



ERADICATESM HATE

GLOBAL SUMMIT **2022**

**The Eradicate Hate Global Summit
David L. Lawrence Convention Center
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
September 19-21, 2022**

The Attack

On October 27, 2018, a hate-fueled attack shattered the calm of a peaceful Saturday morning in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh. A heavily armed gunman, who earlier had posted anti-Semitic and anti-refugee messages on the internet, entered the Tree of Life synagogue and killed eleven innocent worshippers, making this the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in U.S. history. Other worshipers, as well as law enforcement officers who had bravely responded to the call for help, were wounded. The carnage was so severe that even experienced first responders were brought to tears.

In the aftermath of the attack, the people of Pittsburgh responded in ways that have been described as distinctive in the history of anti-Semitism. A *Washington Post* op-ed noted:

While Pittsburgh represents a continuation of the same thread [of anti-Semitism] that stretches from Alexandria to Kristallnacht, it is also different. Profoundly different. Why? Because of the neighbors. Since the Pittsburgh attack, loving individuals of every background have embraced Jews tightly in multiple overwhelming ways. Government leaders, prominent religious figures, corporations, sports teams and an unprecedented myriad of fellow citizens have declared loudly and emphatically that they will stand by the Jews. This breathtaking and profoundly moving reality is virtually unparalleled in the Jewish experience.

A *New York Times* column noted that the synagogue literally was a few blocks from the home of the iconic Mr. Rogers, whose mantra of treating neighbors with love, respect and empathy came to life that day: “Jews and gentiles alike ran toward the fire. . . Squirrel Hill, Mr. Rogers’ neighborhood, is full of such people.”

The Response: The Eradicate Hate Global Summit

The Eradicate Hate Global Summit is the distinctive product of a determined commitment to continue running toward the fire of hate-fueled violence – locally, nationally and globally. Though born of an attack on Jewish worshippers driven by anti-Semitic and anti-immigrant hate, the Summit is focused on all forms of hate and violent extremism, including hate based on religion, race, gender, ethnicity, immigration status, gender identity, or political belief.

Sadly, the Summit’s broad scope reflects disturbing global realities. The Pittsburgh synagogue attack has been followed by what once would have been an incomprehensible series of other hate-fueled mass killings around the world. These attacks have targeted a variety of groups, with several of them specifically referencing the Pittsburgh shooter. These include: 2019 Christchurch New Zealand (51 Muslims

killed); 2019 El Paso (22 killed by a shooter targeting “Mexicans”); 2021 Indianapolis (4 Sikhs among 8 killed); 2022 Buffalo (10 Blacks and 2 Whites killed by a shooter whose manifesto railed against Blacks and Jews); and 2022 Laguna Wells (Taiwanese church attacked and 1 killed by a shooter of Chinese heritage).

At the press conference held in the immediate aftermath of the very recent racist killings in Buffalo, a senior law enforcement officer was asked what could be done to eliminate such awful hate crimes. He responded rhetorically by asking what could be done to eliminate hate. The mission of the Eradicate Hate Global Summits is to provide answers to that question. Though the Summit’s successes should prevent acts of violence that produce tragic local casualties, given both the nature of the problem and its alarming spread, marshaling the best global talent to develop effective approaches to addressing it is essential.

To be clear, the Summit is not just another conference. It is an initiative advancing an approach that is unprecedented in the anti-hate field. The key elements of its structure include: annually bringing together the best and brightest anti-hate practitioners and scholars in the world; identifying specific deliverables that have potential to advance progress in the “war against hate”; forming multi-disciplinary working groups to foster the development of these deliverables; and having those working groups report the results of their work at each sequential Summit. By this process, the Summit is designed to drive progress, convert thought and talk in to action, and deliver the “translational medicine” of the anti-hate field.

The 2021 Eradicate Hate Global Summit

The inaugural Summit was held in Pittsburgh from October 18 - 21, 2021. Even in the midst of the world-wide COVID pandemic, that first Summit attracted approximately 1600 participants, including almost

600 who attended in person. Its co-chairs were Laura Ellsworth, a highly accomplished lawyer, who serves as the Global Partner-in-Charge of Community Service Initiatives for Jones Day, one of the largest law firms in the world, and Mark Nordenberg, the former Chancellor and Law School Dean of the University of Pittsburgh and currently Chair of its Institute of Politics. The Global Advisors and Steering Committee were a diverse and accomplished group of individuals from a wide range of disciplines, including business, education, government, journalism, law, law enforcement, medicine, religion, social work and technology. They were affiliated with such highly respected institutions as the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the EU Commission, the International Residual Mechanism at the International Criminal Court, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh, RAND, Duquesne University, the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and multiple governmental agencies. The Steering Committee included members from the African-American, Islamic and Jewish communities, as well as a congregation member who lost her two brothers in the Tree of Life attack.

Keynote speakers included Tom Ridge and Alejandro Mayorkas (respectively, the first and current U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security); Major Garrett (Chief Washington Correspondent for CBS News), Jonathan Greenblatt (CEO of the Anti-Defamation League), Gary Locke (former Governor of Washington, Secretary of Commerce and U.S. Ambassador to China), Alice Nderitu (United Nations Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide), Thomas Meron (former President and Judge of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals at the Hague), and journalist and author Fareed Zakaria. Recorded remarks from President George W. Bush were also presented.

