



Annual Review

Antisemitism and Jewish Communal Security in Britain in 2011

CST
PROTECTING
the Jewish community

 **Investec**

Specialist Bank and
Asset Manager

Prime Minister David Cameron at CST Annual Dinner, March 2011

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Introduction

Who we are

CST received charitable status in 1994 and is recognised by Government and the Police as a model of a minority - community security organisation.

CST provides security advice and training for Jewish schools, synagogues and Jewish communal organisations and gives assistance to those bodies that are affected by antisemitism.

CST draws on the Jewish community's experience of over 70 years of promoting communal self-defence and fighting bigotry.

CST has 60 full-time staff based in London (Head Office), Manchester (Northern Regional Office) and Leeds.

Volunteers

CST depends on its 3,000 volunteers around the country to carry out its work.

Volunteers come from every part of the community, regardless of age, gender, religious observance or political belief.

Funding

CST provides all of its services free of charge, and its costs are met by donations from the Jewish community.

These donations pay for security equipment; training facilities; researching the activities of those who would do harm to the Jewish community; and educational publications about antisemitism.

In 2009 and 2010, CST received grants from the Home Office Victims' Fund. In 2011, CST received further funding from the Ministry of Justice Ministry of Justice Victim and Witness General Fund to build a mobile website for reporting incidents and to support our work with victims of antisemitic hate crime.

Antisemitic incidents

The number of antisemitic incidents in the UK has increased significantly over the past decade.

CST staff have specialist training in giving support and assistance to victims of antisemitic hate crime. Official 'Third Party Reporting' status was given to CST to allow it to report incidents to the Police on behalf of victims.

CST's annual *Antisemitic Incidents Report* is recognised by Police, Government and international bodies as an authoritative study of antisemitic hate crime in Britain.

Police and Government

CST enjoys a close partnership with all levels of the Police, and provides expert advice to Government, the media and international bodies.

CST is part of the Government's Inter-Departmental Working Group on Antisemitism, which monitors the work of different Government departments in combating antisemitism.

CST has provided training and advice to other minority communities, including the Muslim, Sikh, Hindu and Christian faith communities, to help them secure their communities against hate crime.

The Home Office funded the production of the CST booklet *A Guide to Fighting Hate Crime* to help other communities establish systems to record hate crimes.

Youth and students

CST runs Streetwise – a project for Jewish teenagers, in partnership with Maccabi GB.

This programme teaches personal safety, enabling young people to cope confidently with challenging issues such

CST's mission

as crime, bullying and drugs. CST helps secure Jewish students on campuses across the UK, in partnership with the Union of Jewish Students.

CST produced *A Student's Guide to Antisemitism on Campus* to help Jewish and non-Jewish students recognise and combat antisemitism.

Security Enhancement Project

CST provides financial assistance and advice for all Jewish buildings throughout the UK to be physically hardened against terrorist attacks.

Measures include anti-shatter window film, to prevent the flying glass which is the greatest cause of death and injury in terrorist attacks on buildings. Other measures include perimeter fencing, access gates, bollards, lighting, CCTV, intruder alarms and fire alarms.

In January 2009, anti-shatter film on the windows of a London synagogue prevented arsonists from setting fire to the inside of the building.

International work

CST assists other Jewish communities in developing organisations to combat antisemitism in their countries.

CST provides hate crime training to Police forces across Europe.

CST provides expert advice to the Organisation for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE) and the European Union on combating antisemitism and other hate crimes.

CST organised the Experts' Forum of the London Conference on Combating Antisemitism in 2009, a landmark event in the global fight against antisemitism.

- To work at all times for the physical protection and defence of British Jews.
 - To represent British Jews on issues of racism, antisemitism, extremism, policing and security.
 - To promote good relations between British Jews and the rest of British society by working towards the elimination of racism, and antisemitism in particular.
 - To facilitate Jewish life by protecting Jews from the dangers of antisemitism, and antisemitic terrorism in particular.
 - To help those who are victims of antisemitic hatred, harassment or bias.
 - To promote research into racism, antisemitism and extremism; and to use this research for the benefit of both the Jewish community and society in general.
 - To speak responsibly at all times, without exaggeration or political favour, on antisemitism and associated issues.
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A message from CST's Chairman

My fellow board members and I are proud to have helped the Community Security Trust to become one of our Jewish community's foremost charities, representing it on issues of antisemitism, extremism, policing and security.

CST has 3 offices, nearly 60 staff, approximately 3,000 security volunteers and many thousands of financial donors.

Each part of CST is fundamental to the whole. Our volunteers are the essence of the organisation, but security and research also require expert full-time professional management, as do reporting and response services for those unfortunate enough to have suffered antisemitic attacks. All of this needs a proper financial basis, as well as real cooperation and partnership with our community.

My colleagues and I are repeatedly asked by Jewish communities around

the world how they can replicate CST's example. Here in Britain, other communities, Government and Police regularly pose the same question.

In response, I stress that everything that CST has achieved since attaining charitable status in 1994 is down to its hard work, focus, expertise and a firm commitment to work in partnership with every section of our community. It could not be any other way, as terrorists, antisemites and criminals punish weakness and never distinguish one Jew from another.

Then, there is the wider context. British Jews have a strong anti-racist and anti-fascist tradition. I have been personally involved in this work since the 1960s. The detail of the threats may have changed, but our mutual determination to stand against them has not; and I invite you to join us in that mission.

Gerald M. Ronson CBE, Chairman

A message from CST's Chief Executive

As Chief Executive of CST I am keenly aware that our Jewish community, and our wider society, face significant threats from antisemitism, racism, extremism and terrorism.

I am, however, fortunate to be in a position that also allows me to see the widespread support for CST and its work, as expressed and made real by our working partnerships and friendships, both within the Jewish community and beyond it.

The need for security, and the comfort of having allies in our work, was exemplified by the Government's decision in December 2011 to renew its commitment to meet financial costs previously met by Jewish parents towards security guards at 42 voluntary-aided schools in England.

