

Call by the Alliance against Anti-Semitism [BgA] Berlin:

## **No dialogue with anti-Semitic terrorists Stop the „German Way“!**

**While the German government is hosting an international conference on anti-Semitism in Berlin, it is maintaining a dialogue with anti-Semitic terror organizations and their financiers in order to present itself as a “honest broker” in the Middle East.**

On 28/29 April, the German government is hosting the OSCE conference against anti-Semitism. In view of dramatically increasing anti-Semitism in Europe, we strongly appreciate this conference taking place and hope that it will lead to concrete and effective steps in fighting anti-Semitism. However, we fiercely protest against the German government's policy of „dialogue“ and appeasement towards anti-Semitic Islamists.

In February 2004, the Beirut branch of Germany's semi-governmental, social-democratic Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation co-organized a conference that included representatives of Hizbullah – an Islamistic terror organization founded in 1982, that – financed by Iran – aims at the “unconditional destruction” of the state of Israel. Numerous Islamistic intellectuals from several Islamic states were invited to speak at the Beirut conference. They used the opportunity to propagate their anti-Semitic ideology once more. The conference aimed at developing “dialogue” and “mutual understanding.” Thus protagonists of anti-Semitic terror were promoted as reliable partners in political negotiations.

Such so-called “critical” dialogue is no mere expression of political naiveté; rather, it reflects a system. It follows the so-called “German Way” that Chancellor Gerhard Schröder proclaimed last year in opposing the war on Iraq. According to this, German foreign policy – in contrast to that of the US – is based on dialogue, not on conflict; on negotiations, not the “clash of civilizations.” This sounds good but in practice it apparently endorses holding conferences with anti-Semitic terrorists rather than fighting their terror.

With this policy the German government tries to present itself as “honest broker” in the Middle East and thus as an alternative to the US, for economic and other reasons. This strategy's “success” has been the exchange of prisoners between Israel and the Hizbullah, arranged by Germany in January 2004. In this exchange, several hundred fanatic terrorists were released from Israeli prisons. Many already have announced their intention to resume their Jihad against Israel, as soon as they have the opportunity.

Not only in the Middle East are the Islamists seen as serious partners for negotiation. While on one hand discourse on public security often uses racist attributions, falsely presenting “Islam” as a threat to society, on the other hand officials of radical Islamic organizations (sometime Germans by birth who have converted into Islam) are wanted as partners for a far-too-understanding “inter-cultural dialogue.” Dialogue in this case mostly means to show understanding for bomb-toting anti-Semitic fundamentalists. Thus, well-known German TV-pastor Jürgen Fliege, shortly after the terror attacks in Madrid, promoted “speaking with today's murderers about tomorrow's world”.

In fact, not only does this kind of “inter-cultural dialogue” foster openly expressed anti-Semitism; the cultural relativism frequently articulated in this dialogue also implies abandonment of universal human rights. While most Germans would reject particularly openly anti-Semitic views (see the former German Member of Parliament Martin

Hohmann), those same views are implicitly legitimized as part of a supposed Arab or Muslim culture.

The actual threat *for* Israel, however, which mainly comes from Iran and the terror groups sponsored by it, does not seem to concern the German Chancellor. True, Schröder reacted to the latest „peace offer“ of El Qaida (to stop terror against those countries who oppose Israel and the US) with a categorical refusal. But for terrorists who “only” attack Israel, these rules do not seem to apply, as the Beirut conference has shown.

*The undersigned protest against this policy and call for a rally in front of the German Foreign Office. We claim an end to any form of cooperation with anti-Semitic terror organizations and their state sponsors. We also demand an end to EU-funding of Palestinian terror!*

**Speakers:**

Ilka Schröder, MEP, Brussels

Thomas Uwer, Wadi e.V., Berlin

Dr. Shimon Samuels, Simon Wiesenthal Center, Paris

Beate Klarsfeld, Journalist, Paris [requested]

**Rally at the German Foreign Office**

[Place of the OSCE conference],

Werderscher Markt, Berlin-Mitte [close to Schlossplatz]

Wednesday, 28 April, 2004, 1500 hrs.

Please support this call and spread it around. To support the call, please send an e-mail with your name, place and organization to [info@bga-berlin.net](mailto:info@bga-berlin.net) until Sunday, 25 April, 2200 hrs. (deadline).

More information [most of it in German] can be found at <http://www.bga-berlin.net/en>.

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