



## **B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission shocked and saddened by deadly Copenhagen attacks**

**February 15, 2015**

The B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission has been shocked and deeply saddened by the brutal attacks in the central synagogue in Krystalgade that left one person dead and two police officers wounded and the shooting earlier at a free speech event at a cultural center in Copenhagen that claimed the life of one person and wounded three police officers.

Dr. Dvir Abramovich, Chairman of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission, issued the following statement:

"I am shocked and dismayed by these brutal terrorist attacks. The tragedies we have witnessed over the last 24 hours are another disturbing reminder of the great danger that European Jews and European society in general face from extreme Islamist terror. Sadly, it has now become a reality that European Jews are constantly targeted, in Kosher shops, schools and in synagogues, and live in fear for their lives. This inexcusable situation must be confronted with the outmost urgency. We know that over the last year the number of violent anti-Semitic attacks has increased dramatically, often with fatal results. Once again, I urge European leaders to make combatting anti-Semitism a critical and top priority and to adopt pragmatic, concrete steps to stem this dangerous tide. A first, and positive step would be to immediately establish a high-level task force on anti-Semitism, and to use all means to counteract jihadist fundamentalism that poses a threat not just to the Jewish community but to European values such as liberal democracy, freedom of speech and tolerance. As we mourn with the families of those who lost their loved ones and pray for the speedy and full recovery of the wounded, the ADC stands in solidarity with the Danish Jewish community and the Danish people during this challenging and difficult time."

**For further information please contact Dr Dvir Abramovich on (03) 9272 5677**

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