

**Report by U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin
Special Representative
on Anti-Semitism, Racism and Intolerance
Report February 15 – June 22, 2018**

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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 February 15 – June 28, 2018, 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:

Continuing Legislative Efforts

- ***Addressing increasing hate crimes and prejudice in the OSCE region*** – would provide 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 refugees 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 calls for the reappointment of the Special Envoy position at the State Department to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, which has been vacant for over a year at a time when anti-Semitic incidents have been on the rise in several OSCE nations.
- ***Equal Rights Amendment (S.J. Res. 5)*** would immediately revive the consideration of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which needs to be ratified by one additional state to ensure our Constitution finally guarantees full and equal protections to women.
- ***End Racial and Religious Profiling Act (S. 411)*** - This latest version of ERRPA legislation would make it clear that law enforcement actions based on discriminatory profiling - like the Trump Muslim Ban - are not only counter to our core values, they are 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.1588)*** - 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.
- ***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 of 2017 (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.
- ***Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act (S.1158)*** - This bill, as amended by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on June 26, 2018 states that seeks to bolster 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.

- ***Investigating Russian interference in our election*** - Leading effort to create a 9/11-style commission that would fully investigate Russian cyberattacks on U.S. political entities and election infrastructure and any other attempts by the Russian government to influence U.S. elections, seek to identify those responsible, and recommend a response as well as actions the U.S. can take to defend itself in the future.

Select Letters, Statements, Speeches, & Tweets

- *June 9, 2018* - This week I joined 39 of my @SenateDems colleagues in calling on @POTUS to end his Administration's inhumane policy of separating innocent children from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border. It is a cruel, unnecessary practice, and it's not who we are. <https://twitter.com/SenatorCardin/status/1005498509821382657>
- *June 6, 2018* - Cardin Meets with Minority Entrepreneurs in Baltimore City - met earlier this week with dozens of minority business owners and entrepreneurs on resources in the recently passed omnibus spending bill for the Small Business Administration and programs and grants aimed at the small business community, particularly minority, women and veteran-owned small businesses.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-meets-with-minority-entrepreneurs-in-baltimore-city>
- *June 5, 2018* - Senator Ben Cardin says children migrants / refugees at US border is inhumane policy <https://twitter.com/SenatorCardin/status/1004123259896463361>
- *June 5, 2018* - Cardin Statement on LGBT Pride Month 2018 -
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-lgbt-pride-month-2018>
- *June 4, 2018* - Cardin Responds to Masterpiece Cakeshop Ruling - “Maryland, like Colorado, has a clear anti-discrimination law to protect individuals based on sexual orientation. To add clarity at the federal level, Congress should move forward and pass the Equality Act (S. 1006), which would explicitly ban discrimination in a host of areas, including employment, housing, public accommodations, jury service, access to credit, and federal funding [...] Every American deserves the same freedoms, the same opportunities, and the same protections under the law.”
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-responds-to-masterpiece-cakeshop-ruling>
- *June 1, 2018* - Law enforcement / community relations in Baltimore @SenatorCardin passionately thanked all the partners who came together following the #Baltimore unrest in 2015. That event sparked the desire to provide a community based Center that provides educational programs & community resources for kids and adults. #STEAM
<https://twitter.com/SenatorCardin/status/1002583198323367938>
- *May 24, 2018* - Cardin Statement on the NFL's New Policy regarding kneeling during the national anthem <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-the-nfls-new-policy>
- *May 24, 2018* - Hungary - “In 2013, I chaired a Helsinki Commission hearing on the trajectory of democracy in Hungary. Frankly, I did not think things would get this bad, in part because I did not think the ruling Fidesz party would become more extremist than Hungary's strongest opposition party, Jobbik, but after 2010, with Jobbik's anti-Semitic and anti-Roma rhetoric serving as a Greek chorus, Fidesz leaders carved out their own revisionist bona fides, worked to rehabilitate fascist-era figures, and repeatedly awarded,

elevated, and amplified one of the country's most extremist polemicists. They determined that they could get away with further escalating hate-mongering against racial and religious minorities with one tweak: call them Muslims and migrants. Hatred, it seems, is fungible. Not surprisingly, the politics of fear, historical revisionism, and national grievances have found expression in the ruling party's foreign policy too.”

<https://votesmart.org/public-statement/1246755/hungary>

- *May 18, 2018* – Cardin, Van Hollen Join Bipartisan Group of Senators Urging Trump Administration to Combat Anti-Semitism, Appoint Special Envoy - U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen (both D-Md.) have joined a bipartisan group of more than three dozen senators urging President to appoint a Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, a position at the U.S. Department of State that has now remained vacant for over 15 months. <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-join-bipartisan-group-of-senators-urging-trump-administration-to-combat-anti-semitism-appoint-special-envoy>
- *May 17, 2018* - Team Maryland Brings Federal Law Enforcement Leaders to Washington for Frank Discussion on Crime and Safety in Maryland - “As a federal delegation, we delivered a clear message to our law enforcement partners that we will continue to strongly support their needed funding for federal, state, and local law enforcement programs to combat gun violence, gang violence, and drug and opioid addiction. We also must do everything possible to promote a constructive dialogue between law enforcement and the communities they protect.”
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/team-maryland-brings-federal-law-enforcement-leaders-to-washington-for-frank-discussion-on-crime-and-safety-in-maryland>
- *May 4, 2018* - Cardin Says Trump Administration’s Honduras TPS Decision Based on Politics, not Policy - “Almost 60,000 Honduran nationals live in the United States under TPS, including about 2,000 Marylanders, with about 1,300 American citizen children. I am distressed to think about what will happen to these families, their local communities, and the Maryland and American economies after they lose their status, their jobs, and are forced to return to a country many of them do not know. Maryland alone would lose about \$90 million from our state GDP without the Honduran workers who currently hold TPS. It is time for the Senate to take up and pass S. 2144, legislation I introduced with Senators Van Hollen and Feinstein to provide a pathway to legal permanent residency for TPS holders in the United States. These individuals have lived here for decades, contribute to our economy, and many have American citizen children. It’s the right thing to do.” <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-says-trump-administrations-honduras-tps-decision-based-on-politics-not-policy>
- *April 26, 2018* - Floor Speech. Anti-Semitism in the United States and Europe - Public Statements <https://votesmart.org/public-statement/1239945/anti-semitism-in-the-united-states-and-europe>

