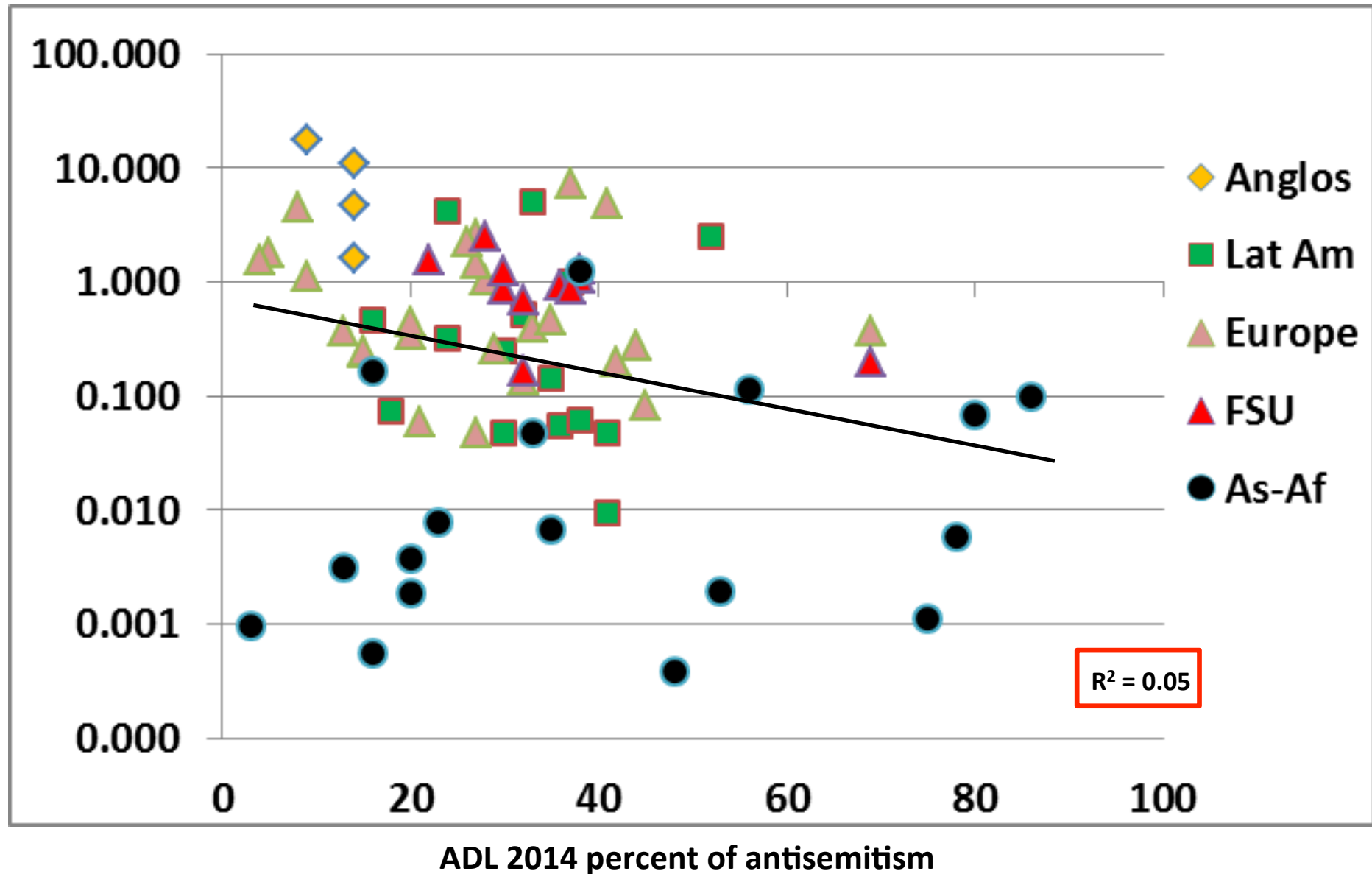
% of Jews in World Countries by Index of Development 2016

Jews per 1000 population

Legend: Israel (diamond), Anglos (square), Latin Am (triangle), Europe (diamond), FSU (triangle), Asia-Afr (circle)

