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# World Jewish Congress Activities Report

January 2022

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Submitted to the WJC Executive Committee by  
Maram Stern  
WJC Executive Vice President

## **SEE FINAL PAGES FOR GLOSSARY OF NAMES AND TITLES OF WJC LAY LEADERS, STAFF AND MEMBERS OF WJC JEWISH DIPLOMATIC CORPS (JDs)**

### **COMBATING ANTISEMITISM**

#### **Global**

During the crisis in which hostages were held at gunpoint at Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, WJC President Ronald S. LAUDER [expressed solidarity](#) with the Colleyville Jewish community and said that “the attack on Congregation Beth Israel is an attack on all of us.” JD BIRNECKER HART sent a letter drafted by JD ALPERN signed by 162 JDs from 42 countries to Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, the rabbi of the synagogue, to offer support, which he acknowledged with appreciation.

WJC President LAUDER granted an interview to [German media station ZDF](#) to discuss the unabated hatred against Jews that is to be found on social media sites and to encourage stronger government action in this area.

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, WJC President Lauder released the [results](#) of a commissioned report on the state of antisemitism in Germany. Among other findings revealed in the survey was the fact that one in five adult Germans espouses antisemitic attitudes.

In a wide-ranging interview, National Council of Austria President Wolfgang Sobotka and STERN [outlined](#) the state of antisemitism and conspiracy myths in Austria, especially amid the coronavirus pandemic, and discussed Jewish life in Austria. STERN called for politicians to take stronger measures in holding platforms such as Telegram accountable for hateful content.

In an op-ed in *Le Journal de Dimanche*, STERN [called](#) on France to prioritize the struggle against antisemitism during its presidency of the Council of the EU, noting that to do so, it must resist the “temptation to view antisemitism as simply one aspect of racism.”

WJC organized a call with Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, to discuss antisemitism, his upcoming proposal for a UN Strategy against Antisemitism in particular, and ways of continuing his cooperation with the WJC.

SALTIEL provided feedback to the European Economic and Social Committee on its draft opinion on Combatting Antisemitism. A second reading will take place in February.

The OSCE/ODIHR and WJC hosted the Second Regional Consultation between Jewish Communities and Tech and Social Media Companies on Combating Antisemitism Online, bringing together Jewish leaders from ten OSCE participating states with representatives from Meta (Facebook), TikTok, and Twitter to outline the experience of the Jewish communities with online antisemitism. BARAK-CHENEY moderated the discussion with the community representatives, who spoke of their challenges and the need for closer cooperation with the tech and media companies. KAHN NORD participated as a representative of the Jewish Central Council of Sweden.

In France, WJC alerted CRIF to an upcoming antisemitic conference in Paris on 'The Jewish Conquest of Power' so that attempts could be made to have it canceled.

In Hungary, WJC supported MAZSIHISZ contact with the Ministry of Defense, which resulted in the halting of a commemoration event organized by members of the extreme right. The result of this outreach is that the memory of Jewish forced laborers will be included in official commemorations in the future. Also in Hungary, WJC shared information with local activists campaigning against a Nazi club being used to host a concert organized by neo-Nazis.

In Poland, WJC identified a threatening individual and an associate of his and reported this information to the Jewish community. His online activity, which indicated plans for an in-person intervention and possibly a physical attack, was also exposed.

WJC continued its efforts to ensure the removal of antisemitic and Holocaust-denying literature from various platforms. In following up with a leading book retailer in Sweden, WJC marked content that had reappeared, after which the platform gave assurances that any such literature would be removed.

WJC and Finnish Jewish communities, along with the Israeli Embassy in Finland, sent a letter of concern to a Finnish retailer selling *Mein Kampf* calling for the removal of such content.

WHINE represented WJC at a 'Words into Actions' session, a program in cooperation with OSCE ODIHR discussing effective responses to antisemitism and intolerance. The unequivocal commitment demonstrated by the Estonian Ministry of the Interior, criminal justice agencies, and the Jewish Community and its security advisors were evident. Among the necessary action discussed was the need for police to record whether criminal acts are motivated by prejudice.

