



SPECIAL REPORT

**Jewish Security Organizations:
A Global Comparative Analysis**

Models, Funding, Interventions & Best Practices

December 2025

Executive Summary

Jewish communities worldwide face an unprecedented and evolving threat landscape. Physical attacks, online harassment, campus hostility, and cultural boycotts contribute to a climate that profoundly affects how safe Jews feel in their daily lives. In response, Jewish communities across multiple nations have developed specialized security organizations that work alongside government programs to protect their populations.

This report examines the landscape of Jewish security organizations globally, analyzing their structures, funding models, operational capabilities, and effectiveness. The analysis reveals significant variation in how different nations approach Jewish community security—from the UK's highly centralized CST model to the decentralized federation-based approach in the United States, to nations with no dedicated community security organization at all.

Key Finding: The UK's Community Security Trust (CST) represents the global gold standard for Jewish community security, combining centralized coordination, government funding, volunteer networks, and formal intelligence-sharing arrangements. However, this model is not easily replicable in larger, more geographically dispersed nations like the United States, where the Secure Community Network (SCN) has developed an innovative hub-and-spoke approach adapted to American federalism.

Section 1: Global Overview of Jewish Security Organizations

Jewish community security organizations (CSOs) emerged in response to terrorist attacks and rising antisemitism across Western democracies. These organizations operate at the intersection of community self-organization and government partnership, filling gaps that state security services cannot address while maintaining the trust and accessibility that only community-based organizations can provide.

1.1 Core Functions

Jewish security organizations typically perform five core functions:

1. **Physical Security:** Providing guards, patrols, and security personnel at Jewish institutions including synagogues, schools, community centers, and events.
2. **Intelligence Gathering & Threat Assessment:** Monitoring threats, analyzing intelligence, and providing situational awareness to community institutions.
3. **Training & Education:** Training community members in security awareness, emergency response, and protective protocols.
4. **Incident Reporting & Documentation:** Recording antisemitic incidents to provide data for advocacy, policy-making, and law enforcement coordination.
5. **Government & Law Enforcement Liaison:** Serving as the interface between Jewish communities and government security agencies.

1.2 Countries with Dedicated Jewish Security Organizations

Country	Organization	Founded	Primary Funding	JCSI Score
United Kingdom	CST	1994 (CSO 1986)	Government + Private	78/100 (Highest)
United States	SCN	2004	Federation + Grants	74/100
France	SPCJ	1980	Community + Military	62/100
Australia	CSG	Various	Government + ECAJ	71/100
Germany	None*	—	State Police + RIAS	62/100
Canada	None*	—	CCSP Grants	53/100
Netherlands	CIDI/CJO	1974	Community + NCAB	Limited capacity

*Germany and Canada rely primarily on state/police protection without a centralized community security organization comparable to CST or SCN.

Section 2: Country Profiles

2.1 United Kingdom: Community Security Trust (CST)

THE GLOBAL GOLD STANDARD

The Community Security Trust represents the most comprehensive and effective Jewish community security model globally. Founded in 1994 (emerging from the Community Security Organisation established in 1986), CST has evolved into a world-leading organization that serves as a model for Jewish communities worldwide.

Structure & Scale

- **Staff:** Over 90 full-time employees across four offices
- **Volunteers:** Network of several thousand trained volunteers from all parts of the Jewish community
- **Coverage:** Over 480 Jewish community institutions including nearly 200 schools and over 250 synagogues
- **Leadership:** Founded by Gerald Ronson (Chairman), with Mark Gardner as CEO

Funding Model

CST operates on a hybrid funding model that combines government security grants with private philanthropy:

- **Government Funding:** £72 million committed through 2028 via the Jewish Community Protective Security Grant (JCPS). This represents £18 million annually—the largest financial commitment any UK government has made to protect Jewish communities.
- **Emergency Supplements:** Additional £10 million emergency funding announced October 2025 following the Manchester attack
- **Private Donations:** Substantial private philanthropy supplements government funding
- **Per Capita:** Approximately £246 per Jewish resident over four years—among the highest globally

Core Functions & Interventions

- **Physical Security:** Guards at schools, synagogues, and community events; joint patrols with police
- **Intelligence:** Formalized intelligence sharing with MI5/CT Police (rated 4/5); threat monitoring and analysis
- **Training:** Comprehensive security training for community members, substantially increased post-October 7
- **Incident Recording:** Systematic documentation of antisemitic incidents since 1984; integrated with police reporting
- **Government Coordination:** Formalized MOU with Home Office; direct policy input and advocacy

Why CST Works

1. **Centralization:** Single organization serves entire UK Jewish community, enabling consistent standards and efficient resource allocation
2. **Government Partnership:** Long-term funding commitment (4-year cycles) enables strategic planning rather than year-to-year uncertainty
3. **Professional-Volunteer Integration:** Combines professional staff with thousands of trained community volunteers
4. **Geographic Compactness:** UK's concentrated Jewish population (primarily London and Manchester) enables efficient deployment
5. **Trust & Access:** Community-based organization maintains trust that enables incident reporting and intelligence gathering

2.2 United States: Secure Community Network (SCN)

ADAPTING TO AMERICAN SCALE & FEDERALISM

The Secure Community Network represents the official safety and security organization for the Jewish community in North America. Founded in 2004, SCN has developed an innovative model adapted to the unique challenges of protecting a large, geographically dispersed Jewish population across a federal system.