Sadly, the planning and actions of terrorists here in Britain,

and throughout the world, clearly illustrate that they regard Jews as amongst their priority targets. So, whilst the need for security is to be regretted, it is nonetheless clearly required and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Our community and our society have to confront this harsh reality, but it should not mean that we hide or change our way of life, either as Jews or as proud British citizens.

Indeed, the challenges we face should encourage us to cherish the freedoms that we rightfully enjoy, and ensure that we properly organise to stand firmly and united against those who would harm us all if they were given the opportunity to do so. This is the role of CST, its members, supporters and partners; and I am proud to lead it.

Richard Benson, Chief Executive

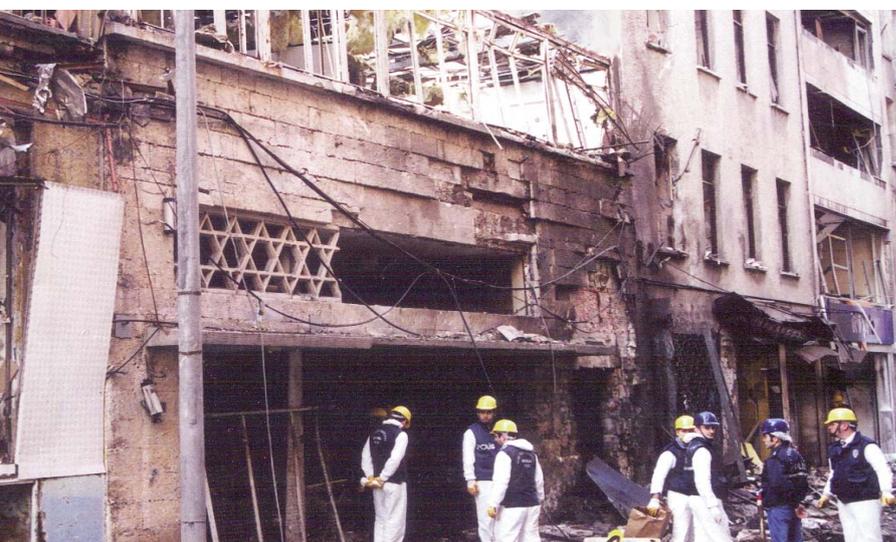
Terrorism against Jewish communities

In 2011, CST republished the report on terrorism against Jewish communities originally commissioned by the Herzliya-based International Institute for Counter-Terrorism, with additional up-to-date information, including an introductory essay and analytical tables.

The report is a unique document, listing every terrorist attack and foiled major plot against Jewish communities worldwide from 1968 to 2010.

During the 1970s and 1980s, there were many attacks on Jewish communities in Latin America and France, which were not publicised internationally, for which there was little information or where conflicting claims of responsibility were made. Now all the entries have been reinvestigated, using Government documentation or court records where available, and several entries have been omitted due to lack of clarity over perpetrators or whether they were indeed acts of terrorism or purely criminal acts.

Among the findings are that Jewish communities continue to be threatened by terrorism, but that the perpetrators are changing. During the post-Six Day War period, it was Palestinian secular terrorists and their leftist associates, often trained and financed by the Soviet Bloc, who posed the biggest threat, but they have been replaced by the global jihad movement and Iranian surrogates. While the quantity of terrorist attacks peaked in the mid-1980s, they have been replaced by more sophisticated and deadlier plots since 9/11.



Bombed exterior of Neve Shalom Synagogue, Istanbul, Turkey, 15 November 2003

"Without the CST, the Jewish community in Britain wouldn't have a clear focal point for the engagement between the Police and the Counter Terrorist intel agencies to communicate.

"It supports investigations; it gives us an insight into areas that hitherto we were unclear or unsighted on. So I can't really put a price on our extremely important relationship with CST.

"CST is an extremely professional organisation, well run and very clear in its objectives. They are very supportive of our objectives and the Jewish community needs to be very proud of the CST that works for them and on their behalf."

Detective Chief Superintendent Tony Porter, head of the Greater Manchester Police Counter Terrorism Unit

Terrorism in 2011

The year 2011 saw Al-Qaeda (AQ) suffer major setbacks, with the deaths of its leader and figurehead Osama bin Laden and Anwar al-Awlaki, the ideologue and leading operative of AQ in the Arabian Peninsula, believed to be behind a number of recent plots. British and American authorities, however, insist that the threat from AQ and its affiliates and sympathisers remains high.

In the UK, 2011 saw yet more terrorism trials and convictions:

- Rajib Karim, a software engineer at British Airways, was jailed for 30 years for preparing a plot to blow up a passenger plane.
- Mohammed Gul was jailed for five years for disseminating terrorist propaganda videos on the internet.
- Bilal Zaheer Ahmad, an al-Muhajiroun activist who posted messages on an extremist website threatening MPs who voted for the war in Iraq, was jailed for 12 years.
- Munir Farooqi, Israr Malik, and Matthew Newton, all from Manchester, were convicted of recruiting people to commit terrorist acts overseas.
- Ahmed Faraz, who owned the Maktabah bookshop in Birmingham, was jailed for three years for possessing and distributing publications designed to encourage terrorism.
- Asim Kauser pleaded guilty to terrorism charges after he left a recipe for the deadly poison ricin and documents about how to build bombs, on a computer memory stick.

Furthermore, a list of possible targets in the UK was reportedly found in the possession of Fazul Abdullah Mohammed, a major AQ operative who was killed in Somalia in June.

In July, there was a chilling reminder of the dangers of far right terrorism when Anders Breivik carried out the twin terrorist attacks in Norway which killed 77 people. Breivik posted messages on a number of far right websites and communicated with a number of British-based contacts.

