Relationship Between Jews And Non-Jews After The War

Excerpt from interview with Professor Yehuda Bauer
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Interviewer: Amos Goldberg

Q- Has there been a change in the relationship of the non-Jewish world towards the Jews after the Holocaust?

B- The question surrounding the post-Holocaust relationship between Jews and non-Jews is of great importance, because the situation has changed. The Jewish position in the non-Jewish world generally, and in the Christian world in particular, has become that of a respected minority. We have to see this in its proper perspective.

In 1965, for example, the Catholic Church decided to change its whole attitude to the Jewish people. Protestant churches did likewise in Germany and in other places. The Catholic Church in Poland made a very important declaration in January 1991, which also indicates a change in its attitude toward Jews. Jews are a minority that has become a respected and accepted part of general society in the major Western countries.

In addition, consciousness of the Holocaust has penetrated into the non-Jewish population. More and more non-Jews are involved in research, writing, and artistic creations on the Holocaust. The relationship between Jews and non-Jews has changed, in part because of what happened during the Holocaust, and in part not because of it. Yes, there has been a radical change.