In Croatia, following an antisemitic event that included the distribution of antisemitic flyers at the main square of Zagreb, WJC was in touch with the local

community and supported the outreach to local authorities, who conducted further investigation.

## **NextGen**

JASSEY shared her op-ed '[My first experience with antisemitism left me silent, so I vowed never to be silent again](#)' on WJC platforms, discussing her experiences in facing hate head-on and what led her to start JOC. Jassey was also featured in a cover story in *Hadassah Magazine*, '[Battling Antisemitism on Campus](#).'

JOC Ambassadors passed several resolutions and amendments, the primary one focusing on [antisemitism at West Washington University](#). The JOC Ambassador there met with university officials about implementing the resolution's stipulated reforms.

JOC leaders held a panel discussion on antisemitism at Tufts University to raise awareness of the [resolution passed by the JOC Ambassador Program](#) on the matter.

Pursuant to the JOC post about an antisemitic incident involving a professor at Emerson College (the first organization to break the news about it) as covered by [The Berkeley Beacon](#) and [The Forward](#), the professor took a leave of absence for the Spring 2022 semester.

JOC sent a letter to the President's Office at the University of Southern California concerning antisemitic incidents on their campus, including its recommendations to create a safer environment for Jewish students at USC.

## **North America**

WJC USA has prioritized advocacy to the US Senate to move forward the nomination process of the US Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, and to that end, participated in a virtual community briefing with other American Jewish organizations that featured past American special envoys who spoke about the importance and impact of the position and urged the Senate to confirm the nominee.

## **Sweden**

KAHN NORD met with Fredrik Hultman, Secretary General of the Moderate Youth League (MUF), to discuss the adoption of the IHRA definition of antisemitism as well as activities involving WJC and members of MUF about Jews, Judaism, and Israel.

KAHN NORD met with Ann Bernes, President of the Swedish IHRA Presidency, and Andrés Zanzi, Head of Secretariat and Senior Adviser, Secretariat of the Swedish IHRA Presidency, to discuss the WJC Stockholm event to mark the IHRA Presidency as well as plans for the Swedish IHRA Presidency.

## Israel

WEINBAUM was interviewed for a [quotation in an article](#) in the Brazilian newspaper *Veja* for a story on the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Wannsee Conference and the ongoing problem of antisemitism.

## Social Media

The following issues were covered on WJC social media platforms:

- WJC reacts to the [synagogue hostage crisis in Texas](#).
- WJC put together resource material on [understanding antisemitism](#).

## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### Global

JD OUAZANA received the Tenoudji prize for Jewish Education from the FSJU (Fonds Social Juif Unifié, the French umbrella organization for Jewish culture, education, youth, and social action) for her organization's interfaith work, 'Les racines de demain' [The Roots of Tomorrow].

On the occasion of Tu Bishvat, the WJC JDCorps launched a campaign to raise awareness of the Jewish connection to the environment. To kick off the campaign, op-eds were written; infographics were posted; a [WJC WebTalk](#) was held; and a [webpage](#) was launched. JD BARANOV [interviewed](#) the CEO of Hazon and Pearlstone, Jakir Manela, about Jewish environmentalism. JD BARANOV also drafted the [texts](#) for the [infographics published](#) on the WJC website.

JD op-eds about Tu Bishvat:

- '[Treating the planet with respect is in the Jewish tradition](#)' by JD GALICO, *The Jewish Chronicle*
- '[Tu B'Shvat's Evolution From Tax Day to Earth Day](#)' by JD ROCA, *The Algemeiner*
- '[La Sustentabilidad desde tiempos bíblicos](#)' by JD GABE, *Aurora Israel*

### NextGen

GRITZ penned an op-ed: '[Staying True to the Story of Hanukkah](#)' for WJC platforms.