R² = 0.44

HDI
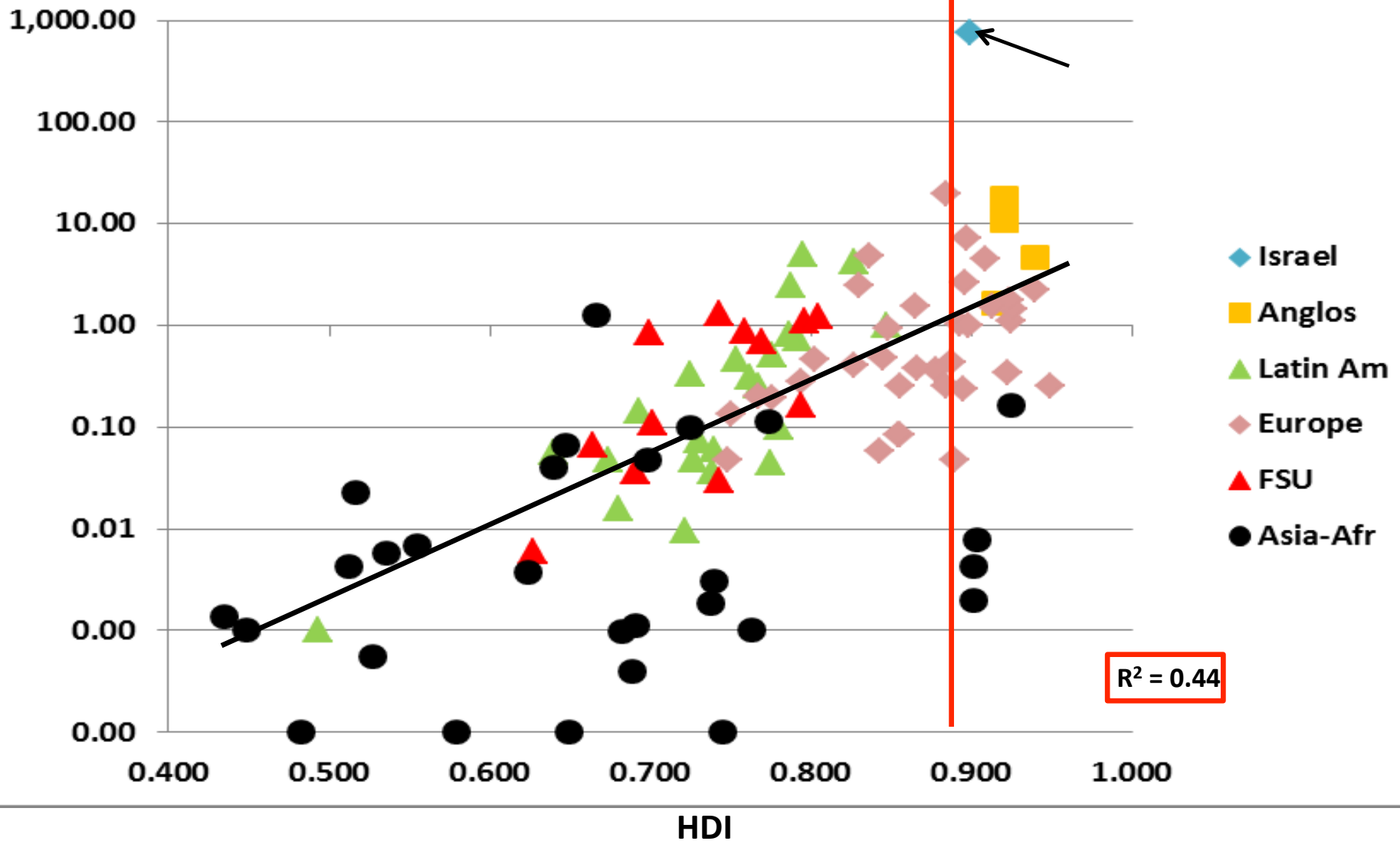
Jewish Diaspora distribution   12%   88%

Comparing countries

- **Antisemitism and world Jewish population** density distribution stand in **reverse** relationship. Antisemitism accounts for only **5%** of total variation in Jewish population distribution.

- **Less** antisemitism is associated with **more** frequent Jewish presence, but the other way around is also true: **More** frequent Jewish presence is associated with **less** antisemitism.

Comparing countries

- **Socio-economic development and Jewish population** density stand in **direct** relationship. Development accounts for **44 %** of total variation in Jewish population distribution.

- **More** development is associated with **more** frequent Jewish presence.