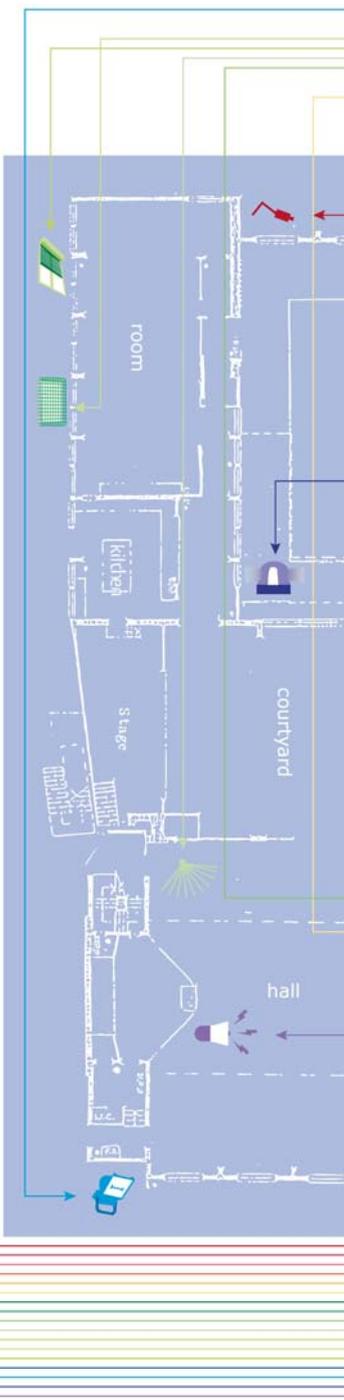
In September, a major counterterrorism operation in Birmingham led to 12 people being charged with collecting money for terrorism, travelling to Pakistan for terrorism training and travelling abroad to commit acts of terrorism.

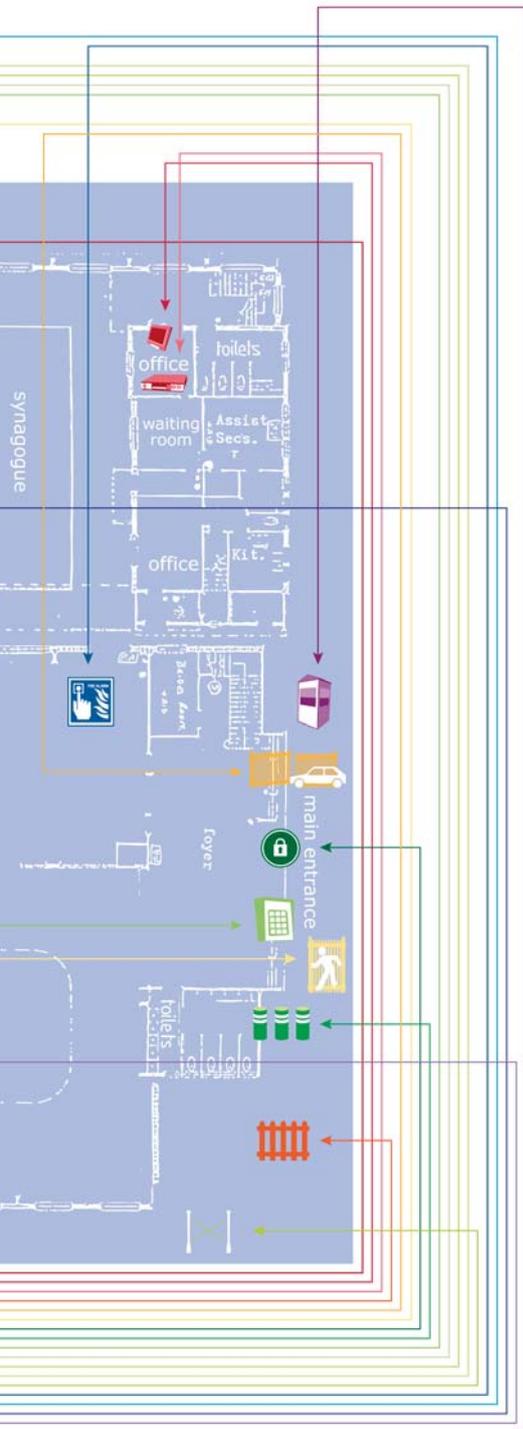
In November, the Home Secretary proscribed the pro-AQ group Muslims Against Crusades, a reincarnation of al-Muhajiroun and its successor groups, which were previously banned for glorifying terrorism.

