

**Report by U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin
Special Representative
on Anti-Semitism, Racism and Intolerance
Report June 26, 2017 – February 15, 2018**

**Winter Meeting, Vienna
February 22-23, 2018**

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 June 26, 2017 – February 15, 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; and 4) anti-migrant/refugee bias.

These activities include:

Legislation

- *January 10, 2018* - U.S. Senator Ben Cardin Releases Report Detailing Two Decades of Putin's Attacks on Democracy, Calling for Policy Changes to Counter Kremlin Threat Ahead of 2018, 2020 Elections –The report provides recommendations to counter insecurity and disinformation negatively impacting democratic institutions across the OSCE region, including supporting xenophobic political parties.

<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/FinalRR.pdf>

<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-reacts-to-trump-comments-about-russian-meddling-in-us-democracy>

<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-brown-lead-20-democrats-in-letter-to-tillerson-lack-of-trump-administrations-mandatory-russia-sanctions-impositions-is-unacceptable>

<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-brown-hoyer-engel-reiterate-russia-sanctions-accountability-expectations-to-trump-ahead-of-key-caatsa-deadline>

- *December 12, 2017* – The U.S. Senate passed the Justice for Uncompensated Survivors (JUST) Act (S.447) cosponsored by Senator Cardin. The JUST Act calls for the State Department to report on national laws and enforceable policies of covered countries regarding the identification and the return of or restitution for wrongfully seized or transferred Holocaust era assets consistent with, and evaluated with respect to, the goals and objectives of the 2009 Holocaust Era Assets Conference.
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/447>
- *November 16, 2017*- Cardin, Van Hollen, Feinstein Introduce Legislation to Protect TPS Recipients – The bill would allow qualified Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients to apply for legal permanent residency. TPS is a temporary, legal status granted to foreign citizens who are endangered by conditions in their home country such as ongoing armed conflict, environmental disaster, epidemic, or other extraordinary events. Currently, there are approximately 437,000 people with TPS in the United States from ten designated countries: El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-feinstein-introduce-legislation-to-protect-tps-recipients->
- *November 02, 2017* - Cardin, Van Hollen, Norton, Harris Announce President Trump Signs Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Commission Act into Law. The bill would establish a commission to plan activities to honor and celebrate the life of Frederick Douglass, the country's greatest slavery abolitionist, during the bicentennial of his birth.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-norton-harris-announce-president-trump-signs-frederick-douglass-bicentennial-commission-act-into-law>
- *July 21, 2017* - Cardin Renews Call to Create a National Standard for Restoring Voting Rights to Formerly Incarcerated Americans - The Democracy Restoration Act of 2017 would strengthen American communities by restoring voting rights to individuals after they have returned to their communities upon release from incarceration. State disenfranchisement laws have a disproportionate impact on racial and ethnic

minorities. More than 7 percent of the voting-age African-American population, or over 2 million African-Americans, are disenfranchised. Latino citizens and Native Americans are also disproportionately disenfranchised based on their disproportionate representation in the criminal justice system.

<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/07/26/2017/cardin-renews-call-to-create-a-national-standard-for-restoring-voting-rights-to-formerly-incarcerated-americans>

- *October 25, 2017* - Cardin Bill to Improve Diversity in U.S. National Security Workforce. The legislation recognizes diversity of the U.S. national security workforce as a strategic asset and strengthens employee diversity in the U.S. national security workforce through enhanced hiring, retention, and growth practices by building upon President Obama's presidential memorandum for Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in the National Security Workforce and Executive Order 13583.

<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-introduces-bill-to-improve-diversity-in-us-national-security-workforce> and

<https://www.csis.org/events/transformational-leadership-international-affairs>

- *February 16, 2017* - Cardin Introduces Bill to Ban Religious, Racial and Discriminatory Profiling by Law Enforcement. The End Racial and Religious Profiling Act (ERRPA) is designed to enforce the constitutional right to equal protection of the laws by eliminating racial, religious and discriminatory profiling through changing the policies and procedures underlying the practice.

<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-introduces-bill-to-ban-religious-racial-and-discriminatory-profiling-by-law-enforcement>

- *2017-2018* – Cardin includes language in the U.S. State Department bill to support addressing anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance in Europe; support the reappointment of a U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism; and advance diversity in U.S. government diplomatic and security personnel.

