

**Report by U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin
Special Representative
on Anti-Semitism, Racism, and Intolerance
Report January 30, 2019 – July 4, 2019**

**28th Annual Session, Luxembourg
July 4-8, 2019**

On March 9, 2015, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA) President Ilkka Kanerva (MP, Finland) appointed U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin to serve as the OSCE PA's first Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism and Intolerance (SRARI). Special Representative Cardin has been annually reappointed to the position since that time.

This report details Special Representative Cardin's activities from January 30, 2019 – July 4, 2019, that, with the support of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, focus on the following four priorities the Special Representative has outlined: 1) anti-Semitism and community security; 2) anti-Muslim bigotry; 3) improving law enforcement and community relations with diverse communities; and 4) anti-migrant/refugee bias.

These activities include:

Select Letters, Statements, Speeches, & Tweets

- *June 13, 2019 - Cardin, Klobuchar Lead Fight to Stop Voter Intimidation and Deceptive Practices* <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-klobuchar-lead-fight-to-stop-voter-intimidation-and-deceptive-practices>
- *June 7, 2019 - Cardin Statement on LGBT Pride Month 2019* <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-lgbt-pride-month-2019>
- *June 5, 2019 - Cardin, Van Hollen, Feinstein, Kaine Urge Senate to Pass Protections for TPS Recipients and Dreamers* <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/06/06/2019/cardin-van-hollen-feinstein-kaine-urge-senate-to-pass-protections-for-tps-recipients-and-dreamers>
- *May 24, 2019 - Cardin Statement on Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2019 - Senator Cardin issued a statement recognizing May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and the pivotal role Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have long played in the history of the United States.* <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-asian-pacific-american-heritage-month>

Select Letters, Statements, Speeches, & Tweets continued

- *May 16, 2019 - Cardin Says Russia Continues to Impede Human Rights*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-says-russia-continues-to-impede-human-rights>
- *May 16, 2019 - Cardin Statement on the Latest Trump Immigration Plan*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-the-latest-trump-immigration-plan>
- *May 3, 2019 – Cardin, Wicker, Kaine Introduce Bill to Strengthen U.S. Engagement with the Organization of American States (OAS)* - U.S. Senators Ben Cardin, Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) and Tim Kaine (D-Va.) have introduced legislation (S. 1310) to strengthen the Organization of American States (OAS) by increasing the involvements of legislators in the multilateral regional organization. The bill additionally reaffirms United States support for OAS efforts to safeguard human rights, increase regional good governance, and combat corruption. It seeks to replicate for the Western Hemisphere the successful legislative participation model in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA).
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-wicker-kaine-introduce-bill-to-strengthen-us-engagement-with-the-organization-of-american-states-oas>
- *May 2, 2019 - Helsinki Commission Leaders Commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day*
<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/press-and-media/press-releases/helsinki-commission-leaders-commemorate>
- *May 1, 2019 - Cardin Statement on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-yom-hashoah-holocaust-remembrance-day>
- *May 1, 2019 - Cardin Lauds Election of Maryland's First Female and First African-American Speaker of the House of Delegates*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-lauds-election-of-marylands-first-female-and-first-african-american-speaker-of-the-house-of-delegates>
- *April 30, 2019 - Cardin Statement on House Judiciary Subcommittee Hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment* <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-house-judiciary-subcommittee-hearing-on-the-equal-rights-amendment>
- *April 30, 2019 - Cardin Calls on Polish Authorities to Counter Rising Anti-Semitism* - U.S. Senator Ben Cardin issued the following statement in response to an escalation of anti-Semitic manifestations in Poland over Passover and Easter weekend.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-calls-on-polish-authorities-to-counter-rising-anti-semitism>