Security Enhancement Project

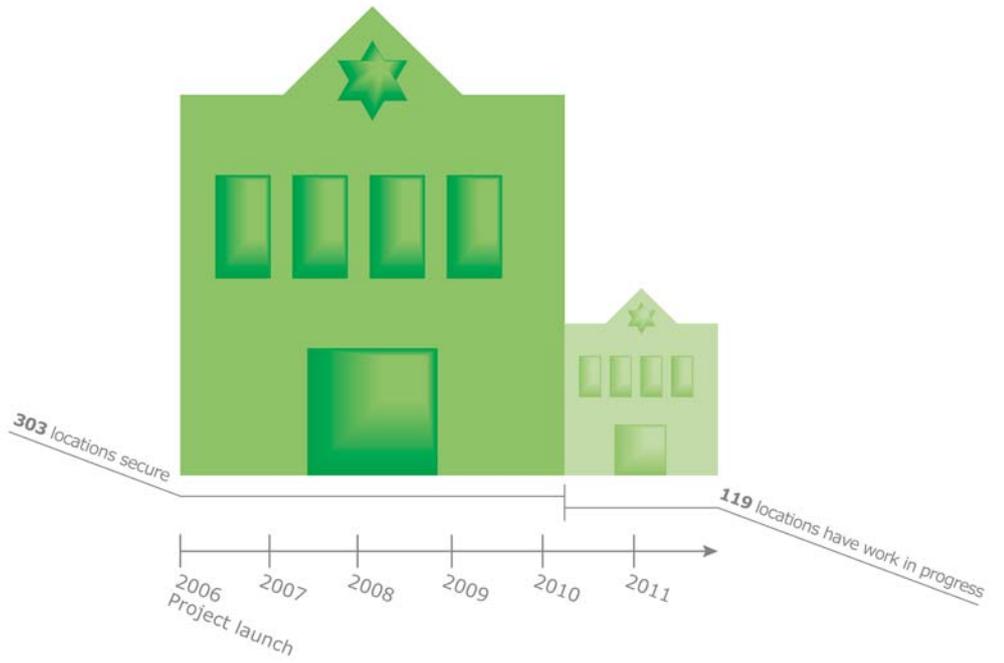
Security Enhancement Project since 2008

888 CCTV cameras		Approx. 5 cameras per week
205 CCTV monitors		Approx. 1 monitor per week
113 digital video recorders		Approx. 1 recorder every 2 weeks
2,093 metres of perimeter fencing		Approx. 12 metres per week
30 vehicular access gates		Approx. 1 gate every 8 weeks
34 pedestrian access gates		Approx. 1 gate every 8 weeks
36 security doors		Approx. 1 door every 6 weeks
27 anti-ram bollards		Approx. 1 bollard every 7 weeks
44 access control systems		Approx. 1 system every 5 weeks
40 intruder alarm systems		Approx. 1 system every 5 weeks
2 security shutters		Approx. 1 system every 5 weeks
70 security grilles		Approx. 1 every 3 weeks
2 perimeter detection systems		Approx. 1 every 3 weeks
10 fire alarm systems		Approx. 1 every 20 weeks
9 external lighting systems		Approx. 1 every 20 weeks
2 emergency lighting systems		Approx. 1 every 20 weeks
1 PA system		
3 security huts		

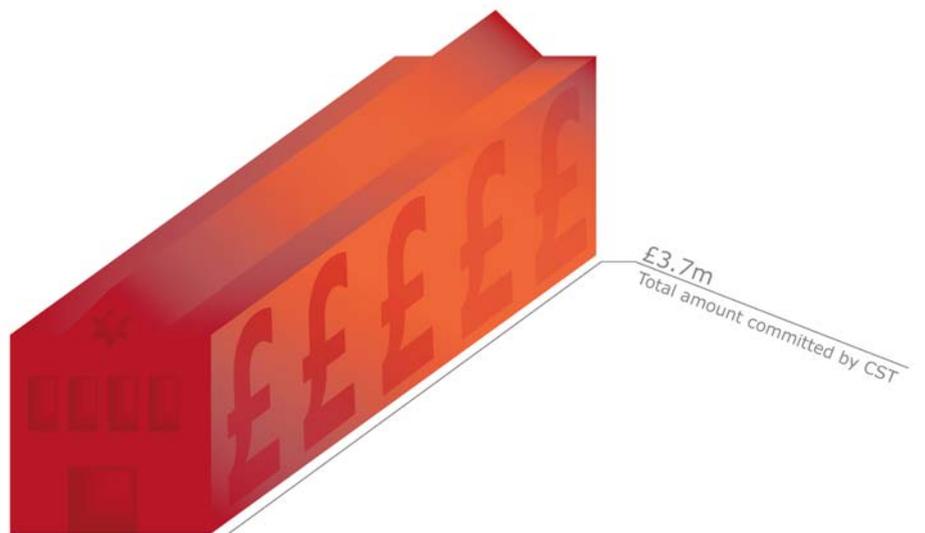




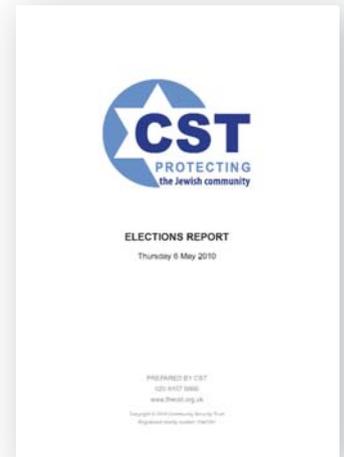
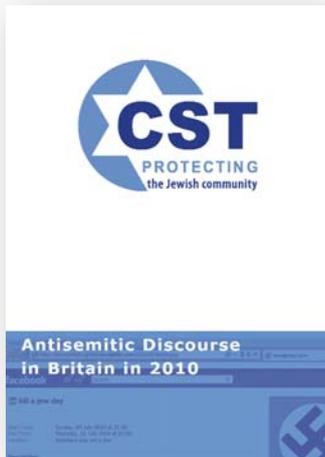
Protective Windows Project progress



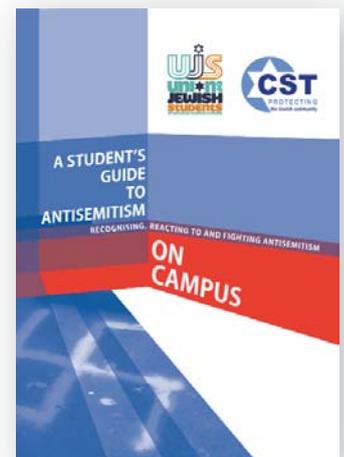
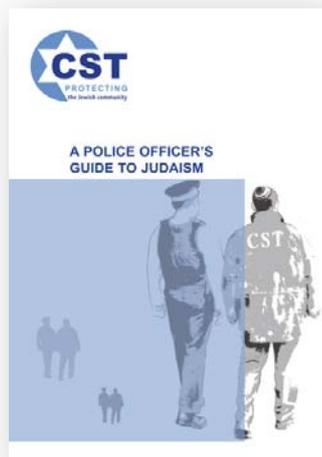
Cost of both projects combined