Structure & Scale

- **Staff:** 75+ employees including former FBI, DHS, and law enforcement professionals
- **Operations Center:** National Jewish Security Operations Command Center (JSOCC) in Chicago—24/7 staffed
- **Coverage:** Project RAIN tracks 12,400+ Jewish facilities across North America
- **Leadership:** Michael Masters (National Director & CEO)
- **Unique Status:** Only faith-based entity with direct link to FBI's National Threat Operations Center (NTOC)

Funding Model

SCN operates through multiple funding streams reflecting American federalism:

- **Federal NSGP:** Nonprofit Security Grant Program—\$454.5M in FY2024 (record), with 37% allocated to Jewish organizations
- **State Supplements:** California (\$160M), New York (\$108.7M), Florida (\$45M+)—significant additional state-level funding
- **LiveSecure Campaign:** \$130 million philanthropic campaign—largest ever for collective Jewish security
- **Federation Funding:** Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) provides ongoing operational support

The Hub-and-Spoke Model

SCN has developed a unique "hub-and-spoke" model to address America's geographic challenges:

- **National Hub:** JSOCC in Chicago provides centralized intelligence, threat monitoring, and coordination
- **Regional Directors:** 50+ Community Security Directors embedded with local federations across the country
- **Regional Organizations:** CSI (Community Security Initiative) in New York, Los Angeles; CSS volunteers
- **Denominational Partnerships:** MOUs with URJ, USCJ, OU—ensuring coverage across all Jewish denominations

Core Capabilities

- **Project RAIN:** Realtime Actionable Intelligence Network monitors 1,000+ sources including deep/dark web
- **Duty Desk:** 24/7 operations—logged 5,400+ threat reports in 2024; made 1,364 law enforcement referrals
- **Training:** 40,000+ community members trained in 2024 (situational awareness, Stop the Bleed, active shooter response)
- **Grant Assistance:** Helped secure \$23.7M in nonprofit security grants for institutions in 2024
- **Campus Initiative:** Operation SecureOurCampuses responded to 500+ threats at Hillel, AEPi, Chabad chapters

The American Challenge

Protecting Jewish communities across the United States presents unique challenges not faced in other nations:

- **Geographic Dispersion:** 7.5-7.7 million Jews spread across 50 states; 55% concentrated in just 4 states (NY, CA, FL, NJ)
- **Constitutional Gun Access:** Second Amendment creates fundamentally different threat environment; 393+ million firearms in circulation
- **Federal Structure:** Security must coordinate across federal, state, and local jurisdictions with varying capabilities
- **Demand Exceeds Supply:** Only 43% of NSGP applications funded—significant unmet security needs

2.3 France: Service de Protection de la Communauté Juive (SPCJ)

SUPPLEMENTED BY MILITARY PROTECTION

The SPCJ was established in 1980 following the rue de Copernic synagogue bombing in Paris. As Europe's largest Jewish community (approximately 440,000), France has developed a security model that uniquely combines community organization with military deployment.

Structure

- **Organization:** Non-profit, apolitical organization dedicated exclusively to protecting Jewish life in France
- **Coordination:** Works with CRIF (Representative Council of French Jewish Institutions) and FSJU (United Jewish Social Fund)
- **Dual Role:** Provides both security services AND official incident recording for annual antisemitism reports

Funding & Protection Model

- **Operation Sentinelle:** Military deployment provides armed protection at Jewish institutions—unique among Western democracies
- **Mobile Patrols:** Ministry of Interior coordinates mobile patrols; number of protected sites changes weekly based on threat level
- **Community Funding:** SPCJ supported by community donations through French Jewish institutions
- **Coverage:** ~65% of major institutions covered

Key Challenge

Despite Operation Sentinelle's military protection, France has experienced multiple fatal terrorist attacks on Jewish targets (Toulouse 2012, HyperCacher 2015). The SPCJ is widely regarded as less robust than the UK's CST, with recommendations consistently calling for strengthening organizational capacity to approach the CST model. Only 14% of French Jews who experience antisemitic incidents file police complaints—indicating significant under-reporting and gaps in community trust.

2.4 Australia: Community Security Group (CSG)

RAPIDLY SCALING AMID RISING THREATS

Australia's Jewish community (~120,000) is protected by the Community Security Group (CSG), which operates under the umbrella of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ). Following confirmed IRGC-directed attacks and the December 2025 Bondi Beach mass casualty incident, Australian Jewish security has undergone rapid transformation.