Select Letters, Statements, Speeches, & Tweets continued

- *April 29, 2019 - Cardin Statement on the Fatal Shooting at Chabad of Poway* - Senator Ben Cardin expressed his condolences Monday after the weekend shooting at a synagogue near San Diego, Calif. The fatal tragedy came exactly six months after the horrific shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-the-fatal-shooting-at-chabad-of-poway>
- *April 12, 2019 - Cardin, Scott, Johnson, Correa Lead Bipartisan, Bicameral Recognition of April as National Minority Health Month* - U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Tim Scott (R-S.C.), along with Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30) and Congressman J. Luis Correa (CA-46), are leading a bipartisan, bicameral coalition introducing a resolution to promote minority health awareness and to bring attention to the discrepancies in health care faced by minority populations including American Indians, Alaska Natives, African Americans, Hispanics, Native Hawaiians, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-scott-johnson-correa-lead-bipartisan-bicameral-recognition-of-april-as-national-minority-health-month>
- *April 9, 2019 - Cardin Renews Call to Restore Voting Rights to Formerly Incarcerated Individuals* <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-renews-call-to-restore-voting-rights-to-formerly-incarcerated-individuals>
- *April 5, 2019 - Hastings, Wicker, Watkins, and Cardin Introduce Resolutions Celebrating Romani American Heritage* - Remembers the genocide of Roma by Nazi Germany and its Axis partners and commemorates 75th anniversary of the destruction of the “Gypsy Family Camp” (August 2-3, 1944) where Romani people were interned at Auschwitz. <https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/press-and-media/press-releases/hastings-wicker-watkins-and-cardin-introduce>
- *March 26, 2019 - Cardin, Van Hollen, Feinstein, Kaine Introduce Legislation to Protect TPS Recipients* - Today, U.S. Senators Ben Cardin, Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), and Tim Kaine (D-Va.) introduced the Safe Environment from Countries Under Repression and in Emergency (SECURE) Act. This legislation would allow qualified Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) recipients to apply for legal permanent residency.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-feinstein-kaine-introduce-legislation-to-protect-tps-recipients>
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-portman-introduce-senate-resolution-in-support-of-israel>
- *March 15, 2019 - Cardin Statement on the Terrorist Attack on Mosques in New Zealand*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-the-terrorist-attack-on-mosques-in-new-zealand>

Select Letters, Statements, Speeches, & Tweets continued

- *March 13, 2019 - Cardin Commemorates International Women's Day with Remarks on the Floor of the U.S. Senate*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-commemorates-international-womens-day-with-remarks-on-the-floor-of-the-us-senate>
- *March 12, 2019 - Women's History Month and the Equal Rights Amendment*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/news/press-releases/womens-history-month-and-the-equal-rights-amendment>
- *March 12, 2019 - Cardin, Blunt Lead Bipartisan Effort to Spur Economic Growth in Underserved Communities*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-blunt-lead-bipartisan-effort-to-spur-economic-growth-in-underserved-communities>
- *February 20, 2019 - Cardin Leads Reintroduction of Bill to Improve Diversity in U.S. National Security Workforce*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-leads-reintroduction-of-bill-to-improve-diversity-in-us-national-security-workforce>

Meetings, Consultations, Events

in cooperation with the U.S. Helsinki Commission

- *June 7, 2019 - Briefing: Helsinki Commission Briefing to Explore Non-Asylum Protections in United States And Europe* <https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/press-and-media/press-releases/helsinki-commission-briefing-explore-non-asylum>
- *June 6, 2019 - Briefing: A New European Parliament – How Will EU-U.S. Relations Change?*
On June 6, 2019, the European Parliament Liaison Office in Washington, D.C, in cooperation with the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to the United States, the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and the EU Congressional Caucus, convened a panel discussion on the May 2019 EU Parliamentary elections, and the future of the EU-U.S. relationship. The briefing included discussion on migrant and refugee populations, and diverse political participation <https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/new-european-parliament-how-will-eu-us-relations-change>
- *April 3, 2019 – Hearing: Slovakia's Chairmanship of the OSCE* - The briefing included discussion on intolerance and discrimination issues.
<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/events/slovakias-chairmanship-osce>
- *February 27, 2019 – Article: U.S. Congressional Delegation Defends Human Rights, Regional Security at OSCE PA Winter Meeting in Vienna - Delegation Also Joins Munich Security Conference* - The article includes discussion on OSCE efforts to address intolerance and discrimination
<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/us-congressional-delegation-defends-human-rights-regional-security-osce-pa>

