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Report: 89% claim hate has increased

Europe's largest survey on antisemitism "makes for sobering reading", according to researchers behind the exercise, after finding Jew hatred has become "normalised".

European Jews feel antisemitism is on the rise and are "protecting themselves by leaving their kippah at home, only discreetly displaying mezuzot, avoiding certain areas in their cities or skipping Jewish events", they said.

For the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), Ipsos Mori and the London-based Institute of Jewish Policy Research (JPR) asked almost 16,400 Jews in Austria, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Spain, France, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the UK about their experiences and perceptions of antisemitism.

The 12 countries are home to about 96

percent of European Jewry, although about half of the FRA respondents live in the UK or France.

An astonishing 89 percent said they had seen an increase in antisemitism in the past five years, and although more than half felt their government was trying to help, 38 percent had considered emigrating, and 71 percent of Jews said they sometimes hid items they would normally wear, carry or display that identifies them as Jewish.

Of those surveyed, 28 percent said they suffered antisemitic harassment in the past year, including three percent who said they were physically attacked, while 34 percent said they avoided visiting Jewish events or sites, and 52 percent said they did not report abuse, the majority of which they said was online.

Researchers said: "The survey findings suggest that antisemitism pervades the public sphere, reproducing and engraining negative stereotypes about Jews. Simply being Jewish increases people's likelihood of being faced with a sustained stream of abuse expressed in different forms, wherever they go, whatever they read and with whomever they engage."

• Jewish groups this week applauded the European Council's commitment to fight antisemitism, as a wave of nationalism, populism and extremism sweeps across the continent. Chief Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt of the Conference of European Rabbis welcomed the vote.



A total of 28 percent said they were harrassed

