

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) draft working definition of Antisemitism

The UK Government has asked all UK Universities to adopt the IHRA working definition. The University has set out below how it will give consideration to the draft working definition as part of its arrangements for responding to any concerns that are raised with it relating to allegations of Antisemitism. The working definition will be used as guidance to aid understanding of Antisemitism as part of the disciplinary arrangements for staff and students, along with the additional considerations set out in the statement below.

Background:

The history of the working definition

The IHRA is the only intergovernmental organization mandated to focus solely on Holocaust-related issues, so with evidence that the scourge of antisemitism is once again on the rise, we resolved to take a leading role in combatting it. IHRA experts determined that in order to begin to address the problem of antisemitism, there must be clarity about what antisemitism is.

international
consensus around a working definition of antisemitism, which was subsequently adopted by att

Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.

Applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.

Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).