- *April 25, 2018* - Discrimination / bias – Muslim ban . I'm hopeful the Supreme Court will agree we cannot allow religious tests to determine who can come to America. #NoMuslimBanEver <https://twitter.com/SenatorCardin/status/989218982027759616>
- *April 18, 2018* - Secretary Pompeo prejudice concerns- Mr. Pompeo has made repeated, damning statements about members of the Islamic faith and the LGBT community that are completely antithetical to American values. Those statements make it challenging for him to represent our country. I cannot support his nomination for SecState. <https://twitter.com/SenatorCardin/status/986640097805299712>
- *April 12, 2018* – Cardin Statement on Yom HaShoah 2018 - <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-yom-hashoah-2018>
- *April 12 & 15, 2018* – Invoking ‘Never Again’ in context of need to address crimes against humanity in Syria - We say "never again," yet we continue to see heinous war crimes committed by President Assad against his own people in Syria. The international community must hold him accountable. <https://twitter.com/SenatorCardin/status/983451136693882880> and <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/after-bombing-in-syria-cardin-repeats-call-for-passage-of-his-syria-war-crimes-bill-additional-diplomatic-and-political-tools-to-hold-assad-backers-accountable>
- *March 29, 2018* - Cardin and Van Hollen Secure Robust Funding Increase for HBCUs in Maryland - “Maryland’s four Historically Black Colleges and Universities are integral to our world-class university system, [...]HBCUs graduate a significant number of our state’s African American engineers and scientists [...]“ <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-and-van-hollen-secure-robust-funding-increase-for-hbcus-in-maryland>
- *March 21, 2018* - Cardin Appointed to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council - which is the governing board of trustees for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Senator Cardin will fill one of the five slots designated for the Senate. The Council also includes five members of the House of Representatives. “The United States Holocaust Museum is America’s official memorial to victims of the Holocaust. It is a monument to American values and serves, in part, as our collective conscience in the fight against anti-Semitism and the apathy and ignorance that allowed Nazi propaganda to weaponize nationalism, fear, hate and bigotry. By remembering the victims, learning from survivors and educating new generations, the United States Holocaust Museum uses broad experiences to confront anti-Semitism and prevent genocide. It uses its many educational tools to highlight how quickly prejudiced attitudes can become heinous acts,” said Senator Cardin. <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-appointed-to-the-united-states-holocaust-memorial-council>

- *March 8, 2018* - On International Women's Day, Cardin Calls on U.S. Senate to Remove the Deadline for the Equal Rights Amendment
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/on-international-womens-day-cardin-calls-on-us-senate-to-remove-the-deadline-for-the-equal-rights-amendment>
- *March 1, 2018* - Will This Time Be Different? Senator Cardin Speaks on Gun Violence and the Students Making a Difference <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/news/press-releases/will-this-time-be-different-senator-cardin-speaks-on-gun-violence-and-the-students-making-a-difference>

Meetings, Consultations, Events

Also in collaboration with the Helsinki Commission

- *June 1, 2018* - Clergy Conversation at the Empowering Believers Church – A conversation with African American Church Leaders on civil rights
- *May 23, 2018* - Anne Arundel County Muslim Council (AACMC) Iftar recognizing Ramadan, celebrating diversity, and condemning anti-immigrant policies
- *March 29, 2018* - Women's Leadership Roundtable Luncheon (the fifth installment of BLC's Women of Color Outreach Initiative.)
- *March 22, 2018* - South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT) Congressional Briefing on Hate Violence Report - Senator Cardin co-hosted the congressional briefing to review SAALT's recent report on acts of hate and violence against the South Asian-American community.
- *March 15, 2018* - Persian New Year Nowruz: Human Rights and Democracy in Iran Celebration commemorating Nowruz - the Persian New Year - and demonstrating support for human rights and democracy in Iran with Iranian Americans.
- *May 14 – 17, 2018* – People of African Descent Week - took place in the European Parliament with support of Members of the Helsinki Commission to increase awareness of the situation the 15 - 20 million people of African descent living in Europe and discuss solutions to increasing racial discrimination and violence. <https://www.ardi-ep.eu/people-of-african-descent-week/>
- *March 21, 2018* - And We Were Germans: The Life of Hans-Jürgen Massaquoi and Ralph Giordano” - To celebrate Black History Month, the Helsinki Commission screened “And We Were Germans: The Life of Hans-Jürgen Massaquoi and Ralph Giordano.” The 30-minute film connects the experience of Afro-German and Jewish-German survivors of the Holocaust. <https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/events/screening-and-discussion-and-we-were-germans>
- Consultations with Jewish civil society and government officials on anti-Semitic incidents in Sweden, Germany, and U.K.
- Consultations with Roma civil society and government officials on Roma EU Framework Strategy, increasing prejudice and discrimination, and recognition of communities in the U.S.

- Consultations with refugee and migrant communities and government officials on human rights training for border officials, trafficking, and unaccompanied minors
- Consultations and events focused on diverse communities and inclusion with government officials, political leaders, civil society and private sector in Europe, including members of the Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network (TILN).

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.