Reports



Publications



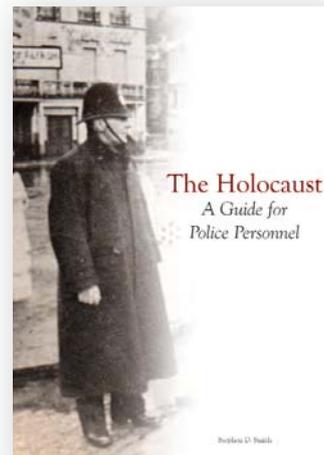
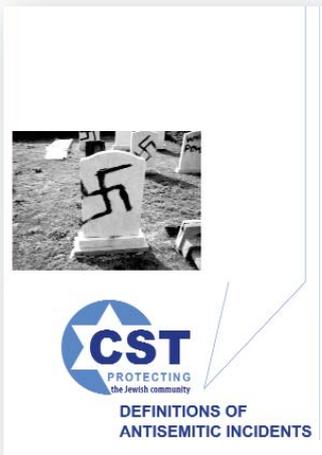
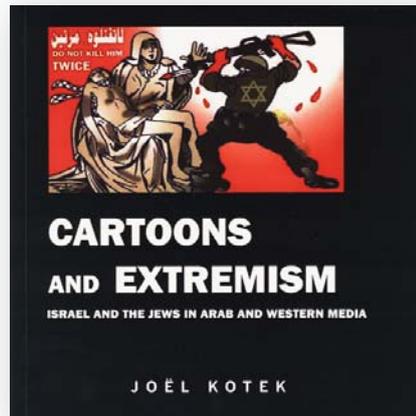
Website



Blog



Book



Published by The Holocaust Centre in association with CST and the Holocaust Educational Trust

Facebook



Twitter



Mobile website



Police awareness training

Over 400 Police officers, from across London and the Home Counties, attended CST's Jewish Community Awareness Seminar at the Jewish Museum in Camden, London. The seminar was held on four separate days throughout the year, and was designed to explain Judaism, the British Jewish community and CST.

Attendees enjoyed a kosher lunch in the introductory gallery area before entering the seminar room, where they were greeted by CST's Head of Security and Director of Communications.

Rabbi Barry Marcus of Central Synagogue and Rabbi Shlomo Odze from South Hampstead Synagogue gave an entertaining talk in which they explained the size and diversity of British Jewry. This was followed by a detailed presentation from CST concerning the current threat level and the reasons for CST's work. The presentation explained CST's role in facilitating Jewish life and then educated the officers about previous and current terrorist threats facing the Jewish community.

CST's presentation concluded with a detailed analysis of antisemitic incident levels, using the January 2009 surge of incidents as a case study in the need for CST's work and ongoing relationship with the Police.

Each day ended with a lively question and answer session, followed by the officers looking around the rest of the museum.

Two more seminars are planned in March and November 2012. These training days are open to any Police officer or Police staff who want to learn more about our community.



Police trip to Auschwitz

Police officers from across the UK accompanied CST senior staff on an educational visit to the former Nazi extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau to increase their understanding of antisemitism, prejudice and the importance of tackling hate crimes.

The group, which joined a Holocaust Educational Trust educators' visit in October, included officers from the City of London, the MPS, Greater Manchester, Hertfordshire, Merseyside, South Yorkshire, Strathclyde and West Midlands Police forces. An officer from the London Fire Brigade also joined the group. All the officers have regular contact with their local Jewish communities or are responsible for tackling hate crime. CST began organising Police officers' visits to Auschwitz in 2005.

These visits have proven invaluable in educating Police officers about the specific concerns and sensitivities of Jewish people regarding antisemitism, prejudice and where extremism and hatred against all minorities can lead.



"As Police Officers we naturally de-personalise as a coping strategy for dealing with unpleasant incidents. Since my visit to Auschwitz I have felt compelled to tell others of my experience and most cannot believe the initial brutality of Auschwitz and the clinical and ruthless nature of Birkenau. I think that it is an invaluable opportunity that you are giving to the Police by arranging these visits and I want to thank you for arranging such a thought provoking and fascinating trip that will certainly influence me for the rest of my life."

Lysander Strong
Inspector

"I will not forget the memories and visual images I encountered that day and will pass them on to those people who are never likely to make this valuable journey."

Simon Davies
Detective Sergeant

"I found it a very humbling experience and a fascinating look back at the past that must never be forgotten."

Clive Darvill
Inspector

"This excellent and extremely informative tour of Auschwitz-Birkenau camp was a truly exceptional occasion to see first hand the horrors of the Holocaust and I do not think I will ever forget such an emotional experience."

Simon Ovens
Chief Superintendent

Security training

CST and Streetwise have provided various courses for the Orthodox members of the community in schools, synagogues and yeshivot and at CST's Northern Regional Head Office.

Although similar in structure to the general courses provided by CST, each one of these courses is specifically designed to meet the needs of the participants with content that has been approved in advance.

Sessions on personal safety and self-defence have been run for Lubavitch Yeshiva students who have just arrived in the UK. For many of these young men, this is their first experience of living away from home and they need to feel safe and confident when they go out into the community, where they are occasionally the target of antisemitic verbal abuse.

The head of one yeshiva in particular, whose students and property were targeted, worked with CST to create a course at CST's training facility for the teenage students. All of the pupils attended compulsory self-defence classes where they were shown basic techniques as well as role plays on how to look after themselves in public.

CST does not just run sessions for males – there have also been practical and theory sessions on personal safety in female-only classes. During lectures, participants are given the opportunity to discuss issues that concern them, such as walking alone at night.

A number of representatives from Charedi locations have attended CST's course for location support staff. Religious day schools have welcomed Streetwise representatives in to conduct anti-bullying courses for Year 6 pupils.

Security on campus

Jewish students on university and college campuses should enjoy the same freedoms and sense of belonging as that enjoyed by their peers. Unfortunately, however, this is not always the case, with Jewish students occasionally suffering from antisemitic abuse and intimidation, and regularly facing the challenge of confronting political extremists who may be fellow students, or external speakers invited onto the campus in order to spread propaganda and activism. These problems occur primarily, but not exclusively, in the context of anti-Israel activism.

CST is working side by side with the Union of Jewish Students and local Jewish societies to improve the situation. Efforts are ongoing to improve relations at universities with vice-chancellors, heads of student unions and campus security through constant dialogue highlighting the threats posed to Jewish students.

National Student Security Coordinators based in London and Manchester manage over 200 volunteers across 47 campuses in the UK, to ensure that their events have the necessary security cover. With such a demanding schedule, CST is always looking to increase the number of trained students on campus. Recruitment drives take place during Freshers' Week to find additional students to complete the CST training course alongside their academic studies.

