

Report: Anti-Semitic incidents soar by 57 percent in 2017

The Anti-Defamation League is reporting a 57 percent increase in anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. last year, the highest tally that the Jewish civil rights group has counted in more than two decades, according to data it released Tuesday.

The New York City-based organization found 1,986 anti-Semitic incidents last year, up from

1,267 in 2016. That's the highest total since 1994 and the largest single-year increase since the data collection began in 1979.

The ADL said the sharp rise includes 952 vandalism incidents, an increase of 86 percent from 2016. The group also counted 1,015 incidents of harassment, a 41 percent increase from 2016.

ADL national director and CEO Jonathan Greenblatt said the "alarming" increase appears to be fueled by emboldened far-right extremists as well as the "divisive state of our national discourse."

"Less civility has led to more intolerance," he said.

German court lets cities ban diesel cars

BERLIN (AP) — Handing environmentalists a landmark victory, a German court ruled Tuesday that cities can ban diesel cars and trucks to combat air pollution, a decision with far-reaching and costly implications in the country where the diesel engine was invented in the 1890s.

The ruling by the Federal

Administrative Court stirred fears from motorists, auto dealers and other businesses worried about the financial impact. And Chancellor Angela Merkel's government would seek to prevent such drastic measures by pushing other ways to reduce urban pollution.

Diesel automobiles are a popular alternative to gasoline-powered ones in Germany, with about 9 million diesel cars and several million trucks, buses and other vehicles affected by the ruling.

Overall, 1 in 3 passenger

cars in Germany, home to such automakers as Daimler, Volkswagen and BMW, are diesel-powered, though the cleanest models would likely remain legal.

"It's a great day for clean air in Germany," said Juergen Resch, head of the group Environmental Action Germany, which had sued dozens of German cities for failing to meet legally binding emissions limits.

While diesel cars produce less carbon dioxide and tend to get better mileage than gas-powered vehicles, they emit higher levels of nitrogen oxides, or NOx.



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Nookies Hermiston Brewery
Tuesday's at 8:30 am
- Leadership Class 21**
Tues., March. 13th 7:30am
- Chamber Ambassadors**
Wed., Mar. 14th 7:15am
- Latino Business Network**
Wed., Mar. 14th 9:00am
- Ag Resource & Job Fair**
Wed., Mar. 14th 4:00-7:00pm
Hermiston Community Center
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