BOOK OF LODGES
The force of the European Lodges

CELEBRATING 20th anniversary
CREATION OF B’NAI B’RITH EUROPE

EDITION 2019 - 2020
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## LODGES IN FOCUS

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## EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Presidents
Dear Sisters and Brothers
Dear Friends

The launch of the second edition marks the 20th anniversary of the creation of B’nai B’rith Europe.

The idea of publishing the Book of Lodges was born out of the will of the President of B’nai B’rith Europe and all the members of the Executive committee to show the strong capacity of our organization to fight antisemitism in Europe, to contribute to the dissemination of the culture and of the history of the European Jews and to spread the values of our movement.

Members of the B’nai B’rith Europe Executive Committee noted the dynamism of the Lodges which organize throughout the year cultural and charitable events, develop rich programs and conferences, launch and coordinate actions in the spirit of B’nai B’rith values and thus contribute largely to the notoriety of B’nai B’rith in Europe. The Book of Lodges wishes to highlight the work completed by the members of B’nai B’rith Europe to ensure the promotion of all these events and to inspire each one.

The “Book of Lodges 5580” is the second edition and is a compilation of information transmitted by the Presidents of B’nai B’rith Europe Lodges which I thank warmly. Thank you, Iris-Gisela Weissbuch and Hanna Kalmenson for allowing the realization of the second edition of the “Book of Lodges 5780”.

At the Hague Conference in 1999, District 19 Continental Europe (all European countries and B’nai B’rith France) merged with District 15 United Kingdom to become B’nai B’rith Europe. I hereby would like to thank all the former presidents, as these men and women who built this organization, made B’nai B’rith Europe what it is today. It is given their dedication and achievements that we can proudly celebrate the organization’s 20th anniversary.

Fraternally,

Serge Dahan
President of B’nai B’rith Europe
**A FEW WORDS ON B’NAI B’RITH**

**History**

In 1843, Henry Jones and 11 other German-Jewish immigrants gathered in Sinsheimer’s Café on New York’s Lower East Side to confront what Isaac Rosenbourg, one of B’nai B’rith’s founders, called “the deplorable condition of Jews in this, our newly adopted country.” Thus, B’nai B’rith (children of the covenant) was born.

The original members’ first concrete action was creating an insurance policy that awarded members’ widows $30 toward funeral expenses, and a stipend of one dollar a week for the rest of their lives. Each child would also receive a stipend and, for male children, assurance he would be taught a trade. It is from this basis of humanitarian aid and service that a system of fraternal lodges and chapters grew in the United States and, eventually, around the world.

**Mission**

B’nai B’rith is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people around the globe. It is a national and global leader in advancing human rights; Israel advocacy; ensuring access to safe and affordable housing for low-income seniors and advocacy on vital issues concerning seniors and their families; diversity education; improving communities and helping communities in crisis.

Since 1843, B’nai B’rith has played a vital role around the world, making the world a safer, more tolerant and better place is the mission that still drives our organization.

**Pillars of Our Work**

- Human Rights and Public Policy
- Supporting and Defending Israel
- Senior Advocacy and Housing
- Helping Communities

**ABOUT B’NAI B’RITH EUROPE**

In 1999, District 19 Continental Europe (all European countries and B’nai B’rith France) merged with District 15 United Kingdom to become B’nai B’rith Europe.

B’nai B’rith Europe, as part of the worldwide Jewish organization B’nai B’rith International is dedicated to combating anti-Semitism as well as promoting tolerance and intergroup understanding around the globe according to its motto «Benevolence, Brotherly & Sisterly Love and Harmony». 
B’nai B’rith Europe is composed by the European Lodges and aims at the following goals:

- To fight racism, xenophobia and ant-Semitism
- To support the State of Israel
- To help the needy
- To promote Jewish identity
- To strengthen the knowledge about Jewish presence through Culture and Heritage
- To encourage and train young Jewish adults for leadership in the Jewish Communities

B’nai B’rith Europe is actively represented in 25 European countries.

B’nai B’rith Europe achieves all these through three levels of activities, out of which, our main ones are:

**EU Advocacy**

- Brussels office:
  - Active Participation at Round tables organized by the European Commission
  - Participation at High level European Commission working groups on anti-Semitism
  - Briefings with the Ambassador of the Mission to the EU and NATO
  - Regular participation in conferences and events organized at the European Parliament
  - Launching projects with the EU Commission

- Working closely with B’nai B’rith International lobbyists

- Permanent representatives in Strasbourg:
  - In contact with the key officials, such as Chief Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, the Presidents of Foreign affairs and Political affairs, ECRI (European Commission against Racism and Intolerance) and the Commissioner for Human Rights
  - Taking part in all the actions undertaken within the Conference of INGOs
  - Contributing to the drafting of the Code of Conduct at the request of GRECO (Study Group against Corruption) and involved in the new drafting of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference

**Coordinating events**

- Series of conferences in different European countries, such as Warsaw Conference, Berlin Conference, Athens weekend
- Ceremony of the Jewish Rescuers Citation in coordination with B’nai B’rith World Center-Jerusalem
- Memory trips

**Promotion of the European Lodges**

- The Book of Lodges
- B’nai B’rith Europe website
- Newsletter
COOPERATION WITH B’NAI B’RITH INTERNATIONAL

B’nai B’rith International, with its headquarters in New York, has always been a key partner to B’nai B’rith Europe. Last year, it celebrated 175 years of fighting for human rights, providing disaster relief, promoting tolerance and combating antisemitism, advocating for seniors and building better communities.

Some of the B’nai B’rith International events that B’nai B’rith Europe actively participated in are:

**B’nai B’rith International Leadership Forum in New York**

On October 16th 2018, one-hundred-seventy-five years of action, advocacy and service were on full display during the B’nai B’rith International Leadership Forum in New York. Over three days, leaders, members, supporters and donors looked back at the indelible history of the organization that traces its founding to the Lower East Side of New York, on Oct. 13, 1843.

At this year’s forum, Charles O. Kaufman of Austin, Texas was elected president for a three year term. Kaufman, with decades of service to B’nai B’rith at the local, national and international levels, noted: “Organizations that celebrate 175 years — and there aren’t that many of them — have a strong mission, great resolve for success and an impressive ability to innovate. B’nai B’rith has built a proud history because we’ve shown that being nimble, bold and committed are keys to longevity.”

A featured event of the celebration was a gala dinner held on Oct. 15 at the Museum of Jewish Heritage. There, B’nai B’rith honored pillars of the Jewish community and celebrated our dedication and commitment to the community at the grassroots and global levels over the last 175 years. B’nai B’rith also hosted a conversation with Ambassador Dani Dayan, the Consul General of Israel in New York, at a luncheon discussion, part of our on-going Diplomatic Encounter Series.

**B’nai B’rith International delegation in Paris**

On March 12 and March 13, a high-level B’nai B’rith International delegation concluded a visit to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
(UNESCO) in Paris. Top lay leaders and staff challenged the body’s growing exploitation as a political tool against Israel. The group met with new UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay and diplomats accredited to the body. B’nai B’rith leaders also met with some two-dozen ambassadors and other diplomats from countries including Germany, Russia, Japan, Kenya, Greece, Italy and Nigeria. B’nai B’rith International President Gary P. Saltzman and CEO Daniel S. Mariaschin led the delegation.

The International Council of B’nai B’rith (ICBB) in Lisbon

The International Council of B’nai B’rith (ICBB) met in Lisbon, Portugal, from June 23rd to June 25th. In addition to council meetings, the itinerary included numerous fascinating insights into Portuguese and Jewish history. Participants learned about the heroic legacy of Portuguese diplomat Aristides de Sousa Mendes. Sousa Mendes issued visas to refugees, including thousands of Jews, fleeing Holocaust terror during World War II. His actions were taken at great personal risk and in defiance of the wartime Portuguese government. Mariana Abrantes de Sousa, treasurer of the Sousa Mendes Foundation, and Monica Barzilay, a descendant of a Sousa Mendes visa recipient and representative to the B’nai B’rith International Board of Governors, spoke. The delegation representing B’nai B’rith included President of B’nai B’rith Europe Serge Dahan, Member of Executive Committee Monica Barzilay and Eric Engelmayer, President of Antwerp Lodge, Willy Kahan, ICBB member Yasef Tovya, President of AEPJ Francois Moyse, B’nai B’rith International delegate to BBE Executive Committee Stéphane Teicher with two members of the Lodge Hanouka.
BBE PERSONALITIES

We are forever grateful for these men and women who made B’nai B’rith Europe what it is today.

