[Taking the fight against anti-Semitism to the United Nations](http://nypost.com/2016/09/06/taking-the-fight-against-anti-semitism-to-the-united-nations/)

September 6, 2016

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The New York Post

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For all of its good intentions, the United Nations is an institution full of contradictions.

The organization’s founding charter in 1945 stated it would hope to “achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.”

Yet all too often, the UN has been manipulated by dictators and despots who place little importance on these values.

At a special gathering Wednesday, “The High Level Forum on Global anti-Semitism,” Israel, the United States, Canada and the nations of the European Union will come to together and work toward a true fulfillment of the UN’s vision. Some of the world’s leading academics, diplomats and experts from the private sector will conduct an honest assessment of the current damage inflicted on humanity by anti-Semitism and plan concrete steps the international community can take to minimize, and eventually eliminate, this particular form of hate.

The United Nations wasn’t founded in a vacuum. It was established after the horrors of World War II and the terrible tragedy of the Holocaust. Despite the raison d’etre for its existence, until 2005 the United Nations didn’t officially mark a Holocaust remembrance day, nor did it seek to educate its member-states about it.

The institution hasn’t been immune to anti-Semitism. All too often Israel has been singled out, boycotted and treated differently for no reason other than it is the world’s only Jewish state. Israel has been accused of being modern-day Nazis by some at the UN, and at its depth of hypocrisy, the world’s nations passed a resolution in the General Assembly in 1975 equating the national movement of the Jewish people, Zionism, with racism.

Beyond the cause of justice, there’s also the fact that historically the hatred of Jews has all too often been quickly followed by racism toward others. As President Obama has said, “When the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Jews are repressed, the rights and freedoms of other minorities and other sectors are often not far behind.”

Even today, two-thirds of the hate crimes committed in the United States target Jews. Throughout much of the world, and in the Middle East in particular, Holocaust denial is rampant and despicable libels are spread regularly about the Jewish people.

In January 2015, the United Nations hosted a special meeting of the General Assembly to address the rising tide of global anti-Semitism. Now we’re moving on to practical solutions.

Governments must implement legislation to protect minorities. We must find a way to reduce the hatred and incitement so prevalent online and on social media without infringing on free-speech rights. Finally, we must ensure that the next generation is educated about the moments when humanity has failed and allowed racists to prevail, and is then equipped with the tools needed to fight those who still believe in such evil.

The forum will play two important roles. First, it will bring together leading experts to offer a clear path forward in the fight against anti-Semitism.

Second, the hosts of this event represent the countries that make up the moral majority at the United Nations. These are all liberal democracies that truly live up to the UN’s founding principles. And this forum will provide the opportunity for UN states to focus on those principles.

Instead of nonsensical sessions where the victims are blamed for the world’s ills, the forum will epitomize the UN’s potential for great good. Member states, civil society and private industry will all come together and do their best at solving a disease that has plagued our world for way too long.

We must not be naïve and believe that such a complex problem can be solved with a few hours of discussions.

But at the same time, we must not lose hope that when people of good faith come together with the true intention of making the world a better place, real progress can indeed be made toward the loftiest of goals.