

A Defining Moment for Europe:
AJC Strategy Conference on Combating Anti-Semitism



5 MAY 2015 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



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TUESDAY, 5 MAY

SILKEN BERLAYMONT BRUSSELS
BOULEVARD CHARLEMAGNE 11/19, B-1000 BRUSSELS
ROOM: GASPERI I + II + III

8:30:00 OPENING REMARKS

Keynote Speakers:

Mr. Daniel Schwammenthal, Director, AJC
Transatlantic Institute

Mr. Jan Jambon, Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Security and the Interior, Belgium

Ms. Věra Jourová, European Commissioner for
Justice, Consumers, and Gender Equality

9:15:00 SESSION I

Counter-Radicalization: Strategies to Confront and
Defuse Islamist Extremism

Moderator:

Ms. Simone Rodan-Benzaquen, Director, AJC Paris

Featured Panelists:

Ms. Souad Mekhennet, Security Correspondent, *The
Washington Post*, Germany

Imam Yahya Pallavicini, al-Wahid Mosque, Milan,
and Vice President, Comunità Religiosa Islamica
Italiana

Mr. Haras Rafiq, Managing Director, Quilliam
Foundation, United Kingdom

Ms. Mona Sahlin, National Coordinator Against
Violent Extremism, Sweden

10:30:00 COFFEE BREAK
Schuman Lobby

10:45:00 SESSION II
Assuring a European Jewish Future: Strategies to
Secure Vulnerable Communities

Moderator:

Rabbi Andrew Baker, AJC Director of International
Jewish Affairs

Featured Panelists:

Mr. Ron Azogui, Former Director, Service de
Protection de la Communauté Juive, France

Mr. John Farmer, Co-Founder, Rutgers University
Institute for Emergency Preparedness and
Homeland Security, United States

Mr. Jonathan Fischer, Vice-President, Jewish
Community of Denmark

Mr. Mark Gardner, Deputy Director and Director of
Communications, Community Security Trust, United
Kingdom

11:45:00 CALL TO ACTION

Featured Speaker:

Mr. David Harris, AJC Executive Director

12:00:00 COFFEE BREAK
Schuman Lobby

12:15:00 SESSION III
Combating the Rise in Anti-Semitism: Governments Respond

Moderator:

Ms. Deidre Berger, Director, AJC Berlin Ramer
Institute for German-Jewish Relations

Featured Panelists:

Mr. Gilles Clavreul, Inter-Ministerial Delegate on
Racism and Anti-Semitism, France

Mr. Ira Forman, Special Envoy to Monitor and
Combat Anti-Semitism, United States Department
of State

Amb. Dr. Felix Klein, Special Representative of the
Federal Foreign Office for Relations with Jewish
Organizations and Anti-Semitism Issues, Germany

13:30:00 LUNCH
Schuman Lobby

END OF PROGRAM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

MR. JAN JAMBON, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Security and the Interior, Belgium

Mr. Jan Jambon has been the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Security and the Interior of Belgium since October 2014. Jambon was born in Genk, in the Flemish Region of Belgium. He is a member of the New Flemish Alliance (N-VA), which became was the biggest party with 33 seats in the 2014 elections. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Security and the Interior, Jambon was a Member of the Chamber of Representatives representing the community of Braaschat, for which he has also been Mayor since 2012. Among his responsibilities has been to lead the N-VA parliamentary group. Jambon began his professional career in information technology, working as a System Engineer and Account Manager at IBM between 1984 and 1992. Jambon graduated from Vrije Universiteit in Brussels with a degree in Computer Science and holds a Master's of Business Administration from the University of Antwerp.

MS. VĚRA JOUROVÁ, European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers, and Gender Equality

Ms. Věra Jourová has been European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers, and Gender Equality since October 2014. Born in Třebíč (former Czechoslovakia), she holds degrees in Theory of Culture (1991) and Law (2012) from Charles University in Prague. As Commissioner, Jourová heads the EU's efforts at concluding the bloc's accession to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of the Council of Europe. Jourová has been a member of the centrist ANO party since 2012; since 2013, she has been the party's deputy chairwoman. Between 1995 and 2000, Jourová was spokesperson of the Třebíč Municipal Office and between 2001 and 2003 shed worked as Head of the Regional Development Section of the Regional Office of the Vysočina Region. Between 2003 and 2006, she was Deputy Minister for Regional Development (2003-06). Before being elected a Member of the Czech Parliament in 2013, Jourová was active in consultancy in the Western Balkans relating to EU accession. Prior to being appointed European Commissioner in 2014, Jourová was Czech Minister for Regional Development.