Joseph Domberger  
Rabbi Bent Melchior

Presidents of BBE

Seymour Saideman  
(2000-2002)  
David Lévy-Bentolila  
(2003-2005)  
Reinold Simon  
(2005-2008)
MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Serge Dahan
President

Daniel Citone
Mentor
Coordinator Region I

Solomon Bali
Vice-President
Coordinator Region B

Valerie Achache
Secretary General
Coordinator Region S

Andre Ouazana
Treasurer

Monica Barzilay
Elected,
Switzerland
Coordinator Region F

Bjork Gunnar
Elected,
Denmark
Coordinator Region N

Francine Coen
Elected,
France
Coordinator Region E

Felicia Waldman
Elected,
Romania
Eric Engelmayer  
*Appointed, Luxembourg*

Philippe Meyer  
*President of National Structure, B’nai B’rith France*

Tomas Kraus  
*Appointed, Czech Republic*

Michael Naor  
*Appointed, Germany Coordinator Region A*

Stephane Teicher  
*BBI Representative*

Region A: Austria, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, The Netherlands
Region B: Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia
Region E: Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia
Region F: Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland
Region I: Italy, Spain
Region N: Denmark, Sweden, Norway
Region S: Russia, Ukraine
## List of B'nai B'rith Europe Lodges

- **Austria**, Wien: Zwi Perez Chajes
- **Belgium**, Brussels: Henry Jones
- **Belgium**, Antwerpen: Mala Zimetbaum
- **Bulgaria**, Sofia: Carmel
- **Croatia**, Zagreb: Gavro Schwarz
- **Czech Republic**, Prague: Renaissance
- **Denmark**, Copenhagen: Denmark
- **Germany**, Berlin: Raoul Wallenberg
- **Germany**, Köln: Rheinland
- **Germany**, München: Menorah/Hebraica
- **Greece**, Athens: Judith
- **Greece**, Gerakas: Philon
- **Hungary**, Budapest: Budapest
- **Italy**, Livorno: Isidoro Kahn
- **Italy**, Milan: Nathan E Anna Cassuto
- **Italy**, Rome: Elia Benamozegh and Stefano Gaj Tache
- **Luxembourg**, Luxembourg city: Luxembourg
- **Norway**, Oslo: Norgelosjen
- **Poland**, Warsaw: Polin
- **Romania**, Bucharest: Moses Rosen
- **Russia**, St. Petersbourg: Sons Of The Covenant
- **Serbia**, Belgrade: B’nei B’rit Loge Serbie 676
- **Slovakia**, Kosice: Concordia
- **Slovakia**, Bratislava: Tolerancia
- **Spain**, Barcelona: Nahmanides
- **Sweden**, Malmö: Malmö
- **Switzerland**, Geneva: Henry Dunant
- **Switzerland**, Lausanne: Edmond Fleg
- **Switzerland**, Zürich: Augustin Keller and Evi And Sigi Feigel
- **The Netherlands**, Amsterdam: Hillel
- **The Netherlands**, Rotterdam: Hollandia
- **Ukraine**, Kyiv: Kyiv
- **Ukraine**, Lwow: Leopolis
- **France**
  - Aix en Provence: Jules Isaac
  - Antibes: René Cassin
  - Antibes: Schlomo Altun
  - Avignon: Emeth Avignon
  - Bordeaux: Michel de Montaigne
  - Colmar: Scheurer Kestner
  - Cannes: Chalom Cannes
  - Deauville: Deauville-Jerusalem
  - Enghien les Bains: Kinereth
  - Grenoble: Mordehai
  - Le Raincy: Isaac Bashevis Singer
  - Lille: Cha’areh Chalom
  - Lyon: Edwin Guggenheim-Marc Aron
  - Lyon: Joseph Reich
  - Lyon: Lehman-Rabin
  - Lyon: Victor Basch
  - Marseille: Emile Zola
  - Marseille: Louis Kahn - Eyran Picard
  - Marseille: Harmonie
  - Marseille: Joseph Kessel
  - Metz: Armand Kraemer
  - Metz: Elie Bloch
  - Montpellier: Rambam Maimonide
  - Mulhouse: Paul Jacob
  - Nancy: Elie Wurm
Nancy: Isaac Beer Jerusalem
Neuilly sur Seine: Anne Frank
Neuilly sur Seine: Haim Nahman Bialik
Nice: Côte d’Azur
Nice: Golda Meir
Nice: Mazal Tov
Nice: Moshe Dayan
Nice: Theodor Herzl
Perpignan: Menahem Ben Salomon
Paris: David Ben Gourion
Paris: Shalom Aleikhem
Paris: Daniel Pearl
Paris: France Zadoc Khan
Paris: George Gerschwin
Paris: Hanouka
Paris: Hillel
Paris: Jacob Kaplan
Paris: Léon Blum Judaisme Pluriel
Paris: Or ve Shalom
Paris: Sigmund Freud
Paris: Tsedek
Paris: Simone Veil
Rueil Malmaison: Kadima Maimonide
Saint-Maur: Ben Yehouda
Saint Mandé: Leon Poliakov
Strasbourg, Emmanuel Levensas
Strasbourg: René Hirschler
Thiais: Yonathan Netahnyahou
Toulon: Levinas
Toulouse: Maimonide
Villeurbanne: Victor Basch
Versailles: Versailles

✓ United Kingdom

Cheshire / South Manchester - Cheshire Unity Lodge
Edgware and District - Edgware Women’s Lodge
Hertfordshire - B. B. Radlett
North London - Abraham Lewin Lodge
North West London - First Lodge of England
North West London - First Unity Lodge
North West London - Finchley and Hendon Lodge
North West London - Raoul Wallenberg Lodge
North West London - Shlomo Argov Unity Lodge
Pinner / North Harrow - Yad B’Yad Lodge
Stanmore and District - Yitchak Rabin Lodge
South London - Thames Lodge
Yorkshire - Leeds Unity Lodge
LODGES IN FOCUS

*based on the declaration of BBE Presidents
MALA ZIMETBAUM
Antwerpen, Belgium

History
The Antwerpen loge Mala Zimetbaum was created in 1950. The lodge got its name in 1994 by one of its former presidents – Leo Schumer. He knew Mala Zimetbaum, who perished in 1944, in Auschwitz Birkenau. The Jewish community of the city were of great importance to the development of the city, as they were the only ones to deal with the merchandising of diamonds. This business grew and grew and the together with it; the lodge flourished.

Activities
✓ cultural activities (synagogue and museum visits)
✓ conferences
✓ yearly participation in Shalom festival

Direction Board
President
Willy Kahan

Secretary General
Amy Schumer
History

Lodge Carmel was reestablished in 1992, as a successor to the lodges of District 13 – Bulgaria. The prior one closed in 1940 due to the adopted Nazi legislation by the Third Bulgarian Kingdom. The lodge is situated in Sofia and its members meet on a monthly basis. The main aim of the lodge is fighting against antisemitism and it is the only effective Jewish organization managing to do so.

Activities

✓ political campaigns (this year an official apology was received concerning the publishing of an antisemitic article in one of the leading Bulgarian Newspapers)
✓ defending the state of Israel
✓ cultural events (Dr Felicia Waldman - member of the Executive Committee - presented her book on the Sephardic heritage in Bucharest)

Direction Board

Mentor
Raphael Chichek

President
Jossif Assa

Vice-President
Solomon Bali

Secretary & Treasurer
Beki Asher
History
The lodge was created in 2003 and founded by the first President, Dragan Stern. The goals of the B’nai B’rith Members of Zagreb are:

- promoting Jewish culture, as well as Israeli culture
- supporting the state of Israel
- fighting against antisemitism and racial discrimination
- improving relations among Jewish people and official public institutions

Activities

- lectures on the State of Israel and the history of the Jewish people
- exhibition about Israel
- concerts of Jewish Music

Direction Board

President
Darko Fischer

Vice-President
Miljenko Bernfest

Treasurer & Secretary General
Altarac Mira
B'NAI B'RITH
RENAISSANCE
Prague, Czech Republic

History

The lodge was established in 1991 as a follower and legal successor of pre-War District X, with its seat in Prague. From the beginning the lodge gather respected Jewish personalities, from film and theatre directors to journalists, medical doctors and scientists. The lodge became an important one, forming and maintaining today’s modern Jewish life in the Czech society.

Activities

- monthly meetings of the lodge with interesting guests from both Czech Jewish and non-Jewish communities (from ministers and other politicians to musicologists and film historians)
- annual meetings of « Visegrad Countries » lodges from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Poland, recently also Austria, under rotation principle
- supporting individuals in need from the Jewish Community
- investing and fundraising for reconstruction of rare musical instruments such as the grand-piano in the Jewish Town Hall or the organ at the Jerusalem (Jubilee) Synagogue in Prague
- supporting individual projects (books and CDs publishing)
- organizing and co-organizing concerts and other cultural events

Direction Board

Mentor
Jan Lerbretier

President
Tomas Kraus

Vice-President
Hanus Gärtner

Secretary
Petr Balajka

Treasurer
Alena Sipkova
History

The lodge was created in 1912 by three members of the Danish Jewish Community, who became members of the lodge in Hamburg, Germany, thereafter Danmark Loge was installed in Copenhagen.