In addition to the work on campus, the National Student Security Coordinators liaise with all youth groups, advising on security for their youth throughout the year. In 2011, CST ran over 20 training sessions across the UK for over

400 youth leaders across 12 different organisations for 28 residential and non-residential summer camps. In addition to the pre-camp security training sessions, CST gave additional advice to camps following the attack on a camp in Norway by Anders Breivik.



Antisemitic graffiti daubed in snow on a student's car, Birmingham, November 2011

EU funding for the Facing Facts project

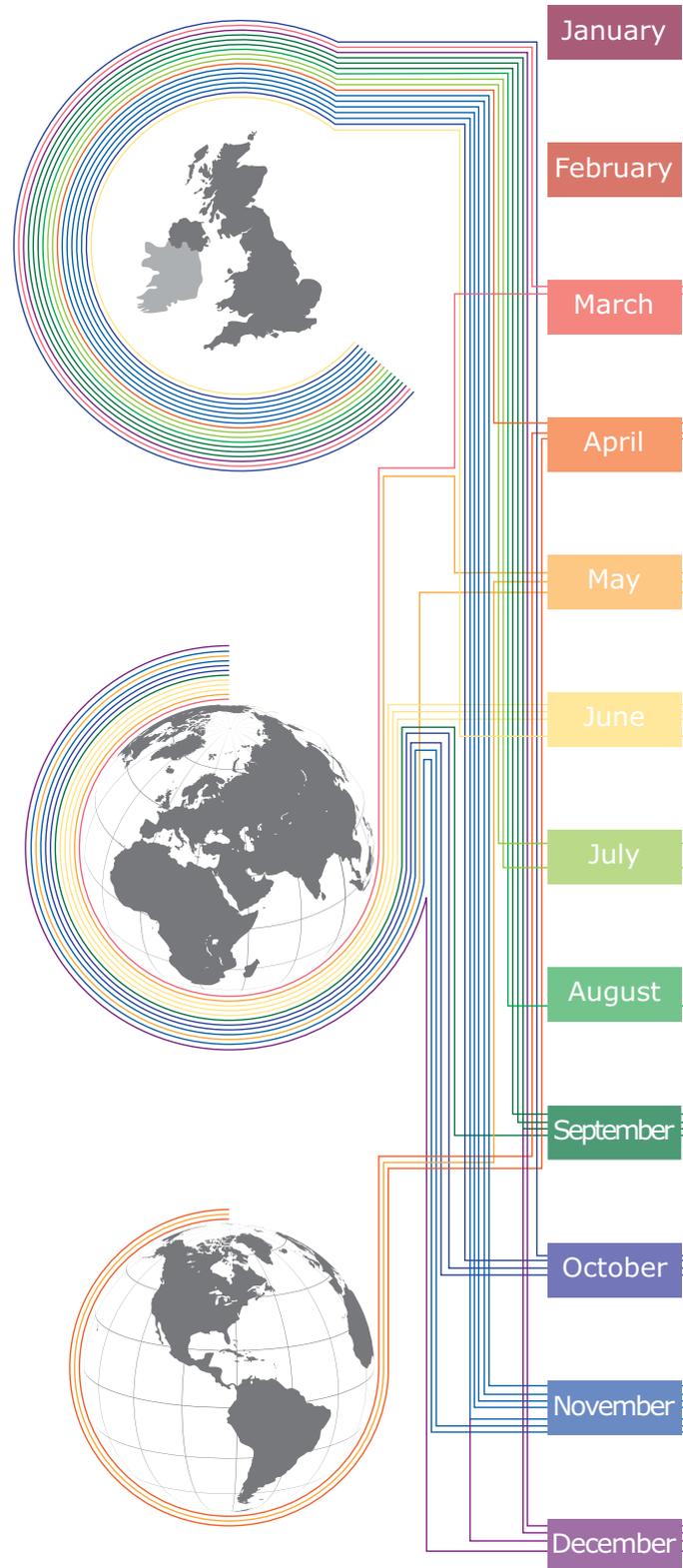
International work

At the beginning of 2011, CST and partner organisations were jointly given 250,000 euros by the European Commission to run a project, called Facing Facts. This will train small Jewish communities, and other minority groups within the EU, on the collection and analysis of hate crime data.

Facing Facts will be responding to growing international concern that EU member states are failing to provide data on hate crime as per the 2000 European Directive and various other intergovernmental agreements.

International agencies are now encouraging non-governmental organisations to fill the data gaps left by Government and Police forces. As a consequence, the Facing Facts project is being run by CST and three partners: the Brussels-based European Jewish Information Centre (CEJI – 'A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe'), the Dutch Centre for Information and Documentation on Israel (CIDI), and the Federation of Dutch Associations for the Integration of Homosexuality (COC Nederland).

These four organisations bring long-standing experience in data gathering, training and working with Police and criminal justice agencies to the project, which will result in a multilingual website to provide advice and information on the publication of a manual, and a seminar for training educators, to be held in The Hague in 2012.



Meetings

- Confronting Antisemitism in Public Discourse, OSCE-High Level Meeting, Prague, March
- American Jewish Committee Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April
- Antisemitism in the UK, Office of International Religious Freedom, US Department of State, Washington, DC, April
- Stakeholder Consultation on EU Agency for Fundamental Rights Survey on Discrimination and Hate Crime Against Jews in Selected EU Member States, Vienna, May
- Coordination Committee of Jewish Organisations in Belgium, London, June
- Research project on extremism in Europe, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Berlin, June
- Hogan Lovells study on hate crime legislation in Europe press launch, American Jewish Committee, Berlin, June
- 2nd Conference on Jewish Media in Europe, European Jewish Press, Brussels, June
- Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism Task Force on Internet Hate hearing, House of Commons, October
- Oral evidence to Home Affairs Committee inquiry on violent radicalisation, House of Commons, November
- and lecture at committee conference, De Montfort University, December
- Hannah Rosenthal, US Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism and State Department staff, London, November
- Reporting Discrimination seminar, Football Association, November
- Joint meetings with All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism, Woodside Park, Oxford and Birmingham, November
- Joint interfaith meeting with Children of Abraham, Camden, November

