

Joe Biden Launches His War on Antisemitism

Massive politically motivated effort will impact on free speech and association

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As promised, the White House hosted a virtual event followed by the issuance of a fact sheet and detailed strategic report last Thursday that described in some detail a sweeping plan that will be implemented to confront what it describes as surging antisemitism. I <u>reported last week</u> how the US Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism Ambassador Deborah Lipstadt, who participated in the ceremony, has articulated the Biden Administration's somewhat hyperbolic view that "Antisemitism is not a niche issue...it is an existential threat to democracy." She had also regretted that "America has never done something like a national plan to fight antisemitism." It should be noted that Lipstadt's brief as ambassador is to confront what she perceives to be antisemitism all around the world, though it is likely that her role will expand to include domestic authorities under whatever new arrangements emerge as the Biden plan is implemented.

The plan that was unveiled was developed by an interagency task force created by Joe Biden last December, which was headed by "Second Gentleman" Doug Emhoff, who is both Jewish and has the misfortune to be married to Kamala Harris. It reportedly incorporates contributions and insights from claimed discussions with no less than "more than 1,000 community leaders" including various Jewish religious denominations and also representing both Jewish and non-Jewish civic organizations in the United States. Prior to the virtual event and press release, President Biden promised that the plan would "include more than 200 measures that government agencies, social media platforms and elected officials can adopt to counter rising antisemitism." The measures <u>will reportedly include</u> at least 100 "provisions" that will require congressional action.

That the plan will be considered a success by *inter alia* suppressing what once passed as free speech in the United States seems to have bothered none of the Jewish groups that applauded the development. Occasionally sensible liberal leaning J Street enthused how "In a period when the threats of antisemitism, far-right extremism and white nationalism are surging in the United States, it's deeply encouraging to see the White House make this a top priority and adopt a nuanced, well-considered, comprehensive approach."

J Street's President Jeremy Ben-Ami, who describes George Soros as a "Jewish philanthropist," misses the point that Israel, which will be a principal beneficiary from stomping down on the First Amendment as nearly any criticism of the Jewish state will become a "hate crime, is preeminently a country awash in "far-right extremism." He slyly concludes that "The struggle against antisemitism and all forms of bigotry is far too important to become a mere proxy for debates over Israel," making the entire issue vanish in typical J Street fashion. Nor does that particular irony appear to have bothered any Congressmen or anyone in the mainstream media, such is the power of the Jewish establishment over both the press and the two joined-at-the-hip on this issue political parties that alternately govern us.

Note how the Plan, relying on wildly exaggerated statistics relating to what are often contrived or alleged <u>antisemitic incidents</u>, not by coincidence, seeks to protect Jews from a malignant force which is presumed to be the "white supremacists" that Biden and his cohorts have been otherwise targeting and also labeling as "terrorists." That accomplishes two things politically: it gets the powerful Jewish/Israel Lobby and their controlled media fully on board to reelect Biden and it also identifies the enemy as likely to be conservative Republicans. In so doing, you take highly visible steps to protect the Jews (whether or not they actually need protection) and you create a credible enemy that everyone can identify and attack.

So what does the White House's May 25th press release entitled "Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Releases First-Ever US National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism" tell us about what will be put in place to protect America's wealthiest and already most powerful ethno-religious group? A sub-heading and the lead paragraphs summarize it this way: "[The] Administration announces over 100 new actions and over 100 calls to action to combat antisemitism, including new actions to counter antisemitism on college campuses and online; whole-of-society strategy includes new stakeholder commitments.

"Today, the Biden-Harris Administration is releasing the first-ever <u>U.S. National Strategy to</u> <u>Counter Antisemitism</u>. This strategy includes over 100 new actions the Administration will take to raise awareness of antisemitism and its threat to American democracy, protect Jewish communities, reverse the normalization of antisemitism, and build cross-community solidarity.

"While antisemitic incidents most directly and intensely affect the Jewish community, antisemitism threatens all of us. Antisemitic conspiracy theories fuel other forms of hatred, discrimination, and bias—including discrimination against other religious minorities, racism, sexism, and anti-LGBTQI+ hate. Antisemitism seeks to divide Americans from one another, erodes trust in government and nongovernmental institutions, and undermines our democracy."