More than 100 of the top global experts in hate and violent extremism attended in person, even in the midst of the global COVID pandemic, which was a testament to both the unique mission of the Summit and the dedication and commitment of these individuals. Speakers included representatives of many different sectors in the global anti-hate field including law, tech, medicine, law enforcement, civil society, government, social science, and the arts, as well as former members of hate groups and victims of hate crimes, some of whom had created NGOs and foundations to assist communities and other victims of violent extremism. The Summit covered three full days and the full set of recorded sessions can be seen here: www.eradicatehatesummit.org.

As it was designed to do, the Summit catalyzed working partnerships, whose “deliverables” will be reported at Summit 2022, along with new panelists discussing additional cutting-edge developments in the field.

The 2022 Eradicate Hate Global Summit

The 2021 Summit was designed to prioritize breadth over depth, in order to showcase the wide-ranging disciplines having impact in the field, as well as the daunting array of challenges that must be faced, and stimulating the broadest possible range of interdisciplinary collaborations. That approach was very well received and played an important role in the development of participant cohesion. However, the format did have certain inherent disadvantages, including crowded panels and limited time either for group discussion or audience interactions.

This year we are taking a next-stage approach. The 2022 Summit, to be held September 19 – 21 at the David Lawrence Convention Center, will feature a “track” structure, which will enable deeper dives into specific topics including:

- The Rise of Hate and Violent Extremism Among Young Adults;
- Prevention in Practice;
- Violent Extremism in the Police and Military;
- Legal Strategies; and
- Education and Public Awareness

In each track, there already are working groups focused on deliverables that can enhance the efforts of those engaged in the battle against hate. As just a few examples, the following working groups are expected to report on the status of their work at this year's Summit:

- The “Rise of Hate and Violent Extremism Among Young Adults” working groups are focused on issues including the identification of the social and psychological factors that predispose young adults to violent extremism; online search strategies that can identify progression toward overt action; and countering strategies including online video games.
- The “Prevention in Practice” track has groups working on the development of evidence-based clinical treatment standards for violent extremism; a peer counseling model for former members of violent extremist groups; and a funders’ manual for a public health response to violent extremism.
- The “Police and Military” track has groups working on a number of projects, including a comprehensive assessment of the incidence and prevalence of violent extremism in the military; an employment policies tool-kit that would help police departments discipline or discharge officers who espouse violent extremism or belong to violent extremist groups in ways consistent with the First Amendment; and a program that will decrease veteran susceptibility to recruitment into violent extremist groups.

- The “Legal Strategies” track includes working groups focused on the best practices for enforcing judgments against extremists and extremist groups; a case-management tool-kit to aid judges in protecting against the misuse of the judicial process; and a strategy to remove online language that is an incitement to violence while preserving protected free speech.
- The “Education and Public Awareness” track includes a working group composed of representatives of the United Nations, multiple international sports entities, and a Summit steering committee member who led community relations efforts for an NFL team for many years to generate a sports-sector-specific version of the UN Secretary General’s Action Plan Against Hate Speech. The UN has already hosted an in-person meeting of this working group at the UN Headquarters and has invited the Summit to co-brand the work product with the UN. The working group has been invited to return to the UN in June for the UN Secretary General’s announcement of this project to the UN General Assembly.

Not every working group will have a finished product by the time of the second Summit, which will come less than a year after the inaugural Summit. Regardless of status, however, the working -group reports will advance the work, educate attendees, and benefit from the constructive input of Summit participants.

In addition to these working group panels, the 2022 Summit will include international speakers addressing cutting-edge topics in the field. Some of the issues relating to these topics will become working-group topics in future years.

In sum, the Eradicate Hate Global Summit 2022 is anticipated to deliver what funders, advocates and policy-makers, including Summit participants themselves, have long sought: (1) top global experts, (2) working collaboratively, (3) across disciplines and borders, (4) on specific deliverables that will improve the field, (5) with a fixed deadline to report on progress, (6) year over year.

The Next Key Step

Jonas Salk, whose University of Pittsburgh team developed the vaccine that won America's war against polio, once said that "the reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more." Our immediate reward for the success of the inaugural Eradicate Hate Global Summit is the opportunity, and responsibility, to do more. More specifically, our next step is to validate the central concept of the initiative by delivering a second Summit that builds effectively on the first.

No one engaged in the struggle against virulent hate believes that a vaccine-like cure will rid the world of this different, but very deadly, disease. Instead, there is a sober recognition that ongoing work will be necessary for years to come. Our mission, then, is to create an initiative that has both the sustainability and the adaptability to continue making important contributions in this ongoing struggle.

The philosopher Liu Tzo said that "a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." With momentum driven by enthusiastic participants, emerging partnerships, and a distinctive and magnetic reputation within the anti-hate world, we took our first bold step at Summit 2021. We are confident that Summit 2022 will be a second critical step on the unending journey toward a world without hate.