Conferences

- The Second International Conference on Hate Studies, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, April
- Think Global, Hate Local conference, University of Northampton, April
- National Security conference, Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London, July
- Rethinking Hate Crime? Bringing Theory and Practice Together, University of Bradford, July
- 2020 Vision seminar on terrorism, London Jewish Cultural Centre, August
- Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization, World Summit on Counter-Terrorism, Herzliya, September
- Populist Racism in Britain and Europe since 1945, University of Northampton, September
- Preventing extremism – from those who used to promote it, Liberal Democrat, Labour and Conservative party conferences, September
- Far Right Terrorism – the other European terrorism, Community Security and Resilience Networks, London, September, and Manchester, December
- Paving the way for murder: online hate and terrorism, INACH side event at OSCE Human Dimension conference, Warsaw, October
- INACH (International Network Against CyberHate) 9th annual conference, Foreign Ministry, Paris, October
- Foundation EVZ second international conference on hate crime, Berlin, November
- Terrorism Against Jewish Communities, Limmud, University of Warwick, December

Workshops

- Terrorism ideologies for Crown Prosecutors, Counter-Terrorism Division, Crown Prosecution Service, March and July
- EC-funded SAFIRE Project on Modelising radicalisation and terrorism, Royal Belgian Military School, Brussels, May
- The far right and hate crime, Institute of Criminal Justice Studies, University of Portsmouth, October
- Countering terrorism, Bundeswehr officers, Berlin, November
- Countering terrorism, Berlin state police academy and federal criminal police, Berlin, December



Labour Leader Ed Miliband MP

"The work of CST raises awareness, including among members of Parliament, and tells them there is a problem of antisemitism and we do need to fight that problem."

"I want to see the most open, tolerant, diverse society. In order to do that you need organisations like CST."



The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, was the guest of honour at a fundraising lunch for CST in London in November.

"I want to thank CST for the work it is doing to fight hatred, prejudice and discrimination in this city. It is absolutely vital that Jewish people in London are able to live, work and go about their daily lives without fear. The CST does a wonderful job and I am very proud to be a supporter. I urge those working in the financial and property sectors to continue to support the CST's work, which is of critical importance for the community."

"I want to thank CST for the work it is doing to fight hatred, prejudice and discrimination"



"CST is a model for all our communities"

Prime Minister David Cameron MP was the guest of honour at CST's Annual Dinner, in March.

"It's great to be able to show my support again for Community Security Trust and the brilliant work you do. On behalf of everyone here let me thank all the staff and volunteers who work so hard together with the Police and the wider community to protect the Jewish people and to make this charity as successful as it is today.

"I believe CST is a model for all our communities in Britain. So much of what you do epitomises what I'm getting at when I talk about the Big Society. You don't say, 'Just leave it to the Government, it's not my responsibility'; you say, 'I want to play my part; I want to do my bit..."

"I find it incredibly impressive that, day in and day out, not just a handful of people but 3,000 CST volunteers work with the Police, local and national Government, and other religious and minority communities to fight hate crime and increase the safety and security of our communities."

"CST is the protective cloak over communal Jewish life"

The Northern Regional Dinner was in November. The guest of honour was the Deputy Prime Minister, The Rt. Hon. Nick Clegg.

"CST is the protective cloak over communal Jewish life". He wished that one day CST would no longer be needed, but described antisemitism as "a very light sleeper, easily woken, in a different guise whenever it rises, sometimes dormant, but never entirely" gone," and expressed concern that economic uncertainty may yet "stir up...extreme hatred and prejudice."



Preventing extremism

For the second year running, CST held fringe events at the three main party conferences, on a theme of great current concern, that of preventing extremism. In each case, some of our speakers were former extremists who now work against the ideologies they once promoted.

Our partners were Counter Extremism Consultancy, Training, Research and Interventions (CENTRI), which works on de-radicalisation programmes within the Muslim community, for the Liberal Democrat conference; and the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR), from King's College London, for the Labour and Conservative conferences.

CST Deputy Communications Director Dave Rich chaired the first event, at which Tom Brake, Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Carshalton and Wallington, former Hizb ut Tahrir member Rashad Ali of CENTRI, former National Front member Matthew Collins of the Searchlight Educational Trust, and the *Jewish Chronicle's* political editor, Martin Bright, all spoke.

At the Labour Party conference, CST Government and International Affairs

Director Mike Whine chaired a panel of former Communities Secretary Hazel Blears, Member of Parliament for Salford and Eccles; former Hizb ut Tahrir leader Shiraz Maher of ICSR; Matthew Collins; and Jamie Bartlett of the DEMOS think tank, who recently published a report on the English Defence League.

Our third event was at the Conservative Party conference, where CST Communications Director Mark Gardner chaired the panel consisting of Robert Halfon, Member of Parliament for Harlow; Paul Goodman, executive editor of Conservative Home and a former MP and Shadow Minister; Shiraz Maher; and Matthew Collins.

All three events were full to capacity, with participants standing at the back, demonstrating a real desire among politically involved people to understand what motivates people to adopt ideologies that promote hatred of religious and other minorities. Equally fascinating were the processes that led them to reject their former ideas and friends, and devote themselves to fighting them.



Young CST

In 2010, CST launched the Young CST group for its supporters aged from 25 to 35. Since then, Young CST has attracted hundreds of people, all of whom are now more aware of the full breadth of our charitable work, the nature of threats to the community, and why their support is so important to the long-term future of both CST and the Jewish community as a whole.

The year 2011 saw two key events in the continuing growth of Young CST.

Firstly, a summer cocktail evening was held, at which Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow was interviewed by Vanessa Feltz about exploring her Jewish roots and historical family ties.