## North America

Following the attack at the Beth Israel synagogue in Colleyville, Texas during which four people were taken hostage, WJC USA contacted its member organizations, organizational chapters, Jewish community centers, and synagogues and provided resources regarding information on increased safety measures and security training for the community. Members of the WJC USA Governing Board and member organizations attended virtual briefings with community security organizations and the Department of Homeland Security on what transpired on that Shabbat and the lessons to be learned.

Members of WJC USA attended the premier performance of the New York City Opera's (NYCO) 'The Garden of the Finzi Continis,' a new work presented in cooperation with the NYCO and the National Yiddish Theatre.

## Russia

RJC carried out its weekly Thursday online public talk broadcasted on RJC Facebook.

## Sweden

KAHN-NORD conducted meetings with Yaron Nadbornik, President of the Jewish community of Finland; Jonathan Arkush, Chair of WJC's task force on religious freedom; and Shimon Cohen, Chairman of Shechita UK to find a way to exclude *shechita* from the Animal Welfare Bill that has been drafted and will be presented to the Finnish Parliament. If the bill were to pass, it would make *shechita* illegal in Finland; the task force is currently working on persuading the Finnish government to make an amendment for *shechita* in the bill. WJC also organized a call between Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, and the Jewish Community of Finland to discuss the problem and solicit his support.

## Social Media

The Jewish community of Natal, [Brazil opens a new synagogue.](#)

## HOLOCAUST LEGACY

### Global

To mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day, WJC once again launched the #WeRemember Campaign. WJC President LAUDER [said](#) that via this initiative, WJC seeks "to preserve the memory of the Holocaust, especially as the number of survivors and other first-hand witnesses continues to dwindle." The campaign featured the participation of thousands of people across the world, including 5 Latin American Presidents and dozens of celebrities such as

Adam Lambert and Mayim Bialik, and culminated with the [illumination](#) of more than 50 sites in more than 20 countries, including the Old City walls in Jerusalem, the tallest building in Bogotá, and landmarks across New York State, which were made possible with the [assistance](#) of New York City Mayor Eric Adams and New York Governor Kathy Hochul.

During the #WeRemember Campaign, WJC and UNESCO [announced](#) a partnership with TikTok to ensure that its community has easy access to authoritative information about the Holocaust by being directed to the [aboutholocaust.org](#) website. WJC President Lauder declared, "The World Jewish Congress is proud to partner with UNESCO and TikTok in making factual and reliable information about the Holocaust available to the TikTok community."

WJC President LAUDER [welcomed](#) the United Nations General Assembly passage of a resolution calling on states and non-state actors to take active measures against Holocaust denial.

WJC cosponsored the exhibition 'Generations: Portraits of Holocaust Survivors' on the fences of UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, which showcased over 50 contemporary photos of Holocaust survivors and their families. It was organized by UNESCO and the Royal Photographic Society in partnership with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, the Imperial War Museum, Jewish News, and the Association of Jewish Refugees, with the support of Permanent Delegations of the UK and of Monaco to UNESCO. ROSENSAFT delivered remarks at the online exhibition launch.

As part of the #WeRemember campaign, an eyewitness talk was held with the 101-year-old Holocaust survivor [Margot Friedländer](#) who has made it her life's mission to pass on her very personal experiences and knowledge about the Holocaust to the younger generation.

Over 600 students from more than 30 schools from all over Germany took part in the event. After the one-hour reading by Ms. Friedländer, they were able to submit questions about the topic online. SCHUSTER and STERN gave opening remarks, and the event was moderated by JD Fuhrmann.

HERZOG was a panelist at an event organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia dedicated to International Holocaust Memorial Day at which he highlighted WJC efforts to combat antisemitism and Holocaust distortion and shared good practices. Participants included H.E. Kate Marie Byrnes, Ambassador of the United States to the Republic of North Macedonia; Mrs. Radojka Helman-Denkovska, President of the Assembly of the Jewish Community of North Macedonia; H.E. Mr. Roussos Koundouros, Ambassador of Greece to North Macedonia as representative of the Greek Presidency of IHRA; Dr. Nachman Shai, Israel's Minister of Diaspora Affairs; Mrs. Katharina von Schnurbein, European Commission Coordinator on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life; and H.E. Mr. Talat Xhaferi, President of the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia.

