



# October 7, 2023

On the morning of October 7, 2023, the terrorist group Hamas launched a massive and coordinated assault on Israel. Along with intense rocket barrages, thousands of terrorists breached the border.

In the ensuing hours, terrorists stormed Israeli communities, killing families inside their homes and bomb shelters, and setting houses ablaze.

1,200 Israelis were murdered and 251 people were taken hostage on that terrible day.

The war that followed lasted two years and had repercussions on Israel that will be felt for years.



Flags of  
Fellowship



International Fellowship  
of Christians and Jews<sup>1</sup>



## Anti-Semitism Since October 7

- While anti-Semitism has existed for thousands of years, it has seen a staggering surge in the wake of October 7.
- According to the Anti-Defamation League, 2.2 billion adults—46% of the world’s population—now harbor anti-Semitic attitudes, more than double the number from a decade ago. The FBI reports that anti-Jewish hate crimes in the U.S. reached an all-time high in 2024.
- This spike has been seen not just in words but in violent actions. Since 2022, global anti-Semitic incidents have risen by 340%.
- In the U.S., 2024 saw 9,354 anti-Semitic incidents, the highest ever recorded. That includes a 21% rise in physical assaults, a 20% increase in vandalism, and a massive 84% spike in incidents on college campuses.
- Notably, 58% of these incidents were directly linked to Israel, highlighting how the ongoing war with Hamas fueled these trends.
- The anti-Semitism seen in our post-October 7 world is widespread, accelerating, and for many Jewish communities, dangerously close to echoing history—from enslavement in Egypt, to centuries of exile, to pogroms and persecution, to the Holocaust.

## Fighting Anti-Semitism

- In the wake of the October 7 terror attacks on Israel and subsequent sharp rise in anti-Semitism, the Jewish people are facing not only a physical war, but a spiritual one, often feeling alone in their struggle for safety and dignity.
- In this moment, Christian support for Israel and the Jewish people is more important than ever.
- That’s why Flags of Fellowship—launched by the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (The Fellowship)—is so much more than a symbolic campaign. It has become a powerful movement of faith and friendship, uniting churches, families, and communities to honor victims, stand against hate, and stand for Israel and the Jewish people.
- The Israeli flag, planted on church lawns, at universities, and in other public spaces around the U.S. and the world, represents solidarity in the face of rising anti-Semitism, resilience gained from millennia of persecution, and hope for *shalom* (peace).
- Each flag is a public declaration that Christians are not silent bystanders but steadfast allies of their Jewish brothers and sisters, because of our shared values and faith.