Then, at the 2011 Young CST Dinner in December, Matthew Collins, a former

National Front, British National Party and Combat 18 member who now works for anti-fascist group Hope Not Hate, and Shiraz Maher, formerly of the extreme Islamist organisation Hizb ut Tahrir and now an academic with the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence, were interviewed by Adam Boulton of Sky News.

This event, attended by over 230 young supporters, highlighted the role that antisemitism plays in extremist politics and how easily young people can be attracted to extremist movements.

Young CST looks forward to further growth and more fundraising and networking events in the year ahead. For further information about Young CST, please contact: cstevents@thecst.org.uk



Matthew Collins, Adam Boulton and Shiraz Maher speaking at the 2011 Young CST Dinner

Helping victims of antisemitic incidents

Helping people who suffer from antisemitic hate crimes or incidents is a central part of CST's work. In 2011, 586 antisemitic incidents were reported to CST across the UK. These included 92 violent antisemitic assaults, 63 cases of damage to, or antisemitic graffiti on, Jewish property, and 196 incidents involving antisemitic verbal abuse.

The victims of antisemitic incidents come from the whole spectrum of the Jewish community, from strictly Orthodox to Liberal, Reform and secular Jews, young and old; from the largest Jewish communities of London and Manchester; and from 51 other locations – some with long-standing if small Jewish communities and some with none – all over the UK. Fifty-four antisemitic incidents involved Jewish schools or schoolchildren, or Jewish children and staff at non-faith schools; 27 involved Jewish students, academics or student bodies; 46 targeted synagogues; and a further 38 incidents involved synagogue congregants on their way to or from prayers. The most common type of antisemitic incident in 2011, as in every year, involved random antisemitic abuse or violence directed at visibly Jewish people on the streets.

In addition to the 586 antisemitic incidents reported to CST, there were a further 437 incidents of criminal activity, suspicious behaviour, potential hostile reconnaissance at Jewish buildings and other types of incidents. This means there were 1,023 incidents which, although not all antisemitic, still required some degree of security response from CST staff and volunteers in 2011.

Most antisemitic incidents that are reported to CST come directly from the victims themselves, or from witnesses to the incidents, or via CST's grass-roots volunteer structure throughout the country. CST is the only organisation that publishes UK-wide statistics on antisemitic incidents, but this is only the public face of our work in this area. In many ways our work supporting incident victims is much more important. This can include giving personal security advice to the victim or liaising with the Police to assist their investigation. It may involve, for example, helping a student who has suffered antisemitic abuse and needs assistance at their university, or working with a Jewish council tenant in making a complaint to their local authority about antisemitic abuse from a neighbour.

CST supports incident victims throughout any follow-up process. This includes accompanying people who have to go to court to give evidence against their attacker, which can be a difficult experience for victims. CST also works with Greater Manchester Police's Restorative Justice partnership with the local Jewish community in Manchester. This involves victims of antisemitic hate crimes having the right, if they so wish, to confront the offender who committed an antisemitic hate crime against them. This is often preferable for victims who do not wish to go through the full criminal justice process, but who want the opportunity to explain to offenders the impact that the crime had on them, and want to give the offenders the opportunity to apologise for their actions.

This has been supported by Rabbi Yehuda Brodie, registrar to the Manchester Beth Din, who said:

"The concept of Restorative Justice, whereby restitution is coupled with remorse and a plea for forgiveness, is basic to Jewish law. This approach of dealing with offences by restoring the victim's self-esteem and bringing the perpetrator face to face with the target of his criminal and antisocial behaviour is therefore to be applauded."

CST's work supporting victims of antisemitism has been recognised by Government through a series of grants since 2009 from the Ministry of Justice Victim and Witness General Fund (previously run by the Home Office) to enable CST to encourage better reporting of antisemitic incidents, and to ensure that CST offers the best possible service to incident victims when they report incidents. This has included specialist training for CST 'first responders' from the Victim Support charity, and the publication of a special guide to antisemitism for students and universities.

The most recent grant, of £147,000 in April 2011, is for three years and has paid for two extra CST staff members, one in London and one in Manchester, to investigate incidents and provide further support for victims and Police liaison where necessary. The grant has also paid for CST to develop and launch a mobile phone incident reporting facility for internet-enabled mobile phones, designed to make reporting incidents easier and quicker. It is hoped that this will help to increase incident reporting from younger incident victims.

FREE PALESTINE



Antisemitic graffiti equating a Jewish Star of David with a Nazi swastika, London, October 2011



Mobile website

In September 2011 CST launched CST REPORT, a customised website for mobile devices. Unlike mobile applications (apps), it is not limited to iPhone, Android or BlackBerry smartphones, but is suitable for all internet-enabled mobiles.

CST REPORT was created to make reporting antisemitic incidents more accessible and immediate. A quick-launch button directs the user to the site without taking up any memory space on the user's mobile.

Streetwise youth workers incorporated an introduction to the mobile website in their sessions in schools

(and courses), and students were notified of the website during Freshers' Week on campus.

Funding for this project was given to CST by the Ministry of Justice Victim and Witness General Fund, from which CST has received funds for a third year in a row.

To download the quick-launch button to your internet-enabled phone, scan this code, text CST to 80800 or type: <http://cstreport.mobi> into your phone's web browser.



Facebook and Twitter

CST is now active on the social networking sites Facebook and Twitter. You can follow CST on both platforms by logging on to www.thecst.org.uk and clicking on  and 

The Facebook page will include a facility for people to report antisemitic incidents, and also to donate to CST.

CST's Twitter account will feature our blog posts, articles of interest that we recommend and other appropriate

information. The Facebook page will be automatically updated with anything posted on the Twitter account, as well as with other articles or information.

In creating the CST Twitter and Facebook accounts, we have compiled guidelines for safe social networking, to help people protect their personal information online. These guidelines include detailed advice on personal security settings and online behaviour, and can be accessed via our Facebook page.

www.thecst.org.uk

London (Head Office) 020 8457 9999

Emergency 24-hour pager 07659 101 668

Manchester (Northern Regional Office) 0161 792 6666

Emergency 24-hour number 0800 980 0668

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