Theresa May Sets Out Plan to Adopt Official Definition of Anti-Semitism in Fight to Tackle Rise in Anti-Jewish Attacks

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<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/official-definition-of-antisemitism-to-be-adopted-by-uk-to-tackle-rising-attacks-a3417826.html>

An official definition of anti-Semitism is to be introduced in a bid to cut down on anti-Jewish attacks.

[Theresa May](http://www.standard.co.uk/topic/theresa-may) hopes the move to define what constitutes abuse will “call out” hatred towards Jews.

In a private lunch with the Conservative Friends of [Israel](http://www.standard.co.uk/topic/israel), Mrs May is expected to praise the Jewish state for guaranteeing the rights of “people of all religions, races and sexualities” and wanting everyone to flourish.

The Prime Minister will say: “Our aim in [Britain](http://www.standard.co.uk/topic/britain) is the same: to create a better, fairer society, helping everyone to reach as far as their talents will allow.

"It is unacceptable that there is anti-Semitism in this country. It is even worse that incidents are reportedly on the rise. As a government we are making a real difference and adopting this measure is a ground-breaking step.

"It means there will be one definition of anti-Semitism - in essence, language or behaviour that displays hatred towards Jews because they are Jews - and anyone guilty of that will be called out on it."

A definition was agreed in May this year by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance – an intergovernmental organisation backed by 31 countries – which it hoped would be accepted globally.

It states: "Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

Police already use a version of the definition but it will now be used by councils, universities and other public bodies.

The Labour party has also been hit by accusations it has failed to tackle anti-Semitism within its ranks.