



Ligue Internationale Contre le Racisme et  
l'Antisémitisme

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Mark Zuckerberg, CEO  
FACEBOOK INC  
156 University Ave.  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
USA

Paris, July 22, 2009

Dear Mr. Zuckerberg,

The International League against Racism and Antisemitism (LICRA) has fought racism, antisemitism, Holocaust denial and negation of genocide and crimes against humanity in all forms of expression for more than 80 years. It defends the moral interests, honor and memory of all deported persons and victims.

The International Network Against Cyber Hate (INACH) is a 18-country strong network that counters multiple forms of online discrimination and hate, including Holocaust denial.

In that light, our organizations are very concerned by the positions your company has taken with respect to online content that denies the Holocaust.

Holocaust denial is one aspect of antisemitism. So-called science has been used to deny Jews – and others – the status of human being and today the Internet is used as a perfect disseminator to perpetuate this hatred, e.g. by those that see gain in reviving the Nazi-era. Indeed, when President Obama visited Buchenwald, he condemned the “ignorant and hateful” statements of Holocaust deniers.

Many European countries that suffered deeply as a result of the Holocaust have passed legislation condemning racism, including denial of the crimes of World War II. This is why Facebook has undertaken to comply with these laws by preventing access to online Holocaust Denial in those countries. However commendable this is, it is an action based on fear of litigation. Surely it would be more fully justified and honorable if Facebook would change its policy and take action against this harmful content irrespective of country, but based on moral, ethical and civic grounds.

I hope that you will reconsider Facebook's position on this very sensitive issue.

Yours truly,

Patrick Gaubert  
President of LICRA

Philippe A. Schmidt  
Chairman of INACH  
Vice President of LICRA

Suzette Bronkhorst  
Secretary-general of INACH