



Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies

AJC Transatlantic
Institute

Squaring the Circle – Migrants, Integration and Values

**21 April 2016
17:30 – 19:30**

**Renaissance
Hotel
Rue du Parnasse
19,
1050 Brussels**

The Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies and the AJC Transatlantic Institute cordially invite you to a panel debate entitled '**Squaring the Circle – Migrants, Integration and Values**'.

Last month's Brussels attacks have confirmed that the failure to integrate growing number of immigrants into our open societies can have tragic and murderous consequences. The integration of a large number of refugees who have grown up in very different societies is thus one of the most pressing challenges for EU countries.

Throughout many countries of the Middle East and South Asia, patriarchal structures tend to demote women to second-class citizens, religious, ethnic and other minorities suffer from discrimination if not outright persecution while antisemitism, homophobia and anti-Western sentiments are widespread. How much of this cultural baggage are today's refugees carrying with them?

Against the backdrop of very mixed success with the integration of previous migrant groups in different EU countries, this panel will discuss strategies on how to help asylum seekers to integrate not only economically but also in terms of our shared values and norms. This will be a task not just for state authorities but will require the cooperation of all strata of societies, such as schools, NGOs, the media and individual citizens.

PROGRAMME

17:30	Welcome by Tomi Huhtanen , Executive Director, Martens Centre and Daniel Schwammenthal , Director, AJC's Transatlantic Institute
17:40	Panel Discussion moderated by Roland Freudenstein , Policy Director, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies: Christian Kremer , Deputy Secretary General, European People's Party Seyran Ates , lawyer, Berlin Saad Amrani , Chief Commissioner, Bruxelles Police, Ixelles
18:30	Q&A
19:00	Light buffet