HERZOG delivered a keynote address at the event in the town of Sombor, Serbia, dedicated to International Holocaust Memorial Day, which was attended by the country's Deputy Prime Minister, members of the diplomatic corps, and religious representatives.

SALTIEL spoke at the International Holocaust Commemoration Day in Bern, at the National University of Singapore, and to this year's RSL fellows in Thessaloniki. ZAIDMAN represented WJC at the Holocaust commemoration ceremony at the UN in Geneva.

JD BENIZRI organized an [event](#) with law his company, Sidley Austin LLP, and the Legal Diversity & Inclusion Alliance (LDIA) to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. STERN and Prof. Eli Wald of Sturm College of Law were the guests.

JD TESONE and the CCJC have been working with police stations in Colombia to combat the type of hate exhibited this past November when a police station in Colombia held a '[Nazi-themed police event](#)'. At a conference organized in coordination with the community, JD TESONE spoke for International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the police shared their [#WeRemember](#) signs.

JDs SMEKE and TESONE hosted an event for International Holocaust Remembrance Day for their Class of 2022 at the University for Peace (UPEACE), an institution of higher education dedicated to the study of peace established by the UNGA.

JD Op-eds about Holocaust Remembrance Day:

- '[Yom HaShoa 2022: 80 years of choices, 80 years learning](#)' by JD MOJO, *Times of Israel Blog*
- '[The last eyewitnesses of the Holocaust will soon be gone](#)' [Swedish] by JD SCHATZ, *Svenska Dagbladet*

## NextGen

Ahead of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Ronald S. Lauder Fellows gathered for a virtual session and in-depth conversation with SALTIEL to hear about his recent book on the Holocaust in Thessaloniki. The meetings, moderated by SCHNEIDER and ZAIDMAN, concluded with a *WeRemember* photograph.

## Latin America

Op-eds about Holocaust Remembrance Day:

- [Calendário a serviço da lembrança](#) by TERPINS, *Folha do Sao Paulo*
- [La responsabilidad de la memoria](#) by LACJ Treasurer JD SONNENSCHNEIN, *Grupo R Multimedia*

- [Cuidado com as Palabras](#) by LAJC Commissioner for Holocaust Memory Sofia Débora Levy, *Estado*
- [La importancia de las palabras en el ejercicio de la memoria](#) by EPELMAN, *Clarín*
- [90 anos depois, nazismo está em franca expansão no Brasil](#) by President of the Israeli Federation of Rio Grande do Sul JD WATENBERG, *GZH*

Members of the WJC USA Governing Board participated in the virtual commemoration of the UN Outreach Program on the Holocaust called 'Memory, Dignity, and Justice.' Speakers included Rabbi SCHNEIER, representing the survivors; Paul Salmons, curator of the award-winning exhibition 'Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away;'; Elisha Wiesel, speaker for the second generation; and renowned musician Pinchas Zuckerman. Members of WJC USA also participated in a virtual program marking International Holocaust Remembrance Day featuring SALTIEL, UNESCO, and Katharina von Schnurbein, EU Coordinator on Countering Antisemitism, on the experiences of the Jewish community of Greece during the Holocaust.

Relating to the school board in Tennessee that banned the study of the book *Maus* due to its difficult images and language, MEYERS issued a statement that teaching the Holocaust will inevitably entail difficult material, and that it is hatred, violence, and genocide that are the real obscenities.

## Russia

Following the efforts of members of the RJC Public Council Prof. Alexander Asmolov and Nicolay Svanidze, International Holocaust Remembrance Day was reinstated on the official calendar in 2022 (it had been removed in 2021) and therefore the subject of the Holocaust was once again taught at public schools all over Russia within Holocaust Victims Memory Week.