- *February 7, 2018* – The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed the Burma Human Rights and Freedom Act (S. 2060) authored by U.S. Senators Ben Cardin and John McCain. Over 680,000 Rohingyas have been displaced to Bangladesh and thousands more have been killed due to a systematic campaign of executions, rape,

disenfranchisement, expulsions and mass burning of villages by the Burmese military. Modelled after provisions in the Russia Magnitsky Act to address human rights offenders, the Burma bill would impose targeted sanctions and travel restrictions on senior Burmese military officials responsible for human rights atrocities against the Rohingya people. The bill would also support economic and security sector reform, and encourage Burma's successful transition of power to a civilian government to protect democracy and hold accountable the senior military officials responsible for the slaughter and displacement of more than 680,000 innocent Rohingya men, women and children. <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-mccain-bill-on-burma-accountability-passes-senate-foreign-relations-committee>

Select Letters, Statements & Speeches

- *February 6, 2018* – Senator Cardin writes Polish Prime Minister Morawiecki to request the passage of fair and just restitution legislation following the Polish Parliament's adoption of an October 20th, 2017 law that would discriminate against virtually all American survivors and heirs on the basis that they are not currently citizens of Poland and that they were not residents of Poland when their property was nationalized; exclude individuals who are not "first-line heirs" of Nazi victims or survivors, disproportionately impacting Jewish victims and their families; and impose a one-year window for filing claims that would be particularly difficult for foreign claimants.
- *February 6, 2018* – Senator Cardin writes the OSCE Italian Chairmanship to request: the adoption of an OSCE Action Plan to address racism, xenophobia, and foster inclusion following the tragic shooting of African migrants in Italy; and the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the OSCE Roma Action Plan.
- *February 2, 2018* - A Call For Action Against Anti-Semitism/Cardin Concerned by Law in Poland – <https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/call-action-against-anti-semitism-europe> (OSCE Italian Chairmanship International Conference on the Responsibility of States, Institutions, and Individuals in the Fight against Anti-Semitism in the OSCE Area, January 29, 2018)
- *January 26, 2018* – Senator Cardin writes to request that the U.S. President appoint a U.S. State Department Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism.

- *January 25, 2018* - Cardin Reflects on U.S. Foreign Policy One Year into the Trump Administration <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-reflects-on-us-foreign-policy-one-year-into-the-trump-administration>
- *January 12, 2018* - Cardin Blasts Trump Rhetoric on ‘Shithole’ Countries as Divisive, Ugly, Contrary to U.S. Values
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-blasts-trump-rhetoric-on-shithole-countries-as-divisive-ugly-contrary-to-us-values>
- *January 5, 2018*- Cardin commissions Government Accountability Office evaluation of State Department and USAID diversity strategy
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/download/cardin-joint-letter-to-gao-on-diversity-at-state-and-usaid>
- *December 21, 2017* - Floor speech on the Dreamers and TPS
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/news/press-releases/floor-speech-on-the-dreamers-and-tps> and <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-requests-extension-of-protected-status-for-salvadorans-in-the-united-states> and <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-reacts-to-haitian-tps-recommendation-by-state-dept> and <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-and-van-hollen-joined-university-professors-to-highlight-the-importance-of-dreamer-students-at-higher-education-institutions-and-call-for-quick-passage-of-the-bipartisan-dream-act> and <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-urge-trump-administration-to-extend-temporary-protected-status-for-honduras-and-el-salvador> and <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-urges-president-trump-to-uphold-and-defend-daca-and-protect-dreamers>
- *December 5, 2017*- spoke at the 3rd Archon International Conference on Religious Freedom where he discussed combatting religious persecution and intolerance at home and abroad.
- *November 1, 2017* - Cardin Responds to NYC Terror Attack
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-responds-to-nyc-terror-attack>