Meetings, Consultations, Events

in cooperation with the U.S. Helsinki Commission

- *February 22, 2019 – Article: Slovak Chairmanship Convenes Conference on Anti-Semitism*
Special Representative Cardin Urges Leaders, Parliamentarians to Step Up
<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/slovak-chairmanship-convenes-conference-anti-semitism>
- Meeting with the Elan Carr, U.S. Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combating Anti-Semitism
- Consultations with government and civil society in France, UK, Belgium, and Slovakia on addressing discrimination

Ongoing Legislative Efforts

- ***Addressing increasing hate crimes and prejudice in the OSCE region*** – annually providing U.S. State Department funds to support civil society initiatives to address anti-Semitism, and racism and xenophobia towards Afro-descent, Muslim, Roma, migrant and refugee persons in Europe.
- ***Reappointing the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism at the State Department*** – Legislation included in State Department authorization and appropriations bills called for the new Administration to reappoint a Special Envoy position at the State Department to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, at a time when anti-Semitic incidents have been on the rise in several OSCE nations. A new Special Envoy was appointed in February 2019.
- ***Advancing Women’s Economic Empowerment*** - The Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment (WEEE) Act, legislation introduced by Senators Ben Cardin (D-Md.) and John Boozman (R-Ark, became law on January 9, 2019. The Act seeks to eliminate global gender-related barriers and empower female entrepreneurs around the world, by establishing a development cooperation policy of the United States to reduce gender disparities related to economic participation and opportunity, strive to eliminate gender-based violence, support women’s property rights and increase the capability of women and girls to determine life outcomes.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts continued

- ***Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act (S.1158)*** - This bill was signed into law January 14, 2019 and bolsters the efforts of the U.S. Government to prevent and respond to genocide and other mass atrocity crimes. The bill affirms the importance of strengthening U.S. efforts around mass atrocities through interagency tools like the Atrocities Prevention Board (APB); states that preventing genocide and mass atrocities are core U.S. national security interests and calls on the Administration to pursue a government-wide strategy on the issue; requires specialized training for Foreign Service Officers who will be deployed to a country experiencing or at risk of mass atrocities; and mandates annual reporting to Congress of Administration efforts to prevent and respond to mass atrocities and an assessment of countries and regions at risk of such violence.
 - ***Equal Rights Amendment (S.J. Res. 6)*** would immediately revive consideration of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the U.S. Constitution which needs to be ratified by one additional state to ensure that the Constitution guarantees full and equal protections to women.
 - ***End Racial and Religious Profiling Act*** - This legislation makes it clear that law enforcement actions based on discriminatory profiling such as an entry ban on Muslims are both inconsistent with U.S. values and ineffective. The bill would ban discriminatory profiling by all levels of law enforcement nationwide. It is designed to enforce the constitutional right to equal protection of laws through changing policies and procedures for law enforcement and promoting best practices in community-based law enforcement.
 - ***Democracy Restoration Act (S.1068)*** - This legislation would reduce recidivism rates by restoring voting rights to individuals after they have served their time and have been released from incarceration. Studies indicate that former prisoners who have voting rights restored are less likely to reoffend, and that disenfranchisement hinders their rehabilitation and reintegration into their community.
- Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act (S. 1834)*** – This legislation renews the call for federal action against voter intimidation and deceptive practices designed to stop Americans from voting. Historically, certain citizens, especially racial and ethnic minorities, were prevented from voting because of significant barriers like literacy tests and poll taxes.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts continued