RJC held both online and offline programs during Holocaust Victims Memory Week:

- 'Holocaust Chronicles' is the annual international film festival during which the public is invited for free to view films on the Holocaust and participate in discussions with opinion makers. This year, Memory Week started with an opening ceremony at the festival. One of the most compelling movies screened was *Babi Yar: Context*. At the ceremony, RJC presented an award to its director, Sergey Loznitsa. The festival ran both in Moscow and in St. Petersburg.

- On International Holocaust Memorial Day at the Moscow Helikon Opera, RJC hosted the annual commemorative event and ceremony 'The Keeper of Memory.' This year the laureates were Moscow Mayor Mr. Sobyanin; Volgograd Region Governor Mr. Bocharov; writer Evtushenko (posthumously); co-chair of the Holocaust Center Mr. Altman; and Vakhtangov theater director Mr. Tuminas.
- The international schoolchildren and students conference, organized by the Holocaust Center and supported by RJC, took place in Moscow. In that context, a contest was held in which the children wrote essays or created a work of art on the subject of the Holocaust and the winners were awarded prizes during the ceremony at the Helikon Opera.
- During Memory Week, among other online educational programs for the public, RJC organized the 'Returning the Dignity' laboratory, an online survey project that brings together dozens of people from all over the country. They are divided into groups and work on cases that help RJC's memorial project 'Returning the Dignity,' which is involved in the erection of monuments to Holocaust victims. As such, much archival work is done in the context of the laboratory.
- Several plays were put on within the context of Memory Week including *Cabaret Teresin* (St Petersburg), *Ester's Black Book* (Moscow).
- RJC organized several online projects, the largest of which was in cooperation with the *Novaya Gazeta* dedicated to the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the massacre at Babi Yar.

The events were widely covered in the media.

## Sweden

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, KAHN NORD delivered a speech at the inauguration of the memorial 'Humanisten' in Helsingborg dedicated to the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg.

## Israel

WEINBAUM delivered a lecture in the context of a series organized by Tel Aviv University on Jewish fighters in World War II and the Shoah. He spoke on the deconstruction and reconstruction of the narrative of the Jewish Military Union (ŻZW) in the Warsaw Ghetto Revolt based on the research he carried out together with Prof. Dariuz Libionka of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

## Social Media

The following issues were covered on WJC social media platforms:

- [On January 27, landmark buildings across the world were lit up with the #WeRemember logo or in yellow.](#)
- WJC [thinks those who participated](#) in the #WeRemember campaign and [shared their family stories.](#)
- Learn [what WJC is doing to fight Holocaust denial and distortion.](#) WJC also put together resource material [on understanding Holocaust denial and distortion.](#)
- WJC dedicated posts to the [other victims of the Nazis](#), including homosexual men and [Romani people.](#)
- [WJC partnered with UNESCO and TikTok](#) to ensure that its users have easy access to verifiable information about the Holocaust.

WJC produced the following videos on contemporary developments in Holocaust remembrance:

- [Surveys show shocking lack of Holocaust knowledge in Europe and North America.](#)
- [Families reunited, decades after the Holocaust.](#)
- [The last member of the Varian Fry network](#) (rescuing Jewish intellectuals from France) passes away.
- [Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, the last surviving member of the Women's Orchestra of Auschwitz.](#)
- [The Holocaust through children's diaries.](#)
- [In memory of Isaac Mizan, one of the last Holocaust survivors in Greece.](#)
- [80 years since the Wannsee Conference](#) and the creation of the 'Final Solution.'
- [Remembering the Bogdanovka massacre, 80 years later.](#)

Other content on Holocaust remembrance:

- Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla, last year's WJC Herzl Award recipient, receives the Genesis Prize and [donates the money to Holocaust remembrance projects in Greece.](#)

## INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

### Global

ROSENSAFT [praised](#) Germany's decision to withdraw an award for Israeli historian Gideon Greif, who led a report denying the Srebrenica genocide. He

also [called](#) Greif's attempt to revise a commission report on the subject a "rather desperate attempt at damage control." JDs ANDRLE, BARANOV, FRIED, and MOJO sent letters of protest to Classrooms Without Borders for organizing an event featuring Greif. The gathering was covered in the *Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle*, which also received JD letters. It was subsequently canceled and removed from both websites.