ANTISEMITISM AND JEWISH IDENTITY

Similarity Structure Analysis [SSA]
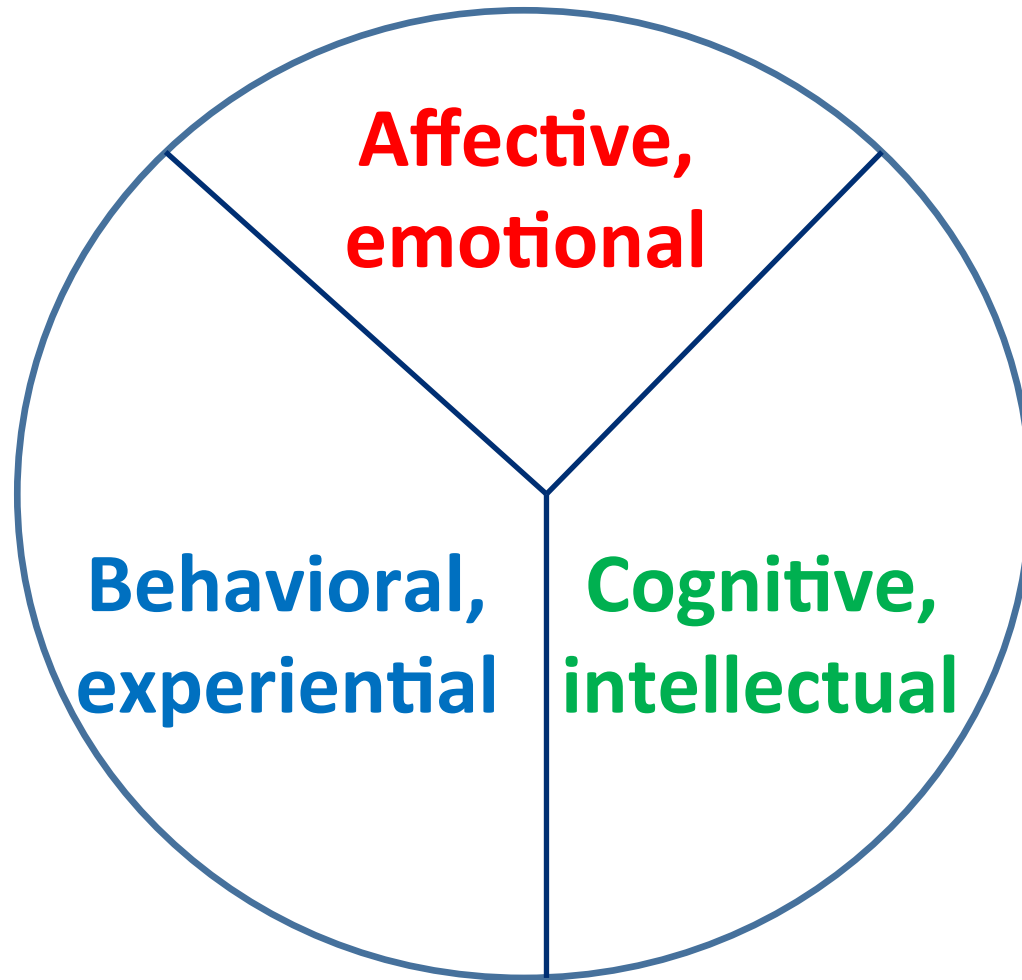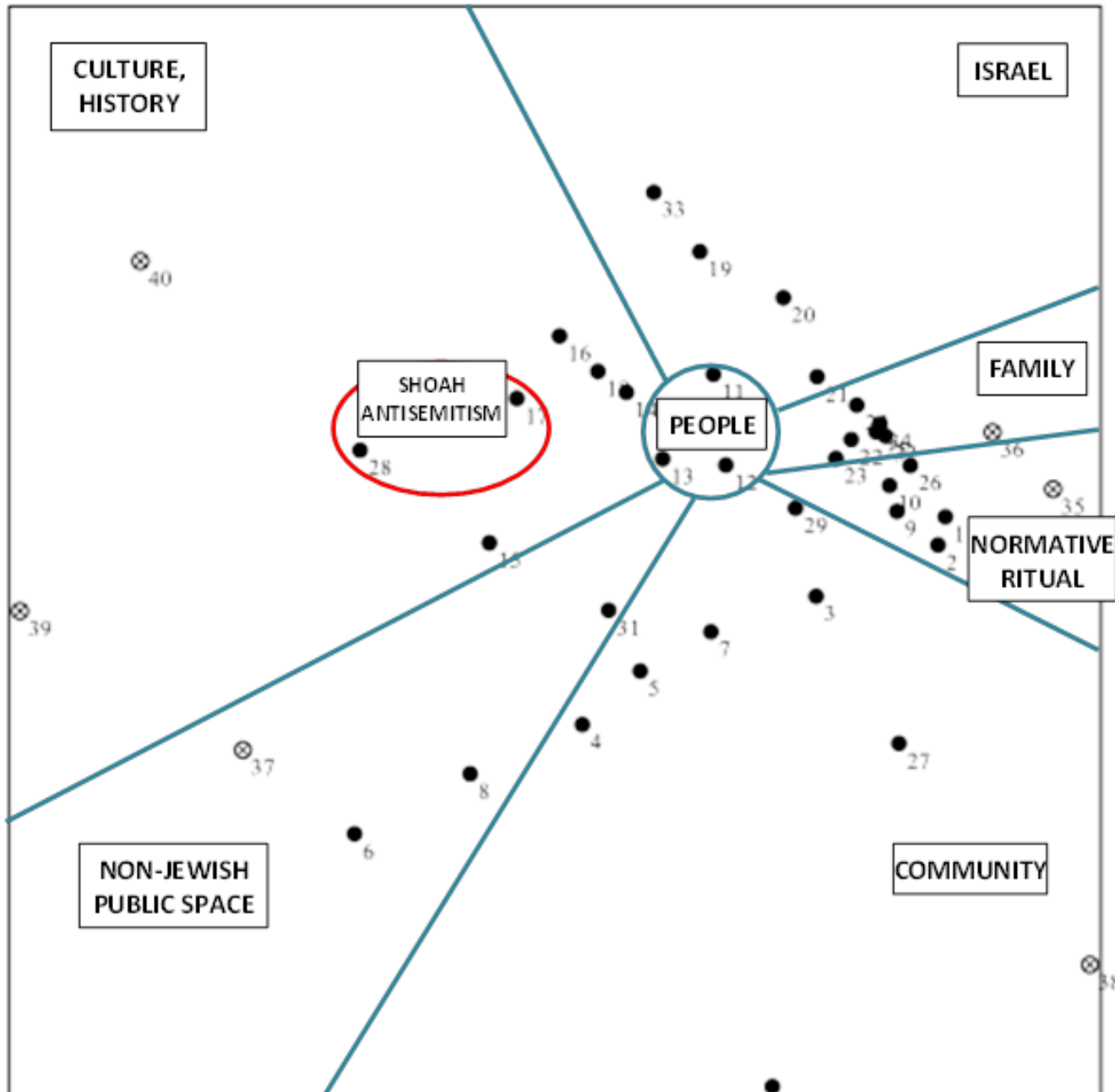
SSA of Jewish Identification in the EU

