

HOPE not hate

Providing a positive antidote to hate and intolerance

HOPE not hate briefing: Jobbik

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JOBBIK: the party

JOBBIK IS A RIGHT-WING EXTREMIST POLITICAL PARTY whose programme, policies and practices are hostile to the values of civilised society and democracy. Founded in 2003, it has over 12,000 members and holds 44 seats in the Hungarian Parliament and 3 seats in the European Parliament. It has been described variously as “fascist”, “antisemitic”, and “anti-Roma and homophobic.” It is now Hungary’s third largest party.

Among its symbols are the Árpád stripes used by the Hungarian Nazi organisation, the Arrow Cross, which collaborated with the Nazis and was instrumental in the deportation and murder of 400,000 Hungarian Jews. Jobbik also strongly admires the wartime dictator and Nazi collaborator, Admiral Horthy, whose regime started the mass deportations of Jews. In January 2014, the party welcomed plans to commemorate the 1944 occupation of Hungary by Nazi Germany.

Internationally, Jobbik belongs to the Alliance of European National Movements – a bloc of right-wing extremist parties that includes *inter alia* the fascist British National Party in the UK, the fascist National Democrats in Sweden, the fascist Svoboda party in Ukraine, the fascist Republican Social Movement in Spain and Tricolour Flame in Italy. Its leaders have closely associated with the convicted Italian fascist terrorist Roberto Fiore and had close links with the Iranian Holocaust Denier, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad while he held office.

“Gypsy crime”, a term used to criminalise Hungary’s minority Roma population, is such a frequent theme in Jobbik’s propaganda and campaigning that Budapest’s prosecutor accused the party of generating fear among minority groups, specifically the Roma, who make up 5% of the Hungarian population.

The party’s often wraps its anti-Jewish prejudices in the cloak of opposition to the state of Israel or in carefully coded language that substitutes the word “Israeli” for the word “Jewish”. In response to the ban on the party’s private army, the Hungarian Guard, Vona claimed it is not the Guard, but “Gypsy criminals, drug users, multi-national companies, Israeli acquisitions in the country and the government itself that the people find terrifying.”

Similarly, Krisztina Morvai, an MEP representing Jobbik, has been outspoken to the level of vulgarity in her antisemitic statements. For example, in June 2009, she said, in reply to criticism of her: “I would be glad if the so-called proud Hungarian Jews would go back to playing with their tiny little circumcised pricks rather than vilifying me.”

In an open letter to Israel’s Ambassador to Hungary, Morvai said she “rejoiced” at the deaths of Israeli soldiers killed by Hamas terrorists in Gaza. “The only way to talk to people like you,” she commented, “is by assuming the style of Hamas. I wish all of you lice-infested, dirty murderers will receive Hamas’ ‘kisses.’”

The Hungarian Alliance of Jewish Communities has called the invective of Morvai, who has been photographed wearing Hungarian Guard uniform, obscene and openly antisemitic.

Similarly Jobbik, parliamentary candidate and police union general secretary Judit Szima used her organisation’s newsletter to declare in 2009: “Given our current situation, antisemitism is not just our right, but it is the duty of every Hungarian homeland lover, and we must prepare for armed battle against the Jews.”

Party supporters regularly burn Israeli flags and top Jobbik MP Márton Gyöngyösi has even called for the compilation of lists of Jews in Hungary, branding them a “national security risk”.

Jobbik is also a vehicle and transmitter of hatred directed at homosexual people. Its supporters have violently attacked Gay Pride events in Budapest.

JOBBIK: THE LEADER, GÁBOR VONA

Born 20 August 1978 in Gyöngyös, Hungary. Vona studied history and psychology at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest. During his university years, Vona was active in the Christian Student Committee. He was a co-founder of Jobbik and, in 2006, he was elected party leader.

ANTI-SEMITISM, ANTI-ISRAEL AND THE HOLOCAUST

In response to a question about Holocaust denial during a television interview: “if you are so interested in Jewish issues I suggest you move to Israel.”

GYPSY-HATRED

Speaking at a Jobbik party rally calling for reintroduction of capital punishment and revival of the pre-WWII *gendarmérie*, he claimed that “Gypsy crime” was a “term in criminology” and argued that certain types of criminal activities were associated with the Roma minority, which called for “special handling”.

ON WARTIME NAZI COLLABORATOR AND HUNGARIAN DICTATOR, ADMIRAL HORTHY

“In our opinion, Miklós Horthy was the greatest 20th century Hungarian statesman... We Hungarians owe him nothing but gratitude and respect.”



JOBBIK
MAGYARORSZÁGÉRT
MOZGALOM



Jobbik leader, Gábor Vona