Activities

The Lodge holds regular meetings, approx. 10-12 per season. At most of the meetings keynote speakers are addressing issues which are actual at the time of the meetings. Since 2001 the Lodge arranged activities in connection with Jewish Day of Culture the first Sunday of September.

Direction Board

Mentor
Gunnar Bjork

President
Allan Kern

Vice-President
Daniel Singer

Second Vice-President
Alf Isachsen

Secretary General
Yoel Tschernia

Corresponding Secretary
Ronen Thalmay

Treasurer
Samuel Korngut

Marshall
Adam Kischinovsky

Attendant/Usher
Mikael Gradlander
History
The Franz Rosenzweig lodge was established on June 11th 1967 as the follower of the Duesseldorf Lodge, which was destructed by the Nazis in 1937. The new Lodge was named after the German-Jewish philosopher Franz Rosenzweig. According to the tradition of B’nai B’rith, the Franz Rosenzweig lodge is foremost engaged in local charity and in supporting projects in Israel.

Activities
✓ cultural activities (lectures and seminars on topics of Jewish history, philosophy and culture)
✓ activities in support of the State of Israel and against antisemitism
✓ regular meetings with journalists and politicians are being held (the round-table discussion with members of the parliament of the federal state of North Rhine Westphalia)
✓ one of the initiators of the “Israel Day” (Israel Tag) in Duesseldorf in 2003 and has remained since then one of the major partners for the yearly event.

Direction Board
Mentor
Herbert Rubinstein
President
Michael Naor
Vice-President
Oded Horowitz
Secretary General
Alla Dronov
Treasurer
Michael Rubinstein
PHILON
Athens, Greece

History
The Lodge was founded on October the 4th 1924, under the name « PHILON ». It was founded honoring the Jewish philosopher from Alexandria, Egypt. The lodge has always conducted its activities under the motto of B’nai B’rith : Benevolence – Sisterly and Brotherly Love and Harmony.

Activities
✓ promotion of Jewish life
✓ conferences on various topics
✓ yearly trip to meet other Lodges in Europe and in other Greek small Jewish Communities.
✓ supporting social and cultural events of local Jewish life.
✓ welcoming and co-organizing the “Week end in Athens of young Jewish professionals”

Direction Board
Mentor
Leon Gabriilli

President
Victor Batis

Vice-President
Rita Gabai

Secretary General
Solomon Errera

Deputy Secretary General
Souzy Cohen

Treasurer
Elias V. Borbolis
B’NAI B’RITH
BUDAPEST
Budapest, Hungary

History
The B’nai B’rith Budapest lodge is a collective of Hungarian Jewish individuals and families maintaining the support of causes that build tolerance (seminars, trainings, scholarships). The lodge calls the attention of crowds to watch antisemitism (published books), take care of the elderly (Jewish old age homes) and each other.

Activities
✓ trips to Israel
✓ tree planting
✓ TV appearances
✓ four meetings per month in Visegrad
✓ lodge meetings

Direction Board
President
Peter Breuer
Vice President
Magda Vadasz
Secretary General
Andrea Meggyesi
Treasurer
Viktor Hajos
History
The lodge was founded in 1954 under the leadership of some brothers (Amedeo Mortara z.l., Silvio Arditi, Nedo Fiano and others). Amedeo Mortara z.l. was the first of the lodge’s sisters and brothers to create strong links with B’nai B’rith Europe and B’nai B’rith International, serving the Jewish Community as a leader, fighting against antisemitism inside the Italian institutions.

Activities
- Support to Tsad Kadima, The Association for Conductive Education in Israel
- Financial help to several families and people in poor economic conditions
- Distribution of several scholarships to students of the Jewish Community of Milan and to students of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Hosting political candidates on the occasion of the elections in Jewish Community of Milan at 19 May 2019

Direction Board
Mentor
Paolo Foa
President
Joe Abeni
Vice-President
Emanuele Mires
Secretary General
Daniel Hazan
Treasurer
Ioram Klein
Master of Ceremony
Brother Ariel Nissim Colombo
Surveillants
Sister Claudia Bagnarelli & Brother Rav Avraham Hazan
ELIA
BENAMOZEGH
Rome, Italy

History
The lodge was founded in 1955 according to the principles of the B’nai B’rith «Charity, brotherly love and harmony». The lodge is named after Elia Benamozegh, a noted Italian rabbi and Kabbalist and one of the greatest exponents of Italian Jewish culture of the XIX century.

Activities
✓ promotion of the Italian Jewish culture and heritage through different events
✓ support to exhibitions
✓ organization of an event on the European day of Jewish culture
✓ closed and open meetings with politicians, journalists and other individuals to discuss about relevant issues for the Jewish community

Direction Board
Mentor
Sandro Di Castro
President
Federico Ascarelli
Vice-President
Claudio Moscati
Vice-President
Mario Venezia
Secretary General
Alessandro Luzon
Treasurer
Pierre Levi
**History**

The B’nai B’rith Forum of Romania was founded in 1873 by the US Consul to Romania at the time. It is one of the oldest lodges of B’nai B’rith International. Today, under the leadership of its president, Mr Jose Iacobescu, it is seeing a vibrant revival. Among the members of the B’nai B’rith Forum of Romania are central figures of Romania’s Jewish community, working in diverse fields such as government, culture, education, health, research or finance. The organization has branches in some of the country’s most important cities: Timisoara, Arad, Cluj, Iasi and its headquarters in the capital city of Bucharest.

**Activities**

- monthly meetings
- friendship events encouraging intercultural partnerships
- producing policy papers on issues relevant to the Romanian Jewish community
- recruiting young members - recognizing the importance of investing in the next generation of leadership
- runs a flagship event: *Bridges of Tolerance*, since 2013.

(The project has been organized under the patronage of the President of Romania as well as the Romanian Academy)

**Direction Board**

- **Mentor**
  - Iosiper Manole
- **President**
  - Iacobescu Jose
- **Vice President**
  - Wechsler Henry
- **Secretary**
  - Galambos Eva
- **Treasurer**
  - Vainer Anette
History

Lodge Tolerancia was created after the representatives of the Lodges from Prague and Frankfurt approached respected Jews in Bratislava. The first President and one of the founding members was Prof. Pavel Traubner. In the first years, the main two focuses were:

- establishing contacts with other lodges in the District 19, B´nai B´rith Continental Europe
- countering expressions of antisemitism

Activities

- participating in humanitarian activities in support of Jewish communities in Slovakia, Europe and Israel
- organizing regular closed and open meetings - politicians, actors, artists and other distinguished individuals were invited to give presentations and answer questions of relevance to the Jewish community in Slovakia during these meetings
- regular gatherings of Lodges from Prague, Košice, Budapest and Bratislava

Direction Board

Honorary Life President
Pavel Traubner

Mentor
Juraj Alner

President
Peter Werner

Vice-President
Katarína Lesná

Secretary General
Anna Považanová

Treasurer
Ľubica Adamcová

Public Affairs and ADL
Grigorij Meseznikov
History
Activities of the Lodge took up again on the basis of the pre-war activities of the Concordia Lodge, which belonged to the 10th District. The lodge’s work is focused on the intra-community life. It started organising lectures describing B´nai B´rith and their missions and status within the Jewish society. The meetings are organised on a regular basis – once a month lectures on various topics are run (Judaism, the town of Košice Jewry and other sometimes scientific or social themes). The lodge welcomes actors, general council members, ambassadors and other prestigious personalities.

Activities
✓ charitable events (financial contribution was sent to the Ukrainian Jewish families living on the verge of poverty in the city of Lvov)
✓ international cooperation with our partner Lodges (Emile Zola from Marseille and Leopolis from Ukraine)
✓ organising lectures describing B´nai B´rith and their missions and status within the Jewish society

Direction Board
Mentor
Pavol Sitar
President
Tomas Tesser
Vice-President
Peter Schwarcz
Secretary
Dušan Rubovič
Treasurer
Martin Schwarcz
AKL AUGUSTIN KELLER
Zürich, Switzerland

History
AKL is Zürich’s first Bnai Brith lodge. Its members, 160 engaged Jews from the greater Zurich area and more, meet on a monthly basis for internal meetings. Some activities are open for our spouses, some for our families, some for the general public. AKL is one of the few Bnai Brith lodges which has remained a purely male group.