FEATURED PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

MR. RON AZOGUI, Former Director, Service de Protection de la Communauté Juive, France

Mr. Ron Azogui served as the Directed of Service de Protection de la Communauté Juive (SPCJ) for eight years (2006-2014). SPCJ is a French Jewish organization that provides security advice and assistance to French Jewish communities and represents these communities in meetings with high-level government officials and French police on matters of anti-Semitism, security, and terrorism.

MR. GILLES CLAVREUL, Inter-Ministerial Delegate on Racism and Anti-Semitism, France

The Prefect Gilles Clavreul has served as the French Inter-Ministerial Delegate on Racism and Anti-Semitism since December 2014. Between 2012 and 2014, he was advisor for Territorial Affairs and then Advisor for Domestic Affairs in the Office of the President. There, he assisted on all subjects concerning domestic security (law enforcement, civil security, and public order) in liaison with the Government. Between 2007 and 2012, Clavreul worked for the General Secretary of the Minister of the Interior. Before 2007 Clavreul occupied various positions in the Civil Service. An alumnus of the National Administration School, promotion “Averroes,” Clavreul graduated from the Institute of Political Studies of Paris where he obtained his postgraduate diploma in political sciences.

MR. JOHN FARMER, Co-Founder, Rutgers University Institute for Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security, United States

Mr. John J. Farmer, Jr., began his tenure as Dean of Rutgers School of Law, Newark, in July 2009. From April 2013 until June 2014 he served as Senior Vice President and University Counsel. His distinguished legal career has spanned service in high-profile government appointments, private practice in diverse areas of criminal law, and teaching, including as Attorney General for the State of New Jersey; Assistant U.S. Attorney; Chief Counsel to the Governor and Senior Counsel and Team Leader for the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the U.S. (the “9/11 Commission”). Farmer received his J.D. in 1986 from Georgetown Law.

MR. JONATHAN FISCHER, Vice-President, Jewish Community of Denmark

In his role as Vice Chairman of the Jewish Community of Denmark Jonathan Fischer has responsibility for overseeing the community's security needs and crisis management. Since the February 14, 2014, attack and murder of Jewish security volunteer Dan Uzan in Copenhagen, Fischer has been intensively engaged in efforts to secure increased government support.

MR. IRA N. FORMAN, Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, United States Department of State

Mr. Ira N. Forman was sworn in as Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism on May 20, 2013. Most recently Forman served as the Jewish Outreach Director for the Obama for America campaign. He served for nearly 15 years as the Executive Director of the National Jewish Democratic Council and spent four years with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, where he worked as Political Director and Legislative Liaison. He has also served on the boards of a number of Jewish non-profits. Forman co-edited and wrote for the reference book, *Jews In American Politics*. Forman received his B.A. from Harvard University, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude in Government. He received his M.B.A. from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business.

MR. MARK GARDNER, Deputy Director and Director of Communications, Community Security Trust, United Kingdom

Mr. Mark Gardner has worked full-time for Community Security Trust (and its predecessor, Community Security Organisation) since 1989. He is Director of Communications and Deputy Director of Operations since 2005. As Director of Communications, Gardner plays a leading role in coordinating UK Jewish media and political responses on CST's core issues of anti-Semitism, policing, security and terrorism. He has represented CST and the Jewish community to Government and international bodies on numerous occasions,

including the 2006 Parliamentary Inquiry into Anti-Semitism, and various European Union committees and anti-racism research projects. Gardner has authored many articles and CST reports on anti-Semitism, policing, security and terrorism.

AMBASSADOR DR. FELIX KLEIN, Special Representative of the Federal Foreign Office for Relations with Jewish Organizations and Anti-Semitism Issues, Germany

Ambassador Dr. Felix Klein took up his current position in March 2014. After having served since 2011 as Head of the Personnel Division for the Higher Service in Berlin. From 2008 to 2011 he served as Private Secretary to the State Secretary of the Foreign Office. He joined the Foreign Office in 1994 where he started his career as Desk Officer in the Latin America Division, followed by posts as Press and Cultural Attaché at the German Embassy in Yaoundé/Cameroon, Desk Officer at the Personnel Division in Berlin, Deputy Head of Mission at the German General Consulate in Milan/Italy and Deputy Head of Division for Bilateral Relations with Southern EU Member States. Ambassador Klein holds law degrees from the University of Freiburg/Germany, the London School of Economics (LLM) and the University of St. Gallen/Switzerland (PhD).

