

Lecture of the magistrate to the city council

No room for antisemitism - actively counter BDS

Lecture:

The City Council is asked to decide in public session:

- I. The city of Frankfurt am Main does not provide any space or areas for clubs, organizations or even individuals who support the activities of the antisemitic BDS movement.
- II. The City of Frankfurt am Main instructs its companies not to provide or rent any space for affiliates, organizations or individuals who support the activities of the antisemitic BDS movement.
- III. The city of Frankfurt am Main appeals to landlords of event venues in Frankfurt am Main not to provide or rent any space for clubs, organizations or even individuals who support the activities of the antisemitic BDS movement.
- IV. The city of Frankfurt am Main does not make any donations or grants to associations, organizations or other groups that support the activities of the antisemitic BDS movement.
- V. The magistrate is instructed to implement all the measures necessary for the objectives mentioned under I. to IV.

Reason:

A. Objective

The city of Frankfurt am Main also has a great Jewish tradition. In many ways, it owes its present role and importance as a city of culture, science and commerce, especially to the work of large Jewish families. All the more it is the duty and duty of the city to take action against any antisemitism.

At the same time, Frankfurt maintains a special closeness to Israel through its partnership with Tel Aviv and has continued to develop this special relationship over the past few years. With the deepening of the city relations from a city friendship to the official town twinning, the partnership relations were also formally strengthened this year and the German-Israeli Friendship Day, which has been held since 2013, is another official and public signal of friendship and solidarity with the only democratic one Rule of law in the Middle East. The Frankfurt-based friendship tram expresses this visually in the streetscape of Frankfurt.

For more than ten years, the BDS movement (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) has sought to isolate the state of Israel internationally and increasingly calls for boycott measures in many countries.

At the core of the BDS movement is the delegitimization of the state of Israel, for which purpose boycott and defamation are used as a means. From a self-proclaimed "department store police", who brand Israeli goods in shops and intimidate traders, to the intimidation of artists who perform or want to perform in Israel, to the disruption of events, a selection of various BDS activities is available worldwide. With their messages, the BDS movement uses the same language that Nazis once used to express: "Do not buy from Jews!". The BDS campaign, with its critique of Israel, deeply rooted in the legitimacy of the Jewish state, chooses the detour via anti-Zionism to arrive at antisemitism. The BDS movement is thus a deeply antisemitic movement and should have no room in the city of Frankfurt am Main.

The City of Frankfurt affirms its deep friendship with Israel and continues to work for a peaceful solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.

B. alternatives:

No.

C. Solution:

As stated under I. to IV. the city will, as far as possible, resolutely oppose all activities of the antisemitic BDS movement and make an active effort to ensure that there is no room and no support in Frankfurt am Main.

D. Costs:

No.