Activities
✓ Hillel-Haus in Zurich (open to all Jewish young people in training)
✓ monthly meetings
✓ Carl Lutz-Memorial in Tiberias (a memorial created for the Swiss Vice-Consul who saved more than 62,000 Jews from murder in Budapest)

Direction Board
Mentor
Peter Neuwirth

President
Ronald Wildmann

Vice-President
Ernesto Ferro

Secretary General
Frédéric Weil

Treasurer
Zalman Drukarch
EVI UND SIGI
FEIGEL
Zürich, Switzerland

History
The lodge was created as the first mixed lodge in Zürich, on the 8th of December 2013. The Lodge has known a great increase in its members and activities.

Activities
✓ politics and science lectures
✓ charities in Switzerland and Israel

Direction Board
Mentor
Madeleine De Beer

President
Pinchas Gottheil

Vice-President
Arthur Plotke

Secretary General
Zielinsky Roger

Treasurer
Monica Rom
History

The lodge was founded on the 25th of March 1923 as the first B’nai B’rith lodge in Holland. It is now one of two active lodges. The founder of this lodge was Dr. Albert van Raalte, a famous Dutch Jewish conductor.

Activities

✓ annual lectures
✓ support for the Jewish Elderly Center and Retirement Home in the Hague, Ziv Medical Center in Israel, Bet Hashanti open house for youth
✓ biannual hosting of a group of Israeli soldiers
✓ annual end of summer party and Channukah party

Direction Board

Mentor
Ralph L. Hene

President
Kati Furman-Hajdu

Vice-President
Salco H. Herschberg

Secretary General
Annelies van Mechelen-Kneteman

Treasurer
Salco H. Herschberg

Tyler
Rita Lobatto
NORGESLOSJEN
Oslo,
Norway

History
Created after WW2 as part of the rebuilding of the Norwegian Jewish community, the lodge’s main aims are supporting the local Jewish community (in particular its young and old) and contributing to the global fight against antisemitism.

Apart from the regular meetings, where the wider community is invited to attend regular lectures, the lodge arranges social gatherings such as a Chanukah party for the members and elderly, as well as an annual summer party for the entire Jewish community. Financial support to the youth of the community is provided, and in the past support was provided also to wider BBE projects.

Activities

- regular lodge meetings (followed by a lecture
- invitations to attend lectures offered by external presenters
- annual summer parties and a Channukah party
- occasional gala dinners

Direction Board

Mentor
Edvard Aspelund

President
Alexander Levi

Secretary General
Rolf Cohn

Treasurer
Michael Levi
History

The lodge was founded in 1899, then closed in 1938 and then reestablished in 1999.

Currently, it has been supporting elderly and disabled Jews for more than 20 years. The medical and financial supports areindeed vitally important for them. Moreover, the lodge takes part in numerous cultural Jewish events in Ukraine and abroad.

Activities

- daily hot lunches at a canteen (Lwow)
- providing free medicines in Lwow, Ternopol, and Ivano-Frankovsk regions and volunteer doctors’ consulting
- monthly washing an ironing bedclothes
- monthly financially supporting appropriate number of clients in Lvov, Ternopol, and Ivano-Frankovsk regions
- monthly food parcels and monthly financial support for children from problematic families
- holding the Jewish holidays, lectures, presentations, concerts and festivals, assistance in publication of books by Jewish authors
- International Holocaust Center n. a. Dr. A. Schwarz

Direction Board

Mentor
Yossif Shtatman

President
Michael Pleskov

Vice-President
Ludmila Schwarz

Secretary General
Tauba Kotova

Treasurer
Vadim Golembo
B’NAI B’RITH
KYIV
Kyiv, Ukraine

History
Bnai Brith Kyiv Lodge was established in 1993 and its first president was Academician Mozes Sheikman. The lodge’s main goals are fighting antisemitism and promoting human rights and tolerance.

Activities
✓ promoting Jewish history, culture and traditions through lessons
✓ projects of support for poor and/or disabled Jewish people, WWII veterans and Righteous Among the Nations

Direction Board
President
Professor Felix Levitas
Secretary General
Maya Samodiy
Treasurer
Alexander Naiman
B’nai B’rith United Kingdom was founded in 1903 and gathers 13 Lodges.

B’nai B’rith UK has a London Bureau of International Affairs, playing a key role to maintain good relations with different political figures. B’nai B’rith UK also focuses on youth and young professional, with B’nai B’rith Young Professionals (BBYP), a very successful network.

B’nai B’rith United Kingdom is also very active contacting and working with other European Lodges, such as the Kiev Lodge. Alan Miller is the current President of B’nai B’rith UK.
B’nai B’rith France has been active since 1932, and is the most important European section of the District. It gathers 40 Lodges divided in five regions: Paris, South East, South West, East of France and Center of France. The national office is located in Paris.

B’nai B’rith France is member of CRIF, the Jewish representative council gathering different institutions in France. The French section of B’nai B’rith has been very active in leading intercultural projects regarding interfaith dialogue and fighting against all kind of discrimination.

Past presidents include former LICRA president (International League against Racism and Antisemitism), Jean-Pierre Bloch and Serge Dahan, the current president of B’nai B’rith Europe. Philippe Meyer is the current President of B’nai B’rith France.

In a still very difficult context for the Jewish community of France, the National Office of B’nai B’rith France has in 2019 maintained its priority on political action and was particularly mobilized against anti-Semitism, anti-Zionism, BDS and the defense of the values of the Republic, including secularism. This action has resulted in public positions, numerous contacts at all levels with the company’s decision-makers, a very active communication policy aimed at enhancing BBF’s visibility, particularly on social networks and the presence of people in the media, and the use of B’nai B’rith’s traditional highways to convey the necessary messages.
REGION COTE D’AZUR

RENÉ CASSIN - ANTIBES JUAN LES PINSENTREMENTION 1988

Direction Board

President: François DUPUIS
Mentor: Nathalie SIBONI
Vice-president and Secretary General: Marcelline CHLOUS
Vice-president: Olivier BERTRAND-MISRAH
Treasurer: Brigitte AMOYEL
Guard: Danielle CHETBOUN
Social Committee: Renée SALPHATI

SHLOMO ALTUN – ANTIBES

Year of creation: 1993

Direction Board

President: Jocelyne HADDAD
Mentor: Rosine LEVY
Vice-presidents: Maurice WIZENBERG and Jacques WAJBROT
Secretary General: Arlette SEBAN
Treasurer: Claude HADDAD
Guards: Jean BENOLIEL and Jean Louis LEVY

CHALOM CANNES – CANNES

Year of creation: 1968

Direction Board

President: Claudia SHOSHANA
Mentor: Aviva DIANA
Vice-presidents: Daniel VAJDA and Dana YORK
Treasurers  Frédérique COHEN-ALERO and Anie DIANA
Secretary General Catherine Moysan-TAUKELTAUB
Guard Elene TOUBOUL

CÔTE D’AZUR – NICE
Year of creation: 1947
Direction Board
President  Gilbette JACARET
Mentor  Aimé KLEYER
Vice-presidents  Albert MAROUANI - Gisèle MARUANI
Treasurers  Michèle DRAY and Maurice DRAY
Secretary General  Gilbette JACARET

GOLDA MEIR – NICE
Year of creation: 1984
Direction Board
President  Bernard MAX
Mentor  Joelle CHARBIT
Vice-presidents  Jérôme CTORZA and Karine TEBOUL
Treasurer  Jean-Michel SEKSIC
Secretary Generals  Marylinn MAX and André DAHAN
Guards  Marie-Paule KHAN and Nathalie BENAYM
Cinema Committee  Camille TOUROT

MAZAL TOV – NICE
Year of creation: 1970
Direction Board
President  Jacqueline QUEHEN
Mentor  Corinne LEVY
Vice-president - culture  Pierrette GIORNO, Colette BUSIDAN
Vice-president – holidays and recreation  Solange MOSZKOWICZ and Sarah EDERY
Treasurers: Mady SCHOUKRON and Annie AKRICH
Secretary Generals: Elisabeth TEZYAN and Francine KLEYER
Guards: Myreille BAKOUCHE and Francine TEBOUL
Traditions Guard: Myriam POMERANC
Accounting: Jacqueline TOLILA
Social Committee: Paula BENKEMOUN

**MOSHÉ DAYAN – NICE**

Year of creation: 1982

Direction Board

President: Annie SAYAG
Mentor: Simon BENCHIMOL
Vice-president - culture: Denis SIBONY
Vice-president - holidays: Bernard UZAN
Vice-president - recreation: Frédérique SIBONY
Secretary Generals: Corinne SARFATY and Anny UZAN
Treasurers: Paule COHEN and Lucette MIZRAHI
Guards: Nicole KARSENTY and Serge HASSOUN
Social Committee: Dominique SETBON

**THEODOR HERTZL – NICE**

Year of creation: 1979

Direction Board

President: Daniel HARROCH
Mentor: Gérard TORDJEMAN
Vice-presidents: Gilbert DEPAZ and Francis KORCIA
Treasurers: Alain DARMON and Maryse DARMON
Secretary General: Joelle TROJEMAN - Danièle HARROCH
Guards: Roger DRIGUES, Gérard TEBOUL and Louise DEPAZ
Traditions Guard: Nicole ATTIA
REGION GRAND-EST