As a follow-up to the recent WJC JDCorps delegation to the UAE, JDs KROK and WATENBERG, who are also members of LAJC's New Generations program, met with the UAE Consul General of São Paulo, Brazil, and JD FRIED met with the UAE Consul General of California to discuss the delegation and potential future projects.

## **North America**

EHRENBURG and MEYERS participated in an IJCIC meeting to discuss the ongoing relationship with the Christian Orthodox and the recent meeting with Patriarch Bartholomew; new developments in the IJCIC relationship with the Evangelical community; and ongoing issues with the World Council of Churches.

## **Russia**

RJC hosted a dinner for leading Evangelical Christian pastors in appreciation of the Evangelical Christians who organized a prayer marathon for Israel and the memory of Holocaust victims (held during Holocaust Victims Memory Week) and who raised money for the RJC 'Returning the Dignity' program. In attendance were representatives from the Embassies of Israel, Germany, and Latvia, as well as from the Moscow municipality and the Federal Agency for Ethnic Affairs. The guest of honor was Mr. Ryakhovskiy, head of all the Evangelic churches in Russia.

## **Social Media**

The following issues were covered on WJC social media platforms:

- The US marked Martin Luther King Jr. Day [in honor of the civil rights activist](#).
- Learn about the [Armenians of Jerusalem](#) who celebrate Christmas on January 6.

## **IRAN AND GLOBAL TERRORISM**

### **Global**

STERN and BARAK-CHENEY met with UN Undersecretary-General for Counterterrorism Vladimir Voronkov to discuss ongoing cooperation between WJC and the UN Office of Counterterrorism. It was agreed that the WJC and UNOCT Memorandum of Understanding were being fulfilled and that projects

related to civil society engagement and combating far-right violent extremism and terrorism within the United Nations will be carried out.

## Latin America

LAJC condemned the fact that Iranian Mohsen Rezaí — accused of being one of the masterminds of the AMIA bombing and for whom an international arrest warrant from Interpol is outstanding — was present at the inauguration ceremony of Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, characterizing it as "an offense to the memory of the victims and an affront to Argentine justice, which for years has demanded that Interpol International capture the accused." The Argentine Ambassador to Nicaragua, H.E. Daniel Capitanich, and the President of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, were also present at the event. The Argentine Foreign Ministry, trying to minimize the incident, issued an official statement demanding Iranian cooperation, but made no reference to the actions of its ambassador. Amb. Capitanich's presence at the ceremony was the target of harsh criticism from the local Jewish community. AMIA claimed in a statement that the diplomat "did not leave the scene or notify the authorities of such a serious situation." DAIA also denounced his actions. Despite the strong criticism, the government kept him on in his position as ambassador.

## North America

Members of WJC USA attended a virtual update with Dore Gold, former Ambassador of Israel to the UN, on the phenomenon of drone attacks on Israel from across its northern border and various aspects of the ongoing talks in Vienna on the JCPOA.

WJC USA urged elected officials to support and help pass bipartisan congressional legislation that would impose sanctions on those who back the terrorist groups Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, which launched more than 4,300 rockets at Israel in May 2021.

## ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT

### Global

In advance of its release, WJC President LAUDER sharply [criticized](#) an Amnesty International UK report that accuses Israel of being an apartheid state and committing crimes against humanity and against Palestinians.

WJC mourned the passing of former First Lady of Israel Aura Herzog, and WJC President Lauder [praised](#) her as "a valiant daughter of the Jewish people."

JDs BIRNECKER HART and SHULTZ conducted two virtual meetings with Elad Shoshan, Israel's incoming Deputy Consul General to Houston, Texas, in the context of a new joint program of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the

WJC JDCorps in which local JDs brief younger Israeli diplomats before they are stationed abroad.

