Identity Evropa

**Update:**
Identity Evropa is a white supremacist group that was part of the alt right from March 2016 through March 2019. On March 8, 2019, during Identity Evropa's annual conference, the group's leader, Patrick Casey, announced the dissolution of Identity Evropa and the creation of a new group, American Identity Movement (AIM). During the conference, all Identity Evropa members in good standing were invited to join AIM. All of them did, according to a video statement Patrick Casey tweeted on March 14.

Just days before the Identity Evropa conference, Unicorn Riot, a far-left non-profit media source, obtained and leaked more than 770,000 messages posted between
September 2017 and February 2019 on Discord chat services associated with Identity Evropa. The content of the leaks provided clear evidence that Identity Evropa's brand of white supremacy was rife with racism, anti-Semitism, and homophobia – very different from the image they have attempted to project. The leaked posts were rife with anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial, including the rampant use of the triple parentheses or (((echo))) and references to Jewish control of the media, Hollywood, internet censorship and the “feds.” Anti-Semitic codes such as “J woke” or “JQ” were also commonly used, as well as the number “#110” -- a numeric reference to the desire for the United States to be the 110th country to expel Jews. “JQ” refers to “the Jewish Question,” a longstanding anti-Semitic “debate” over the appropriate treatment of Jews, and a term used by white supremacists to signal their anti-Semitic bona fides.

The leaks led to dozens of IE members being doxed and revealed that the group's membership included a wide range of working professionals, including a medical doctor in Tennessee, a CPA in Ohio, a Virginia police officer, a Brooklyn electrician, a New Orleans contractor, a law student at John Marshall Law School and several members of the U.S. armed forces.

The Identity Evropa chat logs also revealed the group's desire to infiltrate college and young Republican groups and local GOP offices. In fact, the doxing revealed that many members had successfully connected with College Republican groups and that a special Identity Evropa Discord server was created with the purpose of organizing young Republicans.

Identity Evropa was best known for its distribution of white supremacist propaganda, often targeting college and university campuses. In 2018, the group was responsible for nearly half (503 of 1187) of the year's white supremacist propaganda distributions. In 2019, before they became AIM, Identity Europa was responsible for 138 propaganda distributions in 28 different states. Their final batch of fliers, featured George Washington or Andrew Jackson, read, “European roots American greatness.”
Key Points

• Identity Evropa (IE) is a white supremacist group focused on the preservation of “white American culture” and promoting white European identity.

• IE spreads its propaganda via the internet and by distributing fliers, posters, banners and stickers, especially on college campuses.

• IE’s slogan, “You will not replace us,” reflects its belief that unless immediate action is taken, the white race is doomed to extinction by an alleged ‘rising tide of color’ purportedly controlled and manipulated by Jews.

• IE has participated in protests against Muslims and immigration, and joined events organized by other white supremacist groups.

Background
Identity Evropa (IE) is a white supremacist group that is focused on the preservation of “white American identity” and promoting white European culture. They promulgate the idea that America was founded by white people for white people and was not intended to be a multiracial or multicultural society.
In that vein, they adopted and popularized the white supremacist slogan “You will not replace us,” which is a substitute for the better-known white supremacist motto the “14 words.” Both phrases reflect the white supremacist worldview that unless immediate action is taken, the white race is doomed to extinction at the hands of an alleged “rising tide of color,” which is purportedly controlled and manipulated by Jews.

“You will not replace us” first appeared in February 2017 when IE members, including founder Nathan Damigo, showed up at the Museum of the Moving Image in New York City, where actor Shia LeBeouf has set up an anti-Trump live-stream for a project called “He will not divide us.” Damigo said to the camera, “Shia LeBeouf, you will not replace us with your globalism.” The others then joined in, shouting repeatedly, “You will not replace us.”

The IE also brought a “You Will Not Replace Us” banner to the May 2017 alt-right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. In August, IE members and other white supremacists chanted the slogan during the tiki torch march and the following day at Unite the Right.
IE distinguishes itself from other white supremacist groups by avoiding the most recognizable white supremacist imagery and language. The group’s logo is a blue or white dragon’s eye, an ancient European symbol that represents the choice between good and evil. For their posters and fliers, IE often uses black and white images of sculptures, including Michelangelo’s statue of David and Nicolas Coustou’s Julius Caesar. These classic European images are accompanied by variably subtle white supremacist messages: “Our destiny is ours,” “White people do something,” “Our future belongs to us,” “Only we can be us,” “Let's become great again,” “Serve your people” and “Protect your heritage.”

Identity Evropa also uses fliers featuring Damigo and Evan Thomas, an IE member from Michigan, alongside phrases like “Our generation, our future, our last chance” and “Action. Leadership. Identity.”
Posters promoting books published by white nationalists have accompanied IE flyer distributions, including White Identity, a book by American Renaissance leader Jared Taylor, and books published by Arktos Media, an alt right publishing company led by former Swedish neo-Nazi Daniel Friberg.