The Fact Sheet and the full report explain in frightening detail how Biden is dedicating significant financial and human resources to essentially pander to Jews and Israel over their concerns that they are being perceived badly, something that might be attributed to their own behavior. Admittedly, some concerns were expressed that Israel would be immune from criticism in spite of the fact that it is widely recognized as an apartheid state that commits crimes against humanity and even war crimes on a nearly daily basis. Most recently this has included a Flag Day march in East Jerusalem in which settlers chanted "Death to Arabs." The *Times of Israel* subsequently printed an article calling for the extermination of the

Palestinians. Willfully blind to that reality, the fact sheet has only this to say: "In addition, the strategy reaffirms the United States' unshakable commitment to the State of Israel's right to exist, its legitimacy, and its security—and makes clear that when Israel is singled out because of anti-Jewish hatred, that is antisemitism." In other words, because Israel is the self-designated Jewish state criticism of it will be *ipso facto* regarded as a hate crime, antisemitism.

I will not bore the reader by reviewing most of the 60 page long <u>"Strategy" report's</u> more intrusive features, but it is worth observing that it commits itself to have "The US government...harness our collective resources to increase education about antisemitism and its threat to democracy, the Holocaust, and Jewish contributions to American society." "Collective resources" of course includes taxpayer money, which will be flowing in the billions to Jewish businesses and facilities for "protection," as is <u>already happening</u> with Department of Homeland Security discretionary grants, more than 90% of which support increased security for Jews and their organizations.

The "Strategy's" four "Pillars" as elaborated in both the fact sheet and the full text are:

- Pillar 1: Increase awareness and understanding of antisemitism, including its threat to America, and broaden appreciation of Jewish American heritage
- Pillar 2: Improve safety and security for Jewish communities
- Pillar 3: Reverse the normalization of antisemitism and counter antisemitic discrimination
- Pillar 4: Build cross-community solidarity and collective action to counter hate

One should expect major initiatives in requiring educational courses in holocaust and other Jewish issues, compulsory training and re-education sessions both in government and the corporate world on the threat posed by antisemitism, and creating law enforcement mechanisms backed by new legislation that will provide empowerment to investigate and criminalize various antisemitic acts as "hate crimes." One "Strategic Goal" that might be of particular interest to readers of this article might be "Tackling Antisemitism Online," which includes "Ensure terms of service and community standards explicitly cover antisemitism. The Administration commends platforms with terms of service and community standards that establish 'zero-tolerance' for hate speech, including antisemitism. All online platforms are encouraged to adopt zero-tolerance terms of service and community standards" and "to permanently ban repeat offenders, both personal accounts and extremist websites." It calls for "algorithms" to be employed on social media sites to block any and all antisemitic content. Somewhat bizarrely, it also calls for "Establish[ing] relationships with Jewish community organizations to share best practices related to reporting hate speech and utilizing platforms to lift up Jewish stories."

So, in effect, the US government's national security agencies would be answering to and propagandizing for "Jewish community organizations," which one might think to be inappropriate. But the fact sheet and report itself do not mention what legislation will be in the works to penalize those who choose to be non-cooperative, though the model would likely be the laws that have been passed in 26 states and counting to punish or deny benefits to those who either support Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) or are in favor of any nonviolent action directed against Israel. Note particularly that "college campuses" are explicitly mentioned as targets by the White House fact sheet since BDS, seen as a major threat by the Israeli government and by groups like the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), is increasingly popular among students at a number of universities.

And speaking of BDS, where even Biden has perhaps hesitated to go too deep too directly, there is always a boneheaded congressmen who is ready to take up the pander to Israel mission. Senator Marco Rubio, who has never been bothered by having to think anything through, has introduced a bill that would prevent US companies and individuals from participating in boycotts of countries "friendly to the US." Israel is not named in the legislation, but the Congressmen involved have freely admitted that it is directed particularly against BDS. Rubio claims that "The BDS movement is the single most destructive campaign of economic warfare against the Jewish state of Israel. This bill, which previously passed the Senate, would mark an important step toward bringing an end to the movement's discriminatory efforts." The bill's cosponsor Republican Senator Bill Hagerty added that it would "Provide state and local governments [with] the tools they need to counter 'the discriminatory and hate-inspired conduct of the anti-Semitic BDS movement aimed against Israel our closest ally in the Middle East.'"

Make no mistake, the "Strategy" and all that will develop from it is misguided, overkill, and the death of freedom to speak, write and associate. It is a consequence of the immense Jewish power over the United States government and is in no way justified by developments. One notes how conservative critics of the Biden Administration Elon Musk and Tucker Carlson have recently been called antisemites without any real evidence demonstrating that to be the case. Joe Biden's plan of action will surely similarly open the door to what will quickly become an open season on alleged antisemites. It will subsequently be easy for politicians and the media to label critics of domestic issues like the state of the Mexican border or international issues like the pointless and highly dangerous war against Russia as "haters" and by a tortuous extension antisemites. Appropriate punishment will follow.

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