



Joint declaration against the AfD

AfD - not an alternative for Jews!

For some time, the AfD has tried to score points with their supposed allegiance to the State of Israel and their alleged concern for the safety of the Jewish community in Germany. There are now even moves towards establishing a working group for Jews in the AfD. Nothing about AfD policies should disconcert the Jewish community, according to the AfD party leader Alexander Gauland. The former AfD party leader, Frauke Petry, claimed that the AfD is the “Guarantor of Jewish life in Germany”. Seriously?

No, the AfD is not a party for Jews!

If Jews had to rely on the AfD as a guarantor of Jewish survival in Germany, Jewish life here would have hit rock bottom. The AfD is a party that acts as a breeding ground for hatred towards Jews and the relativisation right through to the denial of the Shoah. The AfD is anti-democratic, misanthropic and largely radical right wing. A mere glimpse at events that took place in Chemnitz alone should suffice for us to see who the AfD really are. It was here where representatives of the AfD marched side by side with neo-Nazis, hooligans and Pegida followers. They were not afraid to take to the streets with people who did the Hitler salute. It was against this background of hate and nationalist thinking, that an attack was perpetrated on a Jewish restaurant in Chemnitz. The AfD, a party of “caring” citizens?

No, the AfD is not a party for democrats!

The AfD sows hatred and divides society. They stir up hatred against people and challenge our democracy on a daily basis. The AfD is becoming increasingly radical and has no qualms about rewriting history. Gauland refers to Hitler and the Nazis as “bird shit” in the history of Germany, while at the same time being “proud of the achievements of German soldiers during two world wars”. Björn Höcke, the AfD parliamentary party leader in the State Parliament of Thuringia, calls for a 180-degree reversal of the politics of remembrance. He describes the Holocaust memorial in Berlin as a “Monument of shame”. In their election manifesto, the AfD advocates a ban on kosher slaughter and circumcision. Those who question these fundamental commandments in Judaism are denying Jews in Germany their right to live in this country. Is this meant to be the politics that should not be alarming for Jews?

No, the AfD is a danger to Jewish life in Germany!

The AfD openly agitates against Muslims and other minorities in Germany. In doing so, the AfD attempts to represent “the” Muslims as enemies of the western world or “the” Jews. Muslims are not the enemies of Jews! The enemies of all democrats in this country are extremists, regardless of whether they are from the right-wing extreme, left-wing extreme or radical Muslim ethos. The AfD will not instrumentalise us. At the same time, Wolfgang Gedeon blusters about how German courts are influenced by Zionism and are neither free nor independent. Jews are given “special treatment” before German courts. Is that kind of AfD electable?

No, the AfD is a racist and anti-Semitic party!

By no means does the AfD represent the interests of the Jewish community. A party that – besides hate and agitation – offers no viable solutions for the current challenges facing our society cannot be an alternative for anyone. No citizen in this country, who holds democracy in high esteem, can identify with this party.

The party is a case for the security service, but definitely not for Jews in Germany.

The signatory Jewish organisations and associations appeal to all democratic forces both within and outside the Jewish community, to join forces in openly and visibly combating any form of anti-democratic, anti-Semitic, racist and populist ideologies!