## **NextGen**

WJC's Start-Up Nation Mentorship concluded a successful semester, pairing over 120 student leaders with Israeli businesspeople for mentorship and education about the State of Israel. The students met with HAMMERMAN, RADOMSKI, and SCHNEIDER to discuss future opportunities for the organization.

## **North America**

Members of WJC USA were briefed by the Consulate General of Israel in New York on developments concerning the efforts of the UNHRC to target Israel by the formation of the Commission of Inquiry that would isolate the Jewish State by charging it with alleged violations of international humanitarian law.

Members of WJC USA contacted Members of Congress in support of the Israel Relations Normalization Act, a bipartisan measure that seeks to expand the recent peace and normalization agreements between Israel and the , Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan and the UAE.

WJC USA continued to urge the US Senate to pass legislation to provide emergency funding for the replenishment of Israel's Iron Dome aerial defense system, supported by President Biden and passed in the House.

## **Israel**

The ICFR held its annual board meeting via Zoom, and three new members were inducted: Dr. Juliana Geran Pilon (USA); Prof. Soli Shahvar (Israel); and Mr. Alan Shatter (Ireland). Mr. Shatter also delivered a lecture on 'Complexities, Blind Spots, and Contradictions in Israel's Challenging Relationship with Europe and Europeans' and ICFR President Dan Meridor and STERN delivered opening remarks.

The following articles were published in *The Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs* with open access:

[Israel's New Government: A Return to Normalcy?](#) by Prof. Chuck Freilich

[Israel's Response to the Global Climate Crisis](#) by Prof. Alon Tal

[Post-Afghanistan Destinies: America and the Middle East at a Crossroads](#) by Michaela Domingo

## **Social Media**

The following issues were covered on WJC social media platforms:

- Israel has contributed \$500,000 toward [helping Afghan refugees](#) now in Tajikistan.
- Israel marks [Hebrew Language Day](#) on Eliezer Ben Yehuda's birthday

## JEWISH UNITY

### Social Media

This month we marked [Tu Bishvat](#), focusing on Judaism's commitment to environmentalism.

## JEWS FROM MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

### Social Media

WJC remembered the [victims of the Shoah in North Africa](#).

## GENERAL DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY

### Global

SALTIEL and ZAIDMAN met with the ambassadors to the UN in Geneva of Azerbaijan, the EU, Germany, and India to discuss the fight against antisemitism and common projects and initiatives. SALTIEL also met with diplomats from Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, and Israel, as well as with staff from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

STERN met with H.E. Karin Olofsdotter, Swedish Ambassador to the United States; RADOMSKI was also present. In addition, while in D.C., STERN met with H.E. Michael Adler, the newly appointed U.S. Ambassador to Belgium, as well as with other members of the diplomatic community. In Austria, STERN met with various high-level officials to discuss the #WeRemember campaign.

### Israel

WEINBAUM met with Estonian Ambassador to Israel Veikko Kala to introduce him to the work of the ICFR and WJC and to discuss the upcoming visit to Israel of the Estonian foreign minister.