SCHEURER KESTNER – COLMAR
Year of creation: 1969
Direction Board
President: Jean-Claude SZMIDT
Mentor: Pol Roger LEVY
Vice-president: Jean-Luc SCHNERF
Secretary General and Treasurer: Evelyne SZTARK

ARMAND KRAEMER - METZ
Year of creation: 1984
Direction Board
President: Eric FISZON
Mentor: Brigitte ZAYDMAN
Vice-president: Patricia MARJENBERG
Treasurer: Corinne SZERMAN
Secretary General: Arielle SCHWARTZBERG
Guard: Catherine FISZON
Counselor: Henriette BENEDIC

ELIE BLOCH - METZ
Year of creation: 1952
Direction Board
President: Jacques SICHERMAN
Mentor: Patrick HIRSCH
Vice-president: Solange DAVID
Treasurer: François KEIM
Secretary Generals: Yolande COHEN and Marc LAZAR
Guard
Counselors
WAJSBROT

François KATZ
Marlyse HIRSCH, Michel GERSTENHABER and Mikaël WAJSBROT

PAUL JACOB – MULHOUSE

Year of creation: 1935

Direction Board

President
Mentor
Secretary General
Treasurer
Nicole SIMON
Claude APTER
Cécile COHEN-MUNCH
Denis TUCHEL

ISAAC BEER JÉRUSALEM – NANCY

Year of creation: 1969

Direction Board

President
Mentor
Treasurer
Secretary General
Gérard TICOT
Hervé BRUNNER
Michel DREYFUS
Hervé KLAJNORMAN

ELIE WURM – NANCY

Year of creation: 1972

Direction Board

Presidents
Mentor
Treasurer and Secretary General
Reporter
Suzy KOPINSKI and Liliane SOFER
Florence KRICQ
Suzan KOPINSKI
Liliane SOFER
EMMANUEL LEVINAS – STRASBOURG

Year of creation: 2001

Direction Board

President    Elisabeth RAPIN
Mentor       Claudine KLING
Vice-Président Pierre ATTYASSE
Trésorier    Jean-Pierre ROTH
Secrétaire   Salomon LEVY
Gardien      Michèle ADJEDJ

RENÉ HIRSCHLER – STRASBOURG

Year of creation: 1977

Direction Board

President    Raoul MEYER
Mentor       J. BOUHADANA
Members      M. KOHEN, M., E. SASSON, G MEYER, JP, F. LAMBERT, A. RAABE, F. LEHMANN, M. FRIEDMANN, S. KOCH and D. LEW

REGION PARIS - ILE DE FRANCE - LILLE - DEAUVILLE - BORDEAUX

MICHEL DE MONTAIGNE – BORDEAUX

Year of creation: 2013

Direction Board

President    Andrée ELKAIM
Mentor       Georges BOUHANA
Vice-presidents Isabelle HABIB and Corinne CHKROUN
Treasurer    Mireille LEVY
DEAUVILLE JÉRUSALEM – DEAUVILLE

Year of creation: 2013

Direction Board

President
Mentor
Vice-presidents
Treasurer
Secretary General
Marshal
Banner carrier

André FEINGOLD
Michel ZAKI
Daniel SARBERG and Bernard LAMENT
Henri MELNIK
Jacqueline CHEKLER
Laure GHENON-LICHAN
Michel LION

KINERETH – ENGHIE-LE-S-BAINS

Year of creation: 1989

Direction Board

President
Mentor
Vice-presidents
Treasurer
Secretary Generals
Counselor

Sylvia GOLD
Charles ABEHASSERA
Jean-François LANDIER and Clémentine SLOMA
Gilbert BERDA
Gilles LORRAIN and Claude MAAREK
Dominique SITRUK

ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER – LE RAINCY

Year of creation: 2004

Direction Board

President
Honorary President
Mentor

Armand ASSAYAG
Bernard ZENOU
Reine PARTOUCHE
Vice-president: Inès ASSUID
Treasurer: Maguy ZENOU
Secretary General: Pierrette ROSENBERG

**CHA’AREH CHALOM – LILLE**

Year of creation: 1982

**Direction Board**

President: Jacques WEILL
Vice-president: François GOUGUENHEIM
Treasurer: Jacques JAKUBOWICZ
Secretary General: Michèle REHBY

**HAIM NAHMAN BIALIK – NEUILLY-SUR-SEINE**

Year of creation: 2011

**Direction Board**

President: Gisèle TAUBERT
Mentor: Jean ROTMAN
Honorary Vice-presidents: Michèle and Jean ROTMAN
Vice-president: Alexis TUBIANA
Treasurer: Daniel HABABOU
Secretary General: Céline DREYFUSS-TUBIANA
Counselor and Marshal: Carole KANOUI-CRESSEY
Guard: Pascal KARSENTI

**ANNE FRANK – NEUILLY-SUR-SEINE**

Year of creation: 1965

**Direction Board**

President: Babeth Ariane ZWEIBAUM
Mentor: Chantal HADIDA
Vice-president: Louise TELVI
Treasurer: Snéjina FRECHE
**Secretary General**  Sophie BENMUSSA  
**Guard**  Evelyne SOLERY  

**DANIEL PEARL – PARIS**

A Year of creation: 2004

**Direction Board**

- **President**  Avishaï LEGER-TANGER  
- **Mentor**  Déborah LICHENTIN  
- **Treasurer**  Alain JACQUES  
- **Secretary General**  Michel ALFANDARI  
- **Reporter and Guard**  Mathieu VALLENS

**DAVID BEN GOURION – PARIS**

Year of creation: 1987

**Direction Board**

- **President**  Paul KRISSI  
- **Mentor**  Maxim OUANOUNOU  
- **Vice-presidents**  Charles BACCOUCHE, Charles LESELBAUM, Jean-Pierre SOLERY and Jo MURCIANO  
- **Webmaster**  Jean-Pierre SOLERY

**FRANCE ZADOC KAHN – PARIS**

Year of creation: 1966

**Direction Board**

- **President**  Annie COHEN-GANOUNA  
- **Mentor**  Yves-Victor KAMAMI  
- **Vice-presidents**  Joelle KORENBEUSSER and Gérard GUEZ  
- **Treasurer**  Gérard LUMBROSO  
- **Secretary Generals**  carole BARRIERE and Régine LUMBROSO  
- **Marshal**  Monique HOFFMANN
GEORGE GERSHWIN – PARIS

Year of creation: 2017

Direction Board

President: Bernard MUSICANT
Mentor: Haïm MUSICANT
Vice-presidents: Jean-Michel ZALC and Dominique SITRUK
Treasurer: Patricia WASERMAN
Secretary Generals: Suzanne ELLENBERG and Julie MOISE
Reporters: Emmanuelle ROZAN and Brigitte AQUIZERAT
Guard: Annie LAKS
Counselors: Jean-Pierre ALLALI and David LEVY-BENTOLILA

HANOUKA – PARIS

Year of creation: 2015

Direction Board

President: Guy SABBAGH
Mentor: Etienne LEVY-WILLARD
Vice-presidents: Danièle MALKA and Betty TEICHER
Treasurer: René EFFASSY
Secretary Generals: Joseph KESSOUS and Guy DAHAN
Marshal: Corinne KESSOUS
Guard: Sylvestre ALTMAN

HILLEL - PARIS

Year of creation: 2013

Direction Board

President: Jacques HALIMI
Honorary President: Jean-Luc SCEMAMA
Mentor: Fernand LAREDO
Vice-presidents: Thierry BURY, Albert PINTO, Jacques LEIBOVICI and Michèle RAMNICEANU
Treasurer: Patrick SOUSSANA
Secretary General: Margot BLANK
Culture Committee: Emmanuelle LEVY
Israel Committee: Ari HODARA
Jewish Perspective Committee: Daniele YAICHE
Light of the Torah Committee: Jérôme KELIF

**JACOB KAPLAN – PARIS**

Year of creation: 2007

**Direction Board**

President: Jean-Marc ISRAEL
Honorary member: André ELKRIEF
Mentor: Claire RUBINSTEIN
Vice-presidents: Arlette TESTYLER and Perla RELKIN
Treasurer: Monique ELKRIEF
Secretary General: Claude ERRERA
Marshal: Mathilde OLIEL
Guard: Laurence SPIRA-WEIL
Members: Mireille ISRAEL and Laurent COHEN

**LÉON BLUM - JUDAÏSME PLURIEL – PARIS**


**Direction Board**

President: Colette ARFI
Mentor: Shalom BENCHEMOUL
Vice-presidents: Marianne RODE, Gilbert CHICHE
Treasurer: Jo BENARROCH
Secretary General: Bernard BIRKAN
Members: Jacqueline KOPPLEWIZ and Liliane FAJERMAN
OR VE SHALOM – PARIS