- *October 24, 2017* -Cardin Labels Burmese Rohingya Crisis "Genocide," Presses Administration For Answers
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-labels-burmese-rohingya-crisis-genocide-presses-administration-for-answers>
- *October 18, 2017* - Cardin Statement on Court Injunctions Against New Trump Travel Ban <https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-statement-on-court-injunctions-against-new-trump-travel-ban> and https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press?PageNum_rs=5&
- *September 28, 2017*- Cardin, McCain lead colleagues in seeking safety, accountability for Burmese Rohingya people
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-mccain-lead-colleagues-in-seeking-safety-accountability-for-burmese-rohingya-people>
- *September 27, 2017* - Cardin Decries Trump's Plan for Refugees Entering U.S.
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-decries-trumps-plan-for-refugees-entering-us>
- *September 25, 2017* - Cardin Statement on New Trump Travel Ban
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-statement-on-new-trump-travel-ban> and <https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-statement-on-court-injunctions-against-new-trump-travel-ban>
- *September 12, 2017* - Baltimore Delegation Statement on Federal Freddie Gray Case
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/baltimore-delegation-statement-on-federal-freddie-gray-case>
- *September 6, 2017*- Cardin Statement on Violence Against Rohingya Minority in Burma
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-statement-on-violence-against-rohingya-minority-in-burma>
- *August 31, 2017* - Cardin Responds to Tillerson Letter on Special Envoys
<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-responds-to-tillerson-letter-on-special-envoys>
- *August 31, 2017* - Van Hollen, Cardin Urge Mnuchin Not to Abandon Plans to Put Tubman on Twenty-Dollar Bill
<https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/van-hollen-cardin-urge-mnuchin-not-to-abandon-plans-to-put-tubman-on-twenty-dollar-bill>
- *August 24, 2017* - Maryland Lawmakers Demand AG Sessions Explain Why He is Holding Funds for Fighting Violent Crime in Baltimore Hostage to Extreme Immigration

Agenda <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/maryland-lawmakers-demand-ag-sessions-explain-why-he-is-holding-funds-for-fighting-violent-crime-in-baltimore-hostage-to-extreme-immigration-agenda>

- *August 16, 2017* - Cardin Statement on Annual International Religious Freedom Report <https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-statement-on-annual-international-religious-freedom-report>
- *August 14, 2017* - Cardin Calls Hate on Display in Charlottesville un-American <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-calls-hate-on-display-in-charlottesville-un-american>
- *August 07, 2017* - Cardin, Van Hollen Seek to Preserve Baltimore's Historic Landmarks <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-van-hollen-seek-to-preserve-baltimores-historic-landmarks>
- *July 26, 2017* - Cardin Statement on President Trump's Move to Ban Transgender Individuals from Serving in the U.S. Military <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-statement-on-president-trumps-move-to-ban-transgender-individuals-from-serving-in-the-us-military>
- *July 25, 2017* - Cardin Addresses NAACP National Convention, Underscores Need for Unity in Ongoing Push to Advance Civil and Human Rights <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-addresses-naacp-national-convention-underscores-need-for-unity-in-ongoing-push-to-advance-civil-and-human-rights->
- *July 5, 2017* - Cardin Writes to Trump as Jewish Affairs Positions at White House, State Dept. Remain Vacant <https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/ranking/release/cardin-writes-to-trump-as-jewish-affairs-positions-at-white-house-state-dept-remain-vacant>
- *June 28, 2017* - Cardin Co-Sponsors First Ever Resolution Recognizing June as Pride Month <https://www.cardin.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/cardin-co-sponsors-first-ever-resolution-recognizing-june-as-pride-month->
- *2017-2018* - Cardin asks all nominees before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee about their strategy to improve diversity in their embassy, bureau, or office.

Meetings, Consultations, Events

In collaboration with the Helsinki Commission

- *January 23, 2018* - Briefing: Next Steps for Refugee and Migrant Youth in Europe
<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/events/next-steps-refugee-and-migrant-youth-europe>
- *November 14-15, 2017* OSCE/ODIHR Expert Roundtable on Migrants, Brussels, Belgium
<http://www.osce.org/odihr/365281?download=true>
- *November 7, 2017* - Briefing: Member of the European Parliament Soraya Post on the Situation of Roma <https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/events/situation-roma>
- *July 26, 2017* - Briefing: Muslims and Minorities in the military
<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/events/muslims-minorities-military>
- Consultations with Jewish, Roma, Muslim, and African Descent communities
- Consultations and events focused on diverse communities and inclusion with government officials and civil society and private sector in Greece, Italy, UK, and Belgium (EU)
- Consultations and events with U.S. and European diverse politicians and civil society leaders 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.