MS. SOUAD MEKHENNET, Security Correspondent, *The Washington Post*, Germany

Ms. Souad Mekhennet, the German-born daughter of a Turkish mother and a Moroccan father, reports for *The Washington Post*, German TV channel ZDF and the *Daily Beast*. Between 2004 and 2012 she also reported for *The New York Times*. Since shortly after September 11, 2001, she has been reporting about radical Islamic movements. She is a visiting fellow at the Weatherhead Centre at Harvard University and at the School for Advanced and International Studies at John Hopkins University. Mekhennet was selected as a 2014 Young Global Leader at the World Economic Forum, which honors the world's most exceptional leaders under

age 40. She was one of two reporters who broke the story of Khaled el Masri's extradition case and worked on a series called "Inside the Jihad" for which she and her colleagues interviewed members of radical jihadist organizations all over the world. She has taught and lectured at Harvard University, the City University of New York's School of Journalism and the University of Hamburg. Mekhennet holds degrees from the University of Frankfurt.

IMAM YAHYA PALLAVICINI, Al-Wahid Mosque, Milan, and Vice President, Comunità Religiosa Islamica Italiana

Imam Yahya Sergio Yahe Pallavicini was born in 1965. He is the imam of the al-Wahid mosque in Milan and vice-president of the Italian Co.re.is (Comunità religiosa islamica). He is among the founders of the committee of imam, rabbis and Christians for peace established by UNESCO, as well as councillor for the relations with the Vatican and Italy of the 138 Muslim international sages who signed the document A Common Word. He is also chairman of the Council for Education and Culture in the West as part of the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and is a member of the Italian Minister of the Interior's Council on Islam in Italy. Pallavicini is widely known as a voice for moderate, democratic Islam, and has strongly denounced violence committed in the name of Islam. He is witness of a spiritual, orthodox and ecumenical Islam. Pallavicini focused in particular on subjects like the relationship between faith and secularism, intercultural education, interreligious dialogue, and inner knowledge.

MR. HARAS RAFIQ, Managing Director, Quilliam Foundation, United Kingdom

Mr. Haras Rafiq, Quilliam's Managing Director, was formerly a member of the United Kingdom's Government task force on countering extremism, specifically in response to the 2005 terrorist bombings in London, as well as a peer mentor for IDeA advising regional government. In addition, he has worked on and delivered

numerous projects relating to the analysis of radicalization, as well as the deradicalization of extremists, and has presented on a number of academic and political platforms, nationally and internationally. As part of his work, Rafiq is committed to countering xenophobia and hatred, and has spoken at many conferences and events, including the Global Forum on Combating Anti-Semitism (December 2009). He was also Chair of a working group of the Global Experts' Forum on Anti-Semitism in Ottawa in 2010. Rafiq is regularly featured in the media as a commentator and has been a cultural ambassador through the United Kingdom Government's "Projecting British Islam" initiative. As well as the above, Rafiq has also served on the North West Board of the Mosaic initiative, which was initiated by HRH Prince Charles, and is aimed at mentoring youth to become contributing members of society.

MS. MONA SAHLIN, National Coordinator Against Violent Extremism, Sweden

Ms. Mona Ingeborg Sahlin has been in public service for several decades. Prior to being named the first-ever National Coordinator Against Violent Extremism in Sweden in 2014, Sahlin headed the Swedish Social Democratic Party from 2007 to 2011; she was the first woman to hold the post. Sahlin has served in several ministerial posts in the Swedish government, including Minister of Employment, Minister of Education, Minister for Democracy, Integration, and Gender Equality, Minister for the Environment, and others. Throughout her distinguished career, Sahlin has also worked as a television reporter and as elected chairwoman of the European Council Against Racism.