**Origin**

Identity Evropa was founded by Nathan Damigo, an Iraq war veteran who is also a convicted felon. After an “Other Than Honorable” discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps in 2007, Damigo, of Oakdale, California, served five years in prison for robbing a man he believed was an Iraqi. While in prison, Damigo read former Klan leader David Duke's book, My Awakening, which encouraged him to adopt white supremacist views. He was released from prison in 2014 and enrolled at California State University, Stanislaus, where he briefly led the National Youth Front (NYF), the youth wing of the white supremacist American Freedom Party (AMF). After NYF disbanded, Damigo formed IE in March 2016.

In the wake of the August 2017 “Unite the Right” rally, Damigo abruptly resigned from IE, citing a need to focus on his personal life, and appointed Elliot Kline, also known as Eli Mosley, as the group's new leader. Kline, a self-described Army veteran from Pennsylvania, joined IE in 2016 and served as the group's director of events before taking the helm.

Kline led IE for just three months before resigning, citing irreconcilable differences. Almost immediately, he and Richard Spencer formed a new alt right organization called Operation Homeland. Kline, however, vanished from the white supremacist scene in February 2018, after a New York Times documentary revealed he had lied to his followers about being an Iraq war veteran.
Current Leadership

In November 2017, IE's Chief of Staff Patrick Casey (previously known by his alias Reinhard Wolff) replaced Kline as the group's leader. Casey, whose membership with Identity Evropa dates back to the first days of the organization, has also been the group's spokesman and its director of administration. His activism has included recruitment efforts at his alma mater, San Diego State University. Casey works for Red Ice TV, a Sweden-based alt right political media company, where he writes articles and provides live commentary.
Under Casey's leadership, IE has stepped away from collaborations with the broader white supremacist movement and its large events, focusing instead on invitation-only events like its first national conference. More than 50 IE members attended the gathering, held in Burns, Tennessee, in March 2018. Speakers included white supremacists Jared Taylor, James Allsup and Sam Dickson.
Prior to Casey’s leadership, Identity Evropa participated in events organized by other white supremacist groups. These events included white supremacist conferences and events focused on the preservation of Confederate monuments and “free speech.”

In June 2017, IE participated in anti-Muslim rallies organized by ACT for America in New York, Orlando, and Indianapolis.

**Activity**

IE also organizes small “flash mob” demonstrations. In March 2018, dozens of IE members showed up at the Parthenon in Nashville, Tennessee, with a large banner that read, “European Roots. American Greatness.” Several members also appeared at a March pro-border wall rally in San Diego, California, with a “No DACA! No Amnesty!” banner.
Identity Evropa is active online but is best known for distributing white supremacist posters and fliers at universities across the country. In 2017, the ADL counted 148 incidents of IE propaganda appearing on campuses in Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

Campus activism remains a priority in 2018; the group's propaganda continues to surface on dozens of college campuses.

Since June 2017, Identity Evropa has increasingly used large, publicly-displayed banners to promote their group and ideology. Dozens of Identity Evropa banners
have been hung from overpasses and bridges around the country. Most of the banners attributed to IE contain anti-immigration rhetoric and include language that aligns with mainstream far-right anti-immigration groups, with slogans like “Secure borders. Secure future,” “Defend American workers. End DACA now!” and “No more refugees. America First.” These phrases are a sanitized version of the group’s true aim, the preservation of “white American identity.”

In a related attempt to appeal to mainstream conservatives, IE has used banners to target those who believe liberals are waging a war against Christmas, and that the “politically correct” use of secular greetings such as “Happy Holidays” is an insult to Christianity. In December 2017, Identity Evropa ran a campaign featuring banners that read “Keep traditions alive. Merry Christmas.”

More Activity:

- Nashville, Tennessee, March 11, 2018: Approximately 50 IE members participated in a flash demonstration at the Parthenon.
- San Diego, California, March 13, 2018: Several IE members participated in a pro-border wall rally organized by San Diegans for Secure Borders.

- Burns, Tennessee, March 9-11, 2018: Over the weekend Identity Evropa held its first national conference which included white supremacist speakers Jared Taylor, James Allsup, and Sam Dickson.

- New Orleans, Louisiana, February 10, 2018: Several IE members demonstrated in Jackson Square holding a banner that read, “Embrace your heritage,” and projected an image of General Lee on New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu’s office in protest of the Mayor's support for the removal of a Robert E Lee statue.

- Washington D.C., February 23, 2018: Several IE members, including Patrick Casey, attended the Conservative Political Action Conference.

- Charlottesville, Virginia, August 12, 2017: IE members attended the white supremacist Unite the Right rally.


- Miami, Florida, August 6, 2017: IE members disrupted a pro-immigration forum at Miami Dade College’s-Kendall Campus by going on stage and
unfurling an Identity Evropa banner in front of the forum speakers.

- Burns, Tennessee, July 28-20, 2017: IE members attended the annual conference held by the American Renaissance.


- Orlando, Florida, May 27, 2017, IE members participated in a pro-Confederate memorial gathering at Lake Eola with alt right activist Augustus Invictus.
- Charlottesville, Virginia, May 13, 2017: IE members participated in a white supremacist rally against the removal of confederate monuments.

- St Paul, Minnesota May 6, 2017: IE members joined a Make America Great Again rally.

- Berkeley, California, April 15, 2017: IE members participated in free speech that turned so violent that it was later dubbed the “Battle of Berkeley.” Damigo gained notoriety after punching a female counter-protester during the brawl.