Year of creation: 1991

Direction Board

President: Alain JOCHIMEK
Mentor: Serge DAHAN
Vice-presidents: Danielle HAÏK and Serge NACCACHE
Treasurer: Daniel HAMMER
Secretary General: Florence HAMMER
Guard: Simon BITTER
Marshal: Jocelyne GOLDMAN

SHALOM ALEI KHEM – PARIS

Year of creation: 2015

Direction Board

President: Flora FLEURY
Mentor: Albert LIPKOWICZ
Vice-presidents: Dorothée ANIS and Martine NATAF
Treasurer: Hélène LYS
Secretary General: Émilie THUAUDET
Guard: Fabienne AMSON
Reporter: Roger LUPESCU

SIGMUND FREUD – PARIS

Year of creation: 2004

Direction Board

President: Guy SAPRIEL
Mentor: Emmanuel NIDDAM
Vice-presidents: Roland GREEN and Judith COHEN-SOLAL
Treasurers: Agnès RASSIAL and Arielle SCHWAB
Secretary General: Eric HALIMI
Guard: Alain VANIER
SIMONE VEIL – PARIS

Year of creation: loge installée en septembre 2019

Direction Board

President: Martine BOCCARA
Mentors: Daniel MSIKA et Lisette HAZAN
Vice-presidents: Michel DANON, Evelyne GEJZENBLOZEN
Treasurer: Lina MSIKA
Secretary General: Annie BOCCARA
Guard: Serge CURIEL
Marshal: Myrna SEBAG
Reporter: Josée CURIEL
Conferences responsible: Vanessa HELESCHEWITZ
Culture Committee responsible: Danielle AMOYAL and Linda ZIELINSKI
Political Committee responsible: Jérôme ISRAEL
Travel Committee: Daniel MSIKA, Aris HAUPTSCHEN and Victor DIBO-COHEN

TSEDEK – PARIS

Year of creation: 1979

Direction Board

President: Michèle DRAY
Mentor: Lucie ABRAHAM
Marshal: Huguette DEYSSON
Guard: Jean SWITA

KADIMA MAÏMONIDE – RUEIL MALMAISON

Year of creation: 1998

Direction Board

President: Violette FIMA
Mentor: Danielle HIRSCH
Vice-president: Karine ASSAYAG
LÉON POLIAKOV – SAINT-MANDÉ

Year of creation: 2015

**Direction Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Daniel MOENS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentor</td>
<td>Viviane LUMBROSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-president</td>
<td>Philippe WAINTRAUB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Jean-Claude LUMBROSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary General</td>
<td>Alice MIDAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President of the Culture Committee</td>
<td>Sylvie ADLER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memories Committee</td>
<td>Viviane LUMBROSO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BEN YEHOUDA – SAINT MAUR

Year of creation: 2003

**Direction Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Marc HASSAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentor</td>
<td>Philippe ASSOULEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-presidents</td>
<td>Fabien DANA and Alain YAMIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Agnès AZOULAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary General</td>
<td>Michel ARIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshal</td>
<td>Ghislaine PARTOUCHE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YONATHAN NETANYAHOU – THIAIS

Year of creation: 1979

**Direction Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dov SMADJA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VERSAILLES - VERSAILLES

Year of creation: 1989

Direction Board

President  Eric-Charles BOUHNIK
Mentor  Joseph GOZLAN
Vice-presidents  Jean-Charles GOLDBERG and Aimé OVADIA
Treasurer  Brigitte GOLDBERG
Secretary General  Eric SAIAG
Guard  Yves YESSOUROUR
Reporter  Françoise ABOUT
Counselor and Communication Specialist  Agnes SIMONPAOLI
Counselor  Jean-Jacques HADJADJ

REGION PROVENCE MIDI PYRENEES VAR

JULES ISAAC – AIX EN PROVENCE

Year of creation: 1969

Direction Board

President  Thierry MELKI
Members  Patrick MAUGERY, Henri-Luc SALFATI and Olivia MELKI
EMETH – AVIGNON
Year of creation: 1992
Direction Board
President Marc ELBEZE
Mentor Patricia MIZRAHI
Treasurer Monique LANGE
Secretary General Lionel BERCAULT

EMILE ZOLA – MARSEILLE
Year of creation: 1950
Direction Board
President Francine COEN
Members Nicole GHEZ, Serge COEN, Marilyn NALACHE, Marie-Line POUILLY, Cathy BEB-FREDJ and Sylvie SEBAOUN

HARMONIE – MARSEILLE
Year of creation: 1971
Direction Board
President Céline FRIDOSKI
Mentor and Treasurer Madeleine MEDIONI-GONZALEZ
Vice-president Nicole PARTOUCHE
Secretary General Maryse FRIDOSKI
Guard Yvette COHEN

JOSEPH KESSEL – MARSEILLE
Year of creation: 1983
Direction Board
President Jocelyne ARDITTI
Members Claude SAADA, Albert CATALAN, Hélène COHEN, Eric GUETTA, Jean DURAN, Robert ARDITI, Paul DJIANE and Jean-Claude GHENASSIA
LOUIS KAHN - EYRAN PICARD – MARSEILLE

Year of creation: 1967

Direction Board

Presidents Michel LIEBERMANN and Joyce BENABOU
Mentor Thierry HOCHBERG
Vice-president Léopold COHEN
Treasurer Emile ABECASSIS
Secretary Generals Bernard BENZEKRI and Malia MYARA
Guards Sam COHEN-SABAN and Philippe STIOUI

RAMBAM MAÏMONIDE – MONTPELLIER

Year of creation: 1990

Direction Board

President Raphaël SIBONI
Vice-presidents Martine TIMSIT and Danielle MOISES
Treasurer Etoile SELLAM
Secretary General Susanna AZQUINEZER

MENAHEM BEN SALOMON – PERPIGNAN

Year of creation: 2008

Direction Board

President Jean-Claude ABECASSIS
Mentor Laurence CHELLI
Treasurer Leslie BERGE

EMMANUEL LÉVINAS – TOULON

Year of creation: 1995

Direction Board

President Bernard BITAN
Mentor Maurice AZIZA
MAÏMONIDE – TOULOUSE

Year of creation: 1967

Direction Board

President: Jean-Claude NABET
Mentor et Treasurer: Max MARQUES
Vice-president: André LAYANI
Secretary Generals: Roseline MARQUES and Michel SZTERNBERG
Holidays committee responsible: Albert ANKRI

REGION RHONE ALPES AUVERGNE

MORDEHAI – GRENOBLE

Year of creation: 1985

Direction Board

President: Ada SADOUN
Vice-president and Treasurer: Dina ASSOULINE
Secretary General: Danielle BORGEL
Marshal: Nadine JANSEN

EDWIN GUGGENHEIM-MARC ARON – LYON

Year of creation: 1964

Direction Board

President: Henri FITOUCHI
Mentor: Dany ELMALEK
Vice-presidents: David BARRE and Véronique AZOULAY
Treasurer: Gérard RAPHAËL
Secretary General: Bernard MASSOUBRE
Lodges in Focus

MARSHAL
Guard

Martine CAMHI
Pierre WOLF

ROBERT LEHMANN-YITZHAK RABIN – LYON

Year of creation: 1951

Direction Board

Presidents: Hervé NAHON and Alexis KARO
Vice-president: Marcel DREYFUSS
Treasurer: Gerard LEVAL
Secretary General: Yves Alain STORY

VICTOR BASCH – LYON

Year of creation: 1969

Direction Board

President: Michèle EDERY
Mentor: Sylvie ALTAR
Vice-presidents: Betty BOUCHOUCHA and Liliane SEBBAG
Treasurer and Secretary General: Sophie Bensaïd
Guards: Claude LEVY and Laurence AZOULAY-DRAY
Marshals: Nicole ELBAZ and Evelyne BLOCH
Holidays Committee: Nicole ELBAZ, Liliane SEBBAG, Sophie NINIO and Jeanne RAPHAEL

JOSEPH REICH – LYON

Year of creation: 1976

Direction Board

Presidents: Emmanuelle KARO and Liliane COHEN
Mentor: Michèle GUTHBRAUT
Treasurer: Sylvie NAHON
Secretary General: Cathy VALLUY
As part of a series of conferences, President of B’nai B’rith Europe Serge Dahan with B’nai B’rith German Lodges, organized a meeting and discussion in Berlin on the 21st of January 2019, to address the future of Jewish life in Europe.