Reviews from 2021 Summit Participants

Nicholas Rasmussen, *Executive Director, Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT)*:

The effort to eradicate hate requires the active participation of every component of our society, to include governments, the private sector, communities of faith and indeed every aspect of civil society. There is no more urgent task in front of us. The organizers of the Eradicate Hate Global Summit are doing the United States and the world an enormous service by tackling hatred and extremism with a focus on honest dialogue and conversation, genuine learning and practical solutions. This will not happen overnight, but the Pittsburgh community's leadership in this effort is genuinely inspiring and motivating.

Colin Clarke, *Policy and Research Director, The Soufan Group*:

The Eradicate Hate Global Summit brings together scholars, practitioners, civil society organizations, and policymakers from around the world to share best practices and lessons learned, based on data and empirical evidence, in countering hate-fueled extremism and violent narratives. No other summit, conference, or workshop brings together such an extraordinary group of world-class talent focused on dealing with the issue of hate-fueled violent extremism.

Major Garrett, *Chief Washington Correspondent, CBS News*:

This cannot be thought of as a conference or a summit. The stakes are simply too high and the data/conversation and methods to drive action more valuable/motivating than any gathering I have attended. I took more than 100 pages of notes and have shared them with my CBS News leadership team, anchors, producers, and correspondents. Nothing about this gathering was easy. The agony around this topic is real. But no one curious about it could ask for a more devoted, rational, or unflinching look into this dark but decipherable world.

David Gartenstein-Ross, *Founder and CEO, Valens Global*:

To me, Eradicate Hate was the most important gathering of 2021 for those of us who work on issues related to domestic extremism and organized hate. The Summit uniquely combined a variety of perspectives, including experts, civil society representatives, politicians and policymakers, and the families and loved ones of victims. Eradicate Hate has the important mission of standing against the rising tide of hate and extremism in our society, and it's an honor to be able to support this mission.

Heidi Beirich, *Co-Founder, Global Project Against Hate and Extremism*:

The Eradicating Hate Global Summit was both eye-opening and empowering. To have so many experts in the field of countering hate, all there sharing their expertise, working towards practical and real world solutions, was incredibly unique. It is this focus on meaningful conversations,

answers, and solutions that makes Eradicating Hate so incredibly important. The spread of hate is a wicked problem, and the way Eradicating Hate approaches it is how we are going to solve it.

Jason Blazakis, *Professor of Practice and Director of Center on Terrorism, Extremism, and Counterterrorism, Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS)*:

The Summit was more than empty words - it made clear that a solution-driven approach is the only way to fight hate. That's why the working group activities, which are results-driven are going to be critical in defeating violent extremism. The Summit brought together the best minds in government, private sector, academia, and civil society. Being surrounded by these experts sparked new ideas - some of which I've already implemented or have written about.

Vidhya Ramalingam, *Founder & CEO, Moonshot*:

The inaugural Eradicate Hate Summit was a truly impressive gathering of leaders dedicated to finding lasting and effective solutions to violent extremism. I was particularly moved by the prominence given to survivors and family members of victims of hate and violence throughout the event. Their stories and those of so many others must be at the center of what we do and why we do it.

Mary McCord, *Executive Director of the Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection (ICAP), Georgetown University Law Center:*

The Summit unites the public and private sectors, domestic and international, against hate and extremism. Researchers, activists, lawyers, technology experts, political leaders, and more come together, each bringing their unique tools to the fight. Important relationships that were established at the Summit in 2021 have carried forward into working groups with concrete deliverables for 2022 and beyond.

Rajeev Ramchand, *RAND:*

My network of professionals working on countering hate in all its forms grew exponentially after attending Eradicate Hate in 2021. The myriad voices represented at Eradicate Hate, from big tech companies to academic researchers to those with lived experience, reinforced to me the importance of cross-cutting and collaborative approaches to counter hate and its devastating impacts on society. I've been fortunate to sustain and build those networks with many of those I met at Eradicate Hate in 2021.

Tom Ridge, *former Governor of Pennsylvania and U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security:*

The Summit offers a unique opportunity to confront the corrosive influence of bigotry and hatred in our society. In order for us to address these challenges, we first must acknowledge their painful and destructive impact in our communities and in our country. I am

grateful to serve as a Global Advisor to this timely and powerful initiative.

Robert Rosenthal, *Board Member and Executive Producer, The Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR)*:

The catalytic power of this Summit in bringing together those who are devoting their lives to pushing back and working to confront, understand and work towards solutions around hate in our society is a noble and difficult task. The Summit not only energized those who attended but led to connecting the dots in a global network of those doing this work. The stories of the victims of hate were painful to witness but their courage in coming forward was inspirational. Those who attended left energized with the hope that by working together solutions can be forged.

George Selim, *Senior Vice-President of Programs, Anti-Defamation League (ADL)*:

It is a tragic reality that hateful ideology has found fertile ground online and offline, with consequences affecting not only Americans but people around the world. We cannot stand idle in the face of bias, bigotry, and extremism. Together, at the Eradicate Hate Summit and beyond, the collective will of individuals and organizations is needed to galvanize the all people of good will to protect and defend our communities.