2012 FRA Survey of Perceptions of Antisemitism among Jews in 8 EU countries
N = 5919

SSA of Jewish Identification in the USA

2013 Pew Survey of Perceptions of Jewish Americans
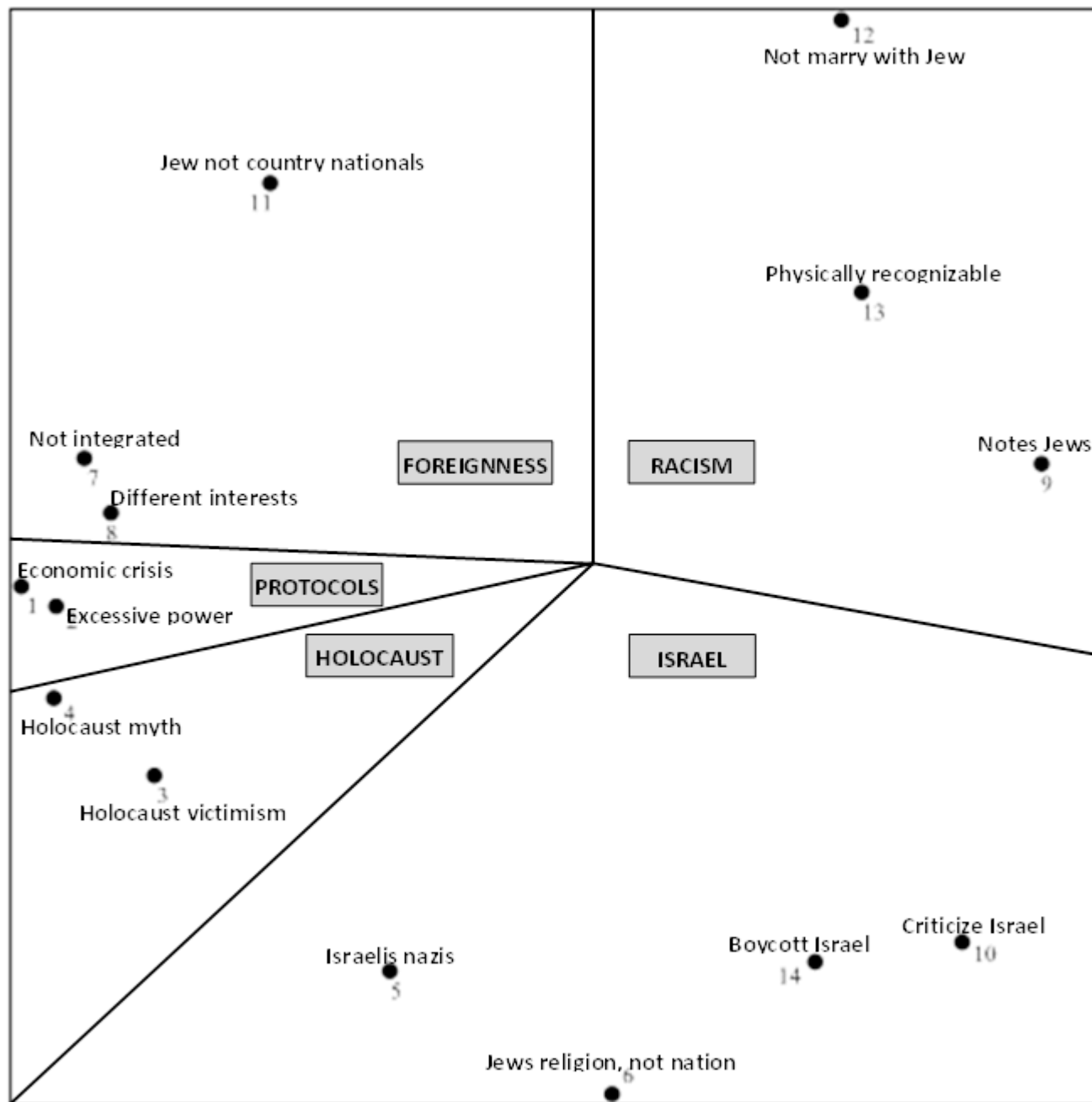N = 3126
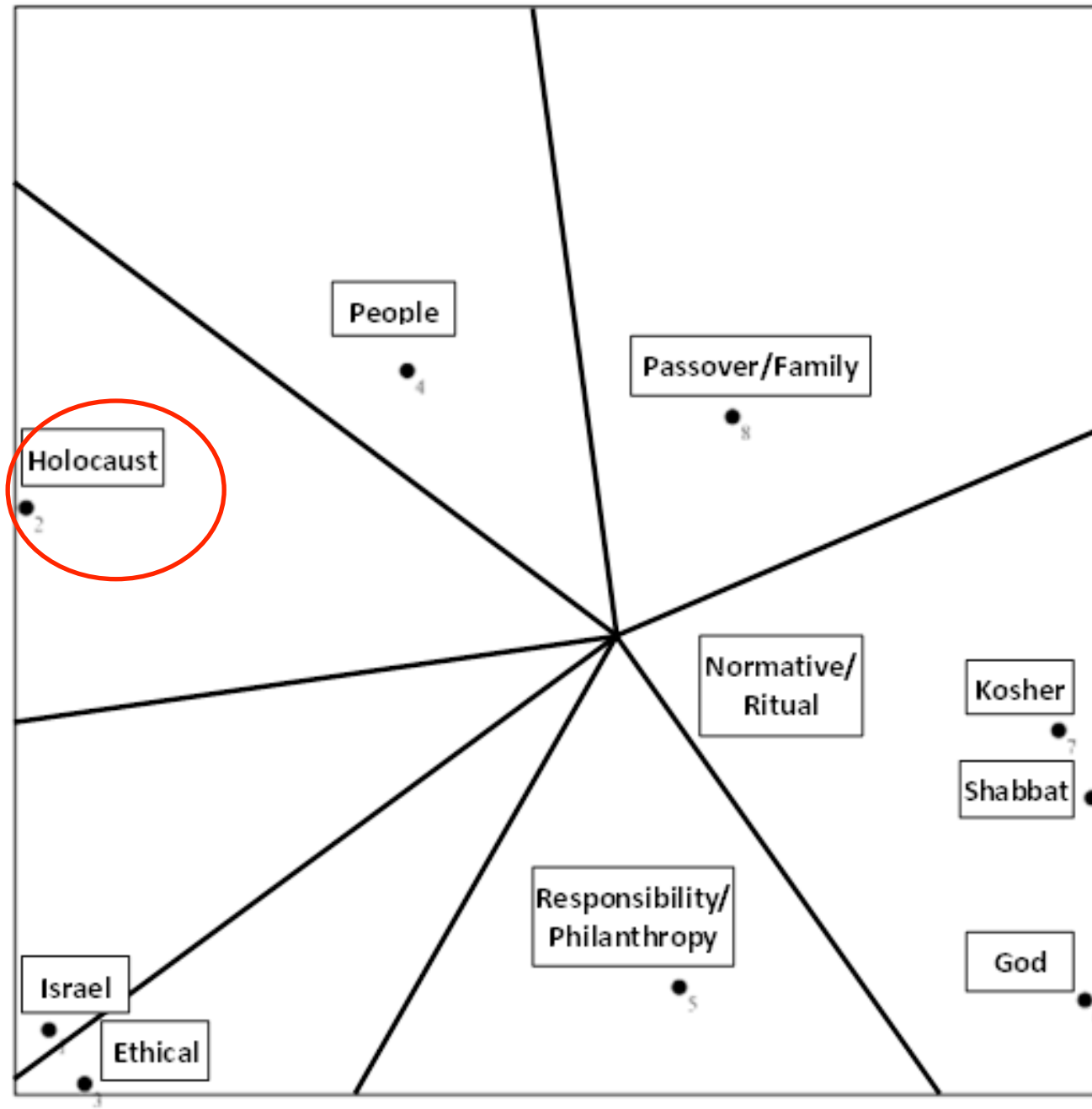
SSA of Jewish Identification in Latin America