Speakers of this event included President of B’nai B’rith Lodge in Berlin, Dr. András Kain, Federal Government Commissioner for Jewish Life in Germany and the Fight against Antisemitism, Dr. Felix Klein, Director of CEJI - A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe, Ms. Robin Sclafani, Ambassador of the State of Israel in Berlin, H.E. Jeremy Issacharof, Mayor of Berlin, Dr. Klaus Lederer, Mr. Abraham Lehrer (Vice-President of the Central Council of the Jews in Germany), historian and author, Prof. Michael Wolffsohn, Mr Julian Reichelt (Chairman of BILD’s editorial offices and Editor-in-Chief BILD) and part of the Executive Committee of B’nai B’rith Europe - Dr. Felicia Waldman, also Chair of the Education Working group of IHRA and Dr. Michael Naor.

At this occasion, B’nai B’rith Europe presented a brand new 4 hour-long Facing Facts online course on antisemitic bias indicators developed by CEJI – A Jewish contribution to an inclusive Europe, for law enforcement agencies and civil society organizations who are involved in the monitoring and recording of antisemitic hate crimes. This course, co-sponsored by B’nai B’rith Europe, aims to improve the understanding and identifying of antisemitic hate crimes and the needs of victim communities through four highly interactive modules. The course on antisemitic bias indicators was officially launched on the 11th December at the Facing All the Facts Multimedia conference in Brussels and is available online.

On the 70th Anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the European Commission presented a new survey by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency. The results of this 2nd survey on Antisemitism which are particularly worrying show 85% of European Jews consider Antisemitism to be the biggest social or political problem in their home country. 70% consider that efforts by Member States to combat Antisemitism are not effective.
The future of Jewish life in Europe is not only threatened by the rise of antisemitism. Jewish leaders are alerted by the danger of measures such as forbidding Shechita. Ritual slaughter of animals without prior stunning of is already outlawed in several European countries, including Denmark, Norway, Sweden and partially in Switzerland. Belgium introduced prohibitions for animals that have not been pre-stunned which results in a ban on Shechita. Kosher slaughter is banned in Flanders as of January 1. Similar restrictions will be in place in the French-speaking region from September 2019. These measures are in direct contradiction to Jewish law and are harming freedom of religion practice.

CONFERENCE AGAINST ANTISEMITISM AT THE EU PARLIAMENT

By the Romanian presidency, with active participation of B’nai B’rith Europe and Moses Rosen Lodge in Brussels, Belgium

A conference focused on antisemitism in Europe, was held on February 7 at the European Parliament under the auspices of the Romanian presidency of the European Union Council in the presence of Viorica Dăncilă, Romanian Prime Minister.

B’nai B’rith was represented by Daniel S. Mariaschin, B’nai B’rith International CEO; Serge Dahan, the president of B’nai B’rith Europe; Stephane Teicher, B’nai B’rith International Senior Vice President and Representative to UNESCO; Jose Iacobescu, President of B’nai B’rith Romania; Andre Ouazana, B’nai B’rith Europe treasurer (France); Valerie Achache, B’nai B’rith Europe General Secretary (Belgium); Gunnar Bjork, B’nai B’rith Europe Executive Committee (Denmark); Ben Naegele, B’nai B’rith International’s Director of EU Affairs and Hanna Kalmenson, B’nai B’rith Europe Director.

B’nai B’rith mission, statement and activities were highlighted by Daniel S. Mariaschin, who gave opening remarks, and by Jose Iacobescu who presented B’nai B’rith Europe’s project Bridges of Tolerance.
B’nai B’rith Europe co-organized with BBYP a week end in Greece for Young professionals on May 17-19. Participants from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, UK and Switzerland had the opportunity to meet with Greek government officials and with representatives of the Jewish community in Athens to discuss the future of Jewish Life in Europe.

Victor Batis, president of the Greek Lodge Philon, Serge Dahan President of B’nai B’rith Europe and Mrs Rita Gabbai, Vice President of the Greek Lodge Philon warmly welcomed the group of European young professionals. The participants met with Efstathios C. Lianos Liantis, Special Secretary of Religious and Cultural Diplomacy, Greece’s first envoy on the issue of anti-Semitism, founding member of the Holocaust Museum of Greece, and the head of the Greek delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA).

Questions such as the history of Jews in Greece, the current situation of Jewish life and antisemitism in Greece were discussed, allowing participants to express their concerns about a safe future for Jews in Greece and in Europe. President of B’nai B’rith Europe Serge Dahan presented at this occasion the work of B’nai B’rith Europe and the main actions to defend the interest of the Jewish communities in Europe, combating antisemitism, antizionism, defending the image of the State of Israel and promoting Jewish history and culture. The group met with Mr Minos Moissis, former president of the Jewish community, Georges KallisAngel President of Jewish youth of Athens, Rabbi Gabriel Negrin, Rabbi of Jewish community of Athens, among other representatives of the Jewish community in Athens.

Young professionals from Europe connected with the young members of the Greek Lodge and with the Jewish community in Athens at the occasion of various meals, cocktails and a party. The week-end included guided tours of Athens main sites, a visit of the ancient synagogue, the holocaust memorial and of the office Greek Lodge Philon.

B’nai B’rith Europe thanks Victor Batis, President of the Greek Lodge Philon for and the Jewish community of Greece for the hospitality, Leon Mizan, BBE youth member, Valerie Tesler from BBYP for the coordination and for their share in the great success of this week-end.
CEREMONY OF RESCUERS CITATION

By B’nai B’rith Europe and B’nai B’rith World Center Jerusalem in Brussels, Belgium

On Tuesday, September 10th B’nai B’rith Europe held an event that around 200 people attended honouring Maurice and Esta Heiber, two of the many Jewish heroes of WWII. The ceremony was co-organized by B’nai B’rith Europe and CCLJ (Centre Communautaire Laïc juif), in coordination with B’nai B’rith World Center – Jerusalem, JRJ - the Committee to Recognize the Heroism of Jewish Rescuers During the Holocaust and L’Enfant Caché asbl.

The event took place in presence of the President of B’nai B’rith Europe Mr. Serge Dahan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, and of Defence, in charge of Beliris and Federal Cultural Institutions Didier Reynders, Political Counselor at the Mission of Israel to the EU and NATO Noa Ginosar, MP Vivianne Teitelbaum, former President of CCLJ Menia Goldstein, President of CCLJ Isi Halberthal, President of CCOJB, Yohan Benizri, Members of B’nai B’rith Europe Executive Committee Valerie Achache and Andre Ouazana, B’nai B’rith International director of European Union affairs Alina Bricman among other personalities.

The ceremony focused on the recognition that Jews who saved other Jews during WWII should have, as they risked their lives to save other lives of their own people. The “Jewish Rescuers Citation” aims to highlight the acts of courage and devotion of Jewish heroes who were never truly recognised. At his occasion, B’nai B’rith honoured Maurice and Esta Heiber, two of the many Jewish heroes of WWII.

The ceremony gathered hidden children during the Second World War and highlighted the heroism of Jewish mothers that were forced to hide their children away from the death traps that the Second World War set. Moreover, the autobiographique book release of Shaul Harel – «Un enfant sans ombre» was presented. The intertwining of these two special moments made the day truly emotional.

The “duty to remember is recorded in the DNA of B’nai B’rith”, stated Serge Dahan. “B’nai B’rith Europe has naturally set itself the task of working to strengthen the Jewish community, combat racial and religious intolerance, support the State of Israel, mobilize for the preservation and promotion of the memory of the Jewish people as well as their culture and history.”

“Jews understood that resisting was simply a way to restore Judaism, to give it meaning and ethics” continued Serge Dahan,” their story must be told, transmitted, recalled, because it is proof that man survives despite fear and oppression. Only brotherhood can save a life and one must always believe in other ones.”
On June 19, 2019 the sixth edition of the Bridges of Tolerance project initiated by B’nai B’rith Europe in 2012 and entitled European Citizen Year, took place. This project, intended exclusively for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, aims to better understand the role of the Jewish ethnic group in the history of the respective countries, the contribution to the general development of the country in which they live, the relations with the majority population, minorities and majority.

Envisaged to have five editions, Romania has made an exception, because at the request of the Romanian Presidency, this year’s final edition of this project was also organized. Several editions took place under the patronage of the President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis.

This year’s edition took place at the Romanian Academy, which collaborated on the project. Besides the introductory session, where public figures were invited to greet the event (academician Ioan Aurel Pop, President of the Academy, Professor Sergiu Nistor, Presidential Advisor, academician Mugur Isarescu, President of the National Bank, Dr. Aurel Vainer, President of FJCR, Laczikó Enikő, State Secretary at Dept. for Interethnic Relations of the Romanian Government, His Excellence David Saranga, Ambassador of the State of Israel), two scientific sessions on The Contribution of National Minorities to the Economic Development of Romania took place. These sessions were attended by representatives of a large number of national minorities. At the end of the event, Jose Iacobescu, President of B’nai B’rith Romania, awarded medals to those who contributed to the six editions of the project.
European Days of Jewish Culture were celebrated from September 1st to mid October 2019 with the support of B’nai B’rith lodges throughout Europe (Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom).