- ***National Security Diversity and Inclusion Workforce Act (S. 924)*** - This bill requires each national security agency to make available to the public, appropriate congressional committees, and the national security agency workforce, a report on its diversity and inclusion efforts. The bill defines "diversity" as diversity of persons based on gender, race, ethnicity, disability status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, and other demographic categories. It also requires each such agency to: develop a system to collect and analyze applicant employment data to identify areas for improvement in attracting diverse talent, with emphasis on senior and management positions; seek a diverse and talented pool of employment applicants; create opportunities for senior personnel to participate in outreach events and to discuss issues relating to diversity and inclusion; and expand training on bias in the workplace and flexible work policies.
- ***LOVE Act (S.1420)*** - This bill requires the Department of State to review employee terminations at the State Department in the 1950s and 1960s to determine who was wrongfully terminated due to their actual or perceived sexual orientation (known as the Lavender Scare). The bill contains an apology from Congress for its role in encouraging the termination of State Department employees based on sexual orientation.
- ***Establishing World Refugee Day (S.Res.552)*** - This resolution, introduced to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, commemorates World Refugee Day. The resolution acknowledges the courage, strength, and determination of women, men, and children forced to flee their homes because of persecution or conflict while calling on the United States government to uphold its leadership role in responding to the global refugee crisis.
- ***Disability Integration Act (S.117)*** - This bill would prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes. The Act clarifies and strengthens the Americans with Disabilities Act, ensures that States provide long term services that foster integration and independent living, and establishes requirements for State public reporting.
- ***Condemning the Tree of Life Synagogue Attack in Pittsburgh (S.Res.694)*** - A resolution condemning the horrific, anti-Semitic attack at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, expressing support and prayers for all those affected by the tragedy, and applauding the dedication and bravery of law enforcement and emergency response officials in responding to the attack.

Ongoing Legislative Efforts continued

- ***Recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month (S.Res.655)*** – The resolution commemorates the rich heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States.
- ***The Strengthening Minority-Serving Institutions Act of 2018 (S.3467)*** – Legislation to permanently reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.
- ***The REUNITE Act (S. 3227)*** – This act, also known as the Reunite Every Unaccompanied Newborn Infant, Toddler and other children Expeditiously Act, requires that the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Human Services ensure the immediate reunification of children separated from their apprehended parent or guardian at or near ports of entry. Also the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall publish guidance agencies will undertake to reunite apprehended parents or guardians and children; jointly establish an interagency office responsible for expediting the reunification of alien children and parents; and introduce secure alternatives to detention programs.
- ***Commemorating the legal end of slavery in the United States (S.Res.547)*** – This resolution designates “Juneteenth Independence Day” in recognition of June 19, 1865, the date on which slavery legally came to an end in the United States.
- ***Honoring the Victims of the Pulse Orlando Nightclub Attack (S.Res.545)*** – On June 12, 2016, 49 people were killed and 53 were wounded in a horrific terrorist attack on Pulse Orlando, a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender nightclub, during Latin night. On the two-year anniversary, the Senate unanimously passed this resolution commemorating the victims, honoring the survivors of the attack, and recognizing the unity, compassion and bravery of the Orlando community and the federal, state, and local law enforcement for their efforts in responding to the attack. The passing of the resolution signifies the United States commitment to stand together with all Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in the face of terror and hate.
- ***First Step Act*** – Became law on December 21, 2018 and focuses on (1) reducing penalties, especially mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment, for various federal drug and firearm offenses and (2) allowing prisoners to be placed in pre-release custody earlier by earning additional time credits as part of a recidivism reduction program built upon a risk and needs assessment system. The law also attempts to address racial and other disparities in the justice system.

Ongoing Legislative and Other Efforts continued

- **Senator Ben Cardin** assisted with drafting the official rules for the Democratic Conference on Diversity, which includes that “The Conference Chairman shall maintain a Senate Democratic Diversity Initiative office. This office shall be charged with assisting the Conference in hiring diverse staff, in all its forms. [and] Each Conference, committee, and subcommittee office [...] shall: (1) engage with the Senate Democratic Diversity Initiative to identify qualified candidates for vacancies; (2) engage with Congressional staff associations and outside stakeholder groups that represent diversity to solicit resumes; and (3) interview diverse applicants for all vacancies.”