## GLOSSARY OF NAMES AND TERMS

LAUDER - WJC President Ronald S. Lauder  
ALPERN – Leeor Alpern, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (U.S.)  
ANDRLE – Vladimir Andrle, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Bosnia and Herzegovina)  
BARAK-CHENEY - Yfat Barak-Cheney, Director, International Affairs, WJC and Deputy Director, WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps  
BARANOV – Alana Baranov, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (South Africa)  
BENIZRI – Yohan Benizri, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Belgium)  
BIRNECKER HART – Dr. Sonat Birnecker Hart, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (US)  
EHRENBERG – Betty Ehrenberg, Executive Director, WJC USA & WJC North America  
EPELMAN - Claudio Epelman, Executive Director, Latin American Jewish Congress  
FRIED – Randall Fried, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (US)  
FUHRMANN – Micky Fuhrmann, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Germany)  
GABE – Pablo Gabe, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Chile)  
GALICO – Sara Galico, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Mexico)  
GRITZ – Micah Gritz, Jewish on Campus Chief Operating Officer  
HAMMERMAN – Yoni Hammerman, Senior Manager, WJC NextGen  
HERZOG – Ernest Herzog, WJC Executive Director of Operations  
JASSEY – Julia Jassey, Jewish on Campus Founder and Chief Executive Officer  
KAHNNORD – Petra Kahn Nord, Nordic representative of the WJC  
KROK – Ariel Krok, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Brazil)  
MOJO – Tomas Mojo, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Argentina)  
MEYERS – Rabbi Joel Meyers, Chair, WJC American Section  
NORNBERG – Yariv Nornberg, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Israel)  
OUAZANA – Ruth Ouazana, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (France)  
RADOMSKI – Daniel Radomski, Head of WJC Strategy & Programs and Executive Director, WJC JDCorps  
ROSENSAFT – Menachem Rosensaft, WJC Associate Executive Vice President & General Counsel  
ROCA – Marcos Roca, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (France)  
SALTIEL - Leon Saltiel, WJC Representative at UN Geneva and UNESCO and Coordinator on Countering Antisemitism  
SCHATZ – Daniel Schatz, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Sweden/US)  
SCHNEIDER – Rebecca Schneider, NextGen Coordinator, World Jewish Congress

SHULTZ – Jay Shultz, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Israel)  
 SMEKE – Adela Smeke, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Mexico)  
 SONNENSCHNEIN – Diego Sonnenschein, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Uruguay)  
 SCHNEIER – Rabbi Arthur Schneier, Senior Rabbi, Park East Synagogue and Honorary WJC Vice President  
 SONNENSCHNEIN – Diego Sonnenschein, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Uruguay)  
 STERN – Maram Stern, WJC Executive Vice President  
 TERPINS – Jack Terpins, LAJC President  
 TESONE – Vivianne Tesone, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Colombia)  
 WATENBERG – Sebastian Watenberg, Member of the WJC Jewish Diplomatic Corps (Brazil)  
 WEINBAUM – Dr. Laurence Weinbaum, Director General, WJC-Israel/ICFR  
 WHINE – Mike Whine, Senior Consultant, WJC Operations  
 ZAIDMAN – Elizaveta Zaidman, WJC International Relations Officer, WJC NextGen Coordinator, Geneva

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AMIA- Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina  
 BoD – Board of Deputies of British Jews  
 CAIV – Confederation of Israelite Associations of Venezuela  
 CCCJM - Comité Central de la Comunidad Judía de México  
 CCJC – Confederation of Jewish Communities of Colombia  
 CJCH- Jewish Community of Chile  
 CIJA – Centre for Israel & Jewish Affairs (Canada)  
 CONIB – Jewish Confederation of Brazil  
 CRIF – Representative Council of Jewish Institutions of France  
 DAIA - Delegation of Argentine Israelite Associations  
 EJC- European Jewish Congress  
 EUJS- European Union of Jewish Students  
 FCJE – Federation of Jewish Communities of Spain  
 FJCS - Federation of Jewish Communities of Serbia  
 ICFR – Israel Council on Foreign Relations  
 ICJP – International Council of Jewish Parliamentarians  
 IJCIC – International Jewish Council on Interreligious Consultations  
 IJFA – *Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs*  
 IHRA – International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance  
 IYC – WJC International Yiddish Center  
 JOC – Jewish on Campus  
 LAJC – Latin American Jewish Congress  
 MAZSIHISZ - the Federation of Jewish Communities in Hungary  
 NCDF – WJC National Community Directors Forum  
 OAS – Organization of American States  
 ODIHR – Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

OSCE – Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
RJC – Russian Jewish Congress  
SAJBD – South African Jewish Board of Deputies  
SCOF – Small Communities Open Forum  
SECCA – Special Envoys and Coordinators for Combating Antisemitism  
UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
VAAD – Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine  
WUJS – World Union of Jewish Students

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