The fundamental objective of this European collaboration is to highlight the diversity and richness of Judaism, with the intention of promoting dialogue, mutual recognition and exchange through conferences, concerts, performances, guided tours and other activities.

As a main actor of AEJP (European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage) B’nai B’rith Europe supports the preservation, appreciation and promotion of Jewish culture and Jewish heritage in Europe. Through this association B’nai B’rith Europe encourages Jewish sites to present Judaism to the wide public, with its educational, social and cultural programs. This goal is notably achieved through its leading program – European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage.

On Jewish Culture and Heritage Days, selected synagogues and Jewish historic sites are open to the general public and related events including guided walks and exhibitions take place.

The European Days of Jewish Culture (EDJC) is the reflection of a true revolution in the field of culture, which, for the first time, places citizens, communities and territory at the forefront while using cultural heritage as an agent for sustainable local development. This year’s theme was the 20th anniversary of the events itself, due to this historical date.

François Moyse is the founding member of the European Association for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage (AEPJ) and is currently the President of this association. He served as President of the European Union of Jewish Students, Director of B’nai B’rith Europe, President of the Jewish community of Luxembourg, as well as President of the B’nai B’rith Luxembourg Lodge.
Participants learned about the heroic legacy of Portuguese diplomat Aristides de Sousa Mendes. Sousa Mendes issued visas to refugees, including thousands of Jews, fleeing Holocaust terror during World War II. His actions were taken at great personal risk and in defiance of the wartime Portuguese government. Mariana Abrantes, treasurer of the Sousa Mendes Foundation, and Monica Barzilay, a descendant of a Sousa Mendes visa recipient and representative to the B’nai B’rith International Board of Governors, spoke.

The delegation representing B’nai B’rith included President of B’nai B’rith Europe Serge Dahan, Member of Executive Committee Monica Barzilay and Eric Engelmayer, President of Antwerp Lodge, Willy Kahan, ICBB member Yasef Tovya, President of AEPJ Francois Moyse, B’nai B’rith International delegate to BBE Executive Committee Stephane Teicher with two members of the Lodge Hanouka.

The pensions of Ukraine are at such a low level, it often can lead to extreme poverty, and many of these people could physically survive only thanks to food parcels and pills provided by this lodge. The main aim of the project is to satisfy basic human needs of these people by giving them food, health support and to preserve their human dignity.

The International Council of B’nai B’rith (ICBB) met in Lisbon, Portugal, from June 23rd to June 25th. In addition to council meetings, the itinerary included numerous fascinating insights into Portuguese and Jewish history.

Since 2001, B’nai B’rith Kyiv successfully holds the project of giving high quality food and medication to the elderly, lonely, poor, disabled, socially unprotected Jews, Nazi Victims, as well as the Righteous Among the Nations (people who saved Jews during the Holocaust).

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF B’NAI B’RITH

By B’nai B’rith International in Lisbon, Portugal

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF B’NAI B’RITH

By B’nai B’rith International in Lisbon, Portugal
Every year, since 2013, 400 to 700 participants gather for this event. It is a great opportunity to forge ties between members of the various lodges and with communities in the area of Geneva. It is also and above all a way to interest a new generation in the objectives of B’nai B’rith, to rejuvenate their image while adding concrete value to the wider Jewish community.

Keynote speakers included guest of honour Chief Rabbi of France Haim Korsia, other Rabbis, authors, teachers, young activists and directors of various cultural institutions of Geneva. French participants of the surrounding areas (mainly of Grenoble, Annecy, Aix-the-Baths, and Lyon, but also of Paris and Marseille), and of all the French-speaking and German-speaking Switzerland also joined.

On Sunday, November 3rd 2019, Henry Dunant Lodge of B’nai B’rith Europe, in cooperation with all the other active Jewish organizations in Geneva, organized Keshner Day. This year’s topic was “the pride to be Jewish in Europe”.

KESHER DAY

By Henry Dunant Lodge in Geneva, Switzerland
EUROPEAN DAY OF JEWISH CULTURE

By Leopolis Lodge in Lwow, Ukraine

The Jewish community, as well as some non-Jewish organizations of the city, joined the European Day of Jewish Culture. The day was full of interesting events, taking place all over the city.

Citizens attended the exhibition “Janowska: the slave labour camp as the industry of terror” within the Territory Terror, the memorial museum of totalitarian regimes. The exhibition introduced the history of Janowska, the slave labour camp, which was one of the base centers of Nazi terror in Lwow and Western Ukraine in 1941 - 1944. A tour of the area of Janowska (the slave labour camp) was also part of the program.

A memorial ceremony in Valley of Death “The Hour of Memory” was held, followed by a session of reflections on quotations from reminiscences of the pre-war life in Lwow, the Holocaust, and the life after it - The voices of Space of Synagogues.

The day included a performance of the “Strudel” band and then ended beautifully, with a tour of the city’s Jewish quarters.
SYMPOSIUM ABOUT THE NATION STATE LAW OF ISRAEL

By AKL Augustin Keller Lodge in Zurich, Switzerland

On August 23rd of this year, the AKL Augustin Keller Lodge of Zurich organized a Symposium about the Nation State Law of Israel, in Zurich.

As experts, the organizers were able to talk to Dr. Chagai Vinizky of the “Academic Center for Law & Science, Israel” co-authored the text; with Prof. Eli Salzberger from the “Minerva Center for the Rule of Law under extreme conditions, Israel”, a declared opponent of the law; with Prof. Shahar Lifshitz from the “Center for Jewish and Democratic Law, Bar Ilan University, Israel”, an expert on the Jewish and Israeli law and with Prof. Maya Hertig-Randall of Geneva a renowned constitutional law scholar and a Expert in minority protection. Finally, Prof. Anton Pelinka, an expert in democracy theory and political comparison Systems as leader of the panel discussion.
ACTION CONCERNING THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

By B’nai B’rith France

One of the red threads of the year proposed to all the lodges consisted in the action concerning the European elections.

Several axes were carried out to spread B’nai B’rith messages reflecting the main concerns of French Jews and the need to fight the populism and extremism that threaten France and Europe. Numerous meetings with candidates for the European elections in France were organized throughout the country, arguments were drafted and disseminated to the main political leaders of the country and symposia were held in many cities on the stakes of these elections with specialists and candidates. For 2020, the two red threads proposed by the BBF National Office concern the March municipal elections and anti-Semitism in schools and universities. All lodges are asked to work on these two important axes.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RAOUl WALLENBERG LODGE

By Raoul Wallenberg Lodge and other German Lodges

On the 1st and 3rd of November, a meeting of the German-speaking B’nai B’rith lodges in Berlin took place.

On Shabat evening after the service in the synagogue Pestalozziustrasse, they had a Shabat diner with 30 members of the Berlin Raoul Wallenberg Lodge and 30 members from Zurich, Vienna, Frankfurt and Dusseldorf.

On Saturday evening, the Raoul Wallenberg Lodge and guests celebrated the 40th anniversary with a gala dinner. The welcome speech of President András Kain was demonstrated with many photos from activities of Raoul Wallenberg lodge members in the recent years.
EXHIBITION ON “FRANCE AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JEWISH CULTURES FROM 1791 TO THE PRESENT DAY”

By B’nai B’rith France in France

The national culture commission of B’nai B’rith France organized a large exhibition on the theme “France and the contributions of Jewish cultures from 1791 to the present day”. After several months of work, the inauguration of the exhibition took place Wednesday, September the 11th, at the town hall of the 16th arrondissement of Paris in the presence of many elected officials and officials of Jewish institutions in France.

Through this exhibition, B’nai B’rith France wanted to testify to the fidelity and commitment of the French Jews to France and the Republic and to honour many of these French Jews who have left their mark the history and destiny of our country. This fidelity and commitment that have never been lacking have contributed to the history of our country, its successes and its influence. This exhibition of pedagogical and educational virtues is open to all citizens, as a testimony and an illumination of our history and our common values, which are the basis of the unity and strength of our society. After being presented in Paris, this exhibition will be traveling in 2020 and will tour in many regions. A partnership with another great Jewish institution has gone to bring this spread across the country together.
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We are represented at:
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Visit us
http://www.bnaibritheurope.org/

Contact us
Address: Rue Dautzenberg 36
1050 Brussels, Belgium
Email: direction@bnaibritheurope.org
Office Number +32 2 646 92 98

Support us
Account name: B’nai B’rith Europe
IBAN BE81 1911 9033 9224
SWIFT/BIC code CREGBEBB
Account number 1911 9033 9224
Bank CBC, Boulevard du Souverain 36, 1170 Watermael Boitsfort

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