2013 Survey of Transnational Jewish Educators
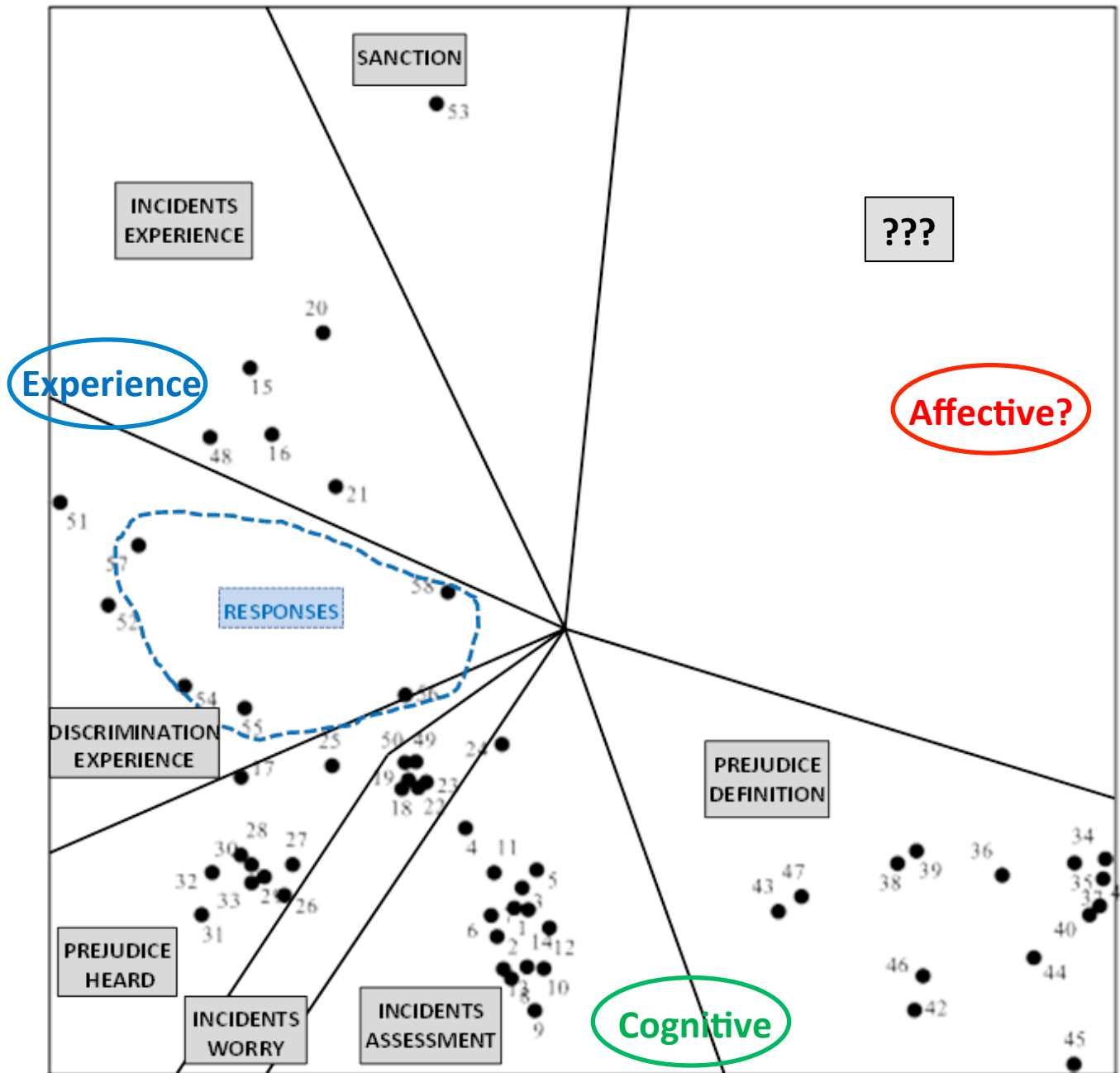**N = 1379**

FACETS OF ANTISEMITISM

SSA of Antisemitic Concepts in the EU

2012 FRA Survey of Perceptions of Antisemitism among Jews in 8 EU countries N = 5919