Funding & Investment

- **Major Investment:** \$90M+ invested since October 2023—one of the largest per capita commitments globally
- **ECAJ Funding:** \$32.5M allocated directly to ECAJ in 2024 budget
- **Per Capita:** ~\$278 AUD per Jewish resident—among the highest globally
- **Safer Communities Fund:** Since 2016, providing ongoing security infrastructure support

Coordination

- **Intelligence:** Formalized arrangements with ASIO/AFP (rated 4/5)
- **State Police:** NSW/VIC dedicated Jewish liaison officers
- **Coverage:** ~60% of major institutions protected

2.5 Germany: State-Dependent Model

THE GAP WITHOUT CENTRALIZED CSO

Germany represents a critical outlier: despite having Europe's third-largest Jewish population (~225,000) and experiencing record incident levels, Germany lacks a centralized community security organization comparable to CST or SCN.

Current Structure

- **Central Council:** Zentralrat der Juden (ZDJ) serves as official representative body with 2003 state treaty

- **RIAS:** Research and Information on Antisemitism network provides comprehensive incident documentation
- **BfV:** Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution provides intelligence monitoring
- **Länder Police:** State-level police provide protection—creating inconsistent coverage (Halle synagogue had no police in 2019)

Funding

- **Government:** €22M additional funding since 2020
- **Per Capita:** ~€190 per Jewish resident
- **Federal Commissioner:** Felix Klein serves as dedicated antisemitism envoy since 2018

Critical Gap

The absence of a centralized CSO means Germany relies primarily on state police protection, which varies significantly across 16 Länder. The Halle synagogue attack (2019) exposed this vulnerability—the synagogue had no police protection despite Yom Kippur services. Federal Commissioner Klein has characterized the situation as "the worst since the Shoah."

Section 3: What Makes an Effective Protection Model?

3.1 Key Success Factors

Analysis of successful Jewish security organizations reveals several critical success factors:

Factor	Description
Centralization	Single organization enables consistent standards, efficient resource allocation, and clear accountability. CST's centralized model outperforms fragmented approaches.
Government Partnership	Long-term funding commitments (UK's 4-year cycles, US NSGP) enable strategic planning. Community security should not compete annually for basic funding.
Intelligence Integration	Formalized arrangements with intelligence services (MI5→CST, FBI→SCN) enable proactive threat identification. Two-way information sharing is critical.
Community Trust	Community-based organizations maintain trust that enables incident reporting and volunteer engagement. Government agencies alone cannot achieve this.
Professional-Volunteer Mix	Professional staff provide expertise and continuity; trained volunteers provide scale and community connection. CST's thousands of volunteers multiply effectiveness.
Data & Documentation	Systematic incident recording provides evidence for advocacy, policy-making, and resource allocation. SPCJ and CST annual reports drive government response.

3.2 Model Comparison: Outcomes

Model	Security Score	Coverage	Intel Sharing	Fatal Attacks	Gun Control
UK (CST)	78/100	85%	MI5/CT Police	2 (2025)	99
USA (SCN)	74/100	~90%*	FBI NTOC (only)	17+ (2018-25)	12
Australia (CSG)	71/100	60%	ASIO/AFP	16 (2025)	94
France (SPCJ)	62/100	65%	DGSI	8 (2012-15)	95
Germany (None)	62/100	Variable	BfV	2 (2019)	94

*SCN connected to ~90% of Jewish-American community via Everbridge platform; physical security coverage lower.

Section 4: Recommendations

4.1 For Countries Without Centralized CSOs

- **Establish Dedicated Organization:** Germany and Canada should prioritize establishing centralized community security organizations modeled on CST
- **Formalize Intelligence Sharing:** Create MOUs between community representatives and intelligence services
- **Long-Term Funding:** Move from annual grant applications to multi-year funding commitments

4.2 For Existing Organizations

- **Expand Volunteer Networks:** CST's volunteer model should be replicated where possible
- **Improve Incident Reporting:** France's 14% reporting rate must be addressed through community outreach
- **Cross-Border Coordination:** CST, SCN, SPCJ, and CSG should establish formal information-sharing protocols

4.3 For the United States Specifically

Given America's unique challenges of geographic scale and constitutional gun access:

- **Expand Regional Presence:** Continue SCN's regional director deployment through LiveSecure campaign
- **Maximize NSGP Utilization:** Close the gap between applications and awards through grant writing support
- **Campus Security Focus:** Expand Operation SecureOurCampuses given 1,694 campus incidents in 2024
- **Small Community Support:** Develop scalable security protocols for communities without federation infrastructure

Conclusion

The landscape of Jewish community security organizations reveals both remarkable achievements and persistent gaps. The UK's CST demonstrates what is possible when government partnership, community trust, and professional expertise combine effectively. The US Secure Community Network shows how innovative models can adapt to challenging circumstances, while France's SPCJ illustrates the limits of military protection without robust community infrastructure.

The absence of centralized security organizations in Germany and Canada represents a critical vulnerability at a time of unprecedented threat levels. The evidence strongly suggests that nations should prioritize establishing or strengthening community-based security organizations with formalized government partnerships, long-term funding commitments, and professional-volunteer integration.

Ultimately, Jewish community security is a shared responsibility between governments and communities. The state bears primary responsibility for protecting all citizens from violence, but community-based organizations provide irreplaceable capabilities in trust, access, and intelligence that state agencies alone cannot achieve. The most effective protection models recognize and institutionalize this partnership.

END

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