

Subject: Demand of the International Auschwitz Committee - Not in Our Name

On: February 15, 2026

To: German Federal Minister of the Interior Alexander Dobrindt

Dear Minister Dobrindt,

We are deeply concerned by the demand of the International Auschwitz Committee to initiate proceedings aimed at banning the AfD.

We respectfully but firmly reject the sweeping nature of the statement, which appears to speak on behalf of all Holocaust survivors. It does not speak in our name. Within the community of survivors, there are differing political assessments, and this plurality deserves acknowledgment.

Germany's historical responsibility places a special obligation on all of us to defend democracy, the rule of law, and constitutional order. Under Article 21 of the Basic Law, the prohibition of a political party is an exceptional and narrowly defined measure, reserved for situations in which a party actively seeks to undermine or abolish the free democratic basic order. Such a step requires the highest standard of legal scrutiny and evidence.

Antisemitism must be opposed wherever it appears. It is a grave and enduring threat that demands clarity and resolve. At the same time, accusations directed at an entire political party must be substantiated with precision and differentiated analysis. Democratic culture depends on careful language and proportional judgment.

The memory of the Holocaust carries immense moral weight. Precisely for that reason, it should not be invoked as an instrument within contemporary partisan conflicts. Safeguarding remembrance also means exercising restraint in its political application.

A democracy must allow space for lawful opposition and political competition without creating a climate in which dissent alone becomes grounds for exclusion. Protecting pluralism within the constitutional framework is itself part of Germany's historical responsibility.

We trust that any decision taken under your authority will be guided solely by constitutional principles, careful evidence, and the long-term stability of democratic order.

We for Humanity

An international association of Holocaust survivors and their descendants, as well as people of goodwill.