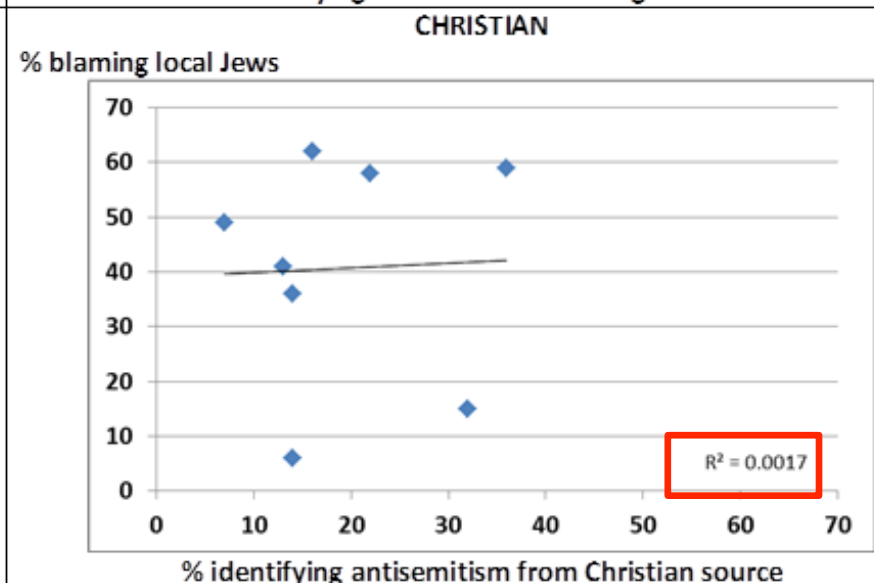
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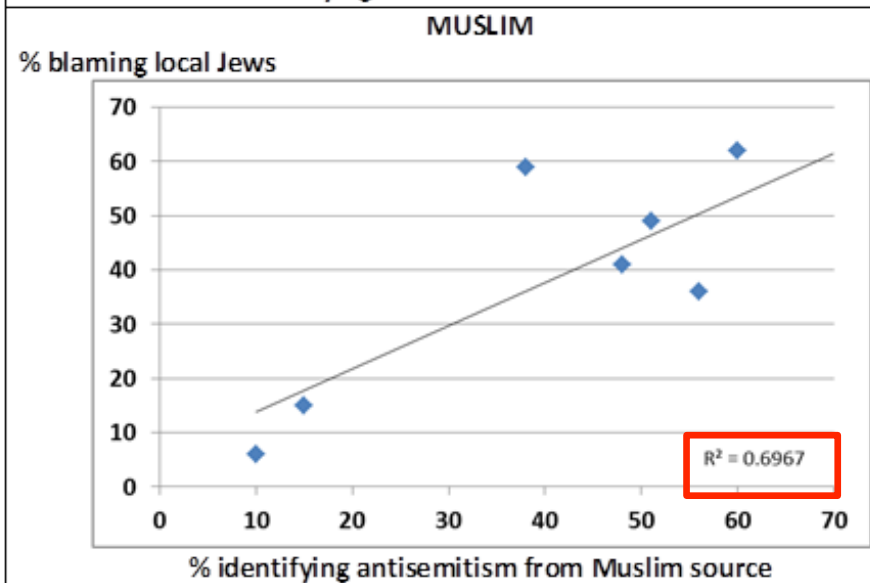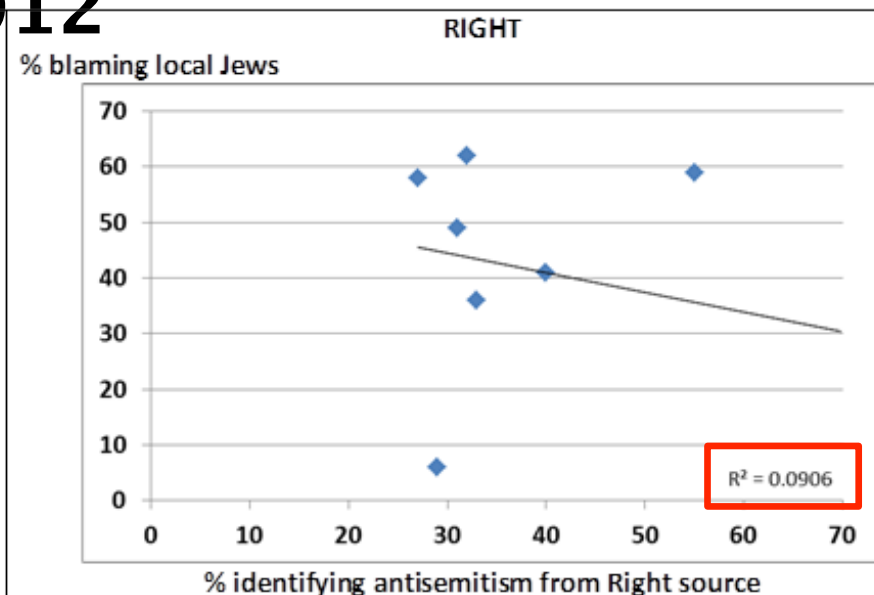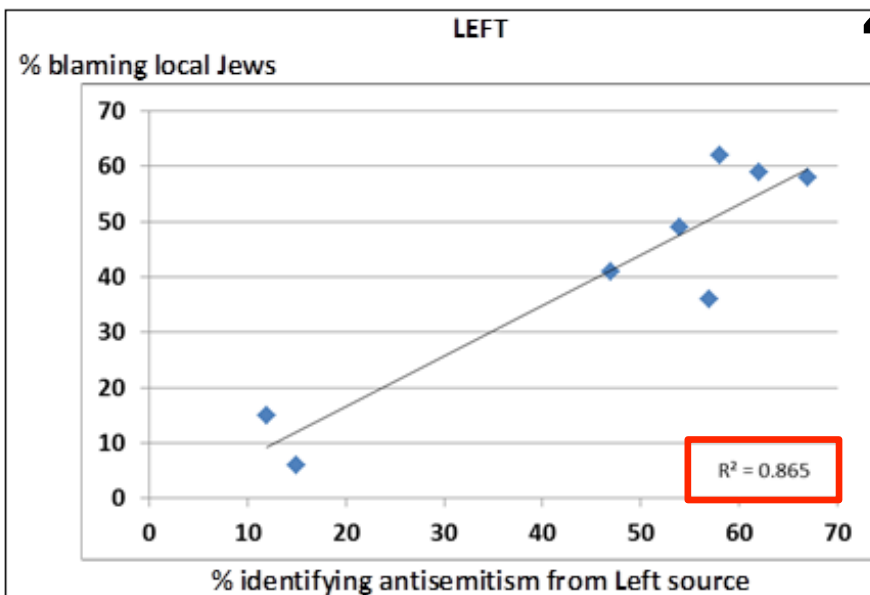