Other Non-OSCE Human Rights Efforts

- *April 11, 2019 - Cardin, Young, Durbin, Rubio, Merkley Renew Call for Sanctions on Burmese Officials for Rohingya Atrocities* - U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Todd Young (R-Ind.), along with Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) and Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) have renewed their bipartisan effort to impose sanctions on senior Burmese military officials who were responsible for the systematic human rights abuses against the Rohingya people and other minorities in Burma.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-young-durbin-rubio-merkley-renew-call-for-sanctions-on-burmese-officials-for-rohingya-atrocities>
- *April 9, 2019 - Cardin and Blunt Introduce Resolution in Support of Peace and Stability in Colombia*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-and-blunt-introduce-resolution-in-support-of-peace-and-stability-in-colombia>
- *April 7, 2019 - Cardin, Van Hollen, Bipartisan Group of Senators Press President Trump to Designate Venezuela for TPS*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-bipartisan-group-of-senators-press-president-trump-to-designate-venezuela-for-tps>
- *April 3, 2019 - Cardin, Bipartisan Group Introduces the VERDAD Act, Comprehensive Legislation to Help Restore Democracy in Venezuela*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-bipartisan-group-introduces-the-verdad-act-comprehensive-legislation-to-help-restore-democracy-in-venezuela>

Other Non-OSCE Human Rights Efforts

- *March 27, 2019 - Cardin, Udall, Democratic Caucus Introduce “For the People Act”* - U.S. Senator Ben Cardin joined Senators Tom Udall (D-N.M.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), and all 47 members of the Senate Democratic Caucus today in introducing the *For the People Act*, which strengthens American communities by restoring voting rights to individuals when they have returned home after being released from incarceration.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-udall-democratic-caucus-introduce-for-the-people-act>
- *March 27, 2019 - Cardin Floor Statement on the Bipartisan Enhancing Human Rights in Arms Sales Act of 2019*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-floor-statement-on-the-bipartisan-enhancing-human-rights-in-arms-sales-act-of-2019>
- *March 26, 2019 - Cardin, Durbin Introduce Bill to Limit U.S. Arms Sales to Countries that Commit War Crimes, Human Rights Violations* - U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) yesterday introduced new, bipartisan legislation to ensure that U.S. weapons are not provided to governments that engage in human rights abuses, commit war crimes, or have ties to extremist groups.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-durbin-introduce-bill-to-limit-us-arms-sales-to-countries-that-commit-war-crimes-human-rights-violations>
- *February 26, 2019 - Democratic Leaders to Pompeo: Continue Funding the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/democratic-leaders-to-pompeo-continue-funding-the-inter-american-commission-on-human-rights>
- *February 8, 2019 - Cardin Statement on Reports the Trump Administration Will Ignore Magnitsky Act Requirements* - U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and lead author of the *Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act*, issued the following statement regarding reports the White House will not make a determination on the death of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-reports-the-trump-administration-will-ignore-magnitsky-act-requirements>

Appendix I

Mandate of the Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism and Intolerance

The mandate of the OSCE PA Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism and Intolerance is to:

- Raise awareness in and report to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on the persisting problem of prejudice and discrimination in the OSCE area, including anti-Semitism, other religion- and race-based intolerance and other forms of intolerance;
- Raise awareness in and report to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on the track records of OSCE participating States in combating these problems;
- Advise the Assembly on the implementation of its agreed policies in these matters as well as on the development of new policies and strategies, including on how to protect the individuals and communities affected;
- Seek to promote dialogue and exchange of best practices within the Assembly on combating these problems, and;
- Communicate with relevant actors within the OSCE who work on combating prejudice and discrimination in the OSCE area, including anti-Semitism, other religion- and race-based intolerance and other forms of intolerance.