AJC BIOGRAPHIES

MR. STANLEY BERGMAN, AJC National President, United States

Mr. Stanley M. Bergman is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Henry Schein, Inc., a Fortune 500® company and the world's largest provider of health care products and services to office-based dental, animal health and medical practitioners. Henry Schein has been a Fortune World's Most Admired company for 13 consecutive years and is ranked #1 in its industry on Fortunes 2014 World's Most Admired Companies List. Bergman was previously Chair of AJC's Board of Governors and was also Chair of AJC's Africa Institute, which he co-founded together with his wife, Dr. Marion J. Bergman. For more than three decades, Bergman and his family have been active supporters of organizations that foster the arts, higher education, cultural diversity, grassroots health care and sustainable entrepreneurial economic development in the United States and in developing regions of the world. Bergman is a board member or advisor for New York University College of Dentistry; University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine; Columbia University Medical Center; Hebrew University; Tel Aviv University; University of Witwatersrand Fund; World Economic Forum's Health Care Governors; Forsyth Institute; Metropolitan Opera; and Business Council for International Understanding. He is an honorary member of the American Dental Association and Alpha Omega Jewish Dental Fraternity. Among the honors he has received are the Ellis Island Medal of Honor; the CR Magazine Corporate Responsibility Lifetime Achievement Award; a Doctor of Humane Letters from A.T. Still University's Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health; and an Honorary Fellowship from King's College London Institute of Dentistry. He is a graduate of the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa and is a New York State Certified Public Accountant and a South African Chartered Accountant.

MR. DAVID HARRIS, AJC Executive Director, United States

Mr. David Harris has led AJC since 1990. Described by Israeli President Shimon Peres as the “foreign minister of the Jewish people,” he has been invited to speak at some of the world’s most prestigious forums, including the World Economic Forum in Davos, and has testified before the U.S. Congress, the UN Human Rights Commission, and the French Parliament. He has been honored a total of 14 times by the governments of Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Spain, and Ukraine for his international efforts in defense of human rights, advancement of the transatlantic partnership, and dedication to the Jewish people. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He has written hundreds of articles, op-eds, letters, and reviews in leading media outlets. He is a regular contributor to *The Huffington Post*, *The Jerusalem Post*, *El País* in Spain, and *L’Opinione* in Italy. Since 2001, he has had a weekly spot on the CBS Radio Network reaching millions of listeners across the United States.

MR. JASON ISAACSON, AJC Associate Executive Director for Policy and Director, Office of Government and International Affairs, United States

Mr. Jason Isaacson, AJC Director of Government and International Affairs since 1991, is a longtime analyst of U.S. political and strategic affairs and an advocate for Middle East peace. An observer to the 1991-92 Middle East peace talks in Madrid, Moscow and Washington, he represented AJC at the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna; since 1993 he has coordinated periodic AJC ministerial meetings throughout the Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Asia, including numerous visits that were the first by an American Jewish civic organization. He has lectured periodically at the Diplomatic Institute of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. In 2002, he was a Senior Visitor at St. Antony’s College, Oxford University. Isaacson directed an AJC initiative to strengthen transatlantic cooperation on Middle East policy – resulting in the opening of the Transatlantic Institute in Brussels in 2004. In 2005,

in Tunis, he convened an NGO seminar on tolerance- promotion on the Internet, in conjunction with the UN World Summit on the Information Society. In 2007, the French Minister of Culture and Communication awarded him the rank of Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters. In July 2009, King Mohammed VI bestowed on Isaacson the honor of Chevalier of the Order of the Throne of the Kingdom of Morocco.

RABBI ANDREW BAKER, AJC Director of International Jewish Affairs, United States

Rabbi Andrew Baker is Director of International Jewish Affairs of the American Jewish Committee. Since 2009, he also serves as the Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism of the Chair-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. He is an officer of the Jewish Claims Conference and has been a member of international commissions addressing Holocaust history and looted assets in the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Romania and Slovakia and of the International Auschwitz Council, the official body that oversees the memorial site. In recognition of his work in Europe he was decorated by the Presidents of Germany (2003), Lithuania (2006), Latvia (2007) and Romania (2009). He is a past President of the Interfaith Conference of Washington, a former Commissioner of the District of Columbia Human Rights Commission, a past President of the Washington Board of Rabbis and a former chaplain at San Quentin Prison.

MS. DEIDRE BERGER, Director, AJC Berlin Lawrence and Lee Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations, Germany

Ms. Deidre Berger has served since 2000 as Director of the American Jewish Committee's Berlin-based Lawrence and Lee Ramer Institute for German-Jewish Relations. In that capacity, she advocates for a strong transatlantic partnership with representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations. She works closely with German and European partners on a wide range of

issues including European security issues, Mideast affairs, anti-Semitism and extremism, and the promotion of democracy and human rights. Berger lectures and writes widely on transatlantic and Mideast affairs. Prior to joining AJC, Berger worked for 15 years as a Germany-based foreign correspondent, reporting for National Public Radio, Deutsche Welle (the German international television and radio network) and leading newspapers in the U.S. and Germany. She is a member of the boards of Action Reconciliation/Service for Peace, the German-Polish International Youth Meeting Center near Auschwitz, Poland, House of the Wannsee Conference in Berlin, Global Bridges e.V., and the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation. In 2008, the German President's Office awarded her the German Federal Cross of Merit for her contribution to German-Jewish relations. In 2012, she received the German Diversity Award from the Hanover-based Ethno Medical Center Association for her "outstanding work promoting transatlantic relations and a dialogue of cultures in Germany."