2012 FRA Survey of Perceptions of Antisemitism among Jews in 8 EU countries N = 5919

MATRICES OF ANTISEMITISM

Relationships between Ideological Matrices and Blaming Local Jews for the Middle East Conflict – 8 EU Countries 2012

FUTURE RESEARCH AND ACTION

- Most Jews today live in **cultural areas** characterized by **low-intensity** of antisemitism

- Antisemitism growingly is an insidious **global transnational phenomenon** unrelated to direct contact with Jews

- The main intervening concepts are **Israel delegitimation**, **Shoah denial and manipulation**, and **economic-political dominance,** with further dimensions of **physical recognizability** and **"piety" for human body and animal integrity**. Antisemitism thus affects symbolically all Jews as a global collective, beyond its past local salience

- Contents wise, the **cognitive/intellectual** and **behavioral/experiential** facets of antisemitism have been sufficiently clarified. This is not the case with the **affective/emotional** facets and their relationships to other facets

- **Continuing documentation and monitoring** is a must, with the involvement of Israeli, World Jewish, and general public institutions

- **Updated and appropriate research methods** should be applied to reach and unveil the **multivariate** depth and complexity of the phenomenology

- Research techniques not enough pursued so far include **longitudinal** follow-up panels periodically re-interviewed, and more **contents analysis** of various bodies of texts

- All that in the **daily printed press, television and radio, internet, social media** is associated with **Jews** or with **Israel** should be scrutinized and interpreted

- **The epistemic community** of scientific researchers and public intellectuals should engage in analyzing, teaching, explaining, advocating, persuading, combating
- To advance these goals Jews should **pursue alliances** with the many other **persons and organizations of good will** that do exist

Yogev Karasenty

Director for Combating Antisemitism
Ministry of Diaspora Affairs

Abstract. This provides a policy maker's view of what needs to be done and in what manner it should be carried out not only to realize the vision outlined in the prior talks but to make the results accessible and of value to those who most need the information.

Ministry of Diaspora Affairs
Creating a common Jewish future

- The importance and challenge of creating an integrative measuring tool
- *Quo vadis*—Where do we do from here?
- How do we achieve this?

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