

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 37

Concerning anti-Semitic statements made by members of the Duma of the Russian Federation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. WOLF, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. PORTER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SALMON, AND Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Concerning anti-Semitic statements made by members of the Duma of the Russian Federation.

Whereas the world has seen in the 20th century the disastrous results of ethnic, religious, and racial intolerance;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation is on record, through obligations freely accepted as a participating state of the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), as pledging to “clearly and unequivocally condemn totalitarianism, racial and ethnic hatred, anti-Semitism, xenophobia and discrimination against anyone . . .”;

Whereas at two public rallies in October 1998, Communist Party member of the Duma, Albert Makashov, blamed “the Yids” for Russia’s current problems;

Whereas in November 1998, attempts by members of the Russian Duma to formally censure Albert Makashov were blocked by members of the Communist Party;

Whereas in December 1998, the chairman of the Duma Defense Committee and Communist Party member, Viktor Ilyukhin, blamed President Yeltsin’s “Jewish entourage” for alleged “genocide against the Russian people”;

Whereas in response to the public outcry over the above-noted anti-Semitic statements, Communist Party chairman Gennadi Zyuganov claimed in December 1998 that such statements were a result of “confusion” between Zionism and “the Jewish question”; and

Whereas during the Soviet era, the Communist Party leadership regularly used “anti-Zionist campaigns” as an excuse to persecute and discriminate against Jews in the Soviet Union: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) condemns anti-Semitic statements made by
4 members of the Russian Duma;

5 (2) commends actions taken by members of the
6 Russian Duma to condemn anti-Semitic statements
7 made by Duma members;

8 (3) commends President Yeltsin and other
9 members of the Russian Government for condemn-

1 ing anti-Semitic statements made by Duma mem-
2 bers; and

3 (4) reiterates its firm belief that peace and jus-
4 tice cannot be achieved as long as governments and
5 legislatures promote policies based upon anti-Semi-
6 tism, racism, and xenophobia.

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