MR. STEPHAN KRAMER, Director, AJC's European Office on Anti-Semitism, Germany

Before becoming director of AJC's European Office on Anti-Semitism in 2014, Mr. Stephan Kramer headed Kramer Consulting, specializing in public affairs and political lobbying. He was with the Central Council of Jews in Germany from 1999 through 2014, first as executive director and then for ten years as secretary general. Before coming to the council he worked for five years in the Frankfurt/Main office of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany. He was a member of the Board of Governors of the World Jewish Congress and the Board of Directors of the Claims Conference, and has also headed the European Jewish Congress office in Berlin. He has served as chief of staff to three different members of the German Bundestag, and is a longstanding member of the German Council on Foreign Relations, the German Atlantic Association and the Association of Press-Spokesmen. Kramer is a permanent guest of the Inner Leadership Advisory

Council at the German Federal Ministry of Defense and a lecturer on policy and history at the German Naval Academy in Mürwick, holding the rank of a First Naval Lieutenant (Res.) For the past 15 years. Kramer also has worked as a freelance journalist.

MS. LISA PALMIERI-BILLIG, AJC Representative, Rome, and Liaison to the Holy See

Ms. Lisa Palmieri-Billig has served as AJC's Representative in Italy and Liaison to the Holy See since 2005. Previously she held a similar position for ADL and worked in the Rome office of the World Jewish Congress during the Ecumenical Council (Vatican II). Born in Vienna, she escaped to New York with her family in 1938, then transferred to Rome in the 1960's to teach English language and literature. As a journalist, she is a Vatican specialist, and corresponds for *Vatican Insider - La Stampa*, and has been *The Jerusalem Post's* Rome correspondent since 1965. She has written extensively on the papacies of Paul VI, John Paul II and Benedict XVI. In 1993 her interview with the then-cardinal Joseph Ratzinger on "Jews and Judaism in the Universal Catechism" was published in Italian by *Studi Cattolici* and in English by *Midstream*. She was Vice President of the European section of The World Conference of Religions for Peace for 25 years, is presently President of the Italian section. She also served as the first President of the Rome Jewish-Christian Friendship Association. She received an M.A. from Columbia University Teachers College, and a B.A. from Barnard College. She is fluent in English, Italian, German and French.

MS. SIMONE RODAN-BENZAQUEN, Director, AJC Paris

As Director of AJC Paris, Ms. Simone Rodan-Benzaquen interacts regularly with government officials, civil society leaders, journalists and policy analysts and works closely with the leadership of the French Jewish community to combat anti-Semitism, promote understanding of the Middle East, and promote dialogue among ethnic and religious groups. Before Rodan-Benzaquen was named

Director of AJC Paris, she served as an adviser to the Ambassador for Human Rights in the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. She was the founding General Secretary of the Brussels and Paris-based Medbridge Strategy Center. She holds a law degree from King's College, a M.Sc in media and communications from the London School of Economics and a secondary Masters from Sciences Po Paris.

MR. DANIEL SCHWAMMENTHAL, Director, AJC Transatlantic Institute, Belgium

Mr. Daniel Schwammenthal assumed in 2011 the directorship of the Brussels AJC Transatlantic Institute (TAI), the EU office of the American Jewish Committee. TAI works to strengthen the transatlantic bond and fosters dialogue between the US and the EU in the fields of global security, Middle East peace, and human rights. Before joining TAI, Mr. Schwammenthal worked for seven years as an editorial page writer and op-ed editor for The Wall Street Journal Europe in Brussels and Amsterdam, writing about EU politics and economics, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Iran, anti-Semitism and terrorism. Prior to that, Mr. Schwammenthal worked as a reporter for Dow Jones Newswires in Bonn, Berlin and Brussels covering German and European politics, economics and regulatory affairs. Mr. Schwammenthal, a native of Germany, studied Political Science and Political Economy at the University of Aachen, received an M.A. in International Relations and International Communications from Boston University, and a Master's of Law (European law and policy) from the University of Manchester.

Stanley M. Bergman
AJC President

David Harris
AJC Executive Director
Edward and Sandra Meyer
Office of the Executive Director

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To enhance the well-being of the Jewish people and Israel, and to advance human rights